

Thirty-Second Annual Report June
Oklahoma Extension Service 1946

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Oklahoma farmers carried out an extensive pasture improvement program.



Victory gardens played an important part in supplying food for the table.



Home canning assured a well-balanced diet; Below: 4-H youths helping harvest potatoes.

4-H club livestock shows help to improve quality of dairy and beef animals.





Introduction

The accomplishments of Oklahoma farm people are so outstanding that no report, however comprehensive it might be, could give the amount of recognition that is rightfully theirs. Records and statistics are inadequate to tell the story but the production record for the past year speaks for itself. We have attempted to set forth a few of the outstanding examples of work and cooperation; there are many others which might well be included if space would permit.

The results which have been obtained are due to the combined, coordinated efforts of a free people working towards a common objective. Everyone has contributed to the goal of maximum production. The county and home demonstration agents have worked unceasingly and have been untiring in their efforts but our thanks are due particularly to that group of men and women who have given so freely of their time and energy without hope of remuneration. We refer to that group, 21,808 strong who served so faithfully as neighborhood leaders. Their only reward has been the feeling of satisfaction that comes with a job well done and to them we express our sincere appreciation.

The problems of re-adjustment and reconversion that lie ahead for agriculture are many. However, we are confident that these situations will be successfully met just as situations have been met in the past. The farm people have demonstrated their ability to cope with all emergencies. We can face the future secure in the belief that agriculture will continue to move forward on a sound, substantial basis.







We Owe a Great Debt to Hard-working Farmers

This is the story of Oklahoma farmers during the fateful year of 1945—a year that saw the end of the war and the beginning of peace again in the world. Even though V-J day arrived before the year was over, farmers experienced twelve months of heavy war demand upon farm production. The civilized world can never repay farmers who achieved the greatest production in history to feed a fighting country at war. This production was obtained in the face of shortages of labor, supplies, machinery, fertilizers and other essentials.

During the war the Extension Service devoted its entire effort to helping farmers reach high production goals set by the nation. When peace was achieved, farmers immediately launched into a period of recon-

version. Oklahoma farmer's program for peace is based upon a balanced agriculture in the light of farm and market needs; proper soil management to help maintain an adequate income and proper land-use on the individual farm, efficient development and improvement of livestock and crops and the extension and enlargement of the youth program.

While heavy war demands decreased somewhat at the end of hostilities, nearly as heavy peacetime demands took their place. Farmers were called upon to produce food not only for civilian use, but also to help feed starving millions the world over. Oklahoma's share of this demand is being met just as completely as were the demands during the war.



Family Problems Studied Through Extension Program

The Oklahoma family life program took on a new meaning. It served a three-fold purpose—to help individuals and families to recognize and solve problems arising from rapidly changing conditions due to the war; to conserve health and human energies so they could be used to the best advantage; and to help in the sound development of infants and children.

A total of 8,962 demonstrators conducted individual projects, while 5,893 conducted a family project. These demonstrators assisted 14,936 other families with family life problems.

Each family life demonstrator was encouraged to provide a health examination for herself and family members, and to follow out the recommendations made as a result of the examination. A total of 16,697 children received health examinations resulting in the correction of 7,147 defects. Health examinations were given 5,214 adults. Defects totaling 4,069 were corrected.

In all, 11,220 families were assisted with child development and guidance problems, and 16,447 families were aided in improving family relationships. Families totaling 19,958 were told of positive preventive measures to improve health, 12,995 families instructed in first aid or home nursing, and 18,081 families assisted in improving home recreation.



Above: Extension encouraged a careful check of child health defects. 4,069 were corrected during the past year.

A well-planned play program for small children was emphasized.





Left: 4,265 demonstrations were given by Negro home demonstration club members at club meetings.

Negro Extension Work Carried to 8,238 Farms

Extension recommendations were carried to most of the 8,238 Negro farms in Oklahoma by Negro county and home demonstration agents. Negro agents were located in thirteen counties.

A total of 4,265 demonstrations were given by home demonstration club members and 141 Negro demonstration clubs formed good neighbor committees. Thirty-two new home demonstration clubs were organized during the year with 547 members. Home demonstration work is carried on in 13 cities and towns of over 2,500 population.

Over 3,000 Negro children were given health examinations as well as 626 women and 200 men.

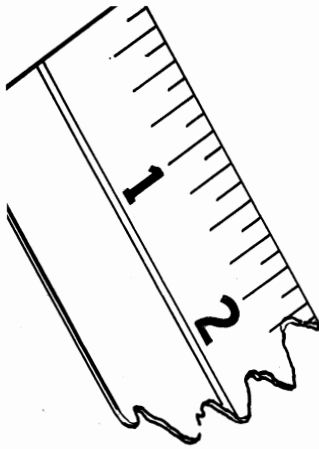
A total of 1,285 families were enrolled and assisted in establishing home safety practices.

County agents report that 122 new farm ponds were built by Negro farmers and 165 4-H boys were trained to run terrace lines. Farm construction was noted with 35 new dairy, 20 beef and 92 swine buildings erected. In all 4,301 Negro families produced enough milk and dairy produce products for home consumption.

Negro families raised 5,840 farm gardens and 3,224 non-farm gardens. In the Negro 4-H farm-to-market livestock project, 427 club members completed projects and sold 256 animals valued at \$10,806. There are 242 Negro 4-H clubs in Oklahoma.

Below: Extension service technician discusses farm planning with Negro farmers. Right: 122 farm ponds were built by Negro farmers.





A Measurement of Progress

(Accomplishments in which Extension workers assisted)

Scope

Farm and non-farm families participating in the Extension program	- - - - -	217,135
Farms adopting improved practices as a result of agricultural programs	- - - - -	126,365
Farm homes adopting improved practices as a result of Home Demonstration programs	- - - - -	99,584
Visits to farms and farm homes by agents in conducting Extension program	- - - - -	92,304
Office calls made to county and home agents offices	- - - - -	359,734
Newspaper articles prepared by agents for local papers	- - - - -	21,070
Bulletins distributed by agents	- - - - -	802,921
Radio talks broadcast by agents	- - - - -	1,189
Value of farm products marketed by farm families through assistance of Extension	- - - - -	\$17,043,000

Agricultural Engineering

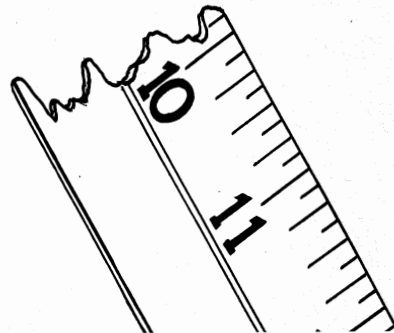
County farm machinery schools held	- - - - -	144
Field Day Demonstrations held	- - - - -	20
Acres of land terraced	- - - - -	196,000
Farm ponds constructed	- - - - -	10,000
Total number farm buildings constructed	- - - - -	3,044
Number of farm families assisted in obtaining electricity	- - - - -	5,204

Agronomy

Farmers assisted in obtaining improved seed	- - - - -	121,783
Farmers assisted in controlling plant diseases, insects and noxious weeds	- - - - -	96,085
Farmers assisted in using lime	- - - - -	41,920
Farmers assisted in using fertilizer	- - - - -	45,194
Tons of limestone applied	- - - - -	227,000
Tons of fertilizer applied	- - - - -	12,710
Alfalfa seed acreage harvested	- - - - -	141,321
Premiums to growers	- - - - -	\$250,000

Animal Husbandry

Livestock improvement and breeding associations organized or assisted	- - - - -	409
Farmers assisted in securing purebred males	- - - - -	4,094
Farmers assisted in securing high-grade females	- - - - -	5,867
Farmers assisted in improving feeding methods	- - - - -	33,165
Farmers assisted in controlling diseases, internal and external parasites	- - - - -	70,426



Dairy Husbandry

Communities in which dairy development work was conducted - - - - -	1,268
Farmers assisted in securing purebred bulls	1,051
Farmers assisted in securing high grade females	1,582
Farmers assisted in improving feeding methods	16,687
Farmers assisted in controlling disease, internal and external parasites - - - -	23,289
Artificial insemination associations in operation	1
Number of cows included - - - -	1,503

Poultry

Communities in which poultry work was conducted - - - - -	1,442
Farmers assisted in securing better strain of baby chicks - - - - -	16,611
Farmers assisted in improving feeding methods - - - - -	29,434
Farmers assisted in controlling disease, internal and external parasites - - - -	44,914



Above: spraying cattle with DDT for control of horn flies.

Below: Dipping cattle for lice control.



Value of poultry products produced - \$65,000,000

4-H Clubs

Number of state 4-H clubs - - - -	1,738
Enrollment, 24,952 boys, 25,958 girls, total	50,910
Number of 4-H club members from non-farm homes - - - - -	7,751
Acres of corn planted by 4-H members -	13,768
Acres of other cereals planted by 4-H members - - - - -	16,696
Number of acres of gardens planted - - -	7,690
Poultry raised by 4-H members - - -	5,482
Dairy cattle raised by 4-H members - -	3,547
Beef cattle raised by 4-H members - -	9,513
Quarts of food canned by club members	1,032,783
Garments made by club members - -	105,262

Cooperative Extension Work in Agriculture and Home Economics
Oklahoma Agricultural and Mechanical College and United States
Department of Agriculture Cooperating

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