

September

County-wide fruit growers meeting, Boones Mill.
Red Valley Community Improvement Club meeting.
69 4-H Club meetings.
Atlantic Rural Exposition, Richmond.
3 news articles.
4 radio tapes.

October

Feeder calf and yearling sale, Roanoke.
Red Valley Community Improvement Club meeting.
County-wide fruit growers meeting, Boones Mill
Result demonstration - corn varieties.
Lynchburg Farm Show.
69 4-H Club meetings.
3 news articles.
5 radio tapes.

November

Annual reports.
Sale of variety test tobacco.
Red Valley Community Improvement Club meeting.
Sontag Community Improvement Club meeting.
County-wide poultry meeting.
Commodity committee meetings.
Agricultural Advisory Board meeting.
69 4-H Club meetings.
State 4-H Leaders Conference, Natural Bridge.
National 4-H Club Congress, Chicago.

May

County-wide fruit growers meeting, Boones Mill
State Safety Conference, Richmond.
Red Valley Community Improvement Club meeting.
Sontag Community Improvement Club meeting.
69 4-H Club meetings.
4-H Clubs observe Rural Life Sunday.
5 radio tapes.
3 news articles.

June

Fruit growers meeting, Boones Mill.
Red Valley Community Improvement Club meeting.
State Short Course, Blacksburg.
All Star Conference, Blacksburg.
County-wide All Star meeting.

July

Tour of O. H. Adkins's farm, tobacco variety plots.
Institute of Rural Affairs, Blacksburg.
Red Valley Community Improvement Club meeting.
Orchard tour.
County Junior Dairy Show.
Senior Camp, Camp Farrar, Virginia Beach.
4-H Electric School and picnic.
4 radio tapes.
3 news articles.

August

Annual Extension Conference, Blacksburg.
Sontag Community Improvement Club meeting.
Red Valley Community Improvement Club meeting.
County-wide fruit growers meeting, Boones Mill.
District camp. Holiday Lake.
4-H Electric Congress, Richmond.
District Dairy Show.

Talk on 4-H to Little Mountain Ruritan Club.
Sontag Community Improvement Club meeting.
Red Valley Community Improvement Club meeting.
Farmers meeting on beef, Glade Hill.
69 4-H Club meetings.
All Star recommendations.
4 radio tapes.
4 news articles.
826 letters on Mastitis control.

March

Tour of three farms on dairy buildings and feed handling equipment.
County-wide meeting on roughage program, Rocky Mount.
County-wide landscape meeting, Rocky Mount.
County fruit growers meeting, Boones Mill.
Community meeting on disease control and management of dairies.
4-H Talent Show.
69 4-H Club meetings.
National 4-H Week observances.
Training 4-H judging teams.
5 radio tapes.
3 news articles.
Scoring Sears pig projects.
Red Valley Community Improvement Club meeting.
DHIA annual meeting.
Tree planting demonstration.

April

Community pasture improvement meeting.
Demonstration on tobacco soil insects.
District 4-H Contests.
4-H County Council meeting.
4 radio tapes.
3 news articles.
Spring yearling sale, Roanoke.
Fat Stock Show and Sale, Roanoke.
Fruit growers meeting, Boones Mill.
Red Valley Community Improvement Club meeting.
800 circular letters - Supplemental pastures.
1300 letters - Tobacco insect control.
Place Sears pigs.

CALENDAR OF WORK

December

County-wide Dairy School at Rocky Mount.
DHIA Director's meeting.
Red Valley Community Improvement Club meeting.
4-H Achievement Day.
4-H Honor Club meeting.
4 news articles.
4 radio tapes.

January

County-wide tobacco meeting, Glade Hill.
Community tobacco meeting, Glade Hill.
Community tobacco meeting, Penhook.
Irrigation meeting, Glade Hill.
Tobacco Committee meeting.
Farmers meeting on the Smith Mountain Dam project, Glade Hill.
Communications School, Roanoke.
Red Valley Community Improvement Club meeting.
Artificial Breeding annual meeting.
69 4-H Club meetings.
Junior Broiler Growers meeting, Roanoke.
3 news articles.
3 radio tapes.
826 letters on Mastitis control.
3,000 letters on the use of Heptachlor on alfalfa.

February

Fat Stock Show and Sale meeting, Roanoke.
Junior Broiler Growers meeting, Roanoke.
Feeder Calf Sales committee meeting, Roanoke.
Area fruit school, Waff's community.
Community tobacco meeting, Sontag.
Alfalfa production meeting, Penhook Ruritan Club.
Use of cement on the farm, Rocky Mount.
Forestry meeting, Glade Hill.
Vegetable production meeting, Rocky Mount.
DHIA Analysis conferences with eight dairymen.
Small fruit production meeting, Rocky Mount.

