

Department of Information
and Agricultural Journalism
Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101
January 2, 1973

To all counties
Immediate release

MSC
GAZ/p

FUNGUS GROWTH ON
CORN MAY PRESENT
FEEDING PROBLEM

Try new batches of corn on just a few animals for a week or so before feeding it to the entire herd if you suspect feeding problems from fungus growth.

And if animals refuse the corn or you're suspicious about its safety due to fungus or mold growth, send samples to the University of Minnesota's Department of Plant Pathology for testing.

See your county extension agent for information on sending samples to the University for testing. Tests won't answer all your questions, but scientists can estimate the chances for feeding problems and offer suggestions for reducing them.

"Most of the samples we've received with fungus growth of various colors on the kernels have not caused feeding problems," says Extension Plant Pathologist Herbert G. Johnson.

Gibberella, a pink fungus which is one of the most serious causes of corn root, stalk and ear rot in Minnesota, sometimes causes hogs and other livestock to refuse infected corn, Johnson says. Gibberella causes formation of mycotoxins in corn, which leads to the "refusal factor." This fungus was especially prominent last fall on ears with tight husks that reduced drying.

However, not all infected kernels contain the refusal factor, Johnson says. Offering the infected corn to hogs is the best way to test for feeding problems, although a research project is underway at the University to learn more about the problem.

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add 1--fungus growth

Other fungi grow on corn--and one of these causes kernels to turn black or form black specks. "This has been found on ear corn in cribs where high moisture corn was piled up during warm fall days," Johnson says.

Corn which has a high percentage of gray kernels may cause feeding problems but in most cases is "perfectly good," according to Johnson.

"Many fungi will grow on corn kernels when moisture content is about 25 percent and higher, and when temperature is above 40 degrees F.," says Johnson. However, some fungi grow at lower temperatures--even below freezing.

"We've seen some lots of corn that appeared severely damaged by mold growth. However, laboratory tests and test feeding trials have often shown it to be perfectly safe and livestock ate it very well," Johnson says.

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IN BRIEF

Hog Profits. Commercial hog producers are offered these profit tips from Charles Christians, University of Minnesota extension livestock specialist:

- Select those breeds that excel in test station performance for cross-breeding programs.
- Choose purebred breeders who have top performing pigs in the test station.
- Select above average boars from performance tested herds.
- Require performance information on all breeding stock.

* * * *

Good Boar Profitable. An outstanding boar could save you at least \$140 a year in feed costs alone. This would result if a boar improved the feed efficiency of his offspring by 10 pounds per 100 pounds gain and he sired 30 litters, or 240 pigs per year, calculates Charles Christians, extension livestock specialist at the University of Minnesota.

* * * *

Dairy Heifers. The most profitable time to have dairy heifers freshen is the youngest possible age at which they will have minimum calving difficulty. Calving at 24 months is most profitable, compared to later calving, say University of Minnesota dairy specialists. Reason: Cost of rearing is less over a shorter unproductive period, even though production may be less in the first lactation.

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House Plants Need Humidity. Increasing the humidity in your home during winter months will aid house plant growth. Many house plants benefit from a regular spraying with clean, soft water at least once a week. Growing plants on a water-proof tray that contains moist sand, crushed rock or colored pebbles also helps solve the humidity problem, but make sure the pots themselves are not sitting in water. Home humidifiers are helpful.

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add 1--in brief

Lung Protection. Don't fight dust, chaff, pollen and molds plus powerful agricultural chemicals and silage gas without respiratory protection. Problems ranging from annoyance and respiratory irritation to permanent health damage or even death can result. Farm supply houses and agricultural chemical dealers usually have respiratory equipment for sale. Some hardware, drug or paint stores carry simple filter respirators suitable for work in dust, chaff or pollen, or for spraying non-toxic paints.

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To all counties
ATT: Extension Home Economists
Immediate release

HIT-AND-MISS
CARE WON'T DO
FOR HOUSE PLANTS

Even the homemaker who declares she doesn't have a green thumb will have success with house plants if she follows a few simple rules, says _____ County Extension Home Economist _____.

During the long winter months especially, house plants can provide color, beauty and life to rooms that might otherwise look drab and uninteresting.

But you'll never develop a green thumb if you treat all house plants alike, according to Jane McKinnon, extension horticulturist at the University of Minnesota. She gives some keys to success in choosing and caring for house plants:

- . First, decide what plants you want and whether you can provide the environment those plants need.
- . Learn the proper names of the plants you choose or already have. If you don't know what you have, you won't know what care is necessary. Your florist can tell you the correct names of the plants.
- . Study each plant to find out what environment it requires and then select the location in your home where the plants have a chance to succeed. Remember that indoor plants have come from different parts of the world; hence the type of environment they need will vary.

Many Cacti and succulents--plants with thick stems and leaves--may come from the desert and will do well in a hot, dry house in bright light without frequent watering. Philodendron, which grows naturally in the tropics or semi-tropics, does not need full light but does require a great deal of water. African violets must have light in order to bloom. Plants that bloom and fruit usually thrive in a bright, sunny place in the daytime and in a cool temperature at night.

add 1--house plants

. Give attention to the kind of soil mixture to use. Your florist can give you this information.

. Give your plants proper care at the different periods of life--such as before and after flowering--when requirements may differ.

. Consult reliable books and pamphlets on house plants and their care. One reliable source of such information is Extension Bulletin 274, Care of House Plants by Richard E. Widmer, professor of horticultural science at the University of Minnesota. The bulletin is available free of charge from the county extension office.

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GA27P

January 2, 1973

For Extension Home Economists

Microwave Ovens

University household equipment specialist Wanda Olson says a microwave oven can be a time-saver and possibly a money saver for the busy homemaker.

It can be used to start or finish cooking done in a standard range. A portable microwave oven--once regarded as a luxury item--now is available for as low as two-hundred dollars.

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Cooking Speed

The amount of food placed in a microwave oven determines how quickly it will cook.

Heating a cup of soup to boiling may take two minutes, while heating two cups will take almost four minutes. Food cannot be simmered in the microwave oven.

* * * *

Consumer Considerations

Make sure you have a convenient location and sufficient space in your kitchen for a microwave oven before you buy it.

A microwave oven requires about 18 by 24 inches of space. Although most portable units will fit under a wall cabinet, it's advisable to check the height of the unit against your clearance space.

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Egg Prices

The Poultry Survey Committee says wholesale egg prices in 1973 will be about seven cents above the preceding 12 months.

The laying flock in the United States on January 1st is expected to be down about six percent from a year ago. Experts predict that decreased hen numbers and an increased laying rate will result in about four percent fewer eggs in the first quarter of the new year.

But egg production is expected to reach year-earlier levels by the fourth quarter of the new year. University of Minnesota extension poultry specialist Mel Hamre (ham-ree) says egg producers "finally" have seen some relief from two years of egg prices at or below production costs.

Kansas State University poultry specialist Jack Jackson says he doesn't think egg prices will remain at levels profitable for producers. He says by next October there will be an egg surplus again accompanied by lower egg prices.

Jackson says it costs about 30 cents a dozen to produce eggs--28 cents without figuring in labor and 32 cents counting labor. But with feed costs rising, he says those production costs will increase. Jackson says any noticeable increase in egg numbers or any consumer resistance to higher prices can tumble producers back where they were with production costs running above selling prices.

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MAKE CARPET COLOR
WORK FOR YOU

"What carpet color would be best for our home?"

That's a question many families ask who are planning to invest in carpeting for one or more rooms of the house at sometime this year, says _____ County Extension Home Economist _____.

Color is always important in the home, but probably never more so than when it is seen in such a big area as the floor. In making your color selection, keep in mind its importance in both your decorating scheme and your maintenance budget.

A light color can add size to a room, while a dark color can make a room appear smaller. Since you can also add warmth or coolness to a room by your color selection, you're wise to consider how color can work for you.

Carpet color is more than just an element of beauty, according to Linda Reece, extension specialist in interior design and furnishings at the University of Minnesota. It is also a vital part of home maintenance, since it helps to determine soiling performance of the carpet even more than does the type of fiber, the texture or construction.

Multi-color and multi-level carpets show less soiling than plain, smooth one-color carpets, Miss Reece points out.

Blues and greens show less soil than yellows and golds. All very light colors and white will show soil quickly and soon lose their original attractive appearance. Dark colors, on the other hand, show lint and dust, especially if the carpet is darker than the soil that is tracked in. Colors of medium value show the least amount of soil.

Today's carpets come in a wide range of hues, from light to dark, in solid colors and mixtures. This wide variety should make it possible to select the color that will be most attractive and most practical for your home, the University specialist says.

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NEW WEED THREATENS
SOUTHEAST AREA

A new weed called woolly cupgrass poses a threat to cultivated areas in southeast Minnesota, says Gerald R. Miller, University of Minnesota extension agronomist.

The grass has spread in Winona County to several farms "and has been a problem in corn, oats and alfalfa," says Miller. The weed has also been found in fields in Goodhue, Dakota, Blue Earth and Mower counties and a garden in Rice County.

Herbicides providing the best control are alachlor and propachlor, according to results of a field trial.

"Woolly cupgrass is an annual grass that grows three to five feet tall," says the agronomist. "In the seedling stage, the grass is very dark green, and the leaves are wider than foxtails. The lower half-inch of the stem of the seedlings is usually purple.

"The plant is densely covered with very fine hairs on both sides of the leaves and stem. These hairs are difficult to see, but the leaves have a distinct velvety feel. The leaf margins are very rough. There is a fringe of hairs at the leaf collar.

"The seeds are about one-fifth inch long and 2/3 as wide, larger than foxtail seeds, and tan to brown when mature. The heads appear to be single branching and very woolly," Miller says.

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FARMERS CAN
TAKE STEPS
ON FEED COSTS

Several steps can be taken by a dairy farmer if he feels pinched in the pocketbook by increases in soybean meal prices, Michael Hutjens, University of Minnesota extension dairyman, says.

Forages should be tested for protein to give the dairy farmer an indication of his forage quality instead of guessing. A simple calculation will tell you how much protein you'll need to buy.

Buy soybean meal now since prices likely will not be dropping. Consider urea since the dairy cow can use it as a protein source. Precautions must be followed for optimal utilization. For more information, get Dairy Fact Sheet No. 4 from the _____ County Extension Office or the Bulletin Room, University of Minnesota, St. Paul 55101.

Substitute higher protein grains. For instance, barley, oats and wheat average 12 percent crude protein compared to eight and nine percent protein in ear and shelled corn. If you feed more hay instead of corn silage, your forage program will be higher in protein content assuming average to good quality hay. Corn silage averages eight percent crude protein on a 100 percent dry matter basis.

Instead of mixing protein supplements in the total grain ration, top-dress supplement individually to your top producers to reduce the cost of your base grain ration. Cows requiring additional protein will get it.

Remember, milk production will drop if you underfeed protein, Hutjens adds. The total ration including grain and forage should average 13 to 14 percent crude protein for optimal milk production. Also consider the energy content of the ration, especially if you replace corn silage and corn grain.

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9/12/73

IN BRIEF. . . .

Pouring Concrete in Winter. Winter days following harvest seem like a good time to build or remodel farm structures. But if your plans include concrete foundations, walls or floors, remember that temperature is crucial.

Fresh concrete should never be placed on frozen ground and should be protected from freezing.

For example, if the aggregate you plan to use is 40 degrees, maintain a concrete temperature above the 50-degree level by using water warmed to at least 78 degrees. When using heated water, put the cement into the mix last to prevent flash setting.

* * * *

Maintain Proper Temperature. Both fresh and hardened concrete lose moisture and heat rapidly to cold air with low relative humidity.

Keep the temperature at 50 degrees and cover the concrete with plastic or spray it with curing compound. Continue this protection for at least three days. The temperature may then fall to as low as 40 degrees for the next four days.

After pouring, cover the concrete with polyethylene and several inches of straw. The cover will protect the concrete to temperatures as low as 30 degrees. But if you expect the temperature to drop into the 20's, use an enclosure with a heater. Avoid using an unvented salamander to keep the concrete warm because the fumes react with fresh concrete causing the surface to set improperly.

To speed the set of a cold concrete mix, use high-early strength cement or add 1-½ pounds of calcium chloride to each bag of regular cement. Calcium chloride is not an anti-freeze so you still should keep the concrete covered to keep temperature up and moisture in.

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add 1--in brief

Pollution Facts. Livestock and poultry producers in Minnesota have a legal responsibility to prevent land, water and air pollution. Minnesota Pollution Control Agency regulations do not allow for pollution from confinement livestock areas, Philip R. Goodrich, University of Minnesota agricultural engineer, says.

The Soil Conservation Service can provide technical assistance in the construction of pollution control facilities for livestock confinement areas. Pollution and control facilities are included in the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service's cost-sharing programs under the Rural Environmental Assistance Program. However, the REAP program may not be continued due to economy measures by the current administration.

* * * *

Darkness Is A Winter Hazard. Everyone agrees that snow and ice are major winter driving hazards. Dusk comes earlier in the winter, so people do more driving at night. Many drivers overdrive their headlights, and can't stop quickly enough when they see potential hazards.

Slower speeds and caution are the solutions. Slow down within the range of your headlights to allow enough time to avoid accidents on those snowy winter nights.

* * * *

Pollution Tax Credit. Feedlot pollution control credit is available on the Minnesota income tax, says Philip R. Goodrich, University of Minnesota agricultural engineer. The tax credit is available for equipment and devices installed and operated in Minnesota by a feedlot operator and used for the prevention, control or abatement of air, land or water pollution. A total of 10 percent of the qualifying equipment's cost to the feedlot operator may be deducted from the Minnesota income tax.

Qualifying feedlot operators should write a letter to the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency and ask for Form 592, MPCA will send a letter of certification to the feedlot operator, and this should be filed with Schedule PC when you file your tax forms. A statement on the second line of Schedule PC which asks if you've applied for a permit should be interpreted to read "whether you've applied for a letter of certification, not a permit," Goodrich adds.

Write to: Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, Section of Agricultural Wastes, 717 Delaware St. S.E., Minneapolis, Minn., 55440.

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To all counties
4-H NEWS
Immediate release

4-H MEMBERS PREPARE
FOR SPEAKING CONTESTS

4-H members from _____ county will participate in the 4-H speaking contest on _____ at _____ at _____.
(date) (location) (time)

This year's contest theme is "Communication: Bulwark of Brotherhood," or "How to Rap to Bridge the Gap." Speeches will be original and 5-7 minutes long. They will be judged on the basis of composition, delivery and ability to answer questions. Participants must be 14, but not older than 19 on Jan. 1, 1973.

Purposes of the speaking program are to:

- * Promote human understanding.
- * Provide participants with training and speaking experience.
- * Stimulate greater awareness of social issues.

In February, eligible county winners will broadcast their talks over radio stations cooperating in the district contests. Seventeen district champions will be selected to compete in the state contest March 12 in the Twin Cities.

County winners will participate in a two and one-half day educational program March 11-13 in the Twin Cities. The program will include tours, seminars and entertainment.

The state winner will receive a \$100 cash award and \$50 to purchase books for his public or school library. District winners will receive trophies and expense-paid trips to the Twin Cities to participate in the state educational program.

The speaking programs are sponsored for the 31st year by the Jewish Community Relations Council and the University of Minnesota Agricultural Extension Service.

For more information on the speaking contests contact your county extension agent.

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For Extension Home Economists

Drug Residues "Unnecessary," "Inexcusable"

A University of Minnesota animal scientist says antibiotic and other drug residues in tissues of animals raised for food is "unnecessary and inexcusable."

Lester Hanson says residues occur because some livestock producers fail to follow dosage instructions and required withdrawal times before the treated animal is slaughtered.

He warns that U. S. Department of Agriculture findings and unfavorable publicity associated with them threaten the future use of feed additives. The law requires that there be no residue in meats.

Hanson says there is no reason why drug residues should appear in meat if the user reads the label on the feed tag and follows instructions given for its use.

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New Sausage Rules Suggested

A U. S. Department of Agriculture official has suggested new ingredient standards for frankfurter, bologna and other cooked sausages.

USDA assistant secretary Richard Lyng says it is time to consider revising ingredients and labeling for these products. Lyng says consumers should understand what they are buying without having to read the fine print on packages.

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Freezing Cranberries

Storing a fresh supply of cranberries in the home freezer now is a smart move for the family that enjoys this fruit throughout the year.

University food scientist Shirley Munson suggests sorting and washing the berries first. Many packages of cranberries contain a few soft or off-color berries that are hard to detect when they are frozen. Discard any that are spoiled.

Drain and pack cranberries in freezer bags or other freezer containers. They will keep for about a year.

* * * *

Baby Foods

Save some money on your grocery bill by making baby food at home in your blender.

University extension nutritionist Mary Darling suggests using meat, vegetables and fruits for baby foods prepared in the blender. Avoid salted vegetables and seasoned meats, such as frankfurters. Most frozen vegetables are not salted, except for frozen peas. Many commercially canned vegetables are salted.

Boil home-canned vegetables before preparing them for baby food. Prepare small amounts at a time and store them in the refrigerator for no longer than two or three days. Freeze larger amounts.

Using a strainer rather than the blender to puree foods for the baby just starting on solid foods may be a good idea.

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FARMERS: OBSERVE
DRUG USE DIRECTIONS

More drugs used on food-producing animals probably will be taken off the market unless farmers carefully observe withholding times on drug labels.

That's the warning from Dr. Garth Miller, animal science researcher at the University of Minnesota.

"In the past few months we've heard a lot from the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) about proper use of drugs. This federal government agency makes sure that federal laws regarding the sale of nutritious food to consumers are followed," Miller says.

FDA regulations say food shall not have more than the maximum allowed drug concentration when moving to market. This maximum level is zero for many drugs--especially those found to cause cancer in rats when administered at very high levels, according to Miller.

He says these drug laws have been set up by the Food and Drug Administration for these reasons:

--A low level of antibiotic in human food may cause resistant bacteria to form in a person's body. And when that person becomes sick, the antibiotic may not be effective against that bacteria because of its resistance--a dangerous situation.

--Over one-half of the daily diet for a baby is made up of milk. If the milk contains a drug, the baby may get enough drug to be toxic to the child--again a dangerous situation.

--And, the food we eat should be clean and free of any foreign substance.

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add 1--follow drug labels

Miller cautions livestock farmers using drugs to follow these directions:

--Read the drug label.

--Follow the recommended dosages and methods of administering the drug.

--Read and follow the withholding time for meat and milk on each drug label.

--Be sure to get the withholding time from the administering veterinarian before he leaves the farm.

--Read the drug label of any feed that has a drug in it and follow withholding times on the label. A feed dealer must give you a label when he delivers the feed, and any feed that has a drug in it is regarded as a drug and is subject to the drug labeling laws.

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DAIRYMEN: CONSIDER
MONOAMMONIUM PHOSPHATE

Monoammonium phosphate is an economical and palatable mineral supplement for your dairy herd, says Mike Hutjens, extension dairy scientist at the University of Minnesota.

