

mn 2000 YGRB₂, 9/8/72

AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE, UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

September 8, 1972

Mushroom Hunting

(0:35)

Many mushrooms that look innocent are poisonous. Your sporting trip to the woods could end in disaster at the dining room table.

University of Minnesota plant pathologist Clyde Christensen warns against eating any wild mushrooms unless they are identified with 100 percent certainty and are known safe for eating.

Most deaths in Minnesota are caused by the "Amanita verna" mushroom. Information and illustrations of edible wild mushrooms are available in Extension Bulletin 357 from county extension offices or the Bulletin Room, University of Minnesota, St. Paul, Minnesota 55101.

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Tree Diseases

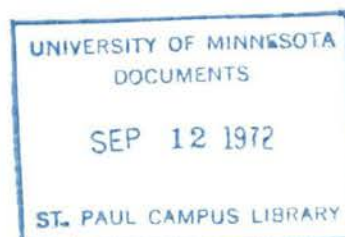
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September is the best time in Minnesota to discover diseased oaks and elms.

Oak or elm leaves that are a dull green now or leaves that turn brown and dry early mean that the tree may have oak wilt or Dutch elm disease. Diseased trees should be eliminated before healthy trees become infected.

Two publications are available from the Bulletin Room or county extension offices that should be helpful. Get Extension Folder 221, "Dutch Elm Disease," or Plant Pathology Fact Sheet No. 5, "Oak Wilt and Its Control."

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yard/garden
radio briefs

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

UM Experts Advise:

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Mountain Ash trees standing dead or dying in Minnesota yards should be removed immediately.

Many of these trees have been killed by fire blight, which also affects apple and pear trees. Trees standing dead or severely diseased are sources of infection to healthy plants of the rose family.

Where a few branches are involved, pruning back well beyond the diseased portion of the twig or branch may save the tree. Disinfect pruning tools after each cut. Watch the tree closely for further evidence of the disease. A fact sheet describing fire blight is available from county extension offices.

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Plant Evergreens

(0:55)

Plant evergreens in September. University of Minnesota specialists say warm soil, cool nights and dependable moisture makes for successful transplanting.

Large balled and burlapped specimens of spruce, pine or fir are easier to dig in September than in May, since the mature trees have hardened off their new growth and are vigorous. Smaller spreading or shrubby junipers and yews are in good supply as container grown plants.

Be careful not to break the ball of soil as you work with evergreens. After planting, water them well and mulch with hay, straw or other organic material to prevent deep freezing in the fall and early winter. A University publication on evergreens is available from county extension offices.

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