

Through the splendid cooperation of Teachers, Ministers, Local Leaders, Clubs, and various agencies throughout the County and State; the Buckingham County Board of Supervisors, Extension personnel and other interested persons, the Local Farm Agent of Buckingham County was helped and encouraged in promoting better living conditions among the farmers and homes in the county. To these, the Agent wishes to express his sincere thanks.

about 1,500 of his old hens thru the third year along with the 2,000 pullets purchased. He has indicated that this has improved his income during the peak of the egg season. Many other farmers are interested in this project and express desire to enter this field for additional farm income.

SUMMARY

Completing another year as Local Farm Agent in Buckingham County; the Extension work in the county continues to make progress. During the year 1960, the extension agent made 403 farm and home visits conducting extension work in the county. There were 309 office calls and 342 telephone calls seeking assistance from the extension agent. 1,911 bulletins were distributed to the farmers in the county along with numerous circular letters. There was a total of 68 4-H and adult meetings attended by 1,476 people, held during the year.

Major activities during the year included -- County Agricultural Advisory Board meetings, 4-H Club Meetings, Field meetings, State Advisory Board meeting, 4-H Short Course, Wildlife Conference, Farm and Home Conference, Leaders Conference, Junior Council Meeting, and Adult Farmers Meeting.

Other activities include: Five County Fair, State Fair, Junior Market Hog Show and Sale, Field meetings at Experimental Stations, National 4-H Club week, Rural Life Sunday, Annual 4-H Picnic, Achievement Day, and participation in the Tractor Maintenance School and Contest.

source of income. The county placed twelfth in the State in production of Broilers and ranks high in the production of eggs.

The rapid increase in broiler production have been encouraged to a great extent by broiler financing contracts. It is estimated that 95 to 97 % of all broilers produced are financed through the growing operations by feed companies and/or others by some incentive arrangement where by the producer no longer needs operating capital to produce broilers.

OBJECTIVES

- 1- To encourage farmers to use better management practices.
- 2- To encourage farmers to repair or build housing suitable for year round production.

METHOD OF ACCOMPLISHING OBJECTIVES

- 1- Regular farm visits to all poultry growers.
- 2- To demonstrate good year round poultry program.
- 3- Hold field meeting at demonstration flocks.
- 4- Distribute circular letters and bulletins to growers.

RESULTS

Due to the drop in prices of broilers during the year, many of the broiler growers have gone out of business. Egg production, however, has been on the increase and at present looks very profitable.

Mr. T. H. Allen, the largest egg producer in the county indicates that his hens are producing at about 70% which is very good. Mr. Allen kept

OBJECTIVES

- 1- To encourage more farmers to secure registered breeding stock.
- 2- To encourage farmers to increase the number of animals on their farms to supplement their incomes.

METHOD OF ACCOMPLISHING OBJECTIVES

- 1- Field meetings with farmers that already have registered stock on their farms to demonstrate the value of registered stock.
- 2- Regular farm visits to farmers with livestock programs in action.
- 3- Circular letters and bulletins to all livestock growers.
- 4- Regular visits to local markets and distribution of marketing information to all growers.

RESULTS

During the past year there were three registered animals in the county used for breeding purposes. These were located on the farms of Mr. T. H. Allen, Mr. J. N. Brown, and Mr. J. C. Henderson. These animals were used for the purpose of grading up the herd on hand and reports are very good at this point.

Mr. T. H. Allen, Curdsville area has increased his herd from 26 to 72 during the year, however, these animals were feed out and marketed during the year. He has on hand his basic stock now and plans are to purchase about 20 head to feed thru the winter. His feed supply for this purpose is considered adequate at present.