He encourages dairymen feeding large amounts of alfalfa or clover to consider a high phosphorus mineral such as monoammonium phosphate.

Monoammonium phosphate has these characteristics:

- Contains 24 percent phosphorus and no calcium.
- Has a crude protein equivalent of 68 percent--higher than soybean meal.
- Is stable since it does not break down and release ammonia.
- Is economical; cheaper than sodium tripolyphosphate or monosodium phosphate.
- High palatability--can be fed free choice.

If one percent monoammonium phosphate (20 pounds per ton) is added to the grain ration, the protein level of the grain mix is increased three-fourths of one percent. And 20 pounds of monoammonium phosphates contain the same protein equivalents as five pounds of urea, says Hutjens.

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WINTERING HORSES
ON DEAD GRASS MAY
BE PRACTICAL

Dead grass from a properly managed pasture can provide a mature horse with sufficient nutrients, says Robert M. Jordan, University of Minnesota animal scientist.

Yearlings and pregnant mares also can be wintered on good dead grass, but this must be properly supplemented, he adds.

"Wintering a horse on dead grass is a very common practice," he says. "If you know what you are doing, it can be a wise and economical practice."

Your knowledge should include information about the nutrient content of the material and the amount available per acre. Standing dead grass normally does not compare very well with hay produced from the same field, but that does not mean the dead grass is no good, he says.

"If your land is fertile, there will be more grass standing and of better quality. Fertilizer can double or triple yields, and equally important, increase the protein content two to five percentage points."

Jordan suggests this program:

"Handle your land as usual for hay or pasture up to Aug. 1. Fertilize Aug. 1 to 10 and let the grass grow until frost." Land handled this way could feed a mature, thousand-pound horse for about 60 days.

Be aware that when forage freezes it loses "lots of its nutrients" and declines in digestibility, warns the scientist.

Also, the forage yield per fertilized acre is "not near as much as you would think," he adds. In one test, alfalfa that was 22 inches on Sept. 22, had only .7 ton per acre of dry matter on Feb. 11.

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January 15, 1973

For Extension Home Economists

Milk Costs

With the price of milk in the dairy case increasing, consumers may be looking for ways to stretch their milk money.

Skim, canned and buttermilk usually cost less than fresh, whole milk. Pay cash, University of Minnesota home economists advise, and carry your milk home. A gallon of milk usually is cheaper than four separate quarts.

Save the most money by using dry milk. A quart of mixed dry milk costs about 10 cents or less.

Home economists offer this tip to make milk from the dairy case go farther: Fill a quart jar half full of cold water and add two-thirds of a cup of instant non-fat dry milk. Stir till smooth and fill the jar with regular milk. Cover the jar and cool before drinking.

* * * *

Skim vs. Whole Milk

Skim milk is a nutritious way to cut calories and cut milk costs. Skim milk has the food value of whole except for a smaller amount of fat.

Vitamin A usually is added to fluid skim milk to replace the amount lost by the lower milk fat content.

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January 15, 1973

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Inexpensive Cocoa Mix

Instant hot cocoa mixes may be too expensive for some family food budgets, so University of Minnesota home economists offer this suggestion:

Mix instant non-fat dry milk with cocoa. Use seven cups of dry milk, one cup of sugar, three-quarters of a cup of cocoa and one-quarter of a teaspoon of salt. For one cup of cocoa, put one-third of this mix in a cup. Stir in a little warm water to make a paste. Fill the cup with boiling water, constantly stirring.

For cold chocolate milk, make the mix the same as for hot cocoa, but chill it several hours. Stir well before serving.

* * * *

Water-Added Ham

Water-added hams may be good meat buys, but assume that a five-pound water-added ham has a half-pound of added water.

So figure the cost per pound for a five-pound water-added ham on the basis of four-and-a-half pounds of meat. University meat specialist Richard Epley says that if this calculated price per pound is LESS than the price per pound of regular ham, the water-added ham is a better buy. Otherwise, a regular ham would be a better buy.

Some hams retain more water than normal during curing and smoking. Federal regulations require that these hams be labeled "water-added" or "moist."

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4-H NEWS
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MSC
JAN 17

4-H OFFERS
POSTER-ART
CONTEST

4-H'ers with an interest in art are urged to join the 1973 4-H poster-art contest. Posters are due in the county extension office by _____.
(date)

The aim of the poster-art contest is to express what 4-H is and the opportunities it offers, explains Juanita Fehlhafer, assistant state leader, 4-H and youth development.

Outstanding county posters will be judged in state 4-H poster competition. Members of the University of Minnesota 4-H club will select 10 county entries for competition at the National 4-H Conference in mid-April in Washington, D. C.

The art work selected nationally will be used for the national 4-H poster, 4-H calendars, leaflets, exhibits and displays.

Guidelines for making posters are:

- * Posters may be made by any 4-H'er or by a club or team of members.
- * Posters can be either horizontal or vertical. Horizontal posters are better since they conform to TV proportions and don't need remaking.
- * Posters using copyrighted cartoon characters will not be accepted.
- * Recommended sizes are 11 x 14 inches but may go up to 22 x 28.
- * Name, address and age of the 4-H member should be clearly written on the back of each poster. Make sure to include state and zip code.

All posters selected for top honors will become the property of the Extension Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture.

Coats and Clark, Inc., sponsor of the national 4-H poster, will award cameras to 4-H'ers with the top 10 national entries.

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FURNITURE NEEDS
TENDER CARE

The care you give your furniture will determine not only how well it looks but how long it will last.

Even when furniture has been finished to resist almost anything, you are wise to use some precautions in caring for it, according to Linda Reece, extension specialist in interior design and furnishings at the University of Minnesota.

Fine wood furniture should not be constantly subjected to heat, direct sunlight or open windows. Frequent dusting of the wood and vacuuming upholstery will help keep it in top condition. Always remove spots promptly.

If scratches do appear on the furniture, touch-up sticks will disguise surface damage. They can be purchased in many colors to blend with the finish. Since the stain or dye will darken with age, apply a shade lighter than the finish.

Iodine, applied lightly on dark woods with a fine brush, may also serve the purpose. For maple, dilute about 50 percent with denatured alcohol and follow the same method, Miss Reece suggests. Oil from a Brazil nut or black walnut may provide enough coloring to hide a small scratch. Break the nutmeat in half and rub well into the blemish.

To remove white spots caused by hot or cold dishes, pour a few drops of oil on the spots, dip your fingers into the oil and then into salt and rub the areas at intervals. If the spots still remain, cover with more oil and let stand for a time. Follow by polishing with a dry cloth.

To clean soiled leather or plastic upholstery, sponge the surface with a mild soap or detergent suds and then rinse. Be sure not to use too much water. Rub dry with a clean cloth. Never use furniture polish on leather or plastic.

Dry soapsuds made by beating a handful of soap with a little water to produce a stiff lather will clean soiled painted or enameled furniture. Rinse and wipe several times with a damp cloth and dry with a clean towel.

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DAIRYMEN: CONSIDER
MONOAMMONIUM PHOSPHATE

Monoammonium phosphate is an economical and palatable mineral supplement for your dairy herd, says Mike Hutjens, extension dairy scientist at the University of Minnesota.

He encourages dairymen feeding large amounts of alfalfa or clover to consider a high phosphorus mineral such as monoammonium phosphate.

Monoammonium phosphate has these characteristics:

- Contains 24 percent phosphorus and no calcium.
- Has a crude protein equivalent of 68 percent--higher than soybean meal.
- Is stable since it does not break down and release ammonia.
- Is economical; cheaper than sodium tripolyphosphate or monosodium phosphate.
- High palatability--can be fed free choice.

If one percent monoammonium phosphate (20 pounds per ton) is added to the grain ration, the protein level of the grain mix is increased three-fourths of one percent. And 20 pounds of monoammonium phosphates contain the same protein equivalents as five pounds of urea, says Hutjens.

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Department of Information
and Agricultural Journalism
Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101
January 15, 1973

To all counties
Immediate release

MSC
JHR/P

IN BRIEF. . . .

New Alfalfa Varieties. Agate and Ramsey, two new alfalfa varieties with good disease resistance, have been developed by USDA researchers at the University of Minnesota and will be available to farmers in 1974 or 1975. Agate is highly resistant to phytophthora root rot and bacterial wilt. It has good winter hardiness and better leaf spot resistance than most varieties, says Herbert G. Johnson, University extension plant pathologist.

Ramsey has more resistance to leaf spot, black stem and crown rot than most other varieties. It also has good bacterial wilt resistance and gives good yields for three to five years.

* * * *

Check Tax Forms. Carelessness causes most errors in income tax forms. One of the most common errors is failure to complete the forms properly. Some common errors include the street address or city not shown on the return and joint returns not properly signed--both husband and wife must sign joint returns. In some cases, writing or printing has been illegible and refunds couldn't be issued.

Be sure that social security numbers or employee identification numbers are shown on the return. Check your returns carefully to make sure they're complete and that you're paying no more than your fair share.

* * * *

Replacement Gilts. Replacement gilts should be fast gainers with a high estimated lean cut percentage. An excellent gilt reaches 200 pounds at under 160 days of age. Good gilts reach that at 160 to 169 days and gilts that reach 200 pounds at over 170 days should be considered undesirable, says Charles Christians, University of Minnesota extension livestock specialist.

* * * *

-more-

add 1--in brief

Swine Conference. The annual Minnesota Swine Conference is set for the Orchid Inn at Sleepy Eye Tuesday, Jan. 23. Registration for both the men's and women's program gets underway at 9:30 a.m. Highlights of the conference include a talk on pork merchandising entitled "Keeping Pace With Tomorrow" by Scotty Detrick, president of a foodstore chain, and a discussion on "Hog Sense and Common Sense" by Wilbur Plager, former secretary of the National Yorkshire Breed Association.

The event will conclude with an evening recognition banquet for pork producers and their wives beginning at 6 p.m.

* * * *

Advertising Pork. Mass advertising sells pork, judging by the October Porkfest campaign launched by the National Pork Producers' Council. Despite higher retail pork prices, most packers reported pork sale increases in October of from 13 to 73 percent.

Minnesota pork producers will tell Gopher Land Consumers about the "new pork" during the eighth annual Minnesota Pork Week, Jan. 23-30.

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Department of Information
and Agricultural Journalism
Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101
January 15, 1973

To all counties
Immediate release

MSC
JAC

USE OF DES
IN FEEDS
NOW ILLEGAL

The use of diethylstilbestrol (DES) in cattle rations is illegal effective Jan. 1, Robert E. Jacobs, University of Minnesota extension animal husbandman, says.

Disregarding this new ruling is considered a criminal act he adds.

DES has been used to stimulate the rate of gain for feedlot cattle since its use was approved in 1955. The ban on the use of orally fed DES was instituted because small traces of drug residue were found in 1.6 percent of the cattle livers examined.

But DES is approved for use as a pellet implant under the skin of the ear. Cattle must not be implanted within 120 days of slaughter, Jacobs says. When implanting the pellets, farmers must run their cattle through restraining chutes. A single pellet implant of 12 to 15 milligrams is recommended for steer calves and a second implant of 24 to 30 milligrams is recommended after the cattle have been on feed 120 to 150 days. Yearling steers should be implanted with 24 to 36 milligrams when they go on feed, which is sufficient to carry them to market weights.

Stilbestrol implants will stimulate rate of gain 12 to 15 percent. Cattle will consume about four percent more feed, but feed efficiency will be improved seven to 10 percent with the implants. Stilbestrol implants will result in \$12 to \$20 more profit per animal, Jacobs says.

-more-

add 1--des

Research results for the growth stimulant Zeranol--Ralgro type implant for steers and heifers in the feedlot have been promising and cattle feeders should be alert to their probable use in cattle feeding programs. This is considered a non-estrogenic compound.

Also showing promise is Synovex H as an implant in stimulating rate and efficiency of gain for feedlot heifers, he adds.

MGA perhaps is the drug of choice for feedlot heifers at this time, Jacobs says. Minnesota and South Dakota research indicate that profits from use of this product have been slightly greater than from other growth stimulants for heifers. MGA is fed orally and supplement manufacturers add it at the rate of .35 to .40 milligrams per pound of supplement. It is intended for non-pregnant heifers only and should be withdrawn from the ration 48 hours before slaughter, he adds.

-daz-

MSC
8 A27p

Department of Information
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Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101
January 18, 1973

Special to Minnesota Weeklies

FOOD COSTS STILL
RELATIVELY LOW

An hour of work buys more food today than ever before--housewives' protests over recent hikes in food prices notwithstanding.

Despite 25 years of inflation, farmers' efficiency has kept food costs far below what they might otherwise have been, say University of Minnesota economists. They cite these figures showing what an hour of labor would buy for various foods in 1970, compared to 1960 and 1950:

--An hour of labor paid for only 2.2 dozen eggs in 1950, 3.6 dozen in 1960 and 5.2 dozen in 1970.

--An hour of labor paid for only 2.2 pounds of turkey in 1950 and 5 pounds in 1960, opposed to 7.9 pounds in 1970.

The same trend is true for other foods such as potatoes, bread and milk. Even in the case of beef, an hour of labor bought 75 percent more round steak in 1970 than in 1950.

Equally impressive is the time required to earn money for a loaf of bread or a pound of sirloin steak in the U. S. compared to other nations. The average U. S. wage earner works 6 minutes to earn a loaf of bread, but it takes 11 minutes in France, 12 minutes in Russia, 27 minutes in Japan and 46 minutes in Brazil.

Likewise, it takes 24 minutes to earn a pound of sirloin steak in the U. S., 110 minutes of labor in France, 132 minutes in Russia, 118 in Brazil and 269 minutes in Japan.

-more-

add 1--food costs

The declining amount of labor required to buy food is especially important to low and moderate-income families. This means that efficient farmers are crucial to the average working man and his family, says John Waelti, an extension economist at the University.

These and other figures on the food and fiber industry are contained in a new publication issued by the University of Minnesota's Institute of Agriculture entitled "Serving Minnesota's Citizens--Producers and Consumers." It's available from county extension offices or the Institute of Agriculture, University of Minnesota, St. Paul, Minn., 55101.

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Department of Information
and Agricultural Journalism
Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101
January 22, 1973

ATT: Extension Home Economists

Immediate release

**KEEP MEAT COLD FOR
FRESH QUALITY**

If you want to get your money's worth from the meat you buy--the most expensive item in your food budget--proper care after you get it home is essential.

For short storage, keep meat clean and cold in a refrigerator set between 30° and 32°F. For long-time storage, freeze it and keep it frozen until you are ready to cook it.

The colder you keep meat, the fresher it stays, and the slower the changes that will affect eating quality. Fresh beef, for example, will keep twice as long at 32° as in a refrigerator set at 40°, according to Richard Epley, extension meats specialist at the University of Minnesota.

For short-time storage, place meat, fish and poultry in the special meat compartment or the coldest part of your refrigerator. In refrigerators that must be defrosted manually, the coldest area outside the freezing unit is the chill tray just below it. The bottom of the cabinet is the warmest. The door and hydrator storage areas are usually several degrees higher than the rest of the refrigerator. In frostless and self-defrosting refrigerators, however, the temperature is fairly uniform throughout the cabinet. You can check the temperature by placing a thermometer at different locations in the cabinet.

Pre-packaged meat may usually be refrigerated for 1 to 2 days in the original wrapper, but if you plan to keep it longer than 2 days, freeze it.

How long fresh and cooked meats and poultry will keep safely and without flavor changes in the refrigerator is a question many _____ County homemakers ask frequently.

-more-

add 1--keep meat cold

Here are some guides:

Cold cuts. Use within 3 to 5 days.

Cured and smoked meats. Store non-canned hams, bacon, bologna, sausage and frankfurters in their original packages not longer than 7 days. Un-opened canned hams may be stored 6 months.

Fresh beef, veal, lamb and pork. Roasts, chops, steaks may be kept 3 to 5 days before loss of flavor or palatability.

Fresh ground meat and sausage, liver, giblets, stew meat. Because these meats are especially perishable, use them within 1 or 2 days.

Fresh poultry. Use within 1 or 2 days.

Cooked meats and meat dishes, gravy, stuffing. Refrigerate promptly; don't leave on the kitchen counter to cool. A rapid cooling in the refrigerator will prevent bacterial growth. Cover or wrap and use within 1 or 2 days; otherwise, freeze for longer keeping. Gravy, meat broth and stuffing are especially perishable.

-jbn-

Department of Information
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Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101
January 22, 1973

Immediate release

IN BRIEF. . . .

Trees Available. Some species of tree seedlings for spring planting are still available through the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, Division of Lands and Forestry. Bill Miles, University of Minnesota extension forester, says evergreen species still available include white and Norway pine, white, black and Colorado spruce and balsam fir. Available hardwood species include soft maple, green ash, Caragana, black walnut and Ginala maple.

Price is \$1.50 per hundred if you order 500 or more. If you wish to order more than one species, you must order in multiples of 100. Application blanks are available from your county extension agent, local forester or SCS representative. Deadline for applications is March 15.

* * * *

Philodendron Plants. Philodendron plants grow best when they have moist soil and bright light. Leaf and plant size are reduced by poor light and lack of nutrients. Most philodendrons are climbers and do well when provided with a support that can be kept moist. Leaves will yellow or become spotted from lack of water, too small a pot, low temperature, poor drainage and other deficiencies. A minimum temperature of 65 is recommended.

* * * *

Heat Records. Keeping a complete record of all heat dates for dairy cows and heifers helps prevent losses due to poor breeding efficiency. Cows vary in the length of time and intensity of heat, so comments in the records will help you catch the next heat. And, your veterinarian frequently can use these heat records when diagnosing causes of breeding failures.

* * * *

-more-

add 1--in brief

Crossbred Hogs. Crossbred hogs have a larger litter size (since crossbred cows wean larger litters), plus better survival and growth rates. However, crossbreeding will not increase feed efficiency or meatiness, University of Minnesota animal scientists say. For more details, get a copy of Extension Bulletin 371, "Swine Improvement Through Crossbreeding," from your county extension agent.

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Department of Information
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Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
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January 22, 1973

Immediate release

ANTIBIOTICS DON'T ALWAYS
AFFECT GAINS IN HOGS

Rate of gain and feed/gain ratio of growing pigs were not significantly affected by antibiotics in the diets, according to a recent University of Minnesota study.

In the study, animal scientists J. W. Rust and R. J. Meade used 80 crossbred pigs averaging 23 pounds.

Two lots of eight pigs kept in 5' x 20' pens with solid concrete floors were fed each diet. About one-half of each pen was sheltered with open exposure to one side. Pens were cleaned out two to three times weekly and were not bedded.

Two hundred grams of tylosin-sulfamethazine were added to some diets until hogs reached a weight of 50 pounds at which time one treatment group received no additional antibiotic. Other treatments provided 20 grams of tylosin per ton of diet until pigs reached weights of 100, 150 or about 210 pounds. There were no significant effects on rate of gain or feed/gain ratio.

