

Extension and Research. Agriculture and Home Economics.

The Extension Service is that branch of the University of Maryland, established by Federal and State law, which is designed to assist the farmer and his family in promoting the prosperity and welfare of agriculture and rural life. Its work is conducted in co-operation with the United States Department of Agriculture.

The Extension Service is represented in each county of the State by a county agent and in all but a few counties by a home demonstration agent. Through these agents and its staff of specialists, the Extension Service comes into intimate contact with rural people and with the problems of the farm and home.

Practically every phase of agriculture and rural home life comes within the scope of the work undertaken by the Extension Service. Farmers are supplied with details of crop and livestock production, and with instructions for controlling disease and insect pests; they are encouraged and aided in organized effort, helped with marketing problems, and in every way possible assisted in improving economic conditions on the farm.

Rural women are likewise assisted in the problems of the home. They are made acquainted with time and labor-saving devices, with simpler and easier methods of work, with new knowledge of foods, with new ideas about home furnishing, with practical methods of home sewing and millinery construction, and with such other information as tends to make rural home life attractive and satisfying.

For rural boys and girls, the Extension Service provides a valuable type of instruction in agriculture and home economics through its 4-H Club work. The instruction is incident to actual demonstrations conducted by the boys and girls themselves. These demonstrations, under supervision of the county and home demonstration agents, are the best possible means of imparting to youthful minds valuable information in crop and livestock production and in the household arts. The 4-H Club work, moreover, affords rural boys and girls a very real opportunity to develop the qualities of self-confidence, perseverance, and leadership.

The Extension Service works in accord with all other branches of the University of Maryland and with all agencies of the United States Department of Agriculture. It co-operates with all farm and community organizations in the State which have as their major object the improvement of agriculture and rural life; and it aids in every way possible in making effective the regulatory work and other measures instituted by the State Board of Agriculture.

General Extension.

This phase of the extension service of the University is conducted in co-operation with the United States Bureau of Education and is intended to make the Liberal Arts and branches of the curriculum, other than Agriculture and Home Economics, of greater service to the people of the State.

Agricultural Experiment Station.

The agricultural work of the University naturally comprises three fields: research, instruction, and extension. The Agricultural Experiment Station is the research agency of the University, which has for its purpose the increase of knowledge relating to agriculture, primarily for the direct benefit of the farmer. It is also the real source of agricultural information for use in the classroom and for demonstrations in the field.