

Agricultural Projects

Poultry -

Reports from 44 counties show 22,687 farm homes having poultry flocks, which is an increase of 1,961 flocks over 1950.

The following is a report of poultry work done by Mrs. H. A. Savage, a home demonstration club woman of Bladen County:

Number of birds November 1st, 1950.....	210
Sold 1543 dozen eggs at average price of 35¢/dozen	\$548.39
Culled and sold 179 hens.....	250.60
Culled and sold 108 pullets.....	148.40
Sold 14 turkeys.....	66.06
Sold 1091 broilers.....	<u>798.32</u>

Total.....\$1811.75

Expense of hens.....\$173.38

Expense of broilers.....430.20

Total.....\$603.58 603.58

Total profit for the year.....\$1208.17

Poultry on hand.....

laying hens -	150
broilers -	600
baby chicks -	600

Dairy Cattle -

Reports from 41 counties show 15,385 farm homes owning dairy cows, which is an increase of 2,172 cows over 1950.

Home Gardens -

Fifty-six counties reported 24,997 vegetable gardens, of which 8,882 were year round gardens. This was an increase of 5,935 gardens over 1950.

Though home gardens were stressed in many counties as a part of the live at home program, results were not what had been hoped for

on account of the severe drought. However Lee County gives the following interesting report:

"There were 505 women enrolled in the 16 communities in the garden project in 1931. Of that number 113 completed the work assigned. It was decided that only those making garden records could be considered to complete the work, regardless of the field work accomplished. In January the two women who scored highest in 1930 were given special recognition at a meeting at the Town Hall when the Kiwanis Club presented them with money prizes for outstanding gardens and records. A local banker who is a member of the Kiwanis Club made the presentation speech. The garden achievement exercises were held at the close of a county council meeting when 29 club officers were present. This program stimulated the community leaders to get behind the garden work in 1931.

"The impetus which this gave to food production was added to that of the general live at home movement. The result was that more home gardens, better home gardens, and more year round gardens were planted. The fact that there have been more vegetables this year is not so much due to better seasons in this county as to increased effort to grow vegetables. A garden section has been held after the nutrition or other project section at every club meeting held this year. The monthly garden letter from the College has been read to the club members and copies left with garden leaders and club secretaries. The latter were asked to include the outstanding points in the club minutes so they would be reviewed the following month as the minutes were read, thus bringing them before the clubs again.

"In the early spring, plant and seed exchanges were held as a feature of the garden project. Many women brought very fine specimens of seedlings, small fruit plants, surplus garden seeds, flower seeds, and flowering plants. In the trips about the county to farm homes the women point out these plants which are growing and receiving attention in front yards. Firms who sell seeds seem to have done a good business here. We have said so much about gardening that several farmers have as much as 17 pounds of frost proof cabbage seeds in now for supplying the local market this winter. States south of here once supplied these plants to local merchants. More home grown products are being sold in Sanford stores. Carrots especially are being marketed as a new vegetable to farm folks. A drive was started on this product last year, and the women report that grated raw carrots can be eaten in slaw in farm homes. They have been glad to find that carrots can be sold in town. Since telling the women about the care of root vegetables for use in winter, there are more onions and turnips seen.

"Not only have farm homes canned more fruits and vegetables this year than ever before, but the homes in which large quantities of dried peas, beans, etc. have been matured and gathered has risen over any previous year since the people themselves can remember. Dried fruits also have come in for increased attention.....

"Kraut is a product that has increased and improved as a result of more cabbage. Some are keeping it in bulk for the first time. Hard head cabbage was displayed at the fair in October. The root vegetables,

radishes, and carrots, as well as the more common ones in farm gardens were also on the booths at the fair. Other greens than collards have been grown for this winter's use. Many women are having partial shelter provided for these crops of greens that they may have them regardless of the weather."

Home Beautification -

Fifty-four counties reported beautifying 3,506 home grounds with 359 communities participating. Currituck County alone had 11 communities with 270 club members participating in this work, and one county contest with 30 contestants. The home agent says:

"This work was carried on outside of club meetings, the agent visiting and assisting all contestants. Miss Smith, the district agent, did the judging, and prizes were yearly subscriptions to 'Better Homes and Gardens'. The tea doing excellent work and winning in the various communities were:

Mrs. T. B. Williams - Fences removed, lattice put underneath home and foundation shrubs put out. Home, fences, out-houses painted and whitewashed.

Mrs. C. H. Meads - Native shrubs used extensively. Fences moved back. Foundation and other planting done. Flower beds placed more advantageously.

Mrs. T. W. Baxter - Foundation planting perfected. Shrubs nicely grouped to hide rear view. Fences removed and replaced. Old shrubs pruned to look better. Just a pretty old place changed to look more lovely and more like the two people who call it 'Home.'

Mrs. S. M. Mann and Miss Rosa Ellis - Improved underpinning; changed driveway. Foundation and group planting to hide back view.

Mrs. W. S. Boswood, Mrs. C. R. Morris, and Miss Sarah Boswood - Removed fences, fixed lattice under house, planted around foundation, and changed driveway, making a real picture of their place.

Mrs. F. E. Munden - Made a beautiful setting for her new bungalow.

Mrs. Ada Parker - Continued work on her home made from a school-house and continued to help her neighbors.

Mrs. L. N. Hampton - Made a very pretty place out of her home and grounds. Painted home, removed fence, put lattice underneath home, planted shrubs along foundation and against fences, and made a new walk.

Mrs. Willis Dowdy - After trying for a long time, she started a lawn and planted shrubs on a bleak sandy place. An example for those who might become discouraged.

Mrs. H. B. Sawyer - Continues to improve her place, making it prettier and prettier and an example to all the lower end of the county.

Mrs. Ray Midgett, Mrs. Sam Walker, Mrs. Gertie Bonney, Mrs. Addie White, and several others did excellent work also.

"Our Better Homes reports returned (89) gave the following information: Crepe myrtles planted 81, new dogwoods 16, new nut trees, 39, shrubs planted 1,129, and new lawns 16."