Prairie View A&M University

Digital Commons @PVAMU

All Theses

8-1956

"A Follow-Up Study Of The Occupational Pursuits Of Participants in 4-H Club Work In Okmulgee County, Okmulgee, Oklahoma From 1940 to 1955"

D. P. Lilly
Prairie View Agricultural and Mechanical College

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalcommons.pvamu.edu/pvamu-theses

Recommended Citation

Lilly, D. P. (1956). "A Follow-Up Study Of The Occupational Pursuits Of Participants in 4-H Club Work In Okmulgee County, Okmulgee, Oklahoma From 1940 to 1955". Retrieved from https://digitalcommons.pvamu.edu/pvamu-theses/736

This Thesis is brought to you for free and open access by Digital Commons @PVAMU. It has been accepted for inclusion in All Theses by an authorized administrator of Digital Commons @PVAMU. For more information, please contact hvkoshy@pvamu.edu.

"A Follow-Up Study of the Occupational Pursuits of Participants in 4-H Club Work in Okmulgee County, Okmulgee, Oklahoma From 1940 to 1955"

Lilly

1956

A FOLLOW-UP STUDY OF THE OCCUPATIONAL PURSUITS OF PARTICIPANTS IN 4-H CLUB WORK IN OKMULGEE COUNTY, OKMULGEE, OKLAHOMA FROM 1940 - 1955

By

D. P. Lilly

A Thesis Submitted in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Degree of

Master of Science

In The

Graduate Division

of

Prairie View Agricultural and Mechanical College Prairie View, Texas

DEDICATION

This thesis is dedicated to my devoted wife Vivian R. Lilly, and to my mother and father, Emma and A. C. Lilly, Sr.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The writer wishes to express his deep gratitude and appreciation to Mr. J. R. Powell, Acting Head of the Agriculture Education Department, Prairie View Agricultural and Mechanical College, for his suggestions, corrections, and advice. Without his help and cooperation, this thesis could not have been completed.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Chapt	<u>ser</u>	Page
I.	INTRODUCTION	. 1
	Statement of the Problem	
	Purpose of the Study	
	Scope of Study	
	Source of Data	
	Criteria for Selection	
	Tabulation of Data	
	Definition of Terms	
II.	ANALYSIS, DATA, AND RESULTS OF STUDY	. 10
III.	SUMMARY	. 21
	Conclusion	
	Recommendations	
	BIBLIOGRAPHY	. 26
	APPENDIX	

LIST OF TABLES

Table		Page
I.	Occupational Survey of Former 4-H Club Members and the Work They Were Engaged in From 1940 to 1955	10
II.	Tenants, Owners, Part-owners, and Renters of Farms	11
III.	Location of Former 4-H Club Members and Number in Each State	12
IV.	Acres and Average Acreage Operated by Former 4-H Club Members From 1940 to 1955	12
V.	Improvements That Are Being Carried Out by Farm and Home Development With 10 Families Who Were Former 4-H Club Members	14
VI.	Livestock Owned by 4-H Club Members in 1955	16
VII.	Projects Participated in by 4-H Club Members From 1940 to 1955	17
VIII.	Number of 4-H Club Members Who Attended High School and College, and Received Degrees of Various Kinds	18
IX.	Number of Years 4-H Club Members Were Enrolled and Number Completed	19
X.	Marital Status of 4-H Club Members	19
XI.	Club Members Who Participated in the Armed Forces From 1940 to 1955, and the Result of 4-H Club Training in Okmulgee County	20

A FOLLOW-UP STUDY OF THE OCCUPATIONAL PURSUITS OF PARTICIPANTS IN
4-H CLUB WORK IN OKMULGEE COUNTY, OKMULGEE,
OKLAMOMA FROM 1940 - 1955

Introduction

The 4-H Club program has been far reaching in developing youth. Some two million other 4-H'ers join Okmulgee County 4-H Club members when they say, "I Pledge:

My head to clearer thinking,
My heart to greater loyalty
My hands to larger service and
My health to better living for
My Club, my community and my country."

This motto which is learned by most 4-H Club members and is said in the ritualistic opening of all 4-H meetings is soon to become a vital part in the molding of a club members personality.

