South Dakota Extension Review

Agriculture

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Agronomy Field Days Interest Many Farmers

(By Ralph E. Johnston)

South Dakota farmers became better acquainted with their experiment substations when 500 of them attended field days at Vivian, Cottonwood, Highmore, Groton and Eureka the week of July 9 to 14. This series of field days was arranged by the agronomy department of State college in order that farmers might see the crops produced under the different systems of crop rotations and soil tillage, also view the different varieties of crops and the many other problems of crops and soils under investigation.

The keynote of the field days was “Ask questions. These are your Stations, conducted to help you. Here are the facts in the growing crop and the results to date. Know your substations. What more can they do to help you?”

Mimeographed programs were distributed to every farmer. A brief list of the experiments in progress at each place was given, also list of timely questions and list of available South Dakota bulletins on crops and soils subjects.

Splendid help was received from County Agent Boardman at the Groton meeting and from County Agents Broich, Lippert, Laney and Hermstad for the Eureka field day. Rain prevented auto travel for the Highmore meeting. County Agents Deane G. Davis and Sumner E. Davis assisted with the Vivian and Cottonwood meetings.

Mr. A. N. Hume, Prof. J. G. Hutton and Ralph E. Johnston attended each field day and spoke briefly on topics relating to the experiments in progress, soils and good seeds problems. Plans are in progress for more helpful field days next year.

Edith A. Sloan: (Brown county) Four demonstrations on vegetables, cattles and melon plans were given at women’s clubs. Two hundred twenty-two people attended 14 meetings held by local clubs. Demonstrators from 15 clubs attended training school on “Milk Utilization.” Two girls’ sewing club and one canning club were met with during the month. Assisted in community singing at fair association meeting.

Henry W. Clark of the Liberty Community club of Lightcap, Corson county, sent the Review a clipping from his local paper which states that their club has formulated plans for a community club house 30x60 feet, with a full basement. The Liberty club is to be congratulated on its initiative and enterprise.

New Publications

The following Extension leaflets are now being printed and will soon be available for distribution.

Available Engineering Material.

Efficient Marketing of Eggs and Poultry.

More Cows or More Care?

Common Questions about Cow Testing Associations.

Basic Dairy Feeds.

Dairy Breeding Circuits on the Great Plains.

Purebred Dairy Bulls Pay.

Cooperative Marketing of Cream.

Spraying the Home Orchard.

Good Seed Corn.

Soybeans in South Dakota.

Plan for Home Extension Program.

Ardmore Club Camp

The girls’ club camp at Ardmore, Fall River county, under the direction of the county agent, was a splendid affair. Forty-five girls attended. Miss Carr, county nurse of Pennington county, and Miss Sutter, Miss KIethline and Mr. Scarbro, of the Extension service, assisted with the demonstration program. T. L. Kelso, superintendent of the extension farm, where the camp was held, gave valuable assistance with the program.

A crowd of interested farmers examining the plots on the experimental farm at Eureka. The field days at the various substations are to be an annual event and from the interest displayed this year in the tests on the different varieties of grain, corn and grasses and in the fertility and rotation demonstrations, these affairs should continue to be of great interest and benefit to the farmers of the state.

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SEP 5, 1923

EXTENSION SERVICE FILE
A JOB WELL DONE

Isn't there a heap of satisfaction in a job well done? After an Extension worker has met discouragements by the wholesale, has seen a piece of work over which he has sweated blood for months, or even a year or more, almost go on the rocks, then to have the project blossom forth with worthwhile results which convinces even the most hidebound kicker, then comes that intoxicating feeling of a job well done.

Projects are all well under way. Soon the harvest will begin. Is there anything you can do to complete your projects? This is the time of the year to make hay in Extension work. Roads are good, weather is fine, crops look promising, and opportunity for service was never better. In short, don't plan a job well done this year but plan several jobs well done.

A. J. D.

THE BARBERRY CAMPAIGN

Since the black rust epidemic hit the state this year, some state and county papers during the last month have been indulging either in vicious cracks at the barberry eradication program, or making caustic remarks about its value as a rust preventative. It doesn't make any difference to those editors if the eradication program is only well under way, it doesn't make any difference how many wonderful controls and disease remedies for crops and livestock the colleges and Department of Agriculture have worked out in the past, it doesn't make any difference if practically all scientists and plant pathologists and anyone else who has been in a position to study the barberry question closely, are unanimous in their opinion that elimination of the barberry was essential in the cycle of life of the rust, all that was necessary was to wave a magic wand and the barberry bushes would wither away overnight. Then if we had to more rust, the officials in charge would have been acclaimed saviors.

