1954

Feed for my Livestock: Extension Circular 8-11-2

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A 4-H club project for you older club members who have had several years experience with dairy, beef, swine, sheep, riding horse, and poultry clubs.

This project will add a new angle to what you have been doing over and over again. It will give you more 4-H credit. There might be some fun, and some money in it, too.

"Feed For My Livestock" will bring you some new ideas about the work you are doing now in the fields and with the chores. Help your leader plan the meetings and activities so you can do the following things:

1. Study use of land for pasture, hay, and grain.
2. Make a balance sheet for livestock and feeds.
3. Improve pastures, hay, and grain production.
4. Learn new ways to harvest and store your feed.
5. Balance your rations, save work next winter.

If you plan to be a farmer or rancher and a livestock breeder, you will be thinking the rest of your life about "Feed For My Livestock".
"Feed For My Livestock" • with other livestock projects -

Continue with the livestock projects you want to take.
Each of the older members who are interested take this project as an orphan project.
Choose an assistant leader to take charge of this project, or the leader of the livestock club might do it and someone can help him as assistant leader of the livestock club.
Do the "balance sheet" meeting separately from any other meeting; some of the other suggested meetings might be combined with your livestock club meetings.

"Feed For My Livestock" as a separate project -

You older experienced members of a livestock club form a new club with officers, a leader, a program, etc.
Add other members not in your livestock club if you wish.
Organize this club with the help of your County Agricultural Agent, and follow his suggestions about your program. Get him to come to at least your first two meetings if you can.

Leadership of this project will take more time and individual help with members than some of the usual type of 4-H clubs. Naturally, no two farms are alike. Some may have plenty of pasture, others a big supply of hay, and others are mostly crop land growing grain crops. Each member should be encouraged to try to improve the part of his feed production program that is the weakest, if it is profitable to do so on his farm. Most of the improvements will not be completed in one year.

Suggestions for Meetings and Activities - Space is left for you to write in the places, dates, and additions for each of the six meetings.

First Meeting: Late winter or early spring.
Organize club or arrange for orphan projects with your club.
Discuss things that might be done in "Feed for My Livestock".
Study circular about Use of Land, compare feed production on each of your farms.
Distribute and discuss Balance Sheet and Feed Requirements and plan for the next meeting.

Second Meeting: Early spring. Dads come along.
Each member and his Dad complete his Balance Sheet.
Each member decide whether he will try to improve pastures, the hay and roughage supply, or the grain crops on his farm this year.
Leader will arrange to get the additional circulars needed by the different members. Find out from County Agent also about all the pasture and grain variety and irrigation and crop drying demonstrations that are scheduled within driving distance.
Third Meeting: About March, April, May
Review all the circulars obtained. Each member report what he hopes to do to improve feed production on his farm.
Members interested in pastures demonstrate how pastures can be judged with new 4-H club pasture score card.
Plan tours to attend any Extension demonstrations that are scheduled.
Arrange to get some seed of several kinds of grasses and start a nursery.
Demonstrate how to take soil samples and send them in for testing.
Enter the 100 bu. corn program.

Fourth Meeting: At harvest time.
Go on a tour to watch new harvesting machines in operation on farms if possible, or to sales yards of implement dealers or to displays at fairs.
Plan all the improvements that each member can make in harvesting methods with the machinery available.
Demonstrate how to make grain loss counts.
Distribute feeding arrangement check lists and time and motion count sheets.
Plan a booth exhibit and a balance sheet exhibit at the fair.

Fifth Meeting: Early fall.
Report on completed check sheet about feeding equipment and arrangements for each member's farm, and on time and motion counts. Each member report what he would like to change and fix before winter to make the chores less work.
Study the circulars and other sources of information about how to get the jobs done.

Sixth Meeting: Achievement Day
Review Balance Sheet and revise plans for winter feeding, according to feed produced and available to buy.
Figure out best roughage-grain-protein combinations on each farm from the standpoint of cost and usefulness.
Each member summarize the part that was most interesting to him and tell what he hopes to do next year.
Complete final reports.
You can meet the Standard 4-H Club Requirements in this project by:

1. Organizing a club of five or more members, or by having 5 or more members of your livestock club carry the project.
2. Electing the usual club officers to take charge.
3. Having a leader, or an assistant leader of the livestock club, in charge of this project.
4. Planning a program something like the one suggested in this circular.
5. Holding six or more meetings, some of which may be combined with those of your livestock club.
6. Demonstrating how pasture score card is used, how balance sheet is completed, how feed is produced, stored, or fed.
7. Judging pastures with the score card, judging soils in a contest.
8. Completing the final report form by 60% or more of the members.
9. Holding an achievement day.

**Circulars and Other Information**

This announcement circular, which you can use as your yearbook.

- EC 8-12-2 Your Best Land Use and Cropping Program
- EC 8-13-2 Balance Sheet and Feed Requirements
- EC 8-14-2 Pasture Project
- EC 8-15-2 Harvesting Crops With Feeding In Mind
- EC 8-16-2 Simplifying Livestock Feeding Chores
- Form 8-12-2 Final Report
- Form 8-13-2 Pasture Judging Balance Sheet
- Form 8-14-2 Pasture Score Card
- Form 8-15-2 Check Sheet For Feeding Equipment and Arrangements
- Form 8-16-2 Time and Motion Counts

**Reference Material** (you can get what you need at your county agent's office)

1. The feeds section of your 4-H club manuals.
2. EC 627 Feeding Milk Cows.
3. EC 253 Nutrients, Feeds, and Example Rations for Swine.
4. SB 343 Wintering Rations for Cattle.
5. SB 403 Effect of Time of Cutting on Yield and Value of Prairie Hay
6. EC 174, 179, 186, 198, Agron. Dept. Cir. 100 Weed Control.
7. CC 105, 106, 107, or 108, and EC 193, 194, 195 Fertilizers.
10. EC 728 Temporary or Emergency Silos.
11. EC 735 Curing Hay with Forced Air.
12. EC 737 Grain Drying Demonstrations.
13. EC 784 Electric Pig Brooders.
14. Mid-west Farm Building Plan Service.