4. Train 4-H land appreciation team.
5. Train 4-H livestock judging team.
6. Hold an Achievement Day program.
7. Develop more junior leaders.
8. Increase the number of records turned in by 200.
9. Bring the number of member completions to more than 75%.
10. Get sixty entries in the Junior Dairy and Livestock Show.
11. Get six entries in the Atlantic Rural Exposition.
12. Hold a 4-H Electric School.
13. Hold a 4-H Talent Show.
14. Participate in 4-H Club Sunday.
15. Get 25% of the clubs to have window displays or bulletin boards for National 4-H Club Week.
16. Get 40 boys to attend 4-H Camps.
17. Get six boys to attend 4-H camp at Virginia Beach.
18. Get twelve boys to attend State Short Course.
19. Hold two County Council meetings.
20. Recommend two members for the All Star Chapter.
21. Improve the quality of records.
22. Have one entry in the state contest.

Objectives

1. More tree plantings.
2. Poison and otherwise reduce undesirable species.
3. Improve timber quality.

Goals

1. Get farmers to plant 100,000 seedlings this year.
2. Get weed trees on 20 acres of forest lands poisoned or killed.
3. Set up two timber harvesting demonstration plots.
4. Get six 4-H boys to plant trees.

Methods

1. Have three radio programs on tree planting.
2. Work with forester, vocational agriculture teachers, pulp buyers and others to get more trees planted.

4-H CLUB WORK

Situation

There are sixty-nine 4-H Clubs in the county with 1035 boys enrolled.

Objectives

1. More completions.
2. Better records.
3. More interest in the older age group.
4. More leaders.

Goals

1. Train 4-H dairy judging team.
2. Train 4-H poultry judging team.
3. Train an egg grading team.

Objectives

1. Improve handling of fruit.
2. Replacement of old trees with young.
3. Improve packing methods.

Goals

1. All growers sign marketing contracts.
2. Get 800 trees planted this year.
3. Get one acre of strawberries planted this year.
4. Get better control of grape diseases.

Methods

1. Have three demonstrations on pruning and orchard management.
2. Hold a fruit school in February.
3. Have county-wide fruit growers meeting seven times during the year.
4. Have news articles, and letters on grape culture, berry culture and gardens.

FORESTRY

Situation

Forests produce a little over \$200,000 from approximately 45% of the land. Other agricultural enterprises produced better than four million dollars from less than 55% of the land.

Farmers need to improve quality and quantity of timber produced per acre.

ACRONOMY

Situation

The agronomy situation is the same as last year except the alfalfa weevil treatment has presented a question in the farmers' minds as to whether they should raise alfalfa or clover.

Objectives

1. More hay.
2. Greater use of silos.
3. More soil tests.

Goals

1. Get 1200 soil samples sent in. Six hundred additional samples for 200 farmers.
2. Get two silos dug or built.
3. Get 400 acres of alfalfa or clover seeded, 100 farmers.

Methods

1. Reach all farmers with news letters on soil testing.
2. Use radio to contact farmers on alfalfa insect control.
3. Write news articles on the production and use of silage.
4. Stress every way possible the value of alfalfa for dairy feed.

HORTICULTURE

Situation

Fruit trees are becoming fewer in number in the county. About 20 growers really take a progressive attitude toward orcharding. Others are generally retiring from orchard work.

2. Personal contacts.
3. Letters.
4. Hold one county-wide meeting on poultry production.
5. Furnish plans for buildings.

LIVESTOCK

Situation

Livestock numbers increasing in the county. Last year's offering in feeder sales not up to the quality. Some were sent back. Farmers need to buy better quality bulls.

Two contract hog feeding operations started in the county last year.

Objectives

1. Improved pastures.
2. Increase hay and feed supply.
3. Reduce diseases.
4. Improve sires.
5. Get some BCIA testing.
6. Reduce grub, horn fly, and lice losses.

Goals

1. Get three farmers to go on the BCIA program.
2. Get two farmers to buy performance tested bulls.
3. Get two farmers with pig parlors.

3. Get two more dairymen on Grade A.
4. Get six additional dairymen to seed supplemental pasture.
5. Get ten new silos constructed or dug.
6. Get five dairymen to go on EDM.

