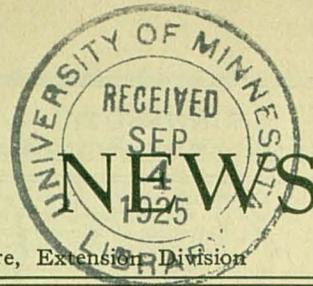


MINNESOTA EXTENSION SERVICE



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Liming, Inoculation, Good Seed Stressed On This Alfalfa Trip

The alfalfa tour held in Pine county August 7 was of special interest because of the definiteness with which it was organized and the lessons brought out.

The points which County Agent Hammargren desired to emphasize in alfalfa growing included the necessity of liming acid soils, the necessity of inoculation, and the necessity of using genuine Grimm seed. He desired also to emphasize the danger in cutting more than twice a year and wished to bring out desirable practices of the better growers. To accomplish this, the party visited only four farms and drove not more than 20 miles.

The first farm visited was that of August Wickstrom, where the field had been top dressed with lime because of lack of liming at time of sowing and also had been cultivated after the first cutting this year. On this farm a pit was dug about three feet deep to show the character of the roots to that depth. The visitors assembled at this farm about 11 a.m. and, after inspecting the field, enjoyed a picnic lunch.

The next farm had been selected to show the difference between Grimm and common seed. Part of the field had been sown to Grimm and part to common seed four or five years ago, and the common seed had winter killed badly. This field was cut three times last year and part of the Grimm field had winter killed.

On the next farm the effect of Grimm seed was demonstrated. That portion of the field planted to common seed showed poor results. On the fourth farm the owner had sown his alfalfa with a definite idea of testing the value of lime and inoculation. Certain portions of the field had been left unlimed and other portions uninoculated, while still another portion had neither lime nor inoculation. The necessity of both lime and inoculation was clearly demonstrated.

The tour ended about 3:30. Those present appeared to have a lively appreciation of the necessity of the proper practices. The fact that the tour occupied only a part of the day seemed to please the group also.

Happy Days

Hennepin county potato growers have been digging and marketing spuds around \$1 per bushel, says Agent K. A. Kirkpatrick. Yields are running 125 to 150 bushels on the average. As the agent points out, it was not so long ago that potatoes were quoted at 25 cents a bushel.

Houston Organizing for Health

Houston county has organized a health project with about 60 members.

ONE YEAR'S RECORD IN SHERBURNE EPITOMIZED

County Agent Raymond Aune of Sherburne county had occasion recently to present to the people of his county a record of the results of his year of service in the county, from June 1, 1924, to June 1, 1925, as follows:

250 samples of soil tested.
27 cars of lime shipped in at cost for alfalfa growers.

40 marl beds located.
250 cubic feet marl distributed through co-operation with the soils division.

20,000 pounds of alfalfa seed ordered by co-operation with the banks of the county.

Free inoculation made available to 400 alfalfa growers.

38 potash and phosphate demonstration plots being conducted on peat soil.

8,000 pounds of pyrotol ordered for farmers, saving \$1,300.

Co-operation extended in securing the tuberculin test for 47 herds of cattle by which 167 reactors were located.

Poultry culled in 60 flocks numbering 7,000 birds.

38 purebred sires placed.

340 boys and girls enrolled in club projects, including dairying, beef, swine, sheep, poultry, garden, potatoes, bread, sewing, and canning.

Clothing project work organized in which 400 women participated, having been organized in 29 groups with estimated savings made by the women of \$2,800.

301 meetings held with a total attendance of 13,000.

Major projects for 1925 and 1926 include continuance of the alfalfa campaign; sweet clover trials; location of more marl beds; dairy development through organization of cow testing, feeding schools and tuberculin testing; continuance of the clothing project, and starting with the home management course; continuance of the boys' and girls' club work; poultry improvement, care and housing; county exhibit at state fair and county fair promotion; peat soil reclamation.

New Oats Yielding Well

Gopher oats continue to make a splendid impression in southeastern Minnesota. In most cases the early oats are making larger yields than the later maturing.

ICE BROKEN ON TOURS; FRIENDSHIPS FORMED

"Getting acquainted is one of the worth while things of the club tour," says County Agent M. P. Roske of Rock county in reporting an inspection trip taken in July to the homes of livestock project members.

Extension School To Take Place of Annual Conference

Out of 49 replies from county agents as to the type of annual meeting desired, 45 voted for the week's school, while four expressed a desire for the three-day conference.

Thirty-eight mentioned December or January as desirable months for the school and several indicated December 14 to 19 as especially desirable. Therefore, it is tentatively planned to hold a five and one-half day county agent and farm project specialist school the week of December 14-19.

In order to make this school a real success, with every worker getting the best possible results, it will be necessary to organize the week into regular class periods, study hours, "gym" work, some recreation, and a very limited amount of "public speaking."

The agents will be asked to register for the entire course. Records will be kept of attendance, and reports will be called for at the end of the course. This should be a serious attempt to obtain useful facts and information, to brush up on many later developments in the subjects offered for study, and hence will require the co-operation and interest of each one in attendance.

The proposed course includes tentative plans for class work in **marketing, farm management, and dairying** with five or six lecture and quiz periods in each subject, one period each day for organized "gym" and swimming, a two-hour study period for special reading each day, visits to Twin City co-operatives and certain divisions of University Farm, several meals together and ample time allotted for the annual meeting of the County Agents' association. The entire program with registration card and description of courses and personnel of teaching staff will be forwarded to each agent after plans have been perfected. It will be voluntary attendance by agents and each one should decide whether he desires to and can attend the entire course. He will need to depend on the district meetings for the extension conferences. This is intended as an educational training week.

While it is hoped all agents can attend the school, no criticism will follow the decision made by an agent, for valid reasons, not to attend. For the sake of those who desire such training, however, it will be necessary for those who do register to stay for the entire course.

We are proposing that traveling expenses of the agents in attendance be paid by the state office, with sustenance while here by the respective counties concerned.

Suggestions by agents are invited, for no definite plans have been made as yet.

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SEPTEMBER, 1925

CLUB WORK AND COLLEGE TRAINING

What the United States Department of Agriculture calls "an unsuspected by-product from all of the recognized results of boys' and girls' club work" is the stimulation and encouragement to seek a higher education. This result is emphasized in an increasing number of former members of these clubs who are entering college each year.

According to the department more than 8,600 former club members entered state universities and schools of college rank last year. This trend is to be largely attributed, say department officials, to observations made by the club members while carrying out their club projects—that education, knowledge, and training are valuable factors for success.

Many former club boys and girls are attending schools of agriculture and the Minnesota College of Agriculture. Club work has not only furnished the incentive to seek a college education, but it has helped many club workers to finance a part or all of their college expenses.

PLENTY OF PROOF

There is plenty of proof in every Ohio county that extension agents are profitable investments. To eliminate them on the score of economy is to ignore what one Noah Webster says the word economy means. To eliminate them on any score is to check the social and mental progress of the rural community, a movement measured not so much in dollars and cents as in human happiness.—Ohio Extension Service News.

QUACK HAS NO SHOW ON THIS MAN'S FARM

Farmer Faupel of Crow Wing county is killing out a field of quackgrass every year by a system of his own, says Agent E. G. Roth. The farmer's method is to plow the quack infested field in the fall, to give it a shallow plowing in the spring, and to keep the spring tooth harrow moving over it regularly until late in the planting season. About the middle of June, when most of the quack has been killed, he seeds the tract to fodder corn which he takes care is well cultivated.

LAYING HEN FEATURED AT POULTRY SCHOOL

Sixteen states were represented at the poultry judging and breeding school held at Cornell University in July, when poultry raisers, agricultural instructors, county agents, and poultry instructors went back to school to get the latest information about selecting hens for egg production.

The school is organized on the basis of regular class work with lectures on the various factors involved in culling, followed by laboratory periods on the same subjects. Those in attendance had an opportunity to estimate production of trap-nested birds over various periods and then to check up on their actual production records. The work dealt chiefly with laying hens, but one half-day session each was devoted to judging cockerels, pullets, and eggs, and also judging for standard qualities.

Factors particularly emphasized this year were body type, conformation and head. It was made clear that a high producing hen must have sufficient capacity which is given by a long, broad deep body, a strong deep head with bright full eye, and must show the temperament of a layer in her carriage, actions and appearance. In other words, the fact that a hen is not laying at the time the flock is culled does not mean that she is a low producer. W. H. Allen, poultry extension specialist from New Jersey, has worked out a score-card in which he gives 70 points out of 100 for type, conformation and head and only 20 points for present condition. This would indicate that the person who culls on the basis of space between the pelvic bones runs the risk of making many mistakes.

The annual school at Cornell undoubtedly makes a great contribution to poultry judging work. The instruction is in the hands of poultry professors and research workers from the various poultry departments throughout the United States and Canada. Judging rules are revised every year on the basis of experimental work of the previous year.

Minnesota was represented by N. E. Chapman and Cora E. Cooke, extension specialists, who attended the school at their own expense.

Community Flocks to Be Dipped

A community dipping plant for flock owners is the sequel of a single sheep dipping demonstration in the South Bay neighborhood of Zippel in Lake of the Woods county. The simplicity of the work was a complete surprise to sheep owners, reports the agent.

Going in for More Dairying

Some farmers in far away Lake of the Woods find themselves with much surplus hay and plan to feed it rather than sell it in bulk. The matter of securing dairy cattle for them is being handled by a local committee.

Second Crop Better Than First

Alfalfa growers of Hennepin county have been amazed by the ability of alfalfa to come back after sustaining severe winter injury. "Practically every alfalfa field inspected shows a heavier second crop than was the first crop," says the agent.

FURNISH-OWN-ROOM GIRLS TOUR 21 HOMES

"I always thought I could not have a nice room unless I had expensive furniture, curtains, and rugs. But I have found out different, that we can make a room look beautiful without these, through club work."

This little testimonial was written by a member of the furnish-your-own-room project in Redwood county. Many others equally as emphatic might be given.

About 60 Redwood county girls were members of the room furnishing project which culminated on Tuesday, August 18, in a tour, led by County Agent and Mrs. Lynn Sheldon and Miss Velma Slocum, of 21 different farms to inspect the work of club members. Of 24 girls taking part in the tour, 16 won free trips to the State Fair where they will wait on tables at the Farm Boys' Camp. Elizabeth Jacoby placed first in the project and Phoebe Bectold second.

Girls whose project work was outstanding made, among a great variety of articles, 29 pairs of curtains, 28 dressers and table scarfs, 10 bedspreads, 18 pairs of pillow cases, and refinished 49 pieces of furniture, enameled 13 pieces of furnishings, finished 33 floors, and re-arranged 22 rooms. One of the objects of the project, "to interest the family to improve the whole home," was shown in the fact that 21 other rooms in homes were re-arranged and brightened. Many of the girls showed striking ingenuity in fashioning lamp shades and curtains, working out color schemes, and refinishing tables, dressers, bookends, and other articles.

One girl refinished a small table and stool, which no one in the family wanted, with white enamel and black trimming and used them effectively to fill up a wall space between two doors. Another enameled two old dressers, using the smaller one for a table. The handles and knobs she painted a medium blue to carry out the color scheme which she had adopted. The same girl also made a footstool from tin cans, which she padded and covered with blue, with a white ruffle tacked around the sides. She also covered an old trunk and made an inviting seat out of it.

Twenty of the girls, whose work was summarized, spent 669 hours and \$146.94 for materials to improve their rooms. They estimated the value of time spent at \$280.23.

The room furnishing group in Redwood county was organized last February by the extension service. The leaders were instructed by Miss Slocum and they in turn gave the lessons to the members.

This was the first tour of the kind held by club workers in the northwest.

FARMER NINE WHIPS BANKERS ON DIAMOND

Farmers and bankers met on the diamond at a lake resort in Lincoln county recently, the farmers winning the game by the good old-time score of 19 to 17. "But more valuable to them than this victory," writes Agent A. W. True, "was the good feeling exhibited by everybody and the \$105 raised for prize money for the county ton litter contest. Fully 1,200 persons witnessed the game."

FARM LEASE FORMS DRAFTED IN REDWOOD

The Redwood County Farm Bureau, in co-operation with local lawyers, landlords and tenants, recently published recommended farm lease forms. One is for a half and half livestock lease. The other is for the usual grain share lease with cash rent for hay and pasture.

The plan of procedure was for a committee representing tenants to meet with County Agent Sheldon and W. L. Cavert of the extension division. The tenants examined the usual forms and made suggestions as to the chief difficulties with present farm lease practices. The next day a similar conference was held with a committee of the landlords. Later a committee of lawyers assisted in putting these suggestions in good legal form.

Distinctive features of these forms are: First, a suggested sale clause whereby the tenant is to receive a commission if the farm is sold in return for giving his aid in making a sale of the farm by keeping it in attractive condition; second, provision that the tenant is to receive compensation for unexhausted improvements such as weed eradication and clover or alfalfa seed furnished by him that is harvested by his successor; third, the lease is all printed in large type, with a heading in large capital letters for each paragraph.

In southern Minnesota counties 25 to 50 per cent of the farms are operated by tenants. With this condition, it is apparent that the encouraging of leases that provide for the better upkeep of the farm is a big factor in an improved agriculture.

MISS NORA HOTT AND MRS. MEYBOHM RESIGN

Miss Nora Hott left the Minnesota agricultural extension service September first after four years of splendid work. When she came to the state from Montana she was home demonstration agent in Waseca county for a year and a half. Since then she has been state clothing specialist. Her work for and interest in farm women have endeared her to the many groups with which she has been associated. She expects to spend the year in professional study in New York City.

Miss Lois Reid, who has been urban home demonstration agent in St. Paul the past year, will be Miss Hott's successor as clothing specialist in the state office.

Extension people regret to learn that Mrs. Genevieve B. Meybohm has resigned her position as assistant state leader of boys' and girls' club work and will retire from the service October 15. She has been a successful extension toiler since 1917, serving three years as home demonstration agent in St. Paul and five years as assistant to the state club leader. Mr. and Mrs. Meybohm will continue to make their home in St. Paul.

Too Wet for Potatoes

Heavy rains in the planting season cut the potato acreage in Pennington county to 50 per cent of last year's, says Agent J. J. McCann.

CLUB WORK OUTGROWS FIVE FAIR BUILDINGS

Every year boys' and girls' club work takes over more territory at the Minnesota State Fair. Not so many years ago club work, then in its infancy, was housed in a single booth in one of the main buildings. Canning demonstrations were added the second year. Gains were small at first, but have increased so rapidly the last few years that club work now uses five large buildings at the fair. And what is more, all of the buildings have been outgrown. Club work has moved forward until this year there will be—

More than 1,100 juniors taking some part in the State Fair program.

Nearly \$27,000 available for prizes, special premiums, medals, pennants, traveling expenses, maintenance, and payrolls of helpers for the juniors and their enterprises.

Style show presented by 90 club girls from 44 counties; new this year.

Daily club paper; new this year. Annual club picnic at the University Farm campus Tuesday evening, September 8. Program in charge of State Boys' and Girls' Club association.

Grand club parade, new last year, scheduled for Wednesday evening.

Annual banquet for juniors by the Minneapolis Civic and Commerce association Thursday evening.

Two hundred dairy calves from 75 counties.

Seventy-five purebred gilt pigs from 50 counties.

One hundred fifty boys and girls in livestock judging contests.

Almost continuous demonstrations by club members in the boys' and girls' buildings.

Canning teams from 40 counties. Sewing teams from 44 counties. Breadmaking teams from 61 counties.

Poultry teams from 12 counties, dairy demonstration teams from 12 counties, and 10 teams representing garden, corn, alfalfa, and potato projects.

Four health teams.

Three camps in full swing—the Farm Boys' on the fair grounds, and separate camps for boys and girls at University Farm.

Growing Their Own Alfalfa Seed

Chisago county, among several others, expects to produce much home grown alfalfa seed this season. Agent George W. Larson believes that when good seed can be produced right at home the alfalfa acreage will increase by leaps and bounds.

More Farmers Cropping Peat

Agent L. O. Jacob says the peat project is attracting general attention in Anoka county where 75 per cent of resident farmers owning peat land are cropping at least a few acres of it. Inquiries as to general and specific treatment are constantly coming to the agent's office.

COLT RAISING PROJECT GETS SPLENDID START

Seventy boys and half a dozen girls, 14 to 20 years of age, are members of colt clubs which this year for the first time became part of junior club work in Minnesota. Twelve Minnesota counties have such clubs. Redwood leads with an enrollment of 17, and Kittson, which organized the first club, has 11 members. Winona has 8 members and Nicollet and Olmsted six each. The remaining counties have enough members to be eligible to compete for state prizes. Every member must own, feed, manage, and show one draft grade or purebred colt foaled between January 1 and June 1. The Minnesota Horse Breeders' association really put colt work on the club map in Minnesota by appropriating funds for free trips for the winners. These trips are to the International Livestock Show at Chicago and the annual club short course at University Farm.

STITTS RETURNS TO THE EXTENSION FOLD

T. G. Stitts, formerly agent in Meeker county, has returned to his first love, the agricultural extension service. His appointment as marketing specialist, with the rank of instructor, becomes effective October 1. He succeeds Edwin C. Johnson who resigned to join the staff of the Kentucky Agricultural College.

Mr. Stitts received his degree of B.S. from Cornell University. After serving more than four years as county agent for Meeker county he came to University Farm and for the last year and a half has been doing graduate work in agricultural economics. Just at present he is studying marketing conditions in the east.

More Crop Tours Planned

The crop tour taken in Fillmore county in July was so successful, says Agent C. L. McNelly, that it will probably be made an annual affair hereafter. Preliminary plans were discussed on the tour for a winter corn and grain show by the Fillmore County Crop Improvement association. Great interest is being taken in what are known as "hogging off rotations." Several farmers are using field peas and early Flint for the rotation and are getting splendid results, says the agent.

FARM RADIO PROGRAM

September 7, "Seed Corn Selection," C. L. Blanchar, Sherburn, representing the Minnesota Field Crop Breeders' association.

September 14, Lesson II, "Care of Fall Pigs," Mark McCarty, University Farm.

September 21, "Swat the Investment Faker," speaker to be selected.

September 28, "New Fruits for the Northwest," J. H. Beaumont, University Farm.

Half Ton Pork in 87 Days

Fourteen purebred Chester White pigs, farrowed on April 20, tipped the scales at a trifle better than 1,000 pounds when weighed July 17. Looks as though Nobles county, with its 11 entries in the ton litter project, is going to be heard from.

AGENTS WILL STUDY DAIRYING AT BIG SHOW

Dairying will be the outstanding subject for a meeting of county agents to be held at Indianapolis the week of the National Dairy Show, October 10 to 17. An educational program, prepared for the occasion by Dr. C. W. Larson, chief of the United States Bureau of Dairying, and W. E. Skinner, general manager of the dairy show, will bring forward the latest developments in dairying. Contrary to an inference to be drawn from an announcement sent out by Mr. Skinner, the annual meeting of the national association of county agricultural agents will not be held at Indianapolis but will be held as usual at Chicago the week of the International Livestock Exposition.

TO SPRAY OR NOT TO SPRAY; HERE'S ANSWER

Pruning and spraying put \$300 into the pocket of a Winona county orchardist. There are 400 trees in his orchard, but only one-third were in bearing. Another man in the same community with a 900-tree orchard, planted at the same time as the other, sold all his apples to the same buyer for \$90. Agent J. B. McNulty turns on the spotlight by saying that on the first farm pruning and spraying demonstrations were held in the spring of 1924 and that the owner continued to prune and spray the present season. On the other farm there had been no pruning or spraying at all.

FOOT-MOUTH SCARE IN HENNEPIN COUNTY

Necrotic foot rot in cattle caused great excitement among herd owners in Maple Grove township, Hennepin county, says the agent. Fearful that it was the foot and mouth disease the town board got busy and called the agent and others into consultation. A veterinarian was employed and the cattle were put into dry, clean barns and kept there with the result that the disease has nearly disappeared. Owners have been warned to keep their cattle out of slough holes and other low, damp places.

"TB" CURE PEDDLER MAY BE PROSECUTED

Some steps have been taken in Pipestone county to prosecute a fellow who canvassed the county in June and July for the sale of poultry tonics. He represented himself to be a government agent and declared his tonic to be a preventive and also a cure of tuberculosis and other ailments of poultry.

Good Increase in Lake of Woods

Eight hundred acres have been added this year to the alfalfa area of Lake of the Woods county, says the agent.

Demonstration Pastures

Sweet clover demonstration pastures have been established in practically every township in Nobles county, according to Agent P. W. Hunttemer.