In most instances the sheer delight and satisfaction derived from carrying a 4-H Club project even though the member may only share in spasmodic intervals of monetary returns from such projects. The member gets his or her satisfaction from learning a skill or perfecting their habits of workmanship. The ultimate and primary purpose of all 4-H Club activities is to aid in the development of future citizens of tomorrow. The devices and methods used are only a necessary means to an end. 1

The projects which may be carried by a 4-H Club member are numerous and wide in scope. It may be a project in poultry, livestock, crops, engineering, health, forestry, small grain, sorghum grain, or many others. To make the 4-H'er anxious to complete their projects various incentives

¹L. D. Kelsey and C. C. Hearne, <u>Cooperative Extension Work</u>. (Ithaca, New York: Comstock Publishing Company, 1949), p. 103.

in the form of valuable prizes, scholarship awards, bonds, and trips are given. The prize of all awards given, and very dear to a 4-H'ers heart, is the honor of getting to go to a Regional 4-H Club Camp, which is usually held in key spots over the United States during the month of August. This trip marks the culminating activity of their year's work and club members who get to attend have been selected as Grand Champion Winner over both county and state in their competitive activities.

Through scholarship awards 4-H Club members have been able to go to college. Others have been established in livestock farming after getting off to a good start as a 4-H club member.

Being national and international in its scope, forty-two countries have programs similar to 4-H work in the United States of America. Leader-ship training is one of the greatest objectives of the program.

Wonderful opportunities are given for youth as a 4-H club member to plan with parents, teachers and their extension agent a continuous learning program. The program spotlights the members through demonstrations by teams. (These demonstrations promote team leadership).

Local leaders called "coaches" and other interested community personalities play an important role in helping with the guidance and moral and financial support of the 4-H program.

These individuals serve their communities well and too much tribute cannot be given those who consistently give year after year of their time and money and whose only pay has been derived from a satisfaction of seeing a job well done, a condition improved or a well-rounded personality being developed. The 4-H program is definitely dependent on coaches and other community backers to assure a degree of success with their pro-

ject. Thus, we see an interplay of adult leadership developing youth into leaders.

Adult leaders must have an abiding faith in the worthwhileness of the 4-H program as it projects into home and community life around which it evolves. They must be willing to share their wealth and time that others may eventually enjoy a richer and fuller life.

In checking the diversity of jobs persued by former 4-H Club members in Okmulgee County, we find that they have been greatly influenced by their early training as former 4-H club members. Such activities as they participated in helped them to develop certain attitudes as self-confidence, thrift, loyalty, cooperation and happy living through "helping them to help themselves." Continuous opportunities and challenges are offered in 4-H club work, consequently from such early incentives, we can see great potentialities of many great leaders and educators as well as future farmers of America. We feel that regardless of their chosen occupation a former 4-H club member can participate creditably in a democratic society. This was clearly revealed by the reports received on 606 4-H club members interviewed for this study.

A favorable social and economical environment for farm people is an essential factor in the development of an efficient agricultural program. Franklin² says:

To readjust agriculture and place it upon a basis of greater profit, to reconstruct the rural home, and to give country life more dignity was the main purpose A. D. Greham had in mind when he organized 4-H Club work for boys and girls in the State of Ohio in 1904.

²Reck M. Franklin, <u>The 4-H Story</u>, (Chicago: The Iowa State College Press, 194¶), p. 89

The functions of 4-H clubs are to plan and carry out year-round programs, carefully outline projects—county, state, and national contests, use of volunteer local leaders, recognition of success and many other activities that would develop an understanding and appreciation of a farming and rural life. Deyee³ says:

A broadened program of supervised farming and the related activities are worthy of consideration because it serves as a basis for instruction which has as the outcome the development of persons for proficiency in the vocation of farming and the improvement of farm life.

For the reasons stated above, the writer chose this problem for investigation.

³George P. Deyee, <u>Supervised Farming in Vocational Agriculture</u>. (Danville: The Interstate Printers Publishers, 1946), p. 52

Statement Of The Problem

A follow-up study of the occupational persuits of participants in 4-H Club work in Okmulgee County, Okmulgee, Oklahoma from 1940 - 1955, in promotion of farming and other occupations.

In this study the writer will seek to answer the following questions:

- 1. Occupations 4-H Club members are engaged in
- 2. What boys are in U. S. Military Service and out
- 3. How many are still in Oklahoma
- 4. What is the marital status of former 4-H club members
- 5. What are various projects in which 4-H club members were or are now engaged
- 6. How many received special awards in 4-H club work
- 7. How many attending high school and college
- 8. How many served in the Armed Forces and how many are still in the Armed Forces
- 9. What influences has 4-H club exerted in the selection of occupations.

Purpose Of The Study

After 18 years of Extension work in the same county the writer deemed it necessary to make a study to determine, (1) the extent to which 4-H club leadership among 4-H club boys is being carried out on farms in Okmulgee County as well as in other occupations, and (2) how has 4-H club participation aided young men in selecting vocations and in making necessary adjustments in their prevailing environments?

