

COOPERATIVE EXTENSION WORK IN AGRICULTURE AND HOME ECONOMICS

Cooperative Extension Work in Agriculture and Home Economics
Oklahoma Agricultural and Mechanical College and United States Department of
Agriculture Cooperating; Extension Service; County Agent Work
Stillwater, Oklahoma

Distributed in Furtherance of the Acts of Congress of May 8 and June 30, 1914.

FARMSTEAD IMPROVEMENT

for

4-H Agricultural Engineering

Club Members



Farmstead Improvement Manual

FOR 4-H AGRICULTURAL ENGINEERING CLUB MEMBERS

The 4-H Club boy who likes to tinker and fix things will find the Farmstead Improvement Project interesting and worthwhile. It has to do with the making of repairs, improvements and conveniences that add to the comforts and happiness of farm life.

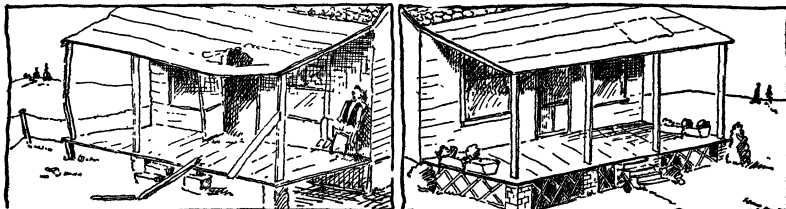
Many of the improvements listed in the suggested Calendar of Work can be made with little or no cash outlay. Native materials should be used wherever possible, and in making equipment from lumber, use should be made of goods boxes, orange crates or any such material that is available.

Club members enrolling in the Farmstead Improvement Project should enlist the cooperation of their parents in selecting or outlining the work to be done.

RULES GOVERNING 4-H FARMSTEAD IMPROVEMENT CLUB WORK

Any regularly enrolled 4-H Club boy in Oklahoma who will agree to abide by the following rules is eligible to membership in the Farmstead Improvement Club:

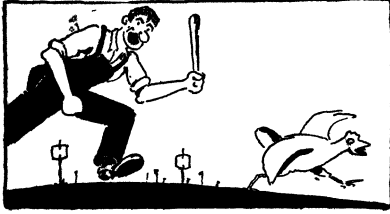
1. Prepare an information file on farmstead improvement work. This file should contain copies of the bulletins, circulars and other reference material listed on page 3.
2. For any one year's work select at least four projects listed under the Schedule of Work. Club members are urged to carry out as many of the listed projects as possible and also additional improvement projects that may be needed on the farm but not listed in the Schedule of Work.



Farmstead Despair—

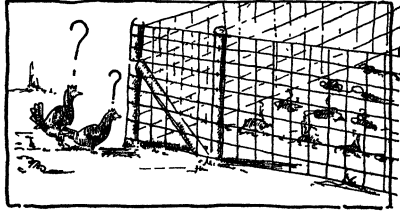
Farmstead Repair!

3. As each project is finished, enter the actual score as called for, and at end of year total these scores. A high score will be a big factor in determining the winning contestant in a county or in a state wide contest.



Hens Gobble Your Seed?

work done during the year. This report should include a list of improvement projects undertaken during year, giving actual scores made on each project as indicated in Schedule of Work. Pictures of improvements made will be a very helpful part of the report.



Here's What You Need!

BASIS OF AWARDS IN COUNTY OR STATE CONTESTS

Farmstead Improvement Club members will be judged on the following basis:

Total number of points made in work schedule.....	60%
Exhibit made at county or state fair.....	20%
Story and report of work done.....	20%
Total	100%

REFERENCE MATERIAL TO BE USED IN FARMSTEAD IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

Copies of the publications listed below may be had through the county agent's office or by ordering them direct from the address given:

- Extension Service, A. and M. College, Stillwater, Oklahoma
 - Circular No. 289, "Farm Home Sanitation."
 - Circular No. 245, "Water Systems for the Farm Home."
 - Circular No. 312, "Storage for the Farm Home."
 - Circular No. 317, "How to Build with Native Rock."
- United States Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.
 - Farmers' Bulletin No. 927, "Farm Home Conveniences."
 - Farmers' Bulletin No. 1480, "Small Concrete Construction on the Farm."
 - Farmers' Bulletin No. 1452, "Painting on the Farm."
 - Farmers' Bulletin No. 1590, "Fire Protective Construction on the Farm."

