

NORTH CAROLINA
AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE
ANNUAL REPORT

for
1956.

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Name of Project: ANIMAL HUSBANDRY EXTENSION-Beef Cattle, Sheep, Swine, Meats, Workstock

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1956
ANNUAL REPORT
OF
EXTENSION WORK IN ANIMAL HUSBANDRY
IN
NORTH CAROLINA

Jack Kelley, In Charge
Animal Husbandry Extension

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INTRODUCTION

This has been a good year for producing feed and forage for all classes of livestock. With the largest corn crop on record, high yields of small grain, hay and silage and plenty of grazing from permanent pastures, livestock producers have been blessed with an abundance of feed. Prices for livestock in general have been at a level where the more efficient producers, who had good quality animals, have realized a reasonable profit. It becomes more evident each year that the quality of the livestock produced and the time and method of marketing are important in determining the margin of profit in a livestock enterprise.

Animal Husbandry Extension Specialists have devoted more time in 1956 working with county agents and farmers on new and improved methods of marketing livestock, grading demonstrations, field days, demonstrations on culling and selecting replacements, performance testing, plans for livestock enterprises with farm and home development families, radio and television programs, county 4-H livestock work and for the first time a full year of work on an Extension Meats Program.

BEEF CATTLE

Beef cattle numbers remained at approximately 350,000 head in the State during 1956. Extension specialists placed major emphasis on improved quality rather than an increase in numbers. A large number of low quality, poor producing cows have sold during the year and the most of these have been replaced with good quality heifers. Both purebred and commercial producers have been encouraged to purchase high quality breeding stock while prices are favorable.

Cattle feeders who purchased calves or yearlings in the fall of 1955

and offered these cattle for sale in March and April of 1956 were very fortunate to realize a profit. Choice steers sold for as low as 18 cents per pound in March and April of this year, and as high as 25 cents per pound in July and August. This wide variation in price made the margin of profit very narrow for the feeders who sold cattle early in the year. Other feeders who used grain and grass to finish their cattle for a July and August market did realize a good profit. The price of feeder cattle, both yearlings and calves, compared favorably with those received in 1955. The records show that 5,767 head of feeder calves and 2,395 yearlings were marketed through special sales in 1956, as compared to 4,892 calves and 1,720 yearlings sold through these sales in 1955.

SHEEP

Sheep numbers increased approximately 2,000 head this year and prices received for lambs and wool were good compared to those of the past three years. Sheep producers generally were well pleased with the cooperative lamb and wool pools held throughout the State. The demand for good quality purebred rams for use in commercial flocks was much stronger this year as compared to 1955.

There is a definite need for more sheep on North Carolina farms and a sheep promotion program to increase sheep numbers in the State will be given first consideration by Extension Specialists in 1957.

HOGS

Major activities in Extension Swine work this year have been the promotion of the meat type hog program, special feeder pig sales, grading demonstrations, 4-H Pig Club work and working with county agents on planning county

programs to include breeding, feeding, management and marketing of hogs.

While hog prices have been at a relatively low level during most of the year the hog-corn ratio in 1956 has provided a reasonable margin of profit for efficient producers. Prices received for hogs in North Carolina have been good or better than Chicago quotations throughout the year. Although hog prices have recovered some since last spring, 1956 will be remembered generally as a poor year for pork producers.

In 1956 North Carolina farmers produced the highest average yield of corn per acre on record which means that there is plenty of feed and hogs will be used to market a good part of the corn crop. Over \$70,000,000 of the farm income in 1956 was from the sale of hogs.

MEATS

In the Extension Meat Program this year demonstrations have been held on beef cutting and usage and pork cutting, curing, usage and slaughtering. Work with ham-pig projects, locker plants, packing plants, commercial ham curing other than locker plants and work with special groups such as colleges and state institutions has been included in the Extension Meats Program during 1956.

BEEF CATTLE

BEEF CATTLE PROJECTS

Beef cattle were responsible for the time of one and one-half specialist during the year. This time was spent working with and through county workers on demonstrations, tours, group meetings and making individual farm and home plans. Cattle organizations were assisted in planning and holding field days, tours, educational meetings and in marketing of cattle. Time was spent working with purebred cattle, cow and calf herds and with cattle feeders.

Purebred cattle producers are going through a very trying period at the present time with prices at rock bottom and demand for breeding stock scarce. Adjustments are being made with some herds dispersed and others converted into grade herds. A few people are going into purebred breeding and generally speaking they are on a much sounder basis than those going in a few years ago.

For the cow and calf producer, there was slight hope for improved prices so emphasis was on increased efficiency. Maximum utilization of field gleanings, cover crops and other forages was stressed throughout the year. Demonstrations in production testing as a basis for culling inefficient producers and selecting replacement stock were set up in a number of counties with both grade and purebred herds. Controlled breeding continued to be a major problem, but gradual improvements are being made. Marketing of feeder calves continued to show progress.

The large feed crops made last year and this year created interest in feeding cattle for market. The number of cattle on feed in the state increased by over 200 per cent this year. This created demand for assistance in working out feeding management and marketing problems. Fat cattle sales on a demonstration basis proved that good cattle, properly presented will bring satisfactory prices.

PUREBRED BREED ASSOCIATIONS

About one-sixth of one persons time was spent with the state breed associations projects this year. This is a bit more than usual, but was necessary partly because the Hereford and Angus Associations both had to replace their field representatives during the year. In addition, the reduced demand for breeding females made it necessary to reqork the sales schedules.

The associations are assisted in making out their annual sales schedule, in selecting animals for the sales, conducting educational tours and field days and were furnished informative articles for news letters to their membership.

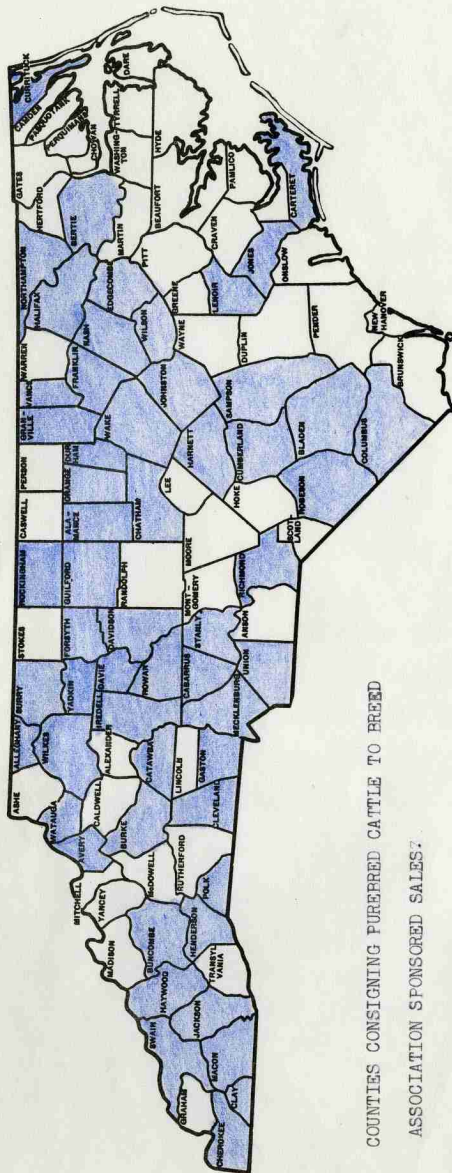
The demand for bulls, both for use on commercial herds and as purebred herd sires, was strong most of the year and this demand tended to offset the slack demand for females. Eighteen different consignment sales were held by the three major breeds this year. Results of these sales and the counties consigning cattle to the sales are shown on the following pages.

In addition to consignment sales the state associations managed two production and six dispersal sales. The most successful production sale was Greene Pastures of Elizabethtown, North Carolina, where 102 head of polled Herefords sold for an average of \$460.00 each. The largest and most successful dispersal sale was the dispersal of the ZZ Ranch Herefords at Durham, North Carolina. Here the 202 lots sold for an average of \$458.00 each.

REVIEW OF SALES OF REGISTERED CATTLE - 1956

Sponsored by Breed Associations

<u>BREED</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>PLACE</u>	<u>BULLS</u>	<u>FEMALES</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>AVE. PRICE</u>
Hereford	12/8/55	Winston-Salem	20	36	56	\$ 227.00
Hereford	2/25/56	Statesville	11	44	55	388.00
Angus	2/28/56	Raleigh	30	0	30	296.00
Hereford	3/10/56	Raleigh	55	0	55	350.00
Hereford	3/15/56	Asheville	11	40	51	246.00
Hereford	3/17/56	North Wilkesboro	9	41	50	132.00
Hereford	3/24/56	Rocky Mount	10	44	54	225.00
Angus	4/7/56	Greensboro	6	48	54	518.00
Hereford	4/28/56	Monroe	20	55	75	170.00
Angus	5/19/56	Asheville	5	40	45	286.00
Hereford	8/18/56	Hendersonville	10	43	53	326.00
Hereford	9/22/56	Concord	4	44	48	182.00
Hereford	10/5/56	Durham	2	45	47	168.00
Shorthorn	10/22/56	Raleigh	8	24	32	222.00
Angus	10/27/56	Greensboro	4	49	53	320.00
Hereford	10/31/56	Raleigh	10	27	37	417.00
Hereford	11/7/56	Kinston	12	40	52	224.00
Angus	11/15/56	Rocky Mount	<u>3</u>	<u>55</u>	<u>58</u>	<u>185.00</u>
Totals - 1956			230	675	905	282.00
Totals - 1955			275	946	1221	288.28
Totals - 1954			275	983	1258	277.02
Totals - 1953			326	832	1158	395.58
Totals - 1952			197	570	767	682.16



COUNTIES CONSIGNING PUREBRED CATTLE TO BREED
ASSOCIATION SPONSORED SALES:

FEEDER CALF SALES

At the annual meeting of the State Feeder Calf Sale Committee, ten feeder calf sales were scheduled for 1956. The rules and regulations governing all sales held in the state were discussed and approved. It was agreed that the two sales held at West Jefferson in 1955 should be combined into one sale since new facilities were available to handle a larger number of calves.

A total of 5,767 calves were marketed through the ten sales this year as compared to 4,892 calves sold in 1955. The average weight of all calves marketed was 463 pounds, the highest on record. Prices were about the same as the previous year and the average price per head was only sixty cents below that of 1955. The Goldsboro Feeder Calf Sale made a lot of progress this year and had the highest average price in the State of \$19.72 per hundred-weight.

Well over 75 per cent of all feeder calves sold were purchased by cattle feeders in the State. Some calves were sold to buyers from Virginia, Ohio, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Tennessee and Maryland. There was very little difference in the price of good and choice steers, and most of the heifers were purchased by feeders. With the spread in price between heifers and steers being from four to five cents per pound, more cattle feeders in North Carolina were interested in feeding heifers this year.

Two sale managers, a representative of Wachovia Bank and Trust Company and a representative from the North Carolina Department of Agriculture made a trip to Ohio in late August to visit cattle feeders and interest them in attending North Carolina Feeder Calf Sales.

A detailed summary of the sales, their location, counties consigning calves and counties buying calves will be found on the following pages:

N. C. FEEDER CALF SALES

Summary - 1956

PLACE OF SALE	NUMBER SOLD	AVERAGE WEIGHT	TOTAL RECEIVED	AVERAGE PRICE PER CWT.	AVERAGE PRICE PER HEAD	PER CENT FANCY, CHOICE & GOOD	
						1956	1955
*Asheville	477	450	\$37,252.22	\$ 17.81	\$ 80.17	77	(88)
Boone	283	451	22,419.69	17.55	79.22	94	(79)
xGreensboro	446	458	37,731.01	18.45	84.60	77	(79)
xGoldsboro	252	450	22,376.77	19.72	88.79	86	(50)
Hillsboro	358	500	32,519.13	18.17	90.83	82	(78)
xLaurel Hill	436	446	35,875.03	18.43	82.28	79	(80)
Rocky Mount	769	495	74,010.19	19.44	96.24	88	(74)
*Shelby	257	448	18,832.63	16.83	75.43	66	(75)
xStatesville	1528	469	136,940.63	19.11	89.62	60	(62)
*W. Jefferson	961	437	74,059.12	17.97	78.56	83	(92)
xTOTAL 1956	5767	463	492,016.42	18.58	85.99	76.3	
xTOTAL 1955	4892	456	422,528.48	18.95	86.50	76.5	
TOTAL 1954	4669	454	360,123.25	16.97	77.13	80.1	
TOTAL 1953	3716	445	282,776.54	17.10	76.10	74.4	
TOTAL 1952	3343	439	407,814.46	27.87	122.30	71.2	
TOTAL 1951	1806	445	296,590.70	36.88	164.23	86.5	
TOTAL 1950	1232	437	177,910.53	33.33	144.00	52.8	

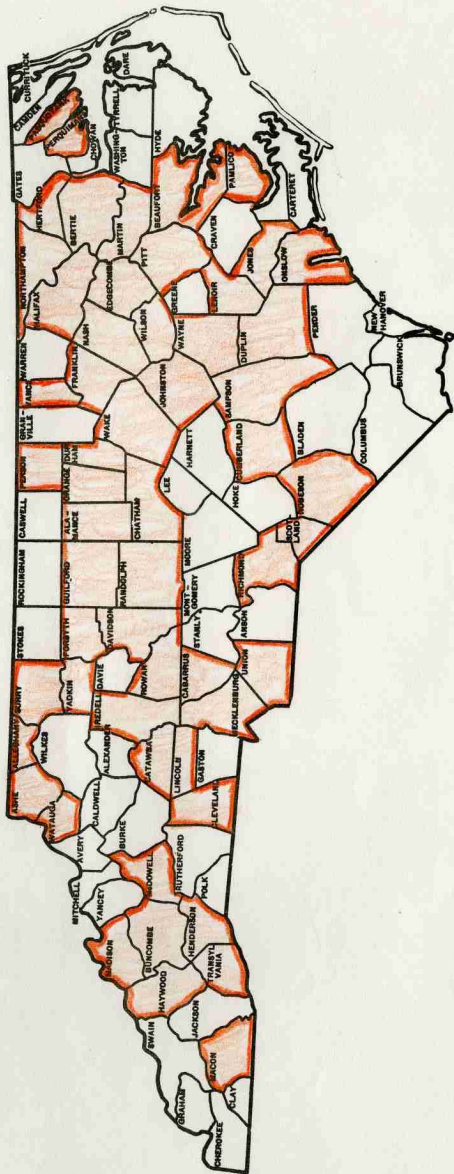
* "Other" not included in averages.


x Calculated from averages.

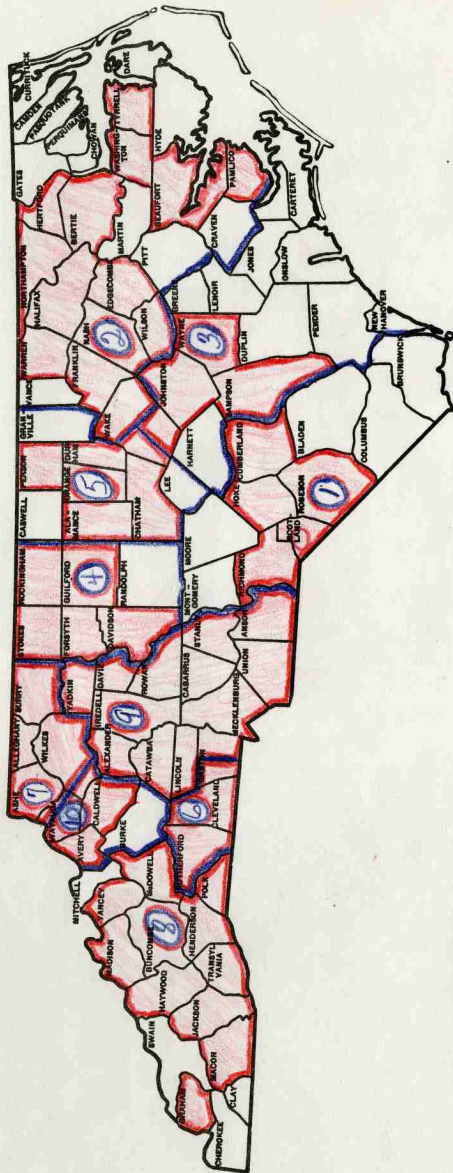
FEEDER CALF SALES
North Carolina - 1956

	<u>GRADE</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>AVERAGE WEIGHT</u>	<u>AVERAGE PRICE CWT</u>	<u>AVERAGE PRICE PER HEAD</u>	<u>DIFFERENCE IN PRICE PER HEAD</u>
STEERS	Fancy	61	546	\$ 23.62	\$ 129.00	
	Choice	1010	514	20.70	106.41	- 22.59
	Good	1663	466	20.11	93.76	- 12.65
	Medium	707	436	18.41	80.19	- 13.57
ALL STEERS		3441	475	20.05	95.31	
HEIFERS	Fancy	29	502	19.31	97.03	
	Choice	516	479	17.24	82.61	- 14.42
	Good	1119	437	16.11	70.39	- 12.22
	Medium	531	416	14.67	61.08	- 9.31
ALL HEIFERS		2195	443	16.12	71.36	
OTHER MIXED		131	365	15.66	57.13	
TOTAL NORTH CAROLINA		5767	463*	18.58*	85.99*	

* Does not include "Other".




