

BULLETIN
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The Agricultural and Mechanical College
of Texas

(In co-operation with the United States Department of Agriculture.)

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No. B-31

FARM BOYS' CLUB
WORK



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FARM BOYS' CLUB WORK

THIS BULLETIN SHOULD BE KEPT IN A
CONVENIENT PLACE FOR FRE-
QUENT REFERENCE.

Farm Boys Club Work as Treated in this Bulletin In-
cludes Corn *Kafir, Peanut, Cotton, Pig,
Baby Beef and Lamb Clubs.

*Kafir has reference to kafir, milo maize and feterita.

FARM BOYS' CLUB WORK.

The Farm Boys' Club Work of Texas is conducted by the Extension Service of the Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas in cooperation with the United States Department of Agriculture. The work embraces the growing of field crops and the raising of live stock. Field crops which club members are permitted to grow consists of corn, cotton, kafir (milo, kafir and feterita), and peanuts; the live stock which they are permitted to raise consists of pigs, calves and lambs. Other farm activities will be added as the work enlarges.

The object of the Farm Boys' Club Work is outlined in Circular A-74, (revised), and Farmers' bulletin 566, of the United States Department of Agriculture.

Each county agricultural agent in Texas has direct supervision of all club work conducted in his county. County school superintendents, school teachers and public spirited citizens desiring to organize or assist in the organization of clubs, or desiring more information concerning them, should direct their request to the county agricultural agent of their county. In case the county has no agricultural agent or official representative of this Service, the request should be made to the Director of Extension Service of the Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas. College Station, Texas.

This Service does not offer prizes to club members. The only prizes that are insured to club members are the products they produce and the increased knowledge of farming and stock raising received by practical experience and the reading of agricultural literature. Practically all county, district and state fair associations offer prizes as encouragement to club members in their work. Club members are urged to compete in all contests in which they are eligible.

ORGANIZATION.

The greatest efficiency and best results in the Boys' Club Work in any county or community can be obtained only when there is active cooperation between the County Agricultural Agent, county school superintendent, teachers and citizens. In a county of average population it is impossible for the County Agent to give sufficient personal attention to each community group of boys to insure the maximum results.

In addition to the moral sympathy and cooperation of the citizens of a community, it is necessary for some active, public spirited person to volunteer and become leader of the boys of the community. As a rule the principal of the community school is in position to best perform this duty.

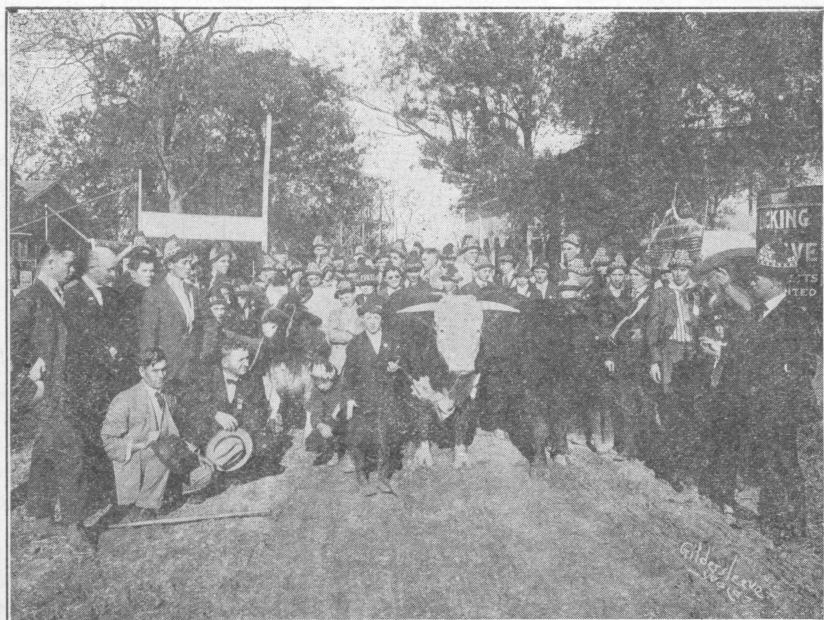
The community leader should not only be a leader in a formal way, but should have the confidence and respect of the boys to the extent that they will look upon him as a "big brother." The local leader should actively assist the County Agent in interesting and enrolling the boys of his

community in the various activities of the boys' club work. As soon as they have been enrolled (see rules) the boys should be assembled in a community meeting, constitution and by-laws prepared and adopted, officers elected, etc. Suggested constitution and by-laws will be found on page 10.

