

University Farm News  
University of Minnesota  
University Farm  
St. Paul 1 Minnesota  
March 1, 1950

## UNIVERSITY FARM SHORTS

### Agricultural Shorts

Keep cattle and sheep off pasture until it has had time to dry out and the grass has gotten a good start.

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"In making up our minds with respect to a long-range farm program, we need to remember that government is not something apart and separate from the people." ---

O. B. Jesness, University of Minnesota agricultural economist.

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Check grain bins for book lice. Turning the grain over with a shovel on a cold day will get rid of them.

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Safety on the farm means practicing safety every day.

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Watch farm expenses this year. Repair machinery to hold big expenses down. Keep accurate account books to check on costs. This is a year when efficiency will count.

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See your County Agent for a list of approved crop varieties recommended for planting in Minnesota this year.

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Watch for mastitis in your dairy herd during late winter and early spring.

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Get chicks early and buy good-quality birds from a reliable hatchery. The few extra cents good chicks may cost will be repaid many times over.

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When buying seed this year, be sure it's certified.

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Cooperative Extension Work in Agriculture and Home Economics, University of Minnesota, Agricultural Extension Service and U. S. Department of Agriculture Cooperating, Paul E. Miller, Director. Published in furtherance of Agricultural Extension Acts of May 8 and June 30, 1914.

Homemaking Shorts

Eggs are an excellent source of iron and are rich in calcium, phosphorus and at least five of the vitamins.

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Wall-to-wall carpeting makes a small room look larger.

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The child who lies on the floor and reads on his stomach may get a bad case of eyestrain and nervous irritability.

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Frozen berries have the best flavor when served with the ice crystals still on them.

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Eggs should be cooked at low or moderate temperatures. High heat toughens protein.

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Lard has nutritive properties essential to health and growth.

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Low cooking temperature cuts shrinkage and produces more tender, juicy meat.

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Pork and pork products, Irish potatoes and eggs are at the top of the U. S. Department of Agriculture's list of plentiful foods for March.

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Exact measuring of flour is important in getting uniformly good results with baking.

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Always scald and drain nuts before adding them to cake or bread mixtures, advises Ina Rowe, extension nutritionist at the University of Minnesota. Otherwise, they will absorb too much moisture from the dough.

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A tightly knit sweater will wear longer than one that is loosely woven.

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St. Paul 1, Minnesota  
March 2, 1950

Immediate Release

#### MINNESOTA TO OBSERVE NATIONAL 4-H WEEK

Nearly 50,000 members of 4-H clubs in Minnesota will be among the 2,000,000 rural young people and local volunteer club leaders in every county of the United States, Alaska, Hawaii and Puerto Rico who will observe National 4-H Club Week March 4-12.

Special exhibits and meetings to acquaint parents and eligible farm boys and girls with 4-H club work will mark the observance in individual clubs, according to Leonard Harkness, state club leader at the University of Minnesota.

Climax of the week in Minnesota will be the state 4-H radio speaking contest at University Farm Saturday morning, March 11, when 17 district winners will compete for the state title. Final selection for the state radio speaking championship will be made Saturday afternoon, when the two top contenders broadcast their speeches over WCCO from 5 to 5:30 o'clock. A banquet honoring district winners will be given in the Nicollet hotel Saturday evening by the Minnesota Jewish Council, which is cooperating with the Minnesota Agricultural Extension Service in sponsoring the radio speaking contest.

A Minnesota 4-H boy, Jack McDowell, Jr., Backus, will participate in one of the opening events of National 4-H Club Week when he takes part in a panel discussion at the National 4-H Club Breakfast in the Congressional Hotel, Washington, D.C., on Monday, March 6.

State winner in the 1949 4-H boys' achievement program, McDowell is one of six rural young people selected from as many states to take part in the panel. The audience will be leaders in public affairs, including senators, congressmen, educators, heads of farm organizations and representatives of the U. S. Department of Agriculture and state land-grant colleges. Following the breakfast, the 4-H'ers will call on President Truman.

A-7740-JBN

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March 2, 1950

Immediate Release

#### TWO BARROW SHOWS COMING

Junior exhibitors have until March 11 to submit entries for the 1950 Minnesota Spring Barrow Show, Osgood Magnuson, district 4-H supervisor, announced today.

Vocational Agriculture, 4-H and FFA contestants must turn in entries five days before the opening of the swine event in order to compete. The Spring Barrow Show will be held at Albert Lea on March 16 - 18.

Entries are to go to either J. B. Nelson, secretary-treasurer, or Cliff Cairns, show manager, at Albert Lea, Magnuson said. Entry and record blanks are available from county agents and vocational agriculture instructors.

Some \$1,500 in premiums is being offered junior exhibitors, with a total of \$3,000 scheduled to be paid out for winning open class and junior entry barrows.

The Albert Lea event is one of two barrow shows being jointly sponsored by the Minnesota Agricultural Extension Service at this time.

The second is a district spring barrow show at Montevideo on March 14. Adult and 4-H competitors are taking part in that event, according to Magnuson.

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Immediate Release

#### LUMBERMEN COMPLETE COURSE

One woman and 39 men will receive certificates Friday (March 3) for successful completion of the first retail lumber dealer's short course ever to be offered by the University of Minnesota agriculture department.

Lillian Carstensen, Buffalo, will line up with her 39 male classmates to receive her certificate from Dean of Agriculture C. H. Bailey at a special dinner at Coffman Memorial Union Friday evening.

Miss Carstensen, an employe of the Interlachen Lumber Co., Buffalo, and her classmates have completed a course covering construction, products, business methods and federal housing regulations. Worked out by the University and lumber industry leaders, the course was given through the University Farm School of Forestry.

Speakers appearing on the graduation dinner program will include Frank H. Kaufert, forestry school director, A. A. Hood, editor of the American Lumberman, Chicago, and John Egan, Weyerhaeuser Company, St. Paul. J. O. Christianson, short course director, will act as toastmaster.

Those receiving certificates include Miss Carstensen, D. J. Henschel, Princeton; H. M. Davis, Springfield; R. J. Lehrer, Springfield; R. L. Donaldson, Tracy; G. E. Enger, Worthington; E. W. Ramstad, Grand Rapids; H. E. Karnowski, Beroun; H. F. Tinker, Minneapolis; L. B. Schmid, Avon; S. R. Schoonover, Bemidji; K. D. Olson, Eagle Bend; D. L. Levey, Luverne; H. V. Wakefield, Perham; C. R. Hage, Madelia; O. W. Spaeth Jr., Hutchinson; G. B. Martinson, Hopkins; E. C. Olsen, Winona.

J. C. Dodds, Baudette; T. D. Donlin, St. Cloud; E. L. Martin, Two Harbors; J. C. Marvin, Warroad; G. E. Johnson, Bricelyn; R. A. Quam, Montevideo; M. P. Noeske, Osage; W. W. Hulsebus, Carnarvon, Iowa; M. J. Baker, Minneapolis; W. O. Hauer, Sheldon, Iowa; C. E. Lof, Nevis; H. V. Holm, Hector; T. E. Dietrick, Minneapolis.

J. A. Dahlberg, Howard Lake; T. M. Partridge, Newton; J. D. Forslund, Maple Lake; J. P. Chapman, Waterloo, Iowa; F. D. Sherin, Britton, South Dakota; A. G. Anderson, Litchfield; J. P. Beck, Fairfax; J. W. Porter, Oskaloosa, Iowa; R. B. Partridge, Minneapolis.

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Immediate Release

#### EXTENSION SPECIALISTS TO CONFERENCE

Dorothy Simmons, state leader in the extension home program for the University of Minnesota, and Mrs. Eleanor Loomis, home agent in consumer marketing for the Twin Cities' area, will attend a conference on consumer education in marketing March 6-11 in Louisville, Kentucky.

The conference is being held for specialists in consumer marketing who are concerned with reducing gluts and market waste and helping consumers make better use of their food dollars. The specialists are assigned to marketing projects all over the country and include both agricultural economists and home economists.

A-7743-JBN

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Immediate Release

#### HORTICULTURE SHORT COURSE MARCH 22, 23

The University of Minnesota's horticulture short course, which each spring attracts hundreds of interested gardeners, will be held on the St. Paul campus March 22 and March 23, according to J. O. Christianson, director of agricultural short courses.

M. B. Davis, Dominion horticulturist, Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa, Canada, will be one of the headline speakers at the two-day session. He will talk on vegetable and fruit growing and ornamental horticulture in Canada. W. F. Connell, director of the Wisconsin Apple Institute, Menominee, Wisconsin, will discuss apple varieties. Members of the University Farm staff, as well as local fruit growers and gardeners, will also speak.

This year's short course will be divided into the usual sections on vegetable growing, fruit growing and ornamental horticulture.

T. M. Currence, professor of horticulture, is chairman of the committee on arrangements.

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News Bureau  
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March 7 1950

To all counties  
(Filler for your column)

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\* C O L U M N C O M M E N T S \*  
\* from your \*  
\* County Agent \*  
\*\*\*\*\*

Farmers still looking for seed can use two bulletins available in the \_\_\_\_\_ county extension office. One is on maturity ratings of corn hybrids. The bulletin, miscellaneous report No. 9, rates 643 differently named hybrids for approximate maturity dates.

The second, Extension Folder 22, "Improved Varieties of Farm Crops," lists grain varieties recommended for Minnesota. Newest additions are attached on a mimeographed sheet.

Make sure farm-to-farm seed peddlers are offering recommended, adapted seed and at a price in keeping with established seed stores, if you buy from them.

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Conservation, farmer and sportsmen groups have until March 25 to nominate outstanding farmer-sportsmen. The Extension Service is cooperating in picking the farmer from this area who has made the greatest contribution to conservation through proper land use, soil management and sportsmen relations. Four will be selected for recognition honors from the state.

Send or bring in the names of any worthy farmers you wish to nominate.

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Be careful about the kind of contract you sign for aerial dusting and spraying for insect control this summer. Some contracts are so worded that they allow the airplane operator to apply insecticide at any time -- possibly too late for effective control. The fine print on others binds the company to furnish only the insecticide materials, not the application of it, says State Entomologist T. L. Aamodt.

Not all contracts are questionable. Some farm-to-farm contractors agree to do a good job and are worth the price they charge. Just be sure you know what you're signing.

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Immediate Release

#### 4-H GIRLS LEARN TO SEW

With one eye on spring and the other on their pocketbooks, Minnesota 4-H club girls are off to a good start in the 1950 National 4-H Clothing Achievement program. Last year more than 12,900 girls throughout the state took part in the activity.

Interest in the program is always keen because every young girl likes pretty clothes, according to Leonard Harkness, state 4-H club leader at the University of Minnesota.

Local club leaders and home agents teach the girls to select attractive patterns, buy good fabrics and plan a practical wardrobe. Hats, bags and other accessories are designed at considerable saving.

Evidence that Minnesota 4-H'ers do acquire a working knowledge and skill in dressmaking is the fact that in 1949 more than 41,000 garments were made and more than 17,000 out-of-date dresses and coats were remodeled. Many of these garments were for younger brothers and sisters. Throughout the nation more than two million garments were made by some 591,000 club members enrolled in clothing.

In addition to these accomplishments, members have a chance to earn recognition for outstanding achievements in clothing work. The Spool Cotton Company, sponsor of the program, provides scholarship awards of \$300 each to the 12 top ranking girls in the nation, an all-expense trip to the National 4-H Club Congress in Chicago for the state champion and gold medals for county winners.

The 1949 state award went to Arlene Olson, Hartland. She was also winner of a \$300 national scholarship. County medals were presented to 75 girls.

The program for this state is conducted under the supervision of the Minnesota Agricultural Extension Service.

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University Farm News  
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Immediate Release

#### IRISH VETERINARIANS COMING

Five veterinarians from the Ireland department of agriculture will visit the University of Minnesota agricultural experiment station during the next three months, Harold Macy, associate director, reported today.

The five are among a number of agricultural technicians being brought to this country by the Economic Cooperation Administration in connection with the United States program of helping other countries.

Bernard McErlean, veterinary inspector for the Irish agricultural department, is expected to arrive March 12. He will tour the University school of veterinary medicine until April 1 studying investigation and control of swine diseases.

Brendon Whitty and Thomas Markham, veterinary inspectors, and Edward O'Mahony, member of the Livestock Inspectorate, are expected to visit the station from May 7 to May 27. They will observe latest developments in breeding, artificial insemination, nutrition, infertility and sterility of livestock.

Mrs. Kathleen Lowndes, veterinary officer, is expected May 28-June 10. She will confer with Dr. W. L. Boyd, veterinary school head, and observe investigations and control of poultry diseases.

A-7746-RR

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#### LEADERSHIP ASSEMBLY WEDNESDAY NIGHT

The annual choral concert and leadership assembly of the University of Minnesota college of agriculture, forestry and home economics will be held Wednesday evening, (March 8) in Coffey Hall auditorium on the St. Paul campus.

The Dean E. M. Freeman medal for student leadership will be given the senior student who has made the greatest contribution to student life at University Farm during his college career. Individual awards of merit will be given to six students and to two student organizations.

The 90-voice St. Paul campus chorus, under the direction of Earl V. Rymer, will present several numbers. The program starts at 8 p.m.

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For Release:  
8:30 P.M., WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8  
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#### U FARM SENIOR GETS LEADERSHIP MEDAL

Joan Nash, University of Minnesota senior from Baudette, was awarded the Dean E. H. Freeman medal for student leadership in the College of Agriculture, Forestry and Home Economics at University Farm Wednesday evening, (March 8).

Miss Nash, 21, was voted the "senior student who has made the greatest contribution to student life on the St. Paul campus"

This was the eleventh time a girl has won the outstanding leadership honor in the twenty years the Dean Freeman medal has been given. Henry Schmitz, agricultural college dean, presented the award.

Miss Nash, home economics education major, was selected by a faculty-student committee. Active in many student professional and religious organizations, she is now president of the Ag. Student Council and has served on the Ag. Union Board and the Social Service Council.

"In addition to her activities, Miss Nash has maintained an excellent scholastic record, has been partially self-supporting, and has found time to be a good friend to her many associates on campus," Dean Schmitz said.

Six individual awards of merit were also awarded during the assembly. The special certificates for service and leadership went to Merle W. Tellekson, 25, forestry senior from Oshkosh, Wisc.; Wallace H. Johnson, 24, agriculture junior from Newfolden; Ralph J. Clifford, 30, agriculture senior from Caledonia; John I Ankeny, 26, agriculture junior from Winnebago; Rose Ann E. Sands, 20, home economics senior from Alvarado; Geraldine B. Keachie, 21, home economics senior from St. Paul.

Two organizational awards of merit went to the Independent Men's Co-op and to PUNCHINELLO Players in recognition of outstanding service.

A concert by the 90-voice St. Paul campus chorus, under the direction of Earl Rymer, and solos by David Wilcox, agriculture student, completed the program. An open house was held in the University Farm union following the assembly.

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March 7 1950

To all counties

PRUNING SHOULD  
BE DONE NOW,  
SAYS AGENT

March and early April are the best months for pruning shade trees and summer-flowering shrubs, says County Agent \_\_\_\_\_. Fruit trees and most small fruits should also be pruned in early spring.

Pruning is probably less understood and more poorly done than any other gardening operation, according to L. C. Snyder, extension horticulturist at the University of Minnesota. He gives the following suggestions for techniques to follow in pruning:

. Shade trees. Prune shade trees to retain the natural form of the tree. Remove dead and diseased branches and lower branches that interfere with traffic on sidewalks or lawn. Otherwise, very little pruning is required.

In removing a large branch, undercut about a foot out from the trunk and then cut off the branch. This prevents tearing the bark along the main trunk. The stub left should be cut off flush with the trunk to facilitate healing over of the cut surface. Paint large scars with orange shellac.

. Summer-flowering shrubs. This is the time to prune only the summer-flowering shrubs like hybrid tea roses, hydrangeas and summer-flowering spireas. Cut them back to about two strong buds on each stem. Spring-flowering shrubs are pruned after the finish blooming.

. Fruit trees. March or early April is a good time to prune old apple, pear, plum and cherry trees. Remove dead or partially dead branches, cutting close to the trunk. Eliminate narrow forks by cutting out one of the branches forming the fork. Remove branches that cross or rub each other, weak wood in the center of the tree, and water sprouts that grow upward along main branches.

(more)

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Cooperative Extension Work in Agriculture and Home Economics, University of Minnesota, Agricultural Extension Service and U. S. Department of Agriculture Cooperating, Paul E. Miller, Director. Published in furtherance of Agricultural Extension Acts of May 8 and June 30, 1914.

Add 1 - Pruning

Cut back the tops of old trees that are very tall. Cut back to a side branch rather than leave a stub.

. Grapes. Pruning must be done early, before the sap starts to flow. Since grapes bear on new wood, heavy pruning is necessary to produce new growth. Where grapes are trained to two or three horizontal wires, leave a single branch to grow out in each direction on each wire. Leave only eight to ten buds on these branches.

. Currants and gooseberries. To keep an old bush productive, cut clear to the ground all old stems that are five years or older. Thin out new stems, leaving about 12 stems per plant.

. Raspberries. If raspberries were not pruned last fall, cut out old dead cane and thin out new ones, leaving about four canes per foot of row or eight canes per hill.

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To all counties

CHECK WORDS ON  
SPRAY CONTRACT

Read the fine print before signing contracts for airplane spraying or dusting to control insect crop-pests this summer, \_\_\_\_\_ county farmers were warned this week.

The warning came from T. L. Aamodt, state entomologist.

"While most companies are attempting to give good service to farmers in their community," he said, "our office is concerned about the type of contract offered by some farm-to-farm salesmen now operating in the state."

Aamodt outlined these terms for farmers to watch for in contracts offered by traveling salesmen:

Where down payments are required, the operator should be obligated to apply insecticides when conditions are best for effective control. Some contracts have permitted operators to spray or dust any time during the summer.

Timely application of insecticides is extremely important, Aamodt said, and any contract which calls for spraying or dusting at the complete discretion of the operator is faulty. In many cases last year, pilots showed up too late for spraying or dusting to be effective. Farmers not desiring this late service forfeited their down payments.

To protect themselves against faulty contracts, Aamodt recommends farmers to be sure the airplane operator has a permit for spraying or dusting work from the State Department of Agriculture, Dairy and Food.

Farmers should be sure they are buying services, not merely DDT or other insecticides to be applied any time the airplane operator shows up, he said.

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News Bureau  
University Farm  
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March 7, 1950

To all counties

ATT.: HOME AGENTS

FAMILY LIVING  
EXPENDITURES TO  
CONTINUE HIGH

Spending for family living is expected to continue at a high level this year, even though farm income is likely to fall another 10 per cent in 1950, according to home demonstration specialists at the University of Minnesota. Clothing and food will be the last items to feel the cut in spending, they believe.

In a pamphlet, 1950 Family Living, recently published by the Minnesota Agricultural Extension Service, the specialists discuss the outlook for this year, announces Home Agent \_\_\_\_\_.

The pamphlet will give \_\_\_\_\_ county farm families some idea of what to look for in the way of prices and supplies in different areas of family living, \_\_\_\_\_ says.

Housing and remodeling. Prices for building materials are down 8 per cent from a year ago, but they are still nearly two and a half times the 1935-1939 level.

Clothing and textiles. Supplies should be generally good in 1950. Prices of clothing and household textiles declined about 7 per cent in the past year. Prices are expected to be lower this spring, although not all apparel and household textile articles will go down. Rayon has declined 5 per cent since late in 1948. Silk has declined drastically until it is now little above prewar levels. Prices of imported textiles may also drop. Prices of woolen and worsted goods, however, seem to be rising.

Home Furnishings. To meet buyer resistance, home furnishings producers have cut prices 5 to 10 and even 20 per cent for furniture, fabrics, rugs and household equipment. However, in late November woven carpets went up 6 to 7 per cent because of increased carpet wool costs.

Food. Food supplies available for 1950 are more than adequate for all groups. Supplies of potatoes, grains and pork are in surplus. In 1950 increases are anticipated in consumption of green and yellow vegetables, tomatoes, eggs, butter and meats. Because of lower food prices, amount spent for food was 4.5 per cent less in the first half of 1949 than in 1948. Though farm families spend more for food than they did in 1942, value of home-produced food has also increased.

Extension Pamphlet 171, "1950 Family Living," may be obtained at the county extension office.

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Immediate Release

#### FOUR AGRICULTURAL FREEDOMS LISTED

American agriculture has four points of freedom by which to operate, C. H. Bailey, dean and director of the University of Minnesota department of agriculture, told Rural Electric Equipment Council members at their meeting in St. Paul Wednesday morning (March 8).

Dean Bailey, speaking before the rural equipment segment of the North Central Electrical Industries Association, listed the four areas as freedom of physical labor, freedom of mechanization, freedom of management and the freedom of farmers to participate in community social programs of their choice.

"Our way of life allows and encourages independence of farmer action and activity to make farm living more satisfactory," Dean Bailey told the group.

"Successful operation of a family farm necessitates physical skills and proper mechanization. It includes the management ability necessary for wise selection of equipment adapted to farm operations to which the land and the farmer are jointly adjusted. Alertness to research results expressed in new crops and livestock, use of fertilizers and determination of where profits accrue are also a part of good management," he went on.

The North Central Electrical Industries Association, now celebrating its twenty fifth year of advancement of rural electrification in Minnesota, covers North and South Dakota and Minnesota.

A. J. Schwantes, University agricultural engineering chief, spoke to the group on 25 years of technological advancement.

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Special to the FARMER

TIMELY TIPS for March 18

March and early April are the months to prune shade and fruit trees and summer-flowering shrubs. Remove dead and diseased branches. Paint large scars with orange shellac.—L. C. Snyder.

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Creep feeding lambs and pigs will help get them off to a good start. Start using the creep feeder when the lambs or pigs are about 10 days old. You will get faster gains and better growth.—W. E. Morris.

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Read the fine print on aerial pest spray and dusting contracts. Some contracts now being offered make no statement on when the spraying or dusting job is to be done.—A. W. Buzicky.

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Crowding chicks always cuts growth. It will bring worse penalties this year because of the narrower operating margins. Supply one square foot of floor space for each two chicks the first six weeks.—Corra Cooke.

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Six Holstein cows valued at \$1,500 were electrocuted on a Minnesota farm last December. Faulty wiring was the apparent cause. Has your wiring system been inspected recently by a competent electrician?—Glenn Prickett.

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Don't start tomato seed too early. If you start seed about April 15, the plants will be just right for moving outdoors June 1, when frost danger is past.—O. C. Turnquist.



Add 1 - Timely Tips

Some farm-to-farm seed salesmen are still offering inferior crop varieties at too-high prices. Know the list price and adaptability of seed you buy.—Ward Marshall.

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Minnesota farmers, conservationists and sportsmen have until March 25 to nominate outstanding farmers who have aided wildlife conservation. Tell your county agent about your nominee ~~for~~ for state farmer-sportsmen awards.—Paul Burson.

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Legume seed can be profitable treated with Arasan, U Farm experiments show. Treat at the rate of one-half pound of Arasan per 100 pounds of seed. Legumes can also be inoculated with nodule bacteria with good results.—Ray Rose.

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Auctioneers, farmers and others selling seed at auction in Minnesota are required to have bags tagged with kind of seed, weed seed content and germination per cent.—T. L. Ammodt.

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Put a piece of clean dirt or sod into baby pig pens to prevent anemia. They should have access to the sod after they are three days old.—H. G. Zavoral.

## SHEEP ARE SCARCE, SO SAVE LAMBS, WOOL

by  
W. E. Morris  
Extension Livestock Specialist, U. of Minn.

Lamb and wool production is at a critically low ebb in the United States today. Sheep now offer one of the best opportunities of all livestock.

Wool production is down and mutton supplies are short. Demand for both is good and is expected to stay high—which means Red River Valley producers should make every effort to save all lambs possible this spring and to produce as high grade wools as possible.

The key to producing good, lively lambs and to keeping them healthy is good management. Here are the recommendations for best management of ewes and lambs:

1. Increase the grain ration of ewes just before lambing. They should eat  $1\frac{1}{2}$  to 2 pounds of grain a day during the last month to help them produce stronger lambs and more milk.
2. Guard against chilling of newborn lambs. Dry them off with a burlap sack. Fix a lamb brooder, such as is used for pigs, in the lambing pen. Close off a section of the room with canvas. Heat the room, if necessary.
3. Sever the lamb's navel cord and dip the stub with tincture of iodine to prevent possible infection.
4. Use a creep feeder for lambs. Feed them grain and good alfalfa as soon as they will eat—when they are about ten days old.

## Add 1 - Sheep

To produce the best grade wool, farmers should take every precaution during shearing operations to keep fleece clean and dry.

One of the most common criticisms offered by woolen mills has been from the standpoint of the large amount of foreign material present in the fleeces, particularly those coming from the corn belt region.

One source of foreign material is from the weed seeds which enter the fleece during the pasture season. Another which lowers the market value of wool is chaff and other seeds that become a part of the fleece during the winter feeding of the flock. Carelessness on the part of the feeder in throwing roughage over the sheep's back, and the improper construction of feeding racks account for much of the chaff that gets into many fleeces.

The place where shearing is done should be carefully selected and kept clean during the clipping operation. Once shearing is completed, the fleece should be stored in a safe, clean place, with special care being taken to keep the clean side clean. Wool sacks should be carefully shaken out before fleece is put into them.

In tying up fleece, it is recommended to use paper twine; two strands of twine around the fleece each way is sufficient to hold the wool together and make an attractive bundle. Binder twine should not be used.

Make sure wool on the sheep's back is dry at shearing time. If it is necessary to shear when the fleece is slightly moist, it should not be tied until it is dry, but rather laid out upon a clean surface. Fleeces that are tied when wet will mildew and stain the wool. Make sure wool is stored in a dry place.

#### MARCH PLENTIFULS INCLUDE LENTEN FOODS

Eggs, Irish potatoes, pork and pork products take top place on the U. S. Department of Agriculture's list of plentiful foods for March. These three items are expected to be in especially heavy supply and selling at reasonable prices throughout the month.

Consumers can count above all on continuing heavy supplies of eggs at attractive prices, according to the Department.

Other plentiful protein foods for March main dishes are fresh and frozen fish; manufactured dairy products such as cheese; fryers and hens and dried beans.

The period of seasonally heavy fresh fish supplies is beginning, and there are large holdings of frozen fish on which to draw.

Cheese, a main dish favorite for Lent, is plentiful, as are other dairy products, and will continue so as flush spring milk production begins. Last year the U. S. manufactured about 100 million more pounds of cheese than in the previous year. This year's production may increase even more.

Good buys in fresh vegetables include potatoes, carrots from a crop which is 12 per cent larger than a year ago, cabbage, beets and head lettuce.

For weeks cabbage has been a thrifty food buy. Florida and Texas will ship large supplies of cabbage to market during March.

This year's winter beet crop is almost half again as large as last year's. Western iceberg lettuce is very abundant and prices are low.

In processed vegetables, canned corn and canned lima beans are plentiful. Stocks of canned corn are the largest in history. Since the first of the year prices of lima beans have declined.

In fruits, apples, canned peaches, raisins and dried prunes will be best buys.

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March 9, 1950

Immediate Release

#### RURAL YOUTH CONFERENCE IN DETROIT LAKES

Rural Youth members in 14 counties in northern Minnesota will hold their district conference March 24-25 in Detroit Lakes.

Originally scheduled for Fergus Falls, the district meeting was changed to Detroit Lakes because of a larger number of Rural Youth groups in that part of the state, Kathleen Flom and Robert Pinches, state Rural Youth agents at the University of Minnesota, announced today.

District conferences for southern Minnesota will be held in Faribault March 10 and 20 and in Marshall March 17 and 18.

Theme of the Detroit Lakes meeting will be "Rediscovering our rural heritage." Preceding group discussions on the theme, T. H. Fenske, associate director of field operations at the University of Minnesota, will speak.

At Faribault Pinches will talk on agricultural policy and D. M. Gopinath, Mysore, India, graduate student in plant pathology at the University of Minnesota, will discuss life and customs in India.

Headline speakers for the Marshall event will be Fay Child, editor of the Maynard News, and Francis O'Neill, Pipestone. Subject of Child's talk will be "Protecting democracy in our communities." O'Neill will speak on forces opposing democracy in Europe.

At business meetings held in connection with the conferences, delegates will elect district officers and directors to the state Rural Youth Federation executive committee.

A-7751-JBN

University Farm News  
University of Minnesota  
St. Paul 1, Minnesota  
March 9, 1950

Immediate Release

#### STATE FIRE CONFERENCE ORGANIZED

Parker O. Anderson, University of Minnesota extension forester, has been named treasurer of a newly organized Minnesota Fire Conference.

Douglas H. Timmerman, Minneapolis, was named president. John E. Jackson, Minneapolis, was elected vice-president, and B. A. Brokaw, State department of taxation, was named secretary.

The conference was organized as a "non-profit, educational association to combine the efforts of individuals, organizations and groups toward education and development of public interest and private responsibility in fire prevention and control," according to the article of incorporation.

Anderson feels the new Conference will be of definite value in organizing and coordinating the training of volunteer farm fire fighters. It will also promote practical legislation toward use of designated funds for fire fighting equipment and hazard removal.

A-7752-RR

University Farm News  
University of Minnesota  
St. Paul 1, Minnesota  
March 9, 1950

Immediate Release

#### TO ELECT TOWNSHIP WEED SUPERVISORS

The annual election of some 5,000 township officers who will also serve as local weed and seed inspectors will be held throughout Minnesota on March 14, T. L. Aamodt, state Plant Industry Bureau director, said today.

The election is held in organized townships to pick supervisors for enforcement of weed control laws at the local level.

"The Plant Industry Bureau is dependent on these men to locally carry on the legal and control aspects of the weed and pest program in cooperation with county and district inspectors, and for cooperation with the educational program of County Agricultural Agents," he said.

The organization of township officers is being built up to better prepare the bureau for control of any pest, insect or outbreak which may occur, Aamodt said. It was only recently that township officers have been designated by law to serve as local weed and seed inspectors.

A-7753-RR

\* \* \* \* \*

#### DEAN BAILEY TO WASHINGTON MEETING

C. H. Bailey, dean and director of the University of Minnesota department of agriculture, will attend an agricultural experiment station "Committee of Nine" meeting in Washington, D.C., March 14-15.

Dean Bailey is one of two station directors representing the North-Central region. There are four regions, with two directors picked for each. A Home Economics representative makes up the ninth committee member.

Purpose of the meeting is to consider research projects and appropriate Research and Marketing Administration funds for cooperative regional and inter-regional experiments.

A-7754-RR

University Farm News  
University of Minnesota  
St. Paul 1, Minnesota  
March 9, 1950

Immediate Release

#### U FARM MEN TO DISCUSS WATER RESOURCES

Lowry Nelson and O. B. Jesness, University of Minnesota agricultural staff members, will meet with President Truman's Water Resources Policy Commission in Washington, D.C. this weekend (March 11-12).

Dr. Nelson, sociology professor, and Dr. Jesness, agricultural economics division chief, are among economists and sociologists selected to meet with the commission in Washington Saturday and Sunday.

The group will discuss economic principles and standards for estimating benefits and costs of water resources projects.

The water resources commission was established last Jan. 3 to study major water-resources programs, economic and social need, set standards for evaluating projects, and discuss necessary legislative changes.

Dr. Nelson will leave for Washington by train on Friday (March 10). Dr. Jesness will fly on Saturday.

A-7755-RR

\* \* \* \* \*

#### STATE SPEAKING WINNERS TO BE PICKED SATURDAY

Minnesota's 4-H radio speaking champion will be announced Saturday (March 11) during a broadcast over WCCO at 4:30 - 5:00 p.m., climaxing state observance of National 4-H Club Week, Leonard Harkness, state 4-H club leader at the University of Minnesota, announced today.

Seventeen district winners will compete for the two top places in a contest at 9 a.m. Saturday in the Coffey hall auditorium at University Farm. Final selection for the championship will be made after the two top contenders have broadcast their speeches over WCCO.

Contestants are vying for a \$200 championship and \$100 reserve award, provided by the Minnesota Jewish Council, co-sponsor of the radio speaking event with the Minnesota Agricultural Extension Service.

Judges for the state contest are Mrs. Amy Newcomb, district home agent supervisor, and Harry Kitts, assistant professor, agricultural education, University of Minnesota; and Madeline Long, radio division, Minneapolis Public Schools.