 COUNTIES THAT PURCHASED CALVES AT 1956 FEEDER CALF SALES



BOUNDRY OF FEEDER CALF AREA

LOCATION OF SALES

COUNTIES THAT CONSIGNED CALVES

SCHEDULE FOR 1956 SALES

1. Laurel Hill - Pembroke - September 19
2. Rocky Mount - September 20
3. Goldsboro - September 21
4. Greensboro - September 22
5. Hillsboro - September 27
6. Shelby - September 28
7. West Jefferson - October 2
8. Asheville - October 3
9. Statesville - October 4
10. Boone - October 5

YEARLING STEER SALES

In the two yearling steer sales held at Asheville and West Jefferson, 2,395 head of yearling feeder cattle were sold as compared to 1,720 head marketed in these same sales held in 1955. The cattle in these sales were sold to buyers from Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia, Ohio, Georgia, Tennessee and North Carolina. All cattle were offered for sale in uniform lots according to their breed, weight and grade. Prior to the first special sale for marketing yearling feeders in 1954, all of these cattle were sold off-the-farm, through local livestock auctions or shipped to terminal markets.

It was generally agreed that yearling cattle sold through special steer sales averaged from one to one and one-half cents per pound more than the same quality cattle marketed through other channels. At one cent per pound the two yearling sales held this year were worth \$17,041.95 to beef cattle growers. This does not include the indirect influence that these special sales have on prices received for cattle sold off-the-farm.

A summary of the yearling sales held this year follows:

PLACE OF SALE	NUMBER	AVE. WEIGHT	TOTAL WEIGHT	AVE. PRICE	TOTAL PRICE	AVE. PER HEAD
Asheville	1,803	699	1,260,735	\$16.73	\$210,910.87	\$ 116.98
W. Jefferson	592	732	443,460	18.06	78,263.37	132.20
TOTALS	2,395	712	1,704,195	\$16.97	\$289,174.24	\$ 120.74

The 301 choice grade steers in these sales averaged 803 pounds and sold for \$18.48, as compared to 1,291 good grade steers that weighed 723 pounds and averaged \$17.18 per hundredweight. Because of the difference in weight and grade, choice steers averaged \$148.49 per head as compared to \$124.21 for steers grading good. Medium grade steers averaged 656 pounds and brought \$15.81 for an average of \$103.56 per head.

SPECIAL FAT CATTLE SALES

One of the main obstacles in getting more of our grain marketed through cattle has been the lack of suitable local markets for finished cattle. Special sales where the cattle were graded and sold in pen lots according to weight, sex and grade had been tried on an experimental basis for the past three years. Results were satisfactory enough to encourage us to try a series of sales this year for the first time.

Roughly one-sixth of one specialist's time was devoted to this project and this was spent in helping the sales committee plan the location, date and regulations of the sale; in holding educational meetings in the counties where the bulk of the cattle were being fed, and in making individual farm visits to iron out feeding or management problems. This office also cooperated with our State Department of Agriculture and our own marketing specialist in advertising the sales, grading the cattle and conducting the sales.

Eleven sales were scheduled and nine actually held. Two of the sales were strictly for slaughter cattle, one was for stockers only and the remaining six both slaughter and stocker cattle were offered.

The sales proved that if we assemble good quality cattle in sufficient volume we could attract buyers from the major packers and command prices that are on par with other markets throughout the country. For example, our first sale of slaughter cattle attracted seventeen buyers from seven states and a later sale of both slaughter and stocker cattle had thirty-three buyers from six states. Generally speaking, our higher quality steers tended to bring slightly less than the Chicago market quotations for the same day while our heifers and lower quality steers tended to average slightly higher than Chicago. Prices on our stocker cattle were about the same as Baltimore quotations less the expenses necessary to get them to Baltimore. A summary

of the sales and a comparison with market quotations of the same day will be found on the following pages.

Plans have already been made to repeat these demonstrational sales next year.

SUMMARY FAT CATTLE

<u>GRADE</u>	<u>SEX</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>AVE. WT.</u>	<u>AVE. PRICE</u>	<u>CHICAGO QUOTATIONS</u>
Statesville - February 2, 1956					
Choice	Steers	66	898	\$ 19.41	18.50 - 21.00
Choice	Heifers	43	901	17.69	17.00 - 19.25
Good	Steers	224	914	17.36	15.50 - 18.50
Good	Heifers	64	848	16.21	15.00 - 17.00
Com'l	Steers	251	873	16.97	12.00 - 14.50
Com'l	Heifers	5	761	14.58	11.00 - 14.50
Rocky Mount - March 8, 1956					
Choice	Steers	108	1024	17.49	18.00 - 20.75
Choice	Heifers	1	780	17.30	16.00 - 18.00
Good	Steers	134	982	16.43	16.00 - 18.00
Good	Heifers	15	750	16.59	15.50 - 16.00
Com'l	Steers	41	1032	15.51	12.75 - 15.25
Com'l	Heifers	1	740	16.75	11.50 - 15.50
Shelby - March 14, 1956					
Choice	Steers	91	1173	18.92	18.50 - 21.00
Good	Steers	130	877	18.52	16.50 - 18.00
Good	Heifers	18	727	16.93	16.00 - 17.75
Com'l	Steers	109	725	16.44	14.00 - 16.25
Com'l	Heifers	21	599	15.96	12.00 - 15.75
Hillsboro - March 22, 1956					
Choice	Steers	8	870	18.06	18.00 - 20.00
Good	Steers	29	800	17.30	16.50 - 18.00
Good	Heifers	6	760	16.90	15.50 - 18.00
Com'l	Steers	30	830	16.50	15.25 - 16.00
Com'l	Heifers	11	680	15.75	12.00 - 15.25

<u>GRADE</u>	<u>SEX</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>AVE. WT.</u>	<u>AVE. PRICE</u>	<u>CHICAGO QUOTATIONS</u>
Greensboro - April 7, 1956					
Choice	Steers	-	-	\$ 19.70	19.50 - 21.00
Choice	Heifers	-	-	17.75	18.50 - 20.00
Good	Steers	-	-	17.85	17.00 - 19.25
Good	Heifers	-	-	16.60	16.25 - 18.25
Com'l	Steers	-	-	16.10	13.00 - 16.00
Wilson - April 17, 1956					
Choice	Steers	51	998	18.59	19.00 - 20.50
Choice	Heifers	10	770	18.00	18.00 - 19.50
Good	Steers	114	859	17.23	16.75 - 18.50
Good	Heifers	56	716	16.95	16.25 - 19.00
Com'l	Steers	35	870	15.93	15.00 - 16.50
Com'l	Heifers	39	687	15.37	13.00 - 16.00
Shelby - April 26, 1956					
Choice	Steers	132	1010	19.35	18.75 - 20.75
Choice	Heifers	9	725	19.30	18.50 - 20.00
Good	Steers	127	885	19.00	17.00 - 19.20
Good	Heifers	18	716	17.00	16.25 - 18.25
Com'l	Steers	119	720	16.75	13.50 - 16.25
Com'l	Heifers	18	650	16.75	13.50 - 16.00
Rocky Mount - June 21, 1956					
Choice	Steers	7	929	20.86	19.25 - 21.00
Good	Steers	9	922	18.99	17.50 - 19.50
Good	Heifers	1	695	18.30	17.00 - 19.50
Com'l	Steers	32	868	17.92	16.00 - 17.50
Com'l	Heifers	7	697	17.28	13.00 - 14.50

SUMMARY SALE OF STOCKERS

<u>GRADE</u>	<u>SEX</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>AVE. WT.</u>	<u>AVE. PRICE</u>	<u>BALTIMORE QUOTATIONS</u>
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- Rocky Mount - March 8, 1956

Choice	Steers	1	870	870	17.00 147.90	19.00
Good	Steers	72	678	48,816	16.918,254.79	16.50 - 19.00
Good	Heifers	25	580	14,500	14.972,170.65	Not Quoted
Medium	Steers	25	564	14,100	16.572,336.37	16.50
Medium	Heifers	20	493	9,860	14.711,450.41	Not Quoted
				88,146	14,360.17	

- Shelby - March 14, 1956

Choice	Steers	13	587	7,631	18.681,425.47	Not Quoted
Good	Steers	62	569	35,278	18.006,350.04	18.25
Good	Heifers	9	466	4,194	14.22 596.39	Not Quoted
Medium	Steers	61	517	31,537	16.835,307.68	16.00
Medium	Heifers	12	429	5,148	14.18 727.99	Not Quoted
				83,788	14,409.59	

- Hillsboro - March 22, 1956

Good	Steers	32	625	20,000	18.703,740.00	18.50 - 19.25
Good	Heifers	15	308	4,620	16.77 794.77	Not Quoted
Medium	Steers	15	675	10,125	16.201,640.25	17.00 - 18.00
Medium	Heifers	20	520	10,400	14.401,449.60	Not Quoted
				45,145	7,652.67	

- Greensboro - April 7, 1956

Choice	Steers	-	-	-	19.10	18.00 - 21.00
Choice	Heifers	-	-	-	15.75	Not Quoted
Good	Steers	-	-	-	18.90	17.00 - 20.00
Good	Heifers	-	-	-	15.00	Not Quoted

- Wilson - April 17, 1956

Good	Steers	35	646	22,610	17.173,382.14	18.00 - 20.00
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- Shelby - April 26, 1956

Good-Choice	Steers	153	570	87,210	18.0015,697.80	17.00 - 19.50
Good-Choice	Heifers	21	446	9,366	14.001,311.27	13.00 - 15.00
				96,576	17,009.04	

- Monroe - May 2, 1956

Choice	Steers	4	734	2,936	18.96 556.67	20.00
Good	Steers	31	663	20,553	18.523,806.42	18.00 - 19.50
Good	Heifers	14	657	9,198	16.271,496.51	Not Quoted
Medium	Steers	62	635	39,370	17.506,889.75	15.00 - 17.00
Medium	Heifers	9	511	4,599	16.07 739.06	Not Quoted
				711	76,656	13,488.41

ave wt. 581

ave cut - 17.15

ave per Hd - 99.58

711 head

68.5%

412,921.7

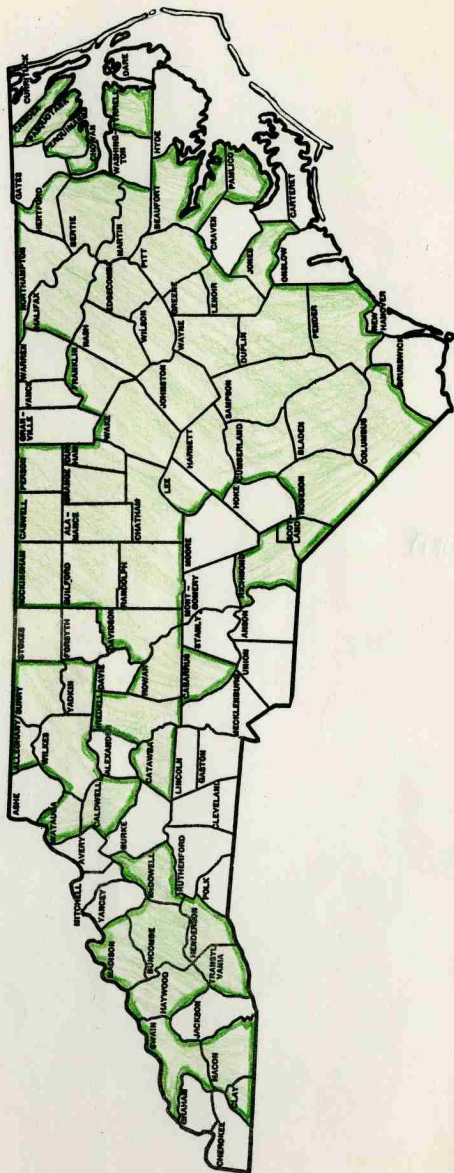
\$70,801.90

BABY BEEF PROJECTS

Baby beef projects continued to be the number one club livestock project in North Carolina and the interest on the part of the agents and club members remained high. Sixty-three different counties exhibited 878 calves in 27 shows. The 27 shows varied in size from 5 in Columbia to 111 in Durham.

The quality of the calves exhibited in the shows continued to be good with 87.5 per cent of the calves grading in the top three grades. This represents a 3.5 per cent increase over 1955.

The sales were well supported by local business men and meat packers over the state as reflected by the average price of \$26.02 paid per hundred-weight on all calves sold. This represents a favorable support price when compared with average market prices during the ~~time~~ of the sales.



COUNTIES PARTICIPATING IN 1956 FAT STOCK PROJECTS



SUMMARY OF BABY BEEF SHOWS AND SALES - 1956

	Place of Show & Sale	No. Sold	No. Pounds	Amount	Av. Per CWT.	No.* in Grades 1 & 2	No.** in Grade 3	No.*** in Grades 4 & 5	No. Cos. Participating
Mar. 29	Wilson	22	19,555	\$ 6,086.17	\$31.12	12	8	2	1
Apr. 3	New Bern	10	8,920	2,512.76	28.17	2	7	1	3
Apr. 4	Rocky Mt.	67	59,655	17,425.39	29.21	31	25	11	4
Apr. 6	Williamston	16	13,959	3,789.82	27.14	4	9	3	1
Apr. 9	Goldsboro	32	24,740	6,287.02	25.41	11	14	7	1
Apr. 10-11	Fayetteville	20	17,345	5,448.20	31.41	9	9	2	1
Apr. 11-12	Kinston	56	50,242	12,821.56	25.52	29	23	4	6
Apr. 18-19	Wilmington	24	21,305	4,745.84	22.28	16	8	0	7
Apr. 19	Windsor	16	13,535	3,381.06	24.98	6	5	5	1
Apr. 24	Washington	31	25,971	6,897.41	26.56	15	15	1	1
Apr. 25	Edenton	9	7,331	1,930.83	26.34	2	3	4	1
Apr. 26	Ahoskie	20	17,635	5,044.75	28.60	10	7	3	1
Apr. 26	Durham	111	96,525	23,859.82	24.72	39	64	8	6
Apr. 30	Dunn	7	6,280	2,102.18	33.47	3	4	0	2
May 2	Raleigh	26	24,001	5,381.86	22.42	15	11	0	1
May 2	Jackson	16	12,580	3,154.17	25.07	11	4	1	1
May 2	Columbia	5	5,195	1,119.28	21.55	3	2	0	1
May 9	Statesville	51	42,040	8,899.83	21.17	22	19	10	2
May 10	Sanford	9	7,355	1,820.00	24.75	3	5	1	1
May 15	Elizabeth City	40	35,590	9,669.70	27.17	27	10	3	3
May 17	Salisbury	17	14,430	3,658.10	25.35	9	4	4	1
May 30	Concord	18	17,296	4,104.93	23.73	12	4	2	1
June 12	Richmond Co.	12	9,872	2,443.19	24.74	4	6	2	1

SUMMARY OF BABY BEEF SHOWS AND SALES - 1956 - CONTINUED

	Place of Show & Sale	No. Sold	No. Pounds	Amount	Av. Per Cwt.	No.* in Grades 1 & 2	No.** in Grade 3	No.*** in Grades 4 & 5	No. Cos. Participating
June 13	Greensboro	52	47,165	\$ 12,195.86	\$25.86	25	13	14	5
Aug. 22	High Point	47	43,645	10,898.55	24.97	35	11	2	1
Oct. 23	Elkin	37	35,950	8,615.41	23.96	15	16	6	3
Nov. 6-7	Asheville	107	104,780	29,445.17	28.10	65	28	14	10
27 Sales - TOTALS		878	782,902	203,738.86	26.02	435	334	110	67

* U.S. Prime & Choice

** U.S. Good

*** U.S. Standard or Lower

FINANCIAL RECORD OF 4-H BABY BEEF STEERS

In 1956 the steer feeding project continued to be the favorite among the club members interested in livestock work. The steers for this year's projects cost the club member on the average of \$20.80 per hundredweight which is in line with the average feeder calves of the comparable grade. On basis of the financial reports received from the counties, an average profit of \$31.48 per head was reported which is lower than in previous years. More records showed a loss this year than was reported last year. This can be explained by the wide range in feed costs.

The 878 steers sold in the 27 sales for a total of \$203,738.86 for an average of \$26.02 per hundredweight.

A summary of 279 records from 19 counties shows the following:

Total profit on 183 head	\$ 11,042.47
Total loss on 88 head	2,510.09
Net profit on 271 head	8,532.38
Total premium (not included above)	1,946.81

BEEF CATTLE CONFERENCE

The fifth Annual Beef Cattle Conference was held on the State College campus December 21 and 22, 1955. Members of this Department were active in planning for the Conference, in advertising it among the livestock farms and appeared on the program during the Conference. Attendance this year was up to one hundred sixty-six farmers for the Conference, but at least another hundred attended parts of the program. The farmers were fairly well distributed over the state as is indicated by the map on the following page.

