

PIMA COUNTY, ARIZONA

ANNUAL REPORT

ROBERT E. OBERLY
ASSISTANT COUNTY AGRICULTURAL AGENT

DECEMBER 1, 1954

to

JUNE 30, 1955

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Robert E. Oberly
Pima County
1955

SUMMARY

Parents and the 4-H Club Council members have been very much interested in club work. Agents are getting better cooperation from these groups in fairs and county events. Interest in starting more clubs in the fall is high. I believe leadership can be found in rural areas for new clubs. Interest in the Marana area is increasing and new leadership will make the agricultural club a strong organization in this area.

Publicity is easy to obtain in the county. We do not have to depend upon the Tucson daily newspapers for publicity. The "Pima County Farmer" and a paper called the "Livewire" print everything we can give them. Radio and television stations are very cooperative also.

Most of the agent's work consists of answering calls on horticulture problems from county residents surrounding the Tucson area. Many suburban residents rely upon the agent's office for a source of information concerning ornamentals, fruit trees and lawns. Some days a considerable number of such calls are received.

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I. SITUATION

The situation has changed very little in Pima County on the adult program from the Annual Report.

Dry weather has caused considerable concern among ranchers. It has not rained much during the winter and spring to bring any spring grasses. Supplemental feeding will be necessary to bring cattle through the early summer.

The yellow clover aphid is a very serious insect on alfalfa this year. There was considerable dusting of alfalfa fields in the county. High winds continually reinfest fields. Claims were made that Malathion dust was not getting kills. Cool weather was also blamed for the inadequate kills of the aphid. Some farmers switched to parathion dust. The greatest damage of the insect is the large amount of honey dew. The honey dew turns the hay black in color and gives off a black dust due to the fungus on the honey dew. This situation can ruin the hay after it is baled.

Leadership in 4-H club work can always be improved. We need new leaders in some areas for new clubs and some to split up large clubs.

The 4-H Council has been very active and should continue as long as the agents let them do things to plan the program and help with it.

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Pima County
1955

II. ORGANIZATION

The County Agent organizes all the adult program and the assistant agent helps in the program. No change has taken place in the organization since December worth noting in this report at this time.

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III. PROGRAM PLANNING

Much of the program planning work was done through the 4-H Council this year. The Council held 4 meetings since December to plan different events during the year. Attendance for each meeting averaged 30 people.

Many times committees were appointed by the council president to handle different events. The 4-H Club Christmas Party was organized by the council through committees. 4-H club week and a 4-H Club Talent Show were organized and carried out by council committees. Committees of the council were responsible for different phases of the 4-H Fair. Usually one of the agents served on each committee to assist in the planning. Committees were appointed early enough for them to report at the next council meeting. The system of an active council with committees handling the work is very efficient method of carrying out a program with the people taking part. The president usually met with the agent before each council meeting and the president was usually told to contact committees and chairmen regarding their reports. This method always helps to get a committee meeting scheduled if the chairman forgot to hold the meeting.

The program plan made last October for the county was used as a basic plan for 4-H Club work.

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IV. INFORMATION PROGRAM

The two Tucson daily papers have been very cooperative in publishing articles on activities in the county. "The Pima County Farmer" was started this year in Tucson. It is published every two weeks and they have printed many articles for the office. Trico Electric also publishes a little paper and uses the agents articles in their publication. Publicity will continue to be excellent if the agents give them enough material to use every week.

Radio and television have been very cooperative with their time. There were fourteen TV shows and 4 radio shows prepared so far this year to advertise events of 4-H club work in the county.

There were 8 programs held for civic clubs in the county in order to acquaint the public with 4-H club work and show what 4-H club members can do.

Motion pictures and other visual aids were used this year in 4-H clubs and farm organizations. They are used to supplement the program in most cases of use. Slides taken at events are used to help acquaint parents of club members and friends with club work.

Many circulars and bulletins were distributed through people coming to the office for assistance or people calling for information.

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V. PROJECTS

3. Horticulture

County residents call regarding problems on raising ornamentals around the home. One afternoon was devoted toward assisting in a pruning demonstration at Mr. Dudgeon's orchard.