Oklahoma A. and M. College Extension Division

3. International Harvester Company, Chicago, Illinois.
 - I. "Some Useful Things You Should Know How To Do."
 - J. "Making Things."
4. United States Department of Commerce, Washington, D. C.
 - K. "You Can Make It," Volume 1, 5 cents
 - L. "You Can Make It for Profit," 5 cents.
 - M. "You Can Make It for Camp and Cottage," 5 cents.
5. Portland Cement Association, First National Bank Building, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.
 - N. "Permanent Repairs on the Farm."
 - O. "Concrete Improvements around the Home."

Four-H Club members doing farmstead improvement work should by all means, have access to the three publications by the United States Department of Commerce. These pamphlets contain a large number of very good plans and suggestions for making things at small cost.

CLASSIFICATIONS OF FARMSTEAD IMPROVEMENTS

Improvements discussed in this circular may be classified under three heads, namely: house improvements, general farmstead improvements and improvement of farm tools, machinery and equipment.

House Improvements

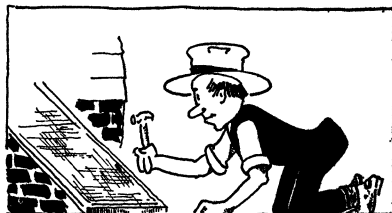


Flies in Your Beans?

sink, water system, and shower bath are other conveniences that club boys can assist in providing for the home. In tenant homes, it is possible and advisable to make conveniences that are movable, unless the landowner is willing to cooperate in the installation of permanent equipment.

General Farmstead Improvements

Most farmsteads in Oklahoma are in need of general improvements, such as cleaning up, grading, and draining of yards and lots, the repair and improvement of fences, gates, walks and drives. Other general improvements may include the nailing up of loose boards, painting, whitewashing, or the repair or remodeling of certain buildings. Provision for livestock equipment and conveniences should also come under this classification.



Patch up the Screens!

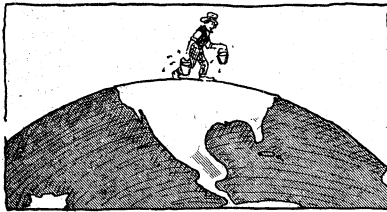
Provision for livestock equipment and conveniences should also come under this classification.

Tools Needed for Improvement Work. The hammer, saw, and square are the principal tools needed for most of the small construction and repair work done on the farm; however, if club members desire to have a fairly complete outfit of tools, the following list will serve as a guide:

1 claw hammer, 13 oz.	1 bench plane, 12 inch
1 screw driver, 6 inch	1 ratchet brace, 8 inch sweep
1 two-foot folding rule	2 auger bits, $\frac{3}{8}$ and $\frac{3}{4}$ inch
1 crosscut saw, 20 inch	1 screw driver bit, 8 inch
1 try-square, 6 inch	1 countersink bit
2 chisels, $\frac{1}{4}$ and $\frac{3}{4}$ inch	1 oil stone
1 marking gage	1 jackknife

Care of Tools. Whether tools are kept in a chest or on a wall panel, club members should always strive to keep each tool in its place when not in use. This practice will prevent the loss of tools and conserve time in looking for tools which have been mislaid.

Woodworking tools to work efficiently must be free from rust. This may be accomplished by first wiping the tools as they are brought in, and then going over them with an oiled rag. A thin coat of any oil will prevent rust.



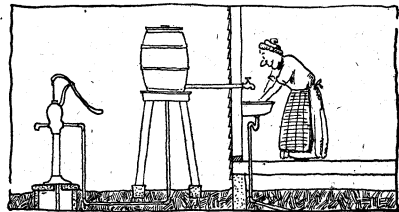
Water Tiresome to Tote?

What applies to woodworking tools should also be applied to other tools used on the farm, i. e., "a place for everything and everything in its place." A great deal of time is wasted on the average farm in looking for the ax, hoe, shovel, or what not. These and similar tools should be kept in a definite place when not in use.

Care of Field Machinery

Club members should cooperate with their fathers in caring for all field machinery. If a plow, cultivator, drill, mower, or any other machinery is checked over at the end of its season of operation, time and money can be saved. A check-over should include the tightening of loose nuts, and the removing of all dirt which may be collected on wood and metal parts, and especially in bearings and other wearing parts. The wearing parts should be checked for needed replacements before another year.

