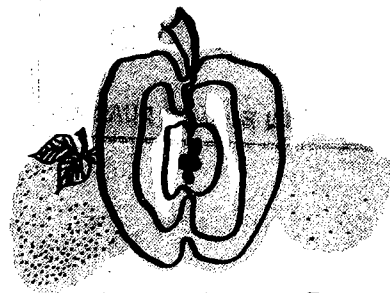


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FRUIT GROWERS' LETTER



By Leonard B. Hertz, Extension Horticulturist

September 1971

SEVERAL FRUIT MEETINGS SCHEDULED

Horticulture Research Center Open House Saturday September 18

If you are a homeowner with some fruit trees, raspberries or strawberries, or a commercial fruit grower, you will be interested in the University of Minnesota's horticulture research open house on Saturday September 18.

The open house will be held at the Horticulture Research Center from 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Wagon tours of the various research plots will be held throughout the day, and will include plantings of apples using the trellis system; winter exposure studies with ornamentals; variety and cultural studies in strawberries and raspberries.

Visitors are welcome to bring examples of fruit problems for identification.

Free coffee and apples will be served and visitors are encouraged to bring a picnic lunch. A picnic area is available on the grounds.

The Horticulture Research Center is located 5 miles west of Chanhassen on Minnesota Highway 5, approximately 25 miles west of the Twin Cities and 2 miles west of the intersection of Minnesota Highways 41 and 5.

The event is jointly sponsored by the University's Horticultural Science Department and the Minnesota Horticultural Society.

Annual Meeting of Apple Associations

The annual meeting of the Minnesota-Wisconsin apple associations will be held on January 13 and 14, 1972, at the Holiday Inn, LaCrosse, Wisconsin. Plan now to attend this annual event and support your apple industry.

Workshop for Apple Growers

An in-depth school for commercial apple growers, staffed jointly by extension personnel from the University of Wisconsin and University of Minnesota, is planned for January 31 and February 1, 1972 at the Holiday Inn, LaCrosse, Wisconsin. Details of the program will be forwarded later.

Small Fruit Shortcourse

The commercial production and marketing of strawberries and raspberries will be the theme for this one-day program on March 27, 1972. The meeting place is the Horticultural Science Building on the St. Paul Campus.

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Current information available from University of Minnesota Extension: <http://www.extension.umn.edu>



WAGE-PRICE FREEZE

The recent wage-price freeze exempted from regulation raw agricultural products. This includes whole fresh apples. However, growers who might produce unpasturized apple cider, apple slices, or jams are not exempt from the freeze and you should protect yourself as follows:

1. Retain all salaries, wages, hourly rates, service charges and commissions at levels in effect before the freeze.
2. Give no wage or salary increases, including cost-of-living, seniority or other increases, even if a raise was previously agreed upon.
3. Pay no bonuses, other than commissions, and keep commissions at the same rate.
4. Maintain prices on processed apple products at a level not greater than the highest of those pertaining to a substantial volume of actual transactions during the applicable 30-day period prior to the freeze.
5. Maintain highly accurate, complete, and detailed records. Willful violators are subject to prosecution and fines up to \$5,000.

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THE EDITOR COMMENTS

At present, man is very conscious about "the environment." However, because every individual has a slightly different set of references with respect to the environment and to man's influence on the environment, irrational action may be forced upon farmers that neither enhances the environment nor helps him produce food for the consuming public. Some people are calling for a ban on pesticides as the way to cut down on pollution. They don't know how much farm chemicals have contributed to our high-quality, low-cost food supply, or even that a host of safeguards already surround the use of chemicals in food production.

Each week I receive a number of letters and calls which attempt to solve all the world's food pest problems. Many of the letters, I am sure, are written with sincerity. Others, just make demands, all in the name of the environment, and the writers are seldom objective nor appear to be interested in facts concerning pesticides.

The letter below is typical of the sincere suggestions which I receive:

"I have 2 large Apple trees and every year the apples were wormie so the last 2 years I took pop boddles and filled them half full of apple cider and hung them on the trees. All the worms and fly's went in the boddles no more worins in the apples."

This letter will not help to solve fruit pest problems, because the "cure does not work." However, the average homeowner does not realize this and often seeks to have national policy made by reiteration of such cures and often horror stories concerning pesticides. What the nation needs, however, is reason and facts--not hysteria.

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Trade names are sometimes used in this publication to clearly describe products. The use of a trade name does not imply endorsement by the Minnesota Agricultural Extension Service, nor does omission of other trade names imply nonapproval.

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