Also, the scientists reported no decline in rates of gain or feed/gain ratios when antibiotics were withdrawn from hogs weighing 50, 100 or 150 pounds.

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Department of Information
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Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101
January 22, 1973

Immediate release

FARM PRACTICES
CAN REDUCE
HERBICIDE INJURY

Farmers can reduce the amount of weed killer damage to crops, but some plant injury may be unavoidable because of limited tolerance to the chemicals, says a University of Minnesota agronomist.

Gerald R. Miller suggests several practices that will help decrease crop injuries due to weed killers:

--Plant seed at the proper depth.

--Select a weed killer with the best crop tolerance that will control the weeds.

--Apply the weed killer uniformly and at the correct rate.

--If the weed killer is incorporated in the soil, follow recommended techniques and incorporate uniformly.

--Avoid application techniques and subsequent tillage that concentrates the chemical in press wheel marks before the crop seeds sprout.

--Follow precautions to prevent drift.

--Maintain equipment and be certain it delivers the proper amount of chemical at each setting.

--Avoid using persistent weed killers in a cropping sequence that may result in injury to plants from chemical residues.

-svc-

Department of Information
and Agricultural Journalism
Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101
January 29, 1973

Immediate release

ANIMAL SCIENTIST
GIVES ALTERNATIVES
TO SOYBEAN MEAL

The recent increase in soybean meal costs has caused Minnesota swine feeders to consider other protein feed sources.

Producers who formulate and mix their own rations or have their rations custom prepared should look for the cheapest protein feed sources available, University of Minnesota animal scientist Jerry Hawton says.

Soybean meal is an excellent protein supplement and is equal to any other source of protein or combination of proteins for growing swine when properly fortified with vitamins and minerals.

Compare protein feed costs by dividing the cost per 100 pounds of feed by the percent of protein in that feed to get a cost per unit of protein, he suggests. Although a protein source may be cheaper per unit of protein than soybean meal, it may not be a good idea to use it exclusively as a protein supplement since there are known limitations for many protein feed sources, Hawton adds.

Hawton makes these recommendations for protein sources that most likely will be considered:

--Meat and bone meal and tankage. Studies indicate that either of the two feeds in the diet reduce rate of gain and increase the feed-per-gain ratio of growing hogs. University of Minnesota animal scientists recommend that these feeds not exceed six to seven percent of the diet or replace more than 40 percent of the soybean meal in the supplement. These two protein sources are not recommended for pigs weighing less than 40 to 50 pounds. Less calcium and phosphorus are needed when tankage or meat and bone meal are fed, so the amounts of these supplements can be reduced, which is something to consider when comparing prices of protein feed sources.

add 1--animal scientist

--Linseed meal is too deficient in the amino acid lysine, an important building block of protein, to be used extensively as a protein supplement with cereal grains. Linseed meal should not be more than 20 percent of the total protein supplement.

--Cottonseed meal is not widely used in swine feeding because it contains variable amounts of gossypol, a toxic substance. When economically feasible and when the gossypol content is known to be low, cottonseed meal can be used to make up 20 percent of the total protein supplement.

--Dehydrated alfalfa meal may be considered at the "right" price. Although not fed as a major source of protein, dehydrated alfalfa meal's protein content is about twice that of corn and is an excellent source of some vitamins. But it's high in fiber, so it should be used in limited amounts in rations for growing swine--five percent or less of the total diet.

--Fishmeal and dairy by-products are high quality feeds that usually are too expensive to be used as protein supplements for swine.

-daz-

Department of Information
and Agricultural Journalism
Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101
January 29, 1972

Immediate release

CROP INJURY
CASES REQUIRE
DETECTIVE WORK

Weed killers can injure crops, but so can insects, animals, diseases, misplaced fertilizers, nutrient deficiencies, wind, drought, hail, flooding, frost and high temperatures.

Consequently, farmers need to do some detective work before concluding that weed killers were the villains in instances of crop damage, according to Gerald R. Miller, University of Minnesota extension agronomist.

"Herbicide (weed killer) injury may result from applications to the crop, from residues in the soil or from drift," explains Miller. "'Injury' is stunting, delayed development or malformation of plant tissues which may or may not affect yields."

In cases of suspected herbicide injury "keep in mind that some other factor may have caused the observed effects or the herbicide may be only one of a combination of causes," he says.

"Look for other possible causes. Are there holes in the leaves or stems or pruned roots from insect damage? Are there animal tracks in the field? Has there been severe weather?"

"Look for patterns of injury in the field," he suggests. "Herbicide injury is often in a pattern associated with soil types or movement of application or incorporation equipment.

"Observe other susceptible crops or weeds in the area for herbicide effects. For comparison, try to find a check area where no herbicide was applied in the same field.

-more-

add 1--herbicide injury

"If you conclude that herbicides are the probable cause of the crop injury, try to determine why it occurred. Limited crop tolerance to certain herbicides is sometimes a problem, especially under heavy rainfall, on sandy soils or on dry loose soil," says Miller.

Some reasons for crop damage by weed killers are high application rates, wrong chemical, improper application methods, non-uniform application, overlaps, improper applicator adjustments and tillage operations that concentrate the chemical.

Some plant varieties are more susceptible to weed killers than others. Also, "weather and soil conditions that cause plant stress may make the crop more susceptible to herbicide injury," Miller adds.

"Don't be too hasty to evaluate the effects of herbicide injury. Give the plants a chance to recover. Check growing points to see if the plants have potential for recovery."

A small amount of crop damage may not be a sufficient reason for discontinuing use of a weed killer. "Compare injury effects and weed control benefits" before making a decision, he suggests.

"Stand counts and injured plant counts are important considerations," he adds. "Unbiased yield checks in affected and unaffected similar areas of the field are the best estimates of a herbicide's effects."

Department of Information
and Agricultural Journalism
Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101
January 29, 1972

Immediate release

IN BRIEF. . . .

Carpenter Ants. Warm winter days have caused carpenter ants to appear prematurely in Minnesota. They generally swarm in spring and early summer and often are mistaken for termites.

Carpenter ants inside houses hunt for meat, fats and all kinds of sweets, but they don't eat wood as termites do. Damage caused by carpenter ants generally is slight, since they nest in wood that already has been weakened. But as the colony grows it may expand the nest into sound, dry wood if damaged wood is unavailable.

* * * *

Finding Carpenter Ants. Finding carpenter ant nests usually is difficult since nests often are hidden in the wall or underground. A swarm of winged ants inside the house is good evidence that the nest is in the house or at least in contact with it.

If you're patient you may be able to locate a nest by observing the movement and trails of wingless ants. Presence of small piles of coarse, sawdust-like material is a clear indication that a nest is present.

* * * *

Controlling Carpenter Ants. If at all possible locate and destroy carpenter ant nests, then replace damaged or decayed wood, if feasible, and eliminate any moisture problems.

Heavily dust or spray a nest with chlordane if you can't remove it. Chlordane can be dusted or sprayed on surfaces where ants travel or congregate, such as along baseboards or in holes or cracks in walls and floors. But this method is not completely effective since the ants will carry very little of the insecticide back to their nests. Most ants forage outside anyway. Sweetened baits don't appear to be very effective against carpenter ants.

* * * *

-more-

add 1--in brief

Hog Parasites. A revised bulletin entitled "Pests and Parasites of Hogs" is available at the _____ County extension office. The bulletin describes external pests and internal parasites and gives control recommendations.

* * * *

Plastic Tubing. University of Minnesota specialists remind dairymen that plastic tubing requires care to avoid opaqueness and discoloration. Opaqueness is caused by moisture absorption. Drying, particularly in direct sunlight, returns plastic to normal transparency, but conditions that permit moisture absorption soon cause the problem to reoccur. Always store plastic tubes in a drying position. Use mechanical forced air driers, preferably.

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Department of Information
and Agricultural Journalism
Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101
January 29, 1973

ATT: Extension Home Economists

Immediate release

SPRUCE UP
YOUR ROOMS
WITH COLOR

A color change may be the answer to reviving rooms that have a tired, run-down appearance.

Colors can express almost any mood, from quiet, reserved charm to lively exuberance. Color is by far the most effective and the least expensive of the many elements that go into making a house a home, says Linda Reece, extension specialist in interior design and furnishings at the University of Minnesota.

Mid-winter is a good time to begin thinking about color changes you may want to make this spring. Look at decorating and women's magazines. Study rooms whose colors appeal to you. If the colors excite you, you may have found just the scheme to use in your own home.

Look around your own home for color schemes that are ready made just for you. Study the accessories, fabrics, rugs in the room for clues to colors you might use, suggests Mrs. Reece. Many lovely color schemes have developed from the colors in a family heirloom such as an Oriental rug, a beautiful handmade quilt or a collection of plates.

Or you might use a painting, a patterned fabric or wallpaper as the starting point, using one of its major colors in large amounts, for example on the floor, walls or major seating areas. The second major color would go in a smaller area and a third bright color could be an accent.

Take time during the winter doldrums to think through and plan color schemes that will do the most for your home. Then you'll be ready to make the changes, once spring is here.

-jbn-

(Do Not Use On Radio--Has been sent to radio stations for their exclusive use. For use only in columns as it is not news style.)

January 29, 1973

For Extension Home Economists

Buying Citrus Fruit

Buy citrus fruit by weight. University specialists say the heaviest--not the biggest fruit--gives the greatest value. Select fruits free of watery spots, mold and excessive bruising.

Store oranges and grapefruit in the refrigerator, but if they are in a plastic bag--be sure the bag has ventilation holes.

A law requires that citrus fruit be picked when mature. Maturity depends on sugar, acid and solid content as well as color. Green fruit may be as ripe as golden fruit. Sometimes fruit that is picked golden later turns green.

Florida oranges may have color added for attractiveness. Such fruit is stamped "color added." The law requires that all oranges treated must have passed very strict maturity tests. University specialists say the color added is harmless.

* * * *

Buying Furniture

Check doors, fasteners, finishes and hardware on furniture before buying.

University specialists say the doors should be straight and fitted properly so you can open and close them easily. Fasteners should be applied with screws rather than with nails or staples in quality furniture. Some pieces of quality furniture may have screws counter sunk and plugged with a piece of wood so they can't be seen.

* * * *

more ...

Furniture Finishes

Finishes help accentuate wood grain in furniture. The wood grain should be matched for pattern and appearance throughout the construction of the piece.

For an exceptionally attractive looking wood grain, look for a piece that has a highlighted satin finish accomplished by hand rubbing during the finishing process. If high quality paint or clear finish has been carefully applied, the finish will be smooth. On quality wood furniture, hardware should be suitable in design and scale for the furniture.

* * * *

Mail Fraud

Rackets to defraud the public illegally promoted through the mail are costing American consumers about five-hundred-million-dollars a year.

These rackets include chain letters, fake contests, searches for missing heirs, miracle cures, correspondence courses, merchandise offers and get-rich-quick schemes.

University of Minnesota specialist Edna Jordahl reminds consumers that occasionally un-ordered merchandise may come through the mails. But any person receiving it may consider the merchandise a gift and do whatever he wishes with it. It is against the law for the sender to mail bills for unordered merchandise or in any way request payment from consumers.

Persons who believe they have been victims of mail fraud should take their evidence to their local postmaster. Postal inspectors must find that promoters of a product or service have made false claims intended to defraud before they can stop a dishonest scheme.

* * * *

Department of Information
and Agricultural Journalism
Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101
January 29, 1973

Immediate release

4-H NEWS

4-H'ERS CAN DESIGN THEIR OWN PROJECTS

Minnesota 4-H'ers can choose from over 50 project areas to fit their individual interests. "If that doesn't allow them enough freedom, then there's the self-determined project," says Phyllis E. Worden, assistant extension specialist, 4-H and youth development.

Now in its second year, the self-determined project allows 4-H'ers to plan their own project. Advisors for projects have included teachers, neighbors, businessmen, parents and extension agents--anyone knowledgeable in the subject matter of the project.

Examples of self-determined projects include almost everything imaginable. Rick Miller, a Lyon county 4-H'er, tanned a deerskin, two rabbit skins and mounted a squirrel and some deer feet for his taxidermy project. His advisor was a professional taxidermist.

Wesley Anderson, also from Lyon county, studied poultry genetics. His interest in genetics came from showing several champion show birds for his 4-H poultry project. Next year Anderson plans to study plant genetics.

Jean Christiansen from Ramsey county made oboe reeds. She reports that the project allowed her to save money and make the reeds according to her own specifications. She got resource materials from her high school music instructor and several library books.

Debbie Ball, Mahnomen county, decided to learn how to play the guitar for her self-determined project. Receiving help from her chorus teacher and several music books, she now plays and sings at social functions and says she especially enjoys performing for the Fosston Nursing Home.

-more-

add 1--self-determined projects

Darrel Walstrom, a North St. Louis county 4-H'er, thought he'd really do something different and trained mice for his project. Walstrom's project has been publicized in local newspapers and on television and he's given several demonstrations entitled "Fun with Mice."

Other 4-H'ers made shell and rock collections, one made model ships and trucks from the cardboard of laundered shirts and another wrote poems, songs and a book for teenagers.

For more information on how you can plan and evaluate your own 4-H project, contact your county agent.

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MSC
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Department of Information
and Agricultural Journalism
Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101
January 31, 1973

"The University of Minnesota adheres to the principle that all persons shall have equal opportunity and access to facilities and programs in the University without regard to race, creed, color, sex or national origin."

SPECIAL SHORT COURSE SCHEDULE (February-July 1973)

- February 1-2 The Reconstruction of Student Personnel Work. Radisson South Hotel, Minneapolis. To present college personnel workers with the latest concepts in guiding student activities and student personnel.*
- February 1,2,3 Sheep Day. Feb. 1, 10 a.m., West Central Experiment Station, Morris; Feb. 2, 10 a.m., Slayton; Feb. 3, Blue Earth. For sheep growers and related agribusiness personnel. Subject matter to be research information on sheep management.⁷
- February 5-16 Lumbermen's Short Course, Feb. 5-16, 9 a.m., St. Paul Campus. To bring lumberyard personnel up-to-date on new ideas and techniques, acquaint industry with the University's teaching, research and facilities and train new personnel in the building supply field. Subjects emphasized include building construction and estimating building products, merchandising and use and building subjects.*
- February 16 Landscape Design Workshop, 8:30 Registration, North Star Ballroom, Student Center. For landscape nurserymen, architects and sales personnel to develop skills in home landscape design.*
- February 17 Indoor Gardening Workshop, St. Paul Campus. To inform participants about the proper use of indoor plants in interior decorating and to present information that will aid in the correct choice and care of these plants. For amateur gardeners and people interested in using plants for interior design.*
- Feb. 20-21-22 Physical and Chemical Analysis of Food, St. Paul Campus. To update food processing industry personnel in some of the current techniques and procedures utilized in the physical or chemical analysis of food.^x
- Feb. 20-21-22 County Sanitarians Workshop, Twins Motor Inn, St. Paul. The workshop is intended primarily for county and township officials. Sewage system designers and installers also may attend. To train local government officials in the proper design of individual sewage disposal systems so they can develop and administer a local sanitary ordinance and also train installers and other individuals at the local level.*

* For further information call (612) 373-0725, Office of Special Programs
 x For further information call (612) 373-1082, Edmund Zottola
 † For further information call (612) 373-0974, Robert Jordan

add 1--special short course schedule

- February 22,
March 2, 5 Beef Cow-Calf Days. Feb. 22, West Central Experiment Station, Morris; March 2, North Central Experiment Station, Grand Rapids; March 5, Southwest Experiment Station, Lamberton. A field day emphasizing cow-calf production.⁺
- March 7 Dairy Day. North Central Experiment Station, Grand Rapids. Designed especially for dairymen in the Grand Rapids area. Current research results in dairy management, breeding, nutrition and herd health^o will be discussed.^o
- March 7 Garden Store Operators short Course, St. Paul Campus, North Star Ballroom. Updated horticultural information and current business trends and problems. For nurserymen, florists and store operators.*
- March 7 Instrumentation and Process Control Systems in the Food Industry, St. Paul Campus. To inform personnel in the food processing industry in current technological and instrumentation used in controls of food processing.^x
- March 7-15 Fair Management Short Courses. Owatonna, Owatonna Inn, March 7; Redwood Falls, March 8; Thief River Falls, Thief River Falls Golf Club, March 14; Brainerd, Holiday Inn, March 15. Management principles, adjustments and changes, trends, budgets, physical facilities and developmental programs for county fair improvement. For fair board members, fair officers, superintendents and supervisors who have responsibilities in connection with the management of county, district and state fairs.*
- March 10 Livestock Industry Day and Annual Meeting, Waseca, Southern School and Experiment Station. The latest trends and issues in the livestock industry and their implications. For Minnesota livestock breeders.^{oo}
- March 18-
April 6 Minnesota Town/Country Art Show, St. Paul Campus. Amateur artists in Minnesota are given a chance to exhibit their original paintings and sculptures.*
- March 19-23 DHIA Supervisors Training School, St. Paul Campus. To train prospective Dairy Herd Improvement Supervisors.*
- March 20-21-22 Microbiological Examination of Milk and Milk Products, St. Paul Campus. A training program for personnel working in approved laboratories for the microbiological analysis of milk. For all individuals engaged in the microbiological examination of milk and milk products, including industry, private laboratories, and regulatory personnel.^x
- March 20,22 Sugar Beet Institute, Fargo, N.D., March 10; and Crookston, March 22. The application of research in the production of sugar beets for growers and agribusiness personnel.**

⁺ For further information call the Experiment Station designated
^o For further information call (218) 326-3485, William Matalamaki
^{**} For further information call (218) 281-6510, Bernard Youngquist
^{oo} For further information call (507) 835-3620, Richard Anderson

add 2--special short course schedule

- March 21 Turf Management Short Course, St. Paul Campus. For turf care supervisory and maintenance personnel from golf courses, institutional grounds, athletic grounds, home lawn care services and parks.*
- March 21-22-23 Liquefied Petroleum Gas Short Course, St. Paul Campus. Information on advance technology, new developments and important safety and public relations information for L-P plant personnel, technicians and salesmen.*
- March 23 Direct Microscopic Method for Determining Milk Quality, St. Paul Campus. To update participants on the use of the direct microscopic method for the evaluation of milk quality. For all who are engaged in the evaluation of milk quality.*
- March 23-24 Beekeeping Management Short Course, St. Paul Campus. To provide current information on basic beekeeping, including regulations, equipment, diseases, preparation of colonies, care of the honey crop, preparing bees for winter, and package installation. For hobby beekeepers, and all others interested in beginning beekeeping. Course limited to 100 people.*
- March 26 Small Fruit Growers Short Course, St. Paul Campus. To provide commercial strawberry and raspberry growers with information on planning, varieties, planting, pest control and harvesting.*
- March 27, 28 Dairy Days. March 27, West Central Experimental Station, Morris; March 28, Northwest Experimental Station, Crookston. To acquaint area dairy farmers, vo-ag classes and agribusiness people with the newest methods and latest information regarding dairy husbandry.+
- April 3 Shade Tree Maintenance Conference, St. Paul Campus. To provide updated information on shade tree maintenance problems and to provide practical information and demonstration on maintenance techniques. For arborists, nurserymen, park administrators, landscape maintenance superintendents and all individuals concerned with shade tree preservation.*
- April 6-7 National Conference of Student Chapters Educational Symposium. St. Paul Campus. To provide an educational symposium for veterinary students and faculty in the U.S. and Canada.*
- April 23-27 Cheese Technology Workshop, St. Paul Campus. Training and retraining of individuals engaged in the manufacture of cheese. For cheese makers, food technologists who are involved with the manufacture of all types of cheese.*

add 3--special short course schedule

- May 6-7-8 Minnesota Future Farmers of America State Convention, St. Paul Campus, State Fairgrounds. A learning experience for vocational agriculture students and FFA members to complement the vocational agriculture curriculum.*
- May 8-9-10-11 Minnesota State Fire School, Pick-Nicollet Hotel, Minneapolis. For volunteer and paid fire department personnel, city officials and interested government and industry personnel who deal in fire safety, prevention, control and rescue and first aid work.*
- June 12-13 Athletic Field Turf Management, St. Paul Campus. To inform personnel who are responsible for the upkeep of athletic fields about the latest recommended turf maintenance techniques. The course will cover sod management, fertilizer rates and recommended analysis, disease control, varieties and construction problems.*
- June 25-26 Branch Station Crop and Soil Field Days. June 25, Waseca; June 26, Lamberton. To see the research facilities and the range of programs in the branch stations.⁺
- July 11-17-18 Branch Station and Soil Field Days. July 11, Morris; July 17, Crookston; July 18, Grand Rapids. To see the research facilities and the range of programs in the branch stations.⁺
- July 15-20 Microbiology and Sanitation in the Food Industry, St. Paul Campus. To introduce production personnel in the food processing industry to microbiology and related sanitation in the food industry. Emphasis upon the role of micro-organisms in food spoilage and food-borne disease. The importance of sanitation, disinfection, and processing details in the production of high quality foods is also stressed.^x

#

February 2, 1973

Lumbermen's Short Course

(0:16)

A two-week short course for lumber dealers, their employees and others interested in the building material industry will start Monday (February 5) at the University of Minnesota's St. Paul Campus.

