



# What Do You Know About Fiction & Agricultural Education?

By Gary Moore

During the early days of agricultural education and the FFA, few students lived in areas where electricity was available. There were a few radios but the primary mode of entertainment in the evening was reading. Every book mentioned in this quiz are actual books about agricultural education. Go to the Head of the Class if you can answer the following "Fiction" related questions. Answers are on page 25.

1. The keynote speaker at the first FFA Convention in 1928 was John F. Case. Mr. Case was a:
  - A. Writer who wrote books about vocational agriculture, 4-H, and Scouting.
  - B. Noted author of juvenile sports books.
  - C. Famous Shakespearean actor.
  - D. Columnist who had a monthly column in *Boys Life*.
2. A magazine that called itself "the only national publication for F.F.A. chapters" started in 1935 and was published until the 1950s. This magazine carried a variety of short stories and other features designed to appeal to FFA members. It was:
  - A. Boys Life
  - B. The Future Farmer
  - C. The Blue and Gold
  - D. The American Farm Youth
3. The first novel glorifying vocational agriculture was published in 1925. The name of this book was:
  - A. The Hurricane Mystery
  - B. Tom of Peace Valley
  - C. Ranching on Eagle Eye
  - D. Secret of Silver Peak
4. In 1932 *The Greenhand* was published. This novel showed how FFA transformed a thug into a worthwhile citizen. The novel was written by Paul Chapman who was:
  - A. Executive Secretary of the national FFA
  - B. A teacher educator at Virginia Tech.
  - C. Dean of agriculture at the University of Georgia
  - D. Editor of the Missouri Ruralist (a farm newspaper)
5. In 1940 *The Greenhand* was:
  - A. Made into a movie and showed in theaters across the country.
  - B. Condensed by *Readers Digest* and included in their annual volume of condensed books.
  - C. Awarded the Peabody Award for juvenile literature.
  - D. Translated into Spanish.
6. For many years the official FFA manual contained a:
  - A. Review of 2-3 worthwhile books for young people
  - B. List of novels that would be of interest to young people
  - C. Short story on the back two pages of the manual
  - D. Coupon that could be clipped and mailed to order juvenile books from the Salkeld Publishing Company in Akron, Ohio.
7. Sarah Lindsay Schmidt, published a number of agricultural education novels (*New Land*, *The Secret of Silver Peak*, *Shadow Over Winding Ranch*). Which of the following statements about these novels is not true?
  - A. Typically the lead character is an orphan.
  - B. Each novel contains conflict, a foreboding mortgage and a girl to be wooed.
  - C. There is a malevolent school adversary whose father is typically the local prominent citizen.
  - D. The application of modern farming practices save the day
8. Tom of Peace Valley, Moon Valley and Peace Valley Warrior were all written by:
  - A. Sarah Lindsay Schmidt
  - B. Paul Chapman
  - C. John Case
  - D. A. W. Nolan
9. *Short Stories for Future Farmers* was published by Interstate in 1936. The individual who compiled these stories was:
  - A. A. W. Nolan, agricultural teacher educator at the University of Illinois
  - B. Rufus Stimson, state supervisor of agricultural education in Massachusetts
  - C. Sarah Lindsay Schmidt, English instructor at Colorado State
  - D. W. F. Stewart, head of agricultural education at Ohio State
10. In 1954, Brunner published an article titled "Fiction for Future Farmers" in *The Agricultural Education Magazine*. In this article Brunner:
  - A. Encouraged agricultural teachers to use fiction in teaching their classes.
  - B. Provided tips on how to be a discerning reader of fiction
  - C. Suggest agriculture teachers encourage writing on the part of students by having the students write agricultural short stories.
  - D. Identified 100 books that would be of interest to vocational agriculture students.