One of the most popular discussions on the program was on production testing of commercial cattle by C. H. Coddling, Jr., of Foraker, Oklahoma. In his talk Mr. Coddling stated that after two years of production testing they discovered the one-third of their cows made two-thirds of the profit. Several farmers expressed a desire to start testing their herds and during the year twenty herds were assisted in this work by Extension and research personnel.

NORTH CAROLINA CATTLEMEN'S ASSOCIATION

During the Beef Cattle Conference the group present decided to organize a State Cattlemen's Association. Officers were elected and committees appointed for the first year. Since that time the constitution and by-laws have been worked out and 1,107 members joined the first year. This Association will act as a sponsor for several of our beef cattle activities and during the coming year they are planning to sponsor a state-wide beef promotional campaign.

BEEF CATTLE EXHIBITS AT STATE FAIR

Work with the beef cattle at the State Fair takes about one-twelfth of one specialist's time during the year. This consists of planning the classes and premiums to be offered, changes in rules and regulations and time and date of the different shows. During the week of the Fair a member of this office served as superintendent of the beef exhibits.

The exhibit this year was the largest of any recent year with almost three hundred head exhibited. Herefords had the largest show with seventeen herds and one hundred fifty animals on exhibit. In a show of this size we were especially well pleased that three of the four champions were won by state herds. Greene Pastures of Elizabethtown had the Grand Champion bull, while W. E. Graham of Cleveland exhibited both Champion Females.

In the Angus show nine farms exhibited sixty-five head. Out-of-state herds were strong and walked away with three of the four purple ribbons. Caroland Angus Farm of Tryon won the Grand Champion Bull to give us our only local champion.

In the Shorthorn breed we had five exhibitors and here all the championships went to out-of-state herds. The Brahman show is limited to herds inside of the state.

BEEF CATTLE FIELD DAYS

The North Carolina Purebred Hereford Breeders Association held their Annual Field Day at Roanoke River Ranch in Northampton County on September 1, 1956. Over 450 purebred and commercial breeders attended this event which was well organized by Mr. J. P. Harrell, Manager of Roanoke River Ranch and Mr. H. H. Dickerson, Fieldman for the North Carolina Hereford Breeders Association.

The program included a tour of the farm, judging and weigh guessing contest, and talks by several men associated with breeding Hereford cattle. At the annual meeting of the North Carolina Hereford Breeders Association, following the Field Day program, Mr. W. P. Morris, owner of Roanoke River Ranch, Jackson, North Carolina, was elected President of the State Association for 1957. Mr. V. J. Cowing, Raleigh, North Carolina, was elected Vice-President and Mr. J. C. Eagles, Wilson, North Carolina, and Dr. A. P. Cline, Canton, North Carolina, were elected to serve as Directors.

Over 250 people attended the Henderson County Beef Cattle Tour and Field Day in August. On this Tour two Angus herds and two Hereford herds were visited and each herd owner explained his cattle operation. The last farm visited was Crail Farm, where lunch was served and four classes of cattle used for a judging contest. Discussions on breeding, feeding, management and marketing purebred and commercial cattle were a part of the well organized program for this tour and field day.

DEMONSTRATIONS

Extension specialists spent considerable time this year assisting county agents with demonstrations designed to improve the production and marketing of livestock. The demonstrations consisted of vaccinating, de-horning and castrating, type demonstrations, grading livestock, parasite control and fitting and showing demonstrations for 4-H Club members. Twenty-nine different demonstrations were held in the counties with a total of 680 people attending. Some of these demonstrations were held in connection with county livestock tours and field days.

There was considerable interest in hog grading demonstrations conducted this year by Extension Specialists and representatives of the North Carolina Department of Agriculture. Through these demonstrations more interest has been stimulated in producing a meat type hog and marketing hogs at the proper time.

In beef cattle a new type of demonstration was started this year in three counties which we think is sound and practical for the improvement of our herds throughout the state. A commercial herd of cattle was selected in each county and after keeping the calves away from the cows for twelve hours the calves were culled in each herd then allowed to find their mother. After the calf had identified his mother, this cow and calf were culled from the herd. Replacement heifers were selected at the same time and all other calves were marketed through a feeder calf sale. This program of culling cows on the basis of the kind of calves they produce will definitely improve the quality of the herd. A record will be kept on each demonstration to show how much improvement can be realized from this method of culling and selecting replacements.

PERFORMANCE TESTING OF BEEF CATTLE

The College personnel in cooperation with the Extension personnel have carried out with cooperating beef cattle producers a performance testing program this year. The program was offered to a large group of beef cattle producers over the state, but only eleven producers were in position and expressed a desire to join the program.

Requirements were set for the producers to meet before they could be accepted:

- a. All calves on any one farm must be handled alike from birth to weaning.
- b. A restricted breeding program must be followed to insure calves of uniform age.
- c. Cows must be identified.
- d. Calves must be identified with cows along with calving dates.
- e. Facilities available to handle cows and calves for recording weights.
- f. Farmers have adequate labor to assist tester.

Eleven farms joined the program and over 600 cows were entered along with their age and calving date. To insure that accurate and unbiased data was obtained, College and Extension personnel assisted the cooperating farmers two specific periods during the year.

1. A contact was made early to advise the farmer on record keeping, identification and management practices to be followed during the year.
2. A second contact was made when the first calf reached an age of 182 days, to weigh all calves and place a feeder grade on them. Twenty-eight days later a second weight was taken on all calves and again the calves were graded. The third weight was taken twenty-eight days later along with the feeder grade.

In most cases the three weights caught the calves within fourteen days of 182 days of age. This enabled the weight to be adjusted to a standard weight at 182 days. The records were then corrected for age of dam and sex of calf.

In the eleven herds, both purebred and commercial herds were included. The size of the herds ranged from 19 cows to 184 cows records completed. In the eleven herds a total of 581 cows records were completed.

Two additional herds were added to the program and on these farms only one weighing and grading was used. The 182 day adjusted weights were figured on a straight line regression for these herds. The two herds totaled 41 records which gives a total of 622 cows tested during 1956.

The records were analyzed and a numerical index was figured for each cow and a copy of the records were returned to the farmer along with comments and suggestions on management and culling of the herd.

SHEEP
FARM FLOCK MANAGEMENT

The well managed farm flock of sheep was one of the most profitable livestock enterprises in North Carolina this year. Prices for early spring lambs were good, and with the incentive payment on wool, the gross return from sheep was most attractive when compared to other meat animals. While total sheep numbers increased around 2,000 head in 1956, there is a definite need for more expansion in sheep numbers in the State.

Over 90 per cent of all the lambs and wool marketed were handled through cooperative shipments. These cooperative lamb shipments and wool pools offer the sheep producers a good market, where their products are sold on a quality basis according to grade.

One of our larger sheep producers in the state, Mr. William J. Wolfe, Route 6, Monroe, North Carolina, reported gross sales of \$3,355.72 from a flock of 100 ewes. This is an average gross return of \$33.55 per ewe and according to his farm flock records a net return of \$25.05 per ewe. One of our smaller producers is Mr. G. J. Ward, Route 2, Lexington, North Carolina, who reported gross sales of \$480.34 from a flock of 13 ewes. His gross return per ewe was \$36.92, with a net return of \$28.32 for each ewe on his farm.

Since North Carolina is a State of small farms, the income on many of these farms could be increased with the addition of a small, well managed farm flock. It seems that our greatest need at the present time is a good sheep promotion program, and more time will be devoted to increasing sheep numbers throughout the state in 1957. Many of our present beef cattle producers would find it profitable to cull some poor producing cows and replace them with a flock of sheep.

Farm flock records were received from twelve different counties in the state this year, representing thirty-eight different farmers. The average size flock reporting was thirty-one. A summary of these records show that the average lamb crop raised in these flocks was 111 per cent and that 9 per cent of these lambs were kept for replacements or additions to the flock. The average ewe sheared 6.9 pounds of wool and returned her owner a gross of \$24.03 from the sale of lambs and wool. The estimated cost of keeping a ewe for one year according to these records was \$6.92, leaving a net return of \$17.11 per ewe.

A summary of Farm Flock Records for the past ten years is shown below:

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>GROSS INCOME PER EWE</u>
1947	\$ 22.90
1948	26.61
1949	27.63
1950	30.71
1951	37.41
1952	31.47
1953	24.75
1954	25.42
1955	23.48
1956	24.03

PUREBRED SHEEP

Purebred sheep breeders in the state found a good demand for rams from commercial producers this year. One consignment of 40 purebred rams from several different flocks was sold to commercial flock owners in Georgia. Late in the season there developed a shortage of good purebred rams and

fifteen rams were purchased from purebred flocks in Virginia. The prices for purebred rams produced in the state ranged from \$65.00 to \$100.00 and all rams sold averaged approximately \$80.00 per head. Because of the prospect of ram sales in Georgia, and the expected needs of sheep growers in the state, the North Carolina Purebred Sheep Breeders Association did not conduct the organized ram sales in 1956.

Five of the leading purebred Suffolk breeders in the state have been under quarantine this year and this has restricted the sale of breeding stock in these flocks. Three new Dorset flocks and five new Hampshire flocks have been established. Two of these new Dorset flocks are using polled rams developed at North Carolina State College and released for the first time in 1956.

The North Carolina Purebred Sheep Breeders' Association held their annual meeting at the State Fair in October. The members present at this meeting voted to request that the management of the North Carolina State Fair open this Show to the world in 1957. Plans were also discussed for conducting one or two ram sales in the state next year.

SUMMARY OF RAM PLACEMENTS

A good demand for purebred rams made it easy for registered flock owners to find a ready sale, off-the-farm, for the rams they produced. No ram sales were held by the North Carolina Purebred Sheep Breeders' Association this year, but all available rams were sold to commercial producers in North Carolina, Georgia and South Carolina. The local demand for good purebred rams was the best since 1953, and purebred breeders generally were well pleased with the prices received for their rams.

A total of 186 purebred rams were purchased by flock owners in the state

this year. If 20 per cent of all the purebred rams needed in the state were replaced each year we would need 424 rams for replacements annually. This means that a large number of our commercial producers are not using purebred rams.

A summary of Purebred Ram Placements for the past ten years follows:

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>PLACEMENTS</u>
1947	139
1948	135
1949	165
1950	210
1951	263
1952	240
1953	228
1954	126
1955	165
1956	186

GRADING AND MARKETING OF LAMBS

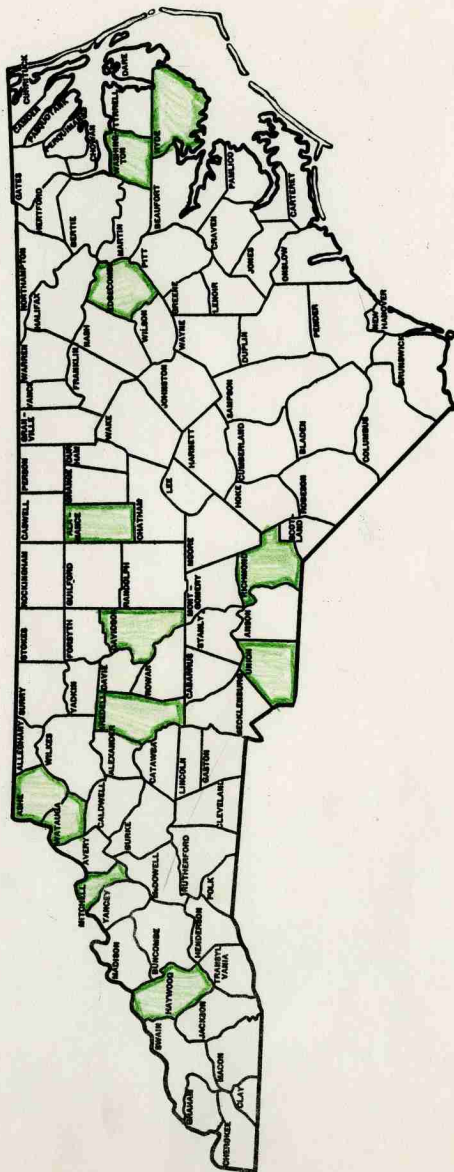
The cooperative lamb marketing program in the state, which is supervised by the North Carolina Department of Agriculture, had another successful year. A total of 12,243 lambs and old sheep were marketed through 34 organized lamb pools. This year represents a slight decrease in number when compared with 1955. The quality of the lambs marketed was good with 80.4 per cent grading in the top three grades.

A summary of the marketing program for 1956 follows:

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>NO. OF LAMBS</u>	<u>NO. POOL</u>	<u>AVE. CHOICE PRICES</u>
1954	12,845	21	23.63
1955	12,432	28	22.12
1956	12,243	34	24.33

<u>GRADE</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>AVE. WEIGHT</u>	<u>AVERAGE PRICE/CWT</u>	<u>AVE. PRICE PER HEAD</u>	<u>DIFFERENCE IN PRICE PER HEAD</u>
Choice	4063	89.3	24.33	21.74	
Good	3130	77.7	21.17	16.46	-5.28
Medium	2807	73.2	16.62	12.16	-4.30
Common	1163	67.5	10.90	7.37	-4.79
Cull	708	54.2	6.77	3.67	-3.70
Sheep	372	122	4.88	5.97	

<u>AVERAGE WEIGHT PER HEAD</u>	<u>1954</u>	<u>1955</u>	<u>1956</u>
Choice	87.46	86.63	89.3
Good	77.42	77.62	77.7
Medium	72.35	69.82	73.2
Common	65.00	63.80	67.5
Cull	53.00	52.95	54.2



■ COUNTIES HAVING LAMB POOLS

AVERAGE PRICE PER HUNDREDWEIGHT	<u>1954</u>	<u>1955</u>	<u>1956</u>
Choice	\$23.63	\$22.12	\$24.33
Good	20.78	19.69	21.17
Medium	16.84	16.05	16.62
Common	11.88	10.96	10.90
Cull	8.03	7.00	6.77

The difference in weight and price by grade shows that it is essential for the producer to follow a program to produce more good and choice lambs. One choice lamb will, on the average, bring two times what a medium lamb will and almost three times as much as a common lamb and a little over five times as much as a cull lamb.

MARKETING OF WOOL

North Carolina continued to market its wool through two very successful cooperative wool pools, as it has done for the last four years. The north-west section of the state, comprised of Avery, Ashe, Watauga and Alleghany Counties, continued to operate the oldest cooperative wool market in North Carolina.

The rest of the state showed progress in its third year of marketing wool through the State Wool Pools, operated by the North Carolina Department of Agriculture, in cooperation with the Extension Service. The State Pool, which has collection points at Washington, Durham, Salisbury and Asheville, has grown from a total poundage of 67,000 pounds in 1953 to 115,328 pounds in 1956. The total marketing charges to the producer has been reduced from 4.1 cents per pound in 1953 to one cent per pound this year, which represents a \$4,815.17 saving for the producer for the marketing year of 1956.

<u>TYPE OF MARKET</u>	<u>YEAR</u>	<u>MARKETING CHARGES</u>	<u>TOTAL POUNDS</u>	<u>PER CENT INCREASE</u>
FCX	1953	4.1¢ per lb.	67,000	- - -
Pool	1954	2.0¢ per lb.	70,651	5.4
Pool	1955	1.0¢ per lb.	107,041	51.5
Pool	1956	1.0¢ per lb.	115,328	7.7
	1957	1.0¢ per lb.	124,263	

The top price for clear tied wool this year was \$50.79 cwt. which was slightly below a year ago, but was a very favorable price when compared with the U. S. average as reported by the ASC. A definite increase in the quality of the wool with 61.2 per cent of the wool grading in the clear grades.

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>PER CENT GRADING CLEAR</u>
1953	46
1954	61
1955	54
1956	61

In the mountain counties in the northwestern part of the state 87,339 pounds of wool was marketed through the pool at a price of 51¢ per pound for clear tied wool. The quality of the wool sold annually through this pool is excellent and this year was no exception as 81 per cent of the wool sold was graded in the top grade.

The producers were well pleased with the grading and prices received from the wool crop in the state this year.

4-H MARKET LAMB SHOW

4-H Club members from Ashe, Alleghany and Watauga counties entered lambs in the Tri-County 4-H Lamb Show and Sale held at West Jefferson on June 15, this year. This is an annual event sponsored by the business and professional people of the three counties.

The Grand Champion Individual Fat Lamb was shown by Roger Collins of Alleghany. This prime wether weighed 103 pounds and was sold for 40 cents per pound. The Reserve Champion Individual Fat Lamb was exhibited also by Roger Collins of Alleghany County. The Reserve Champion wether weighed 110 pounds and was a twin to the champion lamb.

There were a total of 63 lambs entered in the Show from the three counties. Twelve of these lambs were registered lambs and were not sold. Following the show all the lambs were sold at auction and averaged 25 cents per pound, which was approximately one cent above the market price at that time. Swift and Company purchased most of the lambs.

SHEEP SHEARING SCHOOLS AND CONTEST

Sheep shearing takes up about 1/12 of one Specialist's time during the year. This is spent in planning and conducting sheep shearing schools, the State Sheep Shearing Contest and in preparing and furnishing county workers educational material about shearing. This year we decided to hold two two-day schools and one one-day school. The two-day schools proved to be the most satisfactory. Attendance at all schools was good with 207 boys and adults taking part in the schools. Mr. E. A. Warner of Sunbeam Corporation served as our instructor for the schools.

The State Contest was held May 12, at Winston-Salem, with nine boys

from three counties competing for State honors. Lance Reece of Watauga County won the Contest with a total of 361.3 points out of a possible 400. Bill Austin also of Watauga County was second with 355.1 points.

W. C. Richardson, Assistance County Agent of Watauga County, was designated as coach of the State Sheep Shearing team and accompanied the boys to the National Contest. Twenty-eight boys from twenty-two states entered the National Contest and Lance Reece placed fourth out of the twenty-eight while Bill Austin placed fifth.

SHEEP SHOW AT STATE FAIR

Nine purebred sheep breeders exhibited a total of 72 head of sheep at the State Fair this year. Since five of the leading purebred Suffolk flocks were under quarantine, there were no entries in the Suffolk classes. While the number of sheep exhibited was approximately 25 per cent less than in 1955, there was a definite improvement in quality in all breeds. Mr. Ben Morgan, Extension Livestock Specialist, Pennsylvania State University, University Park, Pennsylvania, judged the sheep at the 1956 State Fair.

The Hampshire breeders had the largest show with six flocks and 57 entries. W. P. Plyler, Winston-Salem, North Carolina, exhibited the Grand Champion Ram and Grand Champion Ewe in the Hampshire Show. In the Dorset show a polled Dorset ewe lamb, exhibited by North Carolina State College, was Grand Champion Ewe.

The North Carolina Purebred Sheep Breeders' Association voted to request that the sheep show at the 1957 North Carolina State Fair be open to our-of-state exhibitors. This should help to improve the quality and increase the number of sheep exhibited next year. An open sheep show was held at the Dixie Classic Fair in Winston-Salem for the first time in 1956.

COUNTY DEMONSTRATIONS

Members of this Department spend very little time on this program in 1956. Emphasis on increasing sheep in these counties was continued by the County Extension force. One carload of western ewes was placed in the mountain counties and one car in the piedmont counties where this program has been underway. Lamb and wool pools increased in volume in these areas.

Two of the counties started 4-H Sheep Club Chains and the progress of these will be watched with interest. If they are a success here, chains will be started in other counties.

DEMONSTRATIONS AND FIELD DAYS

The Field Day of the Hamlet Lamb Pool was held this year in South Carolina and the Extension Department of that state was in charge of the program. Roughly sixty of our farmers attended this Field Day and observed management practices recommended for this area.

A Sheep Field Day was held in Alamance County in early May with about 40 producers from this and adjoining counties present. The program included talks and demonstrations on the history of sheep in this area, breeding problems, feeding and management during lambing, buildings and equipment and marketing of lambs and wool.

Demonstrations in various sheep activities such as shearing, fitting and showing, drenching, docking, marking and selecting breeding animals were put on in nine counties with an attendance of 260 farmers this year.

NORTH CAROLINA F. C. X. SHEEP CHAINS

For the first time in several years a 4-H Sheep Chain was started in North Carolina. This one was started on a different scale and on an experimental basis to determine if it is practical to push the program.

The F. C. X. made available \$900.00 for this program to be used in McDowell County. The money was used to purchase 30 western ewes and three rams, along with dog insurance for one year. The ewes were divided into groups of ten ewes and one 4-H boy received ten ewes and a ram as a project.

The \$300.00 for the ewes and ram will be repaid in three years with one-third being repaid 14 months after the ewes are placed. The remaining \$200.00 will be repaid \$100.00 a year following the first payment. With the \$300.00 repaid each year to the Chain, a new project will be started for a new 4-H member.

Prizes will be set up by the F. C. X. and be paid on the basis of the lambs and wool marketed through the wool and lamb pools.

HOGS

PLACEMENT OF PUREBREDS

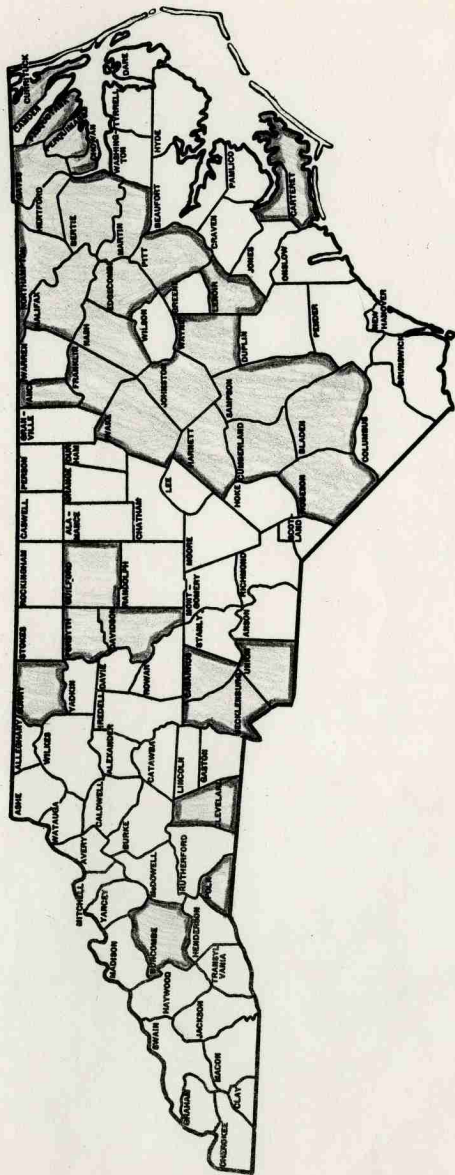
Twenty-six purebred hog sales were held in 1956, sponsored by the North Carolina Swine Breeders' Association and the North Carolina Extension Service. 927 hogs were sold as compared with 852 in 1955. Hogs sold for \$79,000.50 or an average of \$85.22 per head. This was an increase over the average price of \$80.15 in 1955. The average price for the Hampshire and Yorkshire Sales was considerable higher than the average price for any other breed. The price of meat type hogs in the sale was higher than the price for the short, fat type hog. This indicates that the farmers in North Carolina are changing to the meat type hog and are willing to pay more for seed stock.

The highest average was obtained by the Chinquapin Farm when 55 hogs sold for \$11,139 or an average of \$207.16 per head. The second highest average was also obtained from Hampshire hogs when 61 hogs sold at the A. T. Powell Sale for an average of \$136.80. The third highest sale was 38 Yorkshires selling for an average of \$116.05.

Purebred hogs were consigned by breeders from 35 counties and was purchased by farmers from 59 different counties in the state. Hogs were also sold to farmers in Alabama, Illinois, Ohio, Virginia, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Maryland, New York, Kentucky and Tennessee. This was the best year that North Carolina Swine growers have ever had in selling hogs in other states. A complete summary follows of all sales held:

PUREBRED HOG SALES - 1956

BREED	DATE	PLACE	NO.	AMOUNT	AVE. PRICE
Tamworth	Jan. 27	Monroe	18	\$ 970.00	\$ 53.88
All Breed	Jan. 27	Hertford	19	776.50	40.87
Duroc	Feb. 2	Rocky Mount	44	3,113.50	71.25
Hampshire	Feb. 4	A. T. Powell Farm	49	5,585.00	113.98
All Breed	Feb. 8	Murfreesboro	26	1,191.00	45.80
Hampshire	Feb. 9	Rocky Mount	44	3,825.00	86.93
Spotted Poland China	Feb. 10	Hertford	19	1,255.00	66.00
Yorkshire	Feb. 16	Rocky Mount	29	2,282.00	78.68
Hampshire	Feb. 18	Chinquapin Farm	55	11,139.00	207.16
Tamworth	Feb. 23	Rocky Mount	21	1,177.50	56.07
Hampshire	Feb. 25	Charlotte	35	2,089.50	59.70
All Breed	Aug. 22	Murfreesboro	27	1,415.00	52.41
Hampshire	Aug. 23	Rocky Mount	46	3,950.00	85.87
Hampshire	Aug. 25	Chinquapin Farm	62	5,004.50	80.71
Poland China	Aug. 30	Rocky Mount	14	916.00	65.41
All Breed	Aug. 31	Hertford	24	1,206.00	50.25
Hampshire	Sept. 1	Powell Farm	61	8,345.00	136.80
Hampshire	Sept. 4	Wilmington	24	1,429.50	59.56
Hampshire	Sept. 5	E. M. Hunt	44	2,774.50	63.06
Spotted Poland China	Sept. 6	Rocky Mount	28	1,845.00	65.89
Duroc	Sept. 15	Rocky Mount	32	1,907.00	59.60
All Breed	Sept. 22	Kinston	34	1,349.00	39.68
Yorkshire	Sept. 27	Rocky Mount	38	4,410.00	116.05
Duroc	Sept. 29	Denning, Goldsboro	49	4,247.50	86.68
Poland China	Oct. 24	Langdon Farm	44	2,332.00	53.00
Yorkshire	Oct. 25	Brookhill Farm	40	4,265.00	106.62
TOTALS	26 SALES		926	\$79,054.50	85.37



COUNTIES SELLING PURFERED HOGS AT SALES



SWINE FIELD DAYS, TYPE CONFERENCES AND TOURS - 1956

The swine field day type of program continued to be very popular with agents and farmer groups in 1956. The first of these programs were held on January 20, in Richmond County where beef cattle Specialist A. V. Allen and County Agent R. W. Murdoch were assisted with a tour of livestock farms in the county. At two farms in the county swine management was discussed and especially, emphasis was paid to following beef steers in the feed lot with hogs. This was a new practice for farmers in Richmond County and they had quite a number of questions concerning this practice.

On January 23, 24 and 25, a North Carolina Duroc Breeder, W. D. Stocks of Ayden, North Carolina, consigned hogs to the Southeastern Duroc Congress held in Macon, Georgia. Extension Swine Specialists from North Carolina were requested to attend the Congress and assist as moderators on the program. Other North Carolina Duroc Breeders attending this Type Conference Show and Sale were Joe and Chris Moye of Moye Duroc Farms, Faraville, North Carolina.

The highlight of the year's work is always the F. C. X. sponsored Field Day for 4-H Club members in 12 North Carolina counties where the F. C. X. organization sponsors Pig Chains. Members of this group gathered at Brookhill Farms, Selma, North Carolina, on April 21, for their annual Field Day. Brookhill Farms is the largest Yorkshire Farm in North Carolina, owned and operated by Dr. R. E. Earp and his brother, W. S. Earp of Selma. During the day 4-H Club members and their Dads were given a tour of the farms and a fine barbecue dinner, then they listened to discussions by Swine Specialists on feeding and management problems with a purebred herd. Following a type demonstrations where Yorkshire Type was stressed with several breeding animals, the boys and their Dads participated in a judging contest with classes of open gilts, bred gilts and boars.

Two days in April and May were spent with farmer groups in Currituck County. One day was spent in discussing housing and four farmers were visited where different type of houses for hogs were discussed with the groups present. On the second field day farmers visited purebred breeders in the county where meat type hog and feeding and management problems of swine were discussed. Farmers in this area produce a rather large number of hogs and it was felt that many of these farmers pick up useful ideas on this Field Day.

In May, Anson County farmers met for a Swine Field Day at a farm of a commercial producer in the county. During the tour of the farm various facilities were discussed in detail and the good and bad features of each was pointed out. Farmers in this area seemed very much interested in meat type hogs and also in the feeding of commercial hogs for market.

On May 30, R. Rollie Pemberton, Secretary of the National Hampshire Association and Bill Miller, Southeastern Fieldman, met with North Carolina Hampshire Breeders at Chinquapin Farm in Tryon for the Annual Hampshire Picnic. The program began with a discussion of Hampshire type by members of the National Association and Swine Specialists. Following the type discussion, judging classes of bred sows, bred gilts, open gilts and boars were placed by the group. A barbecue lunch was served by Rete Mahler, owner and manager of the farm, after which a brief business meeting and general discussion was held. Hampshire breeders were very enthusiastic about the prospects of the breed in North Carolina and agreed to meet at E. M. Hunt's Hampshire Farm near Denton, North Carolina, for their 1957 picnic.

On June 5, R. H. Waltz and a party from Indiana attended a Tamworth Picnic on the farm of Carl Burkandt of Charlotte, Route 5, Mecklenburg County. Mr. Burkandt is President of the North Carolina Tamworth Association and was host to the group at a barbecue lunch. During the day a program consisted of a tour of the farm, a discussion of Tamworth type and classes of bred gilts, open gilts

and boars were judged by the group. A carcass demonstration showing the value of meat type hogs compared to those of more lard and less muscle was conducted after lunch. Secretary Waltz encouraged the group to continue to produce a meat type hog and especially stressed the need for certifying some litters in this area during the coming months.

The Annual Western North Carolina Swine Field Day at Highland Farm, Black Mountain, North Carolina, was held June 7. This Field Day consisted of discussions and demonstrations on 4-H pig project management for 4-H Club members in the area.

On July 2 and 3, and 19 and 20, Extension Specialists assisted the Spotted Poland China Breeders of North Carolina with a tour of the leading breeders in the state. The officers of the Spotted Poland China Association felt that this type of tour would give them a broader picture of what is being done with Spotted Poland Chinas in North Carolina and would encourage breeders visited to do a better job and participate more actively in shows and sales. Spotted Poland China breeders were visited in Nash, Franklin, Northampton, Gates, Bertie, Martin, Hertford, Robeson, Bladen, Duplin, Sampson and Harnett Counties. In every county the local county agent or assistant visited the breeders in the county with the group and joined in the discussion on feeding and management of hogs.

C. W. Mitchell, Secretary of the National Poland China Record Association, Galesburg, Illinois, visited North Carolina on July 17. During the day the officers of the North Carolina Poland China Association joined Mr. Mitchell and Extension Swine Specialists on a tour of Poland China breeders in Harnett, Sampson, Cumberland Counties. At 7:30 P. M. July 17, a meeting of North Carolina Poland China breeders was held in Durham, North Carolina. At this time plans were made for a Southeastern Regional Poland China Type Conference to be held in Florence, South Carolina, in early 1957.

DEMONSTRATION MARKET HOG SALES IN 1956

A total of 29 demonstration market hog sales were held in 1956. These sales were conducted in cooperation with the North Carolina Department of Agriculture and local hog buying stations and packing plants. These sales were a direct result of the success in securing price differentials between grades of hogs at some of our Fat Stock Shows and the interest created by demonstration sales in 1955.

The sales were operated as follows: The operator of a local hog buying establishment was contacted and after agreeing to pay a premium for U. S. No. 1 pigs on a given sale date, a special sale was advertised by the local county agent and the market operator. At this special sale all hogs brought to the market that day were graded by Extension Specialists or Department of Agriculture graders into U. S. No. 1, US No. 2, US No. 3 and US Medium grades. All pigs in the lot grading US No. 1 received 50 cents per hundredweight over the board price for hogs on that date. The No. 2 and No. 3 hogs in most cases received the board price for top hogs weighing between 180 and 240 pounds. A price differential between all three grades would have been more desirable but it was much easier to get market operators to agree to pay the 50 cents premium for No. 1 hogs. One of the main reasons for this hesitancy to pay price differentials between all three grades was the fact that farmers were trying something new and they had a natural resistance to any discount for their product. When the competition for hogs was considered, the premium on US No. 1 hogs was the most desirable method.

Farmers consigning hogs to these special sales were greatly impressed by the quality and uniformity of US No. 1 pigs from all breeds. It developed that each major breed in the state was represented in almost every one of these demonstration sales. The ability of farmers to produce, select and

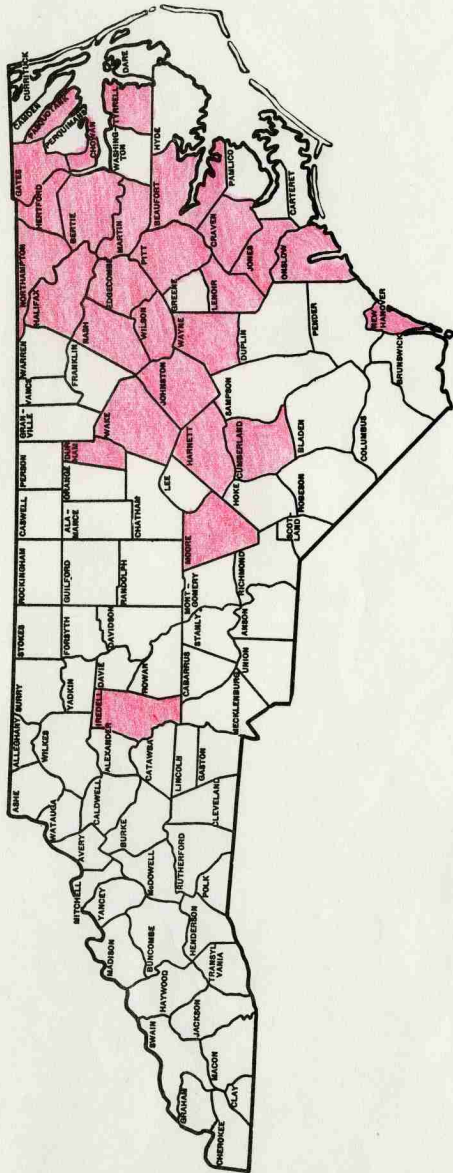
market US No. 1 pigs was demonstrated by repeat sales at several locations where the grade of a particular farmer's hogs was greatly improved at the second sale.

These demonstration sales created a great deal of interest among swine producers, market operators and agricultural workers throughout the state and they seemed to be one of the very best tools to use in educating producers as well as market operators and agricultural workers in the production, selection and marketing of a more desirable market hog. In every sale grade models and official USDA charts were used to demonstrate the grades. Each lot of pigs was discussed with the producer and others present at which time the desirable and undesirable features of each lot of pigs were discussed thoroughly. Farmers requested and received advice on why they should produce a meat type hog and how they could best go about producing a more desirable market hog in the future.

DEMONSTRATION MARKET HOG SALES

<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>US NO. 1</u>	<u>US NO. 2</u>	<u>US NO. 3</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Raleigh	124	75	7	206
Rocky Mount	56	58	29	143
* Kinston	88	83	51	222
Goldsboro	38	39	19	96
Wilson	40	35	33	108
Nahunta	20	26	6	52
Smithfield	35	38	5	78
Durham	25	31	17	73
Statesville	28	32	10	70
Scotland Neck	73	68	35	176
Cono	30	28	1	59
Edenton	7	10	14	31
Elizabeth City	24	20	65	109
Sunbury	15	18	91	124
Corapeake	9	90	97	196
Enfield	47	38	40	125
Wilmington	9	18	13	40
* Jacksonville	15	20	24	59
Richlands	3	30	27	60
Trenton	30	21	20	71
* New Bern	68	116	116	300
Washington	15	17	16	48
4 Sales	<u>189</u>	<u>116</u>	<u>41</u>	<u>346</u>
TOTALS	988	1027	777	2792
29 Sales	35%	37%	28%	

* 2 Sales combined



COUNTIES WITH DEMONSTRATION HOG SALES - 1956

SUMMARY OF 4-H MARKET HOG SHOWS AND SALES - 1956

Date	Place of Show & Sale	No. Sold	No. Pounds	Amount	Av. Per Cwt.	Highest Price Per Lb.	Exhibited By
March 29	Wilson	108	22,552	\$ 3,794.88	\$16.83	\$.80	Adult
Apr. 3	New Bern	74	15,748	3,097.15	19.67	.83	Adult
Apr. 4	Rocky Mt.	143	30,914	4,924.65	15.93	.60	4-H
Apr. 6	Williamston	52	10,722	1,958.52	18.27	.61	F F A
Apr. 9-10	Goldsboro	96	20,345	3,447.04	16.94	.84	Adult
Apr. 10-11	Fayetteville	10	1,955	487.28	24.92	.60	4-H
Apr. 11-12	Kinston	181	37,666	6,110.71	16.22	.86	4-H
Apr. 18-19	Wilmington	49	9,980	1,974.85	19.79	1.15	4-H
Apr. 19	Windsor	44	9,355	1,512.36	16.17	.31	4-H
Apr. 24	Washington	47	12,248	2,257.83	18.43	.51	F F A
Apr. 25	Edenton	30	6,454	1,274.09	19.74	.50	4-H
Apr. 26	Durham	72	15,040	2,590.73	17.23	.81	4-H
Apr. 26	Smithfield	86	17,380	2,991.80	17.21	1.02	4-H
Apr. 30	Dunn	65	13,420	2,241.56	16.70	.50	F H A
May 2	Jackson	68	13,930	2,230.79	16.01	.33	4-H
May 3	Columbia	26	5,390	840.91	15.60	.25	4-H
May 9	Statesville	123	27,558	4,203.74	15.25	.28	4-H
May 16	Eliz. City	30	7,310	1,419.00	19.41	.49	4-H
June 12	Rockingham	148	28,926	5,121.91	17.71	.50	4-H
	TOTALS 19 Sales	1,452	306,893	52,479.80	17.10		

SECOND NORTH CAROLINA STATE MARKET HOG SHOW AND SALE

The second annual North Carolina Market Hog Show and Sale was held in the Swine Barn at the State Fairgrounds in Raleigh, August 22, 1956. A total of 206 animals were driven in the Show by adult and junior exhibitors. Hog numbers in the Show were about 200 less than in the first annual Show, held August 24, 1955. Part of the reduction in numbers was due to a decrease in swine numbers in the state and conflict with the tobacco season. Although numbers were reduced considerably, quality of the animals was improved greatly over the first annual Show. In 1955 the animals entered in the Show graded as follows: 184 No. 1, 123 No. 2, 38 No. 3. In 1956, 124 animals graded US No. 1, 75 graded US No. 2 and 7 graded US No. 3. The Berkshire breed with only nine exhibits was the only breed with all animals in the breed grading US No. 1. Of these nine animals, one was Reserve Grand Champion over all breeds, three animals were Grand Champion Pen over all breeds and three of the animals were Reserve Grand Champion Pen over all breeds.

The second Annual Show was sponsored by all the purebred breed associations in the state as well as allied associations and individual firms.

One of the problems of the first annual Market Hog Show was a price differential between grades. This problem did not develop this year, as indicated on the sale report. Nine major hog buyers and packers from North Carolina and adjoining states were represented at the sale and bidding on the lots of hogs was very active. The following table gives a summary of the Show and Sale.

NORTH CAROLINA STATE MARKET HOG SALE
August 22, 1956

Grand Champion	204 lbs @ \$2.25	\$ 459.00	Smithfield Hog Market
Reserve Grand Champion	213 lbs @ .40	85.20	Jesse Jones Sausage Co.
Reserve Champion Jr. Sh.	200 lbs @ .31	62.00	Kingan & Co.
Grand Champion Pen	552 lbs @ .34	187.68	Frosty Morn
Res. Cr. Champion Pen	568 lbs @ .25	142.00	Lundy
Champion Duroc	181 lbs @ .22	39.82	Lancasters Stock Yards
Champion Hampshire	183 lbs @ .2050	37.51	Peacock Meat Company
Champion S.P.C.	183 lbs @ .23	42.09	Piedmont Packing Company
Champion Tamworth	218 lbs @ .22	47.96	Curtis Packing Company
Champion Yorkshire	210 lbs @ .25	52.50	Smithfield Hog Market
55 No. 1 Hogs	10,558 lbs @ .1850	1953.23	Piedmont Packing Company
54 No. 1 Hogs	10,578 lbs @ .1825	1930.48	Piedmont Packing Company
38 No. 2 Hogs	7,747 lbs @ .1750	1355.72	Smithfield Hog Market
37 No. 2 Hogs	7,553 lbs @ .1760	1329.33	Swift & Company
7 No. 3 Hogs	1,597 lbs @ .1705	272.29	Smithfield Hog Market
31 Light Hogs	4,995 lbs @ .1650	824.17	Peacock Meat Company
TOTAL	45,740 lbs	\$ 8820.98	Ave. \$ 19.28 cwt.
US No. 1	21,136 lbs	3883.71	Ave. 18.37 cwt.
US No. 2	15,300 lbs	2685.05	Ave. 17.55 cwt.
US No. 3	1,597 lbs	272.29	Ave. 17.05 cwt.

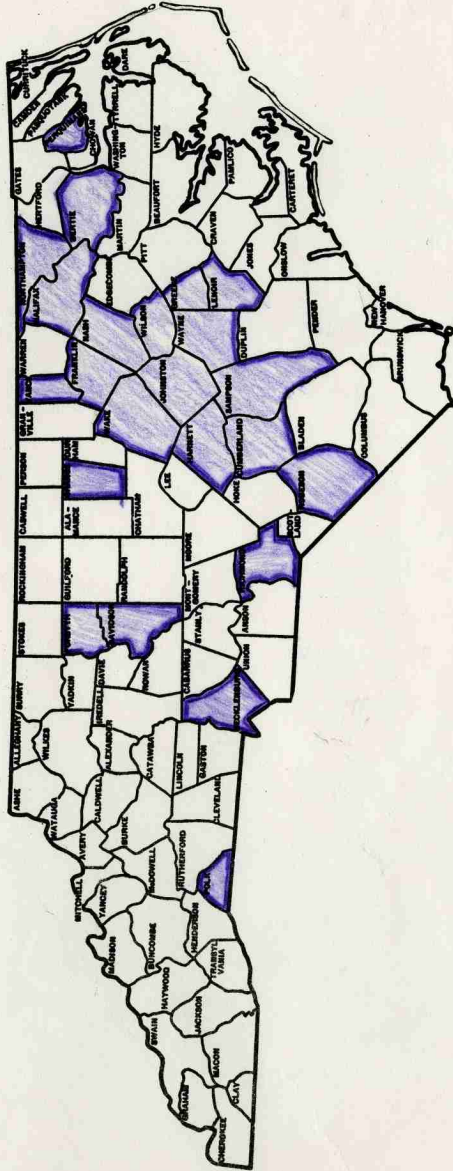
SECOND ANNUAL NORTH CAROLINA STATE MARKET HOG SHOW

August 22, 1956

Grand Champion Over All Breeds	Poland China	Jack K. Hubbard, Fayetteville
Res. Grand Champ. Over All Breeds	Berkshire	James R. Stevenson, Palmyra
Grand Champion Pen Over All Breeds	Berkshire	Oland F. Peele, Pikeville
Res. Gr. Champ Pen Over All Breeds	Berkshire	E. L. Timberlake, Jr., Woodland
Champion Duroc		John Sykes, Conway, N. C.
Champion Pen of Durocs		John Sykes, Conway
Champion Hampshire		A. T. Powell & Son, Colerain
Champion Pen of Hampshires		Morris Bros., Colerain
Champion Spotted Poland China		S. L. Lewis, Spring Hope
Champion Pen of Spotted Poland Chinas		J. O. Williams, Newton Grove
Champion Tamworth		E. O. Hunter, Winston-Salem
Champion Pen of Tamworths		F. M. Rivers, Henderson
Champion Yorkshire		Brookhill Farms, Selma
Champion Pen of Yorkshires		Brookhill Farms, Selma
Champion of Jr. Division		Carson Gregory Jr., Angier
Champion Pen of Jr. Division		Susie Turlington, Dunn

NUMBERS AND GRADES BY BREEDS

	<u>US No. 1</u>	<u>US No. 2</u>	<u>US No. 3</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Berkshire	9	0	0	9
Duroc	14	4	0	18
Hampshire	17	15	5	37
Poland China	8	4	0	12
Spotted Poland China	13	12	1	26
Tamworth	34	7	0	41
Yorkshire	13	8	0	21
Junior Division	<u>16</u>	<u>25</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>42</u>
	124	75	7	206



COUNTIES EXHIBITING HOGS
SECOND ANNUAL N. C. MARKET HOG SHOW



MEAT TYPE HOGS IN 1956

Meat type hogs were again the theme of Animal Husbandry Extension Specialists in 1956. In 1955, the program on meat type hogs received major emphasis in North Carolina and this program was stepped up in 1956. Through meetings, demonstrations, field days, personal visits and wherever the feeding, breeding, management and marketing of hogs was discussed, meat type hogs was a part of the program.

During 1956, grading demonstrations were held at special demonstration hog sales, at field days and at livestock auction market sale days. This was a follow-up of the beginning of hog grading demonstrations in 1954 and 1955. Carcass cut-out demonstrations were a very important factor in stressing the meat type hog program in the state during 1956, and especially proved helpful where pairs of animals were slaughtered in order that farmers might see the live hog on foot and the carcass on the hook. This was an effort to again give the farmers a whole picture from pigs to pork chops and this type of demonstration again proved very effective.

Another major accomplishment this year has been the certification of meat-type litters by several breeders in the state. New cutting stations were established to make it more convenient for purebred breeders in the state to certify meat type litters and our purebred breeders were encouraged to participate in this program, now sponsored by all the major breed associations. A report of each of these major fields of activity will be found on the following pages.

CERTIFIED MEAT TYPE HOG PROGRAM

Meat type hog certification is a new program in North Carolina. It is sponsored by the National Breed Associations in an effort to locate and propagate the lines within each breed of hogs, showing best performances in sow productivity, rate of gain and carcass quality. Animals entered in this program must come from production registry litters. Two pigs from each litter must also meet a rate of gain standard which is a minimum weight of 200 pounds at 180 days of age. These two pigs are slaughtered for carcass data and they must be slaughtered between the liveweights of 180 and 230 pounds off-truck at the packing plant. For animals over or under 180 days of age, weight is adjusted by two pounds per day.

Animals slaughtered which have met the production registry and rate of gain requirements must meet the carcass requirements listed in the table below:

Same two pigs from litter must meet following carcass standards:

<u>Weight</u>	<u>Loin Area</u> (Minimum)	<u>Length</u>		<u>Backfat Thickness</u>	
		<u>Min.</u>	<u>Max.</u>	<u>Min.</u>	<u>Max.</u>
180 to 199 lbs.	3.5 sq. in.	28.5"	31.5"	1.1"	1.6"
200 to 214 lbs.	3.75 sq. in.	29"	32"	1.2"	1.7"
215 to 230 lbs.	4. sq. in.	29.5"	32.5"	1.3"	1.8"

In 1956 purebred breeders were encouraged to participate in this program and assistance was given to farmers in setting up official cutting stations for certification of litters qualifying. The first certified litter ever produced in North Carolina was produced by A. T. Powell and Sons of Colerain, North Carolina, and certified by Frosty Morn Meats, Incorporated, Kinston, North Carolina. This litter was sired by Master Mac, a herd boar purchased from the corn belt by the Powell firm. Packing plants in North Carolina

aiding in this certification work are: Frosty Morn Meats, Inc., Kinston, North Carolina; White Packing Company, Salisbury, North Carolina; Piedmont Packers, Hillsboro, North Carolina; Goodyear Sausage Company, Lumberton, North Carolina; Peacock Meat Company, Rocky Mount, North Carolina; and Morris Packing Company of Shelby, North Carolina. The work of Extension Specialists in this program consisted of going through the packing plants and assisting with the cut out and carcass measurements of one or two litters to teach packing plant men the procedure for sending in the certification report. Packers in North Carolina have been most cooperative in this effort and are solidly behind it and in every case have refused to accept a payment for extra work involved in this certification. They have stated, without exception, that this small effort seemed to be the least they could do to increase meatiness in hogs going to market in this area.

Purebred and commercial swine breeders in North Carolina are becoming more and more concerned about meatiness of pigs produced on the farm and are becoming more interested in the certification program as a source of improved sires for both purebred and commercial herds. A table showing the number of litters nominated, the number of litters with carcass cut-outs actually forwarded to the National Association offices and the number of litters certified by breeds follows:

BREEDERS NOMINATING LITTERS FOR CERTIFICATION

Name	Nominated	Cut	Certified
<u>DUROC</u>			
Norman Denning, Four Oaks, N. C.	2	2	0
<u>BERKSHIRE</u>			
W. C. Kivett, Clinton, N. C.	2	0	0
<u>HAMPSHIRE</u>			
A. T. Powell & Son, Colerain, N. C.	1	1	1
H. Fields Young, Jr., Shelby, N. C.	2	2	2
F. E. White, Jr., Oxford, N. C.	1	1	1
K. M. Lewis & Son, Red Springs, N. C.	11	11	0
Chinquapin Farms, Tryon, N. C.	3	3	1
E. M. Hunt, Denton, N. C.	6	6	0
<u>POLAND CHINA</u>			
Gerald A. Langdon, Coats, N. C.	4	0	0
<u>SPOTTED POLAND CHINA</u>			
M. T. Lamm, Louisburg, N. C.	1	1	1
<u>TAMWORTH</u>			
F. M. Rivers, Henderson, N. C.	2	0	0
<u>YORKSHIRE</u>			
None			
TOTALS	35	27	6

SWINE SHOW AT THE 1956 NORTH CAROLINA STATE FAIR

The 1956 Swine Show at the North Carolina State Fair was open to the world for the first time in many years. Five out-of-state exhibitors applied for pens and intended to exhibit hogs, but only three actually made the show. Out-of-state exhibitors in the barn were Sir William Farms, exhibiting Yorkshires and Berkshires from Hillsdale, New York; Barracks Farm from Charlottesville, Virginia, exhibiting Yorkshire and Old Craddock Farms from Elliott, Virginia exhibiting Hampshires. The two out-of-state exhibitors that were forced to cancel out their exhibits were Strawbridge and McCleary from Pennsylvania and Galbreath from Maryland, exhibiting Berkshires.

The Junior Show at the 1956 State Fair was placed on the Danish or group system, using Blue, Red and White ribbons. The first three animals in the Junior Show were then eligible to compete in the open show. This system was very popular and it should increase interest in the Junior Show.

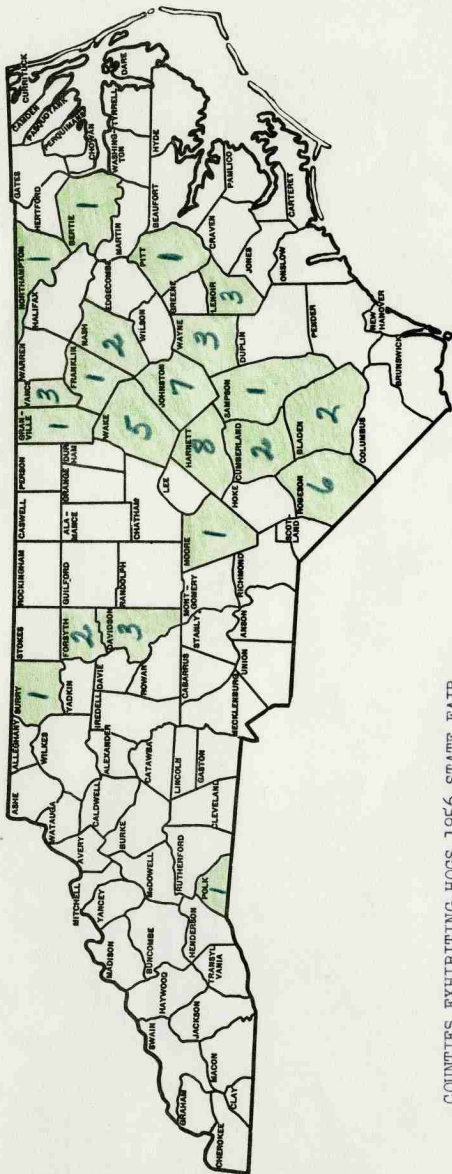
A total of 64 exhibitors drove 471 hogs before Judge A. W. Jordan of Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio, on October 16 and 17. This compared to 464 hogs driven by 59 exhibitors in 1955. The animals in all breeds were of excellent quality and demonstrated to all present that North Carolina is making considerable progress in improving quality of hogs through the state. Harnett County led all counties in the state with 8 exhibitors in the Show while 21 counties in all were represented by top quality hogs in their respective breeds. The Yorkshire Show gave evidence of the increased interest in Yorkshire hogs by having 8 exhibitors in 1956, compared to 3 exhibitors in 1955. The number of animals in 1955 was 19 compared to 32 animals in 1956.

Pen space has been a problem at the Fair for several years and was somewhat relieved this year by the addition of 20 new pens to the barn. Pen space would have still been a problem except for the fact that some exhibitors showing did not bring all the animals entered and four exhibitors dropped out

of the Show, leaving 32 pens available for use by those who brought hogs.

The Show ran very smoothly and out-of-state exhibitors were highly complimentary concerning the attention they received, the friendliness of North Carolina breeders and officials of the Show and were very much impressed by the facilities available, manner in which the Show was conducted and quality of animals exhibited by North Carolina breeders.

The following Table gives a summary of the exhibitors and numbers of animals by breeds in the 1956 State Fair.



COUNTIES EXHIBITING HOGS 1956 STATE FAIR

SUMMARY SWINE SHOW 1956 NORTH CAROLINA STATE FAIR

Breed	No. Exhibitors				1955 Total	Number of Hogs		
	1955		1956			Total	1956 Adult	Junior
	Total	Jr.	Total	Jr.				
Berkshire	7	3	8	3	53	61	53	8
Duroc	10	4	9	2	77	71	60	11
Hampshire	9	2	11	2	70	66	64	2
Poland China	8	2	9	3	67	73	61	12
Spotted Poland China	12	7	12	7	107	95	62	33
Tamworth	4		6	1	65	69	61	8
Yorkshire	3		8	1	19	32	31	1
O. I. C.	1		1		6	4	4	0
TOTALS	54	18	64	19	464	471	396	75

PRODUCTION REGISTRY PROGRAM

Records were obtained on 85 sows entered in the Production Registry Program during 1956. Sows averaged farrowing 10.6 pigs per litter and raised an average of 9.6 pigs. This compares with an average of less than seven pigs raised per litter for all the sows in North Carolina, indicating the possibility of increasing the number of pigs saved if all farmers would carry out the same program that the farmers follow in Production Registry.

The average litter weight at 56 days of age was 387 pounds making an average of over 40 pounds per pig at 56 days of age.

Hampshire breeders in the state took the lead in the number of sows entered in the program with E. M. Hunt, Hampshire breeder of Denton, North Carolina, qualifying more sows than any other breeder. To qualify in the Production Registry Program a sow must raise to 56 days of age at least eight pigs

that will weigh a total of 320 pounds. The Production Registry Program has been expanded into the certified meat program giving a farmer a measure as to the number of pigs, rate of gain, and the type of carcass produced.

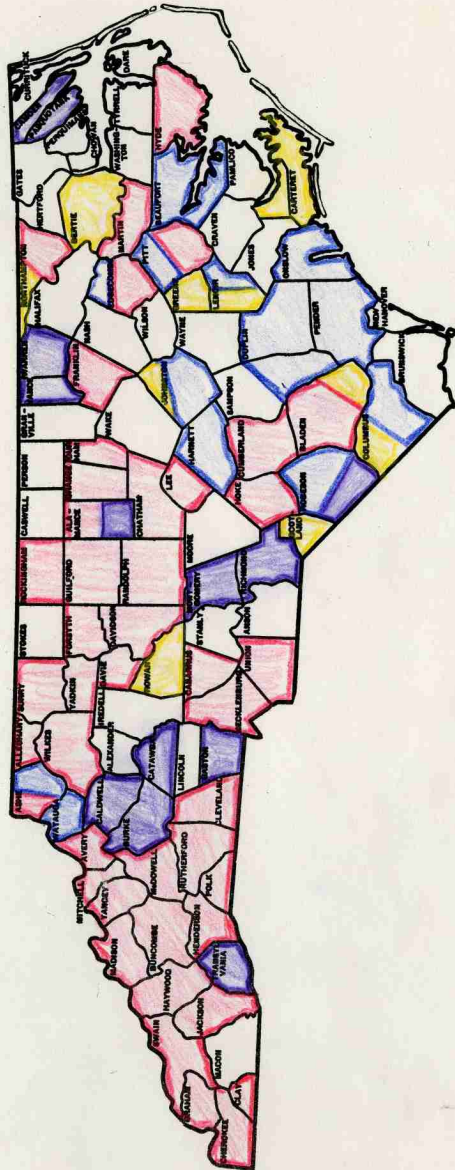
Purebred breeders selling hogs from Production Registry litters are finding that commercial hog growers will pay more for hogs out of qualifying litters.

SUMMARY OF 4-H CLUB PIG CHAINS FOR 1956

A number of organizations, civic, commercial and professional, sponsored pig chains in North Carolina counties with 4-H Club members in 1956. The FCX in Raleigh, North Carolina, sponsored pig chains in twelve North Carolina counties this year. County agents in counties with FCX chains have not reported results of shows; therefore, it will not be included in the report. Divic clubs, farmer organizations, business men and individuals sponsored chains in a large number of the counties in the state. Pig chains were active in 74 North Carolina counties during the year.

The Sears-Roebuck Foundation was again the largest sponsor of pig chains in North Carolina and a summary of Sears Pig Chains will follow. A colored map, showing sponsors in different colors, will follow showing the counties with active pig chains in 1956.

PIG CHAINS - 1956



Pig Chains sponsored by Sears Roebuck



Pig Chains sponsored by FCX



Pig Chains sponsored by Civic Clubs



Pig Chains sponsored by other groups



SEARS-ROEBUCK PIG CHAINS - 1956

The Sears-Roebuck Foundation sponsored pig chains in 44 counties in North Carolina in 1956. Several counties, for various reasons, were unable to operate chains this year. Cherokee County had a change in Extension Agents and was unable to get the chain started in time. Hyde County, after a serious disease and feed problem following the 1955 hurricanes, was unable to establish a pig chain in 1956. Lee, Polk and Jackson Counties did not operate pig chains, but all counties failing to operate in 1956 indicate an interest in establishing the chain again in 1957. Randolph County pig chain is scheduled at a later date and no report was received from Orange County.

Tamworth pigs were very popular this year, 12 counties having Tamworth pigs in their chain. Eleven counties had Hampshire pigs, nine counties with Yorkshire pigs, two counties with Berkshires, two counties with Spotted Poland Chinas, one county with Poland China and one chain operated with a combination of Yorkshire and Poland China pigs.

Quality of the animals exhibited by Club members were again very good, the total of 248 animals exhibited at the annual shows placed as follows: 161 blue ribbons, 63 red ribbons and only 24 white ribbon gilts. The four new chains transferred from counties where chains had not been activated did very well this year. Three of these chains were established in eastern North Carolina with negro agents and have proved very popular with their Club members. One chain, established with the white agents in Alleghany County, was particularly outstanding for chains in the western part of the state where hogs are not a major enterprise.

The following table gives a summary of the results of pig shows held in 1956.

NORTH CAROLINA SEARS-ROEBUCK PIG CHAINS - 1956

70.

COUNTY	BREED	NO. GILTS	RIBBONS			TYPE SHOW
			BLUE	RED	WHITE	
Alleghany	Tamworth	8	5	3		Local Show
Ashe	Yorkshire	8	4	2	2	Tour
Alamance	Berkshire	6	3	1	2	Tour
Avery	Hampshire	7	5	2		Tour
Bladen						No Chain-Will show in 1957
Buncombe	Yorkshire	4	3	1		Tour
Cabarrus	Tamworth	6	5	1		Fair
Chatham	Tamworth	8	6	1	1	Local
Cherokee						No Chain- Will show in 1957
Cleveland	Hampshire	8	8			Fair
Cumberland	Poland China	8	5	2	1	Fair
Davidson	Tamworth	8	8			Fair
Davis	Tamworth	7	3	3	1	Tour
<i>Durham</i>	<i>Duke</i>	5	4		1	Fair
* Edgecombe	Yorkshire	8	4	2	2	Fair
Forsyth	Tamworth	8	4	3	1	Fair
Franklin	S. P. C.	5	4		1	Tour
Graham	Hampshire	4	2	1	1	Tour
Guilford	Hampshire	5	2	1	2	Tour
Haywood	Yorkshire	8	4	4		Tour
Henderson	Hampshire	8	6	2		Tour
Hoke	Hampshire	5	2	2	1	Tour
Hyde						No Chain-Will Renew in 1957
Jackson						Will Show in 1957
Lee	No Chain in 1956 - Will Show in 1957					
Madison	Yorkshire	8	6	1	1	Tour

NORTH CAROLINA SEARS-ROEBUCK PIG CHAINS - 1956 (CONTINUED)

COUNTY	BREED	NO. GILTS	RIBBONS			TYPE SHOW
			BLUE	RED	WHITE	
* Martin	Hampshire	8	5	3		Fair
Mecklenburg	Tamworth	6	6			Tour
Mitchell	York & P. C.	5	3	2		Tour
McDowell	Yorkshire	8	5	2	1	Local Show
* Northampton	Hampshire	8	3	3	2	Fair
* Pitt	Yorkshire	7	5	2		Fair
Polk	No Cahin in 1956 - Will place Pigs in 1957					
Randolph	Hampshire	7	7			Tour
Rockingham	Tamworth	7	4	2	1	Local Show
* Rockingham	Tamworth	5	3	2		Local Show
Rutherford	Tamworth	6	5	1		Tour
Orange						
Surry	Tamworth	9	4	5		Fair
Swain	Yorkshire	9	8	1		Tour
Union	Tamworth	8	7	1		Fair
Wilkes	Hampshire	6	2	3	1	Tour
Yadkin	Hampshire	8	5	2	1	Fair
Yancey	Yorkshire	5	3	2		Local Show
<u>44</u> Counties	Totals	255	168	63	24	

$$\begin{array}{r} 5 \\ \hline 260 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 4 \\ \hline 172 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 63 \\ \hline 63 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 1 \\ \hline 25 \end{array}$$

FEEDER PIG SALES

The first cooperative feeder pig sale to ever be held in North Carolina, sponsored by the North Carolina Extension Service, was held at Murfreesboro on August 31, with 164 pigs being consigned and sold. The pigs weighed 14,317 pounds and sold for \$3,088.05.

The pigs were sorted in uniform lots according to weight and breed, selling a group of three or more. Pigs weighing 60 pounds and under were sold by the head and pigs weighing over 60 pounds were sold by the pound.

The second sale was held on Friday, November 2, at Murfreesboro with 200 pigs being sold for \$3,327.22. The average for all pigs under 65 pounds was 45 pounds each and sold for an average of \$13.40 per head. Pigs weighing over 60 pounds were sold by the pound with the average being 106 pounds per head and selling for \$19.00 per hundred.

In addition to feeder pig sales, county agents and farmers in the western part of North Carolina were assisted in moving pigs to eastern Carolina to be fed out. Counties doing the best job in moving pigs to the eastern part of the state were Cleveland, McDowell, Yancey and Davie.

The Durham Farmers Exchange was assisted in a feeder pig program and at the present time a feeder pig sale is held by the Exchange every Monday. New facilities have been built and pigs are inspected by a veterinarian before the sale and only high quality pigs offered for sale.

Cooperation has also been given the Whitehead Brothers that hold a feeder pig sale each Wednesday in Bertie, where pigs are inspected by a veterinarian and only healthy pigs are sold. These sales are helping farmers that can keep brood sows but do not have grain enough to feed hogs for market and is also helping farmers that grow grain and find it profitable to buy pigs to feed out for market.

MEATS PROGRAM

COUNTY DEMONSTRATIONS:

Meats demonstrations this year were given in several counties in North Carolina and the attached maps show the counties in which we held beef cutting demonstrations and pork cutting demonstrations. The beef cutting demonstrations were held generally in the county auditoriums and schools and the attendance at these programs was very good. We had several types of programs on beef, the one that seemed to be the most popular and also the one that we feel did the most good was those where we cut a beef carcass to show the folks what you get from a beef carcass. At the beginning of the demonstration we spent considerable time talking about the North Carolina grades and USDA grades of beef, pointing out the difference between the grades and also emphasizing the point of purchasing or producing the grade carcass to meet the needs of the family.

In cutting the carcass, there was little emphasis put on how to cut as most of the carcasses that are produced for family meat supply in North Carolina are processed in locker plants and very few of these carcasses are cut at home. The main purpose in cutting this beef carcass is to illustrate the cuts that come from the carcass, methods of identification and also methods of preparation according to cut and grade. There is no reason for a family to serve an unsatisfactory meat meal and if the family has the right information on cut and grade, especially for dry heat preparation, a satisfactory meat meal will result. A lot of emphasis is also put on usage of beef cuts, that is to make the maximum use of beef you might slaughter for home use or beef you purchase. That is to cut it into the right size cuts for family use, to cut the meat across the grain to make it more tender and again putting emphasis on method of preparation according to cut and grade of these carcasses.

In working on these county demonstrations we felt as though it had been a great deal of benefit to the consumer in that she has a better idea of what she gets in that carcass, how to identify it and how to prepare it. It has also helped considerably on having the beef cut the way that the consumer wants it and in hopes that in years to come she will no longer be at the mercy of the processor that may not cut the beef to maximum benefit. During these demonstrations we also discussed the wrapping of these packages for home freezers, discussing somewhat the kind of paper and method of preparing these packages. We also emphasized the importance of not overloading the home freezer, at least not over 10 per cent of the total capacity of the freezer should be used for unfrozen meats during any 24 hour period. Considerable time is also spent on planning for the meat supply as to the amount of meat that will be needed for the family and considering methods of preservation, the amount and kinds of meat that should be purchased or raised for each particular family. For the coming year we are planning several more of these types of demonstrations to acquaint the consumer with beef grade, cuts and method of preparation.

We have also held several beef usage demonstrations where we have taken the first cut chuck of beef, including the fourth and fifth rib, and breaking it down showing how a family might buy a first cut chuck, weighing in the neighborhood of 8 pounds, and breaking it down into pot roast, steak for broiling, stew beef and to use the bone for boiling purposes. It is these types of demonstrations that we are interested in giving to consumer groups, to beef cattle association groups, civic clubs and show that these cuts can be used in several different ways. The reason for doing this is to impress the importance of preparing meat in several different ways to give variety to the diet.

Along with the county method demonstrations that we have been holding on cutting beef, we have also worked with many of the institutions on how to make better use of the meat that they are now buying. Those that we have worked with are the Hospital Institute, here in North Carolina, and also the Purchasing and Contracting Division of North Carolina in assisting all of the institutions on purchasing, cutting and usage of meats for their institution. We have had several requests for helping individual institutions on these cutting and usage demonstrations for making better use of carcasses. We have lined up for the coming year several of these demonstrations to assist in institutional management for meats.

PORK CUTTING, CURING, USAGE, STORAGE AND SLAUGHTERING DEMONSTRATIONS:

The following map lists the number of counties that we have had pork meetings in during the past year. The eastern part of the state has many more hogs than the western part and consequently a large number of our demonstrations were held in eastern North Carolina. We have held these meetings on several different basis, but the one that we have done more than others is a pork cutting, curing, storage and usage demonstration. We get the program set up and have the hog carcass or carcasses killed the day before for our meeting. We then cut the hog carcass at the meeting, emphasis is put on the importance of raising the right kind of hog and also raising the optimum weights and getting away from the extra heavy hogs that are sometime used by some families. We also emphasize the importance of breeding and feeding the meat type hog. In the cutting of a pork carcass, we spend considerable time in showing how to cut a pork carcass in order to get the most from it, with emphasis on proper trimming of hams, especially those that might be sold on the open market, as hams that are properly trimmed and prepared will demand a higher price.

Another phase of our program is to take each of the pork cuts and to

break them down to show the consumer how she might get more variety in the diet by using these pork cuts in several different ways. One of our difficulties in North Carolina has been the usage of pork shoulders and we have put emphasis on using pork shoulders as fresh meat instead of curing them. We feel that they will get more use out of pork shoulders, especially if they own a home freezer.

Our purpose of giving the curing demonstration along with the carcass is that we do have right much meat that is too salty or that is off-flavor and not of high quality. At these demonstrations we actually prepare our curing mix, apply it to the meat and emphasize the importance of keeping the meat in cure for the right length of time to prevent over salty products. Following that we emphasize the importance of bagging hams the first of March in order to keep insects from it, especially the skipper fly and the ham beetle. It is also important that these hams be bagged so that the air might circulate around them to produce a higher quality product and also that no borax or anti-skipper compound be used on them. We emphasize the importance of aging at least six months to give them the high flavor that is desired. Right along with that, we work on the cutting, carving and cooking of country style hams. This type of information is of special interest to the consumer so that she might make better use out of the meats which she prepared or purchases.

At approximately one-third of the counties listed on the following pages, we held slaughtering demonstrations. Especially throughout the eastern part of the state a large number of hogs are still being farm slaughtered and right many of them are slaughtered and cut the same day, which may produce a low quality product. My purpose in giving the slaughtering demonstrations is to show the proper way of sticking hogs to prevent shoulder sticks, the right temperature for scalding so that a clean carcass may be produced and we emphasize the necessity of quick chilling of these hogs. We recommend that hogs

be killed at 2:00 o'clock in the afternoon and let the carcasses hang over night and be cut the following day. During our slaughtering demonstration we emphasize the importance of sanitation as to keep all of the equipment clean so as not to introduce any organisms that might cause spoilage.

We have had several of the pork slaughtering and cutting and curing demonstrations with the negro farmers throughout the eastern part of the state and have noticed some very good results of the demonstrations that were held last year. One of these important results of those demonstrations have been the way in which those hams have been bagged and held for aging. I feel as though in some of the counties that we have assisted the farmers in saving at least one-third more meats than they would have had without these demonstrations.

Ham-Pig Project:

There is much interest in curing hams and ham shows and sales in western North Carolina. I believe there is an excellent chance to do this work through a 4-H project. It would get the information on raising the family meat supply, killing and care of pork carcasses, cutting, curing, storage and usage across to the 4-H Club members and would also be accepted by the adults if the family meat supply hasn't been too satisfactory in the past.

There are several ways to set up a project of this kind and different situations will exist in each county. This proposed project may need to be changed for your county.

One of the difficulties in a project of this kind is to get some way to finance the program. The civic groups will be interested also the merchants in the counties. It is suggested that the people be contacted to give \$15.00 to buy a pig for a 4-H Club member. The 4-H boy would in return give the donor one cured ham during the month of April. This means the person buys his ham

in advance. These pigs should be purchased so they would weigh about 225-250 pounds in December, which means the project would start in May or June.

These pigs would be purchased by the 4-H Club agent at a price less than \$15.00. Pigs are selling now for about 20¢ per pound, that means a 40 to 50 pound pig could be purchased for \$10.00 to \$12.00 so a fund could be set up as a cushion in the event a pig dies. This would offer some insurance to the man supporting the project. Another way would be for the person to give the amount to purchase a pig. This would mean he would be supporting the project and if a pig should die it would be his loss on purchase price, the boy or girl would be out of the feed and labor up to that time.

Pigs would be placed in May or June - fed on home grown feeds plus supplement. In December the pigs would be slaughtered either at home or in an abboter, preferably in an abboter as some farms do not have any facilities and in some instances may not do a good job.

Our Department will work with the 4-H Agent and project members on cutting the carcasses, proper curing and storing. This could be a demonstration with all project members or could be a training program for agents only. Which will depend upon the county. We would also include such items as sausage making, lard rendering and making the best use from carcasses.

During the month of April the boy would return a ham to the person sponsoring him and would have one ham for sale or to be used for family meat supply. This ham could be sold through a county ham show and sale or could be sold privately. A record book would be kept on feed fed to pig, rate of gain, liveweight, carcass weight, weight of hams and other cuts. Curing methods, weight out of cure, weight when sold or returned. Price received and an analysis of his project.

Swine Specialists have worked out all of the details on feeding and Management of the pig.

I believe this type of project would do much in developing a good market and reputation for cured hams that would:

1. Create interest in country hams.
2. Create a better market for hams.
3. Improve the quality of cured meats.
4. Increase usage of pork carcasses.
5. Increase farm income by saving cured meats and having better cured meats.
6. Give training in handling and curing farm meat supply.

Beef Promotional and Educational Programs For the State of North Carolina:

During the past year there has been two beef promotional and educational programs held in our State, one in the Asheville area and the other in Lee County.

The program in the Asheville area was very similar to the one that was held last year and the main purpose of this program was to acquaint the consumers of western North Carolina to the fact that cattle grown in this area are equal in quality to that grown in any other part of the country if they are of the same grade. The program was started off by having several meats demonstrations and talks in the Asheville area, especially those to civic clubs and organizations that are interested in beef cattle and beef consumption. Several of the high schools in the surrounding area were given programs during the mornings. This program was designed for the home economics student to better acquaint her with the facts on meats and meat nutrition. There was considerable material distributed for the consumer in that area, especially the leaflet put out by the National Live Stock and Meat Board on "Nutritious Beef Recipes" also several table tents were distributed for restaurants and hotels with the theme of "Eat More Beef and Live Longer."

It is felt that this program has been very successful in publicizing beef and other meats also in making the consumer aware of the fact that there are several different grades and also that much of the carcass, even of the high grade carcass, must be prepared with moist heat. Mr. Guy Cassell of the Marketing Division spent a week in the Asheville area working on this program.

The meats program that was held in Lee County was a little different nature in that it was sponsored by the Extension Service with the cooperation of Patterson Packing Company in Sanford. The County Agent of Lee County had all members of this Department to talk to different groups on the many phases of beef production, processing and consuming. This program lasted for a period of two weeks as a promotional and educational program in which we had all of the retail meat cutters in that area into a meeting at the Packing Company and showed them several different ways of breaking down and using beef carcasses to get the maximum of these carcasses in their particular retail outlets. This program was met with a great deal of enthusiasm from the merchants and we feel as though it has done a lot to get better meats on the counters and also the correct information as to cuts and method of preparation. We also met with the women's group in Lee County and gave them a demonstration on the topic of "Know The Beef You Buy." Mr. Kelley, of our Department, also talked with them on production and way of increasing beef production in Lee County, different methods of financing beef feeding operations and better feeding and management practices.

Locker Plants:

This Department has worked very closely with the Locker plants in North Carolina and covering the majority of them. The following map shows the counties in which we have worked with the Locker plants in North Carolina.

There are some 98 plants in which we will try to work in the remainder of them during the coming year. We have assisted the locker plants in several ways, perhaps the one that has shown more benefit to the farmer and consumer is the program that we have been working on, one the best ways of cutting and using beef carcasses. In the past right many of the carcasses have been of low quality and all have been cut on the band saw and no boning done at all. Since the quality of cattle is increasing steadily and now a large volume of good and choice grade cattle are coming into the locker plants to be processed for home use, it is necessary to work with the locker plant operators in the correct way of cutting and boning of parts of these carcasses to make a better product for the consumer.

Another phase to our program with locker plants is curing meats country style and prevention of insect damage to cured meats. We have had several complaints in the state that locker plant meat is not satisfactory in that it is too salty or does not have the right flavor. After working with these plants for a year, we have found that right many of the complaints are not justified in that the farmer does not know how to handle the meat after he takes it from the locker plant, especially that meat that is cured during the months of April and May. Some locker plants have recommended bagging methods to prevent insect damage of meats that are leaving their plant, also they are holding this cured meat for 30 additional days after curing to allow for salt equalization so that the meat might be held at atmospheric temperatures without becoming soured or off-flavored.

We have also worked with some of the locker plants on cost of operation and profit and loss statement. A lot of the plants do not keep adequate records to show whether they have made profit or loss on each operation and we are working with some of these plants to assist them in a method

of bookkeeping so that they might have a better set of records with which to evaluate their operations at the end of the year.

Assistance To Packing Companies:

We have been working with the packing companies and assisting them in any way we can with their operations. The companies that we have worked with during the past year have been Curtis Packing Company of Greensboro, New Bern Provision Company at New Bern, and Piedmont Packing Company at Hillsboro. We have been assisting these companies on problems that arise, especially through storage of cured meats. The one problem that we had in the Curtis Packing Company was that of processed meats frosting on the outside when held for a short period of time. During my visit to Chicago and a visit to the Visking Corporation, I obtained the information that I believe has helped to solve the problem at Curtis Packing Company. There have been similar problems in these companies that we have given assistance in.

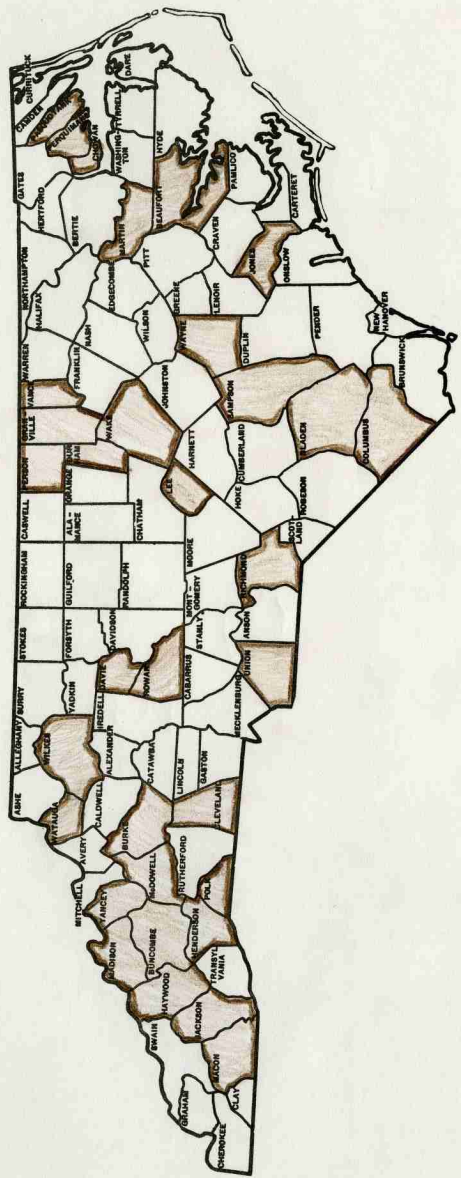
Curing Hams:

There have been several requests during the past year from folks who wish to go into the ham business in a small way. We have visited several counties and have assisted on setting up a good program for curing hams, especially for farmers who wish to handle up to 35 or 40 hogs or those that are purchasing up to 200 hams. The type of assistance given is recommendations on building a ham smokehouse and aging house, type and weight of hams to purchase, method of curing, smoking and aging to prevent insect damage. There is a great demand for high quality cured hams here in North Carolina and it is felt that working with these commercial ham curing operations that perhaps we can satisfy some of the demand for the high quality hams we now have. These hams are in addition to all of those that are produced by the locker plants and it is estimated that during the year of 1956-57 that these

commercial ham curers that we have worked with will produce over 100,000 hams. We feel that this is a way in which some small farms can increase farm income by selling cured meats.

Assistance to Special Groups:

During the past year we have held meetings at the Women's College in Greensboro and since most of our Home Demonstration Agents will come from Woman's College, we felt that it would be of utmost importance to hold meats meeting with the Home Economics classes in these schools to assist them on giving more meats training to their graduates. We have held such meetings at Meredith College and Woman's College in Greensboro. We have Eastern Carolina College set up for our schedule this coming winter.



SELECTION OF BEEF FOR QUALITY CUTTING BEEF AND USING BEEF CUTS.



GENERAL

FARM AND HOME DEVELOPMENT AND PROGRAM PROJECTION

Counties with Farm and Home Development were assisted during the year in planning programs for individual families based on the needs of the farm family. Agents assigned to Farm and Home Development were given special training in livestock production through office contacts, circular letters and meetings.

Eighty-eight counties were mailed letters with suggested material and information to be used in Program Projection. This material was prepared by the Animal Husbandry Extension Specialists based on the outlook for livestock and the available land, labor and facilities in each county for increasing meat animals. Sample of material for Pasquotank County is included, also a map showing the counties that were assisted during 1956.

Meetings are being held in each of the counties with the agents and livestock leaders to discuss Program Projection and plan for a long range livestock program.

A copy of a letter to one county follows with a map showing counties receiving plans.

Mr. S. L. Lowery
County Agent
Elizabeth City, North Carolina

Dear Mr. Lowery:

This is in reply to your recent letter in regard to Program Projection for your County. We feel that beef cattle and hogs offer an opportunity for increasing farm income in your County. Sheep can be used on a small percent of your farms to increase farm income, but we do not feel that sheep will ever be very important in your County when compared with beef cattle and hogs.

The long time outlook for beef cattle and hogs is very good. This is due to the fact that the numbers of both beef cattle and hogs are leveling off following several years with numbers increasing. The number of brood sows farrowing this spring is 2% or more smaller than the number that farrowed last year and there is an indication that some farmers will become discouraged because of low prices and sell breeding animals which in the long run will help those that stay in the hog business.

The consumption of meat is at a high level and is expected to continue to increase; for example, 69 pounds of beef was consumed per person in 1910, 58 pounds of beef in 1920, 48 pounds in 1930, 54 pounds in 1940, 62 pounds in 1950, and 81 pounds in 1955.

Pork consumption has varied since 1900, with low peaks and high peaks, with 1940 being 73 pounds per person, making this year one of the highest years on record. 1953 and 1954 were both low years with only 60 pounds being consumed per person in 1954. In 1955 there was an increase with 66 pounds being consumed and it is expected that 67 or 68 pounds of pork will be consumed per person this year, which means that some of the lost market for pork is being regained and with the production of the meat type hog, the

increase in pork consumption is expected to continue.

We feel that your cattle program would be divided into two classes. First, cow and calf program for farmers that can keep at least 15 cows as we feel that a farmer considering a cow and calf program should be able to provide feed and pasture for at least 15 cows. A smaller number than this would not be a practical unit and it would be better for the farmer to consider cattle feeding or some other class of livestock. The cow and calf program is a very safe program, but it is limited to farms that have large acreage that can be devoted to the cattle program. The following are a few suggestions for the cow and calf program if the farmer is to make money:

1. Turn the bull in with the cow herd March 1, and leave through April and May. December and January calves make the most money for the farmer.
2. Castrate, dehorn and vaccinate calves at an early age.
3. Creep feed calves if cows do not give enough milk during summer months to produce a good calf.
4. Cull cows that do not raise a good calf.
5. Provide plenty of pasture and hay or silage for the cow herd.
6. Winter, whenever possible, on field gleanings or accumulated pasture.
7. Sell calves through Feeder Calf Sales.
8. A good goal to strive for is a 500 pound calf on October 1.

FATTENING CATTLE FOR MARKET:

Fattening cattle for market offers an opportunity on many of your farms and we feel that Pasquotank County has great possibilities for more cattle feeding. Your County can follow a plan of full feeding of grain in dry lots, as you have plenty of corn to sell, but we feel the safest program for a farmer is the following program:

Letter to Mr. S. L. Lowery - Continued

1. Purchase calves weighing at least 450 - 550 pounds or, still better, start with 600 - 700 pounds yearling calves.
2. Use field gleanings in the fall of the year to get some cheap gains on calves. Accumulated fescue pasture makes good fall grazing.
3. Feed enough grain during winter months to produce one pound of gain per day, making maximum use of accumulated pasture and other roughage.
4. Continue grazing through spring and early summer, feeding a small amount of grain.
5. The grain should be increased some time during May to approximately 6 pounds per day, feeding the cattle for 90 to 120 days on pasture and sell during summer months.

I realize that a large per cent of your farmers will be interested in feeding cattle in dry lot and I believe that they can make money by buying calves, feeding them in dry lot with cheap grain and selling through organized sales on a weight and grade basis.