Instead of throwing dashes of cold water on the barberry campaign, we believe it is the job of Extension work in children's hat making was organized. Seventy-five farmers attended this meeting. The new organization adopted articles of incorporation and by-laws in accordance with the new state marketing law. The association will be incorporated under the new law.

—Turner Wright.

Annual Conference of Nurses: A talk was given on the foods-nutrition program as carried on by the Extension service. There are twenty-three county nurses and they together with the health agencies which they represent, are splendid cooperators in every way. Two of the nurses have asked for information as to how this work can be secured for their counties as they feel it is a splendid thing to supplement their work.

—Mary A. Dolve.

Demonstration Programs: The demonstration program for counties without home extension agents has been given in nine counties. Mr. Hughes, Sully, Perkins, east Meade, Dewey, Corson and Miner. In every county the work has been well lined up and planned before the specialist has gone into the county. The number of organized women's groups per county, sending two demonstrators into the training schools, has averaged 10. The number of women enrolled in each group is 100, the registration cards averages 100. The county having the largest number of women signed up before the specialist began work was east Meade, with 187 in 10

SOUTH DAKOTA EXTENSION REVIEW, BROOKINGS

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August, 1923

"GENE" HALL

Another old-timer in Extension work in South Dakota is "Gene" Hall, assistant director. Hall was here doing farmer's institute work before we had an Extension division; then when the Spink County Soil Conservation, following the lead of Brown county, decided to employ a county agent, they selected Hall to chart their course in the new field. A county agent in those days had the barriers of "Book Farmer," "Soil Doctor," "White Collar Farmer," and various others to overcome. It wasn't a job for a tenderfoot. Did "Gene" make good? Nine years of continuous service answers the question, then came promotion to the state office. Hall is a graduate of Lawrence college and the University of Wisconsin. The great Northern railroad in the agricultural extension department.

Hall is another of the state office force who has developed the literary "bug," for he will hold his master piece (T) "A Community Agricultural Short Course. According to Jitney Ford, Hall made a go of it in "poppe" during Director Kumlison's absence.

STATE NEWS
Items of statewide interest as taken from specialists' reports

Fit Silo: A pit silo demonstration put on by County Agent Laney at Ipswich was very successful, as well as new. The crop of the silo was very good but no digging done. The meeting was called for 10 o'clock and lunch was served. The guests helped dig. A scraper and team was used to pull the dirt away. A reamer was used to dress the sides. The equipment was set up, sides dressed and a good-sized patch of the side wall plastered. The silo must have been dug at least 6 feet deep during the afternoon.

—Ralph L. Patty.

Livestock Shipping Association: A meeting of the livestock shipping association at Montrose was held for the purpose of dissolving the old organization and reorganizing under a contract plan. One hundred four farmers had signed the marketing agreement with the new organization up to noon, Saturday, June 30. The old organization was dissolved at the meeting in the afternoon and the new organization, based on the contract plan, was organized. Seventy-five farmers attended this meeting. The new organization adopted articles of incorporation and by-laws in accordance with the new state marketing law. The association will be incorporated under the new law.

—Turner Wright.

Changes in Personnel
Milton R. Wood, former student at State college, has been employed as agricultural extension agent at Pine Ridge. Mr. Wood has been doing rodent control work for the federal government in western South Dakota. Wood's work will take in the counties of Shannon, Washington, Washabaugh, and a portion of Bennett with headquarters at Pine Ridge. The Indian department of the United States government is cooperating with the Extension department of South Dakota State college in the employment of the agricultural agent, as a major part of his work will be with the Indian farmers. Mr. Wood assumed his duties July 1.
clubs. The demonstrators have shown an eagerness to get all they could out of the demonstrations in order to be well-prepared when presenting the work to their group.

—Susan Z. Wilder.

Club Camps: June is the time for club camps so most of my time was devoted to camp work. Assistance was given at camps held at Lennox, Rapid City, and Pierre. Eighty-six girls and seventy-four boys, representing counties of Lincoln, Turner, Clay and Union, attended the camp at Lennox. A novel feature of this camp is that it is financed by the business men of Lennox and the club boys and girls are the guests of these men. After attending the camp held at Lennox for the past two years, I am thoroughly convinced that guest camps are very desirable and that we should have more of them next year. These boys and girls need the advantages offered by a club camp, but who cannot afford the expense. A guest camp gives all a chance. I consider the camp at Lennox this year by far the best camp I have ever attended. I should like to see several guest camps in 1924, making those who did finish their club work for 1923 eligible. Only a few from each county get a trip to the State fair, while a guest camp would reward all who had finished their year's work.