Scope Of Study

who have been enrolled in club work during the last 15 years. Ninty-five of these boys are now engaged in farming and the others in various diversified occupations. This study is being made in seven communities in Okmulgee County which is located in Eastern Oklahoma.

Source Of Data

The writer made a descriptive study through questionnaires sent to 4-H club members enrolled from 1940 to 1955. Data for this study was secured from the following sources:

- 1. The files in the county agent's office
- 2. Questionnaires returned from Okmulgee County 4-H boys who are in the county
- 3. Extension and agriculture leaders
- 4. Farm boys and their families
- 5. College records
- 6. Businessmen, teachers and parents
- 7. Information from other sources
 - a. county officials
 - b. board of education
 - c. relatives.

Criteria For Selection

The following criterias were decided upon for selecting club members for this study:

- 1. To be selected one must have been a former 4-H Club member.
- 2. Must have been a member of 4-H Clubs of Okmulgee County and carried some kind of project during the time he was a member.
- 3. The club member's name must be shown on the 4-H club roll continuously for at least two years.

- 4. He must be between the ages of 10 and 21 years of age.
- 5. The parents should be willing to help him.
- 6. He must work with the 4-H Club coaches, leaders and agents.
- 7. All club members must enroll in some kind of 4-H project each year.

Tabulation Of Data

In order to get a true picture of the activities of the survey, a plan was devised whereby the inquiry forms for the county were grouped separately and entered on the summary sheet designed for recording all necessary information to be included in this survey.

A general summary of reports received from the 606 4-H Club members surveyed was compiled and the information entered on the tabulation sheet.

Data contained in 606 complete questionnaires furnished information regarding the occupations, distribution and status of the various 4-H Club members in Okmulgee County were used as a basis for the succeeding analysis shown which will be set forth in tables.

Related Studies

The writer made a study of the farming situation in Okmulgee County as related to Negro farmers in 1955-56, and a brief review of the farming situation in the county from 1946 to 1956 was given. This study reveals that the farm population here has been on a decline since World War II while home ownership and the average size of farms have increased. The type of farming has changed from cotton to general farming and livestock farming. It further shows that 85 per cent of the farmers have

tractors. More of the land has been put back into pasture, and 65 per cent of the farmers are using fertilizer suited to the soil analysis tests made on their land.

Joseph T. Hudson, 4 a public school teacher, Gringhasm, Alabama, made a study of some 500 former Negro students of vocational agriculture in Alabama to determine:

- (1) The proportion of Negro former pupils of vocational agriculture in Alabama who actually farm, or who are in occupations related to agriculture.
- (2) The farming status of former Negro pupils of vocational agriculture in Alabama.

Definition Of Terms

<u>Project.</u> - The term project is used to designate any undertaking by a club boy in field crops or livestock for the purpose of making money and to secure training that he may use to carry on other projects.

Method demonstration. - A method demonstration is used to show how to carry out a practice.

Result demonstration. - A result demonstration is a method of teaching designed to show by example. Practical application of an established fact or group of related facts. 5

Occupation. - An occupation is the business or trade one is engaged in to derive or make a living.

Owner. - One who influences the transferring use and management of farm land.

⁴Joseph T. Hudson, A Study of 500 Former Students of Vocational Agriculture in Alabama, Master's Thesis, Michigan State College, 1949.

⁵Kelsey and Hearne, op. cit., pp. 345-347.

Owner operator. - One who owns all the land he operates and operates all the land he owns.

<u>Part-owner operator</u>. - operates all the land he owns and rents additional acreage.

Owner operator. - Owns all the land operated and rents land to others.

Landlord. - One who rents out all the land owned.6

⁶⁰wnership Of Farm Land In Southwest, U. S. D. A. Extension Service Bulletin, No. 502, 1950.

ANALYSIS, DATA, AND RESULTS OF STUDY

TABLE I. Occupational survey of former 4-H Club members and the work they were engaged in From 1940 to 1955.