POULTRY

Many of the farmers in Buckingham County raise poultry as a main

RESULTS

A variety test was carried out on the farm of Mr. William Osborne, Curdsville, Va. using two of the three most popular varieties grown in the county. The Walker's Broad Leaf and the Brown Leaf were used in the test. Using recommended practices in carrying out this demonstration, the results show that the Brown leaf type of tobacco did not come up to standard as compared to the Walker's Broad Leaf. This will be continued next year using Broad Leaf and Lizard Tail Orinoco.

A grading demonstration was held on the farm of Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Anderson Dillwyn, Va. with thirty four (34) adults, 4-H members, and N.F.A. members attending. This demonstration was conducted by Mr. Cunningham of the U. S. D. A. Since this demonstration many tobacco farmers have expressed their desire to grade their tobacco more closely. Results of this at the market will be observed carefully.

BEEF CATTLE

This project just started in the county seems to be one of the best at present time. Many of our farmers are working off the farm and this seems to be the best way for some to supplement their income and at the same time utilize their idle land to a better advantage. This will also give them some ready income when needed if proper management is carried out.

Mr. Allen Gooden, Manteo Area, was given recognition for carrying out the best Forestry management practices during the year. Mr. Gooden has as in past years continued to utilize his idle land for his future security by planting more seedlings. Many other farmers with plans to seed more idle acres were late ordering their seedlings and plan to secure them early this year.

TOBACCO DEMONSTRATION

Tobacco still the most important cash crop in Buckingham County, yet most farmers are below the county average in producing quality tobacco. During the past year, many farmers have produced good crops but the quality has fallen below standard. Excessive wetting down of tobacco has caused a decrease in profit at market. A large number of farmers are using their own seed and this resulting in poor quality tobacco for marketing purposes.

OBJECTIVES

- 1- To encourage farmers to use recommended seed.
- 2- To encourage farmers to take soil samples and use recommended amount and analysis of fertilizer.

METHOD OF ACCOMPLISHING OBJECTIVES

- 1- Regular farm visits with tobacco growers.
- 2- Field meetings at fertilizer demonstrations.
- 3- Keep tobacco growers informed through circular letters and bulletins.

FORESTRY

Farmers here find it expedient to learn more about forestry products. Buckingham County has been a high producer of these products but at present more trees are being cut than produced. This has caused a great decrease in employment (off farm) as well as in the amount of Forestry products harvested. Because of this, more farmers are becoming aware of the need to " Plant More Trees " . Many farmers are selling their idle land to large cooperations, creating a great problem in the county.

OBJECTIVES

- 1- To encourage farmers to use idle land for their own future security by planting more seedlings.
- 2- To encourage farmers to use recommended thinning practices on land now ready to be harvested.

METHOD OF ACCOMPLISHING OBJECTIVES

- 1- Regular visits to discuss situation with farmers.
- 2- Form a forestry club and present certificates to the person of persons planting the most seedlings.
- 3- Publish news articles in local paper on forestry.
- 4- Keep farmers informed through circular letters and bulletins.

RESULTS

Mr. Joseph Spencer, Gladstone, Va., continues his thinning demonstration and reports much satisfaction with the progress made over the past two years. A field meeting held at the demonstration plot during the year created much interest among the individuals visiting. A total of eight (8) acres now has been thinned in this demonstration area.

CORN

Most all of the farmers in buckingham county produce corn as it is very necessary for livestock and poultry. The average yield is very low because they fail to use recommended practices, such as recommended seed, proper fertilizer, and proper management. The results of not using these recommended practices have taken its toll in the corn crop in the county. Many farmers find that it is necessary for them to purchase corn when it could be raised on the farm.

OBJECTIVES

- 1- To encourage 10 farmers to increase their yield by 15 bushels through the use of recommended seed, fertilizer, and management.
- 2- To increase the 100 bushel corn club to 6 members for the year.

METHOD OF ACCOMPLISHING OBJECTIVES

- 1- Distribute circular letters and bulletins to all corn growers.
- 2- Make regular visits to all 100 bushel corn club members.
- 3- Hold field meetings at demonstration plots.
- 4- Publish news articles in local paper.