A-7756-JBN



University Farm News  
University of Minnesota  
St. Paul 1, Minnesota  
~~February 16,~~ 1950  
Mar 10,

SPECIAL TO  
GRAND FORK HERALD  
Special to MINNESOTA

Send a pic  
or two

Jeanette  
1 original, 1 carbon.  
This is part of a set  
to go by Shur. Mar. 9

## MINNESOTA SOIL TEST LABORATORY IS UNIQUE

by  
Paul M. Burson  
TESTING SERVICE HEAD

One of the most unique soil testing services in the United States is growing out of its adolescence at University Farm.

Soil testing laboratories are not new to agricultural colleges across the nation. But the way in which the testing service at the University of Minnesota has been organized is unique.

Most testing labs are set up to provide, at a nominal fee, an analysis of a farmer's soil. The samples come directly to the lab from the farmer and the report goes directly back to him, or possibly through a county extension agent.

But Paul Burson, head of the Minnesota testing service, went a step farther.

In setting up his laboratory last summer, he brought fertilizer and seed dealers into the organization and made them an integral part of the service. Soil sample depots were established at fertilizer plants, seed stores and elevators. Dealers and managers became key men in the collecting and forwarding of samples to the University Farm testing lab. They were also given the <sup>opportunity</sup> ~~job~~ of assisting County Agents, who are in complete charge of the program at the county level, in carrying information back to the farmers.

Minnesota is the only state to ask the fertilizer industry to participate in its soil testing service.

The program is paying off in five main ways.

It has the advantage of providing a new source of leadership to assist county agents in their soils work.

It provides an opportunity for farmers to <sup>pick up sample boxes and information blanks and</sup> deliver their samples and ~~pick up the resulting recommendations~~ at a depot close to home.

County Agents have an opportunity to supply the latest information and recommendations to dealers who sell seed and fertilizer to farmers.

The dealers give busy agents assist in administrating the county programs, relieving them of a goodly share of the time-consuming details.

Most important of all, dealers have a definite part in seeing good service is provided. They have a stake in maintaining soil fertility on Minnesota farms and feel a keen responsibility for selling farmers the kind of fertilizer that will do them the most good.

The testing lab grew fast after its original establishment last July 1. Over 7,000 samples have been tested since then — 4,900 in the last four months.

It was born of necessity. When Burson first joined the University of Minnesota as an extension soils specialist in 1942, he started analyzing a few samples. The first trickle of 500 samples a year grew to a steady stream of 8,000 by 1948. Burson found himself spending every spare minute, including Sundays, trying to keep up — and doing it with the same facilities and equipment he had the first year.

The obvious thing happened — the volume became too great for one man to handle. And it couldn't be discontinued because of the importance of the service being rendered. So legislative action was taken, appropriations made and the University of Minnesota soil testing service was born of necessity on July 1, 1949.

Burson was a good choice for head of the lab. He has a wide background of experience. A former county agent and extension soils specialist in Iowa, he was the first fulltime extension soils man Minnesota ever had when he arrived in January, 1942.

In 1944 he was named chairman of the extension soils section. A year later he was given an assistant, E. R. Duncan who worked with Prof. Burson in Iowa.

Burson was promoted to full professor last July 1, at the time he was made soils lab head. ~~Duncan succeeded him as chairman of the extension soils sections~~ *H. E. Soule was brought to Minnesota from Kansas as a co-worker with Duncan in the extension program.*

The lab, located in an efficient basement room of the Soils Division building, now occupies the full time of Burson and two assistants. Four students are employed on a part-time basis.

Muriel Widmer is in direct charge of the lab. Betty Dolen acts as Prof. Burson's secretary, taking care of records and mailing test results. She also handles the fifty cent service charge paid by farmers to cover cost of analyzing each sample.

Mrs. Dolen and her part-time student assistant Frances Stein register the samples as they come in, give them a number, and turn them over to Mrs. Widmer.

Mrs. Widmer, a chemistry graduate from the New Jersey College for Women at New Brunswick, ~~crushes and mixes the samples, dries them if need be, and prepares them~~ *supervises the ~~crushing and mixing~~ ~~drying~~ ~~preparation~~ of the samples* for testing.

Then she, with the aid of Agriculture students Hector Olson, Vining, Victor Johnson, Blue Earth, Russell Boehlke, Buffalo Lake, and Jerry Adams, Evan, tests the samples for acidity (Ph), potash, phosphate, texture and organic matter.

The samples, together with test results, go to Prof. Burson. He combines these results with information supplied by the farmer on past crops grown and future ones planned and then makes recommendations on kinds and amounts of fertilizer ~~to apply~~ *and soil management practices* ~~for~~ each field.

One copy of this recommendation sheet goes <sup>*directly*</sup> to the farmer, ~~through the depot~~. Another goes to the County Agent, together with the farmer's original information sheet. Still another copy is kept by Burson for future reference ~~and research~~.

That help with individual problems of individual farmers is only one of the three main goals set by Burson and Dr. C. O. Rost, soils division head, in establishing the testing service.

A second purpose is the use of the lab as a basis for development of broad and practical research <sup>program</sup> ~~progress~~ on soils. It is practical because problem areas can quickly be found through the farmer-samples and then research machinery then put into motion to find a solution. It is broad because the samples come from the entire state.

Last, and just as important, the lab forms the basis for more effective agricultural extension work.

~~Test results give agents the information they need to hold soil clinics with farmers, both in county meetings and individually.~~

Agents can use test results at soil clinics and farmer meetings. They can take concrete information to dealers. And best of all, they can shift from ~~the~~ general ~~soil recommendations~~ formerly given to specific <sup>soil recommendations -</sup> ~~ones~~ — right down to the last 10 acres.

University Farm News  
University of Minnesota  
St. Paul 1, Minnesota  
March 10, 1950

Special To:  
GRAND FORKS HERALD

### WATCH FARMING COSTS IN THE YEAR AHEAD

by  
Bob Rupp  
U Farm Information Specialist

There is less money ahead for farmers if prices drop faster than expenses, as is predicted by many agricultural economists.

This is pictured as a year of lower prices and smaller cash receipts for farmers, with both expected to be down by about 10 per cent. Costs will probably drop, but not as much as farm product prices — which means farmers must keep expenses down and production high.

To help Red River Valley farmers cut cost-corners, and yet maintain an efficient production level, University Farm experts were polled for their recommendations for profitable farming this year. Here are their suggestions:

#### Dairy

Reducing costs without lowering quality or volume of production is the dairyman's big problem this year. The good dairyman today is the man who can stay on the market with more pounds of good butterfat and milk, produced at lower cost per pound.

To lower feed costs, H. R. Searles, University Farm extension dairyman, recommends building the dairy ration around good legume hay. Feeding plenty of good hay will cut cost of protein concentrates. Farm grains can be used to balance the ration.

Use corn silage to supplement hay, if you have it. Consider grass silage as a means of saving more hay crop nutrients. Plan now for a good all-season pasture. Give cows free access to iodized salt, bone meal, and plenty of water.

Be sure the milk house and barn meet recommended standards. Keep milk clean, cool it quickly and protect it all the way to market. Keep records on all cows so you can cull out the loafers. Your D.H.I.A. offers a good guidance, here.

Looking ahead to the longer pull, Searles recommends breeding cows to proved sires to build a high-producing, profitable herd for the future. He says to watch any investment in dairy housing or equipment. Consider cow comfort, cost, labor saving, and ease of sanitation in any planning.

Watch herd health. Practice good management and disease prevention so that calves and young stock can develop into well-grown, disease-free producers.

### Crops

Valley farmers have two main points to keep in mind in planning crops for 1950.

The first is to take advantage of government loan programs. The second is to get highest possible yields at lowest possible cost. Efficiency must be the watchword—but not at the sacrifice of lower yields.

To hold yields up and costs down, pay careful attention to selection of adapted varieties, good seedbed preparation, early planting, careful choice of crops to fit growing conditions, and proper harvest and storing, says U. Farm Extension Agronomists M. L. Armour and Ralph Crim.

For the government end of the picture, the agronomists recommend farmers plan operations to take advantage of loan programs for surplus feeds. Go over your crop rotation system. Adjust it so as to insure the best yields from future crops and to best control weeds.

Plan to seed grasses and legumes in fields where grain crop acreage has been cut. Step up livestock numbers, if facilities permit. Seed stocks are low, especially in clover and alfalfa, so plan to leave one crop for seed. Consider hay crop silage as

a possible profitable replacement of corn silage for beef and dairy herds.

Select fields as free of weed seed as possible for hay and forage crops. Plan to use commercial fertilizers, where needed, and spray to control injurious insects and weeds at the proper time.

University Farm experiments have shown good preparation and proper planting can cut seeding rates as much as one-half.

Here are the practices, proven in the tests, recommended for improving legume and grass stands:

1. Prepare a good, firm seedbed. If you plow this spring, be sure and go over the ground with a cultipacker. Use a cultipacker when broadcasting seed, regardless of when you plowed. A poorly-prepared, loose seedbed lets the top layer of soil dry out quickly.

2. Seed small legumes and grasses (alfalfa, clover, alsike and timothy) from one-fourth to one-half inch deep. Put larger legumes (brome grass, sudan and millet) down one inch.

3. Seed a companion crop that offers the least competition for moisture or nutrients, and at 1/2 to 2/3 the normal rates. Flax is good if harvested for seed. Next best companion crops are early, short-strawed small grains.

4. For most reliable results, seed early in the spring. Summer seeding of alfalfa can be successful if done before August 1.

### Livestock

Marketing at the right time and holding down death loss are the keys to profitable livestock production this year.

Timely marketing may be more important this year than any time since the depression. Prices of many farm products are below parity for the first time since 1941. Finished animals sold before heaviest marketing periods stand the best chance of bringing prices above support levels.

Sheep: Start before lambing to save more lambs. As Extension Specialist W. E. Morris puts it, "You can't sell the dead ones." For stronger lambs and better milking ewes, feed more grain to pregnant ewes along with good legume hay.

Treat all but the pregnant ewes with phenothiazine for parasite control before cold weather ends. After treatment, keep the flock off land earmarked for pasture.

Extra care at lambing time can reduce losses from chilling and navel infection. A little tincture of iodine on the stub of the navel cord will dry it up quickly and reduce danger of infection.

For faster gains, creep feed lambs born before pasture grass is green. Push early lambs to hit the market when supply of spring lambs is short.

Beef Cattle: Cattle ready for market from September to December will have a price advantage. Aim for profits on weight-gains made rather than on margin of selling price over purchase price.

Cattle offer a good way of using increased roughage crops which may be in the picture because of acreage restrictions on grain. Amount of protein supplements can be cut one-half by feeding more roughage or pasturing longer. Some beef cattle raisers are shifting from dry-lot to pasture fattening. Grain can be limited as long as pasture is good. Finish cattle in dry-lot for the fall market.

Hogs: Extension Serviceman H. G. Zavoral recommends a strict sanitation program to cut losses from worms and filth diseases.

Move pigs to clean pasture not used by hogs the last two years if possible. Early pigs can make good use of pasture by May. Grass can replace part of the protein needed for fast gains.

Early pigs that make 200 pounds in six months will be ready for the advantageous August and September market. Plan to sell at 200-240 pounds to reduce heavy cuts and excess lard.

Fall litters should farrow by mid-September to get a good start before cold weather.



### Machinery

This might be the year to put off buying that new tractor.

Good machinery is important to efficient farming, but the downward trend in farm income calls for keeping cash and credit reserves high until costs are more nearly in line with income. This means using the machinery you now have, if possible.

To keep it in good repair, Extension Engineer George E. McPhee recommends checking for worn parts now and ordering replacements to get the machines in shape while you have the time.

Check machines in the order they will be used in the field. Start with tractors, plows, discs, grain drills and corn planters.

All lubricants in the tractor should be changed with the season. Flush the radiator and install proper thermostats for warm weather operation. Use soft water to reduce lining of circulation channels.

Clean the carburetor and air cleaner to get more power per gallon of fuel. Adjust the carburetor for different power loads.

Daily servicing during heavy tractor work periods is the best safeguard for longer life and lower repair bills.

Wheel bearings and axles are trouble spots on other farm implements. Cost of a new axle can sometimes be saved by building up worn spots on the axle with steel weld-metal, then smoothing the weld down by grinding.

Check seeding mechanisms on planters and grain drills to see that they are in shape to control seeding rates.

University Farm News  
University of Minnesota  
St. Paul 11, Minnesota

Special to:  
GRAND FORKS HERALD

## CHICKENS SHOW REMARKABLE RESPONSE TO APF

by  
Dr. George M. Briggs  
Associate Poultry Professor  
University of Minnesota

Poultry raisers across the nation are beginning to profit from the simpler, lower-cost feeds containing uniform amounts of vitamin B-12.

Poultry nutritional work on vitamin B-12, an animal protein factor acclaimed by scientists throughout the United States, has been going on at the University of Minnesota for more than a year.

Experiments with the potent new vitamin may soon put cheaper meat on the family table. Used in poultry and hog feed, B-12 can replace meat scraps and fish meal that have been growing more scarce and expensive.

We began our poultry nutrition work at University Farm by feeding rations containing animal protein factor to 2,500 chicks. Some of the chicks got corn and soybean meal supplemented with minerals and all other necessary vitamins, except B-12. Others got the same ration with B-12 added in the form of the animal protein concentrate.

### Twice The Weight At Six Weeks

Chicks getting the B-12 ration weighed nearly one pound at six weeks of age—those that didn't, weighed only half that.

The amount of B-12, if it were available in pure form, used in 100 pounds

of feed, was so small it could be put on the head of a pin. However, pure B-12, a crimson crystal, would cost too much for a farmer to use, in chicken feed. He would need only a pinch to put the needed B-12 into a ton of feed, but that pinch would cost him \$1,000.

There is another answer. It's in the animal protein factor (APF) concentrate, now being produced by some chemical companies from the mold left over after making streptomycin.

Only about 3/100,000 of the APF is vitamin B, but a little goes a long way. Two pounds or less of APF in a ton of chicken feed will do the job of 100 pounds of fish meal. Replacing the fish meal with APF will save the farmer four to five dollars per ton of feed.

#### Some Saving On Rations

We estimate using the APF to replace scarce meat scraps and fish meal, will save about six percent of the poultry raiser's \$2,000,000,000 annual feed budget.

Dr. H. R. Bird, poultry nutritionist at the U. S. Department of Agriculture, Experimental Farm at Beltsville, Maryland, calculates that it may add millions of pounds of poultry to the annual production at no added cost to producers.

Many of the big feed companies are already putting APF in their standard chick feed.

A new broiler mash, with vitamin B-12 replacing all of the animal protein, is now available to commercial and farm producers from University Farm. It is one of a very few, if not the first ration containing no animal products to be recommended in the country.

The new ration is cheaper, more efficient and gives equal or faster growth than older ones now in use throughout Minnesota and the Red River Valley.

By replacing costly dried skim milk, meat ~~scraps~~ and fish meal with APF

supplement, we estimate broiler feed costs can be cut up to \$10 per ton. Birds can be produced with 25 per cent less feed per pound and can be grown as fast, if not faster than with earlier University starting and broiler mashes.

The ration has successfully produced over 2,000 broilers at University Farm experiments, and has been fed with equally good results in commercial field experiments around the state.

Copies of the formula chart, showing ingredients of the simplified ration, can be gotten at no charge by writing the Poultry Division at University Farm.

B-12 isn't necessarily better than other animal proteins, nor should it completely replace meat scraps and fish meal until additional experimental work has been done. Until more is known, we recommend that B-12 concentrate be used to standardize the animal protein factor level of most feeds, rather than completely replace meat scraps and fish meal.

We do know, however, that chickens need B-12 just as humans do. In fact, they seem to be more deficient in it than humans.

Work on chickens and turkey rations still is going on with both B-12 and APF concentrate at the University of Minnesota. It is being carried on by myself and two graduate student assistants, Eldon Hill and Merle Giles.

News Bureau  
University Farm  
St. Paul 1 Minnesota  
March 14, 1950

To all counties

BUY, SELL ONLY  
LABELED SEED

County Agent \_\_\_\_\_ today cautioned \_\_\_\_\_ county farmers against buying or selling seed for planting until it is properly labeled.

Buyers should protect themselves by checking the label on seed sacks to see that they are buying the kind of seed they want and that it has been properly cleaned and checked for germination.

Sellers are required by law to label all seed to be sold for planting purposes.

In order for seed to be properly labeled, it must be cleaned to a legal weed limit, be sampled, and have a purity analysis and germination test made by a competent analyst or laboratory, according to T. L. Aamodt, state Plant Industry Bureau head.

Aamodt asks that auctioneers check with farmers and others interested in selling seed to see that each container of seed, including bins and piles, have a label. This must be done before it can be legally sold, he emphasized.

The label should show kind of seed, weed seed content, noxious weeds, germination per cent, and per cent of inert matter and other crop seed. Hard seeds must be shown in the case of alfalfa and clover, along with where the seed was grown and the name and address of the dealer or grower. Maturity zones must be shown, together with the parent cross for hybrid corn.

\_\_\_\_\_ says local farmers can get seed tested at the seed laboratory at University Farm, St. Paul. Each farmer is allowed tests of five samples free. Samples of seed to be sold at auction should be so indicated so that results can be returned before the sale. It usually takes two weeks to get a report on test results, he said.

-FF-

News Bureau  
University Farm  
St. Paul 1 Minnesota  
March 14, 1950

To all counties  
FOR: HOME AGENTS

FOR FINE SEAM  
WATCH SIZE OF  
NEEDLE, THREAD

\_\_\_\_\_ county home sewers who want to turn a fine seam should look to the size of needle and thread they use for stitching.

The way to get inconspicuous lines of stitching is to select the size needle and thread required by the type and weight of fabric, says Home Agent \_\_\_\_\_.

Mercerized sewing thread is best for most rayon dress fabrics, according to Eves Whitfield, extension clothing specialist at the University of Minnesota. For satins, velvets and shiny rayons, use silk thread.

Nylon thread must be used on nylon material.

Use cotton thread on white cottons, matching mercerized thread on colored cottons. Sheer organdies and voiles will require finer thread than gingham and percales.

Size of the sewing needle is as important as size of thread. For sheer fabrics, net, rayon chiffons, organdy and nylon, use a fine or No. 9 needle. A medium fine or No. 8 needle is suitable for rayon crepe, taffeta, and sharkskin. A medium or No. 7 needle is recommended for heavier materials like rayon gabardine, twill, serge and flannel.

Sheer materials require more stitches per inch than coarser materials. For easier sewing, and for neater, more accurate seams on sheer fabrics, stitch over strips of paper, Miss Whitfield advises. This provides a firmer sewing base and prevents slipping.

-jbn-

News Bureau  
University Farm  
St. Paul 1 Minnesota  
March 14 1950

To all counties

PAYS TO TREAT  
LEGUME SEED

Recent experiments at University Farm indicate that seed treatment of legumes may be profitable under unfavorable conditions for germination, County Agent \_\_\_\_\_ reported today.

Greenhouse trials with five different lots of alfalfa seed showed better emergence of plants in each instance, with the treated seed averaging 38 per cent more plants than the untreated.

Extension Plant Pathologist Ray Rose says to treat with Arasan at the rate of one-half pound per hundred pounds of seed. It can be put on as a dust, or by the slurry method, where a machine is available. If Spergon is used, apply it according to directions.

Treatment can be any time between now and time of seeding.

The University trials also indicated that seed can be inoculated with nodule bacteria after treatment with very good results. Inoculation should be done the day the seed is planted, or the day before at the earliest.

\_\_\_\_\_ feels this is an especially good year to treat and inoculate seed. Legume seed is high priced, and he points out it will be cheaper to use treated seed than to over-plant non-treated seed to get an adequate stand.

-rr-

News Bureau  
University Farm  
St. Paul 1 Minnesota  
March 14, 1950

To all counties

\*\*\*\*\*  
\* COLUMN COMMENTS \*  
\* from your \*  
\* County Agent \*  
\*\*\*\*\*

Now's the time to ear-notch pigs so you'll know which gilts to pick for breeding next fall. Notch the pigs from big, uniform litters farrowed by a quiet, good milking sow.

Pouring iron sulphate on a piece of "clean" sod and putting it in the pen will help prevent anemia, says U Farm extension swineman H. G. Zavoral, Use reduced iron tablets on pigs that do get anemia.

\*\*\*\*\*

Only a few days remain to submit names for the district farmer-sportsman nomination. The extension office is cooperating with County Commissioners, sports clubs and conservation officers in picking outstanding farmers for consideration in a state farmer-sportsman program. Bring or send names and details on any progressive conservation farmers to me by March 25.

\*\*\*\*\*

Longer days and growing chicks makes this an important time to repair or build a poultry range shelter. No one thing can do as much toward rapid growth and maturity of pullets as adequate room, says Cora Cooke, U Farm extension poultry specialist. Having a range shelter ready can relieve crowding and help reduce cannibalism. It also cuts labor requirements when the birds go on range.

Extension pamphlet 98, "Range Equipment for Pullets," has blueprints and instructions for building. A copy is available in the Extension office.

\*\*\*\*\*

Oats can be treated against seedling blight any time now. Use one-half ounce of new improved Ceresan per bushel. Treat and store it in an outside building having no artificial heat. Treating will not affect germination, but should be done at least 24 hours before seeding.

\*\*\*\*\*

If you're moving this month, be sure there is no rubbish around the chimney or holes in the pipe before firing up the stoves in the new house. Watch the fire hazard around brooder houses, too.

-II-



News Bureau  
University Farm  
St. Paul 1 Minnesota  
March 14 1950

To all counties

LAMBING UNDER  
WAY IN COUNTY

Lambing is about \_\_\_\_\_ completed in \_\_\_\_\_  
(one-fourth, -third, etc.)  
county, County Agent \_\_\_\_\_ estimated today.

\_\_\_\_\_ has been receiving a number of lambing inquiries from local farmers during recent weeks, including what to do for orphan lambs and for pregnant ewes that show stiffness. Here are the answers, supplied by University Farm animal husbandmen:

\* How to get a ewe to adopt an orphan lamb?

Ewes that have lost lambs can be induced to adopt orphans by covering the orphan with the skin on the dead lamb for a few days. Rubbing the rump of the orphan and the nose of the ewe with kerosene, anise oil, onion juice or garlic also helps.

\* Raising orphan lambs by hand?

Feed milk from a recently freshened cow by either a nipple or open pan. Do not dilute the milk and have at body temperature. Follow sanitary methods. At the beginning, feed five or six times daily at 2 or 3 hour intervals. Feed about two ounces to start, increase as the lamb develops. Don't over-feed.

\* Ewes inactive and showing tendency toward stiffness?

This is pregnancy or "twin-lamb" disease. Reduce the amount of feed and place hay some distance from buildings so that ewes must exercise to get it. In advanced cases, dose with one-half cup of molasses diluted in a quart of water twice a day.

\* When can lambs go from a warm barn to a cold shed?

When about two weeks old, if they are strong and sturdy. Move them on a day when the weather is mild. If lambs aren't coming along too rapidly, don't expose them to severe conditions this early.

\* What to do for lambs with turned-in eye lids?

Massage. Examine for foreign material. Treat with silver nitrate ointment.

-rr-

Cooperative Extension Work in Agriculture and Home Economics, University of Minnesota, Agricultural Extension Service and U. S. Department of Agriculture Cooperating, Paul E. Miller, Director. Published in furtherance of Agricultural Extension Acts of May 8 and June 30, 1914.

News Bureau  
University Farm  
St. Paul 1 Minnesota  
March 14, 1950

To all counties  
FOR: HOME AGENTS

CHOOSE VARIETIES  
FOR HOME GARDEN  
THAT FREEZE WELL

Keep the home freezer in mind when you plan the garden this year, advises Home  
(County) Agent \_\_\_\_\_.

Some \_\_\_\_\_ county families have been disappointed because all vegetable  
and fruits have not frozen successfully. Tests at the University of Minnesota frozen  
foods laboratory, however, show that certain varieties of vegetables and fruits come  
out of the locker or home freezer with much better flavor, color and texture than  
others. For that reason \_\_\_\_\_ says it is advisable to plant the  
varieties that freeze best.

Given below are some of the vegetable varieties that have been tested at the  
University of Minnesota and are recommended for freezing by J. D. Winter, in charge  
of the University frozen foods laboratory: asparagus - most garden varieties;  
cauliflower - Snowball, White Mountain; broccoli - Italian green sprouting; peas -  
Thomas Laxton, Lincoln, dark-podded Laxton, Little Marvel, Teton and Glacier.

Green-podded snap beans - Kentucky Wonder (pole), Tendergreen and Stringless  
Green Pod; spinach - Long Standing Bloomsdale and King of Denmark; sweet corn - Gold  
Midget and Golden Bantam types, especially the hybrids because they mature more uni-  
formly; winter squash - Banana, Golden Delicious and Greengold for pies; Buttercup,  
Greengold and Rainbow for mashed squash.

Cantaloupe, strawberries, raspberries and rhubarb are among the garden fruits  
best for freezing. Varieties of these fruits suggested by Winter as well adapted to  
freezing are: cantaloupe - a firm-meated variety such as Iroquois; rhubarb - McDonal  
Red, though most homegrown varieties are satisfactory; red raspberries - Latham,  
Taylor, Madawaska; strawberries - Dunlap, Burgundy, Wayzata, Arrowhead and Gem.

Undoubtedly many other varieties which have not been tested in the frozen foods  
laboratory will also freeze well, Winter says.

A complete list of the tested varieties recommended for Minnesota planting is  
given in Extension Bulletin 244, "Freezing Foods for Home Use." Copies may be secured  
at the county extension office. -jbn-

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Cooperative Extension Work in Agriculture and Home Economics, University of Minne-  
sota, Agricultural Extension Service and U. S. Department of Agriculture Cooperating.  
Paul E. Miller, Director. Published in furtherance of Agricultural Extension Acts  
of May 8 and June 30, 1914.

#### FARMERS WARNED AGAINST SPRAY CONTRACTS

Read the fine print before signing contracts for airplane spraying or dusting to control insect crop-pests this summer, T. L. Aamodt, state entomologist, warned Minnesota farmers today.

"While most companies are attempting to give good service to farmers in their community," he said, "our office is concerned about the type of contract offered by some farm-to-farm salesmen." He reported many contractors now operating in some sections of the state.

Aamodt outlined these terms for farmers to check in contracts offered by traveling salesmen:

1. Make sure you are buying services, not merely DDT or other insecticides to be applied any time the airplane operator shows up.
2. Where down payments are required, make sure the operator is obligated, in writing, to apply insecticides when conditions are best for effective control. Some contracts have permitted operators to spray or dust at any time during the summer.

Timely application of insecticides is extremely important, Aamodt said, and any contract which calls for spraying or dusting at the complete discretion of the operator is faulty. In many cases last year, pilots showed up too late for spraying or dusting to be effective. Farmers who wouldn't take this late service forfeited their down payments.

Aamodt also recommends that farmers be sure the airplane operator has a permit for spraying or dusting work from the State Department of Agriculture, Dairy and Food, as a further protection.

## TIME TO PRUNE FRUIT TREES

March and early April are the months to get out the pruning shears and use them on fruit trees, the University of Minnesota's extension horticulturist, L. C. Snyder, said today.

Old apple, pear, plum and cherry trees and most small fruits should be pruned in early spring, according to Snyder.

Here are the techniques he advises for pruning fruits:

- Fruit trees. Remove dead or partially dead branches from old fruit trees, making all cuts close to the trunk. Eliminate narrow forks by cutting out one of the branches forming the fork. Remove branches that cross or rub each other, water sprouts that grow upward along main branches and weak wood in the center of the tree. Since weak wood produces poor fruits, its removal will improve the quality of the fruits produced.

Tops can be cut back on old apple trees that are very tall. Cut back to a side branch rather than leave a stub. These old trees should be removed if young trees are coming into bearing.

- Grapes. Pruning must be done early, before sap starts to flow. Because grapes bear on new wood, heavy pruning is necessary to produce vigorous new growth. Where grapes are trained to two or three horizontal wires, leave a single branch to grow out in each direction on each wire. Cut back these branches, leaving eight to 10 buds.

- Currants and gooseberries. These fruits bear best on young stems that are three or four years old. To keep an old bush productive, cut clear to the ground all stems five years old or older. Thin out new stems, leaving about 12 stems per plant.

- Raspberries. If raspberries were not pruned last fall, cut out old dead canes and thin out new ones, leaving about four canes per foot of row, or eight canes per hill. Cut these canes back to from three to five feet, depending on the support. Staked plants should be cut back to five feet, unsupported plants to three feet.

#### POTATOES GIVE CHEAP BEEF GAINS

Potatoes can profitably be fed fattening cattle, but they won't produce as high carcass finish as grain and good quality roughage, University of Minnesota experiments show.

Results of two year's feeding trials at the Northwest School and Experiment Station, Crookston, reveal potatoes can successfully put inexpensive gains on cattle, A. L. Harvey, University Farm animal husbandry professor and leader of the project, reported today.

Main purpose behind the experiment was to find outlets for excess and low grade potatoes. A secondary goal was to check the feeding value of cull and surplus potatoes made available by the government support program.

Here are the trial results, as listed by Harvey at a recent Northwest experiment station Cattle Feeders' Day:

- \* Potatoes gave cheaper steer gains than grain and hay.
- \* Steers fed potatoes showed more profit than those fed grain.
- \* Grain and roughage gave higher finish and dressing percentage than potatoes.
- \* Oats straw was more economical than alfalfa and brome grass hay for feeding with potatoes.

The steers getting potatoes gained two pounds a day per head. It took 150 days to finish the steers on the potato-oats straw ration, but O. M. Kiser and H. D. Fausch, who conducted the experiments, found no need for slicing or chopping the potatoes before feeding.

Figuring costs at present feed prices, the experimenters estimate whole potatoes are worth from fifty to seventy cents when fed with oats straw.

University Farm News  
University of Minnesota  
St. Paul 1, Minnesota  
March 14, 1950

Immediate Release

#### FRENCH AGRICULTURISTS STUDYING EXTENSION SERVICE

Four French agricultural officials are in Minnesota studying the state Agricultural Extension Service program, Skuli Rutford, acting state director, reported today at University Farm.

Andre Barat, 45, Paul Coquery, 46, and Paul Matagrín, 42, directors of agriculture extension, and Jacques Vannoye, 43, a French National Farmers' organization official, spent March 13-14 interviewing University Farm specialists and studying administrative procedures.

Thursday thru Saturday (March 16-18) they will be in Murray county studying the local extension program being carried on by County Agent A. B. Hagen.

The four, accompanied by interpreter Lucien L. Pohl, are among 28 high French agriculturists in the United States for six weeks under a program initiated by the Economic Cooperation Administration's special mission to France.

Objective of the project is to show "how American local, state and national agencies and institutions assist and cooperate with farm people in dealing with farm problems," according to Rutford.

The Minnesota group arrived here from observing the Georgia extension service. They will return to Washington D.C., on March 23.

A-7760-RR

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#### JR. VEGETABLE GROWERS TO MEET.

The second of three training meetings of the Minnesota chapter of the National Junior Vegetable Growers Association will be held at University Farm Saturday (Mar. 18).

The morning meeting will be devoted to questions and studies material, according to Richard Angus, national association committee member and University agricultural student. O. C. Turnquist, extension horticulturist, will supervise potato judging and grading in the afternoon.

A-7761-RR

University Farm News  
University of Minnesota  
St. Paul 1, Minnesota  
March 15, 1950

Special to:  
FARM BUREAU NEWS

MINNESOTA SOIL TEST  
LABORATORY IS UNIQUE

by  
Robert Rupp  
Information Specialist

Chemical soil tests are not new. Neither are state testing laboratories. But the one now being developed at University Farm is new—and the way it is being organized is unique..

Most testing labs are set up to provide, at a nominal fee, an analysis of a farmer's soil. The samples come directly to the lab from the farmer and the report goes directly back to him, or possibly through a county extension agent.

But Paul Burson, head of the Minnesota testing service, went a step farther.

In setting up his laboratory last summer, he brought fertilizer and seed dealers into the organization and made them an integral part of the service. Soil sample depots were established at fertilizer plants, seed stores and elevators. Dealers and managers became key men in the collecting and forwarding of samples to the University Farm testing lab. They were also given the opportunity of assisting County Agents, who are in complete charge of the program at the county level, in carrying information back to the farmers.

Minnesota is the only state to ask the fertilizer industry to participate in its soil testing service.

The program is paying off in five main ways.

1. It has the advantage of providing a new source of leadership to assist county agents in their soils work.
2. It provides an opportunity for farmers to pick up sample boxes and information blanks and to deliver their samples at a depot close to home.
3. County agents have an opportunity to supply the latest information and recommendations to dealers who sell seed and fertilizer to farmers.
4. The dealers give busy agents assist in administrating the county programs, relieving them of goodly share of the time-consuming details.
5. Most important of all, dealers have a definite part in seeing good service is provided. They have a stake in maintaining soil fertility on Minnesota farms and feel a keen responsibility for selling farmers the kind of fertilizer that will do them the most good.