Students in college Postal clerks Veternarian Medicine students Hospital attendants Disabled veterans Pilots Officers in Armed Forces Skilled labor Service Station owners Prize fighters Cement finishers Brick masons Electricians Cafeteria managers Musicians Policemen Ministers Teachers	32 4 2 5 2 1 3 12
Veternarian Medicine students Hospital attendants Disabled veterans Pilots Officers in Armed Forces Skilled labor Service Station owners Prize fighters Cement finishers Brick masons Electricians Cafeteria managers Musicians Policemen Ministers	4 2 5 2 1
Hospital attendants Disabled veterans Pilots Officers in Armed Forces Skilled labor Service Station owners Prize fighters Cement finishers Brick masons Electricians Cafeteria managers Musicians Policemen Ministers	2 5 2 1
Disabled veterans Pilots Officers in Armed Forces Skilled labor Service Station owners Prize fighters Cement finishers Brick masons Electricians Cafeteria managers Musicians Policemen Ministers	5 2 1
Pilots Officers in Armed Forces Skilled labor Service Station owners Prize fighters Cement finishers Brick masons Electricians Cafeteria managers Musicians Policemen Ministers	2
Officers in Armed Forces Skilled labor Service Station owners Prize fighters Cement finishers Brick masons Electricians Cafeteria managers Musicians Policemen Ministers	1
Skilled labor Service Station owners Prize fighters Cement finishers Brick masons Electricians Cafeteria managers Musicians Policemen Ministers	
Service Station owners Prize fighters Cement finishers Brick masons Electricians Cafeteria managers Musicians Policemen Ministers	3
Prize fighters Cement finishers Brick masons Electricians Cafeteria managers Musicians Policemen Ministers	12
Cement finishers Brick masons Electricians Cafeteria managers Musicians Policemen Ministers	3 2 7
Cement finishers Brick masons Electricians Cafeteria managers Musicians Policemen Ministers	2
Brick masons Electricians Cafeteria managers Musicians Policemen Ministers	
Electricians Cafeteria managers Musicians Policemen Ministers	6
Musicians Policemen Ministers	2
Policemen Ministers	2
Ministers	2
	6 2 2 2 1 8
Touchons	
Teacher 5	15
Dentist	1
Lawyer	1
Meat cutters	2 1 2 2 3 2 2 2 2 2
Weavers	1
Television technicians	2
16 mm projector operators	2
35 mm projector operators	3
Plumbers	2
Laundrymen	2
Typist	2
Painters	
Members of the Armed Forces	103
Tire repairmen	2
Custodians	2 2
Car porters	
Cab drivers	2
Hotel porters	5
Truck drivers	5 1 2 1
Body and fender finishers	2
Riviters	
Electrical engineer students	1
Table waiter	
Others	1 4

Table I (Continued)

OCCUPATION	NUMBER OF BOYS
Cooks	2
Cattleman	1
Carpenters	2
Total number of boys who are farmers!	95
Total number of boys who are common '	
labors	200
Number of boys who are auto mechan-	
ics	8
Number of boys who are out of the	
United States Armed Forces	86

The number of 4-H Club members going into farming has been low, because of the amount of capital it takes to become established in farming. However, farming as an occupation in Okmulgee County has steadily increased during the last 14 years. This can be directly attributed to the training the 4-H Club members received in their club work.

Of the 606 former 4-H Club members studied only 95 chose farming as their occupation. These farmers fall into the following categories:

TABLE II. Tenants, owners, part-owners and renters of farms.

	1
Renters	68
Owners	7
Part-owners	10
Share croppers	0

This table reveals that the number of farm ownerships is low. On the other hand, there are no share croppers at all. The renters rank highest because there is only a limited number of farms for sale which would make a good farming unit and which would qualify under the various lending agencies available. Young farmers are encouraged to cut down on their debts and own their own machinery and livestock so as to have good collateral, thus qualifying them for better risks with lending agencies.

TABLE III. Location of former 4-H Club members and number in each state.

STATE	NO. OF 4-H MEMBERS IN STATE
Oklahoma	377
California	1 90
Kansas	52
Missouri	17
Michigan	1 10
Texas	10
Nebraska	9
Arizona	9
Washington	7
Illinois	4
Arkansas	3
New York	2
Louisiana	2
North Dakota	2
New Mexico	4
Oregon	1
Mississippi	! 1
Colorado	1
South Carolina	1 1
North Carolina	1
Indiana	1
South Dakota	1

TABLE IV. Acres and average acreage operated by former 4-H Club members From 1940 - 1955

	ay day an agan a agan y dann dar ay fa ar na ar 164 an ar na ar 164 an an ar 164 an an ar na ar na ar na ar na		07 46776		
		NUMBER	OF ACRES		-
5 to 10	11 to 201	21 to 40	141 to 80	81 to 120	121 and over
2	2 1	25	36	18	9

The preceding table shows that the average acreage is 79 plus operated by the 95 former 4-H Club member farmers. This also reveals that the number of acres is too small for the farmer to grow enough feed and feed for family and livestock consumption. The total number of acres is 7,558.

Another criteria for judging the success of a farmer is the number of improved practices that he is using on his farm. The use of improved practices an individual is using on the farm, as terracing of farm land, planting of winter legumes, rotation of crops, applying phosphate, growing cover crops and mowing pastures not only means money to the farmer but it also sets an example for others in the community.

