

PLAN OF WORK  
OF  
GREENSVILLE COUNTY  
1959

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## THE COUNTY EXTENSION PLAN FOR 1959

The County Extension Plan for 1959 was developed by the various commodity and special interest committees of the Greenville County Extension Service Board. The commodity committees include agronomy, livestock, and forestry committees, and special interest committees on youth and water for better living.

### PROBLEMS AND NEEDS OF GREENSVILLE COUNTY

The major agricultural problems in Greenville County are, low crop yields, inefficient production of livestock, and farms too small for efficient production.

Corn production was improved in 1958. The estimated yield for the county was 50 bushels per acre, which indicates that a large percent of the producers did a better job of fertilization and spacing. Excellent weather conditions helped to increase the yield. Since the top yields are in excess of 100 bushels per acre, it is evident that a large number of our producers are producing low yields.

Peanut yields improved some in 1958. The county's estimated average yield was 1,300 pounds per acre, which is 200 pounds more per acre than was produced in 1957. Here, we find the top producer's yield was 2,500 to 3,000 pounds per acre. The inefficient producers held our average yields to about 500 pounds below what it should have been.

Cotton yields were up to a yield of 0.9 of a bale per acre in 1958. This indicates that the top producers did a good job because 34% of the county's cotton was in the soil bank and 171.4 acres were not planted or entered in the soil bank.

The tobacco yields were average this year with a county average yield of about 1,700 pounds per acre. High prices received in 1958 indicated that tobacco producers did a much better job of producing quality tobacco.

Swine production was greatly improved during 1958, and considerable progress was made with the meat type hog program. This progress was made by improving the breeding stock and marketing hogs at a more desirable weight. One epidemic of cholera caused a loss in hog income of about \$50,000 during the spring and summer of 1958.

Beef and sheep production are small, in the county. Only about 30 farmers produce beef cattle, and 20 have sheep flocks. Producers of these classes of livestock have been successful in 1958. Some expansion in beef cattle production should materialize in 1959.

Forest improvement is taking place in the county. A number of farmers are gradually improving their cut-over wood land and planting trees on land unsuited for crops.

The 4-H program is making some progress in the county. Adult leaders are helping with the 4-H program in communities. The agents are trying to organize neighborhood groups for project work. There is still considerable competition from all types of youth organizations in the county, which compete for the time of individuals.

#### A. Agronomy

##### 1. Corn

a. In Greensville County, about 12,000 acres of corn are produced annually. During 1958 corn yields averaged about 50 bushels per acre, which was a heavy crop. Corn is produced for livestock feed primarily, however, last year, some was sold due to the excellent yield. The agronomy committee

agreed that work should be continued on fertilization and spacing of corn. The committee feels that fertilization should be increased so that the practice of direct fertilization of the peanut crop could be avoided in the corn-peanut rotation.

b. Teaching Objectives and Goals

- (1) Encourage 300 farmers to increase fertilization on corn to take care of the peanut crop in the rotation.
- (2) Increase yields to 60 bushels per acre.
- (3) Encourage 400 producers to buy recommended seed.

c. Methods

- (1) The following teaching tools will be used:
  - (a) Individual contacts: farm visits, office calls, and letters.
  - (b) Group contacts: organize a tour to observe proper corn production, take interested producers to the Holland Research Field Day, and invite fertilizer and seed dealers to attend district agronomy school.
  - (c) Mass contacts: news stories, radio programs and distribution of bulletins.
- (2) Activities will be carried out as listed on the calendar of work.
- (3) The program will be conducted in cooperation with the agronomy committee, professional workers, and members of the agronomy department.

d. Results will be measured by the interest taken by producers and yield estimates in the fall.

2. Peanuts

a. Peanuts account for one-half of the farm income in Greensville County. The majority of the farms in this county produce peanuts, and since they are one of the basic crops, they are controlled by allotments. Yields have been improving over the past few years; and during 1958, the average

production was up to about 1,800 pounds per acre.