—May Kiethline.

Potato Club Work: Results thus far in potato club work for 1923 are very gratifying. In visiting personally a large number of the boys I have found that about 80 percent of the boys practice seed treatment. I find also that over 50 percent intend to use Bordeaux mixture as a spray.

—George H. Valentine.

Alfalfa Tour: The Mellette county alfalfa tour was held on June 26 and 27 and it was a success. An average of 20 cars made the circuit. The first day 25 cars, the second day. A total of 17 different farms and ranches were visited where actual field demonstrations in alfalfa growing were studied. These field studies were both interesting and profitable to all who were on the tour. Good herds of beef cattle, hogs, horses and mules came in for their share of attention and study. Besides the profitable study made by all who took part in the tour, the gospel of more alfalfa in Mellette county is bound to spread. The fourth annual boys' and girls' club camp was held at the experiment farm July 16-21. Beyer Aune, superintendent of the farm, was assisted in directing the camp by County Agents Elison of Butte county and Valentine of west Meade county. Forty boys and 21 girls from Lawrence, Butte and Meade counties attended the camp. A well-arranged program was given for the club members. Mr. Bober and Mr. Mathews of the experiment farm assisted with the program. Mr. Miller, livestock specialist, and Professor Southerland, Smith-Hughes instructor at Newell, gave valuable assistance at the camp. Miss Sutter, Miss Kiethline and Mr. Scarbro, of Extension service, assisted with the program. On the last day of the camp the annual experiment farm picnic was held. Dean Larsen of the college was the speaker of the day.

A letter from B. H. Heide, secretary-manager of the International Livestock exposition at Chicago, announces the club judging contest and club exhibits for the 1923 exposition. South Dakota will be represented by fifty champion club members at the International.

Miss Day sent us the following news clipping from Faulk county:

Marion Kennedy is the local leader of the Rockham first year clothing club, which now has a membership of 14. One member discontinued club work because of illness in the family. The officers are as follows: Frances Weiss, Rockham, president; Dorothy Yetter, Rockham, secretary. The first and second articles required in the first year club work this year were practically all completed when a visit was made to the club during the middle of the year. Some very fine work was displayed at this time.

H. J. Wagen, of Winona, Minn., called at our office July 5. He gave us the information and good news that the Chicago and Northwestern railroad system will finance a trip to the International Livestock exposition at Chicago for one boy or girl from each county of the state through which the road runs, providing the county has a county agent. Plans are being made to select the county champions. This will be a wonderful educational trip for the county champions.

SOUTH DAKOTA EXTENSION REVIEW, BROOKINGS

CLUB NOTES

Items of general interest to club folks

LESSONS FROM THE STATE FAIR

From three to five hundred club boys and girls will spend the week of September 10 at the South Dakota State Fair. These boys and girls will be members of judging and demonstration teams and exhibitors. Is there a definite and practical educational value for the club folks at the fair that will warrant their being away from school for a whole week?

The following are some of the lessons they will learn at the fair:

1. The value of comparison of each club member's exhibit with all of the exhibits at the fair.
2. Inspection of the best crops and livestock exhibits grown in South Dakota and neighboring states.
3. Meeting with the best livestock breeders and crop growers of the state.
4. Taking part in the judging and demonstrating with club members from every county of South Dakota.
5. Observing the best judges from the midwest states judging the exhibits at the Fair.
6. Inspection of the school work from each county of the state, in the educational building.
7. Attending the many educational programs on the fair grounds.
8. Meeting with the club champions from every county of the state, the club folks who plan to beat their own record each year at the fair.

—P. J. S.

Newell Club Camp

The fourth annual boys' and girls' club camp was held at the experiment farm July 16-21. Beyer Aune, superintendent of the farm, was assisted in directing the camp by County Agents Elison of Butte county and Valentine of west Meade county. Forty boys and 21 girls from Lawrence, Butte and Meade counties attended the camp. A well-arranged program was given for the club members. Mr. Bober and Mr. Mathews of the experiment farm assisted with the program. Mr. Miller, livestock specialist, and Professor Southerland, Smith-Hughes instructor at Newell, gave valuable assistance at the camp. Miss Sutter, Miss Kiethline and Mr. Scarbro, of Extension service, assisted with the program. On the last day of the camp the annual experiment farm picnic was held. Dean Larsen of the college was the speaker of the day.
HIGH SPOTS

Items worth more than passing notice taken from the County Extension Agents' monthly reports.

