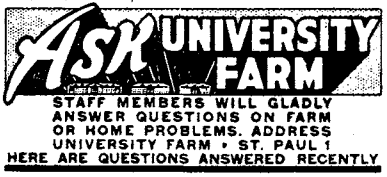


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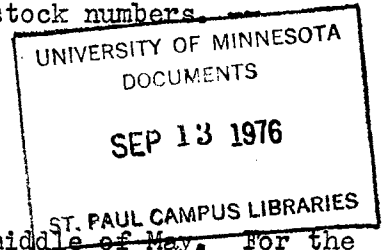
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St. Paul 1 Minnesota  
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Q. How does the crop production picture shape up at this time?  
A. We can expect a substantial reduction in corn and wheat acreages--the two crops in this area which are to be supported at 90 per cent of parity--and a reduction in flax with the support at 60 per cent of parity. There should be an increase in feed grains by about 2 per cent and an increase in livestock numbers.  
Max Hinds, extension economist.

\* \* \* \* \*



Q. Is it too late to fertilize and re-seed an old lawn?  
A. This year fertilizing and re-seeding can be done till the middle of May. For the amount of fertilizer to use, follow recommendations on package. If crab grass is present in the lawn, it is not advisable to apply fertilizer in middle or late June, since fertilizer will encourage crab grass seeds which are germinating at that time. Seeding from mid-April to mid-May usually results in good germination, though the best time in Minnesota is from mid-August to September 10. -- O. C. Turnquist, extension horticulturist.

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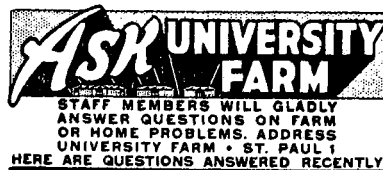
Q. What is the optimum planting time for soybeans?  
A. Normally, about the same as corn -- from May 10 to 25. Planting at that time insures slightly better yields and gives late-maturing varieties a little better chance. Oil content may also be better than in later planted beans. Soybeans suffer less from late planting than does corn, however. -- J.W. Lambert, agronomist.

\* \* \* \* \*

Q. How far should the foundation planting be from the house?  
A. Usually shrubs are planted too close to the house. They will have better soil and better moisture if planted 2½ to 3 feet from the foundation. At that distance, they will also have a chance to grow in all directions so they will be well shaped. -- L. C. Snyder, extension horticulturist.

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Q. What are some good trees for small yards?

A. Some of the flowering crabapples are excellent. Native hawthorn, white birch and mountain ash are others that are in scale with a small house and yard. --

L. C. Snyder, extension horticulturist.

\* \* \* \* \*

Q. At what age should chicks be given more space?

A. By the time chicks are 6 weeks old they need about one square foot per bird, if they are to be kept in the brooder house. On range, an open 10 x 12 foot shelter will take care of 200 pullets to maturity. Ask your county agent for Pamphlet 98. It has building plans for a range shelter. -- Cora Cooke, extension poultry specialist.

\* \* \* \* \*

Q. What is the advantage of cooking in the pressure saucepan?

A. It saves time and is one of the best cooking utensils for conserving food values. The pressure saucepan preserves more of the original nutrients in foods than other cooking utensils because the cooking period is short, the amount of liquid is low and air is excluded. This applies to vegetables, fruits and meats.

-- Ina Rowe, extension nutritionist.

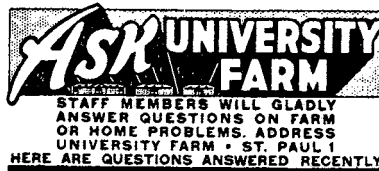
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Q. My land is rich and heavy. How much corn should I plant per hill?

A. You should have an average stand of three plants per hill, so plant four seeds per hill. On thin, sandy soil, a stand of two plants is good. In that case, plant three kernels. Three seeds are enough on poor run down land, even though the soil is heavy. -- Ralph Crim, extension agronomist.

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Q. How quickly can tests be made on soil samples sent to the U. Farm lab?

A. The lab can give 10 days service on samples sent in now. Be sure to fill in information on the sheets which accompany the samples, especially on the crops you want to fertilize. -- Paul Burson, soils lab head.

\* \* \* \* \*

Q. What is the advantage of staking tomatoes?

A. Staked tomatoes will be earlier than tomatoes that are allowed to spread. The yield per plant will be less, but plants can be set closer together, an advantage in a small garden. The training must start when plants are young. Select one or two branches and tie these to the stake. Pinch off all lateral buds as they develop. -- L. C. Snyder, extension horticulturist.

\* \* \* \* \*

Q. What is the best planting rate for soybeans in Minnesota?

A. One plant per inch in rows appears to be best. Present evidence indicates planting in rows 20 to 28 inches apart may give better yields. However, the use of corn planters with special plates is common practice in Minnesota. Using 40 to 60 pounds in corn planters is usually about right. -- J. W. Lambert, agronomist.

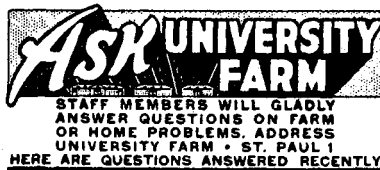
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Q. Are measuring cups and spoons always accurate?

A. No. That is the reason many homemakers have failures with recipes. A committee of the American Home Economics Association is working on the matter of setting up standard sizes for measuring utensils and baking pans. Many manufacturers have already agreed to change to the standard styles and sizes. -- Hedda Kafka, home economist.

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Q. Can bread flour be used in cakes?

A. If you use bread flour, reduce the amount or else use more liquid. In reducing the amount, remove one to two tablespoons of flour for each cup after it has been measured. -- Ina Rowe, extension nutritionist.

\* \* \* \* \*

Q. What preparations do shelterbelt planting need?

A. Preparation of a tree planting site should begin a year before setting out the trees. Break sod now for trees to be planted next spring. Disk it before plowing to aid in breaking up heavy sod. -- Marvin E. Smith, extension forester.

\* \* \* \* \*

Q. What are some good trees for large yards?

A. American elm, hackberry, American linden or basswood, green ash and honey locust are all good for large grounds. In selecting trees for the home yard, it is important to keep trees in scale with the yard and the architecture of the house. -- L. C. Snyder, extension horticulturist.

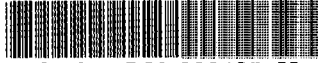
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Q. What do you think of 2,4-D for killing weeds in corn?

A. You better have some on hand this year. When the weather is favorable, weeds can be killed inexpensively by careful cultivation. But as late as this spring appears now, weeds will probably get a start. Chemicals can probably hold them in check to save the corn crop. -- Ralph Crim, extension agronomist.

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