A. Fertilization

Many calls received request information regarding plant feeding. Nitrogen is the main plant food need for lawns and shrubs in the area. Iron sulfate is often recommended in many cases.

B. Diseases

Crown gall and root rot continues to be the main cause of most trees and shrubs dying in the Tucson area.

Nematodes and brown spot cause trouble in many Tucson area lawns.

Mildew has been very severe in some cases on shrubs.

C. Irrigation

Many troubles arise from improper irrigation in the Tucson area. Water should be applied according to soil and conditions. Many times people irrigate every day, but when one checks for moisture, one finds little. This is due to improper penetration. This agent has stressed the importance of checking after irrigation to determine penetration depth.

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V. PROJECTS (continued)

4. Livestock

A. Beef Cattle

Ranges received little rain during the winter and spring. Some supplemental feeding may be necessary to hold cattle. Not much to report at this time regarding cattle changes.

B. Swine

There has been some interest in raising market hogs in the area. This agent prepared some information regarding swine raising. Some corn may be grown in Arizona to feed hogs in the area. The mimeographed material was prepared mainly to emphasize the costs of production.

A copy of this mimeographed material has been attached to this report.

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V. PROJECTS (continued)

6. Poultry

Poultry prices have been low in the area this year forcing some producers out of business. Many people from the East or Midwest have visited with agent concerning poultry production in the area.

The poultry organization has been very active in the area and will continue to be meeting every month.

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V. PROJECTS (continued)

7. Agronomy

A. Alfalfa - Alfalfa acreage may be decreased in the county due to the yellow clover aphid causing considerable damage. Cost of dusting is running close to \$3.75 per acre for dust and application.

B. Corn - Some corn is being planted in the county this year. The Texas variety is the one being tried on small acreages.

C. Barley - Very little barley was planted this year. Many farmers found that they were merely changing dollars on this crop where they had a lift of over 100 '.

D. Soybeans - Many farmers are trying 20 acre blocks of soy beans. They received seed through the Arizona Crop Improvement Association. These plots are still on the experimental basis.

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V. PROJECTS (continued)

9. Engineering

Time was devoted to assisting county residents with plans for cattle feeders and milking parlors. One farmer wanted information on a goat dairy milking parlor. The agent assisted the dairy man with plans.

A tractor maintenance club was started this year. Implement dealers in the Tucson area have cooperated with the program. The agent contacted all the different dealers and they have participated in the program by furnishing meeting places and experienced men for the lessons.

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V. PROJECTS (continued)

10. Entomology

County residents contacted the agent's office in regard to household insects and the Khapra Beetle.

Railroad officials contacted the office regarding the Khapra Beetle quarantine. The main concern is the movement of grain through the state.

Tucson residents have called concerning insect pests in the homes. Ants, cockroaches, carpet beetles, termites and silverfish are the subject of many of the calls.

Insects in crops are under crops in report.

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VI. OUTLOOK AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The adult leadership program should have a recognition banquet to recognize volunteer 4-H leadership in the county. Some work was done in this matter, but nothing has been accomplished at the present time. The agent contacted some civic clubs on the matter.

A recognition program would help the 4-H leadership program in the county. There has been no organized recognition in the county.

COOPERATIVE EXTENSION WORK
 IN
 AGRICULTURE AND HOME ECONOMICS
 State of Arizona
 106 North Court Street
 Tucson

University of Arizona
 College of Agriculture
 U. S. Department of Agriculture
 And Pima County Cooperating

Agricultural Extension Service
 Home Demonstration Work
 County Agent Work

March 16, 1955

FEEDING, CARE AND MARKETING OF HOGS

Breeds

One could use three or four breeds and cross every generation using a pure bred boar on the cross bred gilts. Cross breeding of gilt and boar both which are cross breeds may result in wide variety in litters.

Possibly Hampshire, Duroc and Poland China are the easiest to obtain in Arizona.

Costs (Page 15) Swine Raising in Arizona

Feed/pig from weaning to 200lb. wt.