The testing lab grew fast after its original establishment last July 1. Over 7,000 samples have been tested since then—4,900 in the last four months.

It was born of necessity. When Burson first joined the University of Minnesota as an extension soils specialist in 1942, he started analyzing a few samples. The first trickle of 500 samples a year grew to a steady stream of 8,000 by 1948. Burson found himself spending every spare minute, including Sundays, trying to keep up—and doing it with the same facilities and equipment he had the first year.

The obvious thing happened—the volume became too great for one man to handle. And it couldn't be discontinued because of the importance of the service being rendered.

So legislative action was taken, appropriations made and the University of Minnesota soil testing service was born of necessity on July 1, 1949.



Burson was a good choice for head of the lab. He has a wide background of experience. A former county agent and extension soils specialist in Iowa, he was the first fulltime extension soils man Minnesota ever had when he arrived in January, 1942.

In 1944 he was named chairman of the extension soils section. A year later he was given an assistant, E. R. Duncan who worked with Prof. Burson in Iowa.

Burson was promoted to full professor last July 1, at the time he was made soils lab. head. H. E. Jones was brought to Minnesota from Kansas as a co-worker with Duncan in the extension program.

The lab, located in an efficient basement room of the Soils Division Building, now occupies the full time of Burson and two assistants. Four students are employed on a part-time basis.

Muriel Widmer is in direct charge of the lab. Betty Dolen acts as Prof. Burson's secretary, taking care of records and mailing test results. She also handles the fifty cent service charge paid by farmers to cover cost of analyzing each sample.

Mrs. Dolen and her part-time student assistant Frances Stein register the samples as they come in, give them a number, and turn them over to Mrs. Widmer.

Mrs. Widmer, a chemistry graduate from the New Jersey College for Women at New Brunswick, supervises the crushing, mixing, drying and preparation of the samples for testing.

Then she, with the aid of Agriculture students Hector Olson, Vining, Victor Johnson, Blue Earth, Russell Boehlke, Buffalo Lake, and Jerry Adams, Evan, tests the samples for acidity (Ph), potash, phosphate, texture and organic matter.

The samples, together with test results, go to Prof. Burson. He combines these results with information supplied by the farmer on past crops grown and future ones planned and then makes recommendations on kinds and amounts of fertilizer and soil management practices for each field.

One copy of this recommendation sheet goes directly to the farmer. Another goes to the County Agent, together with the farmer's original information sheet. Still another copy is kept by Burson for future reference and research.

That help with individual problems of individual farmers is only one of the three main goals set by Burson and Dr. C. O. Rost, soils division head, in establishing the testing service.

A second purpose is the use of the lab as a basis for development of broad and practical research program on soils. It is practical because problem areas can quickly be found through the farmer-samples and then research machinery then put into motion to find the solution. It is broad because the samples come from the entire state.

Last and just/<sup>as</sup>important, the lab forms the basis for more effective agricultural extension work.

Agents can use test results at soil clinics and farmer meetings. They can take concrete information to dealers. And best of all, they can shift from general to specific soil recommendations—right down to the last 10 acres.

News Bureau  
University Farm  
St. Paul 1 Minnesota  
March 16, 1950

## HELPS FOR HOME AGENTS

(These shorts are intended as fillers for your radio programs or your newspaper columns. Adapt them to fit your needs.)

### FOOD

#### Sweet Tooth (25 seconds)

Did you know that Americans are eating ten times as much sugar today as they did 100 years ago? There's increasing evidence that the amount of sugar people eat is a major cause of tooth decay. So says Dr. Jane Leichsenring, professor of nutrition at the University of Minnesota. If we expect to make any real progress in eliminating tooth decay, we must reduce sugar intake from all sources. That means cutting down on cake and pastry, soft drinks and candies.

\* \* \* \* \*

#### Combine Eggs and Asparagus for Flavor (29 seconds)

An egg dish that's good Lenten fare is suggested by Mrs. Eleanor Loomis, home agent in consumer marketing for the Twin Cities. Into a casserole she puts a layer of asparagus, then a layer of cooked eggs, the juice from an onion, one cup of medium white sauce and a layer of Parmesan cheese. She covers this mixture with buttered bread crumbs and bakes it for 20 minutes or until the crumbs are brown. Stalks of asparagus arranged around each serving of the hot dish will give color to the luncheon or supper plate, she says.

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#### Cabbage a Good Buy (21 seconds)

One of the vegetables richest in vitamin C - cabbage - will be plentiful and reasonably priced throughout the month of March. When the supply of home-canned tomato juice is used up, this crisp green vegetable is one of the most inexpensive ways to get the daily requirement of vitamin C. If you cook it, remember that quick cooking will give you most vitamins and best flavor.

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Cooperative Extension Work in Agriculture and Home Economics, University of Minnesota, Agricultural Extension Service and U. S. Department of Agriculture cooperating, Paul E. Miller, Director. Published in furtherance of Agricultural Extension Acts of May 8 and June 30, 1914.

CLOTHING

New Hats for Old (33 seconds)

Many women are beginning to think about their Easter bonnets. Instead of buying a new hat, you may want to get some crisp new veiling for it....in a color to match suit, coat or accessories. There are many lovely designs in inexpensive veiling in shadow-fine or open-mesh weaves. And here's a useful tip to remember when the veiling begins to look limp and bedraggled. Just press it between two sheets of waxed paper. It will come out as crisp and pretty as new. But be sure to put heavy paper both under and over the sheets of waxed paper so you don't get grease on your ironing board or iron!

\* \* \* \* \*

New Blouse for Perkins (32 seconds)

One of the crisp new white or pastel blouses can go a long way toward cheering up your wardrobe and perking up the old spring suit. But when you select a blouse, do consider the style of your suit jacket. For a cardigan jacket, choose a blouse with neckline interest. For a man-tailored suit, avoid too-full ruffles which might spoil the jacket's trim fit. On the other hand, full ruffles are perfect for short-open-front bolero jackets.

Don't guess about the washability of the blouse. Look for the information label. The label should give specific instructions for laundering.

\* \* \* \* \*

Baby's First Wardrobe (40 seconds)

Fortunately today's baby is dressed with his own needs and comfort in mind. Whether you buy or make the baby's first clothes, you can contribute to his well being by paying special attention to the seams, the sleeves, fastenings, and openings. For baby's comfort the seams must be flat and smooth. Raglan or kimono sleeves are comfortable and provide the most leeway for growth. If the garment has set-in sleeves, they should be deep enough to make dressing the baby easy and to allow for growth. Avoid strings or ribbons at the neck, for they may become drawn too tightly. Also avoid garments that have to slip over the head, because lint may get into the baby's eyes. Openings should be large enough to slip over the baby's feet.

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HOME MANAGEMENT

To Clean Lamp Shades (45 seconds)

Lamp shades often soil badly over winter. If they need replacing, you can get simply designed lamp shades at reasonable prices. But if you feel that your old fabric lamp shades are worth cleaning, there are some precautions to keep in mind.

If the fabric shade is washable and is sewed, not glued, to the frame, you don't need to be afraid to suds it. First, dust the shade with a soft-bristled brush. Be sure to get all the dust out of any trimmings or pleats. Then souse the shade up and down in mild soap suds. Rinse several times, using water of the same temperature as for washing.

To prevent possible rusting along the wires, remove excess moisture with wads of cotton. Avoid rubbing, though, since that may leave marks or stretch the fabric. Set the shade on a bath towel after it is rinsed, and let it drain.

\* \* \* \* \*

Washable Paint (30 seconds)

Efficient homemakers like to have walls and woodwork which can be cleaned easily. Washable paint now comes in practically every color and if wiped off regularly it retains its new look for years. But it's a good idea to use water sparingly and avoid abrasives. If the wall or woodwork is not very soiled, you can use a damp cloth, wiping a small area at a time. Then go over the surface immediately with a clean, dry rag. If the surface is too soiled to be cleaned with a damp cloth, use a solution of sal soda -  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup to  $1\frac{1}{2}$  gallons of water. Rinse immediately with clear water and then dry the surface.

\* \* \* \* \*

More Enjoyment from Pictures (28 seconds)

At this time of year, homemakers like to liven up their homes with some new touches. Putting up different pictures can transform a room. Of course, the logical time to do that is after housecleaning. Here are a couple of rules to remember: Hang pictures no higher than eye level and close enough to a piece of furniture so the two look as if they belong together. In checking the height to hang pictures in the home, the sitting position is a good test to use. Remember to conceal the wire by placing it across the back of the picture so it can be hung over a hook on the wall.

EQUIPMENT

Considering an Automatic Washer? (44 seconds)

If you are in the market for a washing machine and are considering an automatic you'll want to think carefully about both advantages and disadvantages before you buy. First, what about your water supply. Successful results with an automatic washer depend on a quantity of running hot and cold water which is reasonably soft. If you wash only once a week, you'll need more hot water at one time. Water pressure is also important. Will your water system provide the pressure necessary for satisfactory performance? Cost is still another point to think about. Are there extra charges for installation? What is the cost of upkeep? Whether the investment is worth while will depend on how big a part of your work the washing is and how much saving of energy and time it means to you.

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If You Buy a Steam Iron (43 seconds)

Just a few years ago only the woman who did a lot of sewing owned a steam iron. Now even women who don't sew at all want a steam iron for everyday pressing purposes. If you're thinking about buying a steam iron, there are some things you should look for. Mrs. Beth Quist, clothing instructor at the University of Minnesota, urges that you make certain the iron is thermostatically controlled so you can set it at different temperatures for different fabrics. You'll also want an iron which is light weight and has a comfortable handle. It should be easy to fill and empty and should have at least seven vents for steam. Most of your irons will be guaranteed for one year.

Once you have a steam iron, don't expect miracles from it. Learn how to use it and it will give you good service.

\* \* \* \* \*

Steam Irons Need Good Care (24 seconds)

Steam irons are convenient and increasingly popular household appliances. But they do require good care if they're to give the best service over a long period. To avoid a deposit that will clog the sides and may close the steam vents, always use soft or boiled water. Set the iron flat before starting to fill it. When you're through, empty all the water from the iron. Then store it with the filler cap off to dry out the water compartment.

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University Farm News  
University of Minnesota  
St. Paul 1, Minnesota  
March 16, 1950

Immediate Release

#### RED FILM FROM WAXED POTATOES

A red waxy film that sometimes collects around the edge of the pan in which potatoes are boiled has no connection with the dye the government is using for potatoes purchased for livestock feed.

That assurance was given to consumers today by O. C. Turnquist, extension horticulturist at the University of Minnesota.

Turnquist said he has received numerous calls from homemakers this past week who have noted a red waxy film on the surface of the water and on the sides of the pan when potatoes are cooked in their jackets. He pointed out that this film is the wax used on red potatoes to make them look more attractive; it is not the dye used on potatoes purchased for livestock feed. That dye is the color of blue ink.

Most red potatoes now produced and marketed in this area are waxed, Turnquist explained. The practice of waxing potatoes has been going on for about a year, he said. A new type of wax blended with certified red food color is applied in a uniform film after the potatoes are washed. The waxing is done in compliance with the provisions of the Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act. Purpose of the red wax is to improve the color of the potato and hence its sales appeal.

When the waxing machinery does not operate properly, the film of wax becomes thick and uneven, with the result that it may come off in the cooking water or drip in the oven when potatoes are baked.

Every sack of waxed potatoes when sold has a label indicating to the consumer that they have been waxed. Grocers who sell waxed potatoes in the bin should also label them, Turnquist said.

University Farm News  
University of Minnesota  
St. Paul 1, Minnesota  
March 16, 1950

Immediate Release

#### COUNTY FAIR SHORT COURSE

The fourth annual Fair Management short course has been scheduled for March 20-22 in Minneapolis. It will be held in the Nicollet hotel.

Sponsored by the University of Minnesota department of agriculture, the Federation of County Fairs, and the State Agricultural Society, the three-day course is expected to attract some 150 fair managers, secretaries and county school superintendents from Minnesota, North and South Dakota, Wisconsin and Iowa.

Representatives for 38 fairs have already registered for the course, according to J. O. Christianson, agriculture short course director.

Hurst R. Anderson, Hamline university president, will speak at the banquet Tuesday evening. Other speakers include Frank Kingman, secretary of the International Association of Fairs and Expositions, and Paul Johnson, editor of Prairie Farmer, Chicago.

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A-7763-RR

#### REA SHORT COURSE

A new short course for line superintendents and foremen of Minnesota Rural Electric construction and maintenance crews will be held at University Farm March 29-31, J. O. Christianson, short course director, announced today.

Some 100 R.E.A. crewmen and foremen are expected to attend this first course, which is jointly sponsored by the University of Minnesota department of agriculture and the vocational division of the State Department of Education.

Purpose of the course is for training and instruction on federal and state regulations concerning installation and maintenance of electric lines in rural communities.

Prof. A. J. Schwantes, agricultural engineering chief, will open the course. Other speakers include H. Edmunds, Minnesota Electric Cooperative president, and Donald Murray, Federal Communications Commission.

A-7764-RR



University Farm News  
University of Minnesota  
St. Paul, Minnesota  
March 16, 1950

Immediate Release

#### MINNESOTA YOUTHS TO SWEDEN

Five young Minnesota farmers will leave Minneapolis Monday (March 20) for a year as exchange agriculture students in Sweden.

The youths are Roald Revne, 21, St. James, Eugene Finger, 19, Dundas, K. Vernon Gerdin, 24, Stanchfield, Thomas Sandberg, 19, Slayton, and John Selberg, 18, Bigelow.

Revne and Sandberg are graduates of the School of Agriculture at University Farm and Finger and Gerdin are students there. Selberg is a Future Farmer of America representative.

They will spend six months on Swedish farms and then will attend Swedish schools of agriculture for another six months, according to J. O. Christianson, school superintendent.

The five make up the second group of exchange students to go from Minnesota to Sweden under a cooperative agreement between the School of Agriculture, the American Swedish Institute, Minneapolis, and the Royal Labor Board in Sweden.

Christianson expects eight Swedish exchange youths to arrive in Minnesota in April. They will work on farms in the state until next October, then spend six months studying American agriculture at the School of Agriculture, University Farm.

The Minnesota group will leave Minneapolis by plane at 9:45 a.m. Monday for New York. They will travel by boat from there.

Eldon Torkelson, 24, St. James, David Lohmann, 20, Zumbrota, and Charles Knoblauch, 21, Maple Lake, the first Minnesota exchange students, are expected to return from their year in Sweden in June.

University Farm News  
University of Minnesota  
St. Paul 1, Minnesota  
March 16, 1950

Immediate Release

#### JUNIOR VEGETABLE GROWERS AT U FARM

More than 50 Junior Vegetable Growers from the Twin Cities area will meet at University Farm Saturday (March 18) to study production and marketing problems and brush up on judging techniques.

The young gardeners are expected from Hennepin, Ramsey, Pine, Washington, Dakota, Sherburne, Anoka and St. Louis counties.

The morning will be devoted to discussions and a question period on planning gardens, vegetable varieties, soil conditions, harvesting and other problems. In the afternoon the junior growers will take part in a potato grading and identification contest.

Richard Angus, Farmington, a member of the executive committee of the National Junior Vegetable Growers' association, is chairman of the meeting. Mrs. Clara Oberg, Ramsey county 4-H club agent, and O. G. Turnquist, extension horticulturist at the University of Minnesota, will have charge of the studies and contest.

A-7766-JBN

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#### HOME AGENTS TO WORKSHOP

New home agents from 20 Minnesota counties will learn the latest techniques in canning and freezing at a workshop conducted for them at University Farm March 21-23. A refresher course in canning and freezing is held for new home agents each spring, Dorothy Simmons, state leader in the extension home program for the University of Minnesota, said today.

Ina Rowe, extension nutritionist at the University of Minnesota, will be in charge of the workshop. H. B. Bolin, Chicago, production and marketing specialist for the U. S. Department of Agriculture, will conduct the sessions.

Home agents from the following counties will attend the refresher course: Aitkin, Anoka, Becker, Cottonwood, Dakota, Douglas, Freeborn, Grant; Le Sueur, Mille Lacs, Mower, Norman, Olmsted, Pennington, Polk, Redwood, Rock, Stearns, Steele and Wilkin.

A-7767-JBN

#### NEW EXTENSION AGENTS NAMED

Esbern V. Johnson Thursday (March 16) became agricultural agent in Winona county.

He moved from a position as acting county agent in Houston county to fill the vacancy created when Norman Hindrum was named assistant Minnesota 4-H club agent. Prior to that he had been assistant agent in Nobles county.

Announcement of the position was made today by Skuli Rutford, acting state Extension Service director, following a meeting of the University Board of Regents.

A graduate of South Dakota State College, Johnson majored in agronomy with minors in chemistry and botany. He saw service in the Air Force during the war.

The appointment of Rosemary Conzemius as Rice county club agent was also announced by Rutford.

A-7768-RR

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#### TIME TO PRUNE SHADE TREES

Pruning shade trees and flowering shrubs would improve the appearance of many home yards, L. C. Snyder, extension horticulturist at the University of Minnesota, said today.

Pruning is probably less understood and more poorly done than any other garden operation, the horticulturist declared.

Best time to prune shade trees and summer-flowering shrubs is in March and early April. Hybrid tea roses, hydrangeas and summer-flowering spireas should be cut back to about two strong buds on each stem, according to Snyder. Spring-flowering shrubs should not be pruned until after they finish blooming.

Dead and diseased branches and lower branches that interfere with traffic on sidewalks or lawn should always be removed from shade trees. Otherwise, very little pruning is required. In pruning, always retain the natural form of the tree.

The best way to remove a large branch, to prevent tearing bark along the main trunk, is to undercut about a foot out from the trunk and then cut off the branch. The stub left should be cut off flush with the trunk. Snyder advises painting large scars with orange shellac.

A-7769-JBN

TIMELY TIPS

University Farm tests show legume seed can be profitably treated for better emergence and inoculated with nodule bacteria. Use Arasan at the rate of one-half pound per hundred pounds of seed for treating.—Ray Rose .

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Keep fed hogs "topped out" and market them as they reach finished weights. Both prices and price supports are expected to drop.—George Wisdom.

\* \* \* \* \*

Start thinking now about more room for this year's pullets. A 10 x 12 shelter will give ideal roosting for 200 pullets. See your county agent for building plans.—Cora Cooke.

\* \* \* \* \*

Good certified seed potatoes are worth the cost. Don't use your own unless you're sure they are disease free.—O. C. Turnquist.

\* \* \* \* \*

Don't turn livestock on pasture until the grass has had a chance to grow. Cattle and sheep cut soft, wet sod and wear themselves out looking for enough short, young blades of grass—M. L. Armour.

\* \* \* \* \*

Be ready to apply spring fertilizers early. If spring seedings of legumes fail, plan now for a crop to replace it so feed production won't be reduced.—H. E. Jones.

\* \* \* \* \*

Warmer Temperatures will bring more damage from stored grain insects. Check

Add 1 - Timely tips

for them where the grain surface is crusted or molding, and where internal grain temperature is above 65 degrees—H. L. Parten.

\* \* \* \* \*

Watch cattle and sheep closely for bloat when they first go on pasture. Supplying plenty of dry hay will help prevent danger.—Dr. W. L. Boyd.

\* \* \* \* \*

When its dry enough to plow, it's dry enough to take soil samples. See your county agent for information sheets and sample containers. Take the samples to your nearest collection depot.—Paul Burson.

\* \* \* \* \*

Ear-notch pigs from big, fast-growing litters produced by even-tempered, good milking sows. Then you'll know which gilts to save for breeding next fall.—H. G. Zavoral.

\* \* \* \* \*

Kindred (L), Montcalm and Moore are the malting barley varieties recommended for growing in Minnesota.—Ralph Grim.

\* \* \* \* \*

Change to summer weight oil and grease before beginning heavy spring work with the tractor. Clean and adjust the carburetor for proper air-fuel mixture and check the cooling system.—George McPhee.

University Farm News  
University of Minnesota  
St. Paul 1, Minnesota  
March 17, 1950

Special to:  
GRAND FORKS HERALD

### DO PIGS NEED IRON AND COPPER?

by

R. M. Anderson, Instructor in Animal Husbandry  
E. F. Ferrin, Chief, Division of Animal Husbandry

Increasing the copper sulphate in the ration of the sow will not increase the size of litters. On the other hand, most of our mineral mixtures are low in iron and copper sulphate for growing pigs.

These are two of the conclusions reached in a series of trials being conducted by the University of Minnesota, Division of Animal Husbandry. These studies are being made to find out how much iron and copper sulphate breeding sows, gilts, and growing pigs need in their rations under practical conditions.

#### Balancing Ration Emphasized

Early work in livestock feeding had emphasized balancing a ration in total digestible nutrients (carbohydrates, protein, and fat) and then considered the problem settled.

During the past 15 years scientists have found out much about the function of minerals in growth, maintenance, and metabolism in the animal body. We know how important calcium and phosphorous are to healthy hogs, and we know how to discover deficiencies of these minerals and how to correct them. We know, too, that all farm animals need iron and copper in hemoglobin formation. Manganese, zinc, iodine, and cobalt are other trace minerals that livestock require.

In spite of all the investigation on iron metabolism, very little is known about how much iron is required.

Scientists at the University of Illinois in 1934 concluded that rats required iron at the level of 60 parts per million of the dry ration. North Dakota workers reported improvement in a ration for bred sows when iron was fed at the level of about 5,000 parts per million of the dry ration.

Minnesota studies on the pig embryo in 1932 and 1933 showed that copper is important to hogs during gestation.

#### Brood Sows

With this information in mind we started our series of experiments in the winter of 1948. We also wanted to learn more about maintaining hemoglobin levels shown in pigs at birth. At present this is believed impossible. For many years the practice of supplying soil and iron sulphate to new-born pigs has saved the lives of millions that would otherwise have died from anemia which is caused by a drop in hemoglobin.

In the winter of 1948-49 the sow herd was divided into three lots. All lots were fed the same basic ration. None were kept on concrete.

Lot I served as a check and was supplied 180 parts per million of iron sulphate and 2.5 parts per million of copper sulphate in the mineral mixture.

Lot II was fed in exactly the same way except that the amount of iron sulphate was increased to 500 parts.

Lot III was fed 180 parts per million of iron sulphate and 45 of copper.

The gilts in each of the three lots were self-fed a mixture consisting of 50 per cent ground oats, 30 per cent alfalfa meal, 9 per cent tankage, 9 per cent soybean oilmeal, and 2 per cent minerals. Corn was hand-fed at approximately 3 pounds per head daily. A salt block was supplied as well as one-fourth pound irradiated yeast per 1,000 pounds of feed mixture. The gilts were started on the experiment two to three weeks after they were bred. A few did not prove to be in pig or had accidents so the number per lot at farrowing time varied.

This experiment indicated that gilts on rations supplemented with iron sulphate gained slightly more per day than gilts on rations without iron.

Gilts whose rations were supplemented with either copper sulphate or iron sulphate had slightly larger litters, higher litter weight, and higher average weight per pig.

On the basis of weaning record, pigs on higher iron showed higher survival and higher litter weight. Our experiments with gilts, however, were so limited that we cannot definitely assume that these results were due to increased iron or copper sulphate.

#### Growing Pigs

A trial was conducted during the summer of 1949 with four lots of 12 growing pigs each. All pigs were fed on concrete for 100 days. At the beginning of the experiment these pigs averaged 51 pounds each and were fed a basic ration consisting of 72 per cent ground yellow corn, 16 per cent soybean oilmeal, 6 per cent dry rendered tankage, 5 per cent dehydrated alfalfa, 1 per cent mineral, and  $\frac{1}{2}$  per cent salt. The only difference between these lots was in the level of iron sulphate and copper sulphate supplied in the mineral supplement.

Our results in this experiment are more definite than those with the gilts. Here there was a significant increase in daily gain as result of added iron sulphate or copper sulphate in the ration. Daily gains were stepped up by adding either one or both.

Gilts produced in this control lot are being bred at specified weights to study possible effects on reproduction.

#### Summary

The results of these trials have been obtained using recommended practical rations for swine. No attempt has been made to emphasize the qualitative need for iron and copper by using a ration that would emphasize this requirement.

These results were evident:



1. The recommendation of 60 parts per million of iron sulphate is low for pregnant gilts and growing pigs, but it is also doubtful that in Minnesota we need as much as 5,000 parts per million.

Most commercial mineral supplements used at the rate of 1 per cent of the ration supply about 180 to 200 parts per million of iron sulphate which also appears too low unless the level of copper is increased.

2. Litter size was not increased significantly by increasing copper sulphate in the ration as has been suggested.

3. The level of copper sulphate in most mineral mixtures is inadequate for maximum gains in growing pigs.

4. There appears to be no known way of maintaining the high hemoglobin level shown at birth. The difference in hemoglobin level between pigs in the same litter and between litters is much greater than between lots. Although no supplements of iron or copper were supplied during the first 10 days of life, no pigs showed outward symptoms of anemia.

5. The need for certain trace elements has been established although the amount in cases has not been definitely determined. A mineral mixture which contains these elements should be supplied to swine at all times. Commercial preparations by reliable manufacturers are based on up-to-date formulas and should include these elements.

News Bureau  
University Farm  
St. Paul 1 Minnesota  
March 21 1950

To all counties

(Filler for your column)

\*\*\*\*\*  
\* C O L U M N   C O M M E N T S \*  
\*                    from your                    \*  
\*                    County                    Agent                    \*  
\*\*\*\*\*

"Efficiency" and "key" are two words being linked together by agricultural economists this spring. "Squeeze" is another.

The economists use them like this...."farm expenses are expected to be high. The 'squeeze' on farmers' incomes is developing. 'Efficiency' of production will be the 'key' to farm profits this year."

So plan your farming operations carefully. Hold expenses down and try to get production, both per acre and per animal, as high as possible.

\*\*\*\*\*

The general economic outlook picture shows business activity likely to remain good in most regions. Demand for farm products will probably continue at a relatively high level. Farm prices will hold steady for the next few months. All livestock prices except hogs are holding up. But, say the economists, the "squeeze" on farmers' incomes is developing.

\*\*\*\*\*

Use the slurry method if you have a choice in treating grain seed against disease. Slurry machines leave no dust or odor in the air. There is no moisture problem because very little liquid is added. Most important, there is no guess work in the rate of applying the chemical.

Ray Rose, U Farm extension plant pathologist, recommends Ceresan M on all grains, legumes and some grass seed. Slurry treatment is available at some elevators and service stores.

\*\*\*\*\*

National Wildlife Restoration Week is just over. One way \_\_\_\_\_ county and all farmers can help maintain game birds and animals is to not burn meadows, fields and brush areas. Burning destroys game cover. It also hurts farmers by destroying organic matter that could hold moisture and give fertility to the soil. And, there is always the danger of grass fires getting out of hand.

-II-

Cooperative Extension Work in Agriculture and Home Economics, University of Minnesota, Agricultural Extension Service and U. S. Department of Agriculture Cooperating, Paul E. Miller, Director. Published in furtherance of Agricultural Extension Acts of May 8 and June 30, 1914.

News Bureau  
University Farm  
St. Paul 1 Minnesota  
March 21 1950

To all counties

LAMBS, WOOL UP  
BEEF, HOGS DOWN

\_\_\_\_\_ county farmers can expect good prices for lambs and wool this spring, but may find hog and beef cattle prices dropping off a bit, County Agent \_\_\_\_\_ predicted today.

\_\_\_\_\_ 's statement is a summary of an economic outlook report received this week from University Farm extension marketing economist George Wisdom.

According to Wisdom, farmers will do well to keep hogs and beef cattle "topped out" this spring, ready for an early market.

The 1949 fall pig crop is starting to come on the market now and hog prices are scheduled to drop. No new price supports have been announced. Wisdom advises farmers to sell hogs as soon as they reach reasonable finished market weights of 200 to 210 pounds.

Cattle prices will probably go down seasonally, with the bulk of the marketings expected later this year than last. A gradual price decline is expected through May. Animals should be kept topped out.

Demand for feeder cattle is likely to continue strong throughout the spring. Comparatively high prices are expected for beef breeding stock, for feeder cattle and for stockers to go on grass. The seasonal peak will likely be in June.

Lamb prices will probably go up the next two months because of the shortage of market lambs. There were 7 per cent fewer lambs on feed Jan. 1, 1950, than a year earlier.

Wool prices are also expected to be good this spring, according to Wisdom. The price will be supported at 90 per cent of parity of March 15, around 45 cents per pounds.

-rr-

Cooperative Extension Work in Agriculture and Home Economics, University of Minnesota, Agricultural Extension Service and U. S. Department of Agriculture Cooperating, Paul E. Miller, Director. Published in furtherance of Agricultural Extension Acts of May 8 and June 30, 1914.

News Bureau  
University Farm  
St. Paul 1 Minnesota  
March 21 1950

To all counties

GET TRACTOR  
READY FOR WORK

A little time spent now in servicing your tractor will pay dividends later on, County Agent \_\_\_\_\_ said today. A good going over may prevent a costly break down when you and your tractor are working hard later on.

The check-up should start with the air cleaner and the carburetor, according to V. H. Johnson, University Farm agricultural engineer.

Clean the separation screens in the air cleaner and the intake pipes and passages. Be sure to use a good tight gasket when you reassemble the air cleaner. Then inspect all connections for leaks.

The carburetor should be cleaned and adjusted for the proper air-fuel mixture.

\_\_\_\_\_ says it is a good idea to look over the cooling system also. Make sure all hose clamps are tight and the hoses in good condition. Clean the radiator grill and adjust the radiator shutters. Inspect the thermostat to be sure it is not stuck.

Other parts of the tractor need attention before heavy field work starts, Johnson said. Here are more suggestions: Adjust valve tappets, check manifold heat regulator, service the crankcase breather and oil filter.

Last of all, don't forget to completely lubricate the tractor with summer weight oil and grease.

-OMS-RR-

News Bureau  
University Farm  
St. Paul 1 Minnesota  
March 21 1950

To all counties

COUNTY FARMER-  
SPORTSMEN NAMED

(Names and addresses of farmers) have been selected  
as the outstanding farmer-sportsmen in \_\_\_\_\_ county for this year,  
County Agent \_\_\_\_\_ announced today.

They (He) will represent \_\_\_\_\_ county in the (northeast, southeast)  
(northwest, southwest)  
district for selection as one of Minnesota's outstanding farmer-sportsmen for 1950.

Four leading farmer-sportsmen, one each from the major soil and game cover areas  
of the state, will be picked from county nominations by a committee of sportsmen,  
conservationists and agricultural specialists headed by Paul Burson, University of  
Minnesota soil testing laboratory head.

The local men (man) were (was) selected by County Agent \_\_\_\_\_,  
county commissioners, sports clubs and game wardens. They were picked for their good  
job of farming, wildlife conservation practices, soil management and for their leader-  
ship in improving farmer-sportsmen relations.

(ADD A PARAGRAPH ABOUT EACH MAN HERE, IF YOU WISH.)

The four district winners will be named April 16. The men and their wives will  
receive expense-paid trips to Minneapolis and will be guests of honor at a recogni-  
tion program to be held in conjunction with the Northwest Sports, Travel and Boat  
show on that date.

-rr-

Cooperative Extension Work in Agriculture and Home Economics, University of Minne-  
sota, Agricultural Extension Service and U. S. Department of Agriculture Cooperat-  
ing, Paul E. Miller, Director. Published in furtherance of Agricultural Extension  
Acts of May 8 and June 30, 1914.

News Bureau  
University Farm  
St. Paul 1 Minnesota  
March 21 1950

To all counties  
FOR: HOME AGENTS

FISH SALAD FOR  
LENTEN MEALS

An appetizing fish salad is excellent main-dish fare during Lent and makes a popular luncheon or supper dish at any time, says Home Agent \_\_\_\_\_.

Canned tuna, salmon or shrimp can be prepared in the same way for salad. Ina Rowe, extension nutritionist at the University of Minnesota, suggests marinating the fish in lemon juice for an hour or two before mixing the salad to bring out the flavor.

Diced raw cucumber gives crispness and succulence to a fish salad. In place of fresh cucumber, diced sweet or dill cucumber pickle may be used. Coarsely broken walnut meats will add greatly to food value as well as to flavor and texture of the salad.

Flaky cooked rice makes a good filler in fish salad. The rice should be marinated first in a very small amount of French dressing. Be sparing in the amount of rice you use, however, cautions Miss Rowe.

