

COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE WORK  
IN  
AGRICULTURE AND HOME ECONOMICS

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE &  
VIRGINIA POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE  
COOPERATING

EXTENSION SERVICE  
LOCAL FARM AND HOME  
DEMONSTRATION WORK

PLAN OF WORK  
1963

COUNTY

Powhatan

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Local Farm Agent

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Asst. Local Farm or Home Agent

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A MAJOR EMPHASIS \* EDUCATIONAL PLAN

PROJECT AREA: AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION, MANAGEMENT  
AND NATURAL RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

PHASE: AGRONOMY - Soil Fertility and Recommended Seeds

The Situation:

The present rate of fertilizer - approximately 300 pounds per acre for most crops with the exception of tobacco - is inadequate to bring economical yields on the farms in Powhatan County. The amount of fertilizer used by the farmers could be tripled in order to bring crop yields up to profitable levels. It is estimated 40% of the farmers are not using recommended seeds. A soil fertility program coupled with emphasis on recommended seeds should be a step toward improving yields on small grain, pastures, hay and corn in Powhatan County.

The Specific Problem:

Low crop yields - in hay, small grain, corn and pasture yields on most farms in the county.

The Program Objective:

To increase the yields of hay, pastures and crops for grain and thereby lowering the cost per unit of production and thereby producing ample economical feed for livestock.

TEACHING OBJECTIVES	SOURCE OF ASSISTANCE	METHODS	WHEN	BY WHOM
Assist the crop producers to: 1. Become familiar with and understand the recommended fertilizer practices.	State Agronomy Staff State Agric. Economics Staff. "Estimating the Cost of Producing Crops."	1. Organize subject matter material.	Jan. - March	Agent with ASCS

FERTILITY

TEACHING OBJECTIVES	SOURCE OF ASSISTANCE	METHODS	WHEN	BY WHOM
2. Understand the why of good seeds.		2. Involve Agronomy Committee, Advisory Board and YM Club	Feb. - June	Agent
3. Understand the cost of per unit of productions and how it is affected by yields.	Bulletin 183 "Fertilizer Recommendations for Virginia"	3. Send small grain, pasture and hay fertility recommendations to farm families.	Feb. - Sept.	Agent
4. Acquire necessary skills in using this information.	VPI Leaflet 84 "So You Want to Have Your Soil Tested"	4. Select demonstrators and submit soil samples.	Jan. - August	Agent & Agronomy Committee
	Bulletin 97 "Agronomy Handbook"	5. General meetings and publicity for the fertility program.	July - Sept.	Agent & Advisory Board
	Circular 886 "Field Crop Varieties"	6. Organize subject matter material for corn fertility	Feb.	Agent
		7. Meetings of the Advisory Board and Agronomy Committee.	Jan. - April	Agent
		8. Select Demonstrators for corn and submit soil samples.	Feb.	Agent & Agronomy Committee
		9. General meetings on corn fertility and production.	March	Agent & Farmers

FERTILITY

TEACHING OBJECTIVES	SOURCE OF ASSISTANCE	METHODS	WHEN	BY WHOM
	Circular 541 "100 Bushel Corn Per Acre"  Circular 533 "Top-Dress Pastures"	10. Send corn production recommendations to farm families.	March - April	Agent
		11. Field meetings at small grain and pasture demonstrations.	March	Agent
		12. Give publicity to corn and pasture fertility and have final planning session with demonstrators on how to conduct demonstrations.	April	Agent
		13. Preparation of land and planting crop for demonstrations.	March - May	Demonstrators
		14. Recheck small grain demonstrations and analyze results.	June	Agent & Demonstrators
		15. Visit corn demonstrations and plan meetings at demonstrations.	June	Agent & Agronomy Committee

PROJECT AREA: AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION, MANAGEMENT  
AND NATURAL RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

PHASE: LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION - SWINE PRODUCTION

The Situation:

A number of the farmers in the county are still using swine breeding of a poor meat type and slow rate of growth which gives poor feeding efficiency. Obtaining a better breeding type of swine will help the farmers produce better pigs which are in demand and also aid them in growing market hogs more economical. Many of the farmers require eight months to get hogs to market. It is felt that a better swine breeding stock and program will help the growers market earlier and more efficient.

The Specific Problem:

Inferior breeding stock found on a number of the farms in the county.

The Program Objective:

To improve the type and quality of hogs produced in the county to meet the market demand.

TEACHING OBJECTIVES	SOURCE OF ASSISTANCE	METHODS	WHEN	BY WHOM
Assist the county's Hog Growers to:				
1. Understand the importance of good breeding animals.	State Livestock Staff Bulletin 192 "Hog Production In Virginia"	1. Continue efforts already started on improving swine production. 2. Organize subject matter material.	Jan. - April  Jan.	Agent & Demonstrators  Agent
2. Become familiar with recommended breeding practices.	Bulletin 216 "Judging Livestock"	3. Meetings of livestock committee to plan and execute improvement.	April & July	Agent & Committee

SWINE PRODUCTION

TEACHING OBJECTIVES	SOURCE OF ASSISTANCE	METHODS	WHEN	BY WHOM
3. Become familiar with the type of hogs demanded.	Bulletin 524 "Virginia Livestock Marketing Guide"	4. Utilize 4-H projects and 4-H Leader in Swine improvement work.	April - June	Agent 4-H Members 4-H Leaders
4. Acquire necessary skills in utilizing good breeding practices and breeding animals.	Circular 669 "Market Hog Project"	5. General meetings on Swine Production.	Feb. - May	Agent & Specialist
		6. Obtain demonstrators and give publicity to swine improvement.	Feb. - October	Agent & Committee
		7. Meeting at demonstrations.	May - August	Agent & Growers
		8. Market animals for comparison.	Sept. - Jan.	Agent & Growers
		9. Write up news article and details of project.	Feb. - Sept.	Agent & Growers
		10. Analyze results and plan for their use.	October	Agent & Committee