Registration is through the Office of Special Programs on the St. Paul Campus.

* * * *

Maple Syrup Producers Meetings

(0:28)

Meetings for maple syrup producers will be held in five Minnesota communities by the Agricultural Extension Service this coming week.

The meetings will start at 1 p.m. They will be held in the state bank at Young America on Monday (2/5), at the Federal Building in St. Cloud on Tuesday (2/6), at the Bethany Lutheran Church in Onamia on Wednesday (2/7), at the North Central Experiment Station in Grand Rapids on Thursday (2/8), and at the courthouse in Detroit Lakes on Friday (2/9).

* * * *

Revised Hog Bulletin

(0:12)

A revised Agricultural Extension Service bulletin on pests and parasites of hogs is available from local county extension offices. It describes external pests and internal parasites and gives control recommendations.

* * * *

more ...

Beef Market

(0:28)

University extension economist Paul Hasbargen says a strong beef market will continue through 1973.

The January first cattle-on-feed report shows only a four-percent increase in the number of cattle-on-feed as compared to a year earlier. On October first, ten percent more cattle were on feed than a year earlier. Beef prices have increased despite the increased number of cattle on feed because of the very strong demand for beef as a result of higher consumer incomes.

* * * *

Bullish Beef Outlook

(0:32)

University extension economist Paul Hasbargen says live beef prices will be around forty dollars per hundredweight for much of 1973.

He says farmers are getting better prices, but their costs are going up. Agriculture secretary Earl Butz recently observed that if live animal prices are limited, it could dampen expansion that would bring about lower food prices. If beef prices continue to rise, there will be more pressure from consumer interests for direct controls on agriculture prices. But Hasbargen says it probably won't come in the near future.

* * * *

Wintering Horses On Dead Grass

(0:16)

Dead grass from a properly managed pasture can provide a mature horse with sufficient nutrients.

University animal scientist Robert Jordan says yearlings and pregnant mares also can be wintered on good dead grass. But this grass must be properly supplemented.

* * * *

MSC
8 A274

Department of Information
and Agricultural Journalism
Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101
February 2, 1973

Special to Minnesota Weeklies

AGRICULTURE IS
KEY TO HEALTHY
MINNESOTA ECONOMY

One of every four jobs in Minnesota is in farming or business activity closely related to agriculture, according to a publication recently issued by the University of Minnesota's Institute of Agriculture.

Minnesota agriculture provides 440,000 jobs, or 26 percent of the state's total employment of 1.7 million, as follows:

--Farming employs 178,000 people.

--Agricultural output industries provide more than 206,000 jobs in manufacturing, wholesale and retail trade, transportation and other agriculturally related work.

--Agricultural input industries employ almost 56,000 people. This includes manufacturing, service, and repair of farm machinery; building and maintenance of farm structures; credit, finance and insurance; farm power and many other activities.

The publication, entitled "Serving Minnesota's Citizens--Producers and Consumers" is available from county extension offices, or the Institute of Agriculture, University of Minnesota, St. Paul, Minn., 55101.

Minnesota agriculture generates \$4.9 billion of income, not only for farmers but also for people in many related activities. In addition to farm production, the processing and marketing of Minnesota farm products generates nonfarm income throughout the entire economy.

-more-

add 1--agriculture

And, farm income is used to purchase inputs such as fuel, machinery and equipment, buildings and fertilizer. The production and sale of these items generates income throughout the economy.

These income figures show the importance of Minnesota's resource based industries to the state and national economies:

--In 1971, farm operators and hired workers earned almost \$700 million for their contributions to on-farm production activities. An additional \$1.1 billion was generated by agricultural input industries and \$2.3 billion by agricultural output industries, making total income from Minnesota farm products approximately \$4.1 billion.

--Forestry producers and processors earned an estimated \$500 million, and horticulture added about \$300 million in income.

--About \$2 billion was spent for leisure time recreation in Minnesota. Tourists spent over \$830 million of that sum.

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Department of Information
and Agricultural Journalism
Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101
February 5, 1973

4-H NEWS

Immediate release

CONSUMER EDUCATION
STRESSED BY 4-H

"Teens buy many products, but not always wisely. This makes the consumer education program an important part of 4-H," says Phyllis E. Worden, assistant specialist, 4-H and youth development at the University of Minnesota.

She says teens buy 27 percent of all cosmetics sold nationally, 50 percent of all records--an estimated \$700 million yearly, 24 percent of all wristwatches, 45 percent of all soft drinks, 30 percent of all low-priced cameras and 53 percent of all movie tickets. Yet teenagers represent only about 14 percent of the U.S. population.

According to one youth research study, teens spent \$10 billion in 1963, \$17 billion in 1967 and nearly \$21 billion in 1970.

The 4-H consumer education program is usually incorporated with other 4-H projects. For instance, 4-H'ers enrolled in the photography project might discuss things to consider when buying a camera or they might figure out the cost of a single slide or print.

With the 4-H dog project, teens might record the cost of feeding a dog for one week, compare the costs of several dog foods and make a list of other expenses such as shots, registration and grooming aids.

Those involved in the 4-H clothing project might estimate the cost of making garments from several kinds of material and compare their costs with ready-made garments.

For more information on the 4-H consumer education program, contact your county extension office.

Department of Information
and Agricultural Journalism
Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101
February 5, 1973

ATT: Extension Home Economists

Use if appropriate

CONSUMER INFORMATION CENTER
SCHEDULED FOR FEBRUARY

Minnesota consumers will have the opportunity to voice their concerns and receive answers to their questions at a Consumer Information Center, presented as a joint venture of government and business.

University of Minnesota Agricultural Extension Service will be one of more than 50 federal, state and local government agencies, educational groups and private companies participating in the event Thursday and Friday, Feb. 22-23, in Dayton's eighth-floor auditorium. The Center will be open to the public during all store hours, 9:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. Thursday, and 9:30 to 5:45 p.m. Friday. Admission is free.

Demonstrating in the Extension booth will be extension specialists David Noetzel, entomology; Richard Epley, meats; Wanda Olson, household equipment; and Jane McKinnon, horticulture. Consumer Information Specialists Sheryl Nefstead and Karel Strandness will be answering the home economics consumer information phones there. Those visiting the booth will be able to hear both the questions and answers. Personnel from the metro counties will staff the booth. Information specialists Janet Macy and Leona Nelson will introduce speakers and participate in the Consumer Concern Corner at various times on Thursday and Friday.

Speakers, exhibits, demonstrations and consumer "rap sessions" will be among the activities featured during the two-day seminar, sponsored by the Twin Cities Federal Executive Board and Dayton's department store, with cooperation from the Minnesota Home Economics Association. The program has been planned to provide a wide variety of helpful information to the consumer, to stimulate interest in consumer rights, and to spotlight progress being made in the field of consumer protection.

add 1--consumer information

Patricia Carbine, editor-in-chief and publisher of Ms. magazine, will speak on "The New Woman in Today's Marketplace" Thursday evening, Feb. 22, at 7:30 p.m. in Dayton's Sky Room. Ms. Carbine was formerly editor-in-chief of McCall's and before that an 18-year veteran of Look. She has been actively involved in the women's movement and consumerism for several years.

Other highlights of the event include:

Opening address by Sherry Chenoweth, director of the office of Consumer Services for the state of Minnesota, at 9:45 a.m. Feb. 22.

A Consumer Concern Corner, offering a series of speakers, panel discussions and dialogues with consumers on subjects such as housing, appliances, food and nutrition, credit and advertising.

Films on consumer-oriented subjects. Shown continuously in the theater area on stage.

A consumer referral service, staffed by members of Home Economists in Business, directing consumers with questions or problems to the appropriate agency or business.

A free booklet will be available listing all participants, with names and phone numbers of people to contact with further questions. Educational brochures and other take-home material will also be offered by individual agencies and businesses.

Department of Information
and Agricultural Journalism
Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101
February 5, 1973

ATT: Extension Home Economists

Immediate release

NUTRITIONAL LABELING
SHOULD BE HELPFUL
FOR CONSUMERS

The homemaker who shops for food with an eye toward the health and nutrition of her family will get valuable help as the nutrition labeling regulation of the Food and Drug Administration is implemented--in some cases as early as this summer.

The new FDA regulation means that any food product that is fortified or enriched or making claims on its label or in its advertising about protein, fat, calories and vitamins must list the amount of these nutrients in each serving. Most canned and packaged foods and drinks will be covered under this ruling.

Doing the marketing will take longer as the family shopper stops to read the label with the nutritional information. "But the advantage is that the shopper can become familiar with the nutritional value of different products and choose the one with the most food value," says Mary Darling, extension nutritionist at the University of Minnesota, (or-- _____ County Extension Home Economist _____). "It will be a helpful check also, for homemakers who try to select snack foods that are more than empty calories and assist dieters who want to reduce their calorie intake, yet choose foods that meet the requirements of good nutrition."

The nutritional labeling, which is being added at considerable expense to industry, will do no good, however, unless consumers take time to study the information on food packages, the University nutritionist (county extension home economist) adds.

-more-

add 1--nutritional labeling

The nutrition information must be placed immediately to the right of the main product label, if possible. It will give serving size, servings per container, calories per serving, grams of protein, carbohydrates, fat per serving and the amounts of vitamins and minerals per serving, expressed in percentages of the recommended daily allowance.

Although labeling will begin to show up very soon, it may be two years before the various foods concerned carry the required information.

-jbn-

Department of Information
and Agricultural Journalism
Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101
February 5, 1973

ATT: Extension Home Economists

Immediate release

AREA ARTISTS
TO EXHIBIT
AT STATE SHOW

Artists from this region will be among those who will exhibit their works at the 22nd annual University of Minnesota Town/Country Art Show, March 18-April 6 on the University of Minnesota's St. Paul Campus.

In the exhibition will be 121 award-winning works selected from four regional shows held during the past year: the Northern Minnesota Art Exhibition, the Southwest and West Central Minnesota Art Exhibition, the East Central Minnesota Art Exhibition and the Southeast Minnesota Art Exhibition.

Special feature planned for the closing days of the show, April 4, 5 and 6, will be a program of demonstrations, talks, a gallery tour and an artists' luncheon, according to Huldah Curl, University of Minnesota state extension arts coordinator, in charge of the event.

All events are open to the public free of charge except the artists' luncheon on Friday noon, April 6. Reservations may be made for the luncheon before Friday, March 30, by sending a check for \$2.50 to the Office of Special Programs, University of Minnesota, St. Paul, Minn. 55101. Checks should be made out to the University of Minnesota.

-jbn-

NOTE: To localize your story, you may wish to consult your catalog of the regional exhibition for the list of award winners and add a paragraph after the lead with names of award winners from your county and a description or title of their art to be shown. Or substitute the name or names of the county artists who will be exhibiting for "Artists from this region" in the lead.

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Department of Information
and Agricultural Journalism
Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101
February 5, 1973

Immediate release

IN BRIEF. . . .

Beef Market. A strong beef market will continue through 1973, Paul Hasbargen, University of Minnesota extension economist, says. The Jan. 1 cattle-on-feed report shows only a four percent increase in cattle-on-feed compared to a year earlier. On Oct. 1, 10 percent more cattle were on feed than a year earlier. Beef prices have increased despite the increased number of cattle on feed because of the very strong demand for beef as a result of higher consumer incomes.

* * * *

Bullish Beef Outlook. Live beef prices will be around \$40 per hundredweight for much of 1973, Paul Hasbargen, University of Minnesota extension economist, says. Farmers are getting better prices, but their costs are going up, he adds. Agriculture Secretary Earl Butz recently observed that if live animal prices are limited, it could dampen expansion that would bring about lower food prices. If beef prices continue to rise, there will be more pressure from consumer interests for direct controls on agriculture prices, but it probably won't come in the near future, Hasbargen says.

* * * *

Change in Soybean Varieties. Chippewa has accounted for 44 percent of the soybean acreage in Minnesota, but that percentage is dropping as higher yielding, more disease resistant varieties gain acceptance. Dale Hicks, University of Minnesota extension agronomist, says Corsoy now accounts for 30 percent of the soybean acreage in the state, which is one reason why the state's average soybean yield in 1972 climbed to 28 bushels per acre. A large percentage of southern Minnesota's soybean acreage is Corsoy, he adds.

* * * *

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add 1--in brief

Bean Planting Rates High. Minnesota's average soybean planting rate has been 65 pounds per acre, which could result in about 215,000 plants per acre. Dale Hicks, extension agronomist, says this plant-per-acre ratio is "too high." In 30-inch rows, nine seeds per foot of row is sufficient, he adds. Standability, particularly with Corsoy, could be improved by planting fewer plants per row, Hicks says.

* * * *

Fruit Fact Sheet. University of Minnesota horticulturists are providing updated data for 1973 on fruits suitable for the four areas of the state. Horticulture Fact Sheet No. 3--Revised 1973, "Fruits for Minnesota, 1973," is available from the _____ County Extension Office or the Bulletin Room, University of Minnesota, St. Paul 55101. This publication is intended to help home fruit growers primarily. Prospective commercial orchardists should contact the Department of Horticultural Science on the St. Paul Campus for more information.

* * * *

Cleaners. Never use household detergents on dairy equipment, University of Minnesota specialists recommend. Cleaning demands are different for dairy equipment than for household cleaning. Also, many household cleaners have odors or flavors that may be imparted to the milk.

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(Do Not Use On Radio--Has been sent to radio stations for their exclusive use. For use only in columns as it is not news style.)

MSC
AZ 7p

February 5, 1973

For Extension Home Economists

When Remodeling

Consider the value of your house and the cost of the improvement before remodeling.

University of Minnesota extension housing specialist Bill Angell says the cost of the improvement should be less than 60 percent of the present cost of building a similar house. The value of the house after remodeling should not be greater than 20 percent of the average resale value in the neighborhood.

* * * *

When Renting

Before renting an apartment, ask other tenants in the building about the friendliness and cooperation you can expect from the building's management. Also, ask them about noise in the building and soundproofing.

Read a lease carefully. Check to see if it has an automatic renewal clause.

* * * *

When Selling

Before you arrive at a selling price for your house, ask a builder, realtor or appraiser to evaluate your home. But first clean it up and make minor repairs. Be sure and keep an adequate record of expenses for tax purposes.

* * * *

more ...

Pricing Mobile Homes

University housing specialist Bill Angell advises persons considering the purchase of a mobile home to check want ads and ask dealers and lending institutions about resale values.

Mobile homes usually depreciate in price 10 to 15 percent in the first year and five percent each year thereafter. Compare the mobile home you would like with an older one of the same size and type.

* * * *

Check Before You Buy

Before you buy a mobile home, check the dealer's reputation for servicing what he sells with others who have done business with him.

University housing specialist Bill Angell says buyers should know what the principal, interest, taxes, insurance, utility, maintenance and park rental costs will be before they make a decision.

Check out the mobile home for craftsmanship. Examine detail work closely.

* * * *

Selecting Mobile Home Park

When you're looking for a good mobile home park, be sure it is located conveniently to where you work and shop.

Make sure the lot size is adequate and allows you the privacy you like. Ask about park regulations. Are children allowed? Is there a limit on the number of cars per resident? Can you sell your mobile home without having to move it from the park?

Also check on services offered by the park and costs for rent, utilities and trash pickup.

* * * *

Department of Information
and Agricultural Journalism
Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101
February 5, 1973

Immediate release

**DON'T OVERCROWD PIGS,
RESEARCHERS SUGGEST**

University of Minnesota animal scientists report that neither rate of gain nor feed/gain ratio are significantly affected by the number of pigs per pen if pen size is altered accordingly.

In the study, animal scientists H. E. Hanke and R. J. Meade used 198 pigs averaging 103 pounds. Pigs were divided into pens as follows: Three pens (5'4" x 16') of 11 pigs; three pens (10'8" x 16') of 22 pigs and three pens (16' x 16') of 33 pigs.

Pigs of the same breeding backgrounds were balanced equally among the pens. Floors were fully slatted and pens were equipped with automatic water fountains.

The researchers weighed hogs individually before the study and at 28-day intervals until they were marketed at an average of 211 pounds.

In two previous studies, crowding increasing numbers of pigs in rectangular shaped pens of the same size (5'4" x 16') resulted in decreased rates of gain and increased feed required per unit of gain in one of the two studies.

The scientists believe the alteration of pen size for numbers of hogs in this study overcame slower rates of gain and feed/gain rations caused by overcrowding hogs into smaller pens.

-bp-

Department of Information
and Agricultural Journalism
Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101
February 5, 1973

Immediate release

CORN RATED
HIGH IN
SILAGE TESTS

With the development of short season hybrids, corn has become a major contender as a silage crop in northern areas, report University of Minnesota scientists.

"For the farmer who can grow a hybrid to the well dented stage of maturity prior to a killing frost, the data indicate corn is the crop to grow," says A.R. Schmid, an agronomist.

