

ANNUAL NARRATIVE REPORT  
OF  
De Lore Nichols , County Agent,  
Cocconino County, Arizona.

December 1, 1918 to May 6, 1919.

## Crops.

### I. Potatoes

- A. Selection of Seed.
  - a. Better cellar selection than ever before
  - b. Every farmer has made some selection.
  - c. Varieties truer to type.
  - d. Not so badly mixed
- B. Treatment
  - a. 33 farmers
  - b. 1075 acres.

### II. Wheat

- A. Increased acreage
  - a. Purpose
  - b. Small flour mill
- B. Treatment
  - a. 19 farmers
  - b. 525 acres.
- C. Varieties
  - a. Sonora
  - b. Marquis
  - c. Winter

### III. Barley

- A. Treatment
  - a. 3 farmers
  - b. 30 acres

### IV. Oats

- A. Treatment
  - a. 15 farmers
  - b. 340 acres
- B. Varieties
  - a. Swedish Select
  - b. Texas Red
  - c. Germination tests

## II. Livestock.

### A. Feed

- a. Half freight rates
- b. Kind of feed
  - 1. 9 cars hay
  - 2. 7 cars cotton seed cake
- c. 9 stockmen

### B. Hogs vaccinated

- a. 54 head
- b. For 3 farmers

### C. Poultry

- a. Number
  - 1. Flock to most homes in Flagstaff.
  - 2. Great increase over two years ago.

## III.

### Soils.

- A. 4 samples tested.
- B. Need lime and humus.

## IV.

### Farm and Home

#### I. Marketing

- A. Potatoes
  - a. Seed sold.
  - b. Glendale 410 sacks, Prescott and Jerome Junction 584 sacks, Navajo County 30 sacks, Apache 40, and locally 250 sacks.
- B. Grain
  - Wheat located
  - 13,800 pounds

#### 2.

##### Buying

- A. 115 pounds Corrosive Sublimate
  - a. Cost of \$230
  - b. Saving of \$172

#### 3.

- Farm accounts
- 6 farmers cooperating

## V.

### Miscellaneous

- A. Prairie dog campaign
  - a. 146 farmers cooperating
  - b. 3093 quarts used
  - c. 25,000 acres treated.

D I V I S I O N I

C R O P S

I. The work seems to have just commenced with the potato problems of Coconino County. This is very noticeable however: There is a marked improvement over the conditions of two years ago. The farmers are much more interested in the improvement of this crop and they are making an effort to put a better product on the market.

A.

There is a better selection of seed in the cellar, just before planting, than ever before. It is safe to say that no potatoes are being planted this spring which have not undergone some selection. The varieties are now much truer to type than they have been and also care is now taken to avoid mixed varieties.

B.

A little over three times as many seed potatoes will be treated this year as compared with last. This speaks well of the treatment. Thirty-three farmers will treat a total of about 1075 acres. This acreage is not exactly correct but is an estimate because few acres have been planted up to the present time. Enough corrosive sublimate has been purchased however by the thirty-three farmers to treat well over the 1075 acres. In 1918 there were 324 acres treated.

One more ~~year~~ of concerted efforts will bring a marked improvement of the Coconino potatoes. Many acres when inspected can be put out as certified seed. At that time this county will be on the potato map to remain permanently.

II. Wheat is becoming a leading crop in this county.

A. The acreage will be twice if not three times as large as that of 1918. It is a sure crop here and should be added to the list of cash crops. The acreage should be increased each year until some one could be induced to install a small flour mill. One man has even stated that he intends to build a mill this summer.

B. Nineteen farmers will treat about 525 acres which is even larger than the acreage grown last year, when 207 acres were treated by 13 farmers.

C. Sonora and Marquis have proved to be the best varieties of those tried out. While winter wheat is now in good condition it is still doubtful if it is a sure crop here. Spring wheat is better and is not so great a gamble.

III. Barley is always successful and is a very good crop in this part of the state. Three farmers will treat some 30 acres.

IV.

A. Fifteen farmers will treat some 340 acres of oats as compared with 3 farmers who treated 101 acres last year.

B. The Swedish Select are considered the best variety with Texas Red following second. In a number of germination tests I have found that the Swedish Select have given as high as 88% germination while in no instance have the Red given as good and as a rule it has been around 70%. In every case the Red have not come up even. Many times it has been several weeks from the time the first had sprouted until the last ones came up. This is very unsatisfactory and gives the preference to the Swedish Select. It is a big advantage to the farmers to produce their own seed.

The poor germination of the Red oats seems to be due to uneven ripening and early frosts.

D I V I S I O N   I I

L I V E S T O C K

I. The range livestockmen have been assisted by issuing certificates for half freight rates on feed for starving range stock.

A. Nine cars of hay and 7 cars of cotton seed cake were bought by 9 stockmen who obtained the half freight rate.

The cattle have been located and advice given to farmers who intend to buy some 50 head. These cattle will be kept under fence.

B. Work was done to control a case of hog cholera.

34 head were vaccinated for one farmer. Several of these died but the disease was put under control. On two other farms 20 head were vaccinated to prevent the disease.

C. A survey of poultry work done at Flagstaff a year ago showed that nearly every home has a backyard flock. This shows a great increase and that the number has just about reached the maximum. The improvement now must be to keep better birds.

D I V I S I O N   I I I  
S O I L S

D I V I S I O N   I V  
F A R M   a n d   H O M E

### III. Soils.

Four samples of soil were sent to the University of Arizona Chemist and were returned in each case with this advice: "Add limestone and turn under a green cover crop". The farmers from whose places the samples were taken live near Mormon Lake and intend to follow these suggestions.

This condition is quite general thruout the county. There is no doubt but what the soils need the lime and humus. A campaign should be pushed at once to improve conditions.

### IV. Farm and Home

I. Much time was spent with the marketing of potatoes and grain.

A. 410 sacks of potatoes were found and shipped to Glendale, 584 shipped to Prescott and Jerome Junction, 30 to Navajo and 40 to Apache Counties, 250 sacks changed hands locally. These potatoes were used for seed, and were sold by the agents efforts. They were sold from a number of farms and would perhaps have been left in the cellars had some one not handled the work who had time and taken charge in locating and getting them together. No one man had enough to load them out alone.

B. 13,800 pounds of seed wheat was located at Red Lake and shipped to farmers at Flagstaff. The business was done by the agent.

2. A saving was made on the purchase of corrosive sublimate direct from a wholesale house. 115 pounds were bought for \$230 with a saving to 33 farmers of \$173.

3. Farm account books have been given to 6 farmers who have promised to give their attention to the proper methods of farm accounts and also to act as demonstrators.

D I V I S I O N   V  
M I S C E L L A N E O U S

V. A campaign has been waged against the prairie dogs in cooperation with the Bureau of Biological Survey. Free poison grain has been distributed to the farmers with a limit of 20 quarts to each. After this has been used poisoned grain can then be bought for 12 ¢ per Quart.

146 farmers have cooperated. They have used 3093 quarts and have treated some 25,000 acres.

The results have not been checked up but in some instances the results have been very satisfactory. Several farmers have reported as high as 95 % of the dogs killed on their farms.