Blend all ingredients with cooked dressing or mayonnaise, using only enough to bind them together. Serve on a crisp lettuce leaf.

--jbn--

News Bureau  
University Farm  
St. Paul 1 Minnesota  
March 21 1950

To all counties  
FOR: 4-H CLUB AGENT

MANY INCENTIVES  
FOR TAKING 4-H  
GARDEN PROJECT

Many of \_\_\_\_\_ county's 4-H boys and girls will be among more than 300,000 club members who are expected to take part in the 1950 National 4-H Garden program this year, says Club (County) Agent \_\_\_\_\_. Every year expert gardeners are developed among these club members, according to \_\_\_\_\_.

Last year \_\_\_\_\_ county 4-H'ers were enrolled in gardening. In Minnesota, (No.) 10,261 rural boys and girls carried the project.

In the 4-H gardening project, club members learn how to manage a well-planned garden, carry out a program of insect and disease control and market produce in an economical and approved manner.

Each year 4-H gardeners have increased individual and family incomes by reducing the amount of food purchased. They also contribute to better family health by producing sufficient amounts of essential and nutritious vegetables and fruits for use throughout the year. Last year, club members in Minnesota raised nearly 4,000 acres of gardens. Throughout the whole country, 4-H'ers raised 100,000 acres of gardens.

Incentives for outstanding achievements in gardening include gold-filled medals of honor for four county winners and an all expense trip to the Chicago 4-H Club Congress next November for state champions, provided by Allis-Chalmers. Eight national winners selected from the state champions will each receive a \$300 college scholarship.

Winners were named in 79 counties in Minnesota last year.

The 4-H garden program in \_\_\_\_\_ county is conducted under the direction of the county agricultural extension service. Rural boys and girls interested in enrolling can get complete information in the county extension office.

-jbn-

Cooperative Extension Work in Agriculture and Home Economics, University of Minnesota, Agricultural Extension Service and U. S. Department of Agriculture Cooperating, Paul E. Miller, Director. Published in furtherance of Agricultural Extension Acts of May 8 and June 30, 1914.

University Farm News  
University of Minnesota  
St. Paul 1, Minnesota  
March 21, 1950

Immediate Release

#### AGRI. ECONOMIST TO EUROPE, NEAR EAST

A University of Minnesota agricultural economist will leave University Farm next week for a six month's tour of western and southern Europe and the Near East.

Dr. A. A. Dowell, professor of agricultural economics, will go to Washington, D. C. on March 30. After visiting economists and officials of the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations and Economic Cooperation Administration, he will sail from New York for England on April 7.

He will spend 4 weeks in Britain and Ireland. Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Germany, the Netherlands, Belgium, France and Italy will be toured in that order. From Rome, he will fly to Bombay, India, making brief stops in Greece, Egypt, Iraq and Iran.

Dowell has two purposes in making the trip. The first is to explore possible outlets for Minnesota surplus farm products. A second is to study land tenure problems, production methods and living levels in the different countries.

Surplus supplies of pork and lard, and marketing of livestock by weight and grade in surplus and deficit countries of western and southern Europe will be studied as related to research programs at the Minnesota experiment station.

Markets for dried milk, dried eggs, wheat and feed grains will also be explored. The studies on land tenure will be used for first-hand information in Dowell's university courses on world agriculture.

In India, the university, marketing and farm tours are being arranged by former students of Dowell's. Mrs. Dowell will accompany him on the trip.

A-7770-RR



University Farm News  
University of Minnesota  
St. Paul 1, Minnesota  
March 21, 1950

Immediate Release

#### EMINENT AGRICULTURIST TO VISIT MINNESOTA

William Davies, grassland agriculturist from the United Kingdom, will visit the University of Minnesota agricultural experiment station March 23-24.

He will confer with Dr. H. K. Hayes, agronomy division head, Dr. E. C. Stakman, plant pathology division chief and co-workers on grass seed production, pasture and range research work in this country.

A-7771-RR

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#### U FORESTERS TO REGIONAL MEET

Eight foresters from the University of Minnesota school of forestry will attend an Upper Mississippi Valley sectional meeting of the Society of American Foresters at Grand Rapids March 24-25.

Dr. Frank H. Kaufert, director of the school and a member of the Governor's conservation advisory commission, will head the delegation.

More than 100 professional foresters from Minnesota, North Dakota and Iowa are expected to attend. A comprehensive forestry program to build forest resources and industrial and recreational values will be discussed.

A-7772-RR

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#### LP-GAS SCHOOL IN APRIL

A liquefied petroleum gas service school will be held at University Farm April 17-19.

The school will be used to present new information to some 300 LP-gas employees who service rural and small town communities, according to J. O. Christianson, short course director. University and industry specialists will combine instruction, demonstrations and question and answer periods in the course.

A-7773-RR

University Farm News  
University of Minnesota  
St. Paul 1, Minnesota  
March 21, 1950

\*\*\*\*\*  
For Release:  
WEDNESDAY NOON, MARCH 22  
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#### HORTICULTURE SHORT COURSE

Planting hybrid vegetables is one effective way to increase yields in the home garden, according to a University of Minnesota extension horticulturist.

Speaking at the opening session of the University of Minnesota's twenty-ninth annual horticulture short course on the St. Paul campus Wednesday morning, (March 22), O. C. Turnquist said that hybrid cucumbers had performed particularly well in Minnesota. Tests conducted by gardeners throughout the state last year showed that Faribo C hybrid and Burpee Hybrid were heavy producers of good quality cucumbers.

Among hybrid tomatoes worth planting, the extension horticulturist listed Faribo Hybrids E and SE, Burpeeana Early Hybrid, Burpee Hybrid and Fordhook Hybrid. He suggested Sioux, Firesteel and Stokesdale as good standard tomato varieties.

A new green snap bean, Topcrop, developed by the U. S. Department of Agriculture, will be a welcome addition to the home garden, according to Turnquist, because it has outyielded all other popular varieties and is resistant to common bean mosaic.

Vegetable growing in Canada is very similar to that in the United States, although on a much smaller scale and confined to the summer months, M. B. Davis, Dominion Horticulturist, Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa, Ontario, told the short course audience. Because of the wide range of conditions, it is necessary to maintain a large number of vegetable varieties adapted to different situations.

Commercial use of certified seed is slowly forging ahead, according to Davis. Value of certified and registered vegetable seed in Canada is ten times what it was in 1938.

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For Release:  
WEDNESDAY 4:30 P.M., MARCH 22

A Minnesota-developed raspberry, the Latham, is one of the main commercial varieties grown in eastern Ontario and Quebec, M. B. Davis, Dominion Horticulturist, told fruit growers at the University of Minnesota's horticulture short course on the St. Paul campus this afternoon (Wednesday).

The Canadian horticulturist compared fruit growing in eastern Ontario and Quebec with that in Minnesota. Hardiness is an important characteristic in the varieties that are grown, he said.

Starter solutions used on tomato plants when they are set out increased early yields of tomatoes from 20 to 40 per cent in University experiments, R. E. Nylund, assistant professor of horticulture, said at the vegetable gardening session. Hormone sprays also increased early yields of tomatoes by preventing the first blossoms from dropping off.

A-7774-JBN

University Farm News  
University of Minnesota  
St. Paul 1, Minnesota  
March 21, 1950

\* \* \* \* \*  
For Release:  
THURSDAY NOON, MARCH 23  
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#### HORTICULTURE SHORT COURSE

Bees are worth over a billion dollars a year to agriculture in the United States, fruit growers attending the University of Minnesota's annual short course on the St. Paul campus were told this morning (Thursday, March 23).

The value of bees as pollinators is twenty to twenty-five times greater than their value as honey and wax producers, according to M. H. Haydak, associate professor of entomology at the University of Minnesota. Honey bee pollination is directly responsible for three-fourths of all the fruit and berry crops in this country, Haydak said.

At a special session on ornamental horticulture, P. M. Burson, head of the soils testing laboratory at the University of Minnesota, said that practically all gardens are low in organic matter and as a result have lost productiveness. To build up the soil he recommended the use of compost, barnyard manure, turning under rye or other cover crops and use of commercial fertilizer. He also advised gardeners to have their soils tested every four to six years.

Success in growing African violets from an amateur's point of view was described by Mrs. Curtis Rice, Jr., 153 Interlachen Road, Hopkins. Mrs. Rice suggested growing in light and at constant temperature, watering with warm water and fertilizing regularly as among the requirements for success in growing this popular house plant.

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For Release  
THURSDAY 3:00 P.M., MARCH 23

Trees and shrubs which beautify the home grounds and are adapted to planting in Minnesota were discussed by R. E. Widmer, instructor in horticulture at the University of Minnesota, at the closing session of the University of Minnesota's horticulture short course at University Farm this afternoon (Thursday).

Among varieties recommended by Widmer for Minnesota were the thornless honey locust as a lawn tree, the Dolgo crab for its attractive blossoms and its fruit, evergreens for screening a view, winged Euonymus as a shrub attractive all year, and such vines as Jackmann clematis and Engelmann creeper.

A-7775-JBN

University Farm News  
University of Minnesota  
St. Paul 1, Minnesota  
March 23, 1950

Immediate Release

#### D.H.I.A. SUPERVISORS TRAINED

Forty-five new Dairy Herd Improvement Association supervisors will complete training at University Farm Friday, Ramer Leighton, extension dairyman, reported today.

The 45 are all expected to qualify for tester positions with Minnesota dairy herd improvement associations following their week-long classroom and laboratory session.

Seventeen of the group will be placed immediately following the current course, five of them going to new associations. The others will move into replacement positions between now and next fall, when the next training school will be held.

A total of 115 DHIA's -- the largest number ever organized -- are now in operation in the state, according to Leighton. There are 119 supervisors employed.

The next training course will be held in September. Those interested in attending are asked to contact Ramer Leighton, Extension Dairyman, University Farm, St. Paul 1.

A-7776-RR

University Farm News  
University of Minnesota  
St. Paul 1, Minnesota  
March 23, 1950

Immediate Release

#### BAILEY TO PRESENT FARMER-SPORTSMEN AWARDS

Dean C. H. Bailey will present certificates to the four farmer-sportsmen being selected next month for their outstanding job of conservation farming and promotion of better hunter-farmer relationships,

Bailey, director of agriculture at the University of Minnesota, was selected at a meeting of sportsmen, conservationists, farm specialists and state officials Tuesday.

Farmer-sportsmen nominations are now coming in from county agricultural agents and county committees, Paul Burson, University Farm soils testing lab head and chairman of the awards committee, reported.

Four outstanding farmers, one from each of the major soil and game cover areas of the state, will be named April 16. They will be honored on "Farmers Day" at a program to be held in conjunction with the Northwest Sports, Travel and Boat show.

A-7777-RR

University Farm News  
University of Minnesota  
St. Paul 1, Minnesota  
March 23, 1950

Immediate Release

#### MEEKER COUNTY HONORED

Meeker county 4-H clubs did the most outstanding job in the state in the National 4-H Better Methods Electric program last year, according to Leonard Harkness, state 4-H club leader at the University of Minnesota. Twenty-one 4-H boys and girls in the county took part in the project.

The Meeker county extension office has received a bronze plaque from Westinghouse Educational foundation as an award for its outstanding record in the Better Methods Electric program.

Arnold Carlson, Corvuso, won the Meeker county medal for individual accomplishments in the project. County medals were also presented to 18 other 4-H'ers throughout the state.

A-7778-JBN

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#### U STUDENTS TO CHICAGO CAREER SESSIONS

Seven University of Minnesota home economics students will attend a two-day session in Chicago Friday and Saturday (March 24-25) on vocational guidance. The "Career Days" are sponsored annually by the Chicago Home Economics in Business group, a member organization of the American Home Economics association.

Attending will be Alice Brand, South St. Paul; Margaret James, 4948 Thomas avenue So., Minneapolis; Mary Christianson, 311-11th avenue S.E., Minneapolis; Margaret Gilman, Edina; Marian Blesi, Fairmont; Sarah Graham, Hastings; and Marlys Petersen, 223 W. Curtice street, St. Paul.

Home economics students and faculty members from 25 midwest colleges are expected to attend the sessions. Purpose of the annual vocational guidance project is to acquaint students with the home economics business fields by means of talks, exhibits and trips through Chicago commercial home economics departments.

A-7779-JBN

University Farm News  
University of Minnesota  
St. Paul 1, Minnesota  
March 23, 1950

Immediate Release

#### PLANT SOME GARDEN VARIETIES FOR FREEZING

Since poor quality in frozen fruits and vegetables can often be traced to variety, home gardeners who expect to freeze some of their garden produce can be assured of better results by planting varieties that freeze successfully.

Tests at the University of Minnesota frozen foods laboratory show that some varieties of vegetables and fruits come out of the locker or home freezer with much better flavor, color and texture than others. That's why J. D. Winter, associate professor of horticulture in charge of the laboratory, believes it's a good idea to keep the home freezer in mind when planning the garden this year.

Among vegetable varieties that have been tested at the University and are recommended for freezing are: asparagus - most garden varieties; cauliflower - Snowball, White Mountain; broccoli - Italian green sprouting; peas - Thomas Laxton, Lincoln, dark-podded Laxton, Little Marvel, Teton and Glacier,

Green-podded snap beans - Kentucky Wonder (pole), Tendergreen and Stringless Green Pod; spinach - Long Standing Bloomsdale and King of Denmark; sweet corn - Golden Midget and Golden Bantam types, especially the hybrids because they mature more uniformly; winter squash - Banana, Golden Delicious and Greengold for pies; Buttercup Greengold and Rainbow for mashed squash.

Garden fruits which freeze well include cantaloupe, strawberries, raspberries and rhubarb. Varieties of these fruits suggested by Winter as well adapted to freezing are: cantaloupe - a firm-meated variety such as Iroquois; rhubarb - McDonald Red, though most homegrown varieties are satisfactory; red raspberries - Latham, Taylor, Madawaska; strawberries - Dunlap, Burgundy, Wayzata, Arrowhead and Gem.

Undoubtedly many other varieties which have not been tested in the frozen foods laboratory will also freeze well, Winter says.

A-7780-JBN

University Farm News  
University of Minnesota  
St. Paul 1, Minnesota  
March 23, 1950

Immediate Release

#### 4-H TRACTOR SCHOOL AT CROOKSTON

A 4-H tractor maintenance school will be held at the Northwest School of Agriculture, Crookston, March 28 - 30, Leonard Harkness, state club leader, said today.

This will be the last of three schools held this year to give older 4-H and rural youth members training in tractor care.

Boys to attend the course have been selected by county agents on the basis of interest in tractor maintenance and their leadership abilities. Following the school, they will give demonstrations on tractor operation and care at club meetings. They will also hold county-wide tractor clinics.

The courses are held each year by state 4-H leaders, agricultural engineers and commercial representatives.

A-7781-RR

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#### ENTOMOLOGISTS AT KANSAS CITY CONFERENCE

Six University of Minnesota entomologists are taking part in discussions on corn borer control and insecticide formulations at the fifth annual conference of the North Central States branch of the American Association of Economic Entomologists in Kansas City, Mo., this week (March 23-24).

The delegation of University entomologists attending the conference includes C. E. Mickel, chief of the division of entomology and economic zoology, F. G. Holdaway, L. K. Cutkomp, Allan G. Peterson, H. C. Chiang and Chang-Shan Lin.

A-7782-JBN



University Farm News  
University of Minnesota  
St. Paul 1, Minnesota  
March 28, 1950

Immediate Release

#### NEW EXTENSION AGENTS

Julin O. Jacobson, University of Minnesota agricultural graduate, will begin work April 1 as Beltrami county extension agent, Skuli Rutford, acting state director, said today.

Born on a farm near Madelia, Minn., Jacobson fills a vacancy created two months ago.

A former 4-H club member and leader, he was a member of the University general livestock judging team in 1948. Married, he served in the army four years during the war.

Three other University Farm graduates have accepted assistant agent positions in Minnesota counties during the past week.

Robert Sallstrom, Winthrop, began work March 27 as assistant in training to Roland Abraham in Jackson county. Harold Anderson, Howard Lake, began the same day in Pine county as assistant to Erwin Wamhoff.

Victor Johnson, Blue Earth, was named assistant to J. R. Gute in Steele county. He began March 21.

All of the new agents have farm backgrounds and are agricultural graduates of the University.

Sallstrom, a former 4-H member, was a member of three college judging teams. Active in college activities, he served as president of the Block and Bridle Club. He was picked as an outstanding student leader in 1949 and is a member of Alpha Zeta, agricultural honorary.

Anderson served a short time as Martin county 4-H agent, after eight years as a club member. Married, he attended Parsons college, Fairfield, Iowa, before transferring to Minnesota.

Johnson, a seven-year club member, was Faribault county 4-H council president for a year. He won a state junior leadership award in 1946. Active in student activities, he was a member of Alpha Zeta.

News Bureau  
University Farm  
St. Paul 1 Minnesota  
March 28 1950

To all counties

PHOSPHATE AIDS  
BARLEY YIELDS

County Agent \_\_\_\_\_ today recommended a phosphate base fertilizer for increasing barley yields in \_\_\_\_\_ county.

He based his recommendation on results of a four-year field test completed last year by University Farm soils specialists.

E. R. Duncan, extension soils specialist and J. M. MacGregor, soils professor, supervised the experiments and demonstrations on 41 fields spread over all barley-growing areas of the state.

Fertilizers containing varying amounts of phosphate, nitrogen, and potash were used on all soil types where barley is grown.

Here are results of the test, as summarized by Duncan.

1. Phosphate fertilizers, applied at 50 pounds of available plant food per acre, increased barley yields as much as 7 bushels per acre over the check plots. In the tests, phosphate was broadcast at 110 pounds of 0-46-0 per acre before seeding and worked into the seedbed. Legumes were seeded with the barley. The total fertilizer used in the test was equal to 250 pounds of 0-20-0 per acre.

2. Barley responded to nitrogen fertilizer when used with phosphate in all Minnesota soils. Results from nitrogen varied in different soil areas and according to previous soil management. Since several of the barley varieties grown have relatively weak straw, it is not desirable to use more than 30 pounds of nitrogen per acre where legumes are seeded with barley. Nitrogen fertilizers used alone sometimes caused serious lodging. (more)

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Cooperative Extension Work in Agriculture and Home Economics, University of Minnesota, Agricultural Extension Service and U. S. Department of Agriculture Cooperating, Paul E. Miller, Director. Published in furtherance of Agricultural Extension Acts of May 8 and June 30, 1914.

Add 1 - barley fertilizers

3. Barley did not generally respond to potash fertilizers. Yields were increased on a few fields, but on others no response could be traced to potash in the fertilizer.

The fact that some fields did respond to potash makes it important that soils be tested to determine the right fertilizer to use with barley, Duncan stressed.

\*\*\*For \_\_\_\_\_ county, \_\_\_\_\_ specifically recommends (fill in ratios - soil types). He can also furnish detailed information on fertilizer grades for barley growers who are entering the malting barley contest sponsored by the Midwest Barley Improvement Association.

Kindred (L), Montcalm, and Moore are eligible varieties recommended for northern Minnesota counties cooperating in the contest. Eligible varieties for central and southern counties are Kindred (L) and Moore.

-OS-

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\*\*\* NOTE TO AGENT: "Fertilizing Barley in Minnesota," Soils Series No. 29, January, 1950, Agricultural Extension Service, has detailed fertilizer requirements for the soils in your county.

News Bureau  
University Farm  
St. Paul 1 Minnesota  
March 28 1950

To all counties

SPUDS GIVE LOW-  
COST BEEF GAINS

Local farmers wanting to feed surplus potatoes to cattle should be able to do so profitably this year, recent University of Minnesota experiments show.

Two year feeding trials for fattening cattle have shown potatoes can be fed successfully.

County Agent \_\_\_\_\_ does not recommend feeding potatoes to livestock as a regular practice. However this year he does see an opportunity for \_\_\_\_\_ county farmers to feed low grade, surplus supplies to advantage.

Here are three suggestions for feeding, based on the University trials.

1. Do not slice or chop potatoes. But, do use a rail above the feed bunk so animals can't throw their heads up while eating. That helps prevent choking.

2. Feed oats straw, if you have it. In the experiment, oats straw was found to be more economical than alfalfa or brome grass hay.

3. A limited grain ration can be fed, if desired. Cattle on test gained about 2 pounds a day on potatoes, both with 5 to 10 pounds of grain added, and without.

Don't expect steers to reach as high a finish and dressing percentage on potatoes as on grain and good quality roughage. But, they should return a better profit than steers fed the more expensive grain-hay ration.

In the tests, \_\_\_\_\_ said it took at least 150 days to finish medium grade yearling steers on a ration of whole potatoes and oats straw, even with the addition of limited amounts of grain.

-rr-

News Bureau  
University Farm  
St. Paul 1 Minnesota  
March 28 1950

To all counties

\* \* \* \* \*  
\* C O L U M N   C O M M E N T S \*  
\*                    from your                    \*  
\*                    County                    Agent                    \*  
\* \* \* \* \*

A new, detailed bulletin on the future of dairy and poultry products for this year is now available. It is a part of the outlook series prepared by the Agricultural Extension Service each year.

In brief, authors Max Hinds and Mary Killen see a need of more foreign outlets for both poultry and dairy products. Consumption of both must also be stepped up in the United States.

Copies of the bulletin, "1950 Dairy Products, Eggs and Poultry," are available in the County Extension office.

\* \* \* \* \*

Begin now to pick those places on the farm where trees are most needed. Consider such factors as soil type, drainage, topography and accessibility. Outline these areas on a map of the farm. Then, with the help of extension specialists and foresters, choose the kinds of trees best suited for the areas.

One word of warning. Unless the planting job is a small one, Extension Forester Marvin Smith says to do only a part of it this year.

\* \* \* \* \*

Demand for feeder cattle will likely continue strong this spring, according to Extension Marketing Specialist George Wisdom. Beef breeding stock will be high. So will feeder cattle and stockers. The seasonal price peak will likely be in early June.

\* \* \* \* \*

Treating seed before planting offers two advantages well worth considering by \_\_\_\_\_ county farmers. First, you will get better stands. Seeds with cracked or broken coats will be protected from decay after seeding. Second, seed is protected against seed-borne diseases such as covered smut, and certain seedling blight diseases.

Extension Plant Pathologist Ray Rose says to treat with Ceresan M. It can be done anytime before planting.

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News Bureau  
University Farm  
St. Paul 1 Minnesota  
March 28 1950

To all counties  
FOR: HOME AGENTS

HERE ARE TIPS  
ON BUYING HAM  
FOR EASTER

Ham is traditional fare for the Easter Sunday dinner.

Some homemakers, says Home Agent \_\_\_\_\_, are confronted with the problem of what to ask for when buying ham. The word "ham" covers a number of different products, she explains. For example, if unsmoked ham is desired, ask for "fresh ham." Ham, however, is generally taken to mean the smoked product.

The true ham is the hind quarter. When the family is fond of ham it is usually more economical to buy a whole ham than to buy it in portions.

Picnic hams are smoked shoulders or fore quarters. These hams are smaller and less meaty, with a much higher proportion of fat. They are somewhat less tender than the hind quarter and are lower-priced.

The cut taken from the fore quarter, next to the shoulder, when boned and smoked is sold under various names such as "daisy" and "cottage" hams or Boston butt but may be identified as smoked boneless shoulder butt. This cut may have a heavy streak of fat but since this is the only source of waste, it is a very practical cut. It may be cooked exactly as ham or Canadian bacon, either in the whole piece or sliced for broiling or frying, according to Ina Rowe, extension nutritionist at the University of Minnesota.

Commercial hams are often "tenderized." Tenderizing is a special process of smoking by which the internal temperature of the ham is raised close to the cooking point. However, a tenderized ham always requires further cooking.

A temperature of 325° is best for baking ham. Recommended roasting time is about 15 minutes per pound for an uncooked or tenderized ham weighing approximately 15 pounds; 20 minutes per pound for uncooked ham under 10 pounds. A ready-cooked ham weighing around 15 pounds will need 12 minutes per pound for thorough reheating. For a 5-8 pound uncooked picnic ham, recommended roasting time is 25-30 minutes per pound for a 2-3½ pound smoked boneless shoulder butt, 40-45 minutes per pound. Many homemakers like to simmer a smoked shoulder butt in water for about 45 minutes to remove some of the salt, then roast afterward. If a meat thermometer is used, remove the ham when the internal temperature reaches 150°.

-jbn-

Cooperative Extension Work in Agriculture and Home Economics, University of Minnesota, Agricultural Extension Service and U. S. Department of Agriculture Cooperating, Paul E. Miller, Director. Published in furtherance of Agricultural Extension Acts of May 8 and June 30, 1914.

News Bureau  
University Farm  
St. Paul 1 Minnesota  
March 28 1950

To all counties  
FOR: HOME AGENTS

GOOD EATING  
FOR APRIL

\_\_\_\_\_ county homemakers who are economy-minded will keep a buying eye on Minnesota-produced protein food in April, particularly on pork and eggs.

For fresh vegetables, they can look to the Lone Star state while their own garden produce is still in the seed package stage, says Home Agent \_\_\_\_\_.

Hogs will be moving to market in such volume next month that consumers will be assured of plenty of pork at low prices, according to U. S. Department of Agriculture marketing specialists.

For the special Easter demand and throughout the month homemakers can count on plenty of eggs. U. S. hens laid 22 per cent more eggs in February than the 10-year average production for the month.

Other protein foods \_\_\_\_\_ county homemakers can check for most economical buying are fresh and frozen fish, chickens and manufactured dairy products.

Vegetable row at the markets in April will reflect the harvests of spring in the South - onions, carrots, cabbage and beets. Supplies of new-crop onions from Texas will be supplemented by stocks of midwestern-grown storage onions which have been selling at low prices in recent weeks. Texas will ship beets and contribute to supplies of carrots and cabbage. Carrots will also come from Arizona and the Imperial Valley of California, and Florida and other southern states will supply new cabbage.

Irish potatoes, dried beans, canned corn and canned lima beans will complete the list of vegetables slated to be in best supply in April.

As for fruit, generous quantities of apples will be available from storage stocks. Among processed fruits, canned peaches, raisins and dried prunes continue to be most plentiful.

-jbn-

University Farm News  
University of Minnesota  
St. Paul 1, Minnesota  
March 28, 1950

Special to FARM BUREAU NEWS

#### MEEKER COUNTY BOY TO EUROPE

Donald J. Sederstrom, 21, Litchfield, has been named one of the Rural Youth delegates from the United States to visit Europe this summer, Leonard L. Harkness, state 4-H club leader announced today at University Farm.

Under the International Farm Youth Exchange project, sponsored by the Agricultural Extension Service, Sederstrom and delegates from other states will visit designated European countries.

In exchange, European countries will send farm youths to various states in this country this summer.

Vice-president of the Meeker county Rural Youth group, Sederstrom lives on a 200-acre farm with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Sederstrom. A 7-year 4-H club member, he is now farming on a full-time basis.

He is a member of the Greenleaf Farm Bureau group and of the Beckville Swedish Lutheran church. A former president of the Luther League there, he attended business and agriculture courses at the University of Minnesota for three years.

Sederstrom is interested in the farm youth project for "its exchange of ideas in the interest of keener and clearer friendly relations between people of the United States and Europe



Add 1 - Sederstrom

" I hope to learn of European culture, particularly in the Scandinavian countries because of my Swedish family background," he told Kathleen Flom, state rural youth leader.

As representative of the Minnesota Rural Youth Federation, Sederstrom was selected not only for his past achievement, but also on his ability to understand, interpret and report on world affairs, according to Miss Flom.

Funds for his trip were provided by the State Rural Youth Federation and Land O'Lakes Creameries.

Dorothy M. Pottratz, 22, Caledonia, last year was the Minnesota delegate chosen to visit Europe. She spent most of her time in Great Britain under the International Farm Youth Exchange project.

University Farm News  
University of Minnesota  
St. Paul 1, Minnesota  
March 28, 1950

\* \* \* \* \*  
For Release:  
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 29  
\* \* \* \* \*

#### MINNESOTA FARM YOUTH TO EUROPE

Donald J. Sederstrom, Rural Youth member from Litchfield, has been picked as an International Farm Youth Exchange delegate to visit Europe this summer.

Sederstrom, 21, will be one of some 50 American farm youth delegates to visit designated European countries under the sponsorship of an Agricultural Extension Service exchange program.

Announcement of the Meeker county youth's selection was made today by Leonard Harkness, state 4-H club leader.

Sederstrom will represent the Minnesota Rural Youth Federation. He was picked for his past achievement and his ability to understand, interpret and report on world affairs, according to Kathleen Flom, state rural youth leader.

Vice-president of his county rural youth group, he lives on a 200-acre farm with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Sederstrom. A 4-H club member for seven years, he is farming for himself now.

Sederstrom is interested "in the keener and clearer friendly relations between people of the United States and Europe" which may be developed through the exchange project, he told Miss Flom.

Dorothy M. Pottratz, 22, Caledonia, was the Minnesota delegate chosen to visit Europe last year. She spent most of her time in Great Britain.

Under the exchange program, European countries are expected to send delegates to various states in this country this summer.

Sederstrom's trip is sponsored by the state rural youth group and Land O'Lakes Creameries.

University Farm News  
University of Minnesota  
St. Paul 1, Minnesota  
March 28, 1950

Immediate Release

#### DON'T PLANT GRASS SEED TOO EARLY

Wait till you can prepare a good seedbed before planting lawn seed.

That advice was given today by a University of Minnesota extension horticulturist, L. C. Snyder.

Since lawn seed is high-priced this spring, Snyder urges home owners not to waste it by sowing it before the lawn area can be prepared properly. To be certain of having good germination, it is essential to have a good seedbed, he says.

In renovating an old lawn, bare spots should be dug up to a depth of three to four inches and top-dressed with good soil. The seedbed should then be firmed with a roller and the grass seed raked in lightly. The soil should be kept moist until the lawn is well established.

In preparing new lawns, Snyder advises working the soil to greater depth.

Detailed information on starting and renovating lawns is given in Extension Bulletin 130, "Making the Home Lawn," published by the University of Minnesota Agricultural Extension Service. Copies are available from the Bulletin Room, University Farm, St. Paul 1.

A-7785--JBN

University Farm News  
University of Minnesota  
St. Paul 1, Minnesota  
March 30, 1950

Immediate Release

#### ABUNDANT FOODS IN APRIL

Onions and dry beans are spot-lighted on the list of plentiful foods for April issued by the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

Prices on midwestern yellow dry onions, stored from last fall's crop, have dropped sharply. In recent weeks these midwestern onions have been selling at low prices. To supplement the stocks of storage onions, heavy supplies of big Bermuda onions from Texas are expected on markets generally during the month. Texas has the largest acreage in onions since 1936.

Vegetable row at markets in April will reflect the harvests of spring in the South. Plentiful fresh vegetables will include carrots from California, Texas and Arizona, cabbage from several southern states, beets from Texas and Irish potatoes. Grocery shelves will also be well supplied with canned corn and canned lima beans.

Best buys in fruits will be apples, canned peaches, raisins and dried prunes.

Budget-minded homemakers will keep thier eyes on Midwest-produced protein food in April, particularly on pork and eggs. U. S. Department of Agriculture marketing specialists say hogs will be moving to market in such volume that consumers can be assured of plenty of pork at low prices. They can also count on ample supplies of eggs at reasonable prices for the special Easter demand and throughout the month.

Other plentiful protein foods for the month will be fresh and frozen fish, broilers, fryers and hens, turkeys and manufactured dairy products.

A-7786-JBN

University Farm News  
University of Minnesota  
St. Paul-1, Minnesota  
March 30, 1950

Immediate Release

#### TWO NEW 4-H AGENTS

Two new 4-H club agents have accepted positions in Minnesota, Skuli Rutford, acting state director of the Agricultural Extension Service, said today.

Ruth Meyer, Thief River Falls, was named club agent in Dodge county, Vernon R. Abrahamson, Canton, was named to Nobles county.

Miss Meyer, 22, is a graduate of the University of Minnesota. She served for a time as assistant county 4-H agent in Dakota county. Abrahamson, 21, is also a University graduate. Both began work March 20.

This is the first time that either Dodge or Nobles counties have had 4-H club agents on a full-time basis.

There are now 18 county extension club agents in Minnesota, according to Rutford.

A-7787-RR

University Farm News  
University of Minnesota  
St. Paul 1, Minnesota  
March 30, 1950

Immediate Release

#### LAMB, WOOL PRICES MAY GO UP

Minnesota farmers can expect good prices for lambs and wool this spring, but may find hog and beef cattle prices dropping off a bit.