Each community club should meet in regular session at least once each month at the school house or the home of some club member. These meetings should be devoted to the transaction of business and to the discussion of local farm problems. The local leader should assist in conducting meetings of this character. As a rule the County Agent will be able to attend and participate in all regular meetings.

As soon as a community club is organized and officers are elected, notice should be given the County Agent. In case there is no county agent in the county, notice should be given to the office of the Extension Service of the Agricultural and Mechanical College, College Station, Texas.

Scientific farming may be defined as the art of applying the known



A Class in Stock Judging, Farm Boys' Encampment School, Texas Cotton Palace, Waco, Texas, November, 1915.

facts pertaining to agriculture. In order that a boy may become a scientific farmer, as defined, it is necessary for him, in addition to con-



FARM BOYS' ENCAMPMENT

stant practice, to familiarize himself by study with the known facts pertaining to agriculture in its various phases. The facts have been established by the Experiment Stations of the United States Department of Agriculture, the Agricultural Colleges and the experiences of successful farmers.

The farm boy of today has access to a large store of useful agricultural information. This information is being disseminated by means of bulletins of Agricultural Colleges and the U. S. Department of Agriculture, the agricultural press and by personal instruction and demonstrations given by County Agricultural Agents and teachers of agriculture in the public schools. Special effort is made by the Extension Service of the A. and M. College of Texas to furnish club boys with good agricultural literature.

Many of the large fair associations in Texas have been cooperating with the Extension Service in conducting Encampment Schools for club boys. These schools are usually of a week's duration. Club boys attending receive valuable instruction and information in the various phases of agriculture by specialists of the Extension Service of the Agricultural and Mechanical College and the United States Department of Agriculture.

GENERAL RULES GOVERNING CLUBS.

1. All boys between the ages of ten and eighteen on January 1st of the year for which they are enrolling are eligible for membership.
2. In order to become a member it is necessary to make application on a prepared form, which will be furnished by county agricultural agents.
3. Members must agree to grow at least one of the following crops: Corn, cotton, kafir, and peanuts, or raise at least one pig, calf, or lamb.
4. Each member must plant and cultivate his own crops and care for his own live stock. A small boy or girl may hire help to break land.
5. All members should exhibit their live stock and samples of their products at county or State fairs upon request of their agricultural agent.



TEXAS, OCTOBER, 1916.

6. Members must keep an accurate daily record of their work and make a report at the close of the season on a report form furnished by the department through the county agricultural agent.

7. Corn exhibits should consist of ten ears each; kafir exhibits, ten heads each; cotton exhibits, two pounds of seed cotton and ten open bolls; peanut exhibits, one peck of seed peanuts and ten vines with peanuts on them; live stock exhibits, stock that has been raised.

8. Each exhibit should be accompanied (unless otherwise directed) with a report or a certificate signed by two disinterested parties, attesting to the yield per acre, the accuracy in the measurement of the land, and cost of production. In the case of live stock, the report should give cost of production, net profit, and daily gain.

No boys should be permitted to compete for prizes offered to club members unless they are members of the Boys' Club Work.

FIELD CROPS.

9. The following basis of awards should be used in awarding all prizes on corn, cotton, kafir, and peanuts:

(1)	Greatest yield per acre.....	30	per cent
(2)	Best showing of net profit.....	30	per cent
(3)	Best exhibit of products.....	20	per cent
(4)	Best written history of "How I made my Crop".....	20	per cent
	Total	100	per cent

10. In calculating the cost of production, uniform charges should be made as follows:

(a)	Rent of land, per acre.....	\$5.00
(b)	Per hour of work for each member.....	.10
(c)	Per hour of work for each horse used.....	.05
(d)	Per 2-horse load of stable manure.....	2.00
(e)	Commercial fertilizers used.....	actual cost.

11. Item 3 of rule 9 should be judged by a committee of agricultural experts, and items 1, 2 and 4 by a committee of educational experts or teachers.

