

PITTSYLVANIA COUNTY - PLAN OF WORK - 1962-63

Mrs. Suzanne Peery, Home Demonstration Agent

Miss Betty Fain, Assistant Home Demonstration Agent

J. F. Blair, County Agent

H. S. Reynolds, Assistant County Agent (Tobacco)

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1962
ANNUAL STATISTICAL REPORT
OF
COUNTY EXTENSION WORKERS

January 1, 1962 - December 31, 1962

County Peninsula Area
(Cities of Hampton, Newport
News and York County)

Submitted By:	<u>P.F. Thomas,</u>	<u>Local Farm Agent</u>
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	_____	_____
	_____	_____
	_____	_____

Approved By: _____
Date State Extension Director

Issued in furtherance of cooperative extension work in agriculture and home economics, acts of May 8 and June 30, 1914, in cooperation with the U. S. Department of Agriculture. W. H. Daughtrey, Director of Extension Service, Virginia Polytechnic Institute, Blacksburg, Virginia.

Peninsula Area

December 14, 1962

Appraisal Cont'd.

spot information in home and community improvement.

We have been inconvenienced that as more people move into an area, the bigger problems become. Therefore, the above agencies have joined us in helping to add to some of the problem solutions. This approach has helped our program, and caused more people and concerns to learn about and to cooperate with efforts of the Extension Service.

THE APPRAISAL STATEMENT

The past year of Extension work here in this area has been one of an unusual interest on the part of adults working to see more boys and girls take part in 4-H club activity. There has been an increase interest on the part of present leaders to seek out means of getting better leaders to help assume more important roles in 4-H club work.

Adults have been more keenly concerned with seeing that their boys and girls be assigned to do something definite in 4-H club project activity.

This year we had specialists to come and conduct a clinic in ornamental horticultural plants, insect and pest control. Thus far, we have more request for assistance in that line of work than ever before. Our greatest problem is that most groups would rather call a meeting at night. We also received increase interest from officials of other agencies wishing the program well, and giving support when ever needed.

We have been joined by the Health Department Officials, Fire Department, Public Works Department, Waterworks Commission and Detective Bureau to meet with citizens for on the

Feninsula Area

December 14, 1962

SUCCESS STORY - THE FIG CHAIN

This is the story of a 4-H club and an adult pig chain. Thirty-two pure-bred gilts and four pure-bred males were put out in eight different communities in the area. Each gilt was given to a boy to grow out and produce a litter of pigs, then give to another boy a gilt. This method was used through the area until about seventy gilts were distributed. The four males were placed with adults located in four sections of the Feninsula Area. Eight club gilts were assigned to each male hog to be serviced. After one year of service the hog becomes the property of the adult who took charge of him as a pig.

Today we do not have very many producing lard type hogs. About 90% of the hogs produced in this area are meat type.

The success of getting this job done can be credited to the efforts of those carrying out the pig chain idea.

One producer reported that his entire foundation stock has come from the efforts of the pig chain. His son and daughter exhibited the grand champion pen of three hogs and the reserve champion pen of three hogs at the Tidewater Fair in Suffolk, Virginia. They had a difficult time picking the six hogs from a pen of about fifty-five.

Peninsula Area

December 14, 1962

Success Story of a Junior Leader Cont'd

she has demonstrated her desire to share 4-H with others. During the past year without revealing her plans to the Extension agents she took the initiative to organize a new 4-H club of eighteen younger boys and girls in her community.

poses of 4-H club work, and selected meal preparation and swine production as project activities. This group participated in a recent awards program presided over by LaFrances and were formally inducted into the Peninsula 4-H family.

December 14, 1962

4-H Program Cont'd.

meantime, much individualized training has been offered in trying to keep this group functioning to improve the 4-H program. Organizational leaders have met with the junior council on various program planning and implementation. As a result probably they are receiving more training through group methods than any other leaders. Project leaders have received some group project instruction in foods and nutrition, crops and livestock. Other training has been done in home visits. Opportunities have been provided for five local representatives to attend the State Leader's Association Meeting in January and three attended the meeting in June during the short course.

School 4-H leaders as a group have not been actively associated with the 4-H leadership association. Efforts have been made to reach these persons during teachers meetings. At one junior high school, eleven 7th grades are enrolled in the 4-H program. During the year we met with the eleven teacher leaders six times to explain the 4-H program, project literature and manuals. Resource folders related to the project were distributed to each teacher. A retired 7th grade teacher who previously worked in this

December 14, 1962

4-H Program Cont'd.

particularly school served as coordinator of our 4-H program for the school conference with this leader and her resulting efforts on behalf of the 4-H program contributed to our efforts in working with these groups.

