

1974 - 75

Progress Report

The major educational emphasis was on grain drying and storage, peanut curing, chemical application equipment, and energy conservation.

Chemical Application

North Carolina was selected as a pilot state for training farmers in preparation for the Federal Pesticide Act. A training manual for farmers was prepared which contained the essentials of application equipment and calibration.

Electric

A workshop was conducted for extension home agents in the area of housing. The Extension Agricultural Engineering Department gave training on electrical appliances, controls, and energy conservation.

Grain and Peanuts

An Extension paper was prepared on in-storage grain drying, and many county meetings were conducted on grain drying and storage. An extension agent training school was conducted covering peanut curing and soybean drying and storage.

Tobacco (Electric)

Bulk tobacco curing barns are being installed at such a rapid rate that many electric lines in the rural areas are extremely overloaded; especially after a power outage when all the barns try to start at once. A method of delayed starting was worked out, and work is now under way with the barn manufacturers and electric suppliers to incorporate this delayed starting on new barns.

Tractors and Machinery

The Extension Agricultural Engineers served as co-chairmen of the N. C. State Fair tractor pulling contest. A tractor pulling contest was conducting during the fair which was very popular with the spectators.

A peanut equipment exhibit was arranged, and a land preparation demonstration was conducted for the annual Peanut Field Day at the experiment station.

4-H

The 28th Annual 4-H Electric Congress was conducted at Wilmington with approximately 175 boys and girls and 75 adults in attendance. The Electric Congress is a three-day event, and is sponsored by the four power companies in North Carolina and the Agricultural Extension Service.

A new 4-H Electric III Manual was prepared on electric motors, and the Electric Project I and II were revised to include energy conservation.

The 4-H electric demonstration program in North Carolina is sponsored by the electric cooperatives. A 4-H electric demonstration was conducted in each seven extension districts and at the state level.

North Carolina was host to the Eastern Regional 4-H Automative Skill Driving Contest which was sponsored by Firestone Tire and Rubber Company in cooperation with the Agricultural Extension Service. Fourteen states participated in this event.

Regional Extension Workshop

Several extension agriculturers attended a Southern Extension Engineering Workshop in Huntsville, Alabama, to learn about successful extension methods.