

Four-H Club Work in General

Gates County

There are fourteen communities in Gates county where 4-H club work was conducted in 1936. There are fourteen 4-H clubs with an enrollment of 333 members. The most of the clubs were reorganized in January. After this time meetings were held with each club once a month. At each meeting the roll was called and each member was asked to give a report on the project conducted. After this questions were answered by the Farm Agent. During the meeting a demonstration was generally given on some phase of the work. A part of the time was also given to wholesome recreation.

After recreation was introduced into the club program, the boys and girls became more interested. Some who were seldom present started to attend meetings regularly. Many of the older people also found much joy in playing the games. Some of the children went home after the meetings saying that "The family that plays together is the family that stays together" and reported that the whole family took part in playing some of the games that they learned in club meetings.

Full cooperation was given by the 4-H clubs in other phases of the work as well as in the general county work. When the time came for the 4-H camp to be held at Chowan Beach all of the clubs were well represented. On Wednesday, the day for the boys, nearly all of the clubs were represented. On Thursday, July 16 all of the 4-H clubs and a number of parents attended

the camp. There were six truck loads and fifteen cars from Gates County, making a total of near 500 people. The 4-H clubs were called on a gain to make a representation at the 4-H Short Course. On the morning of August 25 there came to the meeting place to leave for Greensboro, not only a delegate from each club, but two delegates from some clubs. This made a total of twenty boys and girls and two leaders which represented each of the fourteen clubs in Gates County.

A mother recently said: "I am anxious for my children to attend the club meetings, I see that they are very helpful."

Halifax County

There are seven 4-H clubs in Halifax county with an enrollment of 133 active boys and girls. The first club, under the supervision of our present Agent, was organized at Eastman High School on October 22, 1935. Thirty-seven students enrolled the first day.

The 4-H clubs are located at the following schools: Eastman High School____ 12 miles west of Enfield; Eden Graded School____ 5 miles northwest of Enfield; Everett Graded School____ 7 miles south of Roanoke Rapids; Mullen Graded School____ 5 miles southwest of Scotland Neck; John Armstrong High School____ one mile southeast of Roanoke Rapids, and Halifax County Training School in Weldon. Each club is under the supervision of an adult leader who assists members in conducting their meetings and other activities.

Hertford County

The Murfreesboro 4-H club has taken a great lead in the activities as to accomplishing some of the better things of life. This club has carried on a very good project year and the boys and girls are learning to improve the rural communities. As the clubs get further into the understanding of the work, it paves a way for better work. That is, after attending the Short Course held last summer at the A. and T. College, Greensboro, North Carolina. The girls have a great interest in canning and in this club there has been 59 quarts of vegetables and fruits canned and one of the members of this club became the first prize winner of the Ball Brothers contest, in person of Marion Boone, Rt. 1, Murfreesboro. The boys have been made to feel proud to collect a number of prizes as the result of the exhibits of the Atlantic District Fair. All of these things have gone to make for a better club year for the 1936-1937 program.

Martin County

In the initial planning for this work the first contest was begun with visiting the schools during the winter months - to introduce and discuss objects and aims of club work, as a means of improving and broadening their educational pursuit in life's work, also to improve their usefulness and welfare in the future.

The organization of six junior clubs was negotiated approximating 146 members, who expressed a desire to carry out some phase of work as a club member. Also parents at the training meetings and individually were contacted for assisting in making arrangements in supervising for pro-

jects.

Eighteen meetings were conducted during the late winter and early spring for supervising and to discuss arrangements in preparing for and carrying out projects. Eighty club members succeeded in beginning and making some headway on their projects as recorded - thirty-two gardens were conducted during the summer months. Nine poultry projects, seven in corn growing, eight carried tobacco projects, twelve boys did work in pig growing, two with dairy calves, four with sweet potatoes and six with cotton.

Pasquotank County

The majority of our club members are small boys and girls who are pupils in the rural public schools of this county. Farm crops appeal to only a few of them. Therefore, many of them select gardening and poultry for their projects. This year when we arranged to place some pure-bred pigs in the county many of the larger boys and former active members returned to our ranks. I fully believe that if we get our calf club in operation we may interest other larger and older boys and girls. There are a few boys who have had field crops this year and they have done very well. With corn some of them made as much as 50 bushels per acre and one boy sold stock peas for \$34.14. We have a few older boys in the county who are interested in raising colts. One former club member has raised a fine mule colt which is large enough to work.

Rowan County

Of the 126 4-H club members enrolled this year, 80 have completed their projects. Twenty-five additional members have reported since the making of the statistical report which recorded 55 completions. Of the remaining 46 members, 26 were too new to have competed and twenty have failed to report.

The projects were as follows:

Corn _____	12
Cotton _____	5
Gardens _____	25
Terracing and Erosion (Cont.)	4
Poultry _____	5
Dairy _____	4
Swine _____	4
Making rope halters _____	21
Total completed _____	<u>80</u>

The 4-H clubs were very active this year in displaying their products at the County-wide Fair and at the Granite Quarry Fair. At both of these events awards were given to the highest placing 4-H members in each exhibit class.

Two of our 4-H club members are managing their farms and are not neglecting to terrace and use other soil saving practices. These members are A. V. Scotton of New East and Curtis Gibson of Granite Quarry, and both of these members have produced bumper corn yields on their acre plots for this year.

Wilson County

The projects undertaken by the 4-H club members have been very varied in their nature. The following are listed: pigs, corn, cotton, chickens, garden and canning and sewing. In connection with the sewing project, I wish to say that these were projects listed by girls in various clubs. These were projects in which the county Agent was not of any material help except to supply encouraging literature occasionally. The desire of the girls of some sections to take part in the club work further calls attention to the need for a Home Agent in the county. Besides the project work of the club the regular meetings of the clubs must be mentioned. Each club met once a month during the time of the year when school was in session and during the early part of the summer before the work became too pressing.

Three of the five clubs of the county sent representatives to the 4-H Club Short Course in Greensboro in August.

The boys in the clubs having corn projects were in the State corn growing contest. The girls in the clubs having gardening and canning projects were in the State canning contest. Many of the club members were present on the trip to the Edgecombe Test Farm field day. The Elm City 4-H club boys are working on a playground equipment building project.