

COOPERATIVE EXTENSION WORK  
IN  
AGRICULTURE AND HOME ECONOMICS  
STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

EXTENSION SERVICE  
COUNTY AGENT WORK

A Narrative of the North Carolina Club Work for 1922.

The club work for 1922 has given us some very encouraging results. It is very evident, as indicated in many personal letters from farmers, that the far reaching influence of this work for good will probably will never be known. Mr. Frank Coopers' letter, accompanied with photographs of his old and new house and barn, clearly shows that marvelous results have been accomplished and that many have enjoyed the blessings of the influence of the work that have never reported it.

Plan of work: All the club work is now done through organizations. A president, Vice president, Secretary and Treasurer are chosen from all the different clubs combined. A committee of three is then appointed to represent each of the respective clubs. A club leader, an adult man or woman who is interested in the work is elected by the boys and girls. At their monthly meetings in which the various committees report the progress made by the respective clubs, the club leader is required to be present to assist the youthful president in keeping order, parliamentary usage and to make such suggestions as will be helpful in the prosecution of the work. The splendid results we have to offer in our report for 1922, is very largely due to this system.

The club work has greatly influenced corn growing. Fathers usually take an acre of corn and follow the directions given the boys. The letters below are better comments than any I can make.

The mothers have taken advantage of the same opportunities in the case of poultry and gardens. And similar results have been obtained as indicated in many personal letters some of which are included in this report.

There is also a very striking evidence of the wholesome influence of the work in swine production. The development of pure bred stock under the same circumstance and conditions with the scrub has been an eye-opener to the adult farmer. The large number of pure bred pigs distributed by club members and the many request that I am continually receiving for information about the purchase of pure bred pigs shows how well this work is accomplishing the purposes for which it is intended.

Probably there is no feather of the work that is more interesting than that of hay production among the club members. This has taught many adult farmers how much easier and cheaper it is to grow their hay than to buy it. The kind of hay grown, a large part of it which was leguminous, has taught them the additional advantage by reason of the improvement of the soil.

Many of the boys and girls made field selections of seed corn, a great many started bank accounts in amounts from \$5 to as high as \$50. A great many peas and soy beans were saved for seed in 1923, but the

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probably the most striking results in one of the most needed essentials of rural life, may be found in that of improving the home life. Many old shacks owned by farmers well able to build modern homes have been replaced with modern structures. Old and unsightly out buildings and barns have been torn down and replaced with more credible buildings. The fences about the yards have been repaired or replaced with new ones, many of the farm yards are gorgeously decorated with most beautiful collection of flowers. The general surroundings have so changed the aspect of many Negro farm homes that it is difficult for a stranger to tell by whom it is occupied, white or black. A more complete description and a more conclusive evidence than I could possibly give may be found in many of the letters below, which are verbatim, and extracts from many others (of which we have original copies on file) which are preceded by the name of the writer. These letters show us how much the Negro farmers appreciate the work, how valuable they recognize it to be to them, and how much more we could do by reaching a larger number of the adult farmers through the influence of the boy's and girl's work if we had assistance to meet the increasing demands for this service, which is now a physical impossibility. The letters are as follows: