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Recommended Citation

Larsen, C., "Boys' and Girls' Club Work: Sow-Litter Club" (1918). *Extension Circulars*. Paper 11.
http://openprairie.sdstate.edu/extension_circ/11

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BOYS' AND GIRLS' CLUB WORK

Sow-Litter Club



EXTENSION DIVISION

SOUTH DAKOTA STATE COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE
 AND MECHANIC ARTS AND U. S. DEPARTMENT
 OF AGRICULTURE, COOPERATING
 C. LARSEN, DIRECTOR

JUNIOR EXTENSION WORK

Paul J. Scarbo.....State Club Leader
 Irene Dunne.....Assistant State Club Leader
 A. L. Haynes.....Assistant State Club Leader
 Selma Rongstad, Assistant State Club Leader

Brookings, S. D.

THE PROJECT

The demand for more and a better grade of hogs is heard thruout the entire agricultural sections of our country. This can be accomplished thru careful selection and breeding, followed by the proper methods of feeding and care.

Club boys and girls can do much toward bringing this about by entering the sow-litter club. Not only will they find the work profitable but they will become interested in animal life and the production of quality in pork as well as quantity.

Some of the objects of the work :

1. To stimulate interest in swine production and to teach the members how to raise better and cheaper hogs by the use of improved methods.
2. To increase the number of hogs raised on the farm.
3. To teach the members how to judge hogs and to select them for breeding or market purposes.
4. To encourage the growing of forage crops and reduce the use of high priced feeds.
5. To instruct the members in a practical way in the manageemnt, feeding, sanitation, and prevention of diseases of swine, all of which information proves valuable with respect to other forms of live stock work.
6. To afford the members a means of earning some money for themselves while at home.
7. To instill in the members while young, a love of animals which will result in their taking more interest in farm life. To furnish them at the same time some work which will in a practical way, give an insight into the business side of farm life, and inspire in them a desire to work for and attain success.
8. To afford an opportunity whereby the members can become familiar with popular strains within the breed and to promote the pure bred live stock industry.

REGULATIONS

1. Any junior between the ages of 10 to 18 years inclusive may enter.
2. Each club shall have at least five members and local leader.
3. Enrollments close December 1st.
4. Each member will purchase a pure-bred brood-sow of his own selection, breed and care for her and her litter according to instructions.
5. Each member will receive instructions each month from the state leaders and extension specialists relative to the care and feeding of the sow and litter.
6. Each member does his work, follows instructions, keeps a record, and makes reports as called for. At the close of the project he makes his final report and writes a story of his achievement.
7. An exhibit shall consist of one gilt, or one boar, or one of each, accompanied by record, reports, and written story.
8. With the same exhibit, a member is entitled to compete for community, county, and state honors.
9. Community or county sales will be held on or before December 1st to dispose of surplus stock. Pigs offered for sale should be the best individuals in the litter and approved by a club leader or prominent stock breeder.
10. The project will close December 1st.

BASIS OF ACHIEVEMENT

1. Percent of farrow raised.....	35 %
2. Type, size, uniformity and condition for age.....	40 %
3. Reports	15 %
4. Achievement story	10 %
Total.....	100 %

POINTS IN SELECTING THE BROOD-SOW

1. Select a gilt that comes from a strong, uniform litter of from 6 to 8 pigs and one that is not undersize.
2. The gilt should have a quiet disposition. She should be strong, deep, and roomy and show motherly instincts.
3. She should have straight, strong legs, a well arched back and plenty of breadth thru the houlders.
4. She should be of the proper color for the breed selected and conform to the type for that breed.
5. Bear in mind there are poor pure-bred sows as well as poor scrubs and grades.