The agronomy committee feels that there is a need to increase yields of peanuts and to improve the quality of peanuts. Low yields and poor quality peanuts are still a problem on a number of farms.

b. Teaching Objectives and Goals are:

- (1) Increase yields of peanuts to 2,000 pounds per acre.
- (2) Increase efficiency in production on 500 farms.
- (3) Get 100 farmers to multiply their recommended seed this year for 1960.
- (4) Get 200 producers to use proper methods of fertilizer application.

c. Methods

- (1) The teaching tools which will be used are as follows:
  - (a) Individual contacts: farm visits, office calls, and letters.
  - (b) Group contacts: organize a tour to observe proper peanut production, conduct a peanut production meeting for producers, take interested producers to the Holland Research Station Field Day to observe experiments on peanuts, and invite seed and fertilizer dealers to attend the district agronomy school. Set up 4 production demonstrations.
- (2) Activities will be carried out as listed on the calendar of work.
- (3) The program will be conducted in cooperation with the Agronomy committee, professional workers, and members of the agronomy department.

d. Results will be measured by information on yields, and a survey of results on quality of production.

3. Flue-Tobacco

a. The flue-tobacco situation in the county is encouraging as far as yields are concerned. Yields have gradually increased since 1940, when

the average yield was 820 pounds per acre. In 1958, the estimated yield was 1,700 pounds per acre. The quality of tobacco was greatly improved during 1958, which was shown by the price received.

The agronomy committee feels that the greatest need is to continue to encourage quality production of flue-tobacco.

b. Teaching Objectives and Goals are:

- (1) Increase the average yield of tobacco to 1,800 pounds per acre.
- (2) Have 200 producers improve their quality of tobacco, through recommended cultural practices.

c. Methods

- (1) The teaching tools which will be used are as follows:
  - (a) Individual contacts: farm visits, office calls and letters.
  - (b) Group contacts: organize a field trip to observe varieties of tobacco. Take interested producers to the Chatham Research Station Field Day. Inform seed and fertilizer dealers on latest tobacco recommendations.
  - (c) Mass contacts: news stories, radio programs, and distribution of bulletins.
- (2) Activities will be carried out as listed in calendar of work.
- (3) The program will be conducted in cooperation with the agronomy committee, professional workers, and members of the agronomy department.

d. Results will be measured through yield information and a survey of results in quality production.

4. Cotton

a. Cotton production in 1958 was very good with an average yield of about a bale per acre. Thirty-four percent of the cotton was in the soil bank during the year and 171 acres were not planted. Some improvement in production was realized due to proper cultural practices and better weather

conditions.

The agronomy committee felt that work should be continued on cotton production. Problems are improper fertilization, improper insect control, and lack of interest in cotton production.

b. Teaching Objectives and Goals

- (1) Increase yields to one and one-fourth bales per acre.
- (2) Increase efficiency of production on 200 cotton farms, through recommended cultural practices and insect control.
- (3) Encourage 150 producers to either plant their allotments or turn their allotments in to ASC so interested producers could plant the acreage.

c. Methods

- (1) The teaching tools which will be used are as follows:
  - (a) Individual contacts: farm visits, office calls, and letters.
  - (b) Group contacts: to organize a field trip to observe proper cotton production, to conduct a cotton production meeting, to inform seed and fertilizer dealers on grading services available, and set up two production demonstrations.
  - (c) Mass contacts: news stories, radio programs, and distribution of bulletins.
- (2) Activities will be carried out as listed on the calendar of work.
- (3) The program will be conducted in cooperation with the agronomy committee and professional workers.

d. Results will be measured through yield information and by the decrease in the number of non-planted cotton allotments.

5. Soybeans

a. In the past, soybeans have been a minor crop in the county. Producers have been producing about 1,000 acres annually. During 1958, acreages were increased to about 1,500 acres, and it appears that more increase is

forthcoming during 1959. Some producers had yields as high as 40 bushels per acre during 1958, but the average was about 25 bushels per acre.

The agronomy committee feels that some work should be started on the production of soybeans, due to increased interest. Problems are, planting improper varieties, and improper fertilization.

b. Teaching Objectives and Goals

- (1) Increase average yields to 30 bushels per acre.
- (2) Increase efficiency of production on 100 farms through cultural practices.

c. Methods

- (1) The teaching tools which will be used are as follows:
  - (a) Individual contacts: farm visits, office calls, and letters.
  - (b) Group contacts: set up two demonstrations on new varieties of soybeans, take interested producers to the Holland Research Station Field Day, inform seed and fertilizer dealers of recommendations.
  - (c) Mass contacts: news stories, radio programs, and distribution of bulletins.
- (2) Activities will be carried out as listed on the calendar of work.
- (3) The program will be carried out in cooperation with the agronomy committee and members of the agronomy department.

d. Results will be measured by average yields in the county.