12. In measuring the yield of corn per acre, the following rule should be used: Weigh corn in the shuck when it is dry. Then weigh out 100 pounds separately. Shuck and shell this 100 pounds and weigh the shelled corn. Multiply the weight of all the corn in the shuck by the weight of this shelled corn. Point off the two right-hand figures and divide by 56. The result will be the yield in bushels of shelled corn.

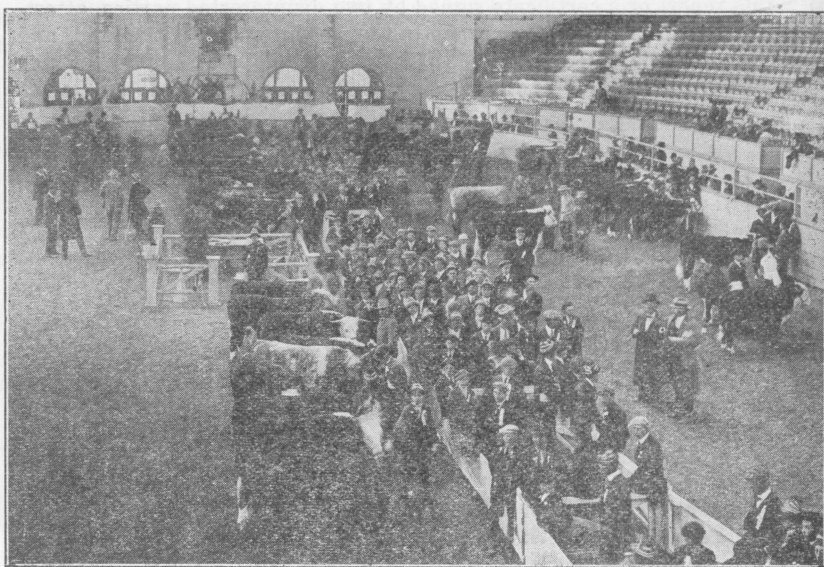
13. In measuring the yield of kafir, use one of the following rules:

(a) In case entire crop is threshed, divide the total weight of the threshed grain by 56, which will give the yield in bushels.

(b) If crop is harvested in heads and is not threshed, weigh the grain in the head, then weigh out 100 pounds separately. Thresh the weight of all the grain in the head by the weight of this threshed grain. Point off the two right-hand figures and divide by 56. The result will be the yield in bushels of threshed grain.

15. In measuring the yield of peanuts per acre, follow the same general rule as for the other crops, that is:

Weigh peanuts on the vine when they have been thoroughly cured. Then weigh out 100 pounds separately. Pick the peanuts from this 100 pounds and weigh the picked nuts. Multiply the weight of all the nuts



Judging Baby Beeves at Feeders and Breeders Exposition, Ft. Worth, Texas March, 1916. One hundred and fifteen entries by club boys.

and vines by the weight of these picked nuts. Point off the two right-hand figures and divide by 30. (If the large Virginia variety is grown, divide by 22.) The result will be the yield in bushels of picked peanuts.

15. In calculating the cost of producing cotton, an additional charge of \$1.00 should be made for each 100 pounds of lint to cover the cost of ginning, wrapping, etc. If the picking is hired, it should be charged at the rate of 10c per hour.

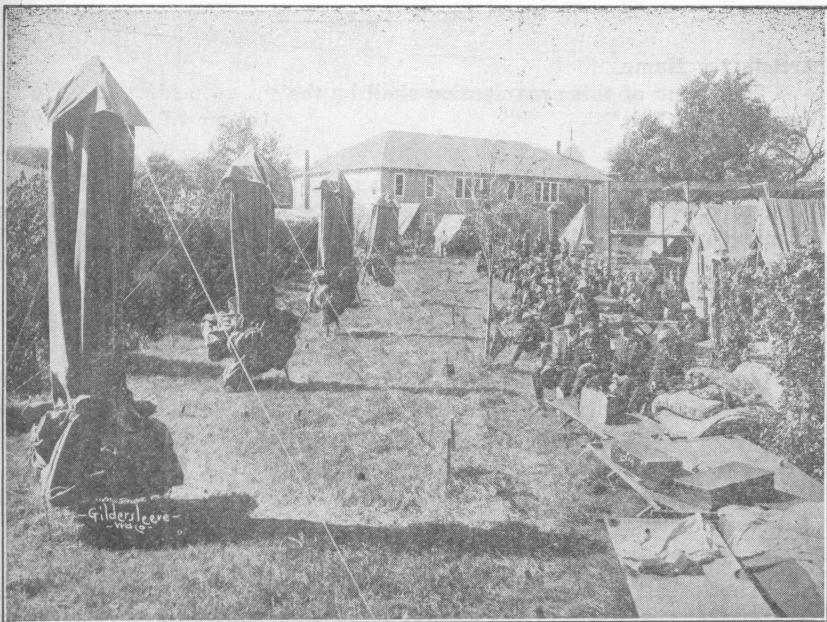
LIVE STOCK.

