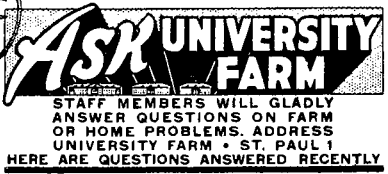
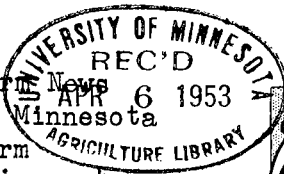


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Q. How early should I plant tomatoes indoors?

A. It takes only about six weeks to produce a good tomato plant for the garden. Since experience has shown that tomatoes should not be set out in the garden until about Memorial Day, that means that seed shouldn't be planted until about April 15. Seed that's planted earlier will develop tall, spindly plants that will not do well after transplanting. - Orrin C. Turnquist, extension horticulturist

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Q. How soon should shelterbelt trees be planted in the spring?

A. As soon as possible after frost is gone. When trees arrive, open the bundle and pour in water to soak the roots. If trees cannot be planted within a few days, heel them in--in a cool, shady place--until planting time. When trees are taken out to plant, carry them in a pail of muddy water so as to keep roots from drying out. Plant at same depth as they grew originally. This can be determined by the "dirt ring" on the tree. Tamp soil firmly around roots so as to exclude air. Get Bulletin 196, "Planting the Farmstead Shelterbelt," or Folder 185, "Tips on Tree Planting," from your county agent or the Bulletin Room, University Farm, St. Paul. - Parker Anderson, extension forester

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Q. What are the rules to assure faster milking?

A. Stimulate cows to let down their milk one minute before putting on the machine, operate machine according to manufacturer's directions, strip the cows by machine, don't leave the machine on the cow after milk stops flowing. - W.E. Petersen, professor, dairy husbandry

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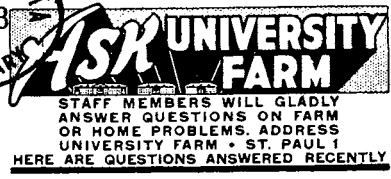
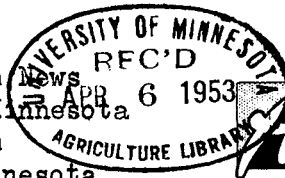
Q. Is broiling equally satisfactory for meats from all animals?

A. No. Tender cuts from beef or lamb are broiling cuts, also cured and smoked ham, and practically all fish. Veal and pork may be tender enough for broiling, but most people agree that flavor in these meats is better developed by braising. - Ina Rowe, extension nutritionist

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Q. How can I control cutworms through preventive measures?

A. Don't transplant susceptible plants to newly broken sod. Rotate crops and follow other good cultural practices. Keep ground clean from debris and weeds. Treat areas where cutworm damage occurs year after year with bait or suitable insecticide before seeding or planting. Get Extension Folder 171, "How to Control Cutworms," from your county agent or the Bulletin Room, University Farm, St. Paul 1. - A.A. Granovsky, professor, entomology

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Q. How soon can I set transplants into the garden?

A. Plants like head lettuce, cabbage, cauliflower, broccoli, Brussels sprouts and onions can be set in the garden as soon as the soil is prepared. But wait until danger of frost is past before planting tomatoes, egg plant and peppers - usually after May 30. - Orrin C. Turnquist, extension horticulturist

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Q. Do you advise soaking clothes to remove excessive soil?

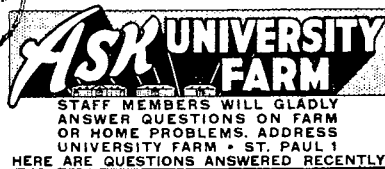
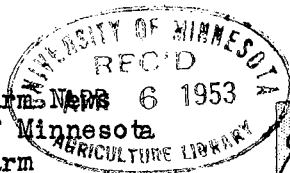
A. Soak badly soiled clothes for 20 minutes in warm water to which a detergent has been added, or use an "agitated" soak in the washer for a few minutes. Either method is superior to an over-night soaking in cold water. If clothes are soaked over-night, the loose soil may be re-deposited in the clothes and will be much more difficult to remove. - Hedda Kafka, assistant professor, home economics

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Q. How are hybrid corn maturity ratings determined?