6. Pasture

a. The pasture situation improved some last year due to favorable weather conditions. Still, some improvement was needed during the year.

The agronomy committee felt that pasture production should be included in the plan for 1959 and should be directly tied to proper land use. They also felt that pasture acreages should be increased from the 1958 total of 7,000 acres.

b. Teaching Objectives and Goals

- (1) Increase acreages to 8,500.
- (2) Work with 15 farmers on proper land use for pasture.
- (3) Encourage 300 producers to top dress their pastures with recommended fertilizers.

c. Methods

- (1) The teaching tools which will be used are as follows:
  - (a) Individual contacts: farm visits, office calls and letters.
  - (b) Group contacts: organize a tour to visit good pastures during the summer, inform seed and fertilizer dealers on proper recommendations, and to set up 3 pasture production demonstrations.
  - (c) Mass contacts: news stories, radio programs, and the distribution of bulletins.
- (2) Activities will be carried out as listed on the calendar of work.
- (3) The program will be conducted in cooperation with the agronomy committee, professional workers and members of the agronomy department.

d. Results will be measured by a survey in fall to find out effectiveness of the program.

B. Livestock

1. Beef Cattle

a. Beef production improved some during 1958, but there is still a need to increase this activity to take care of surplus feeds and lands not suited to crop production. There are about 1,000 beef cattle in the county.

The livestock committee feels that steer feeding should be the major beef project for the county. Farmers should be encouraged to start a steer

feeding project where feed and land is available. They feel that the main problem is the failure to utilize surplus feeds efficiently.

b. Teaching Objectives and Goals

- (1) Get 25 farmers to start a steer feeding project.
- (2) Get 10 producers to improve cow-calf herds.
- (3) Get 35 farmers to increase efficiency in beef production.

c. Methods

- (1) The following teaching tools will be used:
  - (a) Individual contacts: farm visits, office calls, and letters.
  - (b) Group contacts: set up three beef production demonstrations, organize a tour to visit demonstrations, and
  - (c) Mass contacts: news stories, radio programs, and the distribution of bulletins.
- (2) Activities will be carried out as listed in the calendar of work.
- (3) The program will be conducted in cooperation with the livestock committee, professional workers, and members of the livestock department and engineering department.

d. Results will be measured by a survey during the winter of 1959-60.

2. Hogs

a. About 12,000 hogs are produced for market annually. Nine percent of the county's farm income is derived from the sale of this class of livestock. This means about 1/3 of a million dollars in gross income.

The livestock committee feels that there is a need to improve hog production efficiency in the county. The major problems in hog production are: improper feeding, improper housing, and the lack of improvement in the meat-type hog.

type hog.

b. Teaching Objectives and Goals

- (1) Increase the number of hogs to 14,000.
- (2) Encourage 100 farmers to produce neat-type hogs.
- (3) Encourage 10 farmers to construct farrowing houses in 1959.
- (4) Aid 10 farmers in the construction of feeding floors during 1959.
- (5) Set up three feeding floor demonstrations and 3 farrowing house demonstrations during 1959.

c. Methods

- (1) The teaching tools which will be used are as follows:
  - (a) Individual contacts: farm visits, office calls, and letters.
  - (b) Group contacts: organize a tour to visit production demonstrations, take interested producers to the livestock field day at the Holland Research Station, inform feed dealers of feeding recommendations.
  - (c) Mass contacts: news stories, radio programs and the distribution of bulletins.
- (2) Activities will be carried out as listed in the calendar of work.
- (3) The program will be conducted in cooperation with the livestock committee, professional workers and members of the livestock department and engineering department.

d. Results of the program will be measured by an analysis of the

hog situation during the winter of 1959.

3. Sheep

a. Sheep production is of minor importance in the county. Only twenty-one farmers are in the sheep business and have a total of 300 head.

The livestock committee feels that improper sheep management is the most important problem in this line of production.

b. Teaching Objectives and Goals

- (1) To increase sheep numbers to 500.
- (2) To have the 21 producers improve management practices in their business.

c. Methods

- (1) The teaching tools which will be used are as follows:
  - (a) Individual contacts: farm visits, office calls, and letters.
  - (b) Group contacts: To conduct a sheep producers' school during the winter of 1959-60.
  - (c) Mass contacts: news stories, radio programs, and the distribution of bulletins.
- (2) Activities will be carried out as listed in the calendar of work.
- (3) The program will be conducted in cooperation with the live-stock committee, professional workers and members of the live-stock department and engineering department.

d. Results will be measured through an estimation of the sheep situation during the fall.

C. 1. Forestry

a. Sixty percent of the land in the county is in forest or cut-over woodland. Over the years milling operations have been directed toward the use of the more desirable species and as result, pine is being cut more rapidly than it is being produced. Improvement in forest management is evident throughout most of the county and further interest along this line of work is encouraging.

The forestry committee decided to try to set up a forestry club to stimulate further interest in a farm forestry program.

b. Teaching Objectives and Goals

- (1) Improve forestry management on 25 farms.
- (2) Encourage farmers to set 200,000 trees during 1959.
- (3) Interest 10 boys in forestry projects.
- (4) Set up 5 forest demonstrations.

c. Methods

- (1) The teaching tools which will be used are as follows:
  - (a) Individual contacts: farm visits, office calls, and letters.
  - (b) Group contacts: to conduct a tour to visit forest demonstrations.
  - (c) Mass contacts: news stories, radio programs and the distribution of bulletins.
- (2) Activities will be carried out as listed in the calendar of work.
- (3) The program will be conducted in cooperation with the forestry committee, professional workers, and members of the forestry department.

d. Results will be measured by the number of seedlings set out, accomplishments through the forestry club, and a survey of our forestry situation in the winter of 1959-60.

D. 1. Farm and Home Management

a. In Greensville County there is a need for complete farm and home development plans. On one-half of the farms in the county, there is a need for additional income due to low allotments. On some other farms, the farm operation is too small to be efficient or the operator does not manage efficiently.

The farm and home development committee felt that we should reach more families in 1959 in an attempt to put more farms on an efficient and profitable basis.

b. Teaching Objectives and Goals

- (1) Develop thirty farm plans during the year.
- (2) Increase efficiency on these 30 farms.

c. Methods

- (1) The teaching tools which will be used are as follows:
  - (a) Individual contacts: farm visits, office calls, and letters.
  - (b) Group contacts: conduct a school on farm management during the winter of 1959-60.
  - (c) Mass contacts: news stories, radio programs and the distribution of record books.
- (2) Activities will be carried out as listed on the calendar of work.
- (3) The program will be conducted on an individual basis in cooperation with the committee, professional workers and the various departments of V.P.I.

d. Results will be measured by progress of families worked with.

E.1. Youth

a. There are 831 white youths in the county between the ages of 10 and 21 years. Of this number, 151 are enrolled in six different clubs. All of the clubs in the county are organized on a community level and meet in homes of members.

The agents, in cooperation with the youth committee, decided to continue work on the following problems: improve quality of 4-H work, have each member complete at least one project, and improve 4-H meetings.

b. Teaching Objectives and Goals

- (1) Increase 4-H members to 75 members in boys' projects.
- (2) Have the 75 members complete their projects.
- (3) Organize 2 additional neighborhood clubs.

c. Methods

- (1) The teaching tools which will be used are:
  - (a) Individual contacts: farm visits, office visits, and letters.
  - (b) Group contacts: monthly 4-H meetings, county Achievement Program, county picnic, and project meetings.
  - (c) Mass contacts: news stories, radio programs, and distribution of circulars and printed matter.
- (2) Activities will be carried out as listed on the calendar of work.
- (3) The program will be conducted in cooperation with the youth committee, 4-H leaders, business leaders, and members of the 4-H club department.

d. Results will be measured by participation in the program and 4-H records.

F. 1. Minor Projects

a. Small Grain Production

There are a limited number of farmers producing small grain in the county. The agents in cooperation with the agronomy committee, will continue to encourage farmers to increase small grain production. The reason for small grain production is to initiate a diversified system of grain production in the county to feed livestock and poultry. Some progress is being made on this project due to increased interest on the part of livestock and poultry producers.

This will be accomplished through news stories, radio programs and demonstrations.

b. Poultry Production

There are a few farmers in the county engaged in poultry production. Two types of businesses are being started: egg production and broiler production.

c. Dairy Production

There are only three farmers in the county engaged in the Grade "A" dairy business. Very few farmers are interested in dairying therefore, the agents will assist these producers through personal contacts and farm visits.

d. Chemical Weed Control

There are a few farmers interested in chemical weed control in peanuts and corn. The agents will assist interested producers through method demonstrations during April and May.