RESULTS

Much progress has been made along the line of using recommended seed and proper amounts and analysis of fertilizer during the past year. There has been a noticeable increase in the yield of 16 farmers in the county. These farmers indicated that they had secured good seed and increased the amounts of fertilizer used on corn crops this year. The amount of fertilizer yet does not reach recommended amounts except on the 6 farms participating in the 100 bushel corn club.

- 3- Send circular letters and bulletins to cattle raisers.
- 4- Hold field meetings at demonstration plots.
- 5- Write news articles for local paper on winter pasture.
- 6- Show slide film and moving pictures on pasture.

RESULTS:

The pasture demonstration this year was centered around a twenty (20) acre plot seeded on the farm of Mr. James M. Brown, Dillwyn, Va. Mr. Brown seeded this plot with a mixture of 1 pound of Ladino Clover to 6 pounds of Orchard Grass.

A field meeting was held at the winter pasture demonstration seeded during the fall of 1959 on the farm of Mr. T. H. Allen, Curdsville. This demonstration proved very satisfactory, however, it was expressed by many of the farmers attending that they did not have sufficient land to carry out a program of this type. They also indicated that this was a very good idea to supplement the feeding program of their livestock and further consideration should be given this program.

Due to the small number of farmers with livestock at present time; it was felt that this matter should be turned over to the Agronomy Committee for study and consideration.

Three of the large cattle growers are going ahead with their regular pasture seeding program with the cooperation of the ASC and ACP agencies here in the county.

is to present and discuss various problems concerning crop production and to formulate solutions and methods of dealing with these problems. They assist with the location of plots for demonstrations, many times carrying out these demonstrations themselves for the benefit of others. Their findings and results are reported to the Advisory Board at their regular meetings.

H-H LEADERS

Due to the fact that this is a newly organized group, a complete report on this activity will be made later.

PASTURE

The pastures in Buckingham County are improving considerably, yet they do not meet the full need of the farmers raising cattle. Much of the land now in use is inadequate and could be used advantageously if recommended practices were carried out.

OBJECTIVES

- 1- To encourage 3 farmers to establish winter pasture thereby making year round grazing available for their animals.
- 2- To encourage the use of proper amount and analysis of fertilizer.

METHOD OF ACCOMPLISHING OBJECTIVES

- 1- Discussing pasture situation with cattle raisers and committees.
- 2- Regular farm visits to discuss the situation with farmers.

| | | |
|-----------------------------|----|----|
| Home Improvement -your room | 11 | 5 |
| Safety | 14 | 10 |

A total of 167 projects with 89 completions.

4-H JUNIOR COUNCIL

The members of the 4-H Junior Council represent the officers of the five 4-H Clubs and the Honor Club in the county. These members meet semi-annually and discuss the program of various clubs and to plan with the help of leaders the activities of the coming year. A class is held to instruct the officers in their duties and responsibilities.

Activities for the year include:

- 1- Observance of National 4-H Club Week.
- 2- Attending State Short Course.
- 3- Attending Wildlife Conference.
- 4- Observance of Rural Life Sunday.
- 5- Attending Annual 4-H Picnic.
- 6- Participation in Five County Fair.
- 7- Achievement Day.

AGRONOMY COMMITTEE

The Agronomy Committee is composed of seven or more members, representing the six different districts of the county and the President of the Advisory Board serving as chairman. The purpose of this committee

The Third Liberty Community Improvement Club ranked tenth among counties participating in the State Advisory Board Improvement contest. A prize was received for their accomplishments in the area of community improvement.

4-H CLUBS

Membership of five organized clubs and the Honor Club represents a total of 60 girls and 73 boys carrying a total of 167 different projects. Of this number there were 39 girls and 50 boys completing their projects.