The size farm is entirely too small to do a good job of farming.⁸

The minimum acreage in Okmulgee which assures the farmer of good operational results is 160 acres. Persons operating only 79 acres find it difficult to make a living or to do a good job of balanced farm operation, to say nothing of improved practices. Farm machinery on many of the small farms is antiquated and expensive to keep up.

The 79 acre farmer constitute the higgest farm problem of today. It necessitates part time employment to supplement his family income. But with farm and home development—on the unit approach, help is in sight for a number of young farmers to get started in the right direction.

"Farm and Home Development" or "Unit Approach" is a new agricultural program now being implemented in the United States through the extension department. In Okmulgee County we are in the process of implementing 10 of the 65 4-H Club member farm families. The program is planned for a

⁷E. W. Gainer, <u>Teaching Vocational Agriculture</u>. (New York: McGraw-Hill Book Company, Inc., 1950), pp. 103-104.

long range operation covering several years. Because of personal supervision given with the entire family, only a small number can be serviced over a certain period.

TABLE V. Improvements that are being carried out by Farm and Home Development with 10 families who were former 4-H Club members.

	' Total no. of	' First	1	Long
	families	1 Year	1	Time
	1	1	1	
Field Crops	1 10	1 10	t	10
Hay crop	1 10	1 4	1	6
Beef cattle	1 10	1 3	1	4
Hogs	1 10	1 10	1	10
Poultry	1 10	1 10	1	10
Dairy cows	1 10	1 3	1	3
Dwelling & Improvements	1 10	1 10	f	10
Equipment house	1 10	1 10	1	10
Family food supply	1 10	1 10	1	10
Clothing	1 10	1 10	1	10
House operation	1 10	1 10	1	10
Education	1 10	1 10	1	10
Family health	1 10	1 10	1	10
Personal needs	1 10	1 10	1	10
Recreation	1 10	1 8	1	10
Sharing with others	1 10	1 10	1	10
Future protection	1 10	1 10	1	10
	1	1	1	

For over 50 years the Extension Service in Oklahoma has been teaching individual farm and home practices. For the most part, it has been left to the farm family to tie together the several needed practices for the farm and the home. In many instances the farm and home have not been studied as a joint business.

Farm and Home Development is a means of furnishing scientific information from our Land Grant Colleges, to farm families so that they, in turn may combine a number of the latest practices to bring about the greatest economic return to each individual farm and home situation.

The approach of Farm and Home Development is broad and involves such things as soil management and improvement, the improvement of livestock, crops and pastures, home management and the provision of healthful diets for the family.

- 1. It is a course of action a family may take in reaching their main goals.
- 2. It is a way of helping farm families make practical use of scientific knowledge.
- 3. It is an approach designed to help give farm families larger income and more satisfaction from farm life.
- 4. It is a method to aid a farm family in making decisions pertaining to their individual farm and home problems and opportunities.

It offers the following to farm families:

- a. provides an overall approach to their problems by bringing them information and assistance
- b. develops a system that fits the resources, abilities, desires and opportunities of the family
- c. appraises practices that best fit the family's system of farming and homemaking
- d. adjusts short and long time economic changes.9

How Farm and Home Development is helping the community:

Each family taking part in farm and home development will develop its resources to meet family needs and emphasize factors that point to happiness, self-confidence, and the individual's place in the home, on the farm and in the community. These families will be assets in their community.

It is believed that courses of action which lead to better living

⁹Lester A. Schlup, Extension Service Review. (Washington, D. C.: 1955), pp. 3, 4, 11.

for participants will also be adopted by other families in the community.

This work is being carried on in all types of farming and with all types of farmers and homemakers. All families have one thing in common. They are interested and anxious to make and carry out plans for fuller development of their farm and home.

Assistance which is given by Extension workers to help families in Okmulgee County:

- 1. Examine resources that can be used in farm and home development.
- 2. List the goals of the family—such as payment of debts and education of children.
- 3. Analyze the farm and home operations to find the strong and weak points of the business.
- 4. List alternatives open to the family.
- 5. Choose a long-range plan which includes improved production, marketing and homemaking practices.
- 6. Point out opportunities available for the farm family.
- 7. Prepare and follow an operation plan for each year.
- 8. Set a schedule for accomplishments.
- 9. Adjust plan to changing situations.
- 10. Keep an adequate account of farm and home business.
- 11. Analyze accounts as a basis for decisions.
- 12. Keeping rental and other agreements and tax reports on a sound business basis.

TABLE VI. Livestock owned by 4-H Club member in 1955.

10 Heads or Less		31 Heads to 50 Heads	51 Heads or more
47	34	14	none

The approximate number of cattle involved is 1,233. Few of the 4-H Club members do not farm directly but own cattle. The reason we do not have more 4-H Club members owning livestock is because of the limited amount of pasture land available.