George Wisdom, Agricultural Extension Service marketing specialist, thinks farmers will do well to keep hogs and beef cattle "topped out" during coming months, ready for an early market.

In his economic outlook to county agents, Wisdom feels pig prices may drop. With no new supports in prospect, he advised farmers to sell hogs as soon as they reach reasonably finished market weights of 200 to 210 pounds.

Cattle prices will probably go down seasonally, with the bulk of the marketings expected later this year than last. A gradual price decline is expected through May. Animals should be kept topped out.

Demand for feeder cattle will likely continue strong throughout the spring.

Lamb prices will probably go up the next two months because of the shortage of market lambs. There were 7 per cent fewer lambs on feed Jan. 1, 1950, than a year earlier.

Wool prices are also expected to be good this spring, according to Wisdom.

A-7788-RR

University Farm News  
University of Minnesota  
St. Paul 1, Minnesota  
March 30, 1950

Immediate Release

#### NE EXPERIMENT STATION INSTITUTE

The 29th annual Arrowhead Institute and Northeast Minnesota Farmer's Week will be held at the Northeast Experiment Station, Duluth, on April 4-6, according to Mark Thompson, superintendent.

The first day will be devoted to farm management problems and planning for 1950. Reports will be based on cost accounting records of northeastern Minnesota G.I. on-the-farm trainees.

Wednesday will be farm engineering day, with discussions on weed control, barn cleaners, land clearing and soil improvement. Talks on crops, home management and horticulture will make up the last day's program.

The annual rural leadership dinner will be held Thursday evening, with Dr. James L. Morrill, University of Minnesota president, as speaker.

Assisting in the branch experiment station farmer's week will be five extension and resident staff members from University Farm.

A-7790-RR

University Farm News  
University of Minnesota  
University Farm  
St. Paul 1 Minnesota  
March 30 1950

## UNIVERSITY FARM SHORTS

### Agricultural Shorts

Less seed is needed on a good seedbed than on a rough, cloddy one.

\* \* \* \* \*

Potatoes can profitably be fed fattening cattle, but they won't produce as high carcass finish as grain and good quality roughage.

\* \* \* \* \*

Fewer pounds of small-seeded grain varieties are needed for planting than of large-seeded varieties. This holds true for different varieties of the same crop.

\* \* \* \* \*

Ewes that have lost lambs can be induced to adopt orphans by covering the orphan with the skin of the dead lamb for a few days.

\* \* \* \* \*

Calibrate your grain drill with the seed you are going to plant before you start seeding. Seed size varies between varieties.

\* \* \* \* \*

Broadcasting fertilizer is satisfactory for small grain and hay crops but not for corn. Put it into the ground along side of corn hills.

\* \* \* \* \*

Ear notch the pigs from big, fast growing litters now so you can tell which gilts to keep for breeding next fall.

\* \* \* \* \*

Massage the eyes of lambs with turned-in lids. Examine for foreign material and treat with silver nitrate ointment.

\* \* \* \* \*

See that baby chicks have plenty of room. Keep laying hens confined and you won't have so many dirty eggs.

\* \* \* \* \*

Less seed is needed when a grain drill is used than when an endgate seeder is used.

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Cooperative Extension Work in Agriculture and Home Economics, University of Minnesota, Agricultural Extension Service and U. S. Department of Agriculture Cooperating, Paul E. Miller, Director. Published in furtherance of Agricultural Extension Acts of May 8 and June 30, 1914.



Homemaking Shorts

Fish fillets are boneless steaks cut lengthwise away from the backbone. They are generally good buys because there is no waste.

\* \* \* \* \*

If honey is too thick or too thin, try beating it.

\* \* \* \* \*

For a delicious, wholesome dessert, spread halved grapefruit with liquid honey, sprinkle with cinnamon, dot with butter and brown under the broiler for about six minutes.

\* \* \* \* \*

In washing windows or any woodwork where it is necessary to reach up, tie an old towel or cloth around the wrist to avoid having water run down the arm.

\* \* \* \* \*

Plant sweet peas as soon as the ground can be worked.

\* \* \* \* \*

For a different touch to your muffins, mix sugar and cinnamon and sprinkle over plain muffins before baking.

\* \* \* \* \*

Extension nutritionists at the University of Minnesota recommend at least four eggs a week for each person - better still, an egg a day.

\* \* \* \* \*

Color of the egg shell depends on the breed of the hen and has no connection with food value, according to Cora Cooke, extension poultry specialist at the University of Minnesota.

\* \* \* \* \*

White Dawn, developed at the University of Minnesota, is one of the finest low, white climbing roses.

\* \* \* \* \*

Shrubs adapted to Minnesota are listed in "Landscaping the Farmstead," Extension Bulletin 250. Get your copy from the county extension office.

\* \* \* \* \*

University Farm News  
University of Minnesota  
St. Paul 1, Minnesota  
March 30, 1950

Immediate Release

Horsfield  
Rees  
Kemp

## TIPS ON REFINISHING FLOORS & FURNITURE IN FLOODED HOMES

Recent floods in various areas of Minnesota have worked havoc in many homes.

For families who are attempting to repair flood damage done to floors, baseboards and furniture, Helen Matheis, extension home furnishings specialist at the University of Minnesota, has some suggestions.

• Floors. Usually, Miss Matheis says, a floor that has been under water buckles so much that it is necessary to re-lay it. Be sure the boards are thoroughly dry before re-laying. Sand so the surface is clean and smooth.

If the floor is oak, apply a filler and then at least two coats of Spar varnish. Sand between coats. Fir flooring should be treated in the same way except that the filler may be omitted.

• Baseboards. Baseboards which have sprung loose will need replacing. If the baseboards are firm, they can be treated with a denatured alcohol or ammonia wash to remove the stain from the receding water. Merely rub the wood well with a cloth dampened in alcohol or ammonia. If this is not successful, apply a good grade of paint and varnish remover according to directions on the container. Then build up the surface with at least two coats of clear interior varnish, sanding between coats.

• Furniture. Wash wood furniture with a mixture of  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup sal soda to 2 gallons of water. Allow to dry and then rub with a clean soft cloth. If the furniture looks clear, polish with furniture polish or two thin coats of wax.

If white spots show after using the sal soda wash, dampen a cloth with denatured alcohol and rub the surface very lightly. Let dry and polish with furniture polish or wax. In case white spots still remain, use a good grade of paint and varnish remover and proceed according to directions. Follow with several coats of varnish or shellac, sanding between coats. To obtain a soft, satiny finish, use a satin-finish varnish.

If joints or rungs are loose, they should be re-glued. This means chipping out all the old glue so the area will be as clean and free of glue as possible. Use a common furniture glue or a carpenter's flake glue in the proportion of 1 part flake glue to  $1\frac{1}{2}$  parts water. Apply a thin coat of glue to the area and brace with board strips fastened with steel clamps.

probably should  
call on  
this  
←

News Bureau  
University Farm  
St. Paul 1 Minnesota  
March 31 1950

ATTN: Agricultural Agent  
Home Agent  
4-H Club Agent

GARDEN FACT SHEET FOR APRIL  
By L. C. Snyder,  
C. C. Turnquist  
Extension Horticulturists

Fruits

1. There is still time to prune fruit trees. Due to prospects of a light crop, heavy pruning is not advised. Cut out any dead branches and branches that cross and rub each other. Weak wood should be removed from the centers of the tree.
2. Use a nitrogen fertilizer such as ammonium nitrate around fruit trees. Use at the rate of one-half pound for each one inch in diameter of the trunk. Broadcast under the spread of the branches. A nitrogen fertilizer will help to set as many fruits as possible this year.
3. Tie up the grape vines to trellises that have been provided for this purpose. Two wires stretched between posts make the best kind of support for grapes.
4. Clean out your raspberry rows now and provide proper support for the canes that will bear this season. If the old, dead canes were not removed last fall, cut them out now and thin out the young, bearing canes to not over four per foot of row or 10 per hill. Cultivate between the rows to remove weed competition and sucker plants. If raspberries are grown in hills, tie the canes to stakes or in a tepee. Make the ties tight, using binder twine. If raspberries are grown in a hedgerow, put in posts every rod and run two wires at about a 3-foot height. Tie these wires together at intervals and train the canes to grow up between the wires.
5. Do not remove the straw mulch from your strawberries but simply lift it from over the rows and place it in the picking aisles. Leave the straw on just as long as you dare but uncover the plants before they start to turn yellow.
6. Plant all fruits as early as the ground can be worked. Be certain to prune the fruit trees and cut the raspberry canes back to within 3 or 4 inches of the ground.

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7. To avoid mosaic disease in your new raspberry planting, plant only certified, mosaic-free plants obtained from a dependable nursery. Do not plant closer than 300 feet to an old planting. Control the insects that may transmit the virus.

#### Ornamentals

1. Prune summer-flowering shrubs such as hydrangeas and Anthony Waterer spirea if this has not already been done. Wait until the spring-flowering shrubs have bloomed before pruning.
2. Hybrid tea roses should be uncovered gradually, first removing the straw or marsh hay and then removing the soil covering little by little as the weather warms up.
3. Hardy perennials such as delphinium, Morden pink lythrum, fall asters, and garden phlox can be planted late this month.
4. Thoroughly enrich and prepare the soil for your flower border. First scatter about 2 bushels of well-rotted manure and 2 pounds of a complete (4-12-4) fertilizer over each 100 square-foot area. Spade deeply, working the manure and fertilizer into the soil.
5. In planting shrubs, allow room for each to grow into a well-developed bush. Large shrubs like lilacs and honeysuckles should be planted at least 6 feet apart. Medium shrubs like Cotoneaster and Rugosa roses should be about 4 feet apart. Smaller shrubs like Japanese barberry and alpine currant may be planted 2 or 3 feet apart.
6. In selecting lawn trees it is best to go directly to a nursery where they are being grown. Choose a tree that has a good framework with well-spaced, wide-angled branches. It is always difficult to make a nice lawn tree out of a cripple. Again with lawn trees don't plant them too close together. Consider their mature size and locate them where they will not shade the flower border or foundation planting too much.
7. April is a good month to improve run-down lawns. First rake up any loose leaves or twigs. Use a lawn broom for this and do not pull out all of the dead grass. This will soon rot down and fertilize the lawn. If the lawn is very thin it

should be topdressed with some good soil or compost and fertilized. Use a fertilizer high in nitrogen and spread it evenly. Apply at such a rate that each 1000 square feet receives one pound of actual nitrogen. If you are using an 8-8-6 fertilizer, use about  $12\frac{1}{2}$  pounds for 1000 square feet. Organic fertilizers such as soybean meal or tankage are less likely to burn than inorganic fertilizers.

### Vegetables

1. Plant spinach, lettuce and peas as early as the ground can be worked. They must mature before the hot weather comes for best yield and quality.
2. Tomato seeds can be started indoors the middle of this month. If tomato seeds are sown around April 15 good plants should be produced by June 1.
3. Include some new vegetables in your garden this year. Broccoli is a very desirable green vegetable and proves to be a fine item in the home freezer or locker.
4. Early cabbage, broccoli, cauliflower, head lettuce, and onion transplants can be set out in the garden from April 15 to May 1.
5. Give your vegetables a better start at transplanting time by watering with a starter solution. This is nothing more than a solution of fertilizer and can be prepared by dissolving  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup of a complete fertilizer such as 6-10-4 or 5-10-5 in a gallon of water. Water the plants with a half cup of this solution when transplanting.
6. Use certified seed if you are planning to plant potatoes. Although the seed costs more, you will get more vigorous plants and greater yield. Red Warba and Waseca are very desirable early-maturing varieties.
7. If you are not now growing asparagus or if you have an old planting, you might want to start a replacement planting this month. After 10 or 12 years, the yield of an asparagus bed is very likely to decline. Harvest of the new bed should not start until the spring of the third year, so it would be desirable to re-plant two or three years before the old bed is removed.

8. Asparagus is a perennial crop and should be located at one side of the garden where it does not have to be disturbed in future years. Plow a deep furrow and spread some barnyard manure along the bottom. Cover with a little soil and set the one year old plants 18 to 24 inches apart in the furrows and 6-8 inches deep. Cover the crowns with about 2 inches of soil and continue to fill the trench as the young sprouts come through.

TIMELY TIPS (for April 15)

Don't let spring weather tempt you into turning out the laying flock. Nothing will be gained but dirty eggs, a drop in production, darker yolks, and possible off flavor.—H. J. Sloan.

\* \* \* \* \*

Give grass a good start. Too early grazing may mean poor pasture all season.—Ralph Wayne.

\* \* \* \* \*

Plowshares can be hard surfaced along their cutting edge with a special welding rod or with hard surfacing welding powder. It gives a more durable cutting edge.—G. E. McPherson.

\* \* \* \* \*

Firm the seedbed and break up rough, cloddy spots. Less seed will be needed for planting. That cuts cost.—Ralph Crim.

\* \* \* \* \*

Fertilizer can be broadcast on small grain and legume-seeded fields. It should then be worked into the upper topsoil. For corn, it should be placed  $1\frac{1}{2}$  to 2 inches to each side, and at the same level as the kernels.—A. C. Caldwell.

\* \* \* \* \*

Fruit trees can be planted on land too steep for cultivation. Put them in on the contour so cultivation and equipment wheel tracks will make natural run-off barriers.—L. C. Snyder.

Bonda and Zephyr oats average 25 per cent heavier than Clinton, Mindo or Ajax. So, seed  $2\frac{1}{2}$  bushels of Bonda or Zephyr per acre, where you normally use 2 bushels of the others.—R. G. Robinson.

\*\*\*\*\*

Straining hot new maple syrup through  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch thick felt or double thickness flannel will help produce a light-colored, quality product.—Marvin Smith.

\*\*\*\*\*

A good seed mixture for a rotation hog pasture is 6 pounds alfalfa, 5 pounds bromegrass, 3 pounds red clover and 3 pounds of timothy.—H. G. Zavoral.

\*\*\*\*\*

Keep fed cattle "topped out." Prices will likely decline during the next 60 days. Demand for feeder cattle will continue strong through May, Prices are expected to swing upward.—George Wisdom.

\*\*\*\*\*

Where soils permit, plow all corn stalks and crop residues under. That will remove shelter for corn borers. They will die of exposure or by birds eating them when they come out to pupate.—T. L. Aamodt.



University Farm News  
University of Minnesota  
St. Paul 1, Minnesota  
April 4, 1950

Immediate Release

#### 84 FARMER-SPORTSMEN ENTRIES

A total of 84 nominations for 1950 Farmer-Sportsmen awards have been received from county agriculture and conservation groups, Paul Burson, chairman of the state selection committee, reported today.

The entries, by county agents, county commissioners, sportsmen and farm groups came from 41 Minnesota counties.

Four outstanding farmers, one from each of the four major soil and wildlife cover areas of the state, will be picked as state winners by the selection committee this week. Three others will be named district winners in each district.

Selection of the farmers will be on farming ability, proper land use, conservation, and their efforts to foster better farmer-sportsmen relations, according to Burson, who is head of the state soil testing laboratory at University Farm.

The four farmers selected as state winners will receive certificates of merit from Dean C. H. Bailey, University of Minnesota director of agriculture, on Sunday, April 16, at the Northwest Sports, Travel and Boat Show.

The farmers and their wives will also be given a week-end paid vacation to Minneapolis by F. W. (Nick) Kahler, show manager. The 12 district winners will receive certificates at special ceremonies in their districts.

A-7791-RR

News Bureau  
University Farm  
St. Paul 1 Minnesota  
April 4, 1950

To all counties  
ATT.: HOME AGENT

KNOW DENIER  
WHEN BUYING  
NYLON HOSIERY

Nylon stockings are one of the most frequent clothing purchases \_\_\_\_\_ county women make. That's why every woman needs to know key facts about stockings when shopping in order to stretch her clothing dollar.

In order to buy hosiery best suited to individual needs, it is important to understand the meaning of denier and gauge, says Home Agent \_\_\_\_\_ (say extension clothing specialists at the University of Minnesota).

Denier is the weight and thickness of each thread of nylon yarn in stockings. The higher the denier number, the heavier the yarn and the stronger the thread. Thirty denier is twice as heavy and twice as strong as 15 denier. The lower the denier, the finer the yarn and the sheerer the stocking.

Gauge means the number of stitches per inch and a half across a knitted row of stocking. The higher the gauge, the greater the number of stitches per inch and a half and the finer the stitches and the more compact the fabric. Forty-five and 51 gauge are most common. Usually a higher gauge stocking will wear better than one of lower gauge.

Wearing 15-denier stockings for everyday is probably the greatest single cause of what many women call "bad luck" with nylon hose. Actually, \_\_\_\_\_ declares (the clothing specialists declare), it is not bad luck but a case of poor judgment. Stockings of 15-denier weight should be worn for dress only; 30-denier for shopping, business and general wear; 40- or 60-denier for housework, sportswear and other heavy duty.

To get extra value from nylon stockings, buy two pairs alike, \_\_\_\_\_ advises (the clothing specialists advise). Then odd stockings from either pair can be matched.

-jbn-

Cooperative Extension Work in Agriculture and Home Economics, University of Minnesota, Agricultural Extension Service and U. S. Department of Agriculture Cooperating, Paul E. Miller, Director. Published in furtherance of Agricultural Extension Acts of May 8 and June 30, 1914.

News Bureau  
University Farm  
St. Paul 1 Minnesota  
April 4 1950

To all counties

EAR-MARK PIGS -  
PICK BEST GILTS

Pigs are like fish. By the time you can tell the best ones, they are getting too big and active to catch easily.

That's why County Agent \_\_\_\_\_ recommends ear-notching spring pigs now, while they're still small. Then next fall, you'll be able to pick the best gilts and boars for breeding stock.

\_\_\_\_\_ prefers marking all the pigs.

You can notch just the best litters. But, by the time you are sure which are the good ones, the pigs may be too old or too active to catch easily.

H. G. Zavoral, U Farm extension livestock specialist, also favors marking all pigs. Ear-marking pigs while they are still with the sow gives you a chance to consider her milking ability, temperament and litter size.

"Some sows are two or three times as profitable as the average," Zavoral says. "Pigs from good sows will gain up to one-half pound more per day than those from average ones."

\_\_\_\_\_ has a system for marking pigs. Ask him for a copy. Or write the Bulletin Room, University Farm, St. Paul 1, for mimeograph sheet AH-7, "Suggested Systems for Ear-Notching Pigs."

-rr-os-

News Bureau  
University Farm  
St. Paul 1 Minnesota  
April 4 1950

To all counties

NITROGEN AND  
PHOSPHATE BEST  
FOR OAT YIELDS

Nitrogen-phosphate fertilizer produces the best yield of oats on most Minnesota soils.

According to a University of Minnesota study reported today by County Agent \_\_\_\_\_, a combination of nitrogen and phosphate will step up oats yields from 2 to 17 bushels per acre.

The tests, conducted in 1948-49 on nine different soils in 54 fields, showed nitrogen to be the most important single plant food for oats, according to J. M. MacGregor, U Farm soils specialist in charge.

However, nitrogen gave its best return only where there was sufficient phosphate in the soil. Because of this, Extension Soilsman E. R. Duncan recommends that farmers, especially those in western Minnesota, have soil tests made to make sure enough phosphate is present in fields where nitrogen is to be added.

Soil samples can be tested at U Farm. \_\_\_\_\_ has the necessary forms and instructions for taking samples.

In the tests, the increases from nitrogen-phosphate ranged from 2 bushels on Milaca soils to more than 17 bushels on Moody soils. Even so, deficient rainfall limited the response in most areas during the 1948 growing season, according to MacGregor.

For \_\_\_\_\_ county farmers who want to add ready-mixed fertilizer to oats ground, \_\_\_\_\_ suggests a nitrogen-phosphate combination of 10-20-0 applied at 250 pounds per acre. If that isn't available, 250 pounds of 0-20-0, or 100 pounds of 0-45-0 with 75 pounds of ammonium nitrate per acre, will give generally good results.

The fertilizer should be broadcast and worked into the soil before seeding.

-os-#1-

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News Bureau  
University Farm  
St. Paul 1 Minnesota  
April 4, 1950

To all counties

ATT.: 4-H CLUB AGENTS

4-H YOUTH RAISE  
8,000,000 BIRDS

Increasing popularity of the National 4-H Poultry Achievement program throughout the country should mean that \_\_\_\_\_ county boys and girls will enroll in the project in greater numbers and will top last year's record of raising \_\_\_\_\_ birds, according to Club (County) Agent \_\_\_\_\_.

More than 4,500 Minnesota poultry club members produced nearly 415,000 birds in 1949. Four-H'ers in the nation raised a total of 8 million chickens, turkeys, ducks and geese.

Club Agent \_\_\_\_\_ and County Agent \_\_\_\_\_ as well as local 4-H club leaders work with the 4-H'ers enrolled in the project, instructing them in the newest methods and approved practices used in poultry and egg production. Members are encouraged to carry out the six main objectives of the program: to learn the place of poultry in the economy of the farm; acquire skill in poultry raising; assist in production of eggs and fowl; appreciate the nutritive value of eggs; learn to grade and market poultry products; study scientific developments and apply the knowledge to home flock production.

The 4-H'ers keep careful records showing production of birds and eggs, and also general achievements in other phases of club work. At the end of the year these records are judged for special awards which will be provided by Dearborn Motors, program sponsor. Five sterling silver medals will be presented to winners in each county, a trip to the National 4-H Club Congress in Chicago to the state winner and college scholarships of \$300 each to the 10 national champions.

The program in this state is under the direction of the Minnesota Agricultural Extension Service.

-jbn-

News Bureau  
University Farm  
St. Paul 1 Minnesota  
April 4 1950

To all counties  
(Filler for your column)

\* \* \* \* \*  
\* C O L U M N   C O M M E N T S \*  
\*                    from   your                    \*  
\*                    County                    Agent                    \*  
\* \* \* \* \*

Watch for chick cannibalism. It may start showing up now as the weather gets warmer and chicks grow. Cora Cooke, U Farm extension poultry specialist, recommends pulling a range shelter alongside the brooder house. It will provide the extra room needed and allow chicks to get away from heat in the brooder house.

\* \* \* \* \*

Fattening cattle can be fed all the surplus potatoes they will eat. During the Northwest Experiment Station tests, steers were given all the spuds they would clean up twice a day. Some dry roughage, such as oats straw, should be fed. Adding grain is optional.

\* \* \* \* \*

H. L. Parten, U Farm extension entomologist, says to check stored grain for heating. Turn it over with a shovel if it feels hot.

\* \* \* \* \*

Seed size varies in flax. B5128 is the largest of the varieties recommended for Minnesota. Redwing is the smallest. Set your seeding rates so that 25 per cent less Redwing is sown than other varieties.

The same is true of oats. Bonda and Zephyr average 25 per cent heavier than Clinton, Mindo or Ajax. So, use  $2\frac{1}{2}$  bushels of Bonda or Zephyr where you normally seed 2 bushels of the others. Two to  $2\frac{1}{2}$  bushels per acre is about right for Shelby or Andrew.

\* \* \* \* \*

Liquid fertilizer seems to be of little value for treating seed prior to planting. According to Harold Jones, U Farm extension soilsman, tests have shown very little liquid fertilizer can be applied to grain without injuring germination. Such a small amount won't do much good on fertilizer-deficient soils.

\* \* \* \* \*

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## FARM PRICES GAIN IN '50

Average Minnesota farm prices at a post-war low in January, rose slightly during February and March this year, W. C. Waite and Arnold B. Larson, University of Minnesota economists, reported today.

The index for January was 210.2, down three points from the previous low reached in December, 1949.

Steady crop prices and rising livestock prices pushed the index up to 221.1 for March. The index represents the average ups and downs in farm product prices for a current month compared with the average for a corresponding period during 1935-39.

A 6 per cent drop in rye prices from Jan. 15 to Feb. 15 was the greatest single price change during the first quarter of 1950. Other crop prices were generally steady.

Most livestock prices rose during February and March. The rise in the Minnesota farm price index since January is almost entirely due to higher livestock prices.

Prices for livestock products steadied following a drop in January. Milk prices show a steady downward movement through the three-month period.

\* \* \* \* \*

A-7792-OS

## CHILEAN DAIRYMAN VISITS U.

Professor Mario Cornejo, director of the department of cattle and animal health, Chilean minister of agriculture, arrived yesterday (Monday) for a three-day conference with University of Minnesota dairy specialists.

While at the University, Professor Cornejo will study modern milk production and handling methods with W. E. Petersen, professor of dairy husbandry at University Farm.

A-7793-OS

University of Minnesota  
University Farm News  
St. Paul 1, Minnesota  
April 4, 1950

\* \* \* \* \*  
For Release:  
SUNDAY, APRIL 9  
\* \* \* \* \*

#### DIRECTOR OF HOME ECONOMICS RETIRES

Wylle B. McNeal, director of the University of Minnesota's School of Home Economics, will retire July 1 after devoting 27 years at the University to home and family life education for women, Dr. C. H. Bailey, dean and director of the University Department of Agriculture, announced today.

During the period she has headed the home economics work at Minnesota, the number of women receiving bachelor's degrees has increased from 509 to well over 2400. More than 250 women have received advanced degrees.

Development of research and of a professional program for home economics has marked Miss McNeal's directorship. She has been instrumental in adding new courses of study which have opened many doors of opportunity to home economics graduates in addition to teaching. These new curricula now make it possible to combine home economics training with business, journalism or nursery school work. University home economics courses also prepare students for research, hospital dietetics, institutional management and home economics extension teaching.

Expansion in the physical plant during Miss McNeal's career at Minnesota has included the building of two home management houses, the development of a laboratory to teach household equipment and the planning of a \$700,000 addition to the present home economics building.

Before coming to the University of Minnesota in 1923 as chief of what was then known as the division of home economics, Miss McNeal held the position of state supervisor of home economics for the State Department of Education. Previous to that

(MORE)



Add 1 - Wylle McNeal

she had taught at Iowa State College, at Cornell university for a summer session and in the public schools of Greensburg, Kentucky, and St. Petersburg, Florida.

She holds a bachelor's degree from the University of Chicago and a Master's degree from Columbia university.

Her activities in numerous home economics and educational organizations have included attendance at a number of educational conferences in Europe. She has been vice-president of the American Vocational association and several times chairman of the home economics division of the Association of Land Grant Colleges and Universities.

One of Miss McNeal's important contributions to home economics education has been her editorship of the Home Economics series for John Wiley and Sons, Inc., publishers.

Appointment of a new director for the School of Home Economics has not yet been made.

A-7794-JBN

News Bureau  
University Farm  
St. Paul 1 Minnesota  
April 5, 1950

To all counties

NATIONAL HOME DEMONSTRATION WEEK PACK

Use Week of April 30 or earlier

EXTENSION HOME  
PROGRAM IS  
NATIONWIDE

National Home Demonstration Week, April 30-May 6, is an appropriate time to give \_\_\_\_\_ county's program of education for better homemaking special attention, says Home (County) Agent \_\_\_\_\_. Known in Minnesota as the extension home program and in some other states as home demonstration work, it is part of a nationwide home economics program, probably the most far-reaching voluntary educational movement for women.

The extension home program serves as the spearhead of activities in the Agricultural Extension Service that center in making family life on the farm more satisfying and homes more comfortable and efficient.

Women who participate in the program study almost every phase of homemaking and family living. They select from a wide range of topics in the fields of nutrition, food and clothing, home management, home improvement, home furnishings, consumer buying and use of equipment. In Minnesota clothing and food topics were most popular last year. This year groups in \_\_\_\_\_ county are taking \_\_\_\_\_ (name projects)

From a small beginning in 1913, the home demonstration program of the Cooperative Extension Service has grown to the point where more than 3 million women in the United States, Alaska, Puerto Rico and Hawaii are participating.

This home economics educational program is carried into rural homes and communities by county home agents and state specialists, whose services are made available through cooperative action of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, the University of Minnesota and the county. In the county the program is developed jointly by a committee of rural women and the home agent.

\_\_\_\_\_ county is fortunate (not fortunate) in being one of the 56 counties in Minnesota with a home agent. The budget for the extension home program in Minnesota provides for 60 county home agents.

Helping the agents in spreading the home economics information are nearly half a million volunteer local leaders throughout the nation who have been given special training.

Counties without a home agent may want to substitute this last paragraph: (Counties without a home agent can request the services of extension home economics specialists for a few days' work each year. These specialists train leaders of groups who then present the material to their own study groups.)

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University Farm  
St. Paul 1 Minnesota  
April 5, 1950

To all counties

NATIONAL HOME DEMONSTRATION WEEK PACKAGE

Use Week of April 30

LOCAL WOMEN  
PRAISED BY  
STATE LEADER

\_\_\_\_\_ county women who serve as local leaders of groups enrolled in the extension home program are playing a vital part in a nationwide educational movement for women, Dorothy Simmons, state leader in the extension home program for the Minnesota Agricultural Extension Service, said today.

In paying tribute to the local leaders for their contribution to home and community development, Miss Simmons declared, "Only through the assistance of the

\_\_\_\_\_ home and community chairmen and volunteer leaders is it possible to (no. in co.) bring to women in all parts of \_\_\_\_\_ county the latest homemaking information. National Home Demonstration Week, April 30-May 6, is a special salute to you leaders and a recognition of your unselfish service. You are making 'Today's Home Build Tomorrow's World.'"

Home and community chairmen represent their townships in working with the home agent to plan, organize and carry out home demonstration work or, as it is known in Minnesota, the extension home program. Local leaders act as teachers in groups, bringing up-to-date information and recommended practices on different phases of homemaking such as food preparation, clothing and home furnishings. They are trained by Home Agent \_\_\_\_\_ at special sessions before they present their lessons to community groups.

Since there are now \_\_\_\_\_ rural women in this county who are participating in (no.) the home extension program, it is possible for the home agent to carry on her work effectively with such a large number because local women cooperate by acting as volunteer leaders.

\_\_\_\_\_ county women who have served 10 years (or 5) or more as home chairmen or local leaders include: (List names and addresses) -jbn-

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University Farm  
St. Paul 1 Minnesota  
April 5, 1950

To all counties  
NATIONAL HOME DEMONSTRATION WEEK PACKET  
Use if suitable: Week of April 9 or 1

HOME GROUPS TO  
HAVE SPECIAL  
OBSERVANCE

Plans for this county's observance of National Home Demonstration Week April 30-May 6 will include an Achievement Day program (or substitute whatever else you have planned), Home Agent \_\_\_\_\_ announced today.

\_\_\_\_\_ county's annual Achievement Day, which will highlight the week's observance, will feature \_\_\_\_\_.

(Fill in details here. Say whether the feature is a tea, a program, recognition of work done by the women, etc.)

The (exhibit, tea, program) will be held in \_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_  
(building) (city)

on \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_. Special guests will be \_\_\_\_\_.  
(date) (time)

During the week exhibits will be displayed (where) showing the work that is being done by women enrolled in the extension home program,  
\_\_\_\_\_ said.

Committees in charge of the special activities for Home Demonstration Week are: (list names with township)

NOTE: Adapt this story to fit your local situation. If you have already announced plans and committees, disregard it. We can supply mats of the state specialists at any time.

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News Bureau  
University Farm  
St. Paul 1 Minnesota  
April 5, 1950

To all counties  
NATIONAL HOME DEMONSTRATION WEEK PACKAGE  
Use Week of April 23

WOMEN IMPROVE  
HOMES THROUGH  
EXTENSION PROGRAM

More than \_\_\_\_\_ homemakers in \_\_\_\_\_ county will be  
(No. enrolled in home groups. Use round numbers.)  
among the three million women in the United States and its territories who will  
receive a special salute during National Home Demonstration Week April 30-May 6.

They will be given recognition during the week for their active participation in the home economics educational program, known in Minnesota as the extension home program, sponsored by the Federal, state and county Agricultural Extension Services.

Theme for the week, appropriately enough, will be "Today's Home Builds Tomorrow's World." The achievements of these rural homemakers in improving their own homes and communities, making family life more satisfying and developing a better understanding of national and international affairs are impressive.

During the past year nearly 65,000 homemakers in Minnesota have made their homes more pleasant, more comfortable or more efficient because of new techniques and practices they have learned through the extension home program. Many of these homemakers have improved family diets and learned proper methods of food preservation; others have learned to buy more wisely; still others have been given help in remodeling kitchens so they will save steps and be attractive places in which to work. Many have learned how to refinish and upholster furniture and how to plan effective color schemes in the home; thousands of women have been given assistance in making their own clothes.