Methods

1. Encourage record-keeping through radio and television programs, news articles, group meetings, etc.
2. Hold DHIA analysis conferences in February.
3. Make personal contacts working toward the goals as listed above.
4. Have three community meetings on pasture and hay production.
5. Hold a dairy and crops school in December.

POULTRY

Situation

The Roanoke retail egg market still uses a number of out-of-state eggs. Local poultrymen will have to compete for this market by meeting the prices and selling high quality products.

Objectives

1. Get more houses insulated.
2. Increase flock efficiency.
3. Improve quality of eggs.

Goals

1. Get three houses insulated.
2. Increase the number of hens per flock 5%.

Methods

1. Publishing news articles.

4. Conduct one soil insect demonstration.
5. Much emphasis of the tobacco program will be given through news articles of local paper and radio station.
6. One farmer to participate in tobacco evaluation project.
7. All personal contacts possible will be made to determine the effectiveness of the program. Contacts will also be used to assist farmers in problems as they arise.

DAIRYING

Situation

The trend in a number of dairy farms continues downward, but the number of dairy cattle is up in the Dairy Herd Improvement Associations showing that farms are getting larger.

Pasture and roughage are still not being produced in sufficient quantities.

The alfalfa weevil problem is putting a big question mark in the minds of farmers as to what should be used for hay.

Objectives

1. Increase use of artificial breeding.
2. Raise the level of production.
3. Increase seeding of supplemental pastures.
4. Improve harvesting and handling methods of hay.
5. Get better use of DHIA records.

Goals

1. Get 400 more cows bred artificially.
2. Have 200 pounds increase in milk per cow on DHIA.

5. All growers plant varieties that produce tobacco suitable for all channels of trade.

6. Increase the number of soil samples and get growers to submit better samples for tobacco. Poor samples and too much fertilizer are being used frequently.

7. All farmers use deep or band placement of fertilizers to reduce the hazard of fertilizer injury to plant seedlings.

8. Stress the hazards of poisonous chemicals used on tobacco. Increasing number of farmers are getting injured by these materials.

9. Discontinue detrimental cultural practices such as excessive fertilization, close spacing, high topping and excessive irrigation to improve quality.

10. Harvest ripe, mature tobacco and properly grade tobacco for market to improve industry conditions.

11. Assist all growers planting aromatic tobacco in all phases of production to insure they produce a successful crop.

Methods

1. Conduct county-wide meeting to discuss approved varieties for planting and most important cultural practices. Also inform growers of importance of producing desirable tobacco.

2. Community meetings in all communities of the tobacco area will be held to stress the tobacco program.

3. Inform growers of timely production practices through use of news articles.

3. How to get allotments for tobacco or base for milk.
4. How to control alfalfa insects in an economical manner satisfactory to the Department of Health.

TOBACCO

Situation

Franklin County's economy is highly dependent on the success of the tobacco farmer. Almost 50% of the cash income from farm products is from tobacco. In 1959, the 1166 tobacco growers of the county planted 2,521.55 acres of flue-cured tobacco. The 1960 acreage will be practically the same as in 1959.

Quality of the tobacco produced continues as a problem that is difficult to overcome. Unless quality is improved the Foreign Market for American tobacco will be further jeopardized.

Objectives and Goals

1. Urge all farmers to use recommended analysis and amounts of fertilizer for plantbeds and fields to improve quality and produce a desirable product.
2. Use at least 30% of total nitrogen in the nitrate form for better quality tobacco.
3. Use proper spacing of plants to reduce amount of undesirable tobacco.
4. Reduce loss of tobacco from insects and diseases in plantbeds so growers can realize more profits from their crops.

SITUATION

The following trends and changes are being noted in the county:

1. More rural non-farm families.
2. Fewer, but larger farms.
3. Investment in land and machinery per farm is increasing.
4. Things that farmers buy have continued to increase in price while those they sell, except tobacco, have declined.

PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT

The following groups aid in the county program working in their fields:

1. Franklin County Dairy Herd Improvement Associations.
2. Franklin County Artificial Breeding Association.
3. Franklin County Milk Producers, Inc.
4. Franklin County Dairymens' Association.
5. Franklin County Fruit Growers.
6. Poultry, Agronomy, Tobacco, Livestock and Forestry Committees.
7. County A.S.C. Committee.
8. 4-H Honor Club.

COUNTY PROBLEMS

1. Low income of farm families.
2. How to get financial backing for young men who wish to start farming.

PLAN OF WORK
FRANKLIN COUNTY

1960

C. C. Tucker, County Agent

William F. Teel, Assistant County Agent

H. S. Reynolds, Assistant County Agent
(one-third time)