If new parts are needed they should be ordered and replaced during some rainy day or slack season. All wearing parts of a machine, such as sprocket chains and wheels, discs, moldboards, and plow shares, should be thoroughly gone over with an oily rag. Spent crankcase oil is good for this purpose.



A Work-Saving Note!

All wooden parts, if weathered, should be painted. Housing of farm machinery is recommended wherever possible, but when shelter cannot be provided a liberal amount of oil and paint should be used. It is advisable to use an old piece of tin roofing or plank to cover drill boxes when exposed to weather conditions.

SCHEDULE OF WORK WITH SCORE CARD

NOTE: The letters given in Column I below refer to bulletins or circulars that should be studied in connection with a given piece of work. A list of this reference material is given above. The actual score to be given in Column III will be equal to or less than the possible score in Column II. In all of the improvement jobs done, two points will be allowed for each hour of work done up to the possible score.

KIND OF WORK DONE	Column I Reference Letter	Column II Possible Score	Column III Actual Score
HOUSE IMPROVEMENTS			
1. Check and repair screens in home.	A	20	
2. Make a flytrap and take proper care of it in order to make its use most effective.	A	10	
3. Make vegetable and fruit storage shelves for kitchen or pantry.	C & L	10	
4. Make iceless refrigerator.	C	15	
5. Install kitchen sink with drain.	A & B	20	
6. Construct homemade shower bath.	E & L	20	
7. Provide running water in the kitchen.	B	20	
8. Build bedroom closet or book shelves.	C & L	20	
9. Repair doorsteps, porches and foundations.	D, N, & O	30	
10. Make household information file for keeping bulletins, records, etc.	C	20	
* List below other house improvement work done, allowing two points for each hour of work done.			

KIND OF WORK DONE	Column I Reference Letter	Column II Possible Score	Column III Actual Score
General Farmstead Improvements			
1. Clean premises of trash and rubbish.	A	10	
2. Grade yards and lots to provide good drainage away from buildings.	A	20	
3. Build a walk in front or back yard using gravel, rocks or concrete.	F, N, & O	20	
4. Protect the water supply from any possible surface contamination.	A, B, & O	20	
5. Repair yard and lot, fences, gates, etc.	N & O	50	
6. Paint or whitewash some buildings on the farm.	G	25	
7. Construct equipment for poultry, such as feed bin, coop, mash hopper, etc.	K & L (also poultry bulletins)	25	
8. Construct equipment for livestock, such as feeding trough, stanchion, milk stool, etc.	M (also livestock bulletins)		
9. Make some rope from binder twine and learn to make at least 10 useful knots, hitches and splices.	I & J	10	
10. Check all farm buildings for possible fire hazards. Note especially all heating and lighting equipment; chimneys, fireplaces, stovepipe connections, electric wiring, etc. Recommend necessary changes or remodeling.	H	10	

KIND OF WORK DONE	Column I Reference Letter	Column II Possible Score	Column III Actual Score
* List below other general farmstead improvement work, allowing two points for each hour of work done.			
Improvement of Farm Tools, Machinery and Equipment			
1. Make workshop utility cabinet.	K	20	
2. Make utility box, for bolts, screws, etc.	K	10	
3. Make tool chest or wall tool panel and keep all tools in place when not in use.	L	25	
4. Check over all farm machinery and make a list of needed repairs.		10	
5. Keep all wearing parts of field machinery oiled when not in use to prevent rusting. Examples: discs, plow shares, moldboards, etc.		25	
6. Paint wooden parts of farm machinery such as handles, tongues, drill boxes, etc.	G	10	
7. Assist in overhauling or repairing field machinery, as plows, tractors, mowers, combines, etc.		50	
8. Assist in building or arranging space for a farm shop.		20	
* List below other improvement work done in connection with farm tools, machinery and equipment, allowing two points for each hour of work done.			

* Fifty points will be the maximum score for any improvement job done not listed above.			
GRAND TOTAL			

TEAM DEMONSTRATIONS

Team demonstrations are of great value to club members in carrying on their farmstead improvement work. They teach members to think, express themselves, and illustrate good practices before an audience. Through team demonstrations other club members, as well as adults, may be encouraged to carry on some phase of farmstead improvement work.

In giving farmstead improvement team demonstrations, club members should select improvement projects that are being done or have been done on their farms. Quite a number of the suggestive improvements in the Schedule of Work can be effectively used as team demonstrations. Through a study of bulletins and circulars referred to for each project, club members should be able to work up a complete demonstration.