16. All livestock entered for prizes at county and State fairs should have been owned, fed, and cared for by the exhibitor for at least 120 days prior to being exhibited.

17. A daily record should be kept of the following:

- (a) Kind, cost, and amount of feed used.
- (b) Kind of pasture used and number of days used.
- (c) Time devoted to caring for stock.

18. Animals should be weighed when they come into the possession of the club member and at least at the beginning and ending of the feeding period in order to ascertain the gain made. The date of farrowing of pigs should be recorded.



"FAIR AND WARMER."

After a rainstorm at Farm Boys' Encampment School, Texas Cotton Palace
Waco, Texas, November, 1915.

19. It is suggested that all prizes for live stock be awarded on the following basis:

BABY BEEF, LAMBS AND MARKET HOGS.

- (a) Best animal according to its purpose.....30 points
- (b) Daily gains20 points
- (c) Cost of gain.....30 points
- (d) Story and record.....20 points

SOW WITH LITTER.

- (a) Best sow and litter according to purpose.....25 points
- (b) Rate of gain per pig.....15 points
- (c) Cost of grain, including keep of sow from breeding
to weaning litter30 points
- (d) Percentage of pigs raised to number farrowed...10 points
- (e) Best kept record and story.....20 points

**SUGGESTED CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS FOR FARM
BOYS' CLUB.**

Article 1. Name.

The name of this organization shall be the ".....
Farm Boys' Club." (Name of community)

Article 2. Object.

The object of this club shall be to promote the interest of its members, to provide means for the cooperative study and practice of better farming and community and home building and to give its members such instruction as will tend to develop a profitable diversified system of live stock farming.

Article 3. Membership.

All boys and girls between the ages of ten and eighteen years residing in this community who have been placed on the membership list of the Extension Service of the A. and M. College of Texas, shall constitute the active membership of this organization.

Article 4. Organization.

The officers shall be a president, a secretary-treasurer and vice-president.

Article 5. Meetings.

There shall be a regular annual meeting of the club and such special meetings at times and places as may be determined by the president and the local leader.

Article 6. Elections.

The election of the president and secretary-treasurer shall be at the

regular meetings, and such elections shall be held according to the direction of the local leader.

Article 7. Amendments.

Amendments to this constitution may be made by a majority vote of the members present at any authorized meeting.

BY-LAWS.

Section 1. Duties and Privileges.

It shall be the duty of each member to cooperate as far as possible with his fellow members in the study and practice of better farming, emphasizing the value and importance of producing more feed crops and the raising of live stock, such as baby beeves, hogs, and lambs, to consume it. Each member shall be entitled to one vote in the business meetings of the club. Meetings shall be devoted to the discussion of timely agricultural topics by the members, the local leader and such visitors as may be invited to participate.

Section 2. Officers.

The officers shall be elected to serve for one year and perform such services as are ordinarily required of their positions. They shall serve until the election of their successors.

Section 3. President.

The president shall preside at all meetings of the club.

Section 4. Vice-Presidents.

The vice-presidents shall perform such duties as are ordinarily required by their positions.

Section 5. Secretary-Treasurer.

The secretary-treasurer shall keep a record of all proceedings of the club and shall render a report of the same at each authorized meeting.



THE FEEDING CORRAL.

Farm Boys' Club Encampment School, at Midland Fair, Midland, Texas,
September, 1916.