PROJECT AREA: FOUR - H AND OTHER EXTENSION YOUTH PROGRAMS

PHASE: 4-H PROVIDING LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES AND EXPERIENCES

The Situation:

There are more than 600 youth in the county between the ages of 10 and 21. With the decrease in the number of full time farm operators and farm machinery taking over the rural areas. Many youth are with idle time, which they can use more beneficial through 4-H work and its activities. Early marriage, school student drop-outs and increase in the unskilled labor group are among some of the less desirable local situations. The information they receive through 4-H work will help them to develop into more desirable county citizens.

The Specific Problem:

The youth in the county need opportunities to learn and useful work experiences as provided by the 4-H Program to help them develop into well rounded citizens.

The Program Objective:

To provide 4-H organizations throughout the county in which youth may join to receive instruction and useful project experience.

TEACHING OBJECTIVES	SOURCE OF ASSISTANCE	METHODS	WHEN	BY WHOM
Assist 4-H members in learning: 1. Parliamentary procedure	State 4-H Staff  4-H Leaders	1. Tours, visits and 4-H meetings  2. Conservation Conference	July - Aug.  Jan. - June	Agent 4-H members & Leaders 4-H members & Leaders

FOUR-E

TEACHING OBJECTIVES	SOURCE OF ASSISTANCE	METHODS	WHEN	BY WHOM
2. Agriculture, homemaking and related activities.	Bulletin 255 "4-H Project Manual"	3. Organize Material	Jan. -	Agent
3. Personal development	Project Record Books  "Printed Materials on Personal Development"	4. Reorganize 4-H Clubs	Feb.	Agent &
4. Learning by doing	"Bulletin 236 "A Guide for 4-H Club Officers"  "4-H Leaders Handbook"  "Career Exploration" Unit I  "Helps in Mastering Parliamentary Procedures"	5. Monthly 4-H meetings and Project Training Sessions.	Dec. &	Leaders
		6. Awards Program	Jan. -	Agent,
		7. 4-H Christmas Party	Dec.	Leaders &
		8. Training Meeting	Feb. &	4-H Members
		9. National 4-H Week Observation	April	4-H Members
		10. Junior Council Meeting Semi-Annually	March	Agent &
		11. Rural Life Sunday	Mar. -	Leaders
		12. Short Course	Nov.	Supervisors
			May	4-H Members
			June	4-H Members & 4-H Leaders

FOUR-H

TEACHING OBJECTIVES	SOURCE OF ASSISTANCE	METHODS	WHEN	BY WHOM
		13. Projects Inspections and record book assistance throughout the year.	Sept. - June	Agent & Leaders
		14. County's 4-H Leaders Council to promote 4-H work.	Sept. - June Jan. - April July & Oct.	Agent & 4-H Leaders

## PROJECT AREA: COMMUNITY AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS

## PHASE: COUNTY ADVISORY BOARD

The Situation:

The County Advisory Board consist of three representatives from each magisterial district and two representatives from each community club. There is lack of cooperation between different community clubs in the county in carrying out county-wide activities and events. Therefore, there is lack of effective coordination between the Advisory Board and other community clubs. Several members of the advisory board who have attended State Advisory Board Concerences have expressed a desire to strengthen the County Advisory Board.

The Specific Problem:

Lack of coordinated efforts on the part of the community clubs, that might provide opportunity for effective development and leadership.

The Problem Objective:

To increase the effectiveness of the County Advisory Board through community club leadership development. To develop community spirit and pride and thereby raising the level of living among the people.

TEACHING OBJECTIVES	SOURCE OF ASSISTANCE	METHODS	WHEN	BY WHOM
Assist the Community Clubs in the county to:				
1. Become familiar with and understand the procedure in conducting an effective club.	Printed material on community development Agricultural Advisory Board State Advisory Board Four-H Leader Council	Organize material Survey to determine interest	Feb. & April July	Agent Agent & Advisory Board
2. Develop pride and community spirit.		Community Improvement Club	Sept.	Agent & Leaders

TEACHING OBJECTIVES	SOURCE OF ASSISTANCE	METHODS	WHEN	BY WHOM
2. Develop pride and community spirit.	Four-H Leader Council	County-wide Community Project	Sept.	Agent & 4-H Leaders
3. Develop a more effective nucleus for leader training through the Advisory Board.	Bulletin 211 "Organizing Community Improvement Club"	Community Club Meetings	March - July	Agent & Advisory Board Members
4. To strengthen the cooperation between different clubs.	Adult Leaders District Agents State Staff	Meeting with Advisory Board	March & October	Agent & County Advisory Board.

## MINOR PROJECTS

- A. PROJECT AREA: Agricultural Production, Management and Natural Resource Development
  - 1. Forestry
  - 2. Farm Management
  - 3. Livestock - Dairy and Beef Production
  - 4. Tobacco
  
- B. PROJECT AREA: Marketing and Utilization of Agricultural Products
  - 1. Preparation of tobacco for market.
  - 2. Educational work on markets, trends, grading, loans and Outlook information.
  
- C. PROJECT AREA: Community and Public Affairs
  - 1. Cooperation with other community, county and public organizations.