He was reporting on research conducted at Grand Rapids with D.L. Rabas, an agronomist, and R. H. Anderson, superintendent of the Southern Experiment Station at Waseca.

Corn outperformed other crops tested in average yield of digestible dry matter (DDM) per acre and ranked second to alfalfa in average yield of crude protein per acre. Sorghum-sudan grass and foxtail millet also were performance leaders in these measures. Alfalfa ranked with foxtail millet in average DDM per acre.

"Sorghum-sudangrass, although performing well in this test, is subject to the risk of a cool season with early frost," says Schmid. "Millet has been shown to yield well even during cool seasons."

Annual crops have some advantages which make them competitive with a perennial legume crop such as alfalfa, he comments.

"In this northern area annual crops can be grown with fewer soil amendments than are required for successful alfalfa growing. With lower priced nitrogen fertilizer, seedbed preparation less difficult with modern machinery, and the availability of herbicides, establishment and growing of annual crops is quite reliable.

"However, for the farmer who has no difficulty growing alfalfa, it is no doubt one of his best crops for overwintering livestock."

Department of Information
and Agricultural Journalism
Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101
February 5, 1973

Immediate release

FARM POLLUTION
MEETING SET

Potential farm pollution hazards and feedlot pollution regulations will be discussed at a meeting scheduled for _____.
(location, date)

These topics will be discussed by specialists from the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, the University of Minnesota, and local SCS and ASCS representatives: regulations and legislation pertaining to feedlots, potential pollution hazards, effects of agricultural pollution and financial and technical assistance available for controlling pollution hazards.

A manual that interprets feedlot regulations in easily understood terms will be available. Other topics on the agenda include characteristics of waste, tax credits and property tax issues. Also, alternatives for runoff control including detention ponds, liquid manure tanks and diversion of clean water so it doesn't run through feedlots.

The meeting is scheduled from 12:30 to 4:30 p.m.

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MEETING SCHEDULE

| | | |
|-------------------|---------|-------------------------------------|
| Thief River Falls | Feb. 13 | Armory |
| Fergus Falls | Feb. 14 | Holiday Inn |
| St. Cloud | Feb. 20 | St. Cloud Area Vocational School |
| Grand Rapids | Feb. 21 | Village Hall |
| Mankato | Feb. 28 | Blue Earth County Electrical Co-op. |
| Rochester | March 1 | Olmsted County 4-H Building |
| Marshall | March 7 | Armory |

Department of Information
and Agricultural Journalism
Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101
February 5, 1973

Immediate release

BEEF COW-CALF
DAYS SCHEDULED

Area beef cow-calf producers will be interested in a field day scheduled

_____, beginning at 10 a.m.
(date, location)

University of Minnesota specialists will discuss these topics:

- Ten year economic outlook for cow-calf producers
- Utilizing the big breeds
- Pasture management for beef cows
- Year around cow-calf management
- Feeding the wintering cow
- Should you sell calves or yearlings?
- Shorthorn vs. Charolais by Shorthorn calves

#

FIELD DAY SCHEDULE

| | |
|---------|--|
| Feb. 22 | Morris, West Central Experiment Station |
| March 2 | Grand Rapids, North Central Experiment Station |
| March 5 | Lamberton, Southwest Experiment Station |

MSC
8/2/73

Department of Information
and Agricultural Journalism
Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101
February 9, 1973

Special to Minnesota Weeklies

EXPORTS OF FARM
PRODUCTS INCREASE
MINNESOTA INCOME

Minnesota farmers use one-fourth of their crop land to produce crops for foreign markets--a dramatic increase over the past two decades.

And recent agreements with Russia and other countries have created even greater markets for Minnesota food and fiber products, says John Waelti, a University of Minnesota agricultural economist.

"Because of their efficiency and available resources, Minnesota farmers probably will continue to enjoy a comparative advantage in the production of many commodities," Waelti says.

"And, with favorable conditions for foreign trade, Minnesota will continue to share in expanding exports from the Upper Midwest and help solve the nation's balance of payments problems."

The state's agricultural exports totaled \$347.2 million in 1971-72, an increase of 35 percent from 1965-66, according to a recent report issued by the University of Minnesota's Institute of Agriculture.

Minnesota ranks ninth in the U. S. in value of agricultural exports and first in exports of dairy products. It also ranks in the top 10 states in exports of soybeans, feedgrains, protein meal, tallow, soybean oil, hides and skins, meat and meat products, wheat and flour, poultry products and flaxseed.

The publication, "Serving Minnesota's Citizens--Producers and Consumers," is available from county extension offices or the Institute of Agriculture, University of Minnesota, St. Paul, Minn., 55101.

(Do Not Use On Radio--Has been sent to radio stations for their exclusive use. For use only in columns as it is not news style.)

MSC
8A27p

February 12, 1973

For Extension Home Economists

4-H Consumerism

That free fifty-dollar record player with detachable speakers offered by the record club may not be the bargain you think it is.

Read the rest of the advertisement--4-H and youth specialist

Phyllis Worden advises.

She says records offered by these companies usually aren't the latest releases and may not even be the ones you want. At six dollars a record, that's seventy-two dollars plus shipping charges for twelve months. Also, you probably can buy the same stereo elsewhere for less than fifty dollars.

* * * *

Changes In Bacon Packages

Meat packagers have until February 19th to comply with changes in federal regulations regarding bacon.

One change requires that the opening in windowed packages of sliced bacon must be at least one-and-a-half-inches wide and show at least seventy percent of the length of a representative bacon strip.

Some processors already have been packaging bacon in transparent materials that reveal the entire contents.

The second regulation change requires that all cured meat or products containing cured meat must be labeled to tell consumers ingredients used in the curing process.

* * * *

more ...

Battery Charging

Charge batteries in an area where air can move freely to prevent a hydrogen gas build-up that might explode. Don't make connections on the battery while the charger is on.

* * * *

Jumper Cables

Connect jumper cables to the fully charged battery last and make the final connection to the grounded terminal when starting a car with a dead battery. Always connect positive to positive and negative to negative posts when using jumper cables, otherwise the alternator can be damaged.

Never use matches around a battery. Be careful when making a connection to prevent sparks from discharging.

* * * *

Pale, Soft, Watery Pork

University of Minnesota meats specialist Richard Epley says high quality pork is bright pink rather than pale.

Some low quality pork from swine afflicted by porcine stress syndrome has been finding its way to retailers. It is pale, soft and watery.

* * * *

Date Labels On Food

A recent U. S. Department of Agriculture report says stores that stamp dates on food labels may have fewer consumer complaints on freshness. Also, these stores may have improved stock rotation practices.

Eighteen percent of the shoppers contacted in a national telephone survey complained about food going stale sooner than expected. Items shoppers complained about then were dated in a chain of Ohio food stores. Shoppers were interviewed in the stores before and after the dated items were introduced.

* * * *

Department of Information
and Agricultural Journalism
Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101
February 12, 1973

4-H NEWS

Immediate release

4-H IS LARGEST
YOUTH ORGANIZATION

Some 100,000 Minnesota youth participate in 4-H, now America's largest youth organization.

Of the total, nearly 60,000 youth belong to 2,100 community 4-H clubs. Another 30,000 youth participate in 4-H through enrollment in TV programs, through special 4-H programs in the classroom for those with learning and physical handicaps or through other special interest programs. The Expanded Food and Nutrition Program involves another 8,000 youth. The program's goal is to improve the diets of people with limited incomes.

4-H is no longer a rural organization. In 1972, half of the 4-H members lived on farms or in rural areas and half lived in towns and cities with more than 10,000 population.

About 16,000 Minnesota adults and 12,000 teens assist 4-H'ers with their projects and activities. The state extension staff provides support and training for the volunteers on local, county, regional and state levels.

Nearly 50 adult leaders from Minnesota attend the Leaders Forum at the National 4-H Center in Washington, D. C. each year. The forum helps leaders understand youth and their needs, explore new skills and increase their understanding of themselves and others.

4-H'ers can now choose from over 50 project areas. The ten most popular Minnesota projects include livestock, foods and nutrition, horticulture, clothing, creative arts, junior leadership, home environment, shop, conservation and safety.

In addition to individual projects, 4-H stresses group activities and learning experiences. Nearly 9,000 youth participate in the 4-H camping program. Another 17,000 Minnesota 4-H'ers participate in "Share-the-Fun" talent shows each year. Nearly 500 children and 90 adults were part of Indian Children Art Days during the summer of 1972.

-more-

Department of Information
and Agricultural Journalism
Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101
February 12, 1973

ATT: Extension Home Economists

Immediate release

MOST FATS, OILS
AND SIRUPS BEST
IF REFRIGERATED

Meats, dairy products, eggs, fresh fruits and vegetables are best stored in the refrigerator, but is it necessary to refrigerate fats and oils, peanut butter, sirups and honey?

In reply to that question, frequently asked by _____ County homemakers, Extension Home Economist _____ (or extension nutritionists at the University of Minnesota have--) has some specific suggestions.

Most fats and oils, she says, need protection from air, heat and light because these factors hasten the development of rancidity. Fats and oils in partially filled containers will keep longer if they are transferred to smaller containers where there is little or no air space.

. Butter, margarine, fat drippings. Keep tightly wrapped or covered in the refrigerator and use, preferably, within 2 weeks. Keep only as much butter or margarine in the butter compartment of the refrigerator as needed for immediate use. If they stand for long periods at room temperature, they may turn rancid. Even if butter is frozen, it is likely to take on rancid off-flavors after several months.

. Cooking and salad oils. Keep only small quantities at room temperature and use before the flavor changes. For long storage, keep oils in the refrigerator. If they become cloudy upon refrigeration, they will clear when warmed to room temperature. Some salad oils contain added anti-oxidants to prevent rancidity and off-flavors.

-more-

add 1--fats, oils and sirups

. Hydrogenated shortenings and lard. Hydrogenated shortening can be held at room temperature without damage to flavor. Most solid shortenings have anti-oxidants added to prevent development of rancidity. Lard not stabilized by hydrogenation or anti-oxidants should be kept in the refrigerator. Read the label for instructions. Keep these products covered.

. Mayonnaise and other salad dressings. After the jars have been opened, refrigerate readymade mayonnaise and salad dressings. Always keep homemade salad dressing in the refrigerator.

. Honey and sirups. Once the jars or cans have been opened, honey and sirups will be protected from mold if kept in the refrigerator. If they crystallize, place the container in hot water to melt the crystals.

. Peanut butter. Refrigerate after opening the jar, but remove from the refrigerator to soften a short while before using.

-jbn-

Department of Information
and Agricultural Journalism
Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101
February 12, 1973

Immediate release

IN BRIEF. . . .

Urea Costs. With increased soybean meal costs, dairymen are turning to urea as a source of nitrogen that cows can convert to protein. Soybean meal has almost doubled in cost in the past year, Michael Hutjens, University of Minnesota extension dairyman, says. Farmers feeding soybean meal are paying about 22 cents a pound for protein. The per pound cost of protein is about five cents when feeding a pound of urea and seven pounds of shelled corn (about the same amount of protein in seven pounds of soybean meal). Feed a maximum of four-tenths of a pound of urea per cow per day or mix about 20 pounds of urea per ton of dry grain concentrate mix, Hutjens says. For more information, get Dairy Husbandry Fact Sheet 4, "Using Urea as a Protein Substitute in the Dairy Ration," from the _____ County Extension Office or the Bulletin Room, University of Minnesota, St. Paul 55101.

* * * *

Vacuum Lines. Clogged vacuum lines not only can contribute to poor quality milk production, but they cause vacuum changes that lead to mastitis. Clean vacuum lines at regular intervals or whenever an upset pail or broken inflation indicates that milk may have been drawn into the line. Get Food Science and Industries Fact Sheet No. 9 (Revised 1973) from the _____ Extension Office or the Bulletin Room, University of Minnesota, St. Paul 55101, for information on cleaning vacuum lines.

* * * *

-more-

add 1--in brief

Pantry Pests. Insects invading the pantry can be prevented by following a few simple steps, University of Minnesota extension entomologists say.

Purchase susceptible and seldom used foods in small quantities to avoid long storage periods. Store seldomly used cereal products in tight containers or in the refrigerator. Use older packages before newer ones and opened packages before unopened ones. Dating the package when it's shelved helps greatly.

For more information, get Entomology Fact Sheet No. 13--Revised 1971, from the _____ County Extension Office or the Bulletin Room, University of Minnesota, St. Paul 55101.

* * * *

Light for House Plants. House plants growing in a sunny window or strong light can stand higher temperatures than if they're grown in poor light. Extremely high temperatures and low light intensity are a fatal combination, say University of Minnesota horticulturists. Some plants need more light than others, so keep this in mind when choosing a plant for a particular location. For more information, get a copy of Extension Bulletin 274, "Care of House Plants." It's available from the _____ County Extension Office, or the Bulletin Room, University of Minnesota, St. Paul, Minn. 55101.

* * * *

Proper Egg Handling Pays. Time spent training workers to properly handle eggs pays dividends in reduced egg breakage, say University of Minnesota poultry specialists. Picking up too many eggs with one hand will increase the number of checks. Egg baskets are frequently filled too full so that breakage occurs when the basket is picked up and the sides pull in slightly from the weight of the load. Rough handling of baskets can also cause breakage. Gathering eggs directly into filler-flats cuts breakage to a minimum and reduces handling.

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Department of Information
and Agricultural Journalism
Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101
February 12, 1973

Immediate release

NEW SWINE BULLETIN
AVAILABLE FROM UM

A new publication on herd boar management is available from the University of Minnesota's Agricultural Extension Service.

The folder, authored by J. D. Hawton and C. J. Christians, University animal scientists, points out that hog farmers could avoid large economic losses with improved herd boar management.

The folder has a boar record section, which can be especially helpful for hogmen who buy a boar at an auction or at a purebred breeder's farm.

Information for the boar record is supplied by the seller.

Separate sections in the new folder deal with boar selection, health precautions, transporting and handling the newly purchased boar, breeding and feeding systems, housing, and the code of fair practices, adopted by the National Association of Swine Records.

Ask for Extension Folder 279 at your local county extension office, or send a post card to the Bulletin Room, University of Minnesota, St. Paul, Minn. 55101.

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Department of Information
and Agricultural Journalism
Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101
February 12, 1973

Immediate release

EXPERIENCE NEEDED TO
TREAT SICK HORSE

Don't attempt to treat a sick horse unless you know what you're doing, advises Robert M. Jordan, University of Minnesota animal scientist.

"The difficulty with attempting to treat your own horse is that most of us come in contact with only about a dozen or 20 different horses in a lifetime," says Jordan. "A veterinarian may see that many in a day. Thus he has broad experience to draw upon plus his training.

"Without experience it is difficult to tell whether it's a cold (which the usual antibiotic wouldn't specifically touch), infectious anemia (no cure) or equine influenza (for which there is a vaccine).

"Ask yourself has my horse had contact with new horses? Am I managing him so he is less apt to get a cold or become colicky? A hot horse and a cold, stuffy, damp, frost-laden barn, coupled with inadequate feed can lead to many maladies," notes the scientist.

"Some illnesses appear to be nothing more than a mild cold that will be gone in a day," he says. "If your horse is a gelding, your concern can be much less than if you have a pregnant mare. Then this 'mild cold' could be the outward signs of a disease called 'equine viro rhino pneumonitis,' which causes a high percentage of abortions during the seventh through tenth month of pregnancy."

Some experience and judgment, perhaps a temperature reading and a little patience will help the horse owner decide whether or not to call the vet, Jordan adds.

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Department of Information
and Agricultural Journalism
Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101
February 12, 1973

Immediate release

LYSINE DOESN'T IMPROVE
GAINS, SAY UM SCIENTISTS

Adding lysine to finishing hog diets is ineffective in improving gain and feed/gain ratio when diets contain adequate protein, according to University of Minnesota scientists. Their research also provided evidence that lysine supplementation does not improve carcass leanness.

In the study, animal scientists R. J. Meade, H. E. Hanke, and J. W. Rust used 648 crossbred pigs (312 barrows and 336 gilts) averaging 106 pounds. They supplemented 10, 12, 14 and 16 percent protein corn-soybean meal diets with .075 and .15 percent lysine.

Lysine supplementation did not significantly improve average daily gains when protein level was adequate. Adding .15 percent lysine to inadequate protein diets (10 percent protein) improved gains by 12 percent in barrows and 11 percent in gilts. Gilts also increased average daily gains by 11 percent when a 12 percent protein diet was fed with the same lysine supplementation. This agrees with past research showing that gilts require more protein than barrows to maximize gains and require more lysine than barrows to yield a lean carcass, says Meade.

Lysine supplementation did not result in significant improvements in carcass leanness. However, loin eye area of barrows was increased by nearly seven percent and of gilts by about nine percent when the 10 percent protein diet was supplemented with .15 percent lysine. Loin eye area was not increased due to lysine supplementation of diets containing more than 10 percent protein.

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(Do Not Use On Radio--Has been sent to radio stations for their exclusive use. For use only in columns as it is not news style.)

MSC
GA27p

February 19, 1973

For Extension Home Economists

Conserving Energy

Homeowners can help ease the energy crisis by saving on the amount of gas and electricity used in the kitchen and at the same time reduce their utility bills.

University of Minnesota extension specialist Wanda Olson says leaving ranges on "high" when they could be as effective on "low" as soon as the boiling point is reached is wasting energy. Boiling on a low setting usually takes only about a fourth as much electricity or gas as boiling on "high."

With a thermostatically controlled unit, the heat is turned down automatically as soon as it reaches the desired temperature.

* * * *

4-H Consumerism

Be consumer wise, 4-H and youth specialist Phyllis Worden advises. Before buying cosmetics and grooming products, ask yourself:

What will it do for me? Do I have the facts I need to make a smart choice? Remember: Since labeling is not required on cosmetics, you really have no assurance that one brand of "hard to hold" hair spray is better than another. Also, you can't be sure that a man's deodorant is stronger than a family deodorant.

* * * *

more ...

Buying Carpets

Confused by the many terms, prices and types of rugs and carpets on the market today? So are a lot of other people.

University extension specialists say the five major fibers-- acrylic, nylon, polyester, polypropylene and wool--all are good and give satisfactory wear. Durability is affected by how the fiber is handled in the yarn and how much fiber is used. A thin, sleazy pile won't hold up under hard, prolonged wear, regardless of the fiber.

As pile compactness increases, wear life will increase and so will the price. Texture also contributes to wearability. Carpet with a short, very dense pile gives good results and is easiest to maintain for heavy traffic areas.

Textures that combine high and low tufts, either cut or uncut, usually give good wear. Color also can affect wear and appearance. A variation in dark and light, such as a tweed, will show less soiling than an all-light or all-dark color.

* * * *

Places To Buy Carpets

There are many places to shop for rugs and carpets. Speciality shops and department stores usually carry medium grade to top-of-the-line carpeting in terms of quality, style and price. They also handle installation and problems with faulty construction or other dissatisfactions.