SUMMARY OF 4-H CLUB PROJECTS

| <u>PROJECT</u> | <u>NUMBER ENROLLED</u> | <u>COMPLETIONS</u> |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------|--------------------|
| Corn | 16 | 8 |
| Potatoes, Iris | 1 | 1 |
| Tobacco-Fire Cured | 4 | 2 |
| Vegetable-unit 1 | 25 | 9 |
| unit 2 | 5 | 5 |
| Forestry | 4 | 2 |
| Poultry | 27 | 14 |
| Beef Cattle | 2 | 1 |
| Swine | 21 | 9 |
| Rabbits | 4 | 2 |
| Electric | 4 | 2 |
| Home Ground Beautification-unit 1 | 12 | 7 |
| unit 2 | 12 | 10 |
| Health | 5 | 2 |

During 1960 the objectives were to improve driveways at home and continue improvement of Cemetery plot. Not much progress has been made on the improvement of driveways, however, a great deal of progress has been made in the Cemetery plot. One ton of lime was donated by one family and was spreaded over the entire cemetery. Another family secured seed and completed the seeding of the entire area.

The Third Liberty Community Improvement Club, located in New Canton, Va. was organized during 1959. The first objective of this club was to grade the Church grounds which had washed considerably. This was done along with graveling the driveway and parking area and seeding a small plot of lawn in front of the Church. Post were planted around this area also. During 1960, their attention has been focused on improving driveways and mailboxes. To date twelve (12) families in this area have made improvements on their mailboxes including the placement of name plates on the boxes. Two (2) driveways have been changed and improved.

The addition of the Second Liberty Improvement Club, located in the Andersonville, area, is the largest and most active of all the clubs. The work of this club include: liming, fertilizing, and seeding the entire Church area; cleaning off the cemetery plot; leveling graves; removing old post and replacing them with new ones; painting all post; and repairing window, including replacement of window pains.

COUNTY AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY BOARD

The County Agricultural Advisory Board of Buckingham County consist of thirty two (32) men and women representing the six districts of the county. The objective of this group is to improve farm and home relationship through cooperating with the Extension Service. This board is scheduled to meet twice a year, however, very frequently it is necessary to call a special meeting of this board to meet the demands of current problems that arise from time to time. During these meetings, the members are made aware of existing conditions in the county and an attempt is made to find a solution to these problems.

In addition to the above listed functions, county - wide activities are planned. These include tours, field meetings, and indoor meetings. During these county-wide meetings, any recent development in the field of Agriculture is discussed by the Local Farm Agent and the group. The over-all function of the Advisory Board is to plan, stimulate, and promote county-wide interest in the Extension work.

COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT CLUBS

The St. Joy Community Improvement Club, located in Gladstone, Va. consist of fourteen families joining together to improve their community.

The cooperation and contribution which the above mentioned persons have made to the promotion of Extension Service in Buckingham County is not only gratefully acknowledged, but the Local Farm Agent wishes each to know that this will serve as an incentive in all his endeavors. Many objectives could not have been obtained had it not been for your assistance. To each of you -- The Local Farm Agent of Buckingham County wishes to extend a sincere " Thank You ".

NAME AND DESCRIPTION OF COUNTY ORGANIZATIONS

Responsible for many services performed in Buckingham County during 1960 are the various organizations cooperating with the Local Farm Agent to further the Extension program.

1. County Agricultural Advisory Board.
2. Community Improvement Clubs.
3. 4-H Clubs.
4. 4-H Junior Council.
5. Agronomy Committee.
6. 4-H Leaders Association.

INTRODUCTION

As in previous years, the Local Farm Agent of Buckingham county feels it a pleasure and privilege to submit this report. It is through this report that the work of the Extension Agent for 1960 may be viewed and evaluated. This report covers the period from December 1, 1950 to November 30, 1960. Results of activities given are determined through the cooperation received from different organizations and individuals through-out the county.