FLOUR SACKS TURNED INTO PRETTY GARMENTS; CHAMPIONS SELECTED

Two hundred fifty club girls from all parts of Minnesota have been making garments and fancy articles from flour sacks and learning lessons in economy as well as needlecraft. The "big four" of the 250 will attend the fair as guests of the Russell Miller Milling company, each as a district champion, determined after a series of elimination contests, as follows:

Central district—Bernice Bredeson, Willmar.
Southern district—Dorothy Dalsgaard, Springfield.
Northeastern district—Fannie Nosen, Buhl.
Northwestern district—Marian Petersen, Warren.

DODGE PROJECT GROUP EMPHASIZES PUBLICITY

Twenty groups in Dodge county, with a total enrollment of 302 members, are now working on the nutrition project. In order "to tell the world" what they are doing, each group has selected a publicity chairman to write up their project meetings for the county papers. These articles are clipped and brought each month to the training meeting to be read and to form part of a project publicity exhibit.

Smut of Oats Controlled

Agent A. W. True of Lincoln county has been checking up the effect of copper carbonate and formaldehyde in preventing smut of oats. In all cases but one, he says, hulless oats that had been treated were practically free from smut. On the other hand, untreated grain on the same farms and those adjoining was badly smutted.

County-Wide Club Organized

Eighty junior club members met at Fairmont recently and organized the Martin county boys' and girls' club. Juniors enrolled in the leadership project will take an active part in the club affairs.

Redwood Erects Club Building

Club boys and girls of Redwood county are going to have their own building on the county fair grounds. An old building owned by the county will be moved to the grounds and remodeled so as to accommodate 40 to 50 club members.

DATES TO KEEP IN MIND

Sept. 5-12—Minnesota State Fair and Northwest Dairy Exposition.
Sept. 20-25—Interstate Fair at Sioux City.
Sept. 28-Oct. 1—Dairy Cattle Congress at Waterloo, Iowa.
Sept. 28-Oct. 3—National Swine Show at Peoria, Ill.
Oct. 10-17—National Dairy Show at Indianapolis.
Nov. 10-12—Junior Livestock Show at South St. Paul.
Nov. 28-Dec. 5—International Livestock Exposition at Chicago.
Dec. 14-19—Extension School at University Farm.

ABBOTT TO QUIT THE SERVICE SEPTEMBER 15

Mark M. Abbott, for seven years county agent in Koochiching, has resigned to engage in other work, but just what work the editor does not know as this is written. He will leave the service September 15. Prior to being a county agent, Mr. Abbott was a teacher of agriculture for two years in the high school at International Falls. Just before that he had been graduated from the Minnesota College of Agriculture.

Mr. Abbott worked hard for improvement in potato growing and had the satisfaction of getting many splendid results. His work in the boys' and girls' club field was also outstanding. Many who are familiar with his record feel that the extension service has lost one of its ablest men.

DAIRY JUDGING CONTEST FOR FARMERS AT FAIR

Counties in which the university's regular dairy extension school work has been carried on are eligible to send a team of three men each to the first farmers' dairy cattle judging contest at the Minnesota State Fair. Only dirt farmers, members of their families, or employes can enter the contest. Teachers of agriculture, county agents, cow testers, and professional judges are barred. Several trophies will be awarded and it is hoped to select a team to represent the state in the national farmers' judging contest to be held in October at the National Dairy Show at Indianapolis.

Junior Sheep Raisers Organize

Fourteen boys and girls of Fillmore county have organized the Live Wires Club for studying the best methods of feeding, fitting, and showing lambs. "This club will be heard from in years to come," predicts the agent.

In the Alfalfa Belt

All the experimental fields are demonstrating the value of alfalfa, reports Agent W. D. Stegner of Houston. He predicts that alfalfa production will increase several hundred per cent next year.

Spring Tooth Treatment Helps

Alfalfa plots in Cook county have been materially benefited, the agent says, by disking or dragging with a spring tooth harrow immediately after taking off the first crop.

440 Club Members in Houston

Club work flourishes in Houston county. The original goal called for a membership of 400, but 440 had been enrolled in 17 different classifications when the agent prepared his report for July.

University Varieties Yielding Big

Minhardi and Minturki winter wheats in Roseau county are yielding 35 to 50 bushels per acre, or about one-third more than average varieties. Wilt resistant flax is also showing up much stronger than other kinds.