Pasture	120	\$1.00
Protein supplement	56.2	2.50
Hegari or barley	860 or	24.00
	915	<u>\$27.50</u> cost per pig*

* based on six pigs per litter and feed of sow. Cost will decrease per pig if more pigs are raised per litter.

Page 6, column 4 & 5 will give you a comparison on pigs in pasture and pigs not in pastures.

Feed required per 100 lb gain (4)

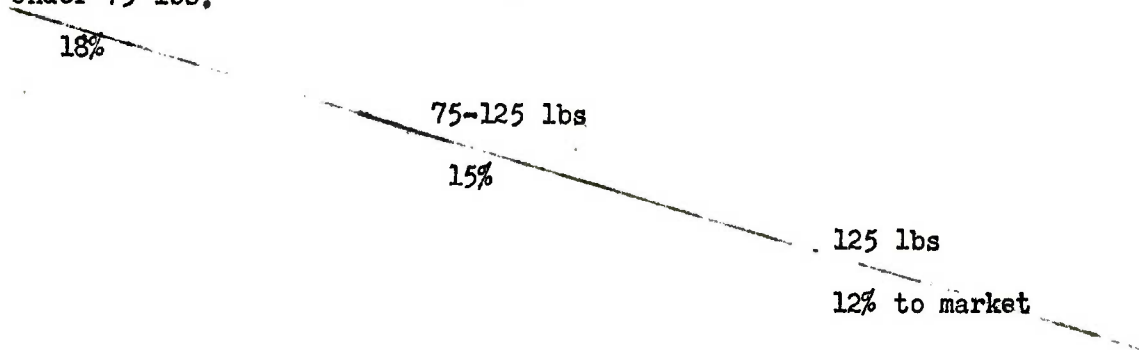
Hegari	116	314	(takes nearly 2/3 more feed concentrate on no pasture)
Tankage	13	35	
Alfalfa pasture	188		
Alfalfa Hay		<u>35</u>	
Cost of Feed	\$3.17	\$3.67	

The best method of feeding is to mix concentrates and protein supplements and feed pigs on self feed. If you buy a protein hog supplement you would not use a mineral mix because most protein supplements will contain minerals.

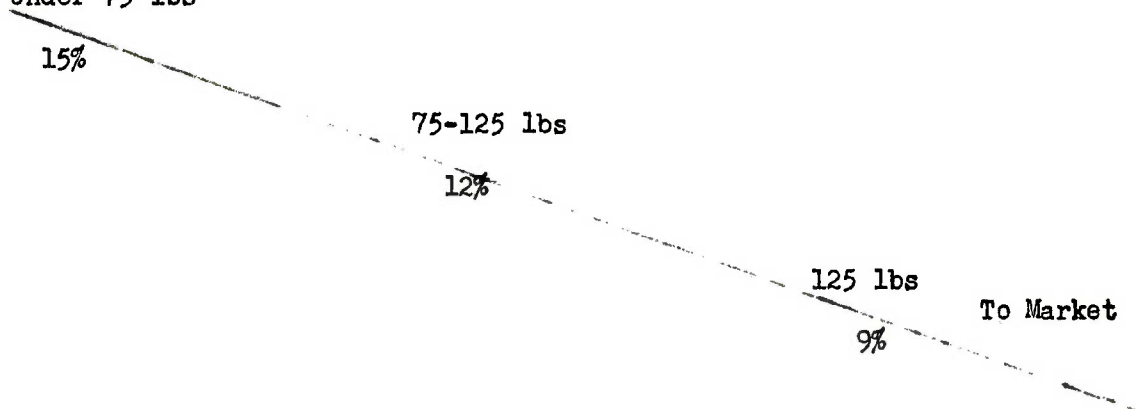
FEEDING, CARE AND MARKETING OF HOGS:(Cont'd)

Protein content of feed required for different size pigs

Without pasture
Under 75 lbs.