It is hoped that the readers of this report will keep in mind that progress (an important factor) in achieving various goals, all advancements and improvements made, may be considered as results of following recommended farm practices. Many people such as Teachers, Ministers, Parents, and Church workers - play a vital role in evaluating the work which the Extension Service performed in Buckingham County during 1960.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The 1960 Annual report of the Local Farm Agent in Buckingham County will show directly and indirectly, assistance received from V.P.I. , Blacksburg, Virginia; Virginia State College, Petersburg, Virginia; U. S. Department of Agriculture, County Officials; Local Vocational Agriculture and Home Economics Instructors; Co-workers in the Extension Service; Community Leaders; and many others.

Manufacturing is second to agriculture in providing employment for Buckingham people, and more farms are operated on a part-time or residential basis than as a main livelihood, for their operators are employed in other fields of work either within the county or in nearby counties. Dark tobacco, though no longer the principal source of farm income, is still the biggest cash crop. Because of an unusual increase in broiler production, poultry now contributes the largest share of farm income and placed Buckingham twelfth among Virginia counties in this line. Cattle, calves and hogs also bring in a sizeable portion of farm receipts.

COUNTY POPULATION 1950 CENSUS

| | |
|-------------------------|-----|
| All non-white operators | 482 |
| Full owners | 365 |
| Part owners | 83 |
| All tenants | 129 |
| Sharecroppers | 28 |

(4)

January, 76° in July. Precipitation is about 42 inches a year. The soil is loam with a red clay subsoil.

With more than three-fourths of the total area in forest, the county's economy is closely tied to forestry. Appomattox-Buckingham State Forest, including Lee Experimental Forest, lies partly in the county and demonstrates good forestry practices. In recent years Buckingham has led all Virginia counties in pulpwood production and also produces much saw timber, railroad ties, and other items. There are several large lumber mills and many small ones.

Buckingham has many mineral resources. From about 1830 to 1860 gold was profitably mined around Dillwyn, but since then the mines have been little worked because the remaining deposits are too difficult to reach. A rich vein of slate in the northern part of the county has been continuously worked since 1780. Durable and unfading, of a gray-blue color, it is reported to make the best roofing slate in the nation. The Arvonix mines now produce nearly 4 per cent of the roofing slate for the entire country. A recent development is the use of waste slate particles to make building blocks. Other minerals present but not commercially produced at present are kyanite, copper, mica, soapstone, and iron.

In addition to roofing slate, flagging, and slate building blocks, Buckingham's manufactures include lumber, and millwork.

COUNTY SITUATION

Buckingham County was formed from Albemarle in 1761 and probably named for the Duke of Buckingham. In 1950 the total population was 12,288. The County seat, also called Buckingham, has 264 population. A Courthouse designed by Thomas Jefferson and built in 1825 was burned in 1869, but a similar one was built on the same site.

This area was explored and settled shortly after 1700. Buckingham Church, built in the early 1700's, is still in use. Peter Frandson, Revolutionary War hero famed for his exploits of strength, lived here. The first chartered Woman's college in Virginia, Buckingham Female College, operated near New Canton from 1837 to 1863. In April 1865, parts of both Union and Confederate armies passed through the southern part of Buckingham on their way to Appomattox, and after the surrender, on the night of April 12, General Lee and some of his men had their last camp near Buckingham where there is now a Confederate museum.

This county (land area 576 sq. mi. or 366,640 acres -- water area 6 sq. mi.) is in the Piedmont Plateau. Altitudes run from 300 to 700 feet generally but there are several High points -- Mills Mountain, 1,159 feet and Spear Mountain, 1,550 feet. The James River forms the northern and northwestern boundary, the Appomattox River the extreme southern boundary. Temperatures average 37° in

