

Preface

Participants, instructors and assessors should take note of the conditions as laid down in the Award Handbook.

This programme is for guidance and is not to be taken as a rigid syllabus. To indicate the content appropriate to young people with varying degrees of knowledge and experience, it is arranged under three different headings: **'For beginners'**, **'For those with some knowledge'**, and **'For the more advanced'**, and participants are free to select as broad or as restricted an aspect of this skill as they wish, but appropriate social and cultural aspects are to be covered

NATURE

Introduction

This activity should include as much practical work as possible, preferably undertaken through a group or a club. An awareness of the social, cultural and historical aspects of agriculture should also be developed, e.g. early farming techniques, the transition from an agricultural to an urban society and agriculture in other parts of the world.

Participants must recognise that in keeping an animal they undertake responsibility for its well being, both mental and physical. It is essential too that before acquiring an animal they gain sufficient knowledge to look after it properly and to ensure that it does not suffer in any way.

Due regard should always be given to health hazards and safe working practices.

For Assessment: evidence of individual progress, sustained interest and a commitment of genuine leisure time should also be shown over the required period. This may take the form of a written report, diary, display, talk or photographic record. Group activities are to be assessed with regard to each individual's contribution to planning, execution and completion.

For beginners

Participants starting this activity should:

Part I - Practical

- 1 Join a Young Farmers' Club if possible. Attend regularly and take part in all activities.
- 2 If possible, carry out voluntary work on a farm at weekends and/or holidays.
- 3 Keep some form of small livestock, such as chickens, rabbits, bees, guinea pigs or hamsters, for at least six consecutive months, or adopt and tend an animal on a farm for the same period.
- 4 Make a collection of books, pamphlets and /or magazine cuttings on agricultural subjects and mount them under appropriate headings.

AGRICULTURE

Skill Section

Part II - Records

- 5 Keep a diary of all agricultural activities.
- 6 Stock Record - Keep a feeding and progress chart of any livestock kept or tended.

Part III - Theory

- 7 Animal husbandry
 - (a) know the characteristics of one breed from each of the following types of cattle:
 - (i) dairy (ii) beef (iii) dual purpose
 - (b) know the meaning of:
 - (i) butterfat (ii) steaming up (iii) mastitis (iv) stripping (v) pedigree (vi) milk recording
 - (c) know the meaning of: (i) weaner (ii) store (iii) landrace (iv) dead-weight
- 8
 - (a) know the main characteristics of:
 - (i) oats (ii) wheat (iii) barley
 - (b) know the main characteristics of:
 - (i) mangolds (ii) swedes (iii) turnips (iv) sugar beet
 - (c) know the main characteristics of:
 - (i) meadow hay (ii) leys (iii) silage (iv) dried grass

For those with some knowledge

Participants should:

Part I - Practical

- 9 Join a Young Farmers' Club if at all possible, attend regularly and participate fully.
- 10 Undertake practical work on a farm or the equivalent.
- 11 Have the sole responsibility for some form of livestock, or adopt or tend regularly a farm animal or animals.

Part II - Collections and Records

- 12 Keep a diary of Young Farmers' Club and practical activities.
- 13 Keep a feeding and progress chart of livestock kept or tended (this may be included in no. 12)
- 14 Make a collection of cuttings and relevant material about one or more agricultural topics.

Part III - Theory

Have a knowledge of:

- 15 Animal husbandry
 - (a) dairy cattle - general management and diet of a cow from calf to calf
 - (b) beef cattle - points to look for in a beef steer
 - (c) sheep - four common breeds and characteristics
 - (d) pigs - four common breeds and characteristics

- 16 Crop husbandry
 - (a) corn - how to identify in the blade, and name one variety of oats, wheat and barley
 - (b) roots - characteristics and uses of mangolds, swedes, turnips, sugar beet, fodder beet and kale
 - (c) leys - grasses and clovers used in temporary leys

- 17 Manuring and liming
 - (a) organic - the advantages of farmyard, green and liquid manure
 - (b) inorganic - name the chemical fertilisers that supply nitrate of potash and kainit
 - (c) forms of lime available

- 18 Machinery
 - (a) a milking machine
 - (b) a tractor

For the more advanced

Participants should:

Part I - Practical

- 19 Be a regular member of a Young Farmers' Club if possible, and show a positive contribution by, for example, being a member of a club team or an official, or organising some specific activity or any individual effort for the benefit of the club.

20. Undertake practical work on a farm, or equivalent, during the stipulated period with at least three separate or consecutive whole working days.

21. Either
 - (a) as no. 11
 - or:
 - (b) show ability to prepare a cow for milking including feeding and grooming, and to milk out including stripping by hand or machine. Also show practical knowledge of milk recording and utensil sterilising
 - or:
 - (c) show ability to hand - rear a calf to weaning, or to feed and tend pigs from weaning to slaughter, or to feed and tend ewes and lambs or to feed and tend stores or fattening bullocks.

Skill Section

Note - An alternative to this could be machinery: show ability to use a tractor for at least two farm operations.

Part II - Records

- 22 Keep a diary and/or record of:
- (a) Young Farmers' Club activities
 - (b) feeding and progress of livestock kept or tended

Part III - Theory

- 23 Animal husbandry
- (a) dairy cattle - how to feed for maintenance and milk. Features of two common complaints
 - (b) beef cattle - how to feed and maintain stores and fatteners
 - (c) sheep - common foods and methods of feeding
 - (d) pigs - modern management and feeding
 - (e) horses - two breeds and general management
- 24 Crop husbandry
- (a) corn - name one variety each for both spring and winter, wheat, oats and barley and general cultivations before and after sowing
 - (b) roots - manuring and cultivations for any two crops
 - (c) leys - methods of laying down leys and comparison of cropping methods
- 25 Manuring and liming
- (a) organic - farmyard manure and methods of making and distribution
 - (b) inorganic - nitrate of potash and kainit, per cent for soil testing
 - (c) liming - pH - crop needs
- 26 Pest control
- (a) selective weed killers - one example, virtues and dangers
 - (b) insecticides - one example and method of use
- 27 Machinery - maintenance and use of;
- (a) milking machine
 - (b) tractor
 - (c) tractor plough
 - (d) seed drill