The agents will disseminate information to producers during March, April, and May, through news stories, radio programs, farm visits, and letters.

#### CALENDAR OF WORK

- January -
1. Publicize recommended varieties. (Tobacco)
  2. Publicize value of good plants. (Tobacco)
  3. Conduct meetings of fertilizer dealers to point out recommendations. (Pasture, Peanuts, and Corn)
- February -
1. Inform fertilizer and seed dealers of latest recommendations. (Peanuts)
  2. Conduct meeting of producers. (Peanuts and Cotton)
  3. Publicize recommended fertilization. (Peanuts)
  4. Publicize recommended varieties. (Tobacco)
  5. Publicize value of good plants. (Tobacco)
  6. Publicize importance of planting allotments. (Cotton)
- March -
1. Publicize recommended spacing and fertilization. (Corn)
  2. Inform fertilizer and seed dealers of latest recommendations. (Peanuts)
  3. Publicize recommended fertilization. (Peanuts)
  4. Publicize value of good plants. (Tobacco)
  5. Publicize importance of planting allotments. (Cotton)
  6. Have tours and demonstrations showing grading hogs and proper hog management.
- April -
1. Publicize recommended spacing and fertilization. (Corn)
  2. Set up three demonstrations on proper fertilization. (Cotton)
  3. Publicize weed control in row crops
- May -
1. Conduct at least three demonstrations on fertilization. (Peanuts and Cotton)
  2. Publicize recommended cultivation methods. (Peanuts, corn, and Cotton)
  3. Publicize insect and disease control recommendations. (Peanuts and Cotton)
- June -
1. Publicize recommended cultivation methods. (Peanuts)
  2. Hold three demonstrations on proper cultivation. (Peanuts)
  3. Publicize insect and disease control recommendations. (Peanuts)
  4. Conduct boll weevil count demonstrations. (Cotton)
- July -
1. Publicize insect and disease control recommendations. (Peanuts)
  2. Conduct tours to observe varieties. (Tobacco)
  3. Publicize recommended harvest methods. (Tobacco)
  4. Organize trip to Chatham Research Station. (Tobacco)
- August -
1. Conduct field trip to visit demonstrations. (Peanuts)
  2. Publicize insect and disease control recommendations. (Peanuts)
  3. Publicize recommended harvest methods. (Tobacco and Corn)
  4. Conduct tours to observe fertilizer demonstrations. (Cotton and Corn)

5. Organize trip to Holland Research Station. (Peanuts, Corn, Soybeans, and Weed Control.)
- September -
1. Publish harvest information. (Corn, Peanuts, Cotton, and Soybeans)
  2. Publish cover crop seeding information.
  3. Field trip. (Pastures)
  4. Reorganize 4-H Clubs.
- October -
1. Publicize yields. (Corn)
  2. In cooperation with livestock committee, set up two steer feeding demonstrations. (Beef Cattle)
  3. Set up peanut harvest demonstration. (Peanuts)
- November -
1. Publicize yields. (Corn)
  2. Have tours and demonstrations showing grading, and hog management.
- December -
- All During Year -
1. Inform dealers as to recommended insect and disease control. (Peanuts)
  2. Publicize fertilizer recommendations. (Cotton)
  3. Publicize recommended insect and disease control measures. (Cotton)
  4. Contact and give seed dealers timely information on pasture production.
  5. Publicize recommendations. (Pasture)
  6. Furnish farmers with blue prints for hog houses.
  7. In cooperation with livestock committee, and Extension specialists, set up at least four demonstrations on meat type animals, proper housing and proper disease and parasite control.
  8. Publicize the meat type hog program, parasite and disease control, and proper housing.
  9. Take sheep producers latest recommendations on management.
  10. Organize producers for custom shearing of their sheep.
  11. Aid producers in purchase of breeding stock.
  12. Encourage use of trained foresters in determining forest problems.
  13. Continue demonstrations on recommended forest management.
  14. Encourage land owners to participate in ASC practices. (Forest)
  15. Publicize proper forest management practices.
- During Fall-
1. Set up three demonstrations to show recommended fertilization. (Pasture)
  2. Publicize value of steer production and herd management. (Beef Cattle)

During Growing Season-

1. Conduct tours to observe demonstrations. (Pasture.)
2. Publicize recommended grazing practices. (Pasture.)