4-H JUNIOR COUNCIL

| | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Mary Randolph, President | Carter G. Woodson |
| Mary Brown, Vice-President | Carter G. Woodson |
| Mary A. Miller, Secretary-Treasurer | Carter G. Woodson |
| Doris Brown, Reporter | Carter G. Woodson |
| George Harris | Ridgeway |
| Melvin Sanks | Ridgeway |
| Particia Hart | Ridgeway |
| Frank Ayres | Ridgeway |
| Rodney Gooden | S. J. Ellis |
| Gladys Anderson | S. J. Ellis |
| Curley Austin | S. J. Ellis |
| Charles Eldridge | S. J. Ellis |
| Rufus Logan | Zion Grove |
| Freddie Jones | Zion Grove |
| Linda Jones | Zion Grove |
| Charles Brown | Zion Grove |
| Lillian Watson | Oak Grove |
| Geneva Shoemaker | Oak Grove |
| Frank Mann | Oak Grove |
| Geneather C. Watson | Oak Grove |
| Frances Booker | Gannaway |
| Mary Ann Johnson | Gannaway |
| Rosetta Thomas | Gannaway |
| Willie Gray | Gannaway |

The 4-H Junior Council represents the officers of the five 4-H Clubs of the County and the Honor Club.

AGRONOMY COMMITTEE

| | | |
|---------------------|---------------------|-----------------|
| Mr. T. H. Allen, | Rev. J. E. Tyree | Mr. J. W. Logan |
| Mr. J. C. Henderson | Mr. James M. Brown | Mr. Joe Spencer |
| Mr. Joe Peaks | Mr. Joseph Anderson | Mr. Ben Peaks |

The Agronomy Committee consists of a representative of each community in the County, with the President of the Advisory Board serving as chairman.

COUNTY AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY BOARD

| | |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------|
| Mr. J. W. Logan, President | Dillwyn, Virginia |
| Mrs. Josephine Spencer, Secretary | Gladstone, Virginia |
| Mr. J. C. Henderson | New Canton, Virginia |
| Rev. J. E. Tyree | Dillwyn, Virginia |
| Mr. G. F. Harris | Dillwyn, Virginia |
| Mr. Allen Gooden | Manteo, Virginia |
| Mr. James Cabell | Gladstone, Virginia |
| Mr. H. M. Morgan | Dillwyn, Virginia |
| Mr. W. O. Woolridge | Gladstone, Virginia |
| Mr. James Brown | Arvonia, Virginia |
| Mr. Joe Peaks | Dillwyn, Virginia |
| Mr. Benjamin Peaks | Dillwyn, Virginia |
| Mr. Joe Spencer | Gladstone, Virginia |
| Mr. Jessie Kyle | Alcoma, Virginia |
| Rev. W. J. Kerr | Dillwyn, Virginia |
| Mrs. Ella Chambers | Buckingham, Virginia |
| Mr. Willie Chambers | Buckingham, Virginia |
| Mr. & Mrs. James M. Brown | Dillwyn, Virginia |
| Mr. & Mrs. Eugene Miller | Arvonia, Virginia |
| Mr. & Mrs. A. J. Forbes | Alcoma, Virginia |
| Mr. & Mrs. T. H. Allen | Dillwyn, Virginia |
| Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Anderson | Dillwyn, Virginia |
| Mr. & Mrs. William Osborne | Curdsville, Virginia |
| Mr. & Mrs. Arthur Hanlett | Dillwyn, Virginia |

The County Agricultural Advisory Board members represent the different communities in Buckingham County, where Extension work is being conducted.

The County Advisory Board meets regularly two (2) times a year. Frequently it is necessary to call a special meeting of this board to meet the demands of current problems that arise from time to time. During the regular meeting of the County Advisory Board, plans are formulated for carrying out the work effectively, reports from various communities are given, discussions and solutions are offered on problems facing the people of Buckingham County.

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ANNUAL NARRATIVE REPORT

**COUNTY
EXTENSION
WORK**

Virginia Agricultural Extension Service

S. L. JEFFRESS
Name **Agent**

LOCAL FARM
Title

Assistant Agent

Assistant Agent

Assistant Agent



1960

BUCKINGHAM
County