Summer Davis: (Haakon county) A very successful capping demonstration was held in the Burnt Creek community at the home of Philip Keiser on July 30. Seventy-five people were present. This demonstration meeting was called two weeks before at a community meeting held in the school house. It was decided at that time that each family should bring two young cockerels to the meeting which had been shut up for 36 hours beforehand. These cockerels were to be caponized and this would let each person see just what results could be obtained from the capons on their own farm. Twenty-five birds were worked on. The county agent gave a short talk on poultry and demonstrated the details of the operation on one bird. After this those present actually worked on their own birds and learned the process by actually doing it.

Nineteen boys and girls attended the club camp at Rapid City. After returning home I received the following letter which is indicative of the spirit of all those attending the club camp:

"Mr. Sumner E. Davis

Philip, S. Dak.

Dear Sir:

"I am going to write you a letter and tell you how much I enjoyed the camp at Rapid City last week. I enjoyed every day better than the day before and was wishing we could have stayed longer."

"During this week I learned many new things in my class work. I hope to go next year if the 4H Club has another club camp.

"Yours respectfully,

(Signed) Emeline Valavig."  

E. H. Aicher: (Hand county) The third annual boys' and girls' club camp was held on the camp grounds at St. Lawrence during the four days of June 26-29. Sixty boys and girls were in attendance.

The camp was very successful from every standpoint. The young people had a splendid outing, gained valuable information and had plenty to eat. One feature of the camp was the appreciation of the food. Mrs. M. Bailey and daughter, of Miller, prepared the food. Financially, the camp was a success. The total cost was $226.94; the assets were approximately $230.00. Of the 60 at camp, Hyde county sent 14, Faulk county 10, Beadle 2 and Hand the remainder.

Floyd F. Collins: (East Meade county) On June 2, 86 pigs were distributed to as many boys and girls in the baby pork club. Notices were sent out for all the girls to be present at 10 o'clock when a free motion picture show of club camp pictures was given to all the people from the country. Mr. Scarbro gave a talk on club work and its possibilities. In the afternoon the boys and girls drew lots for their choice of pigs and as their numbers were called would select their pigs. The pigs were weighed and marked and the club members signed a note without interest for the cost of the pig and was given a ribbon stamped with the name of the club. The ribbon will admit them to the Tri-County Fair this fall. The club films were shown in the evening for the town people and Mr. Scarbro gave a talk on club work. Commenting on the day, F. R. Snider, a local merchant, said, "I would be willing to contribute to that kind of work anytime."

At a meeting held at Boneita Springs on June 11, a committee was appointed to draw up a constitution and by-laws for a community club. Sample constitutions were furnished the committee. After the meeting, in commenting on community club work, J. Baker, county commissioner, said, "The best thing for this part of the county we have had and it is too bad we could not have had the work long ago."

Laura L. Jones: (Clark, Codington, Hamlin and Deuel districts) A county-wide meeting of the chairmen of the home extension clubs of Clark county was held June 2. Twenty-three out of twenty-six chairmen were present. The women came to this meeting prepared to vote and discuss the three following points:

1. Shall the county have home extension clubs next year?
2. What subject will be studied?
3. What improvements can be made in the work?

The vote was unanimous for having extension club work next year and also for taking the second year clothing work. Mr. Basarf, county agent, gave a short talk on the cooperation of the farm bureau and county agent work with the woman's extension program and offered some valuable suggestions for facilitating the work for the coming year. Among these was the adoption of by-laws applicable to the entire county. This met with the approval of the chairmen present. Committees were appointed for the following duties:

1. Register clubs—both new and old.
2. Establish training school centers.
3. Draw up set of by-laws.
4. County fair exhibit.

W. F. Schmidt: (Douglas county) Eight farms were visited where tuberculosis and other diseases of poultry were found. About 90 percent of flocks where calls come from show infestation with avian tuberculosis.

One evening meeting was held, upon request, at which methods of rope splicing and halter making were shown. Attendance, 15.

Gretchen Loomer, a graduate of the University of Wisconsin, begins her work soon, as home extension agent in the newly organized four-county home extension district consisting of Lincoln, Union, Clay and Yankton counties. Miss Loomer has taught for two years in the high school at Shellsburg, Wis., and comes highly recommended and will be a valuable addition to our women's force.

SOUTHDAKOTA EXTENSION REVIEW, BROOKINGS

This issue on barberry eradication.

An event not on the field day program at Eureka took place on the street when a farmer brought in a bush for identification by the college men who were present for the field day exercises. Great excitement prevailed when it was discovered that he had the dreaded barberry and the above photograph shows a group hearing the story of the connection between the barberry and black stem rust of wheat. See the editorial in this issue on barberry eradication.