The amount of capital has been a factor also, but former 4-H Club members have made a better showing than other individuals.

Since 79 acres is an average established here, it is very difficult to carry on a good pasture program which is so essential to cattle raising. For this primary reason, a larger number of these farmers fall in the group with 10 head or less. 10

TABLE VII. Projects participated in by 4-H Club members from 1940 to 1955.

Crop	Live-	Poultry	Photog- raphy	Special Records	Truck Garden	Rabbits	Others	Special Awards	
518	1 428 1	415	250	1 141	442	149	417	1 136	

Awards that were available for 4-H Club members to compete for were: Tractor maintenance, soil conservation, gardening, safety, livestock, dairying, crop production, electricity, citizenship awards, and achievement awards. 11

These awards proved to be a big incentive to the 4-H Club program and were instrumental in 4-H Club members getting into college.

Although this study shows that more 4-H Club members participated in

¹⁰J. H. Florea, Better Farming Methods. (Kansas: Vol. VI, June, 1955), pp. 12-13.

¹¹ A History of 4-H Club Work, National Committee on Boys' Club Work, (Chicago, Illinois:) pp. 252-254.

crops, the favorite project by far with the boys was livestock.

The reason we have such large numbers to participate in crop projects is because of the small amount of capital involved.

One of the fascinating aspects of the livestock project was the grooming of the animal from infancy to maturity, teaching it how to "lead" and how to stand in the show ring, learning to use the correct porportions of rations and watching the animal grow into a fine animal which they felt would be a grand champion.

TABLE VIII. Number of 4-H Club members who attended high school and college, and received degrees of various kinds.

	finished '	attended	'Number re- 'ceived B.S. 'or A.B. degree	Number ceived Degree	who re- Masters
305	210	125	32	5	

This study reveals that 4-H Club members continued in school in large numbers.

Some of the reasons why these club members remained in school were because of the training they received and special projects they carried in 4-H Club work. Four-H club work helped them to get established and to become economically secure. This help also gave them a desire to stay in school. There are quite a few awards that 4-H club members may compete for, such as: trips, scholarships, bonds, watches, and others.

Some of these 4-H Club members mentioned in table VII entered college on scholarships they won in 4-H club contests.

The following table shows the number of years 4-H members were en-

TABLE IX. Number of years 4-H Club members were enrolled and number completed.

NUMBER OF YEARS						
2 years	13 to 4 years	5 to 6 years	7 to 8 years	19 years or more		
16	62	147	310	71		

It seems that most 4-H members completed their projects once they got under way. Some of the reasons for this was because some special incentives and awards were offered to club members.

TABLE X. Marital Status of 4-H Club members.

The number married	t .	368
The number single	1	238
The number who have children	1	191

Our study of 4-H Club members for 1955 revealed that they made good family providers and they also are bringing up a future generation of 4-H club members and citizens of tomorrow.

These former 4-H members were taught family life and some of the basic aspects of life. They were given special information on what good family providers should know and do. They were given talks and guidance by individuals outside of the Extension Service.

The writer's observation of some of these former club members are that they are doing a fine job with their children and are looked upon as leaders in their neighborhoods. Most of them that I have worked with still speak

of the training they received as 4-H Club members.

TABLE XI. Club members who participated in the Armed Forces from 1940 to 1955 and the result of 4-H Club training in Okmulgee County.

The number serving in the Armed Forces	333
The number who are still in the service	103
The number who reported that 4-H Club work had helped them in their basic training	603
The number who reported that 4-H Club work did not help them	3

It was found that 95 per cent of the 4-H Club boys examined for the Armed Forces passed their examinations. This can be directly attributed to the previous training they received as 4-H club members, and their strong physical physiques received during the early days of their youth. Four-H clubs not only influenced their physical development but developed them morally as well. The 4-H pledge that they were taught when they were club members helped them to develop into good leaders.

From reports, these boys stood up well in their basic training and 603 out of 606 reported that they were helped in the army in various ways because of this training. Only three reported that 4-H Club participation did not help them at all and this was probably due to their occupations.

SUMMARY

To summarize the study made on 4-H Club occupations we find that in a broad measure, early training in 4-H Club work has had a definite effect on 4-H Club members' occupational choices. The basic training received in 4-H Club work is revealed in any occupations chosen.

Of the 95 former 4-H Club members who are presently engaged in farming, 65 of them are residents of Okmulgee County.

Sixty-five farmers in Okmulgee County are engaged in general farming, getting the major part of their income from field crops and livestock farming.