PROJECT AREA: 4-H AND OTHER YOUTH PROGRAMS

PHASE: 4-H ADULT LEADER ASSOCIATION

In August of 1960, a 4-H Adult Leadership group was organized to further local 4-H community clubs. This group was organized into three executive committees, an organization project work and special activities. While leaders in this organization have shown interest in the 4-H program and have responded to requests for help with various aspects of the work insufficient training and understanding have limited the degree to which they have been able to carry out responsibilities assumed when the group was organized. The program objective is to improve the total 4-H program by strengthening the 4-H leadership organization.

To initiate this phase of the program a survey was made

of the needs and suggestions of leaders involved. It was suggested that the work or training be done through the various committees and/or committee chairman where committees could not get together. This we have scheduled. In the

Peninsula Area

December 14, 1962

Housing Cont'd.

pot lids, etc. The discussions revealed in many instances that limited space was as much a problem as organization of storage space. Twenty women built or purchased ready made cabinets to increase the amount of kitchen storage.

Report of progress on improved bedroom storage is not completed; however, five families have built new clothes closets under the eaves of one and one-half story homes, ten storage cabinets have been built in the bathroom to accommodate towels, etc. Other changes reported in improving bedroom storage include putting up hooks on door to take care of extra belts, purchasing devices to improve storage of shoes and reorganization of dresser drawers for orderly storage of cosmetics and grooming supplies. Twelve instances were reported of building or adding additional shelves above the clothes rack to make the space more convenient for use. H. D. Club women decided that this topic should be included in the following year's program and will comprise a special interest activity. A home builder's forum has been scheduled in cooperation with VEPCO Home Economists for concentrated work for those persons contemplating building new homes.

Peninsula Area

December 14, 1962

PROJECT AREA: EXTENSION HOME ECONOMICS
PHASE: HOUSING: PLANNING AND IMPROVING
KITCHEN AND BEDROOM STORAGE

Three months were spent on planning and improving kitchen and bedroom storage. Many homemakers needed expanded housing space. Some were planning to buy or build new homes, others to remodel. Over 90% of those planning for expanded housing space listed inadequate storage as a major dissatisfaction with existing homes. Kitchen and bedroom storage were listed as the most pressing storage needs. Additional information was needed to assist homemakers in making necessary plans and improvement. The program objective was to increase knowledge and skills in planning for and improving kitchen and bedroom storage. Discussions, method demonstrations, visuals and printed materials were used as teaching methods. Preliminary discussions centered around storage planning principles. Club women were encouraged to list improvements needed, discuss ways of accomplishing the needed improvements, and to set up a time table for completion. To date the following results have been reported: 119 families purchased devices for improving kitchen storage. These included spice and knife racks, dividers for stacking dishes, cutlery trays, racks for holding

Foods Cont'd.

Interior Fishery and Marketing Division. Six home economics teachers, nine school lunchroom workers were also trained on fish and seafood cookery. Full evaluation has not been made of non extension connected people who were trained in fish and seafood cookery. However, one of the school cafeteria managers who was trained gave a demonstration for the twenty-two teachers employed at her school.

We estimated that approximately 600 families have been reached with some phase of the foods and nutrition program.

Peninsula Area

December 14, 1962

Foods Cont'd.

meals. To date, results were measuring through roll call response of club members. Approximately 150 women reported at least one main dish demonstrated in club meetings had been prepared in the home and was liked by the family.

This topic was also included in the 4-H club program for girls in eight clubs enrolled in meal preparation. Demonstration on the preparation of pork products was given as a part of monthly project activity. Tours of a meat market by these girls to observe retail cuts of pork was carried out on a club basis. The culminating activity was a contest in identifying retail cuts of pork and preparation of various pork products held in connection with the livestock round-up. Three winners were selected on the basis of their ability to identify and locate retail cuts of pork on one-half pork carcass and their preparation of a pork dish. Three girls prepared baked hams, which were given in appreciation to financial supporters of this phase of the 4-H program.

One month was devoted to improving skills in buying, preparing, and using economical seafood dishes. This topic was also included in both adult and 4-H programs. Leaders were trained by Representatives of U. S. Department of

Peninsula Area

December 14, 1962

PROJECT AREA: EXTENSION HOME ECONOMICS

PHASE: FOODS AND NUTRITION

Families in this area experience difficulty in economically providing the desired diet necessary for the development and maintenance of the family's health. Lack of knowledge in meal planning and preparation contribute as much as limited income to the problem. Many families with whom we work raise pork to supplement the family's food supply. These families requested help in learning new ways of preparing and utilizing these pork products in preparing nutritious meals. During this period the emphasis has been on utilizing various skills in selecting, preparing, and using various cuts of meat. This phase of the program has been stressed in H. D. and L-H and has been coordinated with the farm agent's efforts in pork production.

