

SUGGESTIONS TO V.A. BOYS ON HOW TO WORK ON THEIR  
APPLICATIONS FOR LONE STAR AND AMERICAN FARMER DEGREES

GENERAL STATEMENT:

When a boy enrolls in Vocational Agriculture and joins the F.F.A., he should endeavor to find out what the organization has to offer and begin making plans to achieve the highest that it offers. Do not expect to go very far by careless, indifferent planning and little effort. Hitch your wagon to a star and keep on pulling. Below you will find some suggestions that I believe will be helpful in planning your work toward Lone star and American farmer degrees. Do not enroll in Vocational Agriculture unless you are interested in farming. Keep these suggestions handy and follow them daily.

1. FARMING PROGRAM:

1. Join the F.F.A. soon after enrolling in Vocational Agriculture class and always pay your dues early.
2. Plan a long time project program with your teachers help, the first year in V.A. and strive to carry it out, keep this plan available in your records.
  - (b) Select the enterprises most suited to your farm as a major enterprise.
  - (c) Select proper contributory enterprises.
  - (d) Select some cash crops as minor enterprises.
3. Select and do at least 15 supervised practice jobs yearly, keeping an accurate record on what is done, time job done, scope of job, (select jobs that will improve the home farm situation)
4. Keep an accurate, complete set of project records in John Deers record book and class record book.
  - (a) post a job the day that it is done----Labor record
  - (b) post a sale the day it is made-----receipts record
  - (c) post an expense the time it is incurred---expense record
  - (d) remember a product used at home has a value--used at home record, rec.
5. Carry projects records on all livestock that you own.
6. Invest your net income in some sound investment.
  - a. Livestock
  - b. Land
  - c. Farm equipment and buildings.
  - d. Loans to responsible creditors.
  - e. F.F.A. thrift banks
  - f. Life Insurance
  - g. Stocks and bonds
  - h. Other sound investments
  - i. Keep an accurate record of any money spent on dependents
7. Keep an accurate record of all investments and property owned, including values, rent, taxes and depreciation.
8. Keep an accurate record of all money earned by self in farming and non farming activities. (this is called for in American farmer application)
9. Keep an accurate record of all farm business transactions, changes in present methods and management that you have helped change on home farm or done on an independent basis.
10. Keep an accurate record of all money borrowed.
11. Use purebred livestock and certified seed.
12. Put into practice the scientific principles that you learn in class, on your home farm. (this will show your dad the way)

13. Keep an accurate record of all property held in partnership, (livestock, land, etc.) and how you obtained it.
14. Keep a written record of your renting arrangements each year.
15. Each time you buy or obtain land, livestock, equipment, etc., keep a record of the price, how obtained, when and where, and if bought how you got the money.
16. Keep an accurate production record on crops, livestock and poultry and know amount of feed, seed, etc., that you have on hand at any time.
17. Include at least one improvement project in your program each year.
18. In summing up the above statements, I would say "Know your farming business by records"

## II. LEADERSHIP PROGRAM:

1. Be an active F.F. A. member, participating in all chapter activities as much as possible.
2. Gain the respect and confidence of your fellow members and prove your ability as a leader and be elected to an office.
3. Always serve on committees when appointed.
4. Try to make as many judging teams as you are allowed.
5. Participate in Interscholastic league work.
6. Participate in class activities, and get elected to class office, if you are a leader.
7. Try to make other teams representing the school.
8. Attend local chapter meetings regularly.  
(b) attend district, area state and national F.F.A. conventions.
9. Assist in your home community programs, evening schools, chamber of commerce programs and other cooperative programs.
10. Participate in fairs and shows, keeping all ribbons, entry records, lists of places and money won.
11. Be in attendance at church, sunday school and young peoples religious meetings regularly.
12. Learn the purposes, constution, by-laws, creed, motto, symbols, ceremonies of F.F.A.
13. Learn the degree requirements.
14. Earn as many certificates of merit as possible. (3 required for L.S. Farmer)
15. Keep an individual scrap book of project pictures, chapter activities, program plans, newspaper clippings, or anything pertaining to F.F.A. (this will prove very helpful when making your application)

## III. SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM:

1. Attend school regularly.
2. Strive to make good grades in all school subjects, (you must have satisfactory grades)
3. Enter literary contests.
4. Try to make all your teachers see that you are as interested in their course, as in V.A. (some teachers are inclined to think some boys spend much time in F.F.A. and Vocational Agriculture.