While projects carried by groups enrolled in the extension home program vary from time to time, during the past year homemakers in \_\_\_\_\_ county have devoted their time to \_\_\_\_\_.  
(mention projects here)

Any rural woman may take part in the extension home program. For information about this year's program and how to enroll, see Home Agent \_\_\_\_\_ in the County Extension Office in \_\_\_\_\_.

University Farm News  
University of Minnesota  
University Farm  
St. Paul 1, Minnesota  
April 5, 1950

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\* For release: Wednesday, April 12 \*  
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*File*

4-H'ERS CONGRATULATED BY GOVERNOR

(with mat)

Justine Oliver, 17-year-old 4-H girl from Winnebago, was congratulated by Governor Luther Youngdahl when she won a \$200 scholarship and the state championship in the eighth annual 4-H radio speaking contest recently. Looking on (left) is Anita Erickson, 18, Goodhue, who was reserve champion for the second year in succession.

Approximately 800 4-H and Rural Youth members from all but two counties in Minnesota took part in the statewide event, speaking on "Peace of Mind - How Can I Attain It?" The Minnesota Agricultural Extension Service, in cooperation with the Minnesota Jewish Council, sponsored the contest.

News Bureau  
University Farm  
St. Paul 1 Minnesota  
April 5, 1950

To all counties  
NATIONAL HOME DEMONSTRATION WEEK PACK

Use Week of April 30

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University Farm News  
University of Minnesota  
St. Paul 1, Minnesota  
April 6, 1950

Immediate Release

#### H.E.A. DAY APRIL 15

Home economics students at the University of Minnesota will hold their fifteenth annual Home Economics Day Saturday, April 15 on the St. Paul campus.

Theme of the event will be "Twenty-seven years of progress," honoring Wylle B. McNeal who has been director of the School of Home Economics at the University for that period of time.

Activities will begin with a luncheon at 12 o'clock, prepared and served by home economics students in the Agricultural School dining room. Exhibits featuring all fields of home economics will open at 1 o'clock in the home economics building. At a style show at 2:30 p.m. in Green Hall auditorium, students will model clothes they have made in home economics classes and clothes of the "flapper" era. Tea will be served from 3:30 - 5:00 p.m. in the Fireplace Room of the home economics building.

Guests at Home Economics Day will be mothers of University home economics students and girls from high schools in and near the Twin Cities. Activities are open to the public, however, according to Carolyn Nawrocki, 3314-37th avenue South, Minneapolis, general chairman for the event.

Reservations for the luncheon should be sent to Marion Blesi, St. Paul campus.

A-7795-JBN

University Farm News  
University of Minnesota  
St. Paul 1, Minnesota  
April 6, 1950

Immediate Release

#### MINN. FIFTH IN D.H.I.A. WORK

Minnesota now has the strongest dairy herd improvement program it has ever had, Ramer Leighton, University Farm extension dairyman reported today.

On January 1, Minnesota, with 111 Dairy Herd Improvement Associations, ranked fifth in the nation for number of operating organizations. Since then, five new associations have been organized, bringing the total to 116, Leighton, state D.H.I.A. supervisor, said.

The state also ranks fifth in number of herds on test, a position it has held for the last three years. The associations employ 121 test-supervisors to carry out the testing program on 2,800 dairy herds, totaling more than 48,000 cows.

Gains in the number of herds on test and in the number of cows per herd place Minnesota in a very favorable position compared to other major dairying states, Leighton reported.

For the nation as a whole, there were 1,973 associations with more than 1,000,000 cows operating on January 1, this year, according to the United States Department of Agriculture's bureau of dairy industry.

California, with 181,343 cows on test, leads in number of cows being tested.

New York, with 4,271 herds on standard test, leads in number of herds being tested.

A-7796-OS

University Farm News  
University of Minnesota  
St. Paul 1, Minnesota  
April 6, 1950

\* \* \* \* \*  
For release Sunday  
April 9  
\* \* \* \* \*

FARMER - SPORTSMEN PICKED

Four Minnesota farmers were named today state Farmer-Sportsmen for 1950.

The four, picked for their superior farming, community leadership and promotion of better farmer-sportsmen relations, are Ancher Nelson, Hutchinson, A. L. Long, Clearbrook, Melvin Johnson, Littlefork, and Robert Piper, Faribault.

Selection was by a committee of conservatists, agricultural officials and sportsmen from a field of 71 candidates. Entries, made by county agents, county commissioners, conservationists and sportsmen clubs, came from 44 counties.

The state winners will be awarded certificates of achievement for "their outstanding program of soil and water conservation and wildlife preservation" at at the Northwest Sports, Travel and Boat Show in Minneapolis next Sunday (April 16).

Presentation will be by Dean C. H. Bailey, University of Minnesota director of agriculture. Week-end vacations and gifts will also be given the farmers and their wives by F. W. (Nick) Kahler, show manager.

Twelve district winners, three from each of four soil and game cover areas of the state, were also named.

They included Hugh C. Crane, Good Thunder, Ingolf A. Kamrud, Starbuck, and Arthur Glaeser, Gibbon, for the South West district; Moffat Weaver, Park Rapids, Harold G. Johnson, Farwell, and Hans Solberg, Thief River Falls, North West District.

Clifford Olson, Tamarack, Robert Holman, Burtrum and Earl Jamison, Sandstone, North East district; Clair Hatlevig, Lanesboro, Edward Bremer, Lake City, and

(more)

Add 1 Farmer-Sportsmen

Bernard Wachholz, Lewiston, South East district.

Nelson, selected from the South West cash grain and open prairie wildlife cover area, is a state senator. A progressive farmer, he is past president of the Minnesota Game Protective League. He is the first former 4-H club member to be elected to the state legislature, and has been very active in community, county and state affairs.

Long represents the rich farming land and prairie area of the Red River Valley and northwestern Minnesota. An ardent supporter of youth programs, he has long been a leader in farm and community activities. Now president of the Clearbrook Rod and Gun club, he helped introduce pheasants to Clearwater county.

Johnson was selected from the cutover farming and timber cover area of northeastern Minnesota. A modern-day pioneer, he built a farm from the forest in 16 years. An advocate of proper timber management, he uses a flushing bar on mowers to avoid destroying nesting birds in hay fields. Johnson is a member of the "Keep Minnesota Green" advisory committee.

Piper, from the rolling hay and pasture area of southeastern Minnesota, won over the stiffest district competition of the 1950 contest. He competed with 25 district contestants, according to Paul Burson, University Farm soil testing lab head and chairman of the selection committee.

A progressive farmer, Piper has helped protect and propagate upland game by fencing livestock out of natural cover areas. He is a member of the Faribault county Isaak Walton League.

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University Farm News  
University of Minnesota  
St. Paul 1, Minnesota  
April 11, 1950

Immediate Release

#### LP-GAS SCHOOL NEXT WEEK

A new feature is being added to the liquid petroleum gas service school scheduled for University Farm next week, A. M. Flikke, program chairman, said today.

The new addition is a fully equipped and staffed trouble-shooting appliance laboratory. It will be set up on the State Fair grounds to give students actual servicing and adjustment training to supplement their classroom training.

The school will be held April 17 - 19. It is being conducted by the University of Minnesota in cooperation with the LP-Gas industry. University and industrial technicians will serve as instructors.

From two to three hundred LP-Gas employees who service rural and small town communities are expected to attend

The men will receive the latest technical, service and commercial developments for more efficient and profitable operation of liquid petroleum equipment, according to Flikke, agricultural engineer at University Farm.

A-7798-RR

University Farm News  
University of Minnesota  
St. Paul 1, Minnesota  
April 11, 1950

Immediate Release

#### SOILS MAN TO TVA CONFAB

E. R. Duncan, University of Minnesota extension soils specialist, will attend a national Tennessee Valley Authority conference April 17 to 22.

The meeting will be at Tyler, Texas.

State TVA fertilizer test demonstration supervisor, Duncan will represent Minnesota at the conference. Some 30 cooperating states from outside the Tennessee valley will be represented.

The TVA program for testing high analysis phosphate fertilizers is now in its tenth year. Over 250 Minnesota farmers have cooperated in the project to find effects of high analysis fertilizers on crop stands, yields and quality since the state entered the program in 1940.

Duncan will present an illustrated talk on how the benefits of crop rotations are explained to Minnesota farmers at the conference.

A-7799-RR



University Farm News  
University of Minnesota  
St. Paul 1, Minnesota  
April 11, 1950

Immediate Release

#### HONEY IS GOOD BUY

Honey rates as one of the good food buys this month and is on the list of plentiful foods, C. D. Floyd, state apiarist, reminded consumers today. It has also been included on the U. S. Department of Agriculture list of abundant foods for May.

At least one-third of the honey from last year's crop is still in the producers' hands. Since honey does not deteriorate, it is not too late to obtain honey of excellent quality, Floyd said.

Since Minnesota ranks first in the nation in honey production, Floyd suggested that homemakers help observe Honey for Breakfast Week (April 9-16) by serving honey to the family often this week.

Most of the honey produced in Minnesota is clover honey, which is light in color. "No state in the nation produces such an abundance of mild-flavored honey," Floyd said. Last year Minnesota produced 27 million pounds of honey, or nearly a tenth of the nation's total crop of 300 million pounds.

Floyd had these tips for homemakers on using honey:

- To melt honey that has granulated, place the jar in a pan of water not over 130°F. until it is clear. Overheating will destroy the flavor. Many people, however, prefer to use honey as a spread in its granulated form.

- For successful use of honey in baking, use honey recipes. Don't try to substitute honey for other sweetening in ordinary recipes.

News Bureau  
University Farm  
St. Paul 1 Minnesota  
April 11 1950

To all counties  
(Filler for your column)

\*\*\*\*\*  
\* C O L U M N   C O M M E N T S \*  
\*                    from your       \*  
\*                    County       Agent       \*  
\*\*\*\*\*

Ammonium nitrate can be used to advantage on stony, hard-to-renovate pastures. Paul Burson, U Farm soil testing lab head, says to broadcast the fertilizer any time through April. Or even later, this year.

Commercial nitrogen, such as 33-0-0 at 100 to 150 pounds per acre, will increase the yield of hay or pasture forage.

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Check hybrid tea roses, when spring finally gets here. First remove the straw, then the soil covering little by little as the weather warms up. L. C. Snyder, U Farm extension horticulturist, says to leave straw on strawberries just as long as possible. Uncover the plants before they start to turn yellow.

Planting and remodeling around the farmstead makes you eligible for the Extension Service-WNAX farmstead improvement contest. See me for details.

\*\*\*\*\*

Farmers may extend their loans on 1949-crop farm-stored wheat, corn, oats, barley, grain sorghums, rye and flaxseed, under a resealing program announced by PMA April 3. They may also put the same purchase agreement 1949 crops under farm-storage loans.

\*\*\*\*\*

Now's the time to cut new fence posts. Posts to be treated with wood preservative must first be peeled. Marvin Smith, U Farm extension forester, says posts peel easiest when new tree leaves are "about the size of a mouse's ear."

An ideal schedule is to cut, peel, and stack posts in the spring, allowing the summer months for seasoning. By treating them before cold weather next fall, you will then have a supply of long-lasting posts for fencing work next spring.

-rr-

News Bureau  
University Farm  
St. Paul 1 Minnesota  
April 11 1950

To all counties

FOR: HOME AGENTS

CHOOSE COMFORT  
BEFORE STYLE IN  
CHILD'S CLOTHES

Consider comfort and allow for growth when planning the children's wardrobe this spring and summer, advises Home Agent \_\_\_\_\_.

Some of the most satisfactory children's clothes on the market today have been designed by parents who have watched the child's activities and know the importance of room for stooping, shoulder straps that stay up and fasteners that are easy to manage. When buying or making clothes for children, take a tip from these parents and watch for styles which allow for freedom in play, \_\_\_\_\_ suggests.

Too tight clothes interfere with play and affect a child's disposition. On the other hand, the growing boy or girl should not be made self-conscious because clothes are too large or too long, advises Athelene Scheid, extension clothing specialist at the University of Minnesota.

An understanding mother uses tucks, wide hems, turned-up cuffs and adjustable suspenders when it is necessary to purchase or make garments which will last several years.

New spring styles for children feature raglan sleeves and cardigan-style jackets, both desirable for youngsters, Miss Scheid says. Raglan sleeves are comfortable and allow for growth more than the regular set-in sleeve. The cardigan jacket is free of a collar which is often in the child's way.

-jbn-

News Bureau  
University Farm  
St. Paul 1 Minnesota  
April 11 1950

To all counties

LEGUMES IMPROVE  
PASTURE GRAZING

Adding legumes can step up grazing returns from \_\_\_\_\_ county pastures, says County Agent \_\_\_\_\_.

"Farmers wanting higher production from bluegrass, bromegrass, or meadow fescue can get it by seeding legumes this spring," \_\_\_\_\_ said today.

The job should be started now, before the grass begins to grow. Otherwise, the sod gets too tough to work easily. A few days of early grazing will be lost, but they will be made up during the "summer slump" when grass normally doesn't grow too well.

Here are the suggestions of University Farm extension soilsman E. R. Duncan for successful pasture rebuilding:

1. Add lime, if necessary, and fertilize as needed. Follow soil test results which can be gotten by sending samples to University Farm.
2. Go over the field twice with a disc. Begin as soon as machinery can operate. Then tear all the sod loose with a spring tooth harrow or cultivator.
3. Disc again and drag to smooth the seedbed. Don't skimp on preparation. A firm, mellow seedbed is your best insurance against a thin, patchy stand.
4. Pack the seedbed, if a cultipacker is available.
5. Seed a legume mixture suited to your soil conditions. See County Agent \_\_\_\_\_ for the best mixture for your farm.
6. Give the new seeding a chance. Keep the renovated area fenced so grazing can be controlled.

In general, 5 pounds per acre of alfalfa and 4 of sweet clover makes a good mixture for non-acid, limed and well drained soils. Five pounds per acre of red clover and 2 of alsike clover is recommended for poorly drained soils.

Oats may also be seeded for June pasture, says \_\_\_\_\_. If added, oats rates should be held to 1 - 1½ bushels per acre.

\_\_\_\_\_ has a revised bulletin, "Legumes and Grass Mixtures," which will help answer questions on legume-grass mixtures, seeding rates and combinations for specific regions of the state. Ask him for Extension Folder 62.

-rr-os-

Cooperative Extension Work in Agriculture and Home Economics, University of Minnesota, Agricultural Extension Service and U. S. Department of Agriculture Cooperating, Paul E. Miller, Director. Published in furtherance of Agricultural Extension Acts of May 8 and June 30, 1914.

News Bureau  
University Farm  
St. Paul 1 Minnesota  
April 11, 1950

To all counties

ATT: 4-H CLUB AND HOME  
AGENTS

4-H'ERS INCREASE  
ACTIVITIES IN  
IMPROVING HOMES

With \_\_\_\_\_ county farm families giving more consideration to the comfort and beauty of their homes, the National 4-H Home Improvement program should take on new importance this year, says Club (Home) Agent \_\_\_\_\_.

Enrollment in the 4-H Home Improvement program, now in its fourth year, increased almost 15,000 throughout the nation in 1949. In Minnesota some 1,700 club members will take part in the 1950 program, according to the State Extension office which conducts the activity.

Club and Home (County Extension) agents, along with local club leaders, give demonstrations, prepare displays and instruct 4-H boys and girls in phases of home improvement. Members who become skilled in some particular job such as upholstering, floor sanding or working with color also give demonstrations. In numerous cases enthusiasm shown by their sons and daughters inspires parents to cooperate in carrying out long-range plans to make their homes more livable, \_\_\_\_\_ says.

A favorite starting place for girls - and boys, as well - has been their own bedrooms. With a little ingenuity, some hard work, a few cans of paint and bright new fabrics, they have worked wonders. Many club members who have been active in the home improvement project during the past few years are now skilled in renovating old furniture and redecorating. Others have done carpentry work building closets, cupboards and bookshelves.

Again this year outstanding accomplishments in home improvement will be recognized. College scholarships will be awarded to the eight top-ranking 4-H'ers in the nation. The state champion will be given a trip to the National 4-H Club congress and county winners will receive medals.

Last year state honor in home improvement went to Richard Pribnow, St. Paul. Medals were presented to 202 county winners in Minnesota. -jbn-

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Cooperative Extension Work in Agriculture and Home Economics, University of Minnesota, Agricultural Extension Service and U. S. Department of Agriculture Cooperating, Paul E. Miller, Director. Published in furtherance of Agricultural Extension Acts of May 8 and June 30, 1914.

News Bureau  
University Farm  
St. Paul 1 Minnesota  
April 11 1950

To all counties

SOIL TESTS NIX?  
CHECK SAMPLING

"Soil tests are no good. I sent in two samples taken one foot apart and got completely different results."

One Minnesota farmer told Paul Burson, University Farm soil testing lab head, that last fall.

That farmer was half right, according to Burson. He did get different results. But it wasn't because the tests were no good. Manure or a partially rotted windrow of hay might have lain over the one spot. Or weeds may have been burned in one place and not the other. Or, one sample may have come from an old gopher mound.

"Checking up" on the soil tests, as that farmer did, serves to illustrate a very important point Burson has been stressing --- to take soil from several different spots to make up a composite sample for the laboratory.

Burson recommends samples be taken now. Fields are dry enough for sampling as soon as "you can take a spade and get a good slice to plow depth," he told County Agent \_\_\_\_\_ this week. Samples high in moisture can be air dried in the farm kitchen, or oven dried at the laboratory.

Burson promises from 7 to 10 day service on samples sent in immediately.

\_\_\_\_\_ says to see him or one of the \_\_\_\_\_ county soil depots for sample containers and information sheets. Depots are located at (FILL IN THE LOCATIONS OF THE DEPOTS IN YOUR COUNTY).

Instructions for taking composite samples are on the information sheets.

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University Farm News  
University of Minnesota  
St. Paul 1, Minnesota  
April 11, 1950

Immediate Release

#### MILLER TO HELP WRITE ECA REPORT

P. E. Miller, University of Minnesota agricultural extension service director, has been selected to help write the report for the Organization for European Economic Cooperation mission now being completed.

Miller reported from Paris, France, today of his selection as the United States representative on the official drafting committee.

He has been in Europe several months as a member of a three-man agricultural committee surveying Marshall Plan countries. The surveys, covering most of Western Europe, are designed to raise farm efficiency through better agricultural extension methods.

Germany, Belgium-Luxembourg and Ireland have been toured by Miller, together with European agriculturists.

He expects to complete the report the last of April.

In a recent Paris interview, Miller reported the German extension service to be aiding "farming community groups" in drawing up their agricultural programs. Germany is faced with the problem of "too small, too fragmented farms for efficient production," he said.

Extension work in Belgium is being carried on, to a great extent, by farm organizations. Irish extension service could be increased by using group approach methods, he feels.

In county Kilarney, Miller said, the Government is experimenting with an expanded extension service with one worker for every 300 farmers. In other counties, each advisor must serve about 2,000 farmers.

University Farm News  
University of Minnesota  
St. Paul 1, Minnesota  
April 13, 1950

Special to FARM BUREAU NEWS

### TASTING AND TESTING

#### Homemakers benefit from food freezing results

Eating is fun for most everyone and a menu including frozen foods is a special treat.

The eating is only one part of the frozen food story, however; many homemakers freeze their own products and store them in a home locker or in a community freezer locker. They want information on how best to freeze fruits, vegetables, meats and other foods, and are interested in how long these frozen estables will remain flavorful and appetizing.

The University Frozen Foods Laboratory, in the Horticulture Building on the St. Paul campus, is the scene of constant testing so that homemakers and locker plant operators may be kept up-to-date on the latest developments in frozen food processing.

Bulletins giving results of research are prepared regularly, and staff members who want information on any phase of home freezing are welcome to call the laboratory at any time.

The laboratory, which is under the direction of James D. Winter, associate professor of Horticulture, has been functioning for 12 years, and has been used in close cooperation with the Divisions of Agricultural Engineering, Animal and Poultry Husbandry and Home Economics.



Working with Mr. Winter is Shirley Johnson, research asistant, who handles the food processing and specializes in ready-to-eat foods.

At the present time, experiments are being conducted in the laboratory to determine the effect of different types of wrapping and packaging materials on the quality of fruits, vegetables, fish, poultry and meat when stored at 0°F. Zero degrees or lower is the most desirable storage temperature for most products, as their quality deteriorates rapidly at higher temperatures.

According to Mr. Winter, these experiments are most important, because "the kind of packaging used is one of the major factors in the retention of quality in frozen foods."

Several packaging materials such as aluminum foil and polyethylene (a plastic material) have been found to give better protection than ordinary waxed locker paper.

"We don't recommend the use of waxed locker papers except for short periods of storage—not over two months," says Mr. Winter.

Another project underway at the laboratory is the study of how adaptable to freezing are different varieties of fruits and vegetables. Recently, approximately 75 varieties of strawberries grown and put up for freezing by the University Fruit Breeding Farm were tested by laboratory personnel. Only 12 of the 75 varieties showed promise of being adapted to freezing.

Frozen fruits have become very popular during the past few years, because more eye appeal and flavor is retained by freezing than by any other method of preservation. No heat is used in processing fruits for freezing—they are packed either in sugar or in a cold sugar syrup.

Vegetables are scalded in a special kettle for a certain length of time before freezing. After prompt cooling they are placed in the freezer with the least possible delay in order to retain the most nutritive values. Overscalded vegetables tend to lose vitamins and color.

All sorts of baked goods also are frozen at the laboratory. From the standpoint of time, work and final results, Miss Johnson finds it best to bake most products before freezing. A specific reason for this is that in some cases freezing destroys the rising capacity of yeast and baking powders.

Another phase of the laboratory's research is devoted to freezing foods which have already been cooked. A staff member recently demonstrated the advantage of such foods by preparing a "pre-cooked" meal in 20 minutes—from freezer to table.

The menu included mock chicken legs, stuffed baked potatoes, garden fresh cauliflower and asparagus, cranberry salad, butter flake rolls and graham cracker ice cream pie.

Daily judging panels are conducted at the laboratory with Mr. Winter presiding. At these panels foods which have been frozen are graded on color, texture and palatability. Dr. Andrew Hustrulid, professor of agricultural engineering, is a regular member of the panels and has been of great assistance to the work of the laboratory.

COOPERATIVE EXTENSION WORK  
IN  
AGRICULTURE AND HOME ECONOMICS  
STATE OF MINNESOTA

University Department of Agriculture  
U. S. Department of Agriculture  
County Extension Services  
Cooperating

Agricultural Extension Service  
University Farm  
St. Paul 1 Minnesota  
April 10 1950

TO: Agricultural Agents  
Home Agents

This is the third and final year of the Agricultural Extension Service-WNAX FARMSTEAD IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM. It will follow the same general rules as the past two years. The same score card is being used again.

In addition to the county and state awards, two year and three year regional winners will be picked this year.

Attached are three stories for your use in publicizing the Farmstead Improvement Program. Use the stories as you wish. Others will be sent you later from this office, if you have need for additional releases.

A resume of the enrollment and awards rules follows:

1. Length of contest: Three years, July 1, 1947--June 30, 1950
2. Continuation of enrollments: All enrollments will be carried forward into succeeding years unless the family requests otherwise.
3. Annual Awards: All county and state awards are on an annual basis only. There are no county or state awards on a two year or a three year basis.
4. Two Year and Three Year Awards: Two special awards will be made on a regional basis (Nebraska, Iowa, North Dakota, South Dakota, Minnesota).
  - a. Two Year Award: Open to anyone who was registered for both of the last two years, covering progress made between July 1, 1948 and June 30, 1950. Award -- \$2,000 in merchandise.
  - b. Three Year Award: Open to anyone who was registered for each of the three years, covering progress made during the three year period, July 1, 1947 to June 30, 1950. Award -- \$3,000 in merchandise.

Exception: The two year and the three year winners cannot be the same family.

Robert G. Rupp  
Information Specialist

RGR:RE  
Enc.

LAST YEAR FOR  
FARMSTEAD  
IMPROVEMENT

This is the last year of the \$5,000 state and regional Farmstead Improvement Program, County Agent \_\_\_\_\_ reminded \_\_\_\_\_ county farmers today.

The program, jointly sponsored by the Minnesota Agricultural Extension Service and radio station WNAX, Yankton, will complete its third year this summer.

County and state winners will be picked, as in former years.

In addition, a \$2,000 farm merchandise award will be given the regional winner from Minnesota, Nebraska, Iowa, North or South Dakota who has made the greatest over-all improvement in his buildings and grounds during the last two years.

A \$3,000 farm merchandise prize will be awarded the regional winner for the best improvement job during the entire length of the program, from 1947 to this year.

There are nearly 200 Minnesota farm families eligible for the three year competition, according to S. B. Cleland, chairman of the state Extension Service improvement program. About 100 additional families are eligible for the two year competition, he estimates.

All \_\_\_\_\_ county farm families re-entering the contest are eligible to compete for the regional prizes. Those entering for the first time can compete for a \$50 county and a \$1,000 state award.

Any improvements made around the farm either for convenience or appearance of the home, the yard or buildings, can be used in the program. Competition is open to any family whether they rent or own their farm.

Entries for families entering for the first time must be submitted to \_\_\_\_\_ by June 30.

\_\_\_\_\_ asks that interested farmers and homemakers see him for additional information and entry blanks.

COMPLETE FARM  
IMPROVEMENT  
PLANS IN '50

Long-time farm and home improvements should be nearing completion for those \_\_\_\_\_ county farmers entered in the Minnesota Farmstead Improvement Program, County Agent \_\_\_\_\_ said today.

Farmers now in their second or third year of the \$5,000 Improvement Program should complete plans for lawn, shrub and shelterbelt beautification projects this final year.

\_\_\_\_\_ recommends they coordinate their entire improvement project carefully for long-time, lasting beauty. Location of shelterbelts for greatest protection, clean-up of yards and in buildings for greater safety, and convenient location of lanes and drives for greater efficiency must all be considered for the best permanent improvement.

Farmers who plan to enter the contest for the second year will compete for a 5-state regional prize of \$2,000 in farm merchandise. Those who will complete their third consecutive year are eligible for a \$3,000 regional prize. The region includes Minnesota, North and South Dakota, Iowa, and Nebraska.

The contest is also open to \_\_\_\_\_ county farmers on a one year basis. A county winner will be picked to receive a \$50 merchandise award, if five farm families enter the local contest. One state winner will be selected from county winners for additional honors and a prize of \$1,000 in farm merchandise.

The program is sponsored by the state Agricultural Extension Service in cooperation with radio station WNAX, Yankton. See \_\_\_\_\_ for additional information and entry blanks. Entries must be made by June 30.

CHECK LIVESTOCK  
BUILDING NEEDS

A shift to more grass and hay this year will mean an increase in livestock numbers for many \_\_\_\_\_ county farmers.

Such an increase may add new problems for those farmers who now have limited livestock housing facilities.

For farmers who are planning to build sheds or barns this year, County Agent \_\_\_\_\_ recommends the use of Extension Service Building Plans. Sheds and barns adapted for Minnesota conditions have been studied by Agricultural Engineers and instructions for modern buildings are available in bulletins and pamphlets.

All \_\_\_\_\_ county farmers who are making improvements in their buildings or grounds this spring are eligible to enter the current Farmstead Improvement contest.

Any improvements, either in the home or on the yard or buildings, can be used in the farmstead improvement program being sponsored by the Minnesota Agricultural Extension Service in cooperation with radio station WMAX, Yankton.

The program is now in its third year. Competition is open to any family, whether they rent or own their farm.

Farmers entering for the first time may compete for county merchandise prizes of \$50, and a state award of \$1,000 in merchandise.

Those who entered the contest last year may compete with farmers from Iowa, Nebraska, North and South Dakota for a two-year regional award of \$2,000. Those completing their third year are eligible for a 5-state \$3,000 regional award.

\_\_\_\_\_ asked that farmers planning to enter this year's contest see him for entry cards and additional information. Entries for the contest must be made by June 30.

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Immediate Release

#### LATE SPRING MAY CUT CROP YIELDS

This late, cold spring may prove a double-barreled headache to Minnesota farmers before their 1950 grain crop is in the bin, a University of Minnesota soils specialist, predicted today.

It will probably mean a poorer yield at harvest time next fall, thinks Harold Jones, extension soilsman. And farmers will have more weeds to fight this summer.

Farmers, already from two to three weeks behind schedule, will begin working fields while the soil is still wet. They'll be too rushed to do a good job of seedbed preparation. That will cut their chances for best stands of sprouting grain.

More weeds will be on hand to plague the farmer later because the weather has been too cold for weed seed already in the soil to germinate before seedbed preparation starts.

Jones suggests farmers use plenty of nitrogen fertilizer on small grain and corn this spring. Nitrogen will give an added boost to early growth, thus helping push late-planted crops along toward normal maturity.

Total fertilizer response may be less than normal this year, however, he thinks. Lack of moisture reserves in the soil will probably prevent normal "carry through" of fertilized crops.

Fertilizers containing 20 to 25 pounds of nitrogen per acre, in combination with phosphate (200 to 250 pounds of 10-20-0) are recommended for small grains. Ten pounds of nitrogen, plus phosphate and potash (150 pounds of 5-20-10) is suggested for corn.

University Farm tests show broadcasting the fertilizer and working it into the soil before seeding is best for small grains. Placing it to the side and at seed depth has been found best for corn.

Exact fertilizer requirements for specific crops can best be determined by soil tests, Jones said.

A-7802-RR

University Farm News  
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April 13, 1950

Immediate Release

#### TIPS ON SELECTING SHRUBS

When selecting shrubs this spring, choose varieties which are adapted to Minnesota conditions and fitted to specific locations on the grounds.

Home owners will get satisfaction from the shrubs they plant if they take these points into consideration when buying, L. C. Snyder, extension horticulturist at the University of Minnesota, said today.

Many yards are ruined by planting shrubs in the center of the lawn, according to the University horticulturist. Shrubs are most suitable for two locations: the foundation and border plantings.

Evergreens are probably the best shrubs for the foundation planting, Snyder said. However, for home owners who find them too expensive, flowering shrubs make an effective planting.

Exposure of the house should be considered in choosing shrubs. For south and west exposures, Snyder recommends junipers. Small varieties like the low-creeping junipers should be used under windows. Mugho pine is useful next to the steps. The pyramidal forms of red cedar and Rocky Mountain juniper are among the best of the tall upright evergreens to use at the corners.

For the east side of the house, Snyder suggests Siberian arborvitae.

For a northern exposure, yews will prove most shade tolerant. The Hemlock will also withstand shade but is not too long-lived in this area.

Varieties of flowering shrubs selected for the foundation planting should be compact in growth and fine textured in foliage. Alpine currant, dwarf ninebark, Japanese barberry and bush cinquefoil are low-growing and, hence, suitable for use under windows. At the corners of the house larger shrubs such as Zabel honeysuckle, Chinese lilac, Wahoo and winged Euonymus are appropriate.

The same shrubs can be used in border plantings.

Many people, Snyder said, have poor foundation plantings because they make these mistakes:

- Fail to enrich the soil.
- Plant shrubs too close to the house. They should be at least  $2\frac{1}{2}$  to 3 feet from the foundation.
- Plant shrubs in sod. An area at least 5-6 feet from the house should be dug up and kept clean cultivated.

A-7803-JBN



University Farm News  
University of Minnesota  
St. Paul 1, Minnesota  
April 13, 1950

Immediate Release

#### TWIN CITIES EAT MORE BUTTER

Families in the Twin Cities eat an average of a pound and a quarter of butter a week.

They are bigger butter eaters than people in many other cities, according to the Bureau of Human Nutrition and Home Economics, U. S. Department of Agriculture, which has conducted studies of city family eating habits in all parts of the country and at all income levels.

Minneapolis-St. Paul households, according to the Bureau's findings in 1948, use about three and a half times as much butter as Birmingham, Alabama families, though Birmingham households use more of all kinds of fats and oils. Families in Birmingham use only a third of a pound of butter a week. Butter purchases by families in San Francisco amount to almost three-quarters of a pound and in Buffalo to a pound a week.

Almost all families in the Twin Cities used butter, compared with only two-thirds of the city families throughout the country.

Consumption of butter is usually affected by family income, according to Inez Hobart, extension nutritionist at the University of Minnesota. Nation-wide figures show that city families with incomes over \$7,500 used three times as much butter as did families with less than \$1,000 income.

Though butter purchases were larger by the higher- than by the lower-income families in Buffalo and San Francisco, in the Twin Cities and in Birmingham average purchases were much the same for families in all income brackets.

An additional study by the Bureau in Minneapolis-St. Paul in the summer of 1949 among a small number of families showed that most of the butter consumed is used on the table rather than in cooking. A sixth of the total amount was reported used in cooking. Only a tenth of the families surveyed used both butter and margarine during the survey week. The families using both fats consumed an average of a pound of butter and .6 pound of margarine, with the latter largely for cooking.