Mail order houses handle low to better quality carpeting, but seldom offer top-of-the-line products. Discount house offerings range from promotional goods to medium quality. Places handling used rugs and carpets vary widely in what they offer and when it is available, depending on who is selling out next.

* * * *

Department of Information
and Agricultural Journalism
Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101
February 19, 1973

Immediate release

IN BRIEF

Follow Drug Label Directions. There's no reason why drug residues should appear in meat if farmers read the label on the feed tag and follow the instructions, says L. E. Hanson, University of Minnesota animal scientist.

"There has not been one documented case of harm to humans from the consumption of meat or eggs from animals fed DES, antibiotics or coccidiostats," Hanson says. "Billions of pigs, calves and poultry have been fed diets containing one or more of these drugs."

He says the Food and Drug Administration ordered a halt to DES production "not because there is proof of danger from DES, but because at this time a USDA study shows a lack of clear and convincing evidence that requirements of the drug law are fully satisfied. The law requires that there be no residue in meat."

* * * *

Keep Dairy Equipment Clean. Clean, sanitary milking equipment is basic to the production of high quality milk. Requirements for proper cleaning vary according to the type of equipment used. Recommendations for cleaning metal milker unit parts are contained in Food Science and Industries Fact Sheet No. 9 (Revised 1973), "Cleaning and Sanitizing on the Dairy Farm." This publication is available from the _____ County Extension Office or the Bulletin Room, University of Minnesota, St. Paul 55101.

* * * *

-more--

add 1--in brief

Pruning Apple Trees. March is an ideal time for pruning apple trees since the weather is moderate enough to permit outside work, yet the trees are still dormant. Pruning dormant trees is considered desirable since it is easier to ascertain the tree's overall structure in relation to how its shape can be changed. Also, this is the best time for rapid healing of pruning wounds, University of Minnesota horticulturists say. For more information, get a copy of Extension Folder 161 from the _____ County Extension Office.

* * * *

Plan Vegetable Garden. Now's a good time to plan your vegetable garden for the upcoming growing season. Order your seeds early from reliable companies, since new varieties disappear from the seed store shelves early in spring. For information on planning your garden, ask for a copy of Extension Folder 164 from the _____ County Extension Office.

* * * *

Farm Shop Fires. Guard against fire around farm shops with these safety measures:

--Store flammable liquids in approved safety containers. Only small quantities of gasoline or paint thinner should be kept in approved cabinets or storerooms. Keep large quantities in a safe area away from the main shop.

--Be sure to remove flammable materials from the welding area.

--Wipe up spilled flammable liquids and keep floors both clean and dry.

--Don't weld tanks that contain flammable substances.

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Department of Information
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Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101
February 19, 1973

Immediate release

DEVALUATION TO AID
MIDWEST FARMERS,
ECONOMIST SAYS

The recent 10 percent devaluation of the dollar will help maintain the strong foreign demand for Midwest wheat, corn and soybeans, Paul Hasbargen, University of Minnesota Extension economist, said.

Since the huge grain sales to the Soviet Union last summer, prices on these important farm commodities have been strong. But these favorable prices have not yet been transferred to many farmers who have tried to sell because of the severe boxcar shortage that has slowed grain movements this winter, he added.

Many farmers have been concerned whether recent price levels would hold until they were able to sell. Devaluation is "good news" for these farmers since it will enable Japan and other countries to buy more grain with a given amount of foreign currency, tending to increase demand. This, in turn, is expected to hold up prices on Midwest wheat, corn and soybeans, the economist said.

An American dollar will buy fewer pounds of Australian beef than it would last week, which should be a comfort to American beef producers. Beef imports to the United States rose sharply last year with the removal of beef import quotas despite a worldwide short supply of beef.

The 10 percent devaluation will depress meat import purchases this year more than what they would have been, which will help strengthen demand for domestically produced beef and help hold beef prices at current levels, Hasbargen added.

"For the second time in two years the dollar has to be devaluated relative to the Japanese yen. Unless we Americans can learn to be more responsible in the management of our resources, we will continue to show trade deficits and further devaluation will be necessary. These can lead to trade wars," he said.

-more-

add 1--dollar devaluation

Inflation, which stemmed largely from excessive government spending, has increased agricultural production costs a third in the past six years in the United States, Hasbargen said. Japan has enjoyed unprecedented growth during the past decade by pacing its wage increases to productivity gains, he added.

-daz-73-

Department of Information
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Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101
February 19, 1973

Housing Series
Immediate release

HOUSING DECISIONS:
OPPORTUNITY RATHER
THAN A 'PROBLEM'

Avoid costly mistakes when making choices about housing, William J. Angell, University of Minnesota Extension housing specialist, advises.

Do you think that your present home no longer fulfills your needs and desires? Are you considering building a new house from scratch, remodeling an existing dwelling or simply buying or renting another home?

If you are considering any of these housing changes, take comfort in the fact that many families are facing the same decisions, he adds. But some families change their housing casually and make costly mistakes, while others make a "wise" decision. Choosing a place to live is an important decision because it strongly influences the way of life for the family and represents a large investment of time, energy and money.

Approach your task as an opportunity to make your life more satisfying rather than as a "housing problem," Angell advises. Family needs and resources are some of the things you'll want to consider when making a decision on housing. A useful worksheet and checklist to help you make a "wise" decision is contained in the publication, "Balancing Your Housing Needs and Resources," Extension Folder 267, available from the _____ County Extension Office or the Bulletin Room, University of Minnesota, St. Paul, Minn. 55101.

-daz-

Department of Information
and Agricultural Journalism
Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101
February 19, 1973

Immediate release

PROCESS CONTROL
SCHOOL SLATED
FOR MAY, JANUARY

A four-day course for persons involved in commercial food canning will be offered twice by the University of Minnesota's Department of Food Science and Nutrition at the St. Paul Campus the weeks of May 21 and next Jan. 14.

The "Better Process Control School" will be offered in accordance with a recently published section of the Federal Register (128b.10):

"All operators of retorts, processing systems and aseptic processing and packaging systems and container closure inspectors shall be under the operating supervision of a person who has attended a school approved by the Commissioner (of food and drugs) for giving instruction in retort operations, processing systems, operations, aseptic processing and packaging systems operations and container closure inspections and has been identified by that school as having satisfactorily completed the prescribed course of instruction."

The cost of the school will be about \$100 per student, including registration and materials. Persons interested in attending should contact the Office of Special Programs, University of Minnesota, St. Paul, Minn., 55101.

-daz-

Department of Information
and Agricultural Journalism
Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota
February 19, 1973

4-H News

Immediate Release

TEENS CAN ATTEND
STATE ARTS WORK-IN

Teens interested in attending a state "arts work-in" should turn in applications at the county extension office by (_____).
date

The arts work-in will be held at the 4-H Building, Minnesota State Fairgrounds, St. Paul, from August 12-18.

Five to ten teens from each county are encouraged to participate in the expanded arts program. "Teens attending the arts work-in will find new ways of expressing themselves," says Sue G. Fisher, assistant state leader, 4-H and youth development.

"In the past, 4-H'ers participating in the program worked primarily with paintings, drawings and designs, using a variety of materials. This year's program will include all the arts--theatre, dance, music, photography, costuming and many more. We want to include all the art activities that teens are interested in."

The program is open to anyone 15 to 19 years of age with an interest in the arts. Fisher says teens involved in the program might produce a play, paint pictures on canvas, visit an art studio, perform in a band or combo, dance or share ideas of creativity with other people.

She says the event will be held one week before the state fair so many of the teens participating in the arts-in can include their talents in the state share-the-fun program, a part of the 4-H activities at the State Fair. A \$25 fee will be charged to each participant for the week-long event to cover some of the expenses.

-more-

add 1--Teens Attend Arts Work-In

The Cargill Company, sponsor of the 4-H share-the-fun program for the past 25 years, along with the Agricultural Extension Service, University of Minnesota, is adding its support to the expanded arts program.

Teens interested in the arts-in or the share-the-fun program should contact their county extension agent for application blanks and more information.

-bp-

Department of Information
and Agricultural Journalism
Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota
February 19, 1973

ATT: Extension Home Economists

Immediate Release

FAMILY MEALS
CAN SET GOOD
EATING HABITS

Family meals can provide the atmosphere not only for establishing good eating habits that will last a lifetime but for improving communication among family members, according to _____ County Extension Home Economist _____ (extension nutritionists at the University of Minnesota).

School activities, business appointments, club meetings, and, in general, the fast pace of today's living often make it impossible for the family to sit down together for a meal.

When it is possible for the family to eat together, it should be a relaxed time that gives family members the chance to exchange ideas with each other and recount the day's happenings.

Meals prepared for the entire family and eaten together are likely to be more nutritious than foods eaten in a hit-and-miss fashion, _____ says (say the extension nutritionists). Family meals are important, too, because they provide the opportunity to introduce new foods and establish the pattern of the variety of foods necessary for good nutrition. Economy of meal preparation is another factor to consider when the foods are prepared for the entire family rather than if each family member prepares his own meal.

-jbn-

Department of Information
and Agricultural Journalism
Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101
February 19, 1973

Immediate release

FEED HOGS LESS
PROTEIN WITH
HIGH LYSINE CORN

Protein supplements for growing pigs (40-130 lbs.) can be reduced by one-third or more by using high lysine corn containing .4 percent lysine or more, according to University of Minnesota research.

In the study, animal scientist J. W. Nordstrom reported that no supplemental protein was required when high lysine corn was fed to finishing swine (130 pounds market weight) and to pregnant sows and gilts. Higher levels of dietary protein were required, however, during lactation--about the same levels as provided for young pigs.

Nordstrom tested high lysine and normal counterpart corn for protein content from 30 Minnesota farmers. The farmers included information on soil fertilization, estimated yields and other relevant data.

There was considerable variation in protein content of the corn samples and a much greater saving in protein supplement would have resulted from corn containing .5 percent lysine than that containing .3 percent. Nordstrom cautions farmers not to reduce protein supplement excessively so the diet doesn't provide minimum protein and amino acid needs of the pig or reduced rate of gain and feed/gain ratios may result.

Since different soil and climatic conditions may affect the protein and lysine content of high lysine corn, Nordstrom says it's important to run analysis tests on the corn.

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Department of Information
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University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101
February 22, 1973

Special to Minnesota Weeklies

INCREASED FARM
OUTPUT IMPROVES
LIFE QUALITY

Farm output per hour of work has increased about twice as fast as output in the nonagricultural sector of our economy during the past 25 years.

And today, a Minnesota farmer produces four times as much food with an hour's labor as he did 25 years ago, according to a recent report from the University of Minnesota's Institute of Agriculture.

The report, entitled "Serving Minnesota's Citizens--Producers and Consumers," makes these comparisons for the past 25 years:

- Agriculture has increased output by nearly 400 percent.
- Manufacturing has increased output by 100 percent.
- And, nonmanufacturing industries have increased output by 75 percent.

"Much human effort expended in tilling out state's soil only a generation ago is now free to pursue such other goals as production, education and leisure. Now our agricultural abundance offers more alternatives to people to direct and improve their lives," the report states.

The average citizen attains a better standard of living due to agriculture's increased productivity. And this increased productivity is necessary for the well-being of people all over the nation and the world.

Copies of the report are available by writing to the Institute of Agriculture, University of Minnesota, St. Paul, 55101.

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Department of Information
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Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101
February 26, 1973

Immediate release

MSC
2/26/73

SUPPORT PAYMENT
PHASING-OUT

Phasing out government support payments may not be too painful for farmers during the current period of strong market demand and favorable prices, Wesley B. Sundquist, head of the Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics at the University of Minnesota, said.

But, should a combination of weaker market demand and high supplies reduce commodity price levels, farmers certainly will miss the two or three billion dollars in government payments which they have become accustomed to in recent years. Many would also miss the price and income stability which farm programs have produced, he added.

The Nixon Administration recently proposed to begin phasing out payments made to farmers for commodity price supports and for complying with acreage planning restrictions starting when current farm legislation expires after the 1973 crop year. If the phaseout is implemented, it would be the first time in recent decades that U. S. farmers' incomes have not been substantially augmented by government payments.

"The current proposal for phasing out income payments appears to be similar to legislative proposals brought forward several times during the 1960's but never enacted into law. And, though farmers voted decisively to reject mandatory acreage controls in the 1960's, a majority of farmers and farm organizations appear to have favored some type of voluntary programs which included price supports and payments for restricted plantings.

-more-

add 1--support

"The proposal for payment phaseout comes at a time when there is strong demand in world markets for wheat, feed grains and soybeans. As a result, prices for these farm commodities are at or near their highest levels in recent years. In addition, it is expected that the set-aside acreage in 1973 will be only 20 million acres nationally, down from about 60 million acres in 1972.

"Despite this major increase in cropland use in 1973, price prospects remain very strong for soybeans because of severe protein shortages in world markets. Wheat prices also are expected to hold at strong levels through 1973.

"However, should the poor weather of the recent past in Asia and Eastern Europe improve, larger world food grain supplies, particularly of wheat, could result in lower prices by 1974. A large corn crop this year could result in lower feed grain prices by as early as this fall.

"The administration proposal also calls for the elimination of price supports for dairy products. As in the case of grains, recent market strength has brought milk prices to levels well above current supports. However, most analysts are uncertain as to whether the strong market for milk and some other dairy products will continue over the next several years. Should the demand for dairy products weaken and milk production continue to increase, milk prices could come under considerable pressure," Sundquist said.

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Department of Information
and Agricultural Journalism
Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101
February 26, 1973

ATT: Extension Home Economists

Immediate release

MSC
GAZP
5

PALE COLORS
TAKE SPRING
SPOTLIGHT

When you start thinking about your spring and summer wardrobe, develop your color plan around the colors that have fashion significance--the pastels, white, bright green or neutrals.

It's a smart idea as each new season rolls around to find out in advance what the important fashion colors are and build your wardrobe plan around them, suggests Thelma Baierl, extension clothing specialist at the University of Minnesota. The more you learn about fashion and trends, the more you add to your shopping skill, she says.

Pastels are in the spotlight this spring. Pale pink, blue, yellow, turquoise and coral are all important. White stands out, either alone, combined with pastels or contrasted with navy or brown. Green has a new look, especially when it is combined with red or pink. Green may be cool and clear or bright. One fashion expert suggests looking at the colors in a cool slice of watermelon for a part of the color story.

Every season needs a balance of neutrals. This spring they are natural colors--brown and lightened beiges with such names as sand, ecru, oyster.

The fashion colors will appear in polka dots, in plaids, stripes and geometric prints.

-jbn-

(Do Not Use On Radio--Has been sent to radio stations for their exclusive use. For use only in columns as it is not news style.)

MSC
3/2/73

February 26, 1973

For Extension Home Economists

Mail Ordering Plants

Here's something to keep in mind when ordering plants through the mail:

Select plants that will thrive and survive in Minnesota. University Arboretum Director Leon Snyder says most plants sold by Minnesota nurseries are hardy. When ordering flowering crab apple trees, be sure to get one that has resistance to common diseases. Flowering crabs recommended include Red Splendor, Flame, Radiant, Vanguard and Sparkler.

Snyder says a hardy rose shrub is Lillian Gibson. Other hardy roses include Prairie Dawn, the Gallicas, Centiolias and Rugosas.

* * * *

Ordering Nut Trees

Make sure the nut trees you buy will survive in Minnesota.

University Horticulturist Leonard Hertz says nut trees that have succeeded under central and southern Minnesota conditions are black walnut, shagbark hickory and butternut native to southern Minnesota.

Native American hazelnut, common in most of the state, produces small, edible nuts. But the large, thin shelled filberts sold in grocery stores have not as yet been adapted to local conditions. Pecans, English and Carpathian walnuts, chestnuts and almonds are not hardy in Minnesota.

* * * *

more ...

Ordering Fruit Trees

University Horticulturist Leonard Hertz says Red Baron, Honey Gold and Regent are apples that combine high quality and winterhardness in delicious, attractive fruits.

Suitable dwarf apple varieties are Minnesota hardy selections grafted onto dwarfing rootstock. Beacon, Haralson and McIntosh are three of these varieties that are available in dwarf form. Special winter protection is needed for these rootstocks to survive Minnesota temperatures.

* * * *

Bacon Package Change Postponed

The U. S. Department of Agriculture has postponed the deadline from February 19th to August 19th for making changes in bacon packaging.

Meat processors will be required to have a window in their bacon packages that shows the surface of a representative slice of bacon. Also bacon and other cured meat products must be labeled by August 19th to show what ingredients were used in the curing process. Some processors already have begun using the new packages.

* * * *

4-H Consumerism

Youth and 4-H Specialist Phyllis Worden asks: "How many phonograph records do you buy a year? Forty records at four or five dollars a piece is almost two-hundred dollars in records."

Teenagers should "think it over" before they buy another new "hit." How many times can you hear it on the radio? Maybe you don't need that record after all? Are there other things you could do with that money?

* * * *

Department of Information
and Agricultural Journalism
Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101
February 26, 1973

4-H NEWS

Immediate release

4-H'ERS EARN AWARDS
FOR WILDLIFE PROJECTS

The Rocketeers 4-H club from Stearns county and the Flom Fossum 4-H club from Norman county have won \$25 cash awards for their achievements in the 1972 4-H Wildlife Habitat Improvement Program. The cash awards, accompanied with certificates, are provided by Minnesota Pheasants Unlimited, one of the program's sponsors.

Several other Minnesota clubs received certificates for their participation in the program. The clubs included the Milan Chargers, Chippewa county; A-OK's, Clay county; Working Huskies, Dakota county; Hi Lighters, LeSueur county; Partridge River, Wadena county; Blooming Clovers, Waseca county and Wergeland Willing Workers, Yellow Medicine county.

Several state 4-H'ers received \$10 cash awards to partially cover their expenses at the 1973 State 4-H Conservation Leadership Camp at Lake Itasca June 4-8. They also received certificates. Included were Michael Richert, Sleepy Eye; Paul Rolloff, New Ulm; Curt A. Thompson, Montevideo; Tim Sletten, Montevideo; Alan Peterson, Murdock and Jana Groothuis, Clara City.

Others receiving cash awards and certificates were Scott Schloesser, LeCenter; Scott Johnson, Little Falls; Diane Boman, Twin Valley; George Ford, Edgerton; Mark Monson and David Paulson, Lafayette; Desmond, Dwight and Darren Heairet, Loretto and Matt Matter, Delano.

4-H'ers receiving honorable mention certificates included Wade Vos, Granite Falls; Robin Gilbertson, Granite Falls; Brad Evans, Montevideo; Brad Payne, DeGraff; Duane Lee, Montevideo and John Krogstad, Granite Falls.

Others in the honorable mention group included Judy Moren, LeSueur; Allen Priebe, Hadley; Russ Pilegaard, Ruthton; Patti Zimmerman and Richard Laska, Winona; and Guy Bock, Cokato.

add 1--4-H wildlife

The Rocketeers 4-H club from Stearns county planted pine and evergreen trees for windbreaks, left corn standing through the winter for wildlife feed, preserved wetland areas, constructed bird feeders and established grassland areas for wildlife protection to earn one of two cash awards presented to 4-H clubs by Minnesota Pheasants Unlimited. The club reports that they've seen skunks, squirrels, raccoons, ducks, deer, beaver, fox, pheasants, field mice and woodchucks in wildlife areas which they've developed.