The data was analyzed in several tables and the following problems were revealed:

- 1. The farmers were inadequately equipped.
- 2. Not enough improved practices were carried out by each farmer.
- 3. Not enough diversification in farming.
- 4. Poor production records were evident.
- 5. Not enough farmers used commercial fertilizer to increase their crop production.
- 6. Farm acreage was too small.

A program designed to improve 4-H Club members must be wide in scope to help increase the knowledge of young people so they may fit into society and develop worthwhile skills.

The farm population in Okmulgee County has been on a decline since World War II while home ownership and the average size of farms have increased. The type of farming has changed from cotton to general farming and livestock farming.

A project is used to designate any undertaking by a club boy in field crops or livestock for the purpose of making money and the training that he may use to carry on other projects.

In this report the writer has made a survey of former 4-H Club members who are engaged in different occupations. Six hundred and three were helped in the selection of their occupation through 4-H influence.

The average acreage of the 4-H Club farmer is 79 plus operated by the 95 4-H Club farmers. It further reveals that this number of acres is too small for the farmer to grow enough food and feed for family and livestock consumption.

Livestock owned by 4-H Club members came to the total of 1,233 cattle. Few of the 4-H members do not farm directly, but own cattle.

A survey was also made on the number of 4-H Club members who attended high school and college and received degrees of various kinds. This study reveals that 4-H Club members continued in school in larger numbers than non-club members.

This study also reveals that we had 7 owners, 10 part owners, and 68 renters of farms. There are ten former club members and their families enrolled in Farm and Home Development.

CONCLUSION

On the basis of information revealed, there is a great opportunity for training through organized instructions in the field of county extension work.

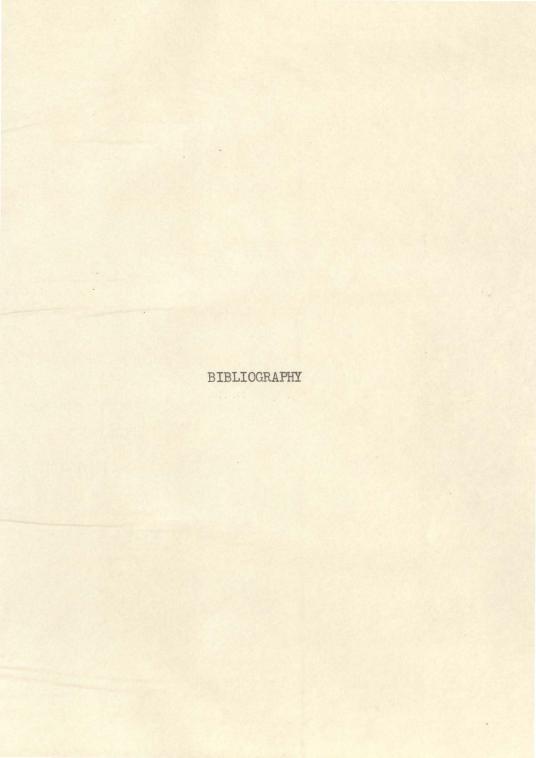
A small per cent of farmers in the survey are sharing in the opportunity to increase their farm income by the use of improved practices, crop rotation, better pastures, and better livestock. Many farmers are still experiencing low income, because they are inclined to follow old traditional methods.

Four-H Club work offers club members fine opportunities to get a good foundation in the basic things which mold a good life.

From contact that was made, it was revealed that most club members who have followed their club work have been successful. Only three of 606 gave negative responses.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1. Each 4-H Club leader should have more time to work with the 4-H Club members.
- 2. The program should be so planned that a county agent and local leaders could meet often.
- All 4-H Club members who are engaged in farming should be organized into a farm unit plan or Farm and Home Development.
- 4. The county agent should devote more time and attention to encourage farmers to keep records that actually show them what the real picture is.
- 5. A greater incentive program in the promotion of 4-H Club work would do a great deal to encourage more club members to participate in 4-H Club work and become farmers.



BIBLIOGRAPHY

Books

- Beuscher, Jacob., <u>Law and the Farmer</u>. New York: Springer Publishing Company, 1953.
- Cook, Charles Glen, <u>Handbook On Teaching Vocational Agriculture</u>.