A-7804-JBN

University Farm News  
University of Minnesota  
St. Paul 1, Minnesota  
April 13, 1950

Immediate Release

#### SWEDISH EXCHANGE STUDENTS COMING

Eight Swedish agricultural exchange students will arrive in Minnesota Saturday (April 15) for a year's farm experience and schooling, Dr. Nils Sahlin, director of the American Swedish Institute, Minneapolis, said today.

The young farmers are expected to arrive by bus from Chicago Saturday evening. They will make the third Swedish group sponsored through the Minnesota-Sweden exchange program.

Names of the eight are Eric Styrbjörn Almquist, 22, from Kalmar, Lars Gustav Jönsson, 25, Byringe, Lars Ulf Henning Henningsson, 23, Vintrie, Sven-Oscar Henningson, 22, and Erik Axel Bergström, 23, Dunker, Nils Benno Olof Skiöld, 24, Norrköping, Erick Ivar Calminder, 24, Bettna, and Jan Wilhelm Hellerström, 24, Nättradby.

All are high school or junior college graduates in agriculture. All have had farm experience.

Monday, after drawing lots for locations, the young "ambassadors of good will," as Sahlin calls them, will go to Minnesota farms for six months actual farming experience. On October 1, they will enter the University of Minnesota school of agriculture, St. Paul, for six months academic training.

Six of the farmers for whom the boys will work this summer are John E. F. Danielson, Detroit Lakes, Berton Larson, Bigelow, Raymond A. Meyers, Walters, Howard W. Crawford, Beaver Creek, Henry Schneider, Alden, and David Woodward, Hawley.

Five Minnesota youths left March 20 for a year in Sweden. A total of eight young Minnesotans have gone to Sweden under the cooperative agreement set up between the St. Paul School of Agriculture, the American Swedish Institute, and the Royal Labor Board in Sweden.

TIMELY TIPS (for May 6)

Don't turn fall and winter calves on pasture this spring. They'll fill up on grass and may refuse the milk and grain they need for good growth.—  
H. R. Searles.

\* \* \* \* \*

Keep little pigs off contaminated pasture to reduce trouble from worms, necro, or other filth-borne diseases.—H. G. Zavoral.

\* \* \* \* \*

Fertilize fruit trees now. Apply one-third pound of ammonium nitrate for each inch in diameter of the trunk. Spring rains will wash the fertilizer in,—  
L. C. Snyder

\* \* \* \* \*

Better legume stands can be gotten when the small grain companion crop is pastured off. Begin pasturing when the companion crop is 8 to 10 inches high and the field is dry.—H. E. Jones.

\* \* \* \* \*

Price of market lambs should hold up until early June. It's still good business to push early lambs.—George Wisdom.

\* \* \* \* \*

Not enough insulation may be why your poultry house was damp last winter. Adding more now will keep the house cooler this summer as well as provide comfortable protection next winter.—H. J. Sloan

(MORE)

Add 1 - Timely Tips

A cow can produce one pound of butterfat a day on good pasture alone. Take care of your pasture. Don't turn on too early, and follow ~~the~~ improvement practices. See your county agent for renovation methods.—Ralph W. Wayne.

\* \* \* \* \*

Use plenty of nitrogen fertilizer on small grain and corn this spring. Nitrogen will give an added boost to early growth and help push late-planted crops along toward normal maturity.—H. E. Jones.

\* \* \* \* \*

A fertilizer combination of nitrogen and phosphate will step up oats yields from 2 to 18 bushels, U. Farm tests show. A 10-20-0 commercial mixture, applied at 250 pounds per acre, is suggested.—J. M. MacGregor.

\* \* \* \* \*

Barley will respond to nitrogen fertilizer when used with phosphate on all Minnesota soils, U. Farm tests show. Little yield increase resulted from potash.—E. R. Duncan.

News Bureau  
University Farm  
St. Paul 1 Minnesota  
April 14, 1950

## HELPS FOR HOME AGENTS

(These shorts are intended as fillers for your radio programs or your newspaper columns. Adapt them to fit your needs.)

### CLOTHING

#### Wash Woolens Before Storing (36 seconds)

When the time comes to store your woolen clothes, do put them away clean if you don't want them moth-eaten. Greasy spots are attractive to moths. If a wool garment doesn't need cleaning or washing before storage, be sure to remove all spots and clean badly soiled areas. Then hang in the sunlight and brush well, especially under pleats, seam cuffs and in pockets. Washing and dry cleaning will kill moths but won't make clothing moth-resistant. So take the usual precautions about packing garments away in sealed bags or boxes. Adding moth flakes is a wise precaution.

\* \* \* \* \*

#### Right Temperature (14 seconds)

If you're in doubt about the correct iron temperature for a particular fabric, it's best to test your iron on a hidden seam first. Don't be afraid to let your iron get quite hot for some of the spun rayons. But be sure to keep the iron on the cool side for rayon jersey and sharkskin.

\* \* \* \* \*

#### Timesavers (18 seconds)

Knitted rayons and nylons are a boon to busy mothers or career girls. You save the time and energy of ironing your knit slips or nightgowns. Dry them flat... and they won't need ironing. This goes for jersey dresses, too. If they're dried flat, they need only a slight "touching up" on the wrong side with a cool iron.

\* \* \* \* \*

FOOD

Put All the Orange to Work (29 seconds)

Orange juice for breakfast is tops as a wake-me-up, but it leaves a lot of good food for the garbage can. Ounce for ounce, the white part is said to be three times as rich in vitamin C as the juice alone. Ina Rowe, extension nutritionist at the University of Minnesota, points out that the yellow skin has food value, too, and plenty of flavor. It can take the place of the more expensive extracts. For a quickie dessert, grate off the yellow, saving it for flavoring. Slice the orange crosswise and sprinkle with confectioner's sugar.

\* \* \* \* \*

Plentiful Onions (36 seconds)

Onions are going to town this spring in a big way. Onions of every kind, high in quality, will be in unusually heavy supply in grocery stores the country over. The yellow onions from last fall's crop in the Midwest are a particularly good buy right now. They're excellent for seasoning because of their strong, pungent flavor. But they're excellent, too, for soup or served creamed, scalloped or au gratin. When you buy, look for bright, clean, hard, well-shaped onions with dry skins. Watch out for sprouted seed stems and moisture at the neck. Both are indications that the onion is past its prime.

\* \* \* \* \*

You'll Do Better With Breakfast (32 seconds)

You'll do better if you eat a good breakfast. Proof of that advice comes from the medical school of a distinguished university which has conducted a scientific study on breakfasts. The study showed that without breakfast, work output goes down during the late morning hours and reactions are slower. With breakfast, work output is greater and reactions are faster. It has been proved that husbands who eat nourishing breakfasts do better work in their jobs. Children who eat good breakfasts get better grades in school and lose less time in sickness.

HOME DECORATION

Plastics for Curtains (35 seconds)

For easily cleaned, attractive curtains for the bathroom, a plastic material may be the answer. Film plastic draperies are real labor-savers. Just clean them with a damp cloth or suds them lightly, then follow with a rinse in lukewarm water... and they'll retain their soft, silky finish. There's no ironing. To eliminate curling, buy 6- to 8-gauge plastic.

The secret of sewing film plastics is to apply a small drop of oil to the machine needle, use coarse thread and lengthen the stitch to 8 stitches per inch. Feed the material in evenly and steadily without pulling or stretching.

\* \* \* \* \*

Entrance Hall Keynotes Home (21 seconds)

A bright hall reflects the home's personality and carries a welcome to friends. A dim, colorless hall works in reverse. So light your hall brightly and cue the color scheme to the rooms opening off the entrance way. Use a minimum of furniture and arrange it so the traffic isn't bottlenecked. A small hanging whatnot shelf for growing plants in an otherwise bare corner will create interest.

\* \* \* \* \*

Avoid Stair-Steps in Picture Hanging (43 seconds)

A new arrangement of pictures in your rooms will be a welcome change this spring. If you have a number of small pictures, try arranging them as a unit. For a grouping, use pictures that are framed alike and are similar in subject and coloring. Hang them close enough together so the space between the pictures is narrower than the width of each picture. For proper balance, hang the largest picture in the middle and the smaller ones on either side.

When the furniture below the pictures forms a straight line, keep the bottoms of the frames even. If the furniture creates an uneven line, such as a curved davenport, hang the pictures with the tops of the frames even.

Avoid a stairstep arrangement of pictures because it gives a feeling of movement and unrest.

HOME MANAGEMENT

For Longer Wear (19 seconds)

Gentle care is the rule if you want your inlaid linoleum to give long wear and have lasting good looks. The worst enemies of linoleum floor covering are too much water, strong soaps and harsh abrasives. When you wash the floor, don't flood it with water. Rinse off the soap and wipe up excess water. Remember that frequent waxing will help preserve the linoleum.

\* \* \* \* \*

High Outlet (32 seconds)

If you're installing an outlet for ironing, be sure the location is convenient. Research studies show that the best place for the outlet is above and to the front of the ironing board. The best height is 36 inches or more above the level of the ironing board - not above the floor. The outlet should be about 24 inches to the right of the center of the board. The most convenient position is on a wall faced by the worker. While the location of the outlet may seem unimportant to the man who wires the house, to the woman who does the ironing it means a saving of time and effort and makes for a better ironing job.

\* \* \* \* \*

Blanket Wash (26 seconds)

When you wash your wool blankets this spring, choose a day when there's a good breeze. Then the wool will fluff up nicely. Use soft or softened lukewarm water for all sudsings and rinsings. Remember that the rule for all woolens is to wash them quickly, in mild soap suds. Avoid rubbing or severe agitation. At least three rinsings will probably be necessary. Never use soap in the rinse water. Soap is alkaline and will harm the fabric if not rinsed out completely.



COLUMN FILLERS ON NAT'L HOME DEMONSTRATION WEEK AND EXTENSION HOME PROGRAM

The home demonstration program, or extension home program, as it is known in Minnesota, is a home economics educational program open to all rural women. It is carried into rural homes and communities by home agents and state specialists, with the help of local women who act as leaders.

\* \* \* \* \*

More than 3 million women in the United States, Alaska, Puerto Rico and Hawaii are taking part in the home demonstration program of the Cooperative Extension Service.

\* \* \* \* \*

Last year the extension home program in Minnesota was responsible for changed practices in nearly 65,000 homes.

\* \* \* \* \*

Fifty-six Minnesota counties now have the services of a home agent.

\* \* \* \* \*

Services of home agents are made available through the cooperative action of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, the University of Minnesota and the county agricultural extension service.

\* \* \* \* \*

"Today's Home Builds Tomorrow's World" is the theme for National Home Demonstration Week.

\* \* \* \* \*

As a result of the extension home program, Minnesota families should be better fed and clothed. Last year 34,781 women carried the food preparation project and more than 27,000 received help in improving diets. Nearly 20,000 women took special work in clothing construction and more than 12,000 were given assistance with problems in care and remodeling of clothing.

\* \* \* \* \*

County extension home programs offer a wide variety of topics in the field of home furnishings, equipment, home improvement, consumer buying, food preservation, food and clothing management.

\* \* \* \* \*

The \_\_\_\_\_ county women who take part in the extension home  
(no.)  
program will join with 3 million homemakers in America in observing National Home Demonstration Week April 30-May 6.

\* \* \* \* \*

"National Home Demonstration Week, April 30-May 6, is a special tribute to local leaders of project groups and a recognition of their unselfish service," says Dorothy Simmons, state leader of the extension home program. "Without their help, the task of spreading the latest homemaking information would be impossible."

News Bureau  
University Farm  
St. Paul 1 Minnesota  
April 18 1950

To all counties

PIGS NEED  
ANIMAL PROTEIN

"You can't make animal protein out of plant protein by adding an APF concentrate," University Farm animal husbandman H. G. Zavoral told County Agent \_\_\_\_\_ this week.

Until more is known about APF or vitamin B 12 concentrates, protein supplements for pigs should contain some tankage, fish meal, meat or bone scraps, or other animal products, Zavoral said.

The younger the pig the more important animal protein is to good early growth, he pointed out. "Until an 80-pound pig can be put on good alfalfa pasture, the protein supplement should consist of at least one-third animal or fish protein."

Liquid milk or butter milk, powdered milk or semi-solid milk products are other sources of animal protein for pigs.

If good alfalfa pasture is available this spring and summer, pigs over 80 pounds can make good low-cost gains without tankage, meat and bone scraps, fish meal or other animal protein supplements.

But, as County Agent \_\_\_\_\_ puts it, "Good early growth makes your pig profits, and young pigs need some animal protein to make that fast early growth."

-os-

News Bureau  
University Farm  
St. Paul 1 Minnesota  
April 18, 1950

To all counties

ATT.: HOME AGENTS

USE NYLON THREAD  
ON NYLON FABRIC

Difficulties in sewing on nylon can be avoided if a few rules are kept in mind, says Home Agent \_\_\_\_\_ (Athelene Scheid, extension clothing specialist at the University of Minnesota).

In the first place, be sure that scissors and pins are very sharp and that needles are both sharp and fine. Fabric fusion can be avoided by use of sharp scissors in cutting the fabric. To prevent distorting seams, use scissors to cut threads.

For basting as well as machine and hand stitching, it is advisable to use nylon thread. It gives added seam strength and makes for fast-drying seams which are not likely to shrink when laundered.

Be sure nylon thread is wound on the bobbin loosely and evenly. To prevent spinning of spool on holder, place a small felt pad under the spool.

Low-thread tension is important when sewing on nylon fabric with nylon thread. High tension will stretch the thread and leave a wrinkled seam.

To adjust the sewing machine for low tension, loosen the bobbin tension until the thread unwinds easily. Slack the needle tension all the way off. Gradually increase the needle tension until a well-formed but not tight stitch is made with no loops on either side of the fabric. Sew a few seams to be certain there are no skip stitches or thread breaks. Keep a constant check on tension adjustments while sewing.

Seams should be well in from the edge of the fabric. Hold your fabric front and back without letting it slip. Ease the fabric through and sew slowly.

Use some type of folded, bound or overedge seam, \_\_\_\_\_ says. Pinking is not enough to prevent raveling of the seams when the garment is washed.

--jbn--

News Bureau  
University Farm  
St. Paul 1 Minnesota  
April 18 1950

To all counties

ATT.: 4-H Club and Home Agent:

4-H FOOD CHAMPS  
NOW IN MAKING

Knowing that 1950 champions in the National 4-H Food Preparation program are now in the making, \_\_\_\_\_ county 4-H'ers are hard at work perfecting their culinary arts.

National, state and county awards will be presented to the youthful cooks at the end of the year for outstanding achievement, announces 4-H Club (Home) Agent \_\_\_\_\_.

Awards on a national basis have been offered in the food preparation program for 16 years, and activity in the project is still going strong. Ranging in age from 10 to 21, girls and boys "learn by doing," which is the 4-H way. Number of meals and different dishes prepared annually runs well over 20 million.

An example of what's being done in Minnesota is the record of Roberta Anderson, of Rose Creek, who was 1949 state champion. Learning to plan meals has given her more hours of leisure, besides making the work easier. Her 4-H training has also made worthwhile savings in the family food bills.

Sixty-seven girls were awarded county medals last year for outstanding accomplishments in preparing and serving meals. \_\_\_\_\_ county's food preparation champion was \_\_\_\_\_.

Definite objectives outlined in the program aim to give 4-H'ers a well-rounded basic knowledge of selecting, preparing and serving food. Their personal eating habits are improved, and often the whole family benefits by what they have learned. At club meetings local leaders and county extension agents demonstrate modern approved practices and use of proper equipment.

The same awards will be provided this year as in the past. Six national champions will each receive a college scholarship, while state winners get a trip to the National 4-H Club Congress in Chicago. Gold medals will be given to county winners.

The Minnesota Agricultural Extension Service supervises the project in this state.

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Cooperative Extension Work in Agriculture and Home Economics, University of Minnesota, Agricultural Extension Service and U. S. Department of Agriculture Cooperating, Paul E. Miller, Director. Published in furtherance of Agricultural Extension Acts of May 8 and June 30, 1914.

News Bureau  
University Farm  
St. Paul 1 Minnesota  
April 18 1950

To all counties  
(Filler for your column)

\* \* \* \* \*  
\* C O L U M N C O M M E N T S \*  
\* from your \*  
\* County Agent \*  
\* \* \* \* \*

Laying hens won't pick up enough grain around the farmyard to offset the dirty and possibly off flavor eggs which result from turning them out. Production may drop, too. Don't let nice spring weather tempt you into opening laying house doors.

\* \* \* \* \*

Better get your order placed for DDT for corn borer spraying. T. L. Aamodt, state entomologist, predicts this may be the worst year yet for borer damage. He estimates there are five times more borers coming through the winter this year than last. Even if spring weather is against them, there will still be plenty left to surpass last year's \$40 million in damage.

\* \* \* \* \*

Now is the time to sow next year's pig pasture. H. G. Zavoral, U Farm extension animal husbandman, recommends alfalfa. Clover is the next best bet. If alfalfa winter killed, rape will make good emergency grazing.

\* \* \* \* \*

A two to five per cent Chlordane spray will kill Box Elder bugs. Put it on screens and foundations and places where they congregate. A good soapy detergent and kerosene gets them too, but be careful not to spray kerosene on paint or plants.

\* \* \* \* \*

Soil tests should be made now for fertilizers to be used on small grains, legume seedings and corn. Paul Burson, U Farm soil testing lab head, says he can give from 7 to 10 day service on samples sent in right away.

Sample containers and information sheets, including instructions for sampling, are available at the Extension Office or at your nearest depot.

-rr-

News Bureau  
University Farm  
St. Paul 1 Minnesota  
April 18 1950

To all counties

PUT FERTILIZER  
ON PASTURE NOW

Nitrogen fertilizer can be applied to pastures as soon as the frost is out, County Agent \_\_\_\_\_ said today.

Commercial nitrogen in the form of ammonium nitrate will go a long way toward increasing the carrying capacity of grass pastures, he said.

\_\_\_\_\_ recommends an application of 100 to 125 pounds of 33-0-0 per acre. Put it on as soon as possible.

Such a treatment won't lengthen the grazing season much. But it will start the grass off faster and give much more grazing during the normal pasture season.

-rr-

News Bureau  
University Farm  
St. Paul 1 Minnesota  
April 18 1950

To all counties

DON'T CUT FEED  
FOR MILK COWS

Short rations for the dairy herd the last few weeks before spring pasture will mean less milk in the bucket all this season, County Agent \_\_\_\_\_ told local dairymen this week.

It's better business to buy some grain and hay now to keep the cows in good flesh and producing normally than to cut down on feed, even if you're running out, he said.

When the herd goes on pasture, University Farm Extension Dairyman H. R. Searles recommends continued grain feeding to keep production high and costs low.

It is a management problem to get cows on grass to eat grain, but, according to Searles, they will eat it if the dairyman follows the right feeding practices.

"Don't waste feed and spoil the cows' appetites by offering too much grain during the first few days the herd is on pasture. Feed only what the cows will clean up quickly. Then gradually build the grain ration up to about half what the cows were fed during the winter," he said.

Dairymen must watch costs this year, but as County Agent \_\_\_\_\_ suggests, skimping on feed for the producing cow is not the way to do it.

-OS-

News Bureau  
University Farm  
St. Paul 1 Minnesota  
April 18 1950

To all counties

GRASS FIRES  
INJURE SOIL

"Don't burn. It destroys organic matter, injures sod and removes wildlife cover. Besides, it's dangerous."

That plea came today from County Agent \_\_\_\_\_ as more and more fires and burned areas begin showing up around \_\_\_\_\_ county.

Burning destroys the organic matter that holds moisture and gives fertility to the soil. Burned-over fields tend to dry out more quickly. Nitrates that should go into the soil are lost in the air.

U Farm experiments, reports Paul Burson, soils lab head, have shown burning will cut bluegrass yield as much as 50 per cent for one entire season. In both pastures and lawns, the crowns of the grass are injured by the heat.

State entomologist T. L. Aamodt definitely does not recommend burning to control corn borers. "The State Department of Agriculture is opposed to burning of any crop residue for control of insects or diseases," he told \_\_\_\_\_.

Burning ditches, railroad sidings, fence rows or waste areas destroys the protective cover needed by upland game birds. It also aids erosion. And last, a fire out of control can cause untold damage and loss. Don't burn.

-rr-



University Farm News  
University of Minnesota  
St. Paul 1, Minnesota  
April 18, 1950

Special to the MINNESOTAN

University staff members have declared total war on weeds, one of agriculture's costliest enemies.

Weeds probably cost farmers more in the long run than combined losses from plant diseases, insects and unfavorable weather. Weed and seed inspectors estimate last year's loss to weeds as \$600 for every Minnesota farm.

Weeds are persistent pests. One weed may produce 20,000 seeds per season. Weed seeds can lie dormant in the soil for many years before sprouting. Wind, water, and animals carry these hardy seeds to gardens, lawns and grain fields many miles from the parent plant. Farmers spend between 30 to 40 per cent of their time fighting weeds.

And it isn't always the farmer who pays. Any hay fever sufferer can tell you—between sneezes—all about the irritating ways of ragweed pollen. Compared to poison ivy, belligerent bulls are pikers at spoiling picnics.

On the St. Paul campus, just about everything in the scientist's arsenal from microscope to flamethrowers is being mobilized for an all-out weed control effort.

Going on the theory "that you have to know your enemy" Alvin H. Larson, assistant professor of agricultural botany, studies the life and growth habits of weed plants. His research helps other weed fighters select the best weapons for different kinds of weeds.

One step closer to the firing line is H. G. Heggeness, instructor in plant pathology, who is studying the over-all use of chemical plant-killers. He is in charge of the weed research and control project in the division of plant pathology and botany.

Chemicals have only recently become important as herbicides. But according to Heggeness the idea is not new. Ancient books referred to various brines and other preparations to control weeds.

Development of selective herbicides, those that kill weeds but do not harm cereal grains, was one big step forward in science's weed war. Copper sulphate, or blue vitriol, was first discovered as a selective herbicide more than 50 years ago.

Recent advances in herbicides were made possible by advances in the science of plant physiology. For example, 2,4-D, the most widely used chemical weed-killer, grew out of work with plant hormones.

2,4-D is not a poison—it does not destroy the plant tissue. It kills weeds by speeding up their growth. A plant sprayed with 2,4-D simply burns itself out in a burst of rapid random growth. Then it's reserve of stored food used up, the weed dies before it can bear seeds or otherwise reproduce.

Spraying weeds before the crops come up, the newest method of using herbicides, is being investigated by Professor R. S. Dunham. Dunham heads the weed research and control work in the Division of Agronomy and Plant Genetics.

He reports that results of trial work with pre-emergence spraying have been variable and contradictory. The method has been generally successful in some eastern states. In the north central area it has worked only a few times. Other times it has killed most of the weeds—and most of the crop.

Tests at University Farm show that crop injury from pre-emergence spraying with 2,4-D depends largely on the acidity of the soil and the amount of organic matter in the soil. On high-acid soils that were low in organic matter, pre-emergence

spraying seriously injured corn crops.

The amount of rainfall also affects the success of pre-emergence spraying. In University Farm tests, corn was injured by small doses of 2,4-D if the plot got enough water to wash the chemical into the soil before the corn came up.

Dunham believes further work will make pre-emergence spraying a good safe way to help farmers control weeds.

The method of spreading chemical weed-killers evenly over the field is the problem of agricultural engineers R. E. Larson and V. H. Johnson. Larson is assistant agricultural engineer, division of farm machinery, USDA. Johnson is instructor of agricultural engineering at the University. They work together in research on weed control equipment.

Their problem is studying spray nozzles, tanks, hoses, and pumps to find the best combination for particular jobs.

Agronomists work out dosages of 2,4-D ranging from 4 ounces to 2 or 3 pounds per acre depending on the crop and weeds.

It's a knotty problem to distribute the chemicals evenly over large areas. Take the 4-ounce rate. That means roughly one-half cup of 2,4-D diluted in 5 to 10 gallons of water has to be spread uniformly over one acre—43,560 square feet.

Agricultural engineers Larson and Johnson are also trying to develop a more spectacular weed fighting weapon. It's a tractor-mounted flame-thrower. Since 1947 the two front-line tacticians have been manipulating burners and fuel systems trying to find a way to make the flame-thrower into a practical weed-killer.

At present the machine is fired by bottled propane. The fuel is fed under pressure to what Johnson calls "a double-barrelled bunsen burner." The burners operate in pairs directing the flame across two crop rows. As the tractor travels through a corn field for example, the corn rows pass through the flame. But since the weed-burner is used when the corn is about 12 to 15 inches high the

stem of the corn plant is large and tough enough to take the brief exposure to fire without harm. Shorter leafier weeds, however, are not so fortunate. The flame-thrower injures their leaves, putting these food factories out of commission.

Used on test plots at University Farm, the flame-thrower has given good results compared with cultivation and chemical spraying, Johnson reports.

But a lot of work remains to be done before the flame-thrower becomes a reliable weed killer in the Midwest.

When the technique is perfected, Johnson and his associates will tackle the cost aspect. And as he says, "its still a pretty hot job in hot weather to sit so close to all that fire."

Minnesota farmers are putting the weapons provided by basic research to good use. During 1949 they sprayed more than 2,000,000 acres of grain with 2,4-D. On other crops they used 1,000,000 pounds of sodium chlorate and 165,000 pounds of borascu.

But the enemy is still numerous. State entomologist T. L. Amoldt estimates that every acre of soil in the state contains an average of  $1\frac{1}{2}$  tons of weed seeds.

The weed war has only begun.

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April 18, 1950

Immediate Release

#### GERMAN MANUFACTURERS AT U. FARM

German agriculture is on the threshold of mechanization, a German farm machinery specialist said today at University Farm.

Dr. Willi Kloth, one of five Germans visiting the University of Minnesota agricultural experiment station, said farmers there are in need of small tractors and equipment adapted to the small fields and farms. They also need money with which to buy machinery now being manufactured.

Anderl Glas, grain drill manufacturer from Dingolfing, Bavaria, reported the German farmer almost entirely dependent on credit for buying equipment he needs.

German manufacturers are now exporting machinery to England, France, Italy, Belgium, Holland, and some to South America, according to Kloth.

The five men, two manufacturers, two scientists and a foreign agriculture department official, are completing a tour of United States experiment stations and manufacturing plants. Sponsored by the Economic Cooperation Administration, they are studying manufacturing methods, agricultural production and administration of the United States agricultural extension service.

Other members of the group include Helmut Meyer, Chief of the Institute for Tractor Research, Braunschweig, Germany, Wilhelm Faul, tractor manufacturer from Ulm, and Josef Lengsfeld, department of foreign agriculture, Frankfort.

Glas, Faul and Lengsfeld will leave University Farm Wednesday for Washington, D. C. They will return home from there. Kloth and Meyer will visit Iowa, Nebraska and other stations, returning to Germany in late May.

A-7806-RR

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University of Minnesota  
St. Paul 1, Minnesota  
April 18, 1950

Immediate Release

#### FOUR CLUB MEMBERS WIN TRIP

Four Minnesota young people have been selected for one of the highest honors given in 4-H club work, a trip to the National 4-H Club Camp in Washington, D.C., June 14-21.

They are Marjorie Wyland, 19, St. Paul; Anita Erickson, 18, Goodhue; John Burski, 18, Sauk Rapids; and John Seehus, 19, Detroit Lakes.

The two boys and two girls were chosen for the honor on the basis of long-time 4-H work and leadership and outstanding achievements, according to Leonard Harkness, state 4-H club leader at the University of Minnesota.

The Minnesota Bankers' Association is sponsoring the trips.

State and county honors are an old story to these 4-H'ers. Miss Wyland has won county championships in clothing, dress revue, radio speaking, handicraft and poultry. In 1948 she was one of eight national winners in recreation and rural arts and in 1949 was state winner in girls' leadership. She is now a sophomore in home economics at the University of Minnesota.

Miss Erickson, who is a freshman at St. Olaf college, has been reserve champion in the state 4-H radio speaking contest the last two years. In 1946 she was state dress revue queen. She has won blue ribbons for demonstrations at the State Fair and has chalked up numerous county championships in dress revue, clothing and health demonstrations.

Burski's outstanding record in 4-H dairy projects includes many county and state honors. He was a member of the champion dairy demonstration team at the State Fair in 1948 and received a state blue ribbon award the previous year on his dairy demonstration. His dairy heifers and dairy calves have been blue ribbon winners at many county fairs.

Seehus, who is a partner with his father and brother on the home farm, received a trip to the National 4-H Club Congress in 1947 as state winner in the farm and home electric contest. Last year he won the county achievement award and was elected secretary of the State 4-H Federation.

## SELECT RIGHT TREE FOR YOUR LAWN

Planning to set out lawn trees this spring?

Many yards are ruined by too many trees, according to L. C. Snyder, extension horticulturist at the University of Minnesota. Don't over-plant your yard to trees, he advises. The lawn and flower borders need sunlight if they are to grow well.

Trees should be used for framing the house, for shade where it is really needed and for background, Snyder says. Small trees can also be planted at the back of the shrub border.

The University horticulturist gives these tips on how to select good lawn trees

- Choose small trees. They recover from the shock of transplanting sooner than large trees and are much easier on the pocket book.
- Select your trees at a nursery.
- Get trees that have strong, well-spaced branches and straight stems.
- Select trees that will be in scale with the grounds and the architecture of the house. Small grounds and small houses demand small trees; larger grounds and buildings need larger trees. Some good small trees are weeping white birch, flowering crabapples, hawthorns, and, where adapted, mountain ash. American elm, basswood, hackberry, green ash and honey locust are good large trees.
- Avoid planting fast-growing trees that are likely to be short-lived. Most fast-growing trees are brittle and break in storms. Fast-growing trees like soft maple, poplars, most willows, boxelder and Chinese elm are seldom suitable for lawn trees.

University Farm News  
University of Minnesota  
St. Paul 1, Minnesota  
April 18, 1950

Immediate Release

#### NEW SOIL DISTRICTS TO BE VOTED ON

Petitions for the organization of four new Minnesota soil conservation districts were accepted by the State Soil Conservation Committee at University Farm Tuesday.

The new districts, and the dates set for their organizational hearings, include Chisago - May 5, Little Fork - May 18, Marshall-Beltrami - May 19, and Sibley county - May 26.

The entire area of Sibley and Chisago counties will be included in those two new districts, according to M. A. Thorfinnson, U. Farm extension soil conservationist and secretary of the committee. The Little Fork district will be made up of 12 townships in St. Louis county, and the Marshall-Beltrami district of 8 bordering townships in each county.

The addition of Hickory, Deer Park and Mayfield townships was approved for the Pennington district during the meeting.

Other business included the setting of May 13 as the date for an election of supervisors in the Swift county district. The election of Theodore Brown and Art Johnson, Kelliher, Kenneth Clawsen, Hines, Einer Nordby, Saun, and Harold Vandegrift, Black Duck, as Beltrami district supervisors was approved.

Minnesota now has 48 soil conservation districts organized within the state, according to Thorfinnson. Over 40 per cent of the farms in the state are included in districts.

A-7809-RR



University Farm News  
University of Minnesota  
St. Paul 1, Minnesota  
April 20, 1950

Immediate Release

#### DON'T BURN GRASS, CROP RESIDUES

Buring crop residue to kill corn borers is "definitely not" recommended by the State Department of Agriculture, according to T. L. Aamodt, state entomologist.

Aamodt's statement was issued today in answer to inquiries from state farmers girding themselves for what may be their greatest fight yet against the invading European corn borer.

"We are opposed to burning of any crop residue for control of insects or diseases," the state entomologist declared.

Burning of any kind, including in yards and pastures is discouraged by University Farm authorities.

Burning destroys the organic matter that holds moisture and gives fertility to the soil. Fire kills clover, and injures the roots of grasses, with the result that growth of both lawns and pastures is retarded. Burning promotes erosion. It removes protective wildlife cover, and is a definite fire hazard.

University experiments have shown that bluegrass burned over in the spring will be held back as much as 50 per cent throughout the entire growing season, according to Paul Burson, soil testing lab head.

"People think burning helps growth because they can see green grass showing up against blackened ashes easier. Actually, the opposite is true," Burson said.

A-7810-RR

University Farm News  
University of Minnesota  
St. Paul 1, Minnesota  
April 20, 1950

Immediate Release

#### GERMAN WOMEN STUDY EXTENSION METHODS

Two home economists from Germany will spend a month in Minnesota studying the extension home program and observing home economics classes, with a view toward setting up an improved home economics program in their home communities.

