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FARM MANAGEMENT SERVICE NOTES. No.1.

The Purpose of Farm Management Service Notes.

Heretofore the results of investigational work in Farm Management have been published through the medium of bulletins at five-year periods. This means that a number of valuable points that are of the most use at the time of study are lost because of the long time consumed in publishing the material. It is the aim of the Division of Farm Management to investigate the business of farming in all its various aspects and relations. To make the results of such study of the greatest value to the farmers it seems imperative that the information be given to those who are now working with the farmers endeavoring to place the business of farming on a profitable basis. This simply means placing this information in usable form, before the county agents, extension workers and others coming in direct contact with large numbers of farmers. Scientific publications are of little value to the farmer at the present time. Popular bulletins are of more value, but it is not believed that much use is made even of the information contained in the majority of popular bulletins now published.

The service notes to be put out from time to time would contain special items of information regarding timely subjects in which the farmer is interested, such as the feeding of stock and the arrangement of fields and farmsteads, and the successful practice of any enterprise on a farm which has practical application to other farms similarly situated. In this way they would be more valuable than would be the popular bulletins. Unless the farm demonstrators are kept in touch with the results of investigational work, the greatest good cannot come from the study of farm operations and conditions. There should be a place for county agents, extension workers and others dealing directly with the farmers, to secure special information regarding problems in farm management. The replies given could be used in these notes for the benefit of the entire corps of agricultural workers.

There has not been enough publicity given to specific farm problems which have been solved by practical farmers and which have a practical application to many other farms. We would urge county agents, demonstration workers and extension men to send in to the division a brief statement of any successful farm practice that, to their minds, deserves special attention and publicity for other farmers who may need this very kind of knowledge to solve their problems.