Selecting, preparing, and using economical main dishes was included in the adult program for two months. Method demonstrations, discussions, leader training meetings and a tour of meat markets were the methods used in trying to reach the objective of increased skills in selecting, preparing, and using meat in economical and nutritious family

Peninsula Area

December 14, 1962

have individuals from all over the area to call almost daily about these insect and pest.

We still use the method demonstration and result demonstration teaching: Clinic conducted through the help of specialists, discussions, and news releases in getting over Extension information to the people with whom we work.

Peninsula Area

December 14, 1962

PROJECT AREA: MANAGEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT OF ORNAMENTAL PLANTS

PHASE: ORNAMENTAL HORTICULTURAL PRODUCTS

We have given major emphasis to the project of ornamental plants in this area, because we have more people who are concerned with this phase of activity than any other.

Throughout the Peninsula Area, we have housing development in operation. In most cases, each home built has set aside from \$300 to \$1,000 for landscape. This year, we have had over 1,200 request from individuals and concerns about landscape information. The types of information most of them request are soil samples and analysis, fertilizers, shrubbery, trees, insect and pest control. Not having many farms in this area, would cause one to think that there is not much need for fertilizers, not true. We find more fertilizers on the market now, than we did when we were in the farming business. People are conscious of the value and importance of fertilizers. Therefore, we are called upon to assist with directing the people toward the use of the kind of fertilizer element necessary for good production results.

We have fifteen (15) or more housing units here in this area. About one-third of the agents time is devoted to

Peninsula Area

ains.

Peninsula Area

December 14, 1962

AGRICULTURE PRODUCTION AND MARKETING

PHASE: SWINE

It appears that as long as there is a possibility for collecting swill from eating places, there will be people attempting to grow hogs. In our area, we have at least 100 or more producers of swine, not withstanding that most of their feed comes from mess halls, cafes, and lunchrooms.

The agent spends considerable time and effort assisting producers with the problems confronting them most. Example: Internal parasites control, and the mortality rate of young pigs nursing sows which are fed swill. More than 50% of these producers have regular jobs in industry, and do no farming at all. They produced over 3,000 head of hogs this year. The hogs were sold on the regular market, to neighbors, friends, and were produced for use and stored for use to supply their family needs.

The agent assisted these producers with their problems of health and sanitation, breeding, balancing rations, internal parasite control, housing and marketing.

These swine producers reported that their swine projects add from 20 to 25% to their annual income. Six producers

Peninsula Area

December 14, 1962

Leadership Cont'd.

so that more might be devoted to stimulating growth in the following areas:

1. An understanding and use of parliamentary procedures.
2. Developing greater human relations abilities.
3. Increasing understandings of the various offices and of the extension program.

Our leaders have been organized into three areas for the purpose of facilitating the work of leadership in the area of extension. In general our leadership needs have not changed greatly from previous years. We still need more leaders and better trained leaders, and we still need to seek opportunities for developing our leadership potential as professional workers.

Peninsula Area

December 14, 1962

Leadership Cont'd.

be increased by more training. Much time has been devoted to individualized training during home visits. Difficulty has been experienced in getting leaders to come together for group training which might be more effective in preparing for project leadership and would certainly conserve the agents time. Here too, there is the need for additional leaders.

Organizational leadership represents the last area in which volunteer local leaders have contributed to the extension program. Included are adult 4-H organizational leaders, H. D. and 4-H club officers, Officers of the Agricultural Advisory Board, and chairmen of key committees.

Experiences indicates that there is a major need on the part of professional workers to organize their time and effort

Peninsula Area

December 14, 1962

LOCAL LEADERSHIP IN PENINSULA AREA

various leadership roles. For purposes of reporting our volunteer leadership program maybe organized into three major areas. The first area would include the Agricultural Advisory Board, the Home Demonstration Club Committee, the Peninsula 4-H Leadership Association, and the Peninsula Junior Council. A major responsibility of these groups is advisory. In addition, they have functioned in promoting the program by presenting community needs and problems as an index to program planning and by helping to secure additional leadership. They have also used their influence to publicize groups have contributed to the overall effectiveness of the local program, we feel that they might become more effective by concentrating on the following areas:

1. Strengthening the cohesiveness of the various groups.
2. Giving more recognition to the contribution of the various groups.