 Danville: The Interstate Company, 1938.
- Cook, G. C., and Walker, Clyde, Practical Methods In Teaching Farm Mechanics. Danville: The Interstate Company, 1947.
- Davis, Kary C., How To Teach Agriculture. Chicago: J. B. Lippincott Company, 1921.
- Deyee, George P., Supervised Farming In Vocational Agriculture. Danville: The Interstate Printers Publishers, 1946.
- Franklin, Reck M., The 4-H Story. Chicago: The Iowa State College Press, 1942.
- Ganis, E. W., <u>Teaching Vocational Agriculture</u>. New York: McGraw-Hill Book Company, Inc., 1950.
- Golsen, Edward, School Community. New York: Prentice-Hall, Inc., 1945.
- Gregory, R. W., Farm Business Management. Chicago: J. B. Lippincott Company, 1946.
- Kelsey, L. D., and Hearne, C. C., <u>Cooperative Extension Work</u>. Ithaca, New York: Comstock Publishing Company, 1949.
- Roberts, Ray W., Modern Farming. Chicago: J. B. Pillincott Company, 1950.
- Robertson, Lynn S., <u>Farm Business Management</u>. Chicago: J. B. Lippincott Company, 1946.

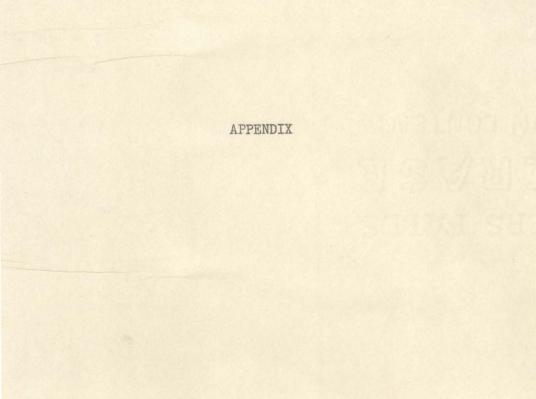
Articles

- "Country Cattlemen," Harvester World, Xll, No. 11 (November, 1953), 14-16.
- Ehlers, Sabine, "4-H Conference," <u>Extension Service Review</u>, Vol. 24, No. 11, (September, 1953), 204.
- Florea, J. H., "Color Can Improve Farm," Better Farming Methods, Vol. 6, (June, 1955), 18-20.

- "How Farm People Accept New Ideas," North Central Regional Publication, No. 1, (November, 1955), 10.
- Lewis, R. D., "Agricultural Progress," Texas Extension Service Publication, No. 58 (May, 1955), 19-24.
- "Making Radio Work For You," United States Department of Agriculture, No. 42 (August, 1952), 12.
- "Texas Agricultural Progress," Texas Experiment Station Publication, Vol. 1, No. 4 (September October), 26.

Bulletins

- "A Look Ahead, for Texas Rural Families," Extension Service Publication, May, 1952.
- "Ownership Of Farm Land In the Southwest," Agriculture Experiment Station, Bulletin No. 3, (December, 1952).
- "You and 4-H Club Work," Extension Service, Circular No. 516.
- "Your Role As A 4-H Club Leader," Texas A. and M. College System, Bulletin No 8, (December, 1954).
- "Youth Leads the Way in 4-H Club Work," Texas Agricultural Extension Service, Bulletin 818, (January, 1956).



A FOLLOW-UP STUDY OF THE OCCUPATIONAL PURSUITS OF PARTICIPANTS IN 4-H CLUB WORK IN OKMULGEE COUNTY, OKMULGEE, OKLAHOMA FROM 1940 - 1955

You	r Name Address			
Date				
	(This information is to be used in making a study of occupations followed by 4-H Club members in Okmulgee County from 1940 to 1955).			
1.	Your present occupation			
2.	Total number in family () Married () Single () children ()			
3.	Name of 4-H Club to which you belonged			
4.	How many years did you participate in 4-H Club work? (Circle one). 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9			
5.	Check activities and projects you participated in as a 4-H Club member.			
	Crops () Rabbits () Special Record Books . (Livestock () Handicraft () Truck Gardening (Poultry () Photography () Other			
6.	Did you receive any 4-H achievement awards? If your answer is yes, in which fields were they?			
	1.			
	2.			
	3.			
7.	Did you finish high school?			
8.	If your answer to No. 7 is no, indicate year in school completed			
9.	College education:			
	Name of school attended			
	Location: City State Circle One: Years finished: 1 2 3 graduated			
	Your major Your minor Your minor			
	Degree received			

10.	If	farming what size farm do you farm? Check one.
		10 to 40 acres ()
		41 to 80 acres ()
		81 to 120 acres ()
		121 to 160 acres ()
		161 to 200 acres ()
		200 and above ()
11.	Do	you own livestock? If so, check correct number.
		10 head or less ()
		20 head ()
		Over 50 head ()
12.	a.	Do you feel that being a member of a 4-H Club has helped you succeed in your present occupation?
		Yes No
	b.	If your answer is yes, indicate in what ways you were helped in your present occupation by your 4-H Club participation.
13.	Har	ve you served in the Armed Forces?
14.	Are	e you now in the Armed Forces?