4-H families from the Flom Fossum 4-H club from Norman county developed over 60 acres of wildlife cover, planted trees and shrubs and some 25 acres of millet for wildlife feed and cover (each family planted at least one acre of millet), improved stream banks and set up bird feeders. One family developed a 40 acre wildlife sanctuary with dams and wooded areas.

The club also hauled bales of hay and ear corn into woods for deer, raised and released pheasants, cleaned up litter along roads and planted flowers in public areas. They also installed a bird feeder at the Twin Valley Manor home for the aged during National 4-H Week.

Many wildlife conservation practices were completed by individual 4-H'ers from throughout the state. Diane Boman, Twin Valley, planted a windbreak, provided corn for wildlife feed and built some birdhouses.

Paul Rolloff, New Ulm, built 13 wood duck houses and put them around farm ponds, left corn unpicked for winter wildlife feed and conducted research on wildlife.

David Paulson, Lafayette, raised both pheasants and mallard ducks, delayed the cutting of alfalfa to prevent injury to wildlife, planted windbreaks and built wood duck nests. Said Paulson of his experiences with the wildlife project, "I wish hunters who totally disregard no hunting signs and shoot at everything they see would have the chance to participate in the 4-H conservation project as I have the past eight years." Other state 4-H'ers expressed similar views of the 4-H Wildlife Habitat Improvement Program. For details on how you can become involved in the 1973 program contact your county agent.

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Note to Agents: You may wish to add additional information on 4-H wildlife projects in your county.

Department of Information
and Agricultural Journalism
Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101
February 26, 1973

Housing Series
Immediate release

HOW MUCH
CAN YOU SPEND
FOR A HOUSE?

How much you can afford to spend for housing is one of the problems you face if you're a prospective home owner.

William Angell, extension housing specialist at the University of Minnesota, gives several rules of thumb to help you make that decision.

. The sale price of the house should not be more than 2 to 2½ times your gross annual income. Thus if your annual income is \$10,000 the cost of your house should not be more than \$20,000 to \$25,000.

. Your total monthly cost for housing--including mortgage payments, taxes, utilities, maintenance and insurance, should not be more than 25 to 30 percent of your monthly take-home pay. If your take-home pay is \$500, your monthly expenditure for housing should not be more than \$125 to \$150.

. You should have the necessary cash to meet the down payment and closing costs such as title search, transfer of ownership and other charges.

The University housing specialist points out, however, that these are merely rules of thumb and that one family might be able to invest more or less than another family. If your income will not provide the type of housing you want, there are alternatives such as reducing other spending--for food, entertainment, transportation, gifts and so on--increasing your take-home income (moonlighting might be a possibility, though that may be difficult) or finding housing with lower monthly payments.

The important point, Angell says, is to decide how you can purchase the life style you and your family want from a house.

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Department of Information
and Agricultural Journalism
Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101
February 26, 1973

Immediate release

CORN MOISTURE
CONTENT AFFECTS
NUTRIENT LOSSES

Moisture content of corn may be a critical factor contributing to nutrient losses when corn is dried at high temperatures, say University of Minnesota scientists J. W. Nordstrom and J. N. Strait.

The scientists fed 192 pigs averaging 41 pounds diets of opaque-2 and normal corn dried at temperatures of 140, 248, and 356 degrees Fahrenheit to final moisture levels of five or 12 percent. Pigs were fed diets with and without supplemental soybean meal for a 28-day period.

Pigs fed corn with five percent moisture and no supplemental protein gained slower and required more feed per unit gain than pigs fed diets when corn was dried to 12 percent, according to the researchers.

When no supplemental protein was fed, average daily gains were greater and feed/gain ratios were less when opaque-2 corn was fed instead of normal corn. Opaque-2 corn is noted for its higher lysine content; however, scientists said advantages of the corn over normal corn tended to disappear when soybean meal was added to provide 16 percent total dietary protein.

The researchers also found that the addition of protein was not completely effective in overcoming the reduction in daily gains from feeding heat damaged corn (five percent moisture).

The researchers say drying corn at high temperatures may not only decrease nutrient content but may also toast and crack kernels and increase the danger of fire while drying.

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Department of Information
and Agricultural Journalism
Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101
February 26, 1973

Immediate release

IN BRIEF. . . .

Corn Diseases. Corn diseases that plagued Minnesota growers last season should not be as severe this coming season since the odds favor drier weather in 1973, Herbert G. Johnson, University of Minnesota extension plant pathologist, says. The use of N cytoplasm corn should take care of southern corn leaf blight and yellow leaf blight problems. If farmers grow resistant hybrids when using minimum tillage, they should be able to avoid problems with eyespot disease in 1973. Try to get as much resistance to leaf spot and stalk rot as possible and grow several good hybrids, not just one hybrid, Johnson advises.

* * * *

Minimize Pesticide Disposal Problems. The pesticide disposal problems that some Minnesota farmers will face at the end of the growing season can be minimized, says University of Minnesota extension entomologist Phillip Harein. Always obtain pesticides for the coming season only and don't overstock. Try to arrange the return of large containers of pesticides to your supplier in case the pesticides are not needed. Use pesticides that will "breakdown" quickly. Minimize purchases of pesticides that are likely to be restricted. Mix only enough pesticide for your immediate needs. But if you have some left over, try to use it elsewhere, following Minnesota usage directions.

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add 1--in brief

Annuals for Garden. Try some of the new annuals in your flower garden this spring, Jane McKinnon, University of Minnesota extension horticulturist, suggests. Two '73 "All-America" selections, the Peter Pan Scarlet Zinnia and the Happy Face Marigold, will make bright additions. Peter Pan makes a nice border plant and Happy Face is good as a container plant and as a patio accent. Zinnias and marigolds should be started indoors about April 15, but no sooner.

* * * *

Bulk Tanks. Clean bulk milk tanks mechanically or manually every time the tank is emptied. Information on mechanical cleaning is contained in University of Minnesota Food Science and Industries Fact Sheet No. 9 (Revised 1973).

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Department of Information
and Agricultural Journalism
Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101
February 26, 1973

Immediate release

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CONTENT AFFECTS
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Department of Information
and Agricultural Journalism
Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101

"The University of Minnesota adheres to the principle that all persons shall have equal opportunity and access to facilities and programs in the University without regard to race, creed, color, sex or national origin."

February 28, 1973

SPECIAL SHORT COURSE SCHEDULE (March-August 1973)

- March 2, 5 Beef Cow-Calf Days. Mar. 2, North Central Experiment Station, Grand Rapids; Mar. 5, Southwest Experiment Station, Lamberton. A field day emphasizing cow-calf production.⁺
- March 7 Garden Store Operators Short Course, CANCELLED.
- March 7 Dairy Day. North Central Experiment Station, Grand Rapids. Designed especially for dairymen in the Grand Rapids area. Current research results in dairy management, breeding, nutrition and herd health will be discussed.^o
- March 7 Instrumentation and Process Control Systems in the Food Industry. St. Paul Campus, Room 122 Food Sciences and Industries Building. To inform personnel in the food processing industry in current technological and instrumentation used in controls of food processing.^x
- March 7-15 Fair Management Short Courses. Owatonna, Owatonna Inn, March 7; Redwood Falls, March 8; Thief River Falls, United Methodist Church, March 14; Brainerd, Holiday Inn, March 15. Management principles, adjustments and changes, trends, budgets, physical facilities and developmental programs for county fair improvement. For fair board members, fair officers, superintendents and supervisors who have responsibilities in connection with the management of county, district and state fairs.*
- March 10 Livestock Industry Day and Annual Meeting, Waseca, Southern School and Experiment Station. The latest trends and issues in the livestock industry and their implications. For Minnesota livestock breeders.^{oo}
- March 18-
April 6 Minnesota Town/Country Art Show. St. Paul Campus. Amateur artists in Minnesota are given a chance to exhibit their original paintings and sculptures.*
- March 19-23 DHIA Supervisors Training School, St. Paul Campus. To train prospective Dairy Herd Improvement supervisors.*

⁺For further information call the Experiment Station designated
^oFor further information call (318) 326-3485, William Matalamaki
^xFor further information call (612) 373-1082, Edmund Zottola
^{*}For further information call (612) 373-0725, Office of Special Programs
^{oo}For further information call (507) 835-3620, Richard Anderson

add 1--special short course schedule

- March 20, 21 Midwest Milk Marketing Conference, Pick-Nicollet Hotel, Minneapolis. To provide information on marketing and marketing problems of the milk industry in the midwest states for industry and University personnel in dairy marketing in midwest states.*
- March 20, 21, 22 Microbiological Examination of Milk and Milk Products, St. Paul Campus. A training program for personnel working in approved laboratories for the microbiological analysis of milk. For all individuals engaged in the microbiological examination of milk and milk products, including industry, private laboratories and regulatory personnel.*
- March 20, 22 Sugar Beet Institute, Fargo, N.D., March 20; and Crookston, Mar. 22. The application of research in the production of sugar beets for growers and agribusiness personnel.**
- March 21 Turf Management Short Course, St. Paul Campus. For turf care supervisory and maintenance personnel from golf courses, institutional grounds, athletic grounds, home lawn care services and parks.*
- March 21, 22, 23 Liquefied Petroleum Gas Short Course, St. Paul Campus. Information on advance technology, new developments and important safety and public relations information for L-P plant personnel, technicians and salesmen.*
- March 22, 23 Land Disposal of Waste Waters Symposium, St. Paul Campus. To inform municipal and county officials, county sanitarians, consulting engineers and all others interested in waste disposal problems about the implications and philosophies of the 1972 Water Pollution Control Act and alternative technologies available to meet the requirements of that act.*
- March 22, 23, 24 Farrier Science Workshop. 8:30 a.m., University of Minnesota Technical College, Crookston. To inform participants about the proper handling of horses, trimming, nailing, shoeing, and the identification of lameness in the purchase of animals.†
- March 23 Direct Microscopic Method for Determining Milk Quality, St. Paul Campus. To update participants on the use of the direct microscopic method for the evaluation of milk quality. For all who are engaged in the evaluation of milk quality.*
- March 23, 24 Beekeeping Management Short Course, St. Paul Campus. To provide current information on basic beekeeping, including regulations, equipment, diseases, preparation of colonies, care of the honey crop, preparing bees for winter, and package installation. For hobby beekeepers, and all others interested in beginning beekeeping. Course limited to 100 people.*

**For further information call (218) 281-6510, Bernard Youngquist
†For further information call (218) 281-6510, Donald Sargeant

add 2--special short course schedule

- March 26 Small Fruit Growers Short Course, St. Paul Campus. To provide commercial strawberry and raspberry growers with information on planning, varieties, planting, pest control and harvesting.*
- March 26, 27, 28 Resort Owners Short Course. Mar. 26, Detroit Lakes; Mar. 27, 28, Brainerd. To bring timely information to tourism facility operators on a broad range of subjects. For resort owners and operators.*
- March 27, 28 Dairy Days. March 27, West Central Experiment Station, Morris; March 28, Northwest Experiment Station, Crookston. To acquaint area dairy farmers, vo-ag classes and agribusiness people with the newest methods and latest information regarding dairy husbandry.+
- April 3 Shade Tree Maintenance Conference, St. Paul Campus. To provide updated information on shade tree maintenance problems and to provide practical information and demonstration on maintenance techniques. For arborists, nurserymen, park administrators, landscape maintenance superintendents and all individuals concerned with shade tree preservation.*
- April 6, 7 National Conference of Student Chapters Educational Symposium, St. Paul Campus. To provide an educational symposium for veterinary students and faculty in the U.S. and Canada.*
- April 7, 8 Horses A to Z Workshop. University of Minnesota Technical College, Crookston, 7:30 a.m. The workshop is designed for seasoned riders as well as beginners. Participants may bring their own horses. Instructors include Fran Reker, English riding; Dr. Vic Myers, equine veterinarian; Dr. Jim Dollahon, breeding and nutrition; and Jack Brainard, western riding.†
- April 23-27 Cheese Technology Workshop, St. Paul Campus. Training and retraining of individuals engaged in the manufacture of cheese. For cheese makers, food technologists who are involved with the manufacture of all types of cheese.x
- April 28 Minnesota Prairie Chicken Conference. University of Minnesota, Crookston Campus, 5:00 a.m. Cooperating agencies include Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, Wildlife Society, and the Nature Conservancy. An assessment of the status of the prairie chicken in Minnesota and neighboring states concluding with recommendations as to the steps necessary to maintain viable populations of prairie chickens. Open to anyone interested in prairie chickens.†
- May 6, 7, 8 Minnesota Future Farmers of America State Convention, St. Paul Campus, State Fairgrounds (Hippodrome) and judging area. A learning experience for vocational agriculture students and FFA members to complement the vocational agriculture curriculum.*

add 3--special short course schedule

- May 8, 9, 10, 11 Minnesota State Fire School, Pick-Nicollet Hotel, Minneapolis. For volunteer and paid fire department personnel, city officials and interested government and industry personnel who deal in fire safety, prevention, control and rescue and first aid work.*
- May 14, 15 Teachers Environmental Education Workshop, Morris T. Baker Park Reserve, Maple Plain. Two identical one-day sessions on solving our natural resource problems. For teachers of general science and biology at the secondary level; elementary teachers; and school administrators interested in broadening their curriculums in natural resource education.*
- May 21-25 Better Process Control School, St. Paul Campus. To provide training, examination and certification so that Minnesota canners can comply with Part 128b--thermally processed low-acid foods packaged in hermetically sealed containers of the food and drug law. For supervisors of retort operations, processing system operations, aseptic processing, packaging operations, and container closure inspections.*
- June 4, 5, 6 Livestock Judging and Meats Evaluation, St. Paul Campus. For livestock judges, vo-ag instructors, county agents and livestock producers and University administrators. Purpose is to teach evaluation and selection of desirable beef, sheep and hogs, meats evaluation, and promote more uniformity in selection for the desirable meat animals at various state, regional and county shows.*
- June 12, 13 Athletic Field Turf Management, St. Paul Campus. To inform personnel who are responsible for the upkeep of athletic fields about the latest recommended turf maintenance techniques. The course will cover sod management, fertilizer rates and recommended analysis, disease control, varieties and construction problems.*
- June 26, 27 Branch Station Crop and Soil Field Days. June 26, Waseca; June 27, Lamberton. For people to see the research facilities and the range of programs in the branch stations.+
- July 9, 10, 11 Agricultural Education Workshop, Radisson Downtown Hotel and St. Paul Campus. A workshop for instructors and administrators of vocational and technical education courses in agriculture to become informed of current developments and trends in agricultural education.*
- July 11, 17, 18 Branch Station and Soil Field Days. July 11, Morris; July 17, Crookston; July 18, Grand Rapids. For people to see the research facilities and the range of programs in the branch stations.+
- July 15-20 Microbiology and Sanitation in the Food Industry, St. Paul Campus. To introduce production personnel in the food processing industry to microbiology and related sanitation in the food industry. Emphasis upon the role of micro-organisms in food spoilage and food-borne disease. The importance of sanitation, disinfection, and processing details in the production of high quality foods is also stressed.*

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Department of Information
and Agricultural Journalism
Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101
March 1, 1973

Special to Minnesota Weeklies

WATERFOWL SYMPOSIUM
SET FOR MARCH 10

Sportsmen and waterfowl hunters are invited to a "Waterfowl--Present and Future" symposium on the University of Minnesota's St. Paul Campus Saturday, March 10.

Wildlife management specialists will discuss the inventory of wildlife populations, establishing and enforcing regulations plus habitat quality and trends. James Cooper, assistant wildlife professor at the University, will talk on the success of the Canada goose.

Habitat trends, including drainage losses and land use changes, will be discussed by Grady Mann, wildlife extension specialist at the University. A laymens' panel drawn from citizens' natural resource organizations will participate in panel discussions.

The program will conclude with a discussion of future trends by Prof. Clay Schoenfeld, Center of Environmental Communications and Education Studies at the University of Wisconsin.

The program is sponsored by the University of Minnesota and the Minnesota Chapter of the Wildlife Society. The daylong session begins at 9 a.m. in the North Star Ballroom of the St. Paul Campus Student Center.

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Department of Information
and Agricultural Journalism
Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101
March 1, 1973

Special to Minnesota Weeklies

FOOD MARKETING
COSTS ADD TO
STATE'S ECONOMY

You pay about 25 percent more for food today due to built-in conveniences, since frozen, precut and ready-to-serve foods require more processing and preparation.

And although farmers don't share in the profits from these added conveniences, a sizeable portion of the marketing receipts remain in the states economy since Minnesota is a major food processing center.

About 38 cents out of each food dollar goes to the producer, and the remaining 62 cents covers processing and marketing costs after raw products leave the farm, according to a report from the University of Minnesota's Institute of Agriculture.

The report, entitled "Serving Minnesota's Citizens--Producers and Consumers," is available from county extension offices or the Institute of Agriculture, University of Minnesota, St. Paul, Minn. 55101.

"Wages and salaries of workers associated with the transportation, processing, wholesaling and retailing of food have risen 65 percent since 1960," the report states. "Thus, part of the consumer's food dollar means a higher income for many families of Minnesota workers who transport, process, wholesale and retail food after it leaves the farm."

The percentage of disposable income spent for food has declined significantly since World War II, the report points out. In 1947, 25 percent of U. S. disposable income went to purchase food. By 1950 that figure had fallen to 22 percent. It continued to fall to 20 percent in 1959 and 16 percent in 1971.

-more-

add 1--food marketing

"Although food costs rose in 1972, consumer incomes rose faster and the percentage of income spent for food was expected to fall below 16 by the end of 1972," the report states.

"This means the real or proportional cost of food has declined, and this is remarkable in view of rising marketing and processing costs.

"The factor that decreases the real cost of food is greater productivity in the agricultural industry, especially at the farm level. Part of the reason for this increased productivity is the willingness of farmers to adopt the technology developed by University research and brought to agriculture by University extension specialists."

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JMS

Department of Information
and Agricultural Journalism
Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101
March 5, 1973

Housing Series

Immediate release

SELECT HOUSE
SYSTEMATICALLY,
SPECIALIST SAYS

Shopping for a house follows a careful weighing of your family's needs and your income prospects, William J. Angell, University of Minnesota extension housing specialist, says.

After deciding that buying a house is right for your family at this time, you are ready to shop. One way to find out what houses are available is to check the newspaper advertisements.

You may also want to talk with real estate agents. Select agents as you would a doctor, dentist or lawyer. Inquire of friends. Check with mortgage officers of several banks and savings and loan associations for their recommendations. The agent you plan to deal with should be active in the neighborhoods you are interested in and be able to show you pictures of homes he has sold recently in your price bracket.

Watch for "open house" signs and tell friends that you are in the market for a house.