HOGS:

Hogs offer an opportunity for many of your farmers to increase farm income as you have markets and many of your farmers have had experience in growing and feeding hogs. The hog enterprise is well adapted to any size farm, but the farmers that can keep at least five brood sows will be much easier to work with in developing a program of feeding, breeding, housing and management.

The following suggestions may help in planning your swine program:

1. Use a meat type hog, regardless of breed.
2. Save more pigs by using electric brooders, farrowing stalls and good houses. Only six pigs out of ten farrowed ever reach the market.

Letter to Mr. S. L. Lowery - Continued

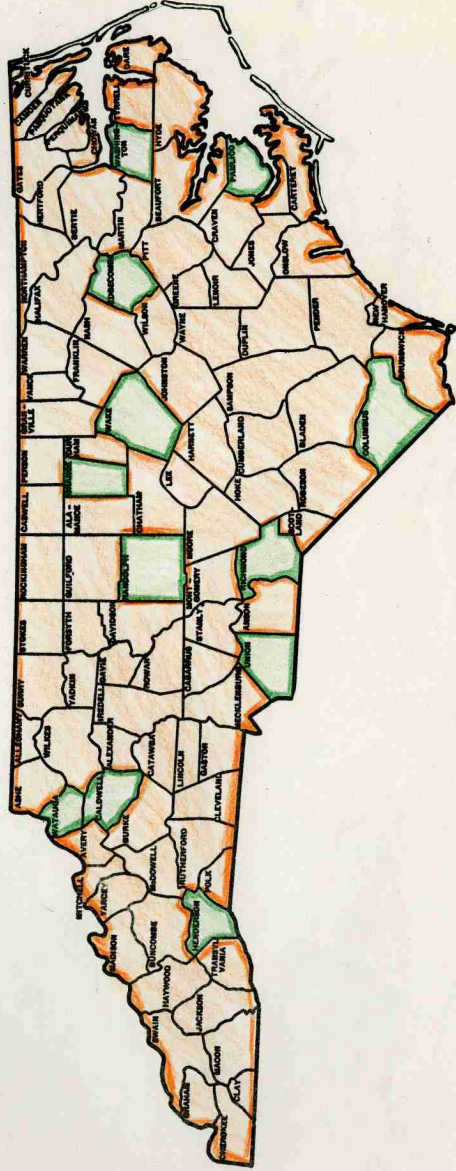
3. Farrow in January and February so that hogs will be ready for market during summer months, the second farrowing would be in late summer.
4. Creep feed pigs.
5. Vaccinate pigs at 6 weeks of age to control cholera.
6. Internal parasites cause a big loss and farmers could increase their income by doing a better job of sanitation.
7. Market hogs at around 210 - 220 pounds and encourage selling hogs on grade basis.


I believe it would help, after you hold your meetings on Program Projection, to get a committee of beef cattle producers and swine producers appointed to help in working out the details of your program and in giving the program some publicity.


We have not made out our schedule for May, but we will be glad to assist and will see that you have someone to judge your cattle and hogs.

Very truly yours,

Jack Kelley, In Charge
Animal Husbandry Extension



PROGRAM PROJECTION - 1955 COUNTRIES IN 

PROGRAM PROJECTION - 1956 COUNTRIES IN 

BETTER SIRES CONTEST

The Better Sires Contest, sponsored by the North Carolina Hereford Breeders' Association, Aberdeen-Angus Breeders' Association, Swine Breeders' Association, Sheep Breeders' Association, in cooperation with the North Carolina Extension Service, has encouraged the placement of purebred beef bulls, purebred boars and purebred rams. Points for placing purebred sires were determined by the livestock population in each county in the state with counties receiving more points for each sire placed if the livestock population was low in the county. Counties with a high livestock population received fewer points.

Hertford County won the contest for the second year with a total of 621 points. Martin County was second with a total of 539 points and Watauga was third with 415 points.

Hertford County was given 9 points for each purebred sire placed with Martin getting 7 points and Watauga 5 points. Reports were made on form furnished by the Extension Service and the contest was supervised by the Animal Husbandry Extension Specialists.

4-H LIVESTOCK JUDGING CONTEST

Nineteen county 4-H Club teams competed in an elimination contest held at the State Fairgrounds July 23, 1956. The number of teams competing was the same as last year, but below the number competing in 1953 and 1954. The four high teams were selected to come back to the State Fair on October 19, and compete in a final contest to determine the state winner. Haywood County was high scoring team in the elimination contest with 1167 points out of a possible 1350. Rowan County was second with 1159 points, Edgecombe County

was fourth with 1122.

Haywood was allowed to represent North Carolina at the Atlantic Rural in Richmond as a consolation prize for having the high team. In this contest they placed third.

At the State Final Contest on October 19, Edgecombe nosed out Haywood for the State Champion by only 4 points and was selected to represent North Carolina in the National Livestock Judging Contest, held in connection with the International Livestock Exhibition in Chicago on November 24. Edgecombe scored a total of 1109 out of a total of 1350 points. Haywood was close behind with 1105 points for second place, Forsyth was a weak third with 1037 and Rowan was fourth with 928 points.

In addition to the State elimination contest and final contest, three other livestock judging contests were held on a district basis in North Carolina in 1956. On April 4, 1956, a judging contest was held in connection with the Rocky Mount County Fat Stock Show with eleven 4-H and FFA teams competing. This contest was won by the Wilson County team. Other teams competing in this event in the order of their placing were Lenoir, Perquimans, Halifax, Edgecombe, Cooper's FFA, Pasquotank and West Edgecombe FFA.

On April 11, a 4-H and FFA Livestock Judging Contest was held in connection with the Kinston Fat Stock Show. The Edgecombe County 4-H team won this contest. The teams competing placed in the following order: Edgecombe, Lenoir, Halifax, Tyrrell, Perquimans, Chowan, Columbus, Wilson, Pasquotank, New Hanover, Pink Hill FFA and Pamlico.

On May 12, a livestock judging contest was held in connection with the Elizabeth City Fat Stock Show. Perquimans County team won the contest and the following teams competed and placed in the order listed: Tyrrell, Chowan, Perquimans FFA, Pasquotank and Camden FFA.

SUMMARY 4-H LIVESTOCK JUDGING TEAM RESULTS - July 23, 1956

<u>TEAM</u>	<u>TOTAL SCORE</u>	<u>HOGS</u>	<u>SHEEP</u>	<u>CATTLE</u>
Haywood County	1,167	385	357	425
Rowan County	1,159	407	382	370
Edgecombe County	1,149	376	359	409
Forsyth County	1,122	357	355	380
Columbus County	1,116	351	347	418
Northampton County	1,106	401	353	352
Lenoir County	1,060	371	353	336
Wilson County	1,048	306	366	376
Catawba County	1,040	315	348	377
Tyrrell County	1,036	375	296	365
Guilford County	1,023	284	368	371
Bertie County	1,005	346	325	334
Davie County	989	314	343	332
Durham County	986	288	335	363
Perquimans Count	966	268	320	378
Alamance County	941	231	343	379
McDowell County	918	257	321	340
Wake County	906	211	321	374
Polk County	872	267	328	277

INDIVIDUAL HIGH SCORES FOR THE CONTEST:

1.	Watt Cobb	Guilford	414
2.	Jerry Bullock	Edgecombe	402
3.	Bernard Lennon	Columbus	398
4.	Neal Kelly	Haywood	392

HIGH INDIVIDUAL SCORES ON HOGS

1.	Neal Kelly	Haywood	146
1.	Murry Corriher	Rowan	146
3.	Sam Turner	Northampton	145
4.	Watt Cobb	Guilford	144

HIGHEST INDIVIDUAL SCORES ON SHEEP

1.	John Coble	Rowan	139
2.	Jimmy Rouse	Lenoir	138
3.	Wayne Hutchins	Forsyth-	136
3.	Watt Cobb	Guilford	136

HIGHEST INDIVIDUAL SCORES ON BEEF CATTLE

1.	Bernard Lennon	Columbus	147
2.	Grant Mangum	Wilson	146
2.	Jerry Bulluck	Edgecombe	146
4.	Nelson Corriher	Rowan	145

HIGHEST SCORING TEAMS ON HOGS

1.	Rowan County	407
2.	Northampton County	401
3.	Haywood County	385
4.	Edgecombe County	376

HIGHEST SCORING TEAMS ON SHEEP

1.	Rowan County	382
2.	Guilford County	368
3.	Wilson County	366
4.	Edgecombe County	359

HIGHEST SCORING TEAMS ON BEEF CATTLE

1.	Columbus County	418
2.	Edgecombe County	409
3.	Haywood County	405
	Forsyth County	380

STATE FINAL 4-H LIVESTOCK JUDGING CONTEST - October 19, 1956
Fairgrounds, Raleigh, N. C.

TEAM	NO.	Poland China		Berkshire		Total Swine		Hampshire Ewes		Fat Lambs		Total Sheep		Hereford Heifers		Angus Steers		Total Cattle		Indiv. Total		Over-All Total	
		P	R	P	R	P	R	P	R	P	R	P	R	P	R	P	R	P	R	P	R		
<u>EDGECOMBE COUNTY</u>																							
Chester Stewart	1	40	30	34	30	104	50	30	44	44	124	47	44	50	40	137	365						
Ray Williams	2	47	39	37	50	123	50	30	44	44	124	45	44	44	37	126	373						
* Jerry Bulluck	3	40	29	37	50	106	50	28	44	44	122	35	44	44	38	117	345						
Hugh Shelton	4	40	33	37	50	110	50	32	50	50	132	47	44	44	38	129	371					1109	
<u>FORSYTH COUNTY</u>																							
Phil Flyler	5	40	30	50	50	120	50	23	50	50	123	50	44	36	32	118	361						
Wayne Hutchins	6	50	31	50	50	131	50	19	50	50	119	45	44	32	20	98	347						
Red Jones	7	36	29	50	44	115	44	26	44	44	114	45	44	30	25	100	329					1037	
<u>HAYWOOD COUNTY</u>																							
Jerry Ferguson	10	50	28	45	47	123	47	25	50	50	122	47	44	46	37	130	375						
R. E. Cathey	11	40	25	37	50	102	50	32	50	50	132	50	44	43	33	126	360						
Verlton Edwards	12	50	40	37	50	127	50	31	44	44	131	47	44	30	35	112	370					1105	
<u>ROWAN COUNTY</u>																							
* Nelson Corriher	13	23	26	37	47	86	47	24	44	44	115	25	44	8	25	58	259						
John Coble	14	28	20	45	50	93	50	36	50	50	136	37	44	30	26	93	322						
Murray Corriher	15	40	25	45	44	110	44	27	44	44	115	17	44	23	26	66	291						
Frank King	16	45	34	37	44	116	44	27	44	44	115	47	44	17	20	84	315					928	
* Alternates																							

Edgecombe	Swine	337	Sheep	380	Beef Cattle	392	Total	1109
Haywood		352		385		368		1105
Forsyth		366		356		316		1037
Rowan		319		366		243		928

INDIVIDUAL SCORES

<u>NAME</u>	<u>COUNTY</u>	<u>SWINE</u>	<u>SHEEP</u>	<u>BEEF CATTLE</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Jerry Ferguson	Haywood	123	122	130	375
Roy Williams	Edgecombe	123	124	126	373
Hugh Shelton	Edgecombe	110	132	129	371
Verlion Edwards	Haywood	127	131	112	370
Chester Stewart	Edgecombe	104	124	137	365
Wayne Hutchins	Forsyth	131			
Verlion Edwards	Haywood	127			
Jerry Ferguson	Haywood	123			
Roy Williams	Edgecombe	123			
John Coble	Rowan		136		
Hugh Shelton	Edgecombe		132		
Verlion Edwards	Haywood		131		
Chester Stewart	Edgecombe			137	
Jerry Ferguson	Haywood			130	
Hugh Shelton	Edgecombe			129	

4-H LIVESTOCK CONSERVATION DEMONSTRATION

Livestock Conservation Demonstrations continued to be a popular 4-H Club project in North Carolina in 1956. A total of 20 teams competed in the District Elimination Contest throughout the state. The winner of each District Contest competed in the State Final Contest held at State College on July 27, in connection with State 4-H Club week.

The Final Contest was won by a team from Pitt County: Horace Corbett and Larry Dilda with a demonstration entitled "\$1,000,000 Grub Steak." Horace and Larry's demonstration represented North Carolina in the National Livestock Conservation Demonstration Contest in Chicago on November 26. This was an outstanding demonstration and demonstrated very effectively the damage done to livestock by the cattle grub and the steps that could be used to control them.

The team scored the third highest number of points in the National Contest and was in the blue ribbon group of winners.

LIVESTOCK CONSERVATION TEAMS - 1956

WESTERN DISTRICT
April 28, 1956

1. Buncombe County

Van Burrece, Route 3, Candler, North Carolina

Eddie Holcombe, Route 3, Candler, North Carolina

2. Henderson County

John Christy, Route 5, Hendersonville, North Carolina

3. Transylvania County

Tommy Shuford, Penrose, North Carolina

SOUTHEASTERN DISTRICT
June 19, 1956

1. Robeson County

Frank Morrison, Route 2, Maxton, North Carolina

SOUTHWESTERN DISTRICT
June 20, 1956

1. Burke County

Jack Poteat, Route 4, Morganton, North Carolina

NORTHWESTERN DISTRICT
June 21, 1956

1. Davidson County

Larry Ray, Route 2, Thomasville, North Carolina

Jeffery McKimmon, Route 2, Thomasville, North Carolina

2. Forsyth County

Mark Raby, Route 1, Rural Hall, North Carolina

NORTHEASTERN DISTRICT
June 22, 1956

1. Greene County
William Stallings
2. Johnston County
Jerry Langdon, Route 1, Smithfield, North Carolina
3. Lenoir County
Frank Rouse, Route 4, Kinston, North Carolina
Heber Roy Taylor, Route 4, Kinston, North Carolina
4. Northampton County
Sam Turner
5. Pitt County
Horace Corbett, Fountain, North Carolina
Larry Dilda, Fountain, North Carolina
6. Wake County
Joe Temple, Raleigh, North Carolina

EASTERN DISTRICT
July 6, 1956

1. Perquimans County
Julian Howell, Route 2, Hertford, North Carolina
2. Pasquotank County
Henry Temple, Route 3, Elizabeth City, North Carolina
3. Chowan County
Billy Goodwin, R. F. D., Edenton, North Carolina
4. Carteret County
Richard Garner, Route 2, Newport, North Carolina
Paul Wade, Route 2, Newport, North Carolina

LIVESTOCK SCHOOLS

The county agents in 38 counties were assisted with Livestock Schools during 1956. 1,321 attended the 38 schools making an average of 34.7 per school. The schools were arranged on a two hour period, scheduled from 10 to 12 in the morning and 1:30 to 3:30 in the afternoon so that two counties could be scheduled per day.

The first hour of the period was used by Specialists to discuss problems of livestock production and management with special emphasis on cattle feeding and the meat type hog. The second hour was in the form of a panel discussion with the county agents serving as the Moderator with Specialists, farmers and local veterinarians serving on the panel. This type of meeting seems very interesting for the farmers as they had an opportunity to discuss problems of their own that was not covered by the Specialists in the first hour program.

The following map shows counties that held schools in 1956.

COOPERATION OF AND WITH OTHER AGENCIES

State Extension Specialists, 4-H Clubs, Agronomy, Entomology, Agricultural Engineering, Agricultural Economics, Farm Management, Marketing, Extension Animal Husbandry Specialists of United States Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Stabilization, Farm Credit Administration, Farmers Home Administration, Soil Conservation Service, Bureau of Animal Industry.

MISCELLANEOUS

North Carolina Bankers Association, North Carolina Department of Agriculture, Chamber of Commerce, Civic Clubs, Local and State Veterinarians, Sunbeam Corporation, Sears-Roebuck Foundation, Railroads and Power Companies, Farmers Cooperative Exchange, Allied Farmers Cooperative, North Carolina Cottonseed Products Association, Livestock Auction Markets, Packing Plants (both local and out-of-state), State and National Breed Associations, Plant Food Institute, Vocational Agriculture Teachers, Representatives of Feed Companies, State Farm Organizations, Specialists from other states.

EDUCATIONAL MATERIAL

The Animal Husbandry Extension Department prepared the following educational material in 1956 for county agents, farmers and 4-H Club members:

1. Program Projection material.
2. Farm and Home Development material.
3. Material for Feeder Calf Sales.
4. Slides on Beef Cattle, Sheep and Swine and Meats.
5. Material for County Agents to use for news articles, radio and T. V.
6. Monthly newsletters to agents conducting sheep production projects.
7. Fat Cattle material.
8. Animal Husbandry Newsletter.
9. 4-H Judging material
10. News articles for Extension Editor and State College Radio Station.
11. Consumer educational material.
12. Circulars:
 - a. Curing Hams Country Style
 - b. Feeding Cattle for Market
 - c. 4-H Swine Production Manual
 - d. Cutting, Carving, Cooking Country Style Hams.