

Grassland FFA'ers tell 'Food for America' story

Children at the Union Grove elementary school (s) are learning about agriculture this week from Garden Spot High School vocational agriculture students who know from firsthand experience and study what agriculture is all about. The instructors for the elementary students are all members of the Grassland FFA chapter, who are conducting the class in agriculture for elementary school children as part of the FFA's new "Food For America" program.

"Food For America" is an effort by FFA chapters across the nation to tell the story of modern agriculture to elementary school children. Chapter members are being aided in their effort by a set of instructional resource materials that includes a Farm Art Book and a film provided through the National FFA Organization. The Farm Art Book contains interesting illustrations of agricultural facts that students can color or illustrate themselves while the film - Food From Farm To You - explains in elementary terms how food is produced and ends up on supermarket shelves.

The entire "Food For America" project is co-sponsored through the National FFA Foundation, Inc., by four agricultural businesses: American Breeders Service, Division of W. R. Grace & Company; J I Case, A Tenneco Company; Chemagro Agricultural Division of Moby Chemical Corporation, and Dekalb AgResearch, Inc.

Funds from the sponsoring companies and from the FFA Foundation General Fund have been used to develop and distribute resource materials and to offset the costs of distributing the film.

"We are concerned that so few young people understand where their food comes from," says Grassland Chapter President LaVern Martin. "Our members are well qualified to help elementary school children learn about agriculture because of the knowledge and experience we've gained in the vocational agriculture



Grassland FFA members participating in the one acre corn contest were (front) Tim Weaver and Tom Wentzel. (Back from left) Linford Weaver, Bill Hughes, Dan Witwer and Rick Groff. The member's yields ranged from 100-175 bushels per acre.

courses and by actual experience on the farm and in local agricultural business.

Following the classroom instruction and film on agriculture, chapter members have arranged a tour for the elementary school children to the Bob Book farm. On the tour the children will see and touch live animals and farm crops. For many it will be the first experience on a farm and a highlight of the entire "Food For America" program.

Silver Spurs 4-H meets

The Silver Spurs 4-H club met recently at the home of Carol Kinzer. Jim Glick, president, conducted the business meeting. Two visitors, Patti and Denise Sangrey, were introduced. Demonstrations were given by Carol Kinzer, Leslie Winpenny and Richard Hecker.

The next meeting will be held at the home of Brian and Mike McCall on April 2. Members enjoyed a taffy pull following the meeting.

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