Systematically evaluate potential houses and assess their merits and detractions for your family. Check sheets are available from some real estate agents or you can make your own. Here are some points you should consider in the purchase of a house:

--The neighborhood. Is it attractive and well maintained? Is the neighborhood zoned residential? Are there flooding problems? Are there children in the same age group as yours? Are there public facilities and utilities? Is it likely that special assessments will be levied in the near future?

-more-

add 1--housing series

--The lot. Is it graded so water will drain away in every direction from the house and the lot? Is it large enough for adequate privacy and the family activities you enjoy? Does the lot have attractive and healthy trees? Is automobile access simple and easy? Are there sidewalks? Is the view from the house pleasant?

--The house. Will it continue to meet your needs and be attractive to you for many years? Is it suitable for your style of living? Is there an entry or foyer space at the guest entrance with a guest closet? Is the kitchen arranged so traffic does not go through the work area? Are there sufficient cabinets and counter space in the kitchen? Is the living room situated to avoid cross traffic?

Are bathrooms visually screened from living areas and the front door? Is water pressure adequate? Are there enough 230-volt electrical outlets for such items as a clothes drier, range and air conditioner? Is the house connected to the city sewer line? Is the house adequately insulated and does it have properly installed vapor barriers on the warm sides of the exterior walls and ceilings? Paint problems on the outside wall may be due to lack of a proper vapor barrier.

For more information, get Home and Garden Bulletin No. 182, "Selecting and Financing a Home," for 15 cents a copy from the Superintendent of Documents, U. S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C. 20402. Another publication, "Wise Home Buying," is available from the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, 1821 University Avenue, St. Paul 55104.

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Department of Information
and Agricultural Journalism
Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101
March 5, 1973

Immediate release

IN BRIEF. . . .

Planning Ahead. A long range budgeting computer program is available through the University of Minnesota's Agricultural Extension Service to make planning easier. With this computerized program, the farmer can analyze up to three alternative farming programs at one time. The computer provides a brief summary of how well his crop and livestock program fits together as well as the profitability of each alternative. It also allows the farmer to examine the ability of each of the alternatives to repay debt that may be incurred. Farmers interested in this program should contact the _____ County Extension Office or Ken Thomas, extension farm management specialist, University of Minnesota, St. Paul, Minn. 55101.

* * * *

Herbicide Publication. "How to Calculate Herbicide Rates--Calibrate Herbicide Applicators" is the title of a new publication from the University of Minnesota's Agricultural Extension Service. The publication points out that uniform application of chemicals at proper rates is essential for effective weed control. A slight variation in the rate of application of some chemicals may result in poor kill of the weeds or injury to the crop, resulting in a loss of time, effort and money. Ask your county extension agent for a copy of Agricultural Chemicals Fact Sheet No. 5, or send a post card to the Bulletin Room, University of Minnesota, St. Paul, Minn. 55101.

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add 1--in brief

Lock Pesticide Storage Areas. Storage areas for pesticides and herbicides should be kept locked. This will prevent children, irresponsible persons, pets and livestock from entering. Store pesticides in the original label container. If the product is several years old, check the use recommendations as they may have changed. If so, note the changes on the label, or dispose of the pesticide.

* * * *

Turf Management. A program for turf care supervisory and maintenance personnel will be held March 21 at the University of Minnesota, St. Paul. Among the subjects on the program are fertilizer programs, establishing and renovating turf and selecting mowers. Registration for the Turf Management Short Course is through the Office of Special Programs, University of Minnesota, St. Paul, Minn. 55101.

* * * *

Cleaning Pipelines. Dairymen use three mechanical methods for cleaning pipelines: Vacuum circulating, pressure or pump circulation and vacuum flush. Cleaning must start immediately after milking. Use only detergents or cleaners prepared specifically for pipelines. Requirements for cleaning are different from those for manual cleaning of milking machines. Stronger compounds with low foaming properties are essential. Get Food Science and Industries Fact Sheet No. 9 (Revised 1973) from the _____ County Extension Office or the Bulletin Room, University of Minnesota, St. Paul 55101, for procedures on cleaning pipelines.

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Department of Information
and Agricultural Journalism
Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101
March 5, 1973

Immediate release

IMPROPER HANDLING
OF PESTICIDES MAY
LEAD TO PENALTIES

Violation of the Federal Environmental Pesticide Control Act can lead to a fine of \$25,000 or one year in jail.

"The new law was passed last October, yet many people aren't aware of it," says Phillip Harein, extension entomologist with the University of Minnesota.

Any commercial pesticide applicators, wholesalers, dealers, retailers or other distributors who violate the law can be fined \$5,000 for each offense. And if you knowingly violate any provision, the fine can be \$25,000, jail for one year, or both.

Private applicators or non-commercial people who violate the law after receiving a written warning can be fined \$1,000 for each offense. Private applicators who knowingly violate any provision can be faced with 30 days in jail plus the \$1,000 fine.

You can obtain a report covering the major components of the law by writing to P.K. Harein, Dept. of Entomology, Fisheries and Wildlife, University of Minnesota, St. Paul, Minn. 55101.

A slide set with script entitled "The Environmental Pesticide Control Act of 1972" also is available from the Department of Information and Agricultural Journalism, University of Minnesota, St. Paul.

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Department of Information
and Agricultural Journalism
Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101
March 5, 1973

4-H NEWS

Immediate release

ADULTS NEEDED FOR NEW
YOUTH EXCHANGE PROGRAM

Adults interested in serving as host families or volunteer coordinators for a new youth exchange program should contact their county extension office.

The program, called "Friendship Visits Program," will give 10-13 year-old youth the opportunity to visit urban or rural areas in Minnesota for one week this summer.

Recently organized through the joint efforts of the Agricultural Extension Service and the Minnesota Council of Churches, the program is "basically an opportunity for 10-13 year-old youth to share in an enriching human relations experience by living with a host family in another part of the state during the summer," says Daniel E. Lindsey, program coordinator and assistant state leader, 4-H and youth development.

"We hope the visits will enrich the child's understanding of other communities and people. For many children the visit will be a rare opportunity to travel, to meet new people, to become aware of different life styles, opportunities and needs."

Program features include transportation for youth from city to farm and vice versa, liability insurance for host families and health and accident insurance for participating youth. A \$5 fee will be charged to each youth participant in the program.

Last year some 500 youth visited host families through two former programs. "We hope to reach some 1,000 youth through the new program," says Lindsey. "Our main concern now is to find coordinators and host families for the program."

Volunteer coordinators will help recruit host families, conduct orientation sessions and publicize the program in local communities. Any adult or youth interested in the Friendship Visits Program should contact their county extension office by April 1.

(Do Not Use On Radio--Has been sent to radio stations for their exclusive use. For use only in columns as it is not news style.)

March 5, 1973

For Extension Home Economists

Milk Prices

An Illinois economist says many supermarkets in the United States are taking an unreasonably high markup for milk.

Roland Bartlett says immediate attention should be given to reducing charges for the "simple" operations of storing and selling packaged milk to consumers. Bartlett is a University of Illinois professor emeritus of agricultural economics.

Bartlett conducted a study in 1972 of 46 market areas that have a population of more than a half-million. He found that in Minneapolis the average markup per quart of milk in retail markets was 30 percent more than the wholesale cost. Bartlett's data shows that the markup for milk nationally in supermarkets was 41 percent, while the markup on all food items in supermarkets averaged 19 percent.

The markup is the amount the store adds to the price it pays for milk or other items to cover handling costs and allow for a profit. Bartlett says supermarkets have forced distributors to cut to the bone costs for processing, packaging and delivering milk to stores. He says some distributors can perform such services for less than three-and-a-half cents a quart and show a profit.

(Bartlett's study appears in "Dairy Marketing Facts," January 1973, Cooperative Extension Service, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, Ill.)

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March 5, 1973

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Nutrition In Bread

University of Minnesota nutrition specialist Mary Darling says the nutritional quality of bread has become a concern.

She advises consumers to look for whole wheat bread or white bread marked "enriched" on the label. Enrichment means that three B vitamins and the iron lost in milling whole wheat are returned to the bread.

Remember that the dark breads--such as rye or pumpernickel--may not contain significant amounts of whole wheat. Coloring is used to get these characteristics. Not all frozen and refrigerated breads and rolls are enriched. White unbleached flour may have a minimum of vitamins and minerals.

Make sure that the unbleached flour you may use is enriched.

* * * *

FDA Nutrition Labeling Rule

The Federal Food and Drug Administration's nutritional labeling regulation is expected to be implemented in some cases as early as this summer.

The new regulation means that any food product that is fortified or enriched or has claims on its label or in its advertising about protein, fat, calories and vitamins, must list the amount of nutrients in each serving. Most canned and packaged foods and drinks will be covered under this ruling.

Doing the marketing will take longer as the shopper stops to read the label with the nutritional information. But the shopper can become familiar with the nutritional value of different products and choose the one with the most food value.

* * * *

Department of Information
and Agricultural Journalism
Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101
March 5, 1973

ATT: Extension Home Economists

Immediate release

MSC
A27P

HERE'S HOW TO
DEVELOP KNOW-HOW
IN FASHION

Study fashion if you want to be well dressed.

A continuing interest in fashion is important if you want to express your own individuality in dress as you select clothes from current styles.

Athelene Scheid, extension clothing specialist at the University of Minnesota, has some suggestions on how to develop an interest in and knowledge of fashion and build fashion into your own wardrobe.

. Select an American and a European designer whose clothes you like, and follow what they show during each of the two high-fashion seasons, January and July. Study the fashion magazines to find out the types of clothes they make from year to year. If you do this for several years, your fashion interest and ability will grow.

. Read news articles about fashions, look at fashion magazines, watch fashion shows on television the year round. Notice how many fashion magazines and news articles say the same thing about current trends. In other words, take a count of the number of times a certain fashion is shown, for example, the shirtwaist dress, the dolman sleeve, the deep-crowned hat.

. Study pattern books at pattern counters, even if you don't sew. These catalogues can give you clues to what is in fashion, show you designer clothes and thus guide you in selecting ready-to-wear.

To up-date your fashion information, look first at designer patterns. A recent catalogue had patterns from 30 different designers. Look for what appeals to you and fits your way of life, making note of the designer's name.

-more-

add 1--develop know-how in fashion

Go through the catalogue a second time, looking only at one designer's clothes and identifying a distinguishing characteristic.

Paging through the book a third time, choose a fashion detail or design that interests you and see how many times it is shown.

. Be a little braver in adopting a new fashion than you have been. Look at fashion as it appears in higher priced brackets to help you in choosing garments in a lower price range. A fad has a short life of only a year, but a fashion is said to be three years coming, three years going--with the longest fashion curve a span of 12 years. Try to catch fashion on its upward swing.

. Analyze fashion silhouettes and lines within the silhouette. Are the lines flattering for your figure? Does this fashion fit your life style? Will it last?

. Make up immediately any fabrics you buy for fashion clothes, since fabrics change from year to year.

-jbn-

Department of Information
and Agricultural Journalism
Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101
March 7, 1973

MSC
2/27/73
Immediate Release

TO: Selected Counties

RESORT MANAGEMENT
SHORT COURSES
SET FOR LATE MARCH

Management short courses for Minnesota resort operators will be held March 26 at the Erie Junior restaurant in Detroit Lakes and March 27-28 at the Holiday Inn at Brainerd.

The fourth annual Minnesota Resort Management Short Course at Brainerd will emphasize the theme "entertaining your guests." The program starts at 10 a.m. March 27 with a legislative review by Frank Gudridge, owner of the Hazleglade Resort at Wahkon. Mini-sessions in the afternoon will feature tour packages, sources of financial help and a discussion of the Leach Lake Indian controversy by a representative from the State Department of Natural Resources.

The March 28 program will start at 9 a.m. with mini-sessions on a variety of subjects--among them golf course and swimming pool management, play equipment and food service management.

In the afternoon of March 28, Karl Munson, Washington, D.C., recreation program leader for the Federal Extension Service, will discuss the "emerging world of play." Developing and managing recreation and entertainment will be discussed by three Minnesota resorters. Other topics in recreation will round out the afternoon program.

The Detroit Lakes program on March 26 will be a mini-short course, starting at 1:30 p.m. and featuring many of the same topics appearing on the Brainerd program.

Pre-registration is requested, but a limited number of registrations will be accepted at the door. Area resorters who have not received mailed invitations are requested to contact their local county extension office or the Office of Special Programs, University of Minnesota, St. Paul, Minn., 55101.

add 1--resort management short course

Both programs are being sponsored by the University's Agricultural Extension Service and the Minnesota Division of Tourism, Department of Economic Development. Also sponsoring the Brainerd program are the Minnesota Resort Association, Minnesota Heartland, Inc., and Minnesota Arrowhead Association. Also sponsoring the Detroit Lakes program are Minnesota Vikingland, Inc., and the Northwestern Minnesota Resort Association.

##



UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE

Institute of Agriculture
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101

IN THIS WEEK'S CURRENT INFORMATION PACK March 9, 1973

- Job Placement for Ag Grads Good
- Penalties for Improper Pesticide Handling
- New Youth Exchange Program
- Food Marketing Costs
- 4-H Speaking Program
- Agri Leaders Conference
- Dutch Elm Disease
- Oak Wilt
- Diseased Tree Disposal
- McFarland Named Dean of U Home Ec. College
- Institute of Ag. Dean Resigns Post

Sincerely,

David A. Zarkin
Extension Information Specialist

DUTCH ELM DISEASE BY MINNESOTA COMMUNITY AND COUNTY--1972 SEASON*

| | | Positive Samples | | | Positive Samples | | |
|------------|---------------------|---------------------|-----------------|----------------|---------------------|------------|----|
| Anoka | Anoka | 22 | Goodhue | Cannon Falls | 2 | | |
| | Coon Rapids | 1 | | Frontenac | 2 | | |
| | Fridley | 5 | | Pine Island | 1 | | |
| Benton | Foley | 2 | | Red Wing | 3 | | |
| | | | | Wanamingo | 1 | | |
| | | | | Zumbrota | 1 | | |
| Big Stone | Ortonville* | 1 | Houston | La Crescent* | 4 | | |
| Blue Earth | Mankato | 77 | | Spring Grove | 3 | | |
| | Garden City | 2 | Jackson | Heron Lake | 1 | | |
| Brown | Evan* | 1 | | Jackson | 16 | | |
| | New Ulm | 4 | | Hennepin | Bloomington | 73 | |
| | Sleepy Eye | 1 | Brooklyn Center | | 3 | | |
| | Springfield* | 7 | Brooklyn Park | | 15 | | |
| Carver | Chanhassen* | 1 | | | Champlin* | 12 | |
| | | | | Crystal | 2 | | |
| | | | | Dayton | 4 | | |
| | | | | Deephaven | 1 | | |
| Chisago | Wyoming | 1 | | Eden Prairie | 8 | | |
| | | | | Edina | 1 | | |
| Cottonwood | Windom | 2 | | Golden Valley | 1 | | |
| | Jeffers* | 2 | | Hopkins | 4 | | |
| Crow Wing | Crow Wing rural | 1 | | Maple Grove | 7 | | |
| | | | | Minneapolis | 225 | | |
| | | | | New Hope | 1 | | |
| | | | | Plymouth | 1 | | |
| Dakota | Farmington | 1 | | Richfield | 5 | | |
| | Hastings | 1 | | Rogers* | 2 | | |
| | Inver Grove | 5 | | Robbinsdale | 1 | | |
| | Mendota Hts. | 4 | | St. Louis Park | 1 | | |
| | So. St. Paul | 31 | | Kandiyohi | Willmar | 5 | |
| | Sunfish Lake | 2 | | | LeSueur | Waterville | 2 |
| | W. St. Paul | 2 | | | | Rural | 1 |
| Dodge | Dodge Center | 10 | | Lincoln | Lake Benton | 3 | |
| | Hayfield | 1 | | | Lyon | Marshall | 13 |
| Faribault | Blue Earth Rural | 1 | Minneota | 4 | | | |
| | Delavan | 2 | Rural | 1 | | | |
| | Elmore | 5 | Tauton | 1 | | | |
| | Wells | 10 | Tracy | 7 | | | |
| | Winnebago | 4 | Martin | Fairmont | 52 | | |
| Fillmore | Fountain* | 1 | | Northrop* | 1 | | |
| | Harmony* | 3 | | Ormsby | 2 | | |
| | Lanesboro | 1 | | | | | |
| | Preston | 9 | | | | | |

*Reported by Minnesota Department of Agriculture, Plant Industry Division

| | | Positive Samples | | | Positive Samples | | | | | | | | | | | |
|------------|----------------|---------------------|-----------------|--------------|---------------------|---------------|--------------|------------|--------|--------|---|-----------|---|----------|------------|---|
| Freeborn | Albert Lea | 81 | Martin (Contd.) | Trimont | 3 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Alden | 12 | | Truman | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Clarks Grove* | 1 | | Welcome | 2 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Glenville | 3 | | Galiva Twsp. | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Mille Lacs | Milaca | 8 | Meeker | Darwin* | 3 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | Stearns | Litchfield | 2 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | Albany | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Mower | Austin | 187 | Stearns | Cold Spring* | 2 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Rural | 2 | | Melrose | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Grand Meadow | 1 | | St. Cloud | 23 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Murray | Currie | 1 | Stearns | Rural | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | Slayton | 1 | Waite Park | 4 | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | 1 | Rural | 1 | | | | | | | | | |
| Nicollet | Courtland* | 1 | Steele | Owatonna | 16 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | Lafayette* | 1 | Wabasha | Lake City | 4 | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | North Mankato | 4 | Plainview | 2 | | | | | | | |
| Nobles | Adrian | 3 | Waseca | Janesville | 2 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Round Lake* | 1 | | New Richland | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Rushmore | 1 | | Waseca | 6 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Worthington | 15 | | Washington | Bayport | 16 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Olmsted | Rochester | 111 | Lake Elmo | | 5 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Byron | 1 | Lakeland | | 8 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Chatfield | 2 | Marine on St. | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Rural | 2 | Croix | 8 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Pipestone | Edgerton | 1 | Washington | May Township | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | Ihlen* | 1 | Newport | 29 | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | Jasper* | 1 | Stillwater | 11 | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | Pipestone | 4 | Rural | 2 | | | | | |
| Ramsey | Falcon Heights | 4 | Watonwan | Woodbury | 77 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | St. James | 11 | Winona | St. Charles* | 3 | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | Winona | 31 | | | | | | | | |
| | | | Wright | Buffalo | 2 | Wright | Clearwater | 1 | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | St. Paul | 319 | Yellow | Canby* | 9 | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | Shoreview | 4 | Medicine | Wood Lake* | 2 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | Redwood | Lamberton* | 10 | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | Milroy | 1 | | | | | | | |
| Renville | Sacred Heart | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

*--New '72 locations



UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE

Department of Information and
Agricultural Journalism
433 Coffey Hall
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101

TO: Minnesota Newsmen
RE: Dutch Elm, Oak Wilt