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MINNESOTA EXTENSION SERVICE

Educational Development Systems
Coffey Hall
1420 Eckles Avenue
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

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August 6, 1987

"News or information for extension, experiment station staff."

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TO: Extension agents and specialists, Institute Advisory Council
branch station superintendents

FROM: Sam Brungardt, news coordinator *SJB*

Educational Development System sent out the following releases during July 1987. If you would like a copy of these releases, check the one(s) you want and send this sheet with your name and address to Marilyn Masterman, 453 Coffey Hall, no later than September 1, 1987.

- Rye: Crop with Many Uses
- Cards Show Complexity of Mother-Daughter Communication
- Maggots, Heat, Moisture Stress Affecting Wheat Yields at Lamberton
- Hot Weather Offsets Advances Made by Early Planting
- Specialty Crops Discussed at Lamberton Field Day
- Barley Yellow Dwarf Is Prevalent in Small Grains
- Lamberton Field Day Attracts Nearly 500
- R. N. Shoffner Award to Encourage Careers in Avian Genetics
- April 21 Planting Speeds Nitrogen Experiment at Lamberton
- Growing Winter Rape Has Advantages, Disadvantages
- County 4-H Members Earn Honors in State Record Judging
- 4-H Youths to Study Citizenship in Visit to Nation's Capital (CEO Version)
- 4-H Members Earn Honors in State Record Judging
- 4-H Exchange Programs Promote Youths' Global Awareness
- 4-H Youths to Study Citizenship in Visit to Nation's Capital (Media Version)
- Minnesota Had 45 Farm-Related Accidental Deaths in 1986
- Protect Oxygen-Limiting Silos and Firefighters
- Sheryl Nefstead Appointed District Director for Extension Service
- Dennis Seefeldt Appointed District Director for Extension Service
- Joseph L. Fox Appointed District Director for Extension Service
- Ronald S. Jones Appointed District Director for Extension Service
- Gordon Shafer Appointed District Director for Extension Service
- Larry Tande Appointed District Director for Extension Service
- Pauline Nickel Appointed District Director for Extension Service
- Teleconference on Eating Disorders Set for 10 Minnesota Sites
- Consumers Demand Young, Lean Beef
- Fast Changes Are Needed in Beef's Industry
- Nuggets of Good News for Minnesota Beef Industry
- Minnesota 4-H Foundation Grants Awarded to 18 Programs
- 4-H'ers Prepare for Minnesota State Fair
- Lanesboro Bats Rate Condominium
- Minnesota Extension Service Names New Associate Director
- Staking, Mulching Helps Reduce Tomato Soil Rot
- Are Your Tomatoes Less than Picture Perfect:
- Gardening Tips for August
- Willow Aphids More Nuisance than Serious Pest
- Fast-Growing Trees Are Potential New Crop on CRP Lands
- August Is Good Time to Prune Many Trees
- Start Seeding Lawns in Mid-August
- Know Your Role Before the Accident
- Wilkin County's Kids in the Kitchen Program Earns National Award
- 4-H Cookbooks Are Going Faster than Fresh Brownies
- Mildew Could Be Lingering Reminder of Recent Flooding
- Is Produce from Flooded Gardens Safe to Eat?
- Exercise Extreme Caution with Flood-Contaminated Foods
- Popular Plantations Could Provide Fuel for Local Power Plant

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**News or information
for extension,
experiment station staff**

Educational Development Systems
Minnesota Extension Service
433 Coffey Hall
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

July 2, 1987

Source: Leland Hardman
612/625-6226
Writer: Sam Brungardt
612/625-6797

RYE: CROP WITH MANY USES

Only South Dakota produces more winter rye than Minnesota. There are several advantages to growing rye. Rye has alleopathic properties and competes well with weeds, so it can be planted in the fall and killed with a herbicide in the spring before planting soybeans to suppress weeds. Rye can provide spring grazing. Rye has no severe rust problems. Because it matures early, rye escapes some risk from hail, drought and heat and allows better use of labor and machinery. And, rye can be grown as a fall cover crop to protect fields from erosion.

Although winter rye yields best on fertile, well-drained soil, it is more productive than other grains on infertile, sandy or acid soils. Winter rye and winter wheat respond about the same to amounts of fertilizer. Phosphorus and potash should be applied in the fall. The nitrogen application should be split; part should be applied at planting, the rest in the spring.

Hancock, Musketeer and Rymin are the winter rye varieties recommended for Minnesota. Musketeer is the most winter hardy of the three, but it also lodges the most. It and Rymin, which was developed by the Minnesota Agricultural Experiment Station, yield more than Hancock. Yield data and planting rate and date

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recommendations are given in "Varietal Trials of Farm Crops" (item AD-MR-1953), available from the _____ County Extension Office.

Winter rye must become well established before freeze up, so it should be planted in late August or early September. It will not flower if planted in the spring because the plants need to be vernalized.

Rye cannot be planted after corn or sunflowers because these crops are harvested late in the fall and because of possible atrazine and treflan carryover problems. Winter wheat should not follow rye in a rotation because rye volunteers freely and can be a serious weed problem in wheat.

Bromoxynil, MCPA and 2,4-D are the only herbicides labeled for use on rye. Rye is very competitive with weeds, and herbicides generally are not needed for a good stand. "Cultural and Chemical Weed Control in Field Crops" (item AG-BU-3157), also available from this extension office, gives information on controlling weeds in rye.

Fewer diseases and insects attack rye than other cereals. Ergot is the most serious disease problem, and it can be controlled by planting ergot-free seed on land that has not been cropped to rye for at least two years.

Rye is harvested by direct combining before seed shattering occurs or by swathing, then threshing. Seeds should be hard and snappy, with 14 percent moisture.

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News and Information

Educational Development Systems
Minnesota Extension Service
433 Coffey Hall
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

July 2, 1987

Source: Paul Rosenblatt,
Cynthia Meyer
612/625-3120
Writer: Deedee Nagy
612/625-0288

CARDS SHOW COMPLEXITY OF MOTHER-DAUGHTER COMMUNICATION

When you selected a Mother's Day card for dear old mom, did you take pains to make it a hearts-and-flowers love message? A humorous one depicting yourself as a less-than-perfect offspring? Or a tribute to mom as a woman of the '80s, juggling home, family and career?

Whatever your message, chances are you selected the card carefully and sent it off with a feeling of obligation along with a mixture of love, good humor and, possibly, a gentle reminder of your independence from her. This is the finding of a University of Minnesota study of 23 women who evaluated 52 best-selling Mother's Day cards.

Cynthia Meyer, family social science graduate student, and Paul C. Rosenblatt, professor in the same department, asked women about their reactions to greeting card messages and the things they sought or avoided when selecting cards for their mothers. The study, funded by the university's Agricultural Experiment Station, revealed that sending a Mother's Day card was not a task the women took lightly. All but two of the women had sent a

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Mother's Day card every year for the past five years. Most said they felt both societal pressure and family obligation to remember their mothers on the designated day.

The women had definite ideas about what would be appropriate messages to send to their mothers. Meyer and Rosenblatt said many of the women rejected such themes as "you are perfect" or "I want to be exactly like you" because they said they would feel dishonest sending them. "It seems to be important that the message of the card rings true to the daughter's feelings," the researchers commented. There was little agreement about the cards' messages. "A card that was seen as *mushy and flowery* in the context of one relationship was viewed as simple and honest in another," according to Meyer and Rosenblatt.

They add that some of the participants tried to avoid cards that depicted mothers as having no identity except the one as cook, cleaning woman and family nurse. "Many women said they prefer cards which depict women as multidimensional and able to satisfy personal needs outside of the mother role," the researchers said.

Although most said they would feel guilt and shame if they did not send Mother's Day greetings, several admitted to using a different strategy if the mother-daughter relationship was stormy. Some said they would send a message that made no mention of any conflict, implying a kind of truce. Others chose humorous cards that poked fun at past conflicts with such messages as "Loving me isn't always easy," or "You're lucky I'm not twins." In either

case, the researchers note, the goal seems to be to heal past wounds by attempting to put them at a distance.

For many of the women, selecting a card involved walking a fine line between cards that portrayed them as dependent children yet still made clear their love and appreciation. "Women who were mothers themselves often expressed an understanding of what their mothers had gone through as a result of their own experiences," they added. Still, the research subjects said it was often difficult to find a card that expressed both connection and separation from their mothers without calling into question the value or meaning of the mother's life or childrearing practices.

Meyer and Rosenblatt conclude that women who subscribe to contemporary values of equality in household duties and childrearing may not find contemporary cards that mirror those sentiments. "One of the original purposes of Mother's Day was the glorification of motherhood in order to make this role appealing and something women strive for," Meyer and Rosenblatt add. "Women today may find that values of gender equality conflict with some of the myths associated with motherhood and the celebration of Mother's Day."

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AEA,BSS,CEO,E,G,S

NHEC2152

News and Information

Educational Development Systems
Minnesota Extension Service
433 Coffey Hall
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

July 2, 1987

Source: Robert Busch
612/625-1975
Deon Stuthman
612/625-3709
Writer: Mary Kay O'Hearn
612/625-2728

MAGGOTS, HEAT, MOISTURE STRESS AFFECTING WHEAT YIELDS AT LAMBERTON

The wheat stem maggot may be causing economic damage in wheat planted April 7 at the Southwest Experiment Station, Lamberton. Heat and moisture stress are the major causes of possibly lower yields in 1987.

Results from trials of hard red spring wheat and oats were described by Robert Busch, USDA wheat breeder, and Deon Stuthman, University of Minnesota agronomist and plant geneticist, who head the Minnesota Agricultural Experiment Station's wheat and oat improvement efforts, during the Lamberton station's Summer Field Day June 24.

Busch said that Marshall accounts for 60-70 percent of the 2.7 million acres of spring wheat grown in Minnesota. "It has medium to low protein and high performance," he said. "Its protein is a half percent better than Era."

Wheaton, another University of Minnesota release, occupies 15 to 20 percent of Minnesota acreage and has been the highest yielding wheat in the trials over a three-year period. Guard, an early wheat, is rated a couple of tenths higher in protein than Marshall and has some Hessian fly resistance. Stoa has performed

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well with good protein if planted early, but can have lodging problems. Len showed good protein level, moderate yield and good rust resistance, as did Butte 86. Butte 86, with intermediate protein, is earlier than Len but is more susceptible to lodging.

Busch noted that Celtic and Nordic have potential: Celtic has good leaf and stem rust resistance and intermediate protein content while Nordic, although as high yielding as Wheaton, is quite low in protein, almost 1 percent less than Era.

Stuthman named Starter, Preston and Ogle as three of the six oat varieties recommended for the Lamberton area. Red leaf (also known as barley yellow dwarf virus) has affected oat plots each of the last three years, he said.

"Don and Hazel, Illinois varieties both in their third test years in Minnesota, are having excellent yields," Stuthman said. Don is the highest yielding in tests now. "It is an exception-- an early variety that is a good yielder. It's short and likely to lodge. You'd better harvest it as soon as it becomes ripe," Stuthman cautioned. Hazel has excellent straw strength and its susceptibility can be managed with seed treatment. Hytest and Sandy, two South Dakota varieties, are in their first year of statewide testing (three years are required before the Minnesota Agricultural Experiment Station makes firm recommendations). At this point, Stuthman thinks only Hytest has potential for Minnesota.

For all the Minnesota Agricultural Experiment Station's field crop recommendations, consult the 1987 revision of "Varietal Trials of Farm Crops" (item no. AD-MR-1953), available from Minnesota county extension offices.

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News and Information

Educational Development Systems
Minnesota Extension Service
433 Coffey Hall
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

July 2, 1987

Source: Mark Seeley
612/625-4724
Writer: Mary Kay O'Hearn
612/625-2728

HOT WEATHER OFFSETS ADVANCES MADE BY EARLY PLANTING

Advantages of early planting have been diminished by dry weather, Mark Seeley, University of Minnesota soil scientist, told those on tours during Summer Field Day at the Southwest Experiment Station, Lamberton, June 24.

"Every meteorologist is staying with above-normal temperature predictions during July and below-normal rainfall," Seeley said. "Rain gets used up very fast under high temperatures."

Based on 100 years of record keeping, weather has reversed itself in August and September in 7 of 10 years--going wet, he said. This won't help the 1987 crop, but it should "be good for holdover next year."

If this year's corn crop is well enough established to draw on the 5 to 7 inches of soil moisture reportedly available in the state, that should help considerably.

Dryness affected soil-applied herbicides, said Charlotte Eberlein, weed scientist at the University. Preplant-incorporated herbicides did better than preemergents, which need rain to wash the ingredients in.

Seeley said plants in the hot weather seemed to go from the

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emergence stage to six-leaf almost overnight.

Eberlein said more postemergence weed control was required this year. There was more escaped foxtail, for instance, which is harder to control than broadleaves with available chemicals.

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News and Information

Educational Development Systems
Minnesota Extension Service
433 Coffey Hall
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

July 2, 1987

Source: Dan Putnam
612/625-7773
Writer: Mary Kay O'Hearn
612/625-2728

SPECIALTY CROPS DISCUSSED AT LAMBERTON FIELD DAY

Those on tours during the Summer Field Day at the University of Minnesota's Southwest Experiment Station, Lamberton, June 24 tasted amaranth flakes from a breakfast cereal package during a discussion of specialty crops by agronomist Dan Putnam, who does research on uncommon, new and little-researched crops for the university's Agricultural Experiment Station.

Of more than 300,000 species of flowering plants in the world, less than 3 percent have been explored for possible cropping in the United States, Putnam said.

He warned that the risk is greater in growing specialty than major commodity crops: although specialty crops may have a higher per-acre value, the market for them is fragile.

Putnam urged making use of information available from the university's Minnesota Extension Service and new Center for Alternative Crops and Products. It is important to analyze markets to find out whether production will be profitable and to have a "willingness to start small," he said. He suggested trying an interesting new crop "in your garden before planting 100 acres--and then expanding with the market." Overproduction can easily

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occur in a fragile and volatile market.

The trend in the future, Putnam sees, will be looking at what people are consuming and then trying to fill that need. He used the Jerusalem artichoke as a good example of a specialty crop that didn't have production, processing and marketing going hand in hand. Any crop needs the total process thought out to be successful.

Some of the crops Putnam mentioned in the specialty category included white lupines (a grain legume), peanut, rape seed or canola (for cooking oil), millet (a rice substitute), dry beans and camelina (a potential oil seed crop).

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AEA,BSS,CEO,V1

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July 2, 1987

Source: Dan Putnam
612/625-7773
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News and Information

Educational Development Systems
Minnesota Extension Service
433 Coffey Hall
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

July 2, 1987

Source: Roy D. Wilcoxon
612/625-4271
Writer: Mary Kay O'Hearn
612/625-2728

BARLEY YELLOW DWARF IS PREVALENT IN SMALL GRAINS

Field yellowing in wheat, barley and oats is probably caused by the barley yellow dwarf virus, which is transmitted by aphids, Roy D. Wilcoxon, University of Minnesota plant pathologist, told those attending Summer Field Day June 24 at the Southwest Experiment Station, Lamberton.

"One insect per plant can start a streak up one side of the leaf and all affected plants fail to grow normally," Wilcoxon said. Barley yellow dwarf virus was first found in barley in California in 1951, which accounts for its name. The aphids that transmit the virus come to Minnesota from Texas or Oklahoma and inoculate plants when they feed. Wilcoxon said an entomologist told him the 1987 infestation was one of the larger, consisting of as many as four aphids per plant.

In oats, the same disease is called red leaf. Ogle is a resistant oat variety. Minnesota wheat and barley varieties are susceptible. Early planting helps escape infection. Although the virus doesn't carry over in crop debris, it could overwinter in grasses along roadsides.

"If stands are poor and the crop is planted late, plants are

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often infected, but those weren't the conditions this year,"
Wilcoxson said. A statewide outbreak of barley yellow dwarf virus
occurred in the late 1950s in Minnesota. The disease was
noticeable during the past two years and it is widespread this
year.

Insecticides can't be used to control the spread of the virus
because no one knows when the aphids arrive and fungicides sprays
are no good because they won't control viruses, Wilcoxson said.

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NAGR2158

News and Information

Educational Development Systems
Minnesota Extension Service
433 Coffey Hall
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

July 2, 1987

Source: Wallace W. Nelson
507/752-7372
Writer: Mary Kay O'Hearn
612/625-2728

LAMBERTON FIELD DAY ATTRACTS NEARLY 500

Weather cooperated with a gentle early morning rain mellowing temperatures for the Summer Field Day at the Southwest Experiment Station, Lamberton, June 24. The skies opened up again with welcome rain just as the day's activities ended at 2 p.m.

Station Superintendent Wallace W. Nelson said attendance was 482. One pilot and passenger from Lake Benton landed at Springfield since there is no longer a landing strip at the station. The two were met by pickup and brought to Lamberton.

On five hayrack tours of the 668-acre station, those attending heard discussions by specialists with the University of Minnesota's Extension Service and researchers with its Agricultural Experiment Station. Tour choices included alternative crops, weed control, soybeans, corn and management. There were clinics or displays covering plant problems (weed control, soils, entomology, horticulture and plant pathology).

Field days have been held at the Lamberton station since 1960. Adding flavor to the day was the greeting in English, German and Spanish to those who arrived from Herman Vossen, former Cottonwood County extension agent, and the lunch served by the Lamberton Cardinals 4-H Club.

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AEA,BSS,SWDist,SCDist,V1

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NAGR2159

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News and Information

Educational Development Systems
Minnesota Extension Service
433 Coffey Hall
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

July 2, 1987

Source: Richard Goodrich
612/624-1205
Writer: Sam Brungardt
612/625-6797

R. N. SHOFFNER AWARD TO ENCOURAGE CAREERS IN AVIAN GENETICS

He retired officially last year, but poultry scientist Robert N. Shoffner isn't loafing; he's continuing to build on his 45 years at the University of Minnesota, doing research on embryo manipulation and DNA transvection. Shoffner's family has established a fund for the R. N. Shoffner Award in Avian Genetics, and the university has matched the \$5,000 donation.

Interest from the fund will be used each year for awards to attract graduate students into the study of avian genetics at the university, to recognize graduate students' accomplishments and encourage further excellence in avian genetics, and to encourage undergraduate students who have demonstrated outstanding ability and a career interest in avian genetics.

"Bob Shoffner has been an outstanding role model for students," Richard Goodrich, head of the Department of Animal Science, said. "He not only contributed significantly to our academic program, but kept our avian genetics research program modern, maintaining a commitment to it as it evolved and as the needs of the poultry industry changed.

"Dr. Shoffner continually updated his expertise and urged his

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students to do the same. He started as a quantitative geneticist; later trained himself in cytogenetics with the help of a Fulbright Scholarship; and most recently, acquired expertise in molecular genetics and gene transfer. His achievements in avian cytogenetics and his international reputation in the field were recognized in 1982, when he was given the Merck Award."

Goodrich said that fewer universities now offer training in poultry breeding and genetics. Some poultry breeding organizations as well as poultry geneticists in federal and state institutions are concerned that there will not be enough adequately trained scientists to satisfy industry and university needs for people to do basic research in avian genetics in the near future.

He said, "A common misconception is that the poultry industry is doing all the necessary basic genetic research. In truth, almost all energies are devoted to achieving short-term goals. Basic research and training for the future will clearly come from the universities, as it has in the past.

"We hope that poultry breeding interests will contribute to the Shoffner Award fund. That would make it possible for us to increase the amount of the award or to give more awards each year. The award could play a major role in attracting outstanding students into careers in poultry genetics."

Contributions to the R. N. Shoffner Award in Avian Genetics may be sent to the University of Minnesota Foundation, 120 Morrill Hall, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN 55455.

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News and Information

Educational Development Systems
Minnesota Extension Service
433 Coffey Hall
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

July 2, 1987

Source: Jim Staricka
507/752-7372
Writer: Mary Kay O'Hearn
612/627-2728

APRIL 21 PLANTING SPEEDS NITROGEN EXPERIMENT AT LAMBERTON

April 21, 1987, an early planting date at the Southwest Experiment Station, Lamberton, means speeded up experiments in what has been described as the longest continuous urea experiment on corn in the world--now in its 28th summer.

Soil scientist Jim Staricka described the current experiments June 24, during the station's Summer Field Day. He pointed out that timing--whether there is fall application or spring application and sidedressing--doesn't make a lot of difference. That gives farmers in southwestern Minnesota an advantage; they have more options than farmers in other parts of the state.

With 18 different treatments of nitrogen fertilizer, involving four different application times, two forms of nitrogen (ammonium nitrate and urea) and four rates, there isn't much difference in efficiencies of timing, Staricka said. "That makes it lucky to be a farmer in southwest Minnesota," he remarked. "This means the total farming operation can be looked at and the farmer can plan nitrogen applications on corn around the other work that needs to be done."

Staricka told those on the field day tour that at least one

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elevator operator he has heard of is encouraging farmers to buy nitrogen this fall by assuring them that they will be refunded the difference should the price drop by spring (the price of nitrogen is tied closely to the price of natural gas and is usually cheaper in the fall). The idea is to avoid the spring crunch for nitrogen purchases.

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NAGR2160

**News or information
for extension,
experiment station staff**

Educational Development Systems
Minnesota Extension Service
433 Coffey Hall
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

July 9, 1987

Source: Leland Hardman
612/625-6226
Editor: Sam Brungardt
612/625-6797

GROWING WINTER RAPE HAS ADVANTAGES, DISADVANTAGES

While spring rape (of which canola is one type) is grown in Minnesota, winter rape is not grown much here. But, there are advantages to growing winter rape: it yields 30-50 percent more than spring rape, is less susceptible to shattering and has a slightly higher oil content. On the minus side, winterkill is possible (some test plantings in Minnesota did not survive last year's open winter) and some varieties are not of double-low or canola quality (which means that the oil can be used only for industrial purposes and the meal cannot be fed to livestock).

Winter rape is adapted to most soils, as long as they are not poorly drained. It is commonly planted on fallow or in a small grain rotation. This should be at least a four-year rotation with crops such as sunflower, soybean, dry bean, mustard, field pea or lentil to prevent white mold problems. Fungicides are available for use in controlling disease, but diseases are best controlled by proper rotation. Winter rape should not be planted on fields recently treated with chlorsulfuron, dicamba, picloram or atrazine because it is very susceptible to these herbicides.

Only certified seed should be planted. Plant 1 to 1-1/2 inches deep at a rate of 50-60 pounds per acre (lb/A) with a 2

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grain drill equipped with press wheels or a billion-type seeder. Plant early enough so the seedlings will have six true leaves and good root reserves before killing frost. Planting between Aug. 15 and Sept. 10 will accomplish this in southern Minnesota.

Rape responds to fertilizer much like small grains. In general, about 30 lb/A nitrogen and 50-60 lb/A of phosphorus and potassium applied in the fall should be adequate. Early spring applications of nitrogen will probably be needed for top yields.

Treflan can be used, preplant incorporated, for major weed control. Rape is highly sensitive to 2,4-D, MCPA and other phenoxy herbicides. The variety Glacier is not triazine tolerant, so it should not be planted on fields treated with triazine if carryover problems are anticipated.

Rape shatters easily when ripe, so many growers swath to reduce harvesting losses. Best results are achieved when 75 percent of the seeds are the color of mature seed (reddish black). Swathed rape should be ready to combine in 7 to 10 days.

Some growers successfully combine direct by waiting until the entire field is ripe, but this method is riskier. Rapeseed must be handled and stored carefully. It can sweat in storage even at 9 to 10 percent moisture content. The small seed restricts air flow, so thin layers are necessary for drying wet seed. Prevent spoilage by aerating and inspecting storage bins regularly.

#

AEA,BSS,CEO

NAGR2154

**News or information
for extension,
experiment station staff**

Educational Development Systems
Minnesota Extension Service
433 Coffey Hall
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

July 7, 1987

Source: Juanita Reed
612/625-9231
Writer: Russ Vogel
612/625-3725

Agents: Please fill in winners from your county and submit to local media.

COUNTY 4-H MEMBERS EARN HONORS IN STATE RECORD JUDGING

 (COUNTY) 4-H members (NAMES) have won top honors in the state record judging after their 4-H accomplishments were compared with those of fellow members from throughout the state. Winners were announced recently at the Junior Leader Conference in St. Paul.

State record judging features two fields of competition: judging of achievement, leadership, citizenship and National 4-H Conference records and judging of record books from specific project areas. Winners can earn scholarships and/or become ambassadors and delegates to national conferences.

Some 45 teenagers competed in the leadership, citizenship, achievement or national conference record evaluations. The winners will be invited to become 4-H ambassadors and are delegates to the National 4-H Congress or the National 4-H Conference. Winners from among the 140 competitors in other project areas will represent Minnesota in national project record competition at 4-H Congress.

(List names with hometowns, the records area they won and any

Page 1 of 2

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, AND MINNESOTA COUNTIES COOPERATING

The University of Minnesota, including the Minnesota Extension Service, is committed to the policy that all persons shall have equal access to its programs, facilities, and employment without regard to race, religion, color, sex, national origin, handicap, age, veteran status or sexual orientation.

scholarship trip or other rewards, here.) These outstanding 4-H youths reached the state event after record judging at club, county and district levels in recent months.

In winning top honors in their area, the youths join a tradition of excellence in state 4-H records judging, says Juanita Reed, University of Minnesota 4-H extension specialist who coordinates state record judging. Reed says Minnesota has long been a leader nationally in record judging competition.

#

CEO,AEA

N4-H2162

**News or information
for extension,
experiment station staff**

Educational Development Systems
Minnesota Extension Service
433 Coffey Hall
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

July 7, 1987

Source: Sandy Rand
612/625-8148
Writer: Russ Vogel
612/625-3725

Agents: Please fill in names of delegates from your county and submit to local media.

4-H YOUTHS TO STUDY CITIZENSHIP IN VISIT TO NATION'S CAPITAL

More than 300 Minnesota 4-H'ers will travel to Washington, D.C., this month to study leadership, national heritage and democracy through the 4-H Citizenship-Washington Focus program. The Minnesotans are among 5,000 youths from 46 states who will participate in the program this summer.

(List delegates' and adult leaders'/agents' names and hometowns) will attend from _____ County.

During their week-long stay in Washington the state teens will study citizenship and leadership in workshops at the National 4-H Center, attend seminars on the legislative process, participate in simulated congressional hearings and mock city council meetings, debate social issues of concern to youths and learn about voting and the use of voting machines.

In their 'spare time' the young citizens will tour such nationally important sites as the Capitol, the White House, the Supreme Court, the Smithsonian Institution, the Library of Congress, Gettysburg, the Vietnam Veterans Memorial and Arlington National Cemetery, the Kennedy Center, Mt. Vernon and Ford's

Theater. The delegates, ages 13 to 19, also will meet with members of Minnesota's congressional delegation and observe a congressional committee hearing.

Because the Citizenship-Washington Focus program is designed to be a part of ongoing 4-H citizenship programs at the local, county and state levels, workshops on how the youths can 'take home' their new knowledge and skills are offered. Delegates also prepare individual 'plans of action' for sharing what they have learned and putting it to use once home. Focus for the plans of action this year is 'Teen leaders--strengthening 4-H.'

The first contingent of state youths left for the capital June 27. Three more groups will leave on various dates in July. Five 4-H adult leaders or county agents will accompany each group.

#

CEO,AEA

N4-H2164

**News or information
for extension,
experiment station staff**

Educational Development Systems
Minnesota Extension Service
433 Coffey Hall
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

July 7, 1987

Source: Sandy Rand
612/625-8148
Writer: Russ Vogel
612/625-3725

Agents: Please fill in names of delegates from your county and submit to local media.

4-H YOUTHS TO STUDY CITIZENSHIP IN VISIT TO NATION'S CAPITAL

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(List delegates' and adult leaders'/agents' names and hometowns) will attend from _____ County.

During their week-long stay in Washington the state teens will study citizenship and leadership in workshops at the National 4-H Center, attend seminars on the legislative process, participate in simulated congressional hearings and mock city council meetings, debate social issues of concern to youths and learn about voting and the use of voting machines.

In their 'spare time' the young citizens will tour such nationally important sites as the Capitol, the White House, the Supreme Court, the Smithsonian Institution, the Library of Congress, Gettysburg, the Vietnam Veterans Memorial and Arlington National Cemetery, the Kennedy Center, Mt. Vernon and Ford's

Theater. The delegates, ages 13 to 19, also will meet with members of Minnesota's congressional delegation and observe a congressional committee hearing.

Because the Citizenship-Washington Focus program is designed to be a part of ongoing 4-H citizenship programs at the local, county and state levels, workshops on how the youths can 'take home' their new knowledge and skills are offered. Delegates also prepare individual 'plans of action' for sharing what they have learned and putting it to use once home. Focus for the plans of action this year is 'Teen leaders--strengthening 4-H.'

The first contingent of state youths left for the capital June 27. Three more groups will leave on various dates in July. Five 4-H adult leaders or county agents will accompany each group.

#

CEO,AEA

N4-H2164

News and Information

Educational Development Systems
Minnesota Extension Service
433 Coffey Hall
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

July 7, 1987

Source: Juanita Reed
612/625-9231
Writer: Russ Vogel
612/625-3725

4-H MEMBERS EARN HONORS IN STATE RECORD JUDGING

4-H scholarship recipients, state ambassadors and delegates to national 4-H conferences have been determined after a week of competition in the state record judging event held recently in St. Paul.

State record judging features two fields of competition: judging of achievement, leadership, citizenship and National 4-H Conference records and judging of record books from specific project areas. Some 45 teenagers competed in the leadership, citizenship, achievement or national conference record evaluations. The winners will be invited to become 4-H ambassadors and are delegates to the National 4-H Congress or the National 4-H Conference. Winners from among the 140 competitors in other project areas will represent Minnesota in national project record competition at 4-H Congress.

In winning top honors in their area, the youths join a tradition of excellence in state 4-H records judging, says Juanita Reed, University of Minnesota 4-H extension specialist who coordinates state record judging. Reed says Minnesota has long been a leader nationally in record judging competition.

Page 1 of 3

University of Minnesota, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Minnesota Counties Cooperating

Winners' names and home counties are listed alphabetically by project area below.

Achievement: Bill Arthur (Steele), Becky Williams (Fillmore); Aerospace: Mark Carlson (Sherburne); Alumni: Bea Brown (Renville) Ray Edgren (Mille Lacs), Ruth Sundeen (Nicollet), Judith Lee (Rice); Beef: Jeffrey Petry (Norman); Bicycle: Mike Heilman, (Dakota); Bread: Dawn Krcil (McLeod); Child development: Chris Heilman (Dakota); Citizenship: Kristi Petry (Norman), Kari Krogstad (Douglas); Clothing: Kristin Harris (Stevens); Conservation: Brent Mueller (Renville); Consumer education: Ann Germsheid (LeSueur); Creative arts: Darcy Nelson (Goodhue).

Dairy: Kim Rott (Olmsted); Dairy foods: Karla Johnson (Wadena); Dairy goat: Angela Whitney (East Ottertail); Dog: Janelle Olson (Grant); Electric: Brian Cuykendall (Jackson); Entomology: Bradley Browers (Carlton); Food nutrition: Lanette Shaffer (Isanti); Food preservation: Nancy Brueshoff (Norman); Forestry: Michelle Maher (Pope); Gardening: Scott Ross (Douglas); Health: Jamie Loewe (Sibley); Home environment: Lisa Peterson (Redwood); Horse: Jessica Sabolik (Douglas); Horticulture: Linda Notch (McLeod).

Leadership: Anne McDonald (South St. Louis), Tracy Van Moorlehem (Sibley), Christy Eichers (Blue Earth), Carolyn Bryce (Pope); Livestock: Janelle Sunvold (Renville); Needle arts: Shelley Monitor (Washington); Petroleum power: Grant Glass (West Polk); Photography: Heidi Palm (Meeker); Plant and soil science: John Hanson (Murray); Poultry: Becky Hacklander (Faribault);

Public Speaking: Patty DeGroot (Rice); Rabbit: Michele Amundson (Olmsted); Safety: Jennifer Brown (Redwood); Sheep: Tom Vold (Yellow Medicine); Swine: Larry Sedlacek (West Polk); Veterinary Science: Jessica Pick (Benton); Wildlife and fish: Curtis Pieske (Stevens); Wood Science: Mark Fritsche (Brown).

Delegates to the National 4-H Conference are: David DeMars (Mille Lacs), Kim Rabehl (Crow Wing), Terri Wehrman (Clay), Deb Scheibel (Renville), Keely Kleinwort (Dodge) and Juliann Ristow (North St. Louis). Chosen to compete for national 4-H scholarships were: Ag. careers: Erik Rockstad, (Norman); Dairy Goat: Brandon Yoemans (Goodhue); Food Careers: Kari Beran (Renville); Rabbit: Kirsten Bengtson (Winona); the Edwin T. Meredith Scholarship: Deborah Mayo (Martin); the Gertrude L. Warren Scholarship: Nancy Surprenant (Murray); the Ball Corporation Scholarship: Kari Beran (Renville).

Reed says Minnesota 4-H congratulates these outstanding young people, and all of those involved in state record judging, on their achievements of excellence.

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V1,V4

N4-H2161

News and Information

Educational Development Systems
Minnesota Extension Service
433 Coffey Hall
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

July 7, 1987

Source: David Pace
612/625-3736
Writer: Russ Vogel
612/625-3725

4-H EXCHANGE PROGRAMS PROMOTE YOUTHS' GLOBAL AWARENESS

Dozens of state 4-H members will be learning more about the world in which they live this summer by traveling to distant lands or hosting international visitors through Minnesota 4-H international exchange programs.

Most recently, 17 state 4-H'ers, along with groups from Iowa, Wisconsin and South Dakota, left for a month-long stay in Norway. After orientation in Bergen they will live with host families who are members of Norske 4-H. More than 350 Minnesotans have traveled to Norway and nearly 800 Norwegians have stayed with midwestern host families in the 10 years the exchange program has existed.

New this year is an identical exchange program with families from Finland's counterpart to 4-H. Two Minnesota youths and an adult advisor departed June 24 for a one-month stay in Finland.

Among the many other state 4-H international exchange programs taking place this year are:

- The International 4-H Youth Exchange Representative (IFYE) program, which sent a Ramsey County 4-H alumna, Linda Hanson, of Circle Pines, to Taiwan June 14. Also through this program,

Page 1 of 2

University of Minnesota, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Minnesota Counties Cooperating

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Minnesota will host IFYE representatives August 12 through October 16 from Northern Ireland, Switzerland, Taiwan, Portugal and Australia.

- The Japan-Minnesota 4-H Exchange, in which twelve 4-H members and adult advisors travel to Japan July 16 and 90 visitors from Japan's equivalent to 4-H will stay with Minnesota families July 19 through August 23.

- An IFYE Ambassador Exchange program, through which state 4-H'ers are staying in Switzerland and West Germany.

4-H international exchange programs throughout the country annually send members to some 35 countries and have American 4-H families, both urban and rural, hosting hundreds of international visitors. Minnesota programs alone have sent more than 800 4-H members to some 60 different countries since 1948.

David Pace, Minnesota Extension Service specialist, 4-H, and coordinator of state exchange programs, says the purpose of the programs is six-fold: to learn about another way of life; to become better informed on world affairs; to better understand ourselves and our own culture; to learn about 4-H and youth development programs; to better understand the contributions made by educational youth programs in other countries; and to improve communication and leadership skills.

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V1,V4,Q

N4-H2163

News and Information

Educational Development Systems
Minnesota Extension Service
433 Coffey Hall
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

July 7, 1987

Source: Sandy Rand
612/625-8148
Writer: Russ Vogel
612/625-3725

Editors: County agents can provide names of local participants.

4-H YOUTHS TO STUDY CITIZENSHIP IN VISIT TO NATION'S CAPITAL

More than 300 Minnesota 4-H'ers will travel to Washington, D.C., this month to study leadership, national heritage and democracy through the 4-H Citizenship-Washington Focus program. The Minnesotans are among 5,000 youths from 46 states who will participate in the program this summer.

During their week-long stay in Washington the state teens will study citizenship and leadership in workshops at the National 4-H Center, attend seminars on the legislative process, participate in simulated congressional hearings and mock city council meetings, debate social issues of concern to youths and learn about voting and the use of voting machines.

In their 'spare time' the young citizens will tour such nationally important sites as the Capitol, the White House, the Supreme Court, the Smithsonian Institution, the Library of Congress, Gettysburg, the Vietnam Veterans Memorial and Arlington National Cemetery, the Kennedy Center, Mt. Vernon and Ford's Theater. The delegates, ages 13 to 19, also will meet with members of Minnesota's congressional delegation and observe a congressional committee hearing.

Page 1 of 2

University of Minnesota, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Minnesota Counties Cooperating

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Because the Citizenship-Washington Focus program is designed to be a part of ongoing 4-H citizenship programs at the local, county and state levels, workshops on how the youths can 'take home' their new knowledge and skills are offered. Delegates also prepare individual 'plans of action' for sharing what they have learned and putting it to use once home. Focus for the plans of action this year is 'Teen leaders--strengthening 4-H.'

The first contingent of state youths left for the capital June 27. Three more groups will leave on various dates in July. Five 4-H adult leaders or county agents will accompany each group.

#

V1,V4,Q,W

N4-H2165

News and Information

Educational Development Systems
Minnesota Extension Service
433 Coffey Hall
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

July 7, 1987

Source: Sandy Rand
612/625-8148
Writer: Russ Vogel
612/625-3725

Editors: County agents can provide names of local participants.

4-H YOUTHS TO STUDY CITIZENSHIP IN VISIT TO NATION'S CAPITAL

More than 300 Minnesota 4-H'ers will travel to Washington, D.C., this month to study leadership, national heritage and democracy through the 4-H Citizenship-Washington Focus program. The Minnesotans are among 5,000 youths from 46 states who will participate in the program this summer.

During their week-long stay in Washington the state teens will study citizenship and leadership in workshops at the National 4-H Center, attend seminars on the legislative process, participate in simulated congressional hearings and mock city council meetings, debate social issues of concern to youths and learn about voting and the use of voting machines.

In their 'spare time' the young citizens will tour such nationally important sites as the Capitol, the White House, the Supreme Court, the Smithsonian Institution, the Library of Congress, Gettysburg, the Vietnam Veterans Memorial and Arlington National Cemetery, the Kennedy Center, Mt. Vernon and Ford's Theater. The delegates, ages 13 to 19, also will meet with members of Minnesota's congressional delegation and observe a congressional committee hearing.

Page 1 of 2

University of Minnesota, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Minnesota Counties Cooperating

Because the Citizenship-Washington Focus program is designed to be a part of ongoing 4-H citizenship programs at the local, county and state levels, workshops on how the youths can 'take home' their new knowledge and skills are offered. Delegates also prepare individual 'plans of action' for sharing what they have learned and putting it to use once home. Focus for the plans of action this year is 'Teen leaders--strengthening 4-H.'

The first contingent of state youths left for the capital June 27. Three more groups will leave on various dates in July. Five 4-H adult leaders or county agents will accompany each group.

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V1,V4,Q,W

N4-H2165

News and Information

Educational Development Systems
Minnesota Extension Service
433 Coffey Hall
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

July 16, 1987

Source: John True
612/625-9733
Writer: Mary Kay O'Hearn
612/625-2728

MINNESOTA HAD 45 FARM-RELATED ACCIDENTAL DEATHS IN 1986

Accidental farm-related deaths totaled 45 in 1986, one more than in 1985, and occurred in 31 of Minnesota's 87 counties.

Tractor-related accidents accounted for 20 of the fatalities, according to figures compiled by John True, agricultural engineer with the University of Minnesota's Extension Service. He terms the totals "provisional" meaning they may be incomplete. They are compiled from Minnesota Department of Health death certificates and news clippings from a clipping service.

Major causes of accidental deaths since 1981 in Minnesota have been farm machinery and tractors, specifically. For comparison, there were 51 accidental farm-related deaths in 1981, 63 in 1982, 49 in 1983, 46 in 1984, and 44 in 1985.

Fatalities in 1986 involved males from ages 3 to 80. Of the tractor accidents, there were rollovers and runovers, tippings and fallofs. No deaths were attributed to animals last year, but some of the other causes were electrocution, suffocation, falls, truck/car and other farm machinery.

Stearns County had four farm-related fatalities, Todd County, three; Dodge, Douglas, Kittson, Lac qui Parle, Marshall, Morrison,

Page 1 of 2

University of Minnesota, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Minnesota Counties Cooperating

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Otter Tail, Pennington and Winona, two each, and the following counties each had one: Becker, Blue Earth, Cass, Crow Wing, Dakota, Fillmore, Freeborn, Houston, Lyon, McLeod, Meeker, Murray, Nobles, Norman, Olmsted, Pennington, Redwood, Renville, Scott, Waseca and Wright.

From newspaper clippings, True noted 44 non-fatal farm work injuries during 1986. Sixteen of them involved tractors or power take off.

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CEO,V2

NAGR2166

News and Information

Educational Development Systems
Minnesota Extension Service
433 Coffey Hall
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

July 16, 1987

Source: John True
612/625-9733
Editor: Mary Kay O'Hearn
612/625-2728

PROTECT OXYGEN-LIMITING SILOS AND FIREFIGHTERS

It's time for hay to be put into the silo--summer canning time for animals' winter food.

If you have an oxygen-limiting silo, designed to have all openings sealed to prevent air from entering, know how to prevent silo fires from occurring, says John True, agricultural engineer with the University of Minnesota's Extension Service.

Fire departments, most often these are neighbors who are volunteer firefighters, need to know what they are fighting. When oxygen-limiting silos are involved, they need to know that directing water or foam into a fire through the top openings of such a silo may cause a silo explosion--endangering their lives and those of anyone nearby.

When the hatches of an oxygen-limiting silo are tightly closed and the silo is filled, oxygen concentration should be too low to support a fire. But if the silo isn't properly sealed, air can spill in and spontaneous heating and perhaps ignition of silage may result. Oxygen seeping into the silo could be in just the right amount to allow a fire to smolder, resulting in accumulation of gases due to incomplete combustion. An additional increase in

Page 1 of 2

University of Minnesota, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Minnesota Counties Cooperating

oxygen could provide the explosive atmosphere. So merely opening top hatches of such silos, or applying water or foam by hose stream from the top of the silo, could let enough oxygen in to trigger the explosion. Dust explosions can happen, too, if dust inside the silo becomes suspended as a result of the hose stream and then is ignited by the heat of the smoldering fire.

True says the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health has these suggestions to prevent fires and explosions:

- Keep hatches closed when the oxygen-limiting silo is not being filled or emptied.

- Maintain the silo to prevent air leaks and observe recommendations on filling rates and moisture content of the silage.

- Injected carbon dioxide or liquid nitrogen can be used as fire control measures with oxygen-limiting silos. Water or foam MUST NOT be directed onto the fire from top hatches or the roof. Leave the hatches open--don't attempt to close them--if smoke or steam is coming out of them.

#

CEO,V2

NAGR2167

**News or information
for extension,
experiment station staff**

Educational Development Systems
Minnesota Extension Service
433 Coffey Hall
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

July 16, 1987

Source: Dan Panshin
612/624-1773
Writer: Deedee Nagy
612/625-0288

(Agents: This news release has not been sent directly to news outlets in your area. Please distribute it to newspapers and broadcasting outlets serving your county and district.)

SHERYL NEFSTEAD APPOINTED DISTRICT DIRECTOR FOR EXTENSION SERVICE

Sheryl Nefstead, formerly district program leader for 4-H in southeastern Minnesota, has assumed new duties as district director for the 13-county south central district of the University of Minnesota's Extension Service working out of offices at the University's Agricultural Experiment Station in Waseca. The new position is administrative, managing extension personnel and providing leadership for programs throughout the district. Her duties will also include working with county extension committees and boards of commissioners in each county.

Dan Panshin, associate director for operations with the extension service, said, "Our district directors are key managers in the Minnesota Extension Service and will be the senior extension representatives in each district."

He added, "I am most impressed with Nefstead's experience and qualifications. The Minnesota Extension Service is indeed fortunate to have her in this important leadership assignment."

Nefstead has been with the extension service since 1970. She holds both bachelor's and master's degrees in home economics education from the University of Minnesota.

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SCDIST

NAGR2168

**News or information
for extension,
experiment station staff**

Educational Development Systems
Minnesota Extension Service
433 Coffey Hall
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

July 16, 1987

Source: Dan Panshin
612/624-1773
Writer: Deedee Nagy
612/625-0288

(Agents: This news release has not been sent directly to news media in your area. Please distribute to newspapers and broadcasting outlets serving your county and district.)

DENNIS SEEFELDT APPOINTED DISTRICT DIRECTOR FOR EXTENSION SERVICE

Dennis Seefeldt, formerly district program leader for agriculture in southwestern Minnesota, has assumed new duties as district director for the 14-county east central district of the University of Minnesota's Extension Service working out of offices on the University of Minnesota campus in St. Paul. The new position is administrative, managing extension personnel and providing leadership for programs throughout the district. His duties will also include working with county extension committees and boards of commissioners in each county.

Dan Panshin, associate director for operations with the extension service, said, "Our district directors are key managers in the Minnesota Extension Service and will be the senior extension representatives in each district."

He added, "I am most impressed with Seefeldt's experience and qualifications. The Minnesota Extension Service is indeed fortunate to have him in this important leadership assignment."

Seefeldt has been with the extension service since 1964. He holds a bachelor's degree in agriculture from Wisconsin State University, River Falls, and a master's degree in soils from the University of Minnesota. Before assuming his position as district program leader for southwestern Minnesota, Seefeldt was county extension director in Washington County.

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ECDIST

NAGR2169

News or information
for extension,
experiment station staff

Educational Development Systems
Minnesota Extension Service
433 Coffey Hall
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

July 16, 1987

Source: Dan Panshin
612/624-1773
Writer: Deedee Nagy
612/625-0288

(Agents: This news release has not been sent directly to news outlets in your area. Please direct it to newspapers and broadcast outlets serving your county and district.)

JOSEPH L. FOX APPOINTED DISTRICT DIRECTOR FOR EXTENSION SERVICE

Joseph L. Fox, formerly the Minnesota Extension Service's district program leader for agriculture in southeastern Minnesota, has assumed new duties as district director for the 11-county southeast district working out of University of Minnesota offices in Rochester. The new position is administrative, managing extension personnel and providing leadership for programs throughout the district. His duties will also include working with county extension committees and boards of commissioners in each county.

Dan Panshin, associate director for operations with the extension service, said, "Our district directors are key managers in the Minnesota Extension Service and will be the senior extension representatives in each district."

He added, "I am most impressed with Fox's experience and qualifications. The Minnesota Extension Service is indeed fortunate to have him in this important leadership assignment."

Fox has been with the University of Minnesota's Extension Service for 30 years. He holds a bachelor's degree in agricultural education and a master's degree in public administration, both from the University of Minnesota. Prior to becoming a district program leader for agriculture, Fox was Ramsey County Extension Director.

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SEDIST

NAGR2170

News or information
for extension,
experiment station staff

Educational Development Systems
Minnesota Extension Service
433 Coffey Hall
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

July 16, 1987

Source: Dan Panshin
612/624-1773
Writer: Deedee Nagy
612/625-0288

(Agents: This news release has not been sent directly to news outlets in your area. Please direct it to newspapers and broadcast outlets serving your county and district.)

JOSEPH L. FOX APPOINTED DISTRICT DIRECTOR FOR EXTENSION SERVICE

Joseph L. Fox, formerly the Minnesota Extension Service's district program leader for agriculture in southeastern Minnesota, has assumed new duties as district director for the 11-county southeast district working out of University of Minnesota offices in Rochester. The new position is administrative, managing extension personnel and providing leadership for programs throughout the district. His duties will also include working with county extension committees and boards of commissioners in each county.

Dan Panshin, associate director for operations with the extension service, said, "Our district directors are key managers in the Minnesota Extension Service and will be the senior extension representatives in each district."

He added, "I am most impressed with Fox's experience and qualifications. The Minnesota Extension Service is indeed fortunate to have him in this important leadership assignment."

Fox has been with the University of Minnesota's Extension Service for 30 years. He holds a bachelor's degree in agricultural education and a master's degree in public administration, both from the University of Minnesota. Prior to becoming a district program leader for agriculture, Fox was Ramsey County Extension Director.

#

SEDIST

NAGR2170

**News or information
for extension,
experiment station staff**

Educational Development Systems
Minnesota Extension Service
433 Coffey Hall
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

July 16, 1987

Source: Dan Panshin
612/624-1773
Writer: Deedee Nagy
612/625-0288

(Agents: This news release has not gone directly to news media in your area. Please distribute it to newspapers and broadcasting outlets serving your county and district.)

RONALD S. JONES APPOINTED DISTRICT DIRECTOR FOR EXTENSION SERVICE

Ronald S. Jones, formerly an associate dean at Kansas State University, has assumed new duties with the University of Minnesota's Extension Service as district director for the 12-county northeast district working out of offices on the University of Minnesota campus in Duluth. The new position is administrative, managing extension personnel and providing leadership for programs throughout the district. His duties will also include working with county extension committees and boards of commissioners in each county.

Dan Panshin, associate director for operations with the extension service, said, "Our district directors are key managers in the Minnesota Extension Service and will be the senior extension representatives in each district."

He added, "I am most impressed with Jones's experience and qualifications. The Minnesota Extension Service is indeed fortunate to have him in this important leadership assignment."

In Kansas, Jones served most recently as associate dean of

Page 1 of 2

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, AND MINNESOTA COUNTIES COOPERATING

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the College of Human Ecology and assistant director of extension home economics programs at Kansas State. He was an extension specialist with the Iowa State University Cooperative Extension Service from 1977 to 1983. He holds a bachelor's degree in sociology from Brigham Young University and a master's in family and child development from Utah State University. His doctorate is in human services administration from the University of Sarasota, Florida.

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NEDIST

NAGR2171

**News or information
for extension,
experiment station staff**

Educational Development Systems
Minnesota Extension Service
433 Coffey Hall
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

July 16, 1987

Source: Dan Panshin
612/624-1773
Writer: Deedee Nagy
612/625-0288

(Agents: This news release has not gone directly to news media in your area. Please distribute it to newspapers and broadcasting outlets serving your county and district.)

GORDON SHAFER APPOINTED DISTRICT DIRECTOR FOR EXTENSION SERVICE

Gordon R. Shafer, formerly the Minnesota Extension Service's district program leader for agriculture in northwestern Minnesota, has assumed new duties as district director for the 12-county northwest district working out of offices at the University of Minnesota's Technical College in Crookston. The new position is administrative, managing extension personnel and providing leadership for programs throughout the district. His duties will also include working with county extension committees and boards of commissioners in each county.

Dan Panshin, associate director for operations with the extension service, said, "Our district directors are key managers in the Minnesota Extension Service and will be the senior extension representatives in each district."

He added, "I am most impressed with Shafer's experience and qualifications. The Minnesota Extension Service is indeed fortunate to have him in this important leadership assignment."

Page 1 of 2

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, AND MINNESOTA COUNTIES COOPERATING

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Shafer has been with the University of Minnesota's Extension Service for 20 years. He holds bachelor's and master's degrees in animal science from North Dakota State University. Prior to becoming district program leader for agriculture, Shafer was Becker County Extension Agent.

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NWDIST

NAGR2172

**News or information
for extension,
experiment station staff**

Educational Development Systems
Minnesota Extension Service
433 Coffey Hall
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

July 16, 1987

Source: Dan Panshin
612/624-1773
Writer: Deedee Nagy
612/625-0288

(Agents: This news release has not been sent directly to news media in your area. Please distribute it to newspapers and broadcasting outlets serving your county and district.)

LARRY TANDE APPOINTED DISTRICT DIRECTOR FOR EXTENSION SERVICE

Larry Tande, formerly Steele County 4-H agent and county extension agent, has assumed new duties as district director for the 14-county west central district of the University of Minnesota's Extension Service working out of offices at the University's Agricultural Experiment Station in Morris. The new position is administrative, managing extension personnel and providing leadership for programs throughout the district. His duties will also include working with county extension committees and boards of commissioners in each county.

Dan Panshin, associate director for operations with the extension service, said, "Our district directors are key managers in the Minnesota Extension Service and will be the senior extension representatives in each district."

He added, "I am most impressed with Tande's experience and qualifications. The Minnesota Extension Service is indeed fortunate to have him in this important leadership assignment."

Page 1 of 2

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, AND MINNESOTA COUNTIES COOPERATING

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Tande has been with the extension service since 1960. He holds a bachelor's degree in agricultural education and a master's degree in animal science, both from the University of Minnesota.

#

WCDIST

NAGR2173

**News or information
for extension,
experiment station staff**

Educational Development Systems
Minnesota Extension Service
433 Coffey Hall
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

July 16, 1987

Source: Dan Panshin
612/624-1773
Writer: Deedee Nagy
612/625-0288

(Agents: This news release has not gone directly to news media in your area. Please distribute it to newspapers and broadcasting outlets serving your county and district.)

PAULINE NICKEL APPOINTED DISTRICT DIRECTOR FOR EXTENSION SERVICE

Pauline Nickel, formerly Watonwan County 4-H and home economics extension agent and county director, has assumed new duties as district director for the 14-county southwest district of the University of Minnesota's Extension Service working out of offices at the University's Agricultural Experiment Station in Lamberton. The new position is administrative, managing extension personnel and providing leadership for programs throughout the district. Her duties will also include working with county extension committees and boards of commissioners in each county.

Dan Panshin, associate director for operations with the extension service, said, "Our district directors are key managers in the Minnesota Extension Service and will be the senior extension representatives in each district."

He added, "I am most impressed with Nickel's experience and qualifications. The Minnesota Extension Service is indeed fortunate to have her in this important leadership assignment."

Page 1 of 2

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, AND MINNESOTA COUNTIES COOPERATING

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Nickel had been on the Watonwan County staff for four years. She holds a bachelor's degree in home economics from Stout State University and a master's degrees in the same field from Mankato State University.

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SWDIST

NAGR2174

**News or information
for extension,
experiment station staff**

Educational Development Systems
Minnesota Extension Service
433 Coffey Hall
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

July 16, 1987

Source: Joanne Slavin
612/624-4735
Writer: Deedee Nagy
612/625-0288

Agents: Please localize this with details of the teleconference in your vicinity. This release has not been sent to news outlets in your area so give it to them and use it in your columns, radio programs and newsletters.

TELECONFERENCE ON EATING DISORDERS SET FOR 10 MINNESOTA SITES

Athletes and their eating problems will be the focus of an educational teleconference that will be broadcast Aug. 26 via satellite to 10 sites in Minnesota, including (local site).

The teleconference is a joint presentation of the University of Minnesota's Extension Service and KTCA-TV, St. Paul, as part of its Project SURVIVE effort. It is intended for coaches, teachers, physicians, chiropractors, dietitians and other professionals who deal with athletes and their eating problems. The one-hour teleconference originating from the KTCA-TV studios will be followed by a two-hour workshop at (local site) using local experts who work with athletes. The event is scheduled to coincide with the return to fall training for many high school and college athletes, according to organizers.

Participants at each of the sites will hear discussion of anorexia and bulimia and how those disorders differ from poor eating habits. Teleconference panelists will present the latest information available on food supplements, fluid replacement and

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carbohydrate loading along with suggestions on local resources and written materials appropriate for use with student-athletes.

For more information and registration details, contact (name of local conference contact) at the _____ County Extension Office, (address and/or phone number).

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CEO

NIIEC2175

Sites and local conference contacts for teleconference:

Appleton: KWCM-TV. Contact Dorothy Rosemeier, Swift County Extension Office, Courthouse, Benson, MN 56215 (612/843-3796).

Austin: KSMQ-TV. Contact Mary Ellen Miller, Mower County Extension Office, Courthouse, Austin, MN 55912 (507/437-9433).

Bemidji: KAWE-TV. Contact Connie Simenson, Beltrami County Extension Office, Courthouse, Bemidji, MN 56601 (218/751-7300).

Duluth: WDSE-TV. Contact Linda Bradley, St. Louis County Extension Office, Washburn Hall, 2305 E. Fifth St., Duluth, MN 55812 (218/726-7512).

International Falls: Rainy River Community College. Contact Lois Nelson Lewis, Koochiching County Extension Office, Courthouse, International Falls, MN 56649 (218/283-2581).

Mankato: KEYC-TV. Contact Mary Lou Ihrke, Blue Earth County Extension Office, 410 S. Fifth St., Mankato, MN 56001 (507/625-3031).

Moorhead: Prairie Public TV. Contact Nancy Frosaker-Johnson, Clay County Courthouse, Moorhead, MN 56560 (218/299-5020).

St. Cloud: St. Cloud State University. Contact Deb Botzek, Stearns County Extension Office, 2700 First St. N., St. Cloud, MN 56301 (612/255-6169).

Twin Cities: Anoka-Ramsey Community College. Contact Patricia Olson, Anoka County Extension Office, 550 Bunker Lake Blvd., Anoka, MN 55304 (612/755-1280).

Worthington: Worthington Community College. Contact Colleen Gengler, Nobles County Extension Office, P.O. Box 758, Worthington, MN 56187 (507/372-7711).

July 16, 1987

Source: Charles Christians
612/624-0766

Writer: Jack Sperbeck
612/625-1794

CONSUMERS DEMAND YOUNG, LEAN BEEF

Consumers want leaner beef, and beef producers must meet the challenge. That's what several speakers said at the recent Beef Cattle Conference at the University of Minnesota in St. Paul.

"Producers must respond to consumer demand and produce more lean beef with less external and between-muscle fat," says Charles Christians, conference coordinator and livestock specialist with the University of Minnesota's Extension Service. "We must produce a quality product with adequate marbling for juiciness and flavor. This will probably be Good to Low Choice quality grade. We need to produce cattle that are ready for slaughter at a younger age to produce beef with less fat and acceptable tenderness and juiciness." The USDA maturity "A" has too wide a range of age standards (up to 30 months), Christians adds.

"To produce tender beef, cattle should be ready for market at a maximum of 13 to 15 months of age. This means we'll need a consumer education program in meat preparation. Younger beef with less marbling can't be cooked as much or it will become too dry and lose tenderness," Christians says.

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News and Information

Educational Development Systems
Minnesota Extension Service
433 Coffey Hall
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

July 16, 1987

Source: Charles Christians
612/624-0766
Writer: Jack Sperbeck
612/625-1794

FAST CHANGES ARE NEEDED IN BEEF INDUSTRY

The beef industry needs to move rapidly to identify cattle lines with the best combination of muscling, marbling and external finish, according to a speaker at the recent Beef Cattle Conference at the University of Minnesota.

"Breeders who are successful in identifying these cattle lines without jeopardizing early growth will be in a position of leadership in the years ahead," said Harlan Ritchie, animal scientist at Michigan State University.

Ritchie outlined the trends he sees in beef production:

Seedstock industry:

--There will be fewer purebred herds, and up to 50 percent of present registered herds will go out. Some breed associations will pool resources and operate together.

--Artificial insemination will expand from 25 to 50 percent of registered cows.

--The future of embryo transfer will lie in the sale of frozen embryos from the top 0.1 percent of registered cows.

--Sex control will become a reality.

Commercial cow-calf industry:

Page 1 of 3

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--Both large herds and small herds will continue to increase. The number of middle-sized herds will decrease.

--Some producers will switch to yearling grazing operations, but competing with feedlots for cattle will be difficult.

--Use of artificial insemination will increase from 1.5 to 5.0 percent of the national cow herd.

--Large production units will not have time for problem cattle. Cattle must be relatively free of problems like calving ease, disposition and functional soundness.

--Breed types and crosses will be fine-tuned to more closely match environment and feed resources.

--Within a region, herds will become more uniform to meet tighter specifications of the packing, retailing and food service industries.

--Creative financial arrangements will foster an increase in retained ownership of calves.

--Good records will be a must in identifying and controlling costs.

Feedlot industry:

--Feedlots will continue to become larger.

--Commercial lots will continue to solicit and attract outside capital. But it will be profit-motivated, not tax-motivated.

--There will be a gradual shift in numbers from the Texas-Oklahoma area to the Nebraska, Kansas and Colorado area.

--Corn Belt cattle feeding will change. There will be more custom feeding, less ownership of fixed assets like land and

facilities, and more leasing. "Hotter" diets (less roughage, more grain) will be fed. More feed will be purchased instead of grown. "The bottom line for Corn Belt feeders is that farmer-feeders will become more like commercial lots," Ritchie said.

"The age of biotechnology means the production per animal and per farm will increase dramatically. Fewer animals and fewer farms will be needed.

"Animal rights groups will become more sophisticated and active. Cattle producers must be prepared to tell their side of the story to the public. The industry must also assure consumers of beef's safety," Ritchie said.

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A,AEA,BSS,CEO,V1,V4

NAGR2179

News and Information

Educational Development Systems
Minnesota Extension Service
433 Coffey Hall
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

July 16, 1987

Source: Warren Sifferath
612/463-3302
Writer: Jack Sperbeck
612/625-1794

NUGGETS OF GOOD NEWS FOR MINNESOTA'S BEEF INDUSTRY

You stop at the grocery store on the way home from work and pick up ready-to-eat lean steaks. The steaks came from a cattle feedlot that specializes in the "convenience" beef market.

Beef producers in the future will need to focus their marketing on specific consumer groups. And if they're successful, beef consumption could increase, according to a livestock marketing specialist with the University of Minnesota's Extension Service.

"The beef industry needs to focus on consumers and produce what they desire. It's the beef industry that must change. Consumers aren't going to adapt to the beef industry," says Warren Sifferath, who spoke at the recent Beef Cattle Conference at the University of Minnesota.

"Cattle feeders of the future will need to position themselves to serve a distinct consumer group," he adds. He lists the home-consumed, convenience market; the "white tablecloth" restaurant market; the health-conscious market; the organic market, for people who want beef with no additives; the high-quality meat market; and fast food and institutional markets.

"This means the packer specifies a specific carcass with big

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discounts if cattle don't meet specifications," Sifferath says.

Surveys show that consumers in the 40- to 49-year age bracket are spending more on food items in grocery stores. "That's good news for the beef industry, since this age group will increase by 1 million per year for the next 10 years," Sifferath says.

"The broiler industry has done a great job of product development and promotion, based on consumer market research. The beef industry needs to do the same thing," Sifferath says.

"You can buy precooked drumsticks, breasts, whatever you want, and there's little food preparation time. That's the game the beef industry needs to play."

Minnesota has lost a major share of its cattle-feeding industry. Sifferath doesn't see Minnesota becoming a major cattle-feeding state. "But we could get some cattle feedlots back if the major cattle-feeding area moves north from Texas and Oklahoma to the Nebraska, Kansas and Colorado area," he says.

Minnesota feedlot operators in the future are apt to feed 1,000 to 10,000 head. The cattle may be financed and owned by other parties, such as other farmers, cow-calf operators and investors primarily looking for profits, not tax breaks.

"Feedlot operators will need to be experts at gaining financing and be excellent managers," Sifferath says.

Minnesota now has about 400,000 beef cows, compared to 850,000 in the early- to mid-'70s. "We could handle a larger cow-calf and backgrounding industry in the state," he says.

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News and Information

Educational Development Systems
Minnesota Extension Service
433 Coffey Hall
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

July 16, 1987

Source: Jim Lewis
612/625-7746
Writer: Russ Vogel
612/625-3725

MINNESOTA 4-H FOUNDATION GRANTS AWARDED TO 18 PROGRAMS

A total of \$15,200 in grants has been awarded to 18 4-H programs in Minnesota by the Minnesota 4-H Foundation's Board of Trustees, foundation president Duane Wilson has announced. The grants, which were awarded July 1, will support development of innovative 4-H programs at local, county and state levels.

"Their aim is to provide opportunities to try out something new and see if it works--and then to report back," said Jim Lewis, foundation executive director. The foundation board annually awards such grants to individuals, business and associations in support of new 4-H programs in the state, Lewis said. Grant funds come from unrestricted gifts to the Minnesota 4-H program.

The board awarded the following grants this year:

--\$1,500 to the Urban 4-H Marketing Plan, an effort to expand the image of 4-H in Hennepin and Ramsey counties, granted in response to a proposal by Extension agents Roger Holmes (Hennepin) and David Moen (Ramsey).

--\$1,000 for a Global Education Inservice Conference for 4-H and school leaders at the Rochester Public Schools, in response to a proposal by Robert Beery, director of curriculum and instruction

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for Independent School District #535.

--\$2,500 to the Blue Skies Below My Feet program for curriculum and pilot project development, in response to a proposal by Marilyn Olson of the state 4-H office and agents Mary Duncomb, Dave Moen and Roger Holmes.

--\$500 to the Cook County Extension Service for volunteer leader training and coordination of efforts to expand membership, in response to a proposal from county agent Robert Sopoci.

--\$500 to Quad County Arts-in, a four-county, fine-arts skills and youth development program, in response to a proposal by Grant County Agent Laurie Magnus.

--\$200 to the Land and Water Stewardship Program in Dodge County, in response to a proposal from county agent Pat Pogalz.

--\$500 to a study called "The Healing Touch" on the relationships between 4-H'ers and the farm animals they work with, in response to a proposal submitted by Ralph Holcomb of the University of Minnesota's College of Veterinary Science.

--\$1,000 to 4-H Fishing Sports District Training programs, in response to a proposal from State 4-H Fishing Sports Program Development Committee members Joe Courneya of West Polk County and Bruce Munson of Sea Grant.

--\$500 to a committee to establish a 4-H volunteers' lounge at the state fair, in response to a proposal by committee chairpersons Doris Moeller, a 4-H volunteer from Northfield, and Norma Shaffer, a 4-H volunteer from Cambridge.

--\$250 to Freeborn County 4-H Shooting Sports programs, in

response to a proposal by county agent Sharon Davis.

--\$250 to Morrison County 4-H Shooting Sports programs, in response to a proposal by county agent Jim Carlson.

--\$1,000 to the Southwest Citizenship Focus program, in response to a proposal by Jackson County agent Rhonda Crom and Redwood County agent DeAnne Johnson.

--\$1,000 to the Volunteer Connection, a program in Carlton County to coordinate volunteer efforts for youth development, in response to a proposal by county agent Polly Prunuske.

--\$2,000 to the 4-H Goes Suburban program, in response to a proposal from Dakota County agent Mary Duncomb.

--\$500 to the development of a Minnesota 4-H Songbook, in response to a proposal from Becker County Agent Larry Swenson and Clay County Agent Sharon Query.

--\$500 toward scholarships for a Five-County Leader Retreat, in response to a proposal by Chippewa County Agent Karen Jacobson.

--\$1,000 to Southeast District Project Development Committees, in response to a proposal from Goodhue County agent Paula Lee.

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AEA,CEO,Q,V1,V4

N4-H2180

News and Information

Educational Development Systems
Minnesota Extension Service
433 Coffey Hall
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

July 16, 1987

Source: Juanita Reed
612/625-9231
Writer: Russ Vogel
612/625-3725

4-H'ERS PREPARE FOR MINNESOTA STATE FAIR

4-H members from clubs throughout Minnesota are perfecting projects and competing at county fairs in the hope that they will be among the 6,000 state youths who will participate in 4-H activities at the 1987 Minnesota State Fair, Aug. 27 through Sept. 7 in St. Paul.

4-H'ers at the state fair will be involved in everything from livestock and other exhibits and demonstrations to special contests in areas like small engines and fashion to the exciting "Share the Fun" and "Arts-in" shows, according to Juanita Reed, Minnesota Extension Service 4-H Youth Development specialist, who coordinates 4-H state fair activities.

In addition to traditional events, several new project areas will be featured this year, Reed says. For example, 4-H'ers will be presenting health and safety talks on eating disorders; alcohol and chemical abuse; stress and depression; and traffic, farm and home safety. Others will be involved with Junior Leadership exhibits. Special exhibits centering around the four state 4-H program issues--global awareness, career education, self-protection and youth-community connections--will be featured

Page 1 of 2

University of Minnesota, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Minnesota Counties Cooperating

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Saturday, Sept. 5. Still other 4-H'ers will compete in new Consumer Judging Contests, conducted like livestock judging contests but focusing on consumer products such as clothing, small appliances or food products.

In all, some 42,000 youths are members of 4-H clubs in Minnesota; the 6,000 4-H'ers who will participate in state fair activities earned this opportunity through participation in 4-H competition at county fair and/or district levels.

They will be joined at the fair by some 300 4-H adult volunteers, who serve as judging assistants and advisors to county delegations and help out in countless other ways, Reed says. "It's almost impossible to gauge the tremendous contribution volunteers make to our state fair effort," she says. "It just couldn't be done without them."

Reed adds that it is especially fitting in this, the Minnesota Year of the Volunteer, that a 4-H volunteer lounge would again be available at the 4-H building. All 4-H volunteers are invited to enjoy the lounge while taking in the myriad events and exhibits at the 4-H state fair facilities, she says. "It's one small way to recognize the people who make it possible for our youths to have such an enriching and rewarding experience."

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AEA,CEO,V1,V4

N4-H2181

News and Information

Educational Development Systems
Minnesota Extension Service
433 Coffey Hall
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

July 23, 1987

Source: Joe Deden
507/467-2437
Writer: Mary Kay O'Hearn
612/625-2728

LANESBORO BATS RATE CONDOMINIUM

Bat houses are popping up in gardening-type catalogs. The come-on is "one bat is capable of catching 500 mosquito-sized insects in one hour." The gray bat is reputed to knock off as many as 3,000 in a night.

Joe Deden isn't sure a single bat's appetite is that ravenous, but he has had a condominium for bats the last three years at Lanesboro, 45 miles southeast of Rochester, where he is with the Southeastern Minnesota Forest Resource Center. The 900 acres of forest land in the Richard J. Dorer Memorial Hardwood Forest are being developed in conjunction with the University of Minnesota's College of Forestry and Minnesota Extension Service and the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR).

"I can't honestly attribute fewer insects to bats, but it certainly helps," Deden admits. The "condo" houses 200 to 300 of the shy creatures, who do not return to the condo the next day if disturbed when tours come too near them. At Lanesboro that is fairly often.

Deden has two reasons for having a bat condominium: to keep them around while moving some 2,000 out of a caretaker's house,

Page 1 of 3

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and, as a wildlife management venture, to broaden public awareness of the beneficial qualities of bats. He plans to install a second condo in a quieter spot, more to the bats' liking.

The bat dwelling is 4 feet wide and high, 7 or 8 feet long and 10 feet off the ground. It is on a pole, but could be on a tree, if one preferred. It is painted dark brown to absorb the heat--bats like it hot. "You can walk underneath and look up at the bats," Deden describes. Inner surfaces must be roughened up so that bats can cling easily to them. According to the DNR publication "Woodworking for Wildlife--Homes for Birds and Mammals," which has directions for building bat housing, the most critical dimension of a bat house is the width of the entry space which should be three quarters of an inch.

The bats Deden has attracted are the brown bats and small, buff-colored pipistrels. These are two of four species in Minnesota, which has the largest population of pipistrels.

Placing bat houses in a south-facing location, near rivers, lakes, bogs or marshes where the insect population is high, is most apt to attract residents. If more than a half mile from one of these sites, be prepared for a low occupancy rate. It may take a year or two for the bats to catch on, but once the space is used it doesn't need to be cleaned, according to the DNR. Deden smeared guano (bat dung) on the outside of the condo to entice entry. Some visitors to Deden's bat condo have taken bottles of guano home to start their own bat housing. At Detroit Lakes and DNR area fisheries headquarters, a bat house helped solve a bat

problem at the manager's residence. Bats are "devoted parents," the DNR publication points out. Mother bats help each other raise young; they reproduce slowly--just one offspring a year.

There are many myths about bats. One is that they are rodents or flying mice. Actually, they are more closely related to humans than to mice or rodents. And they are not rabies carriers any more than any other animal might be. In 40 years in the United States and Canada, statistics report that only 10 people are believed to have contracted rabies from bats.

It is true that bats' sonar systems (helping them find food) are more sophisticated than any human-made system.

But what about bats and histoplasmosis? It's a fever and respiratory problem resulting from bird and bat droppings. Deden says he worries more about bird than bat droppings. "I don't know if I'd want to house them (bats) over a dry ungrassed soil." But over green, vigorous, growing lawn and grass, he believes the elements will take care of the problem. "You could even put their housing over water or a pond," he says.

And if you didn't already know, there is a Bat Conservation International organization headed by Merlin D. Tuttle and its location is the Milwaukee, Wisc., Public Museum.

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CEO,I,R,V4,V7

NCRD2176

News and Information

Educational Development Systems
Minnesota Extension Service
433 Coffey Hall
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

July 23, 1987

Source: Pat Borich
612/624-2703
Writer: Deedee Nagy
612/625-0288

MINNESOTA EXTENSION SERVICE NAMES NEW ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR

Gail Skinner, currently a district director for Wisconsin's Cooperative Extension Service in Eau Claire, has been named Associate Director--Programs for the University of Minnesota's Extension Service effective in September, according to Pat Borich, Dean and Director of Minnesota Extension.

Skinner's position will involve leading a wide variety of programs and educational efforts directed at consumers, farmers, business persons, youth and others throughout the state's 87 counties. She joins the Minnesota Extension Service near the completion of a major statewide restructuring effort that will organize county and area extension agents and campus-based specialists into issue response teams. According to Borich, the effectiveness of such issue-oriented programming has been demonstrated in Extension's recent Project Support effort for farmers in economic trouble, Teens in Distress programs for troubled youth, and the farmer-lender mediation effort for farmers in serious financial difficulty.

It is this issue-oriented programming and Minnesota's excellent reputation for responding quickly to the state's needs

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University of Minnesota, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Minnesota Counties Cooperating

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that attracted Skinner to her new position. She adds, "Minnesota Extension is well ahead of the game in its emphasis on major issues and the interdisciplinary approach to solutions that I see working so well here. I'm looking forward to the opportunity and challenge of working with Minnesota Extension."

Borich adds, "We're fortunate to be adding her to our staff. Her Extension career in Wisconsin and Nebraska has been outstanding and her talent in dealing with people and coordinating programs will be very useful in this position."

Skinner holds a doctorate in educational administration from the University of Wisconsin as well as bachelor's and master's degrees in home economics from the University of Nebraska. Before moving to Wisconsin to do her graduate work and later join the Extension staff there as personnel coordinator, Skinner was an extension clothing specialist in Nebraska for four years.

Her appointment is one of a number of changes to come to Minnesota Extension, which has undergone a major restructuring and refocusing of programs in the past year. Borich says, "We think we are now in a much better position to make rapid responses to local issues and conditions as we proved with Project Support and its service to farm families. As a result of this restructuring, we can move quickly to offer educational assistance, coordination and communication throughout the state."

He points to the county clustering concept as an example of how counties are working together to tackle important issues. Currently 13 small groups of counties have announced their

intentions to work closely together in clusters of from three to seven counties each. Other county cluster groupings are still being formed. Borich says this approach will permit maximum benefit from agents' areas of specialty and will encourage cross-county programming for major issues affecting the region and the entire state.

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AEA,BSS,CEO,IAC,V1,V4

NEXT2190

News and Information

Educational Development Systems
Minnesota Extension Service
433 Coffey Hall
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

July 23, 1987

Source: Cynthia Ash
612/625-6290
Editor: Sam Brungardt
612/625-6797

STAKING, MULCHING HELPS REDUCE TOMATO SOIL ROT

Gardeners may find soil rot, caused by the soil-borne fungus Rhizoctonia solani, on their tomatoes during wet periods.

Cynthia Ash, assistant plant pathologist with the University of Minnesota's Extension Service, says, "A soft brown rot develops, usually on the sides of fruits touching the ground or where soil is splashed up, onto the fruit. Large, sunken spots appear which often have a target-like pattern. Occasionally, the fruit may crack open.

"Soil rot is easily controlled by keeping the tomato fruits up, off the ground. Where just a few plants are involved, staking or placing them in tomato cages works well. In larger plantings, a plastic mulch may be necessary."

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I,V4,V7

NAGR2182

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University of Minnesota, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Minnesota Counties Cooperating

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News and Information

Educational Development Systems
Minnesota Extension Service
433 Coffey Hall
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

July 23, 1987

Source: Cynthia Ash
612/625-6290
Editor: Sam Brungardt
612/625-6797

ARE YOUR TOMATOES LESS THAN PICTURE PERFECT?

Gardeners are often dismayed to find that their tomatoes are cracked and misshaped, considerably less attractive than the fruits depicted in seed catalogs. There may be several reasons for this, says Cynthia Ash, assistant plant pathologist with the University of Minnesota's Extension Service.

She says, "Concentric or radial cracks frequently develop on the stem end of tomatoes that ripen during hot, rainy weather. These cracks result from extremely rapid fruit growth brought on by periods of abundant rain and high temperatures especially when such weather follows drought.

"Minimize damage by maintaining a uniform supply of moisture through watering and soil mulches. Varieties differ in their susceptibility to cracking and variety descriptions often include this information."

Malformation and scarring of tomato fruits, particularly at the blossom end is a condition called "catface." Affected fruits are puckered with swollen protuberances and can have cavities extending deep into the flesh.

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Ash says, "The causes are not generally known, but any disturbance to flowers can lead to abnormally shaped fruits. Extreme heat, drought, low temperatures and contact with hormone-type herbicide sprays may be causes of flower injury. Other than keeping herbicides away from flowers, the only control for catface is planting less susceptible varieties."

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I,V4,V7

NAGR2183

News and Information

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University of Minnesota
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July 23, 1987

Source: Deborah Brown
612/624-7491
Editor: Sam Brungardt
612/625-6797

GARDENING TIPS FOR AUGUST

To keep vegetables productive, harvest the fruit as soon as it ripens, advises Deborah Brown, horticulturist with the University of Minnesota's Extension Service. "If you allow summer squash or cucumbers to stay on the vine until they turn orange and seedy, the plant will slow down its production of new flowers and fruit," Brown says.

The dog days of summer aren't a good time to use herbicides, according to Deborah Brown, Minnesota Extension Service horticulturist. She says, "Refrain from using weedkillers on the lawn as long as temperatures remain high, particularly if the grass is moisture-stressed. Wait until cooler weather, with daytime highs in the low 80s, maximum, combined with adequate rainfall to prevent damage."

"Put on your final application of rose fertilizer in early August," advises Deborah Brown, horticulturist with the University of Minnesota's Extension Service. "Feeding roses too late in the summer can interfere with the gradual hardening off process that

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allows roses to go dormant in fall, then survive the winter as long as they have decent protection."

August is a good time to divide and replant iris, or to plant new ones, says Deborah Brown, horticulturist with the University of Minnesota's Extension Service. She says, "Find a bright, sunny location with well-drained soil, and plant the rhizomes almost horizontally, just below the soil's surface. To ease the job, you may clip back the foliage to 4 or 5 inches."

Gardeners in the southern half of Minnesota may try planting some quick-maturing vegetables in August. Minnesota Extension Service horticulturist Deborah Brown says that leaf lettuce, spinach, radishes and green onions are good choices. Once in a while, peas will produce sufficiently to be worth planting, too.

It may seem early, but August is already time to think about moving houseplants back indoors, according to Deborah Brown, horticulturist with the University of Minnesota's Extension Service. "If plants have grown a lot, it's a good idea to repot them into larger containers two or three weeks before bringing them inside," Brown says. "Most houseplants should come indoors when night temperatures dip below 60 degrees F."

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I,V4,V7

NAGR2189

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University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

July 23, 1987

Source: Jeffrey Hahn
612/624-4977
Editor: Sam Brungardt
612/625-6797

WILLOW APHIDS MORE NUISANCE THAN SERIOUS PEST

People who have willows in their yards may find the trees' branches and limbs infested with small, black, orange-legged, pear-shaped insects. Although these insects--known as black willow aphids--do not kill willows, they can be a nuisance.

"The aphids secrete a sugary substance called honeydew that creates a sticky mess on anything underneath the willow," says Jeffrey Hahn, entomology educator with the University of Minnesota's Extension Service. "The aphids themselves can be found on anything near the tree, including clotheslines and the sides of buildings. They can cause problems by attracting yellowjackets, which feed on them."

Hahn says that persons who have a black willow aphid problem can use a garden hose with a spray attachment to dislodge the insects. If a chemical treatment is desired, Orthene can be used. If nothing is done, the aphids' numbers will diminish on their own, usually within several weeks.

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I,V4,V7

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News and Information

Educational Development Systems
Minnesota Extension Service
433 Coffey Hall
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

July 22, 1987

Source: Mel Baughman
612/624-0734
Writer: Deedee Nagy
612/625-0288

FAST-GROWING TREES ARE POTENTIAL NEW CROP ON CRP LANDS

Farmers in the eight counties surrounding Granite Falls may want to consider entering land into the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) before July 31 and planting it with fast-growing hybrid poplars. Northern States Power Company (NSP) is interested in converting its Minnesota Valley Power Plant at Granite Falls to a wood-burning facility and could be a potential market for the trees in about 10 years if there is an adequate supply of wood available at a cost competitive with coal, according to Mel Baughman, forestry specialist with the University of Minnesota's Extension Service.

The trees grow to between 5 and 10 inches in diameter and about 60 feet in height in 10 years. To reduce hauling costs, NSP would like the plantations concentrated within 25 miles of Granite Falls although plantations within 40 miles might be economical.

Farmers considering putting land into the conservation program during the current sign-up period ending July 31 should indicate if they are interested in the tree-planting program. A forester from the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) will then inspect their land and advise them on its suitability for trees,

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needed management practices and potential markets for the wood. Farmers will still have the choice of planting either trees or grass on CRP acres up until the time they sign a contract, which could be several weeks or months in the future, Baughman says.

Cultivation and uses of hybrid poplar have been under investigation in this region for many years. Because there are no large tree plantations of this type in the Granite Falls area, DNR foresters are adapting information from research conducted in other locations. Baughman says they are presently recommending the planting of hybrid poplar on deep, well-drained loam soils. Other tree species suited for this type of cultivation, such as silver maple, eastern cottonwood or willow, may be recommended on poorly drained soils. Trees will most likely be planted on an 8-foot-by-8-foot spacing, and weed control may be necessary for two years. Fertilization and irrigation may increase tree survival and growth on some sites, but the economics of such measures may not justify their use.

Plantations would be ready for harvest in approximately 10 years. In addition to providing fuelwood, hybrid poplar plantations would provide woody cover needed by some wildlife species in this largely agricultural area.

NSP and the DNR are developing a brochure describing the potential woodburning power plant and the small financial incentive NSP is offering farmers for the first 3,000 acres planted to trees in the targeted area. The brochure will be available soon in Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation

Service (ASCS) offices in Chippewa, Kandiyohi, Lac Qui Parle, Lincoln, Lyon, Redwood, Renville and Swift counties. This project has evolved from cooperative work by the U.S. Forest Service's North Central Forest Experiment Station, the University of Minnesota, the U.S. Department of Energy, Minnesota's Department of Trade and Economic Development and NSP.

For more information about tree planting under the CRP program, farmers should contact a local ASCS or DNR forestry office. For information about growing hybrid poplars for NSP's proposed woodburning power plant, call the Minnesota DNR-Forestry/NSP office at the Minnesota Valley Power Plant in Granite Falls at (612) 564-3481. A toll-free number, (800) 323-0936, to that same office will be available by about July 31.

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SWdist,SCdist,V1,V4,12,34,37,41,42,67,68,81

NCRD2192

News and Information

Educational Development Systems
Minnesota Extension Service
433 Coffey Hall
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

July 30, 1987

Source: Deborah Brown
612/624-7491
Editor: Sam Brungardt
612/625-6797

AUGUST IS GOOD TIME TO PRUNE MANY TREES

August is a good time to prune most established shade trees, including birches, maples, basswoods (lindens) and others, according to Deborah Brown, horticulturist with the University of Minnesota's Extension Service.

Oaks are thought not to be at risk from oak wilt when pruned in August, Brown says, though many people prefer to wait until a hard frost to be on the safe side.

She adds, "Because of Dutch elm disease, it may be preferable to delay pruning elm trees until they are dormant. Although there is no conclusive evidence yet, current research seems to indicate elms are more vulnerable to infection when trimmed during the growing season.

"Wait to prune fruit trees until late winter or early spring; somewhere around the end of March. At that time, wounds will heal rapidly and there will be less chance of disease than when they're pruned in summer."

Brown says it's not a good idea to trim shrubs in August. Instead, she advises pruning them after they've gone dormant. She says, "Every time you prune during the growing season, new growth

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is encouraged. Growth that develops late in the season has little opportunity to harden off, or become prepared to survive the winter."

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I,V4,V7

NAGR2185

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Educational Development Systems
Minnesota Extension Service
433 Coffey Hall
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

July 30, 1987

Source: Deborah Brown
612/624-7491
Editor: Sam Brungardt
612/625-6797

START SEEDING LAWNS IN MID-AUGUST

Mid-August marks the beginning of the best time for seeding lawns in Minnesota, according to Deborah Brown, horticulturist with the University of Minnesota's Extension Service.

She says, "You have only a short time in which to act, until about mid-September in the southern part of the state; even earlier further north. Competition from germinating weeds is down to virtually zero by mid-August, nights are cooler and getting longer, and--we hope--rainfall should be more plentiful by then."

Brown advises choosing a good bluegrass-fescue seed combination, perhaps with some perennial rye. Annual rye is of little value if a lawn is seeded in autumn because it will not survive the winter.

Brown says, "Work the soil up so the seed can be raked into it, not just scattered on top of hard, packed ground. Fertilize with a special 'starter' fertilizer, or a mild, organic fertilizer such as Milorganite. Then water as often as necessary to keep the soil surface and the seeds continually moist.

"Grass planted in early fall will germinate and grow strong enough to come through most winters in good shape. In fact, the

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grass you plant in August or September often comes up thicker and greener the following year."

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I,V4,V7

NAGR2186

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Educational Development Systems
Minnesota Extension Service
433 Coffey Hall
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

July 30, 1987

Source: John True
612/625-9733
Writer: Mary Kay O'Hearn
612/625-2728

KNOW YOUR ROLE BEFORE THE ACCIDENT

No one likes to even imagine an accident happening to himself, a family member, friend or anyone else. But it may be better to program in advance your reactions for when the adrenalin prompted by an accident situation sends you into "overdrive" and you want all your efforts to count for the person in need of help.

Of course, serious accidents can happen to someone working alone. That's why it's good to check frequently on how a person working alone is getting along (this is especially important on the farm). It's better to work in teams of two or more whenever possible.

John True, agricultural engineer with the University of Minnesota's Extension Service, says that having first aid training is certainly a plus. If two people find someone in distress, one could go for help while the other assists the victim. But if it's a one-to-one situation, alleviating the victim's problems comes first, before seeking help.

Unless there is an immediate threat (such as fire or an enraged animal), no inexperienced person should move a seriously injured person. Leave that to experienced rescuers and physicians.

Be sure you know the answers to the following points in advance--

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then hope you'll never be called on to deal with a life-or-death situation:

- Where and how to turn off the engine on powered equipment.

- Emergency phone numbers (911 if it covers your area), which should be on or near every telephone.

- How to disengage the power take-off (PTO).

- Location of fire extinguishers, how to use them and the best source of water for fighting fires (which might be a lake or pond).

- How to turn on the lights and how to turn off or disconnect electric power.

- Where electric power lines are in relation to movement of equipment.

- Where and how to turn off stationary farm equipment such as automatic grain handling equipment, grain dryer, silo unloader, conveyors, etc.

- How to turn off a portable auger or elevator.

- How to use safety bars on self-unloading wagons.

- How to turn on fans to get air moving in manure pits and confinement housing.

- Location of the water container or tank in event of an anhydrous ammonia accident.

- Directions to the accident location and how to get emergency vehicles into various areas of the farm.

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AEA,CEO,BSS,F,V1

NAGR2202

News and Information

Educational Development Systems
Minnesota Extension Service
433 Coffey Hall
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

July 30, 1987

Source: Claire Althoff
218/643-5481
Writer: Russ Vogel
612/624-3051

WILKIN COUNTY'S KIDS IN THE KITCHEN PROGRAM EARNS NATIONAL AWARD

Kids in the Kitchen, a five-week food preparation course for older gradeschool children developed by Wilkin County, Minnesota, extension agent Clair Althoff, has received the National Potato Board's 1987 Nutrition Action Award. A \$1,000 award for the Wilkin County 4-H Leaders Council was presented to Althoff July 11 at the board's headquarters in San Francisco.

The program offers cooking classes for third- to sixth-graders in thirteen basic food preparation and nutrition skills, from peeling vegetables to mixing and measuring and using an oven. It was developed in response to a growing need for kitchen skills among children of working parents, Althoff says.

"With the increasing number of dual-career or single-parent families, parents are often too rushed at mealtime to teach kids or let them help," Althoff says. A survey of children who have participated in the program showed that 80 percent had rarely or never performed even simple tasks like stirring or measuring. Moreover, as increasingly more children are home alone after school, they need such skills to prepare nutritious snacks and lunches for themselves.

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In the Kids in the Kitchen course, groups of three or four children work together on new cooking tasks, and a snack or meal for the students results from each class. Both girls and boys are encouraged to participate, Althoff says, "because boys like to eat, too."

The program was developed around the 4-H manual "Fit It All Together," and classes are taught by 4-H adult and junior leader volunteers with "dishpan kitchen" kits that require only an oven, a water supply and tables as additional facilities.

Kids in the Kitchen courses, which often are coordinated through local community education programs, have been held at schools in Rothsay and Campbell and in Polk County.

The program, which was launched through support from the Minnesota 4-H Foundation, is an excellent volunteer recruitment tool, as curriculum and equipment needs are already laid out, Althoff says. For junior leaders, it also offers excellent experience in working with people.

"It's been really fun to work with the program, and it's rewarding to have it nationally recognized," says Althoff. As Kids in the Kitchen develops further, it may be expanded throughout Minnesota and beyond.

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AEA,CEO,H,Q,V1,V4,14,26,56,61,89

N4-H2203

News and Information

Educational Development Systems
Minnesota Extension Service
433 Coffey Hall
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

July 30, 1987

Source: Jim Lewis
612/625-7746
Writer: Russ Vogel
612/624-3051

4-H COOKBOOKS ARE GOING FASTER THAN FRESH BROWNIES

Copies of the cookbook "Blue Ribbon Favorites," a collection of nearly 500 favorite recipes from 4-H families throughout Minnesota, are vanishing quicker than the last few bites of Ole's Cheese Meat Loaf. Copies of this 160-page treasure, published by the Minnesota 4-H Foundation, will be available only a while longer, according to Jim Lewis, foundation executive director.

"Blue Ribbon Favorites" offers both wholesome, hearty, pride-of-the-fair fare and an opportunity to support Minnesota's 4-H program, Lewis says. "It's both from and for 4-H, as the recipes come from 4-H families and the proceeds go to support 4-H programs."

The book's head cook was Polk County 4-H'er Tanyja Kuznik, who worked months to compile recipes from each of Minnesota's 87 counties. Kuznik got the idea from similar 4-H cookbooks in other states, which have raised thousands of dollars to support 4-H activities.

The fruit of her efforts includes delicacies like Beginners Brownies and Impossible Quiche; Deviled Egg Bake and Heavenly Jam; and 7-Up Pancakes and Pineapple-Oreo Salad. Herein are such

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Gopher State favorites as Mississippi Mud Cake, Choco-diles Bars, Microwave Turtles, Fondant Ducks and Mud Hen Bars.

Heartier offerings include One-pound Bread Loaf, Roadside Potatoes, Sour Cream Meatballs, Impossible Cheeseburger Pie, Carol's Tater Tot Hot Dish, Fit-for-a-King Beans and Mrs. America Casserole.

In the Heritage Favorites section are, of course, recipes for krumkake, lefse, rommegraut and kringles, but also Grandma's German Coffee Cake, Slovenian Krofe, Mexican Almond Pudding, Oriental Chicken Wings and more.

Ole's treasured meat loaf is joined by other family favorites, such as Mom's Food Processor Blueberry Muffins, Grandma's Barbecued Meatballs, Daddy's Special, Mrs. Frank's Favorite Buns, Irene's Broccoli Soup and Mary Kay's Corn Bread--not to mention Nina's Cheesecake for (U.S. Senator) Rudy (Boschwitz), Wild Rice Soup from Gov. and Mrs. Rudy Perpich and Fettucine a la Pimento Mondale from the former vice president.

"Blue Ribbon Favorites" is spiral bound, has a washable cover and features nutritional information for recipes and dozens of 4-H photos. It can be purchased at the 4-H Building during the Minnesota State Fair or by contacting a county agent. Copies are available also by calling Margaret Anderson at (612) 625-0244 or by sending a check for \$7.50, plus \$1 postage, to the Minnesota 4-H Foundation, 340 Coffey Hall, University of Minnesota, St. Paul, MN 55108.

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News and Information

Educational Development Systems
Minnesota Extension Service
433 Coffey Hall
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

July 30, 1987

Source: Sherri Johnson
612/624-1708
Writer: Deedee Nagy
612/625-0288

MILDEW COULD BE LINGERING REMINDER OF RECENT FLOODING

Just when you thought it was safe to go down in your basement, mildew could be growing on carpets and furnishings left wet from recent heavy rains and flash floods. Sherri Johnson, textiles and clothing specialist with the University of Minnesota's Extension Service, says the potential for mildew growth is increased by the conditions present in many Twin Cities area homes: moisture, humidity, warmth and poor air circulation.

Johnson says that mildew is often a delayed reaction to water problems. As long as an area is saturated, mildew does not have enough air to grow. But once some drying has occurred, the fungus will thrive at temperatures between about 75 and 85 degrees F.

Mildew is easy to detect because of its characteristic musty odor, Johnson says. Mildew damages carpeting and other fabrics by weakening the fibers to the point where they may shred or fall apart if moved or even walked upon. It also discolors fibers and the stain is almost impossible to remove. Although only natural, not manmade, fibers are affected by mildew, carpeting of synthetic fiber often has a jute backing that can be attacked by the fungus.

Eliminating moisture before mildew can set in is the best

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University of Minnesota, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Minnesota Counties Cooperating

control. Remove wet carpet and pad and dry it as quickly as possible, Johnson advises. "Normally you should seek professional carpet cleaning assistance," she says. "If that isn't available quickly, however, there are some steps you can take while you're waiting for professional help."

--Use a wet vacuum to extract as much water from the carpet as possible. Remove the carpeting from the room.

--Remove the pad. "In most cases, it will probably deteriorate once dried so you should plan on purchasing new padding," Johnson adds. "Padding marketed under the trade name Omalon may be salvageable, but others are undoubtedly ruined." She advises that both the carpet backing and its face need to be treated with a mildew protector. Professional carpet cleaners have this type of product. Once carpet and pad are removed, the carpet should be dried using fans and dehumidifiers.

--Dry the subflooring and treat it with a mold and mildew disinfectant. Only after the subflooring is thoroughly dry should you put down a new pad and have the carpeting professionally reinstalled, according to Johnson.

If it's too late for these preventive steps and mildew has started growing in carpets, it may still be confined largely to the backing. Johnson suggests examining the backing for discolored areas that may indicate the growth location. To control growing mildew, she recommends:

--Removing small rugs or carpets and placing them in full

sunlight if possible. This will usually kill mildew in a day or so.

--Giving the backing a light "painting" of one part of 3 percent hydrogen peroxide to five parts water. Direct exposure to sunshine will speed this process.

--Eliminating growth conditions for mild and mildew in the subflooring before replacing carpets and new padding.

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CEO,V7

NHEC2205

**News or information
for extension,
experiment station staff**

Educational Development Systems
Minnesota Extension Service
433 Coffey Hall
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

July 30, 1987

Source: William Schafer
612/624-4793
Editor: Mary Kay O'Hearn
612/625-2728

IS PRODUCE FROM FLOODED GARDENS SAFE TO EAT?

If floodwaters have covered your vegetable garden, some produce will be unsafe to eat, cautions William Schafer, food technologist with the University of Minnesota's Extension Service.

"Usually, fruits and vegetables which were immature at the time of flooding should be safe to eat by harvest time, but for additional safety, disinfect produce and cook it before you eat it," adds _____, _____ County extension agent.

The safety of unharvested fruits and vegetables will depend on the kind of produce, its maturity at the time of the flood, the depth of water and silt during flooding, how long flooding lasted, the bacterial content of the floodwater and the likelihood of contamination from sewage or other bacterial contaminants.

Avoid using produce that was ready for harvest at the time of flooding unless flooding was light, there was no danger of bacterial contamination from floodwater and the produce can be disinfected, peeled and thoroughly cooked.

Some fruits and vegetables are more susceptible to bacterial contamination than others. Leafy vegetables, such as lettuce, cabbage, kale, mustard, collards, spinach, chard and celery, and

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fleshy vegetables and berry fruits, such as tomatoes, summer squash, strawberries and peppers, are highly susceptible. Silt and other contaminants imbedded in the leaves or fruit could be difficult to remove.

Root, bulb and tuber crops, such as beets, carrots, radishes, turnips, onions and potatoes, are less susceptible to bacterial contamination. Disinfect, peel and thoroughly cook these vegetables before eating them.

Produce with a protected fruit or water-protected outer skin, such as peas, melons, eggplant, sweet corn or winter squash, should be washed and disinfected before the outer shell, skin or husk is removed. Then shell, peel or husk the produce and cook it if possible.

Disinfecting calls for thoroughly washing and disinfecting any produce before eating. Washing means using a strong detergent solution with a scrub brush and removing all silt. Then immerse the produce in a chlorine solution for 15 to 20 minutes. Household bleaches contain from 2 to 6 percent chlorine. The amount of bleach to add to water depends on the percentage chlorine the contains:

<u>% chlorine in bleach</u>	<u>volume of bleach to add</u>	
	to 1 quart water:	to 1 gallon water:
2%	3/4 tablespoon	2 tablespoons
4%	1 teaspoon	1 tablespoon
6%	1/2 teaspoon	3/4 tablespoon

After disinfecting produce, rinse it thoroughly with safe drinking water, peel it if possible, and cook it thoroughly before eating. If you have questions this doesn't answer, contact the _____ County Extension Office or county health authorities.

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CEO

NHEC2206

News or information
for extension,
experiment station staff

Educational Development Systems
Minnesota Extension Service
433 Coffey Hall
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

July 30, 1987

Source: William Schafer
612/624-4793
Editor: Mary Kay O'Hearn
612/625-2728

EXERCISE EXTREME CAUTION WITH FLOOD-CONTAMINATED FOODS

Contaminated food may be a problem following any storm involving flooding, says William Schafer, food technologist with the University of Minnesota's Extension Service. Floodwaters can carry silt, raw sewage, oil, or chemical wastes, bringing filth and bacteria that can make food unsafe to eat.

"Inspect any food left in the house after flooding," Schafer advises. "Water may have covered it, dripped on it or seeped into it. Even if a food is protected by its container, if you are in doubt about the safety of the food, it is better to throw it out than risk disease."

Discard the following foods: opened containers and packages that have come in contact with floodwaters; unopened jars and bottles with paper seals, such as those containing mayonnaise or salad dressing; containers of spices, seasonings and flavorings; flour, sugar and coffee in canisters; foods in paper, cloth, fiber and cardboard boxes (even if the contents seem dry) as well as sealed packages of crackers or cookies within a larger, paper box; dented, bulging or leaking cans; jam or jelly sealed with paraffin; foods in containers with unsealed, fitted lids, such as

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cocoa or baking powder; commercially bottled carbonated beverages if the cap is crusted with silt; foods packaged in foil or cellophane; all fresh vegetables and fruits that do not have a peel, shell or coating that can be removed before they are used; leafy vegetables; fresh meat, fish and poultry that has been in contact with floodwaters; and home-canned foods, even if the jars seem tightly sealed.

"Some foods are safe--if the containers are washed and sanitized before the contents are used. Fresh fruits and vegetables are also safe if they are the sort that can be washed, sanitized and peeled," says _____ County extension agent _____.

These are other precautions to observe with foods that might have come in contact with floodwaters:

Undamaged tin cans: Be sure to wash and sanitize cans and commercial glass jars before opening them. Wash in a strong detergent solution with a scrub brush to remove all silt after you have removed the labels. Then, immerse the scrubbed containers for 15 minutes in a chlorine solution. Household bleaches contain from 2 percent to 6 percent chlorine. (Consult the table below for quantities of bleach to use.) Remove containers from the solution and air-dry before opening. Relabel the containers if possible. Use them as soon as possible since they may rust. FOR ADDED SAFETY, BOIL FOOD BEFORE YOU USE IT.

Potatoes: Wash, sanitize, dry, peel and cook potatoes before you use them.

Fresh fruits: Wash well, sanitize and peel citrus fruits before you use them. Other fresh fruits should be washed, sanitized, peeled and cooked before they are eaten. DO NOT EAT RAW FRUIT (EXCEPT CITRUS), EVEN IF IT HAS BEEN SANITIZED.

Here are the formulas for preparing chlorine solutions for sanitizing:

<u>% chlorine in bleach</u>	<u>volume of bleach to add</u>	
	to 1 quart water:	to 1 gallon water:
2%	3/4 tablespoon	2 tablespoons
4%	1 teaspoon	1 tablespoon
6%	1/2 teaspoon	3/4 tablespoon

If you have specific questions not answered here, consult the _____ County Extension Office or county health authorities.

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CEO

NHEC2207

News and Information

Educational Development Systems
Minnesota Extension Service
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(Editors: This article explains a program that could be of economic importance to farmers within about 25 miles of Granite Falls, which includes many within your readership area.)

POPLAR PLANTATIONS COULD PROVIDE FUEL FOR LOCAL POWER PLANT

Most Minnesota farmers don't think of themselves as plantation owners. But if the plantations are of fast-growing hybrid poplars, it could be both an apt description and a way for them to provide fuel for the Minnesota Valley Power Plant at Granite Falls, which Northern States Power Company is interested in converting to a woodburning facility.

Mel Baughman, forestry specialist with the University of Minnesota's Extension Service, explains that farmers in the eight counties surrounding Granite Falls may want to consider entering land into the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) during the current sign-up, and possibly committing to the growing of poplars for sale to the power plant in about 10 years. Farmers in the CRP sign-up with an interest in planting poplars will have a Department of Natural Resources (DNR) forester inspect their land and advise them on its suitability for the program.

The concept is unique, but the idea of burning wood instead of coal has both an environmental and an economic basis, according

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University of Minnesota, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Minnesota Counties Cooperating

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to NSP spokesman Dave Ostlie. If readily available wood is priced competitively with coal, it would be a financially attractive fuel source that burns with lower sulfur emission and ash residue, produces no heavy metals and has a positive effect by reducing atmospheric carbon dioxide. The proposed woodburning plant could burn whole trees with trunks up to 10 inches thick and 60 feet long. After trees are felled, they would be hauled full-length to the power plant, where they would be pre-dried for about 30 days in structures heated with waste energy from the turbines. After drying, the trees would be pushed into huge furnaces and burned.

Trees could be hauled economically within a radius of 25 to 40 miles of the plant, which includes portions of Yellow Medicine, Chippewa, Kandiyohi, Lac Qui Parle, Lincoln, Lyon, Redwood, Renville and Swift counties in southwestern and south central Minnesota.

Why poplar? Baughman explains that it is a lightweight wood that grows very fast, but a pound of it produces as much heat as a pound of slower-growing oak. Hybrid poplars reach harvestable size--7 to 10 inches in diameter and 60 feet in height--in 7 to 15 years. The forest management technique known as short-rotation intensive culture (SRIC) would most likely involve planting poplar cuttings on deep, well-drained loam soil about 8 feet apart. Cuttings are 8- to 12-inch-long sections of about 1/2-inch-diameter, 1-year-old poplar stems. Weeds may need to be controlled for a year or two. Fertilization and irrigation may be recommended on some sites if they can be done economically.

When mature, the trees with branches and tops intact would be cut and trucked full length to the power plant. The stumps would then send up new shoots and from these would grow new trees, which would probably be ready to be harvested in another 7 to 10 years. Three or four crops could probably be cut before the land would need to be cleared and new cuttings started.

In addition to fueling the local power plant, Baughman says the hybrid poplar plantations would provide woody cover needed by some wildlife species. The DNR wildlife section will be helping plan plantations where wildlife habitat improvement is needed. Baughman adds that erodible agricultural lands will be taken out of production by the program, benefiting existing crop prices and also deriving permanent erosion control.

In the area surrounding Granite Falls, about half of the erodible acres eligible for the CRP are deep, well-drained loam soils well suited to hybrid poplar plantations. Another 45 percent is poorly drained but might support stands of silver maple, eastern cottonwood or willow for eventual burning. Only about five percent of the CRP-eligible land is too well drained and sandy to be suitable for the SRIC plantations, according to Barry Morse, forester with the DNR.

Farmers considering entering the CRP program with a commitment to raising trees for fuel will want to do some financial analyses before making a final decision. Baughman says information on potential costs and revenues may be available when the cultural practices and harvesting systems have been more clearly defined.

Although research on short-rotation intensive culture plantations has been conducted in the Lake States for more than 20 years, there are no large-scale plantations in southwestern Minnesota to serve as a precedent. NSP has been pleased with the cooperation among participating agencies, including the U.S. Forest Service's North Central Forest Experiment Station, the Minnesota DNR, the University of Minnesota, the U.S. Department of Energy and Minnesota's Department of Trade and Economic Development.

NSP and the Department of Natural Resources are developing a brochure describing the power plant and the market potential for the trees. It will be available soon at local Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service (ASCS) offices. Currently, NSP is offering a small financial incentive for the first 3,000 acres planted to trees in the targeted area. Further information about the hybrid poplar-growing program may be obtained by calling the Minnesota DNR-Forestry/NSP office at the Minnesota Valley Power Plant in Granite Falls at (612) 564-3481. A toll-free number, (800) 323-0936, to the power plant will be available about July 31.

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