On Pasture
Under 75 lbs



Protein supplement for Hogs:

The protein supplement should contain at least two different protein sources, cotton seed meal and tankage meat scraps or fish meal. If alfalfa pasture is used, alfalfa meal is not necessary.

Care of Sow

A sow will consume about one to one and one-half pounds of concentrates a day per 100 lbs of weight before farrowing. Sows under 18 months of age before farrowing should take 1- $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. of concentrate a day. This depends on condition of sow and one must use own judgment to keep them in condition.

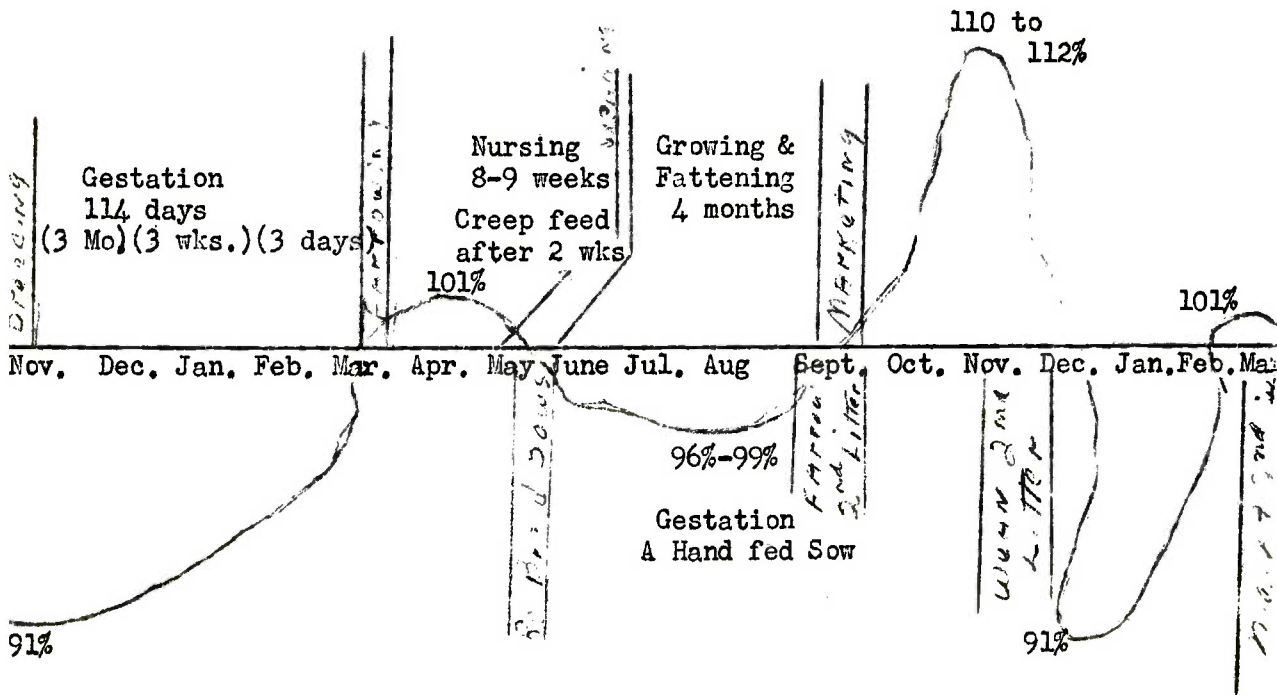
Reduce regular ration about $\frac{1}{3}$ about 3 days before farrowing. Equal parts of oats and bran is a good ration prior to farrowing and after farrowing. Do not feed 24 hours after farrowing. Bring sow to full feed in 10 days after farrowing. Amount of feed will be from 10 to 14 lbs. a day, 10 days after farrowing.

FEEDING, CARE AND MARKETING OF HOGS (Cont'd)

Schedule of "Events"

- 2 weeks - Creep feed
- 4 to 6 weeks - castarate
- 8 weeks - wean
- Cut needle teeth on pigs after farrowing
- 10 to 12 weeks - worm if necessary

Breeding and Marketing



Based on Chicago Markets

Enclosure: Swine Raising in Arizona

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cc: 25