Annelise Straub, Wurttemberg, and Cecilia Ullmann, Bavaria, will arrive in Minneapolis Saturday (April 22), Dorothy Simmons, state leader for the extension home program at the University of Minnesota, said today.

The two visitors are teachers of rural home economics and agriculture courses in winter schools in Germany. During the summer they do advisory work similar to the work of home agents.

They will spend a week in the Twin Cities, observing teaching methods and research in the School of Home Economics at the University of Minnesota and conferring with extension home economists and with home economics and adult education department heads in city schools.

During the remaining three weeks in Minnesota they will be in Kandiyohi and Stevens counties working with county extension agents. In addition to studying home economics activities in the Agricultural Extension Service in these counties, they will visit farm homes and observe public school work and community life.

A-7811-JBN

University Farm News  
University of Minnesota  
St. Paul 1, Minnesota  
April 20, 1950

Immediate Release

#### U. FARM DIRECTORS TO ILLINOIS

Three University of Minnesota administrators will attend the North Central Regional Directors meeting at Allerton Park, Illinois, April 25-27.

C. H. Bailey, dean and director of the Department of Agriculture, Harold Macy, associate director, Minnesota Agricultural Experiment Station, and T. H. Fenske, associate director of field operations, will leave Sunday (April 23) for the three-day conference.

Macy is secretary of the North Central director's association which includes 12 Land Grant colleges and universities.

The association meets three times yearly to discuss cooperative research projects.

A-7812-OS

#### BRITISH DAIRY SPECIALIST TO VISIT UNIVERSITY

Dr. F. H. Dodd, National Institute for Research in Dairying, Reading, England, is expected to arrive Monday (April 24) for a four-day conference with University of Minnesota dairy specialists.

Dr. Dodd will study cattle health and milk production problems with J. B. Fitch, chief of the dairy husbandry division, W. E. Petersen, professor of dairy husbandry, and W. L. Boyd, chief of veterinary medicine.

A-7813-OS

University Farm News  
University of Minnesota  
St. Paul 1, Minnesota  
April 20, 1950

Immediate Release

#### FRESHMEN AWARDED SCHOLARSHIPS

Five students in the College of Agriculture, Forestry, Home Economics and Veterinary Medicine at the University of Minnesota have been awarded Sears-Roebuck Agricultural freshman scholarships of \$100, Dean Henry Schmitz announced today.

They are Floyd H. Bly, Princeton; Alan O. Dalen, Verndale; Frederick Radintz, Osseo; Frank L. Schneider, Renville and George R. Tesch, Delano.

The scholarships are awarded to Minnesota farm boys of promising ability who are wholly or partly self-supporting and who plan to continue in agriculture.

A-7814-JBN

#### JUNIOR VEGETABLE GROWERS TO MEET

The Minnesota chapter, National Junior Vegetable Growers Association, will hold the last of three training meetings at University Farm Saturday (April 22).

Demonstrations aids and a talk on vegetable varieties by O. C. Turnquist, extension horticulturist, will make up the day-long program. It will begin at 9:30 a.m.

Minnesota, with some 100 NJVG members, now leads the 46 states having organizations.

A-7815-OS

News Bureau  
University Farm  
St. Paul 1 Minnesota  
April 24 1950

ATTN: Agricultural Agent  
Home Agent  
4-H Club Agent

GARDEN FACT SHEET FOR MAY  
By L. C. Snyder,  
O. C. Turnquist  
Extension Horticulturists

Fruits

1. Be prepared to protect your strawberry planting through a late frost at blossom time. Strawberry flowers are tender and readily destroyed by a late frost. Affected flowers are easily distinguished by black centers. A small patch can be protected by covering with the straw or hay used for winter protection or by covering with blankets or canvas. Where irrigation is feasible, turn on the sprinkler when the temperature gets down to freezing and leave on until ice melts.
2. Keep newly planted fruit trees well watered during dry periods.
3. Early May is the time for fruit tree grafting. Be sure to use dormant scions that have been properly stored. Rubberized electrician's tape can be used to hold the scion in place and seal the union against moisture loss.
4. Just because last year's apple crop was reasonably clean and free of insect pests is no assurance that this year's crop will be equally clean. Better start a complete spray program and be sure. Get our 1950 fruit spray schedule if you do not already have one.
5. With prospects for a light apple crop this year, a heavier set of fruit may be expected if a nitrogen fertilizer is used. Broadcast ammonium nitrate at the rate of 1/3 pound for each inch in diameter of the trunk under the spread of the branches. By stimulating growth, more of the flowers should set fruit.
6. Pick off the blossoms from newly set strawberry plants. This will make for sturdier plants and earlier runners on the June-bearing types.

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Cooperative Extension Work in Agriculture and Home Economics, University of Minnesota, Agricultural Extension Service and U. S. Department of Agriculture Cooperating, Paul E. Miller, Director. Published in furtherance of Agricultural Extension Acts of May 8 and June 30, 1914.

## Vegetables

1. Seeds of the warm-season vegetables can be planted in the garden during the latter half of this month. This includes sweet corn, snap beans, lima beans, cucumbers, melons, squash and pumpkins.
2. Plant your sweet corn in small blocks consisting of three or four short rows instead of one or two long rows to insure good pollination and well-filled ears.
3. Plant succession plantings of sweet corn and snap beans every ten days beginning about the middle of the month until July 1.
4. Try Golden Rocket and Earligolden 113 for early sweet corn varieties. Sugar Prince has proved very desirable in the northern half of the state.
5. Be sure to include Topcrop or Logan snap beans for high yields and good freezing varieties.
6. In cucumbers, the Burpee Hybrid or Faribo Hybrid C are suggested in place of the old standard varieties. The increased yield will offset the higher price of the hybrid seed.
7. Don't set your tomato plants out too early. Wait until after Memorial Day. Plants set out before this time usually are slower in getting established and stand the risk of being damaged by late spring frosts.

## Ornamentals

1. Plant early flowering chrysanthemums in a sunny location in well prepared soil. It should be safe in southern Minnesota by May 1 and in northern Minnesota by May 15.
2. If gladioli are planted in rows in the kitchen garden, make a trench about 6 inches deep. Broadcast some high phosphorus fertilizer in the bottom of the trench using about a pound of a 20% phosphorus fertilizer for 25 feet of row. Work this into the soil and cover with perhaps an inch of fresh soil. Space the bulbs 6 to 8 inches apart in the row and cover. Glads can be planted any time now up until the middle of June. Glads can also be used in clumps in the flower border.

3. Zinnias, marigolds, calendulas, moss roses, annual phlox and larkspur can be seeded directly where they are to grow. Be sure to thin them out later so they have room to develop. If plants are to be planted, wait until all danger of frost is past, especially for the tender types like zinnias and marigolds.
4. Prune spirea bushes as soon as they have finished blooming. To do this, cut out the oldest stems clear down to the ground. This type of pruning retains the natural form and keeps the shrub young. Spirea should never be planted where restrictive pruning is needed to keep it small. Plan to prune all of the spring-flowering shrubs as soon as they finish blooming.
5. Mugho pines and other evergreens with similar growth habits should be pruned just as the new growth is opening. Pinch back a portion of the opening bud. This will keep the plant dense and compact.
6. Use a mulch around pansy plants for a long period of bloom. Pansies do best in a cool, moist soil. The mulch helps to provide these conditions. A mulch will also prove beneficial around your roses.
7. If lawns are fertilized this month, it will be safer to use an organic form of nitrogen since the commercial grades of nitrogen fertilizers are apt to "burn" the grass unless very carefully applied and watered in. Soybean meal is an excellent lawn fertilizer. Use at the rate of 20 pounds per 1000 square feet.

News Bureau  
University Farm  
St. Paul 1 Minnesota  
April 25 1950

To all counties

SPECIAL - FOR FLOOD AREAS  
Use if suitable

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NOTE TO AGENT: Following are recommendations from state extension specialists to aid farmers hit by recent floods. Suggestions are separated by subject matter to make it easier for you to use only that material which may apply in your area.

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Silage on farms hit by floods will probably be useable as feed after the water recedes, County Agent \_\_\_\_\_ reports. Hay in stacks and barns where water soaked it will be destroyed. Stacks will begin heating soon after the water goes down, according to U Farm extension dairymen.

Grain reached by the water should be watched for molding and mustiness.

Extension livestock specialist W. E. Morris recommends that livestock, especially sheep, be kept away from stagnant pools and boggy spots. Disease will likely be present and sheep can easily pick up worm infestations.

Where pastures have been retarded or damaged by water, he suggests seeding rape as a temporary hog and sheep pasture. Sudan can be seeded for midsummer forage. Oats is another emergency forage crop.

\* \* \* \* \*

Strawberry beds are probably done for if under water for a week or more. Raspberries can stand a little more, and both may not suffer as great damage if the frost was still in the ground at flood time, according to Extension Horticulturist L. C. Snyder.

When the water recedes, Snyder suggests uncovering the crowns of rhubarb and asparagus. Also perennials.

\_\_\_\_\_ says not to work garden soil too soon after water recedes. Let it dry out. Otherwise, you will have granite-like clods in the garden all summer.

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(more)

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Cooperative Extension Work in Agriculture and Home Economics, University of Minnesota, Agricultural Extension Service and U. S. Department of Agriculture Cooperating, Paul E. Miller, Director. Published in furtherance of Agricultural Extension Acts of May 8 and June 30, 1914.



add 1 - flood repairs

The flood probably won't hurt the grasshoppers threatening Red River Valley farmers. Submersion of hopper eggs won't kill them, reports A. W. Buzicky, assistant state entomologist. A heavy layer of silt will keep hatching hoppers from reaching the surface, however.

Buzicky recommends that submerged spray machines be cleaned and lubricated as soon as possible. Check nozzles carefully.

Chemical dust poisons, if reached by water, will probably be caked and unusable. Bury them out of reach of livestock and children. Liquid chemicals probably won't be damaged.

\* \* \* \* \*

Farmers in the flood area should be on guard against livestock diseases, County Agent \_\_\_\_\_ said today.

University Farm Veterinarian W. L. Boyd recommends providing the best shelter and feed available to strengthen animals weakened by exposure and neglect during the flood.

Examine animals for injury. Vaccination against lockjaw may be advisable. Look dairy cows over closely for injured udders and watch for mastitis.

Cattle, sheep and hogs weakened by exposure will be highly susceptible to bronchitis, pneumonia and other respiratory diseases. Poultry should be safeguarded against Newcastle disease. Best safeguards are good housing and generally good management practices.

Animals forced to tramp around in mud may develop foot diseases.

\* \* \* \* \*

If your tractor, truck or automobile was under water, Extension Engineer G. E. McPhee advises a thorough check of the ignition system. Start with the spark plugs and work clear back to the battery. If the battery was under water for some time it is probably ruined.

(more)

Add 2 -- flood repairs

McPhee recommends a complete change of oil, coolant and fuel. Replace the oil filter and air cleaner element. Clean the carburetor, drain, flush and refill the cooling system. Front wheel bearings should be repacked on tractors.

Wheel bearings on other machines should be serviced.

\* \* \* \* \*

To speed up seedbed preparation, M. L. Armour, extension agronomist says to loosen the crust on fields with a disc or springtooth harrow.

Digging up the crust will help dry out the soil so it can be worked into a seedbed.

Bluegrass will grow up through the silt if the layer is not too thick. If pasture grass doesn't show within a reasonable time, new grass can be seeded on the silt deposit.

Most grains should still mature, Armour said, but if your planting date is delayed too long, barley can stand later seeding than oats.

Recommended varieties of millet can be planted late and harvested for seed. Or if feed is short, Proso millet makes a good substitute feed crop.

\* \* \* \* \*

--RR--OS--

News Bureau  
University Farm  
St. Paul 1 Minnesota  
April 25 1950

To all counties  
(Filler For Your Column)

\* \* \* \* \*  
\* C O L U M N   C O M M E N T S \*  
\*                    from   your                    \*  
\*                    County                    Agent                    \*  
\* \* \* \* \*

Use plenty of nitrogen fertilizer on small grain and corn this spring. Nitrogen gives plants the added growth boost they will need to catch up this late spring.

U Farm extension soilsman H. E. Jones recommends something like 200 to 250 pounds of 10-20-0 per acre for small grains. About 150 pounds of 5-20-10 is suggested for corn.

\* \* \* \* \*

Send dairy cows to pasture in the best possible condition. Avoid wasting feed, but don't skimp. Even good pasture can't help a thin, run-down cow produce much milk.

\* \* \* \* \*

Fit an emergency first aid kit to your tractor while you're waiting to get into the field.

Extension safety specialist Glenn Prickett recommends using a tight metal box, such as a fishing tackle box. Clean and label it. Bolt it in a convenient place on the tractor. Fill it with adhesive tape, sealed sterile bandages, a tourniquet, a burn ointment, scissors, boric acid, an antiseptic and other needs.

\* \* \* \* \*

Market pigs should be castrated before being weaned. Four to five weeks of age is the best time to do the job, says U Farm extension animal husbandman H. G. Zavoral.

Extension veterinarian W. A. Billings suggests pigs be vaccinated for cholera just before or shortly after weaning. Use the double treatment. It's good insurance.

\* \* \* \* \*

The eighth annual Beekeepers Short Course will be held at University Farm May 10 - 12. Out-of-state speakers will be on hand for key addresses.

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News Bureau  
University Farm  
St. Paul 1 Minnesota  
April 25 1950

To all counties  
ATT: Home Agents  
For flood areas  
Use if suitable

### RENOVATING TIPS FOR FLOODED HOMES

In coming weeks, many \_\_\_\_\_ county families will be attempting to repair flood damage done to their homes. For those who must renovate floors, baseboards and furniture damaged by flood waters, Home Agent \_\_\_\_\_ (Helen Matheis, extension home furnishings specialist) has some suggestions.

Floors. Usually a floor that has been under water buckles so much that it is necessary to re-lay it. Be sure the boards are thoroughly dry before re-laying. Sand so the surface is clean and smooth.

If the floor is oak, apply a filler and then at least two coats of Spar varnish. Sand between coats. Treat fir flooring in the same way except that the filler may be omitted.

Baseboards. Baseboards which have sprung loose will need replacing. If the baseboards are firm, they can be rubbed well with a cloth dampened with denatured alcohol or ammonia to remove the stains from the receding water. If this is not successful, apply a good grade of paint and varnish remover according to directions on the container. Then build up the surface with at least two coats of clear interior varnish, sanding between coats.

Furniture. Wash wood furniture with a mixture of  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup sal soda to 2 gallons of water. Allow to dry and then rub with a clean soft cloth. If the furniture looks clear, polish with furniture polish or two thin coats of wax.

If white spots show after using the sal soda wash, dampen a cloth with denatured alcohol and rub the surface very lightly. Let dry and polish with furniture polish or wax. In case white spots still remain, use a good grade of paint and varnish remover and proceed according to directions. Follow with several coats of varnish or shellac, sanding between coats. To obtain a soft, satiny finish, use a satin-finish varnish.

If joints or rungs are loose, they should be re-glued. This means chipping out all the old glue so the area will be as clean and free of glue as possible. Use a common furniture glue or a carpenter's flake glue in the proportion of 1 part flake glue to  $1\frac{1}{2}$  parts water. Apply a thin coat of glue to the area and brace with board strips fastened with steel clamps.

-jbn-

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News Bureau  
University Farm  
St. Paul 1 Minnesota  
April 25 1950

To all counties

NEW CORN BORER  
WARNING SERVICE

A new warning service, "Operation CORN BORER," is being established in Minnesota to help \_\_\_\_\_ county and other farmers in their fight to control the European corn borer.

The reporting service, as outlined by County Agent \_\_\_\_\_ today, will call for 1,258 farmer-spotters; one in each township of the major corn producing counties of the state.

These "minutemen" reporters will make counts of corn borer egg masses in fields on their farms. Twice a week, these infestation counts will be sent to the State Department of Agriculture entomology office at University Farm. Daily reports will also be telephoned by eight entomology department field men.

From this data, the State Entomologist's office will issue daily statements during the peak danger period, advising farmers of threatening areas and expected borer hatching dates.

Farmers, thus advised, can best determine when to begin control operations in what may well be the greatest corn borer battle ever staged in Minnesota.

State Entomologist T. L. Aamodt calls the present situation "extremely dangerous," with present observations indicating five times more borers in fields now than a year ago.

The warning service is expected to be set in operation when moths begin flying in mid-June. It will be continued until all flights end.

Cooperating with the entomology department in Operation CORN BORER are the Minnesota Agricultural Extension Service, canners, commercial organizations and farm groups.

(more)

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Add 1 - Operation CORN BORER

County Agent \_\_\_\_\_, together with the county extension committee, is already selecting township minutemen for the reporting service. On \_\_\_\_\_ he will attend a county agent training meeting at \_\_\_\_\_ (training meeting date) \_\_\_\_\_ (place) to learn details for surveying infestations and filling out reporting cards.

Following the training meeting, \_\_\_\_\_ will train the \_\_\_\_\_ (number) township committeemen in \_\_\_\_\_ county and give them instructions on reporting. All county training meetings will be completed by June 2.

When the warning service is started in June, \_\_\_\_\_ will receive copies of all farmer-spotter reports. In that way, he will be able to give local information immediately, without waiting for the area report.

Besides the corn borer egg count, the committeemen will also aid in obtaining information on borer control, such as amount of spraying done in the township, results obtained, and estimated damage done at the end of the year.

The reporting service is being set up as a continuing service, according to Aamodt. This program is being worked out as the basis for a more detailed, improved service to state farmers in future years.

News Bureau  
University Farm  
St. Paul 1 Minnesota  
April 25 1950

To all counties  
ATT.: HOME AGENTS

MAY IS TIME FOR  
CHICKEN, PORK

May will be a chicken and pork month, judging from food production prospects, announces Home Agent \_\_\_\_\_.

The U. S. Department of Agriculture sees large supplies of both these foods looming ahead, along with a heavy output of eggs.

The chicken story for May is one of large cold storage holdings and steady marketing of hens culled from flocks. Near the end of May these will be coupled with the largest supplies of broilers ever to come off the production lines.

Marketing of fall pigs should hit a peak this month, making larger than ever supplies of low-priced pork available.

Milk production in May will be moving toward the year's high level, and that should mean even larger supplies of dairy products at seasonally low prices.

The May food larder will be well banked with vegetables. Most plentiful will be carrots, cabbage, onions, late-crop Irish potatoes, lettuce, canned corn and canned lima beans.

Raisins, prunes and canned peaches are the fruits in heaviest supply. There are no fresh fruits among May bargain buys. For the first time since last fall, apples have been removed from the list of plentiful foods.

Dry beans and peas, which are good sources of protein, continue to be an attractive buy, \_\_\_\_\_ said. Michigan is contributing heavily to the supply of dry beans and peas. Fish, peanut butter, honey and cooking fats complete the list of foods the U. S. Department of Agriculture recommends as May budget-saving items.

-jbn-

FALL PLOWING  
BEST FOR FLAX

Last year's fall plowed fields may be a good place to seed flax this spring, County Agent \_\_\_\_\_ told local farmers today.

Early flax produces the best yields in Minnesota, he said. By putting it on fall-plowed fields of corn, hay or pasture, farmers can save valuable time in seedbed preparation.

On fall plowed fields, a good flax seedbed can be prepared by harrowing, disking or springtoothing at a 2 inch depth. Once over with a cultipacker before planting firms the seedbed and makes it easier to regulate planting depth.

\_\_\_\_\_ listed these other advantages by University Farm Extension Agronomist M. L. Armour for seeding flax:

1. Flax produces well in rotation following corn. (NOTE TO AGENT -- Entomologists say flax is not a host for European corn borers. You may want to mention this if borer damage was heavy in your county last year.)

2. Flax is a good companion crop for legumes and grasses. Flax leaves drop off as the plant ripens. As the leaves drop, legume and grass seedlings are stimulated by the sun.

3. Flax does not lodge badly and has a long harvesting period. After harvesting, the crop is not as easily damaged as small grain by weathering or sprouting.

Armour recommends treating flax seed with New Improved Ceresan to help control seedling diseases.

Seed should be treated at least 48 hours before planting. Use  $1\frac{1}{2}$  or 2 ounces of Ceresan per bushel of seed.

-os-



News Bureau  
University Farm  
St. Paul 1 Minnesota  
April 25 1950

To all counties

SPECIAL - FOR FLOOD AREAS  
Use if suitable

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(more)

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\* \* \* \* \*

To speed up seedbed preparation, M. L. Armour, extension agronomist says to loosen the crust on fields with a disc or springtooth harrow.

Digging up the crust will help dry out the soil so it can be worked into a seedbed.

Bluegrass will grow up through the silt if the layer is not too thick. If pasture grass doesn't show within a reasonable time, new grass can be seeded on the silt deposit.

Most grains should still mature, Armour said, but if your planting date is delayed too long, barley can stand later seeding than oats.

Recommended varieties of millet can be planted late and harvested for seed. Or if feed is short, Proso millet makes a good substitute feed crop.

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-PR-OS-

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Immediate Release

#### 4-H'ERS IMPROVE HOMES

Some 1,700 4-H club members in Minnesota will take part in the National 4-H Home Improvement program this year, Leonard Harkness, state club leader at the University of Minnesota, announced today.

Since farm families are giving more attention to increasing the comfort and beauty of their homes, the National 4-H Home Improvement program takes on new importance this year, he said. In many cases enthusiasm of boys and girls for the project has inspired parents to cooperate in carrying out long-range plans to make their homes more livable.

Enrollment in the program, now in its fourth year, increased almost 15,000 throughout the nation in 1949.

County extension agents and local club leaders instruct 4-H boys and girls in such different phases of home improvement as upholstering, refinishing furniture, floor sanding, redecorating and using color. A favorite starting place for both girls and boys has been their own bedrooms, which they have redecorated with the help of a few cans of paint, some new fabrics, ingenuity and hard work.

Many club members who have been active in the home improvement project during the past few years are now skilled in renovating old furniture and redecorating. Others have done carpentry work, building closets, cupboards and bookshelves.

Outstanding accomplishments in 4-H home improvement will be recognized again this year. Sears-Roebuck Foundation will award college scholarships to the eight top-ranking 4-H'ers in the nation. The state champion will be given a trip to the National 4-H Club Congress in Chicago and county winners will receive medals.

Last year's state winner in home improvement was Richard Pribnow, St. Paul. Medals were presented to 202 county winners in Minnesota.

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#### SPECIAL ACTIVITIES MARK NAT'L. HOME DEMONSTRATION WEEK

National Home Demonstration Week April 30-May 6 will be observed with varied activities throughout Minnesota, Dorothy Simmons, state leader in the extension home program for the University of Minnesota, said today.

Initial event ushering in the week's activities will be an open house given by members of the home economics Agricultural Extension staff in Coffey Hall at University Farm Friday afternoon, April 28. Wylie McNeal, retiring director of the University's School of Home Economics, will be guest of honor. Other guests will include home economics resident staff, home economics students who are enrolled in the extension curriculum and home economics students who are present and former 4-H club members.

In many counties Achievement Days and special exhibits will highlight the past year's accomplishments of women taking part in the extension home program and will give attention to progress made in improving homes since the program was started over 30 years ago.

More than 65,000 rural homemakers in the state will be given recognition during the week for their active participation in Minnesota's extension home program, which is part of a nationwide home economics educational program sponsored by the Federal, state and county Agricultural Extension Services.

The Minnesota homemakers will be among 3 million women in the United States and its territories who will take part in special observances to mark National Home Demonstration Week and consider their achievements in making family life on the farm more satisfying and homes more attractive, comfortable and efficient.

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Immediate Release

#### TWO-STATE FIELD DAY SET FOR FALL

A two-state field day on beef cattle and land use will be held in southern Minnesota next fall, W. E. Morris, University Farm extension livestock authority, reported today.

The all-day event, expected to draw farmers and cattle feeders in the northern half of Iowa and southern Minnesota, has tentatively been set for September 26.

Called a "Beef Cattle and the Land" institute, the field day is jointly sponsored by the agricultural extension services, beef breed associations, and Farm Bureaus of the two states, the state and regional Soil Conservation Service, and Wilson and Company.

It will be held at Albert Lea.

The program, as now outlined, will include discussions and demonstrations on buying feeder cattle for Minnesota and Iowa feed lots, and the use of grass in a well-balanced livestock and land use program.

A-7818-RR

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#### BEEKEEPERS TO MEET

The eighth annual Beekeepers short course will be held at University Farm on May 10-12, J. O. Christianson, short course director, said today.

A training school for state apiary inspectors will be held at the same time.

The short course, designed for both beginners and experience beekeepers, will cover package bees, colony management, diseases, costs and honey production, according to M. H. Haydak, university entomologist in charge of the program.

Key speakers include Apiculture Professors E. J. Dyce, New York State College, and R. L. Parker, Kansas State College.

A-7819-RR

#### FLOODS WILL SLOW FARM WORK

Farmers being hit by floods throughout parts of Minnesota may be thrown as much as a month behind schedule in their already-late spring work, University Farm extension specialists estimated today.

Most grains will still mature, however, if planting dates are not delayed too long, thinks Agronomist M. L. Armour. He recommends seeding barley in place of oats where planting is extremely late. The crust on fields should be loosened by disking as soon as possible to aid drying.

Dairymen predicted feed supplies may be short in stricken areas. Hay in stacks and barns soaked by water will be destroyed. So will grain. Silage was expected to still be useable. Pastures will be damaged, or at best delayed.

University veterinary head W. L. Boyd cautioned farmers to be on guard against livestock diseases. "Cattle, sheep and hogs weakened by exposure will be highly susceptible to bronchitis, pneumonia and other respiratory diseases," he warned. Providing the best shelter and feed available to strengthen wet, cold animals, is recommended.

A thorough check of ignition systems of flooded trucks, tractors or automobiles was advised by Extension engineer George McPhee. A complete change of oil, coolant and fuel, and repacking of front wheel bearings was also suggested.

Gardeners were advised to uncover the crowns of rhubarb, asparagus and perennials as the water recedes. Horticulturist L. C. Snyder held little hope for strawberry beds under water for a week.

The flood probably won't lessen the grasshopper threat to hard-hit Red River Valley farmers. Submersion of hopper eggs won't kill them, reports A. W. Buzicky, associate state entomologist. A heavy layer of silt will keep hatching hoppers from reaching the soil surface, however.

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#### BR-R-R-R SPRING GOOD FOR TREE PLANTING

The cold, late spring being damned throughout Minnesota actually has one point in its favor. It is beneficial to trees being planted in Arbor Day ceremonies today (April 28).

"This is good tree planting weather ....if you have the trees," Henry L. Hansen, University of Minnesota forester, reported at University Farm. "The only trouble with this spring is that northern nurseries have been frozen in and unable to make deliveries."

Hansen recommends trees be set out as soon as possible. Newly planted ones and those yet to go in the ground can't survive warm weather. Normally May 1-15 is about the last safe planting date in Minnesota.

IF warm weather does arrive before seedlings are planted, the tree planting expert says to keep the roots moist until they are set out.

Other planting tips listed by U Farm foresters include:

- \* Make holes wide and deep enough to take the entire root system without crowding.

- \* Set the fibrous roots firmly by taping the first dirt carefully around them.

- \* Plant the trees one inch deeper than the dirt "ring" (darkened area at former soil level) to allow for ground settling.

- \* Don't "hill up" around trees. Rather, leave a slight depression around the stem to catch rain water.

After the trees are planted, keep the area free of weeds and grass. Fence out cattle and chickens, and cultivate during the summer to make a dust mulch adjacent to the plantings.

A-7821-RR



MINNESOTA RURAL YOUTH'ER TO SWEDEN

Donald Sederstrom, International Farm Youth Exchange member from Minnesota, has been assigned to visit Sweden this summer, according to information from the Agricultural Extension Service, Washington, D. C.

Sederstrom, 21-year-old rural youth member from Litchfield, is one of 45 young men and women from 27 states selected to spend  $4\frac{1}{2}$  months in designated European countries this summer.

The group expects to fly from Washington to London, England, on June 11. A part of the group, including Sederstrom, will go on by plane to Luxembourg the next day.

Sederstrom will spend the summer living and working with a Swedish farm family.

Rachel Ann Johnson, Bowling Green, Kentucky, and Donald C. Andrews, Topsfield, Mass., have also been assigned to Sweden.

Purpose of the Agricultural Extension Service exchange program is to acquaint junior farm leaders with international problems of world peace.

Belgium, Luxembourg, Denmark, Finland, Norway, Sweden, France, Netherlands, England and Wales, Ireland, Northern Ireland, Scotland, Switzerland, Austria and Germany have completed plans to receive IFYE delegates. Italy and Greece are expected to be added countries, as plans are completed.

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#### ACHIEVEMENTS OF RURAL WOMEN RECOGNIZED

What rural homemakers in Minnesota - and all over the nation - have done to make their homes more attractive and comfortable and life on the farm more satisfying will receive attention during National Home Demonstration Week April 20-  
May 6.

During the week, Minnesota women will be among the 3 million women from all over the country who will receive a special salute for their active participation in a nation-wide home economics educational program, known in Minnesota as the extension home program and in some states as home demonstration work.

The achievements of the rural homemakers who have taken part in this program are impressive.

During the past year nearly 65,000 Minnesota homemakers have improved their homes and family living by introducing new techniques and practices they have learned through the extension home program.

Nearly 35,000 women received suggestions on food preparation that will help them to prepare better balanced and more appetizing and nutritious meals; almost as many learned proper methods of food preservation. Thousands have been given assistance in making their own clothes.

Other homemakers in the state have been given help in remodeling kitchens, refinishing and upholstering furniture, planning effective color schemes and buying more wisely.

Women who participate in the extension home program study almost every phase of homemaking and family living, according to Dorothy Simmons, state leader in the extension home program at the University of Minnesota. Clothing and food topics were most popular in Minnesota this year.

The extension home program is carried into rural homes and communities by county home agents and state specialists, whose services are made available through cooperative action of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, the University of Minnesota and the county.

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#### FOOD PREPARATION POPULAR WITH 4-H'ERS

Food preparation is expected to be one of the most popular programs in 4-H work this year, according to Leonard Harkness, state 4-H club leader at the University of Minnesota.

Last year more than 8,000 4-H club boys and girls in Minnesota carried the food preparation project, making nearly 200,000 meals.

National, state and county awards will be presented to the youthful cooks at the end of the year for outstanding achievement, Harkness said. Awards on a national basis have been offered in the food preparation program for 16 years.

Six national champions will each receive a \$300 scholarship, while state winners get a trip to the National 4-H Club Congress in Chicago. Gold medals will be given to county winners. New donor of the awards is the Kelvinator Division of Nash-Kelvinator corporation, Detroit.

Objectives of the food preparation program are to give 4-H'ers a well-rounded basic knowledge in selecting, preparing and serving food. At club meetings local leaders and county extension agents demonstrate modern approved practices and use of proper equipment. The project is often responsible for improved eating habits on the part of club members and the rest of the family.

Roberta Anderson, Rose Creek, was state food preparation champion in 1949. Sixty-seven girls in Minnesota were awarded county medals for their accomplishments in preparing and serving meals.

The Minnesota Agricultural Extension Service supervises the project.

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#### TWO AT U FARM TO RETIRE

The coming retirement of two University of Minnesota agricultural engineers was announced today by Dean C. H. Bailey, director of agriculture.

Arthur G. Tyler will retire June 15 after 31 years as professor of agricultural physics and rural electrification. Dalton G. Miller, federal cooperater stationed at University Farm since 1921, will retire May 30. He has spent over 43 years as a federal engineer.

Both men will be honored at a dinner in Coffman Memorial Union this evening (April 28), according to A. J. Schwantes, division chief.

Tyler, a native of Michigan, joined the agricultural engineering staff in 1919. While his main job was teaching, he did experimental work in farm electrification, water supply, sewage and other farmstead conveniences.

A graduate of Michigan State College, he was a member of the American Society of Agricultural Engineers and the Minnesota Academy of Science. He will continue to make his home in St. Paul and to retain his contact with the University.

Miller, who first came to Minnesota in 1919, is a world authority on drain tile. Engineers from Mexico, Canada and Europe have visited Minnesota to inspect his experiments on tile durability. Far reaching research with concrete, which has resulted in the changing of formulas by manufacturers is also attributed to Miller.

A graduate of the University of Iowa, he was awarded the ASAE John Deere Gold Medal for outstanding engineering achievement in 1948. Active in the American Society of Testing Materials, he is present chairman of the drain tile specifications committee. He is a member of ASAE.

Miller plans to continue the writing of a new bulletin. He is the author of some 60 major publications.

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