A. The procedure followed by the University of Minnesota is to assign individual hybrids a relative maturity rating in days. This rating is based on ear moisture content at time of harvest in comparison with ear moisture content of varieties of known maturity and adaptation. Data on any one hybrid are obtained from replicated trials, planted at a minimum of three locations per year within the zone for which the hybrid is intended. At the end of the first year of satisfactory trials, a hybrid is assigned a maturity rating and retains this rating until it has been subjected to at least a three-year test period in its region of adaptation. - E.H. Rinke, professor, agronomy

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Q. Where can I get information on spraying my fruit trees?

A. Information for both home and commercial growers on what sprays to use, how to use them and when to spray is given in a newly revised publication of the University of Minnesota Agricultural Extension Service, "Fruit Spray Schedules," Extension Pamphlet 184.

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Q. What is Leptospirosis?

A. It is an infectious disease caused by spirochetes, a bacteria-like organism which resembles tiny corkscrews and is visible only with a microscope. The disease has been reported in cattle, swine, horses, dogs, foxes and man. It's hard to recognize, because there are no constant symptoms. Veterinarians have noted a wide range of symptoms in swine. Some of the symptoms are abortion, icterus or jaundice, anemia and diarrhea. In dogs the commonest form produces a hemorrhagic enteritis and other hemorrhages throughout the body. - J.H. Sautter, associate professor, veterinary medicine

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Q. What is mastitis?

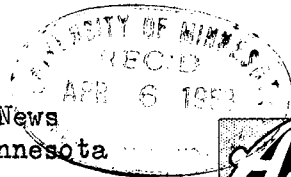
A. It is an inflammation of cows' udder tissues brought about by activity of bacteria. It is known by such other names as garget, stringy milk, mammitis and caked udder. Losses caused by mastitis may be in the form of decreased production, poor quality milk, destruction of one or more quarters of the udder and, in some instances, death of the cow. Most mastitis results from poor management. - I.A. Schipper, research fellow, Veterinary Medicine

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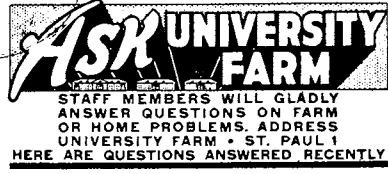
Q. Can navy beans be cooked tender if the usual long soaking is omitted?

A. Sort beans as usual, discarding any bad ones, and wash to remove any grit. Boil two cups of dry beans for two minutes in six cups of water. Remove from the heat and soak one hour. Cook the beans in the water in which they were soaked to save vitamins, minerals and flavor. This applies to navy or pea beans, pinto, Great Northern, red kidney and lima. - Ina Rowe, extension nutritionist.

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Q. What's the best way to get rid of quack grass?

A. Cultivation is the cheapest method of eradicating quack on large areas if soil erosion is not a problem. Begin cultivating during the late summer or fall and do it frequently enough to keep the soil black. In dry years cultivation will largely eradicate the weed, but in wet years little control is possible. Get Extension Pamphlet 187, "Chemical Weed Control in Minnesota," from your county agent or the Bulletin Room, University Farm, St. Paul. - R.S. Dunham, professor, agronomy

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Q. Can you give me some advice on planting lawn trees?

A. Don't start with too large a tree. A small tree will take hold more quickly and will soon catch up with a larger tree. Thin out the branches in the top of the tree and prune back the branches that are left to help balance the loss of roots in transplanting. - Leon C. Snyder, extension horticulturist

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Q. Once milk stone has formed on dairy utensils, is there any way to get rid of it?

A. A well-balanced cleaning compound and a lot of elbow grease, plus the help of a good, stiff bristle brush will help remove this film. A metal sponge is never recommended because it may cause severe scratching of equipment and roughing of the surface so that it can't easily be cleaned. One of the newer type acid cleaners will easily loosen the film. However, these acid cleaners must be used according to instructions on the package, because they can corrode equipment that is not made of stainless steel. - J.J. Jezeski, associate professor, dairy husbandry

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Q. How do you suggest washing nylon, orlon and dacron?

A. Wash garments by hand if the fabric frays or ravel. Always wash white garments by themselves, because these new fabrics absorb color from other clothes. Never wring nylon or orlon by twisting or squeezing, for the qualities that make them wrinkle resistant also cause them to retain wrinkles put in when wet. Roll the garment gently in a towel to remove excess water, then hang to drip dry. Hang away from direct heat of radiators and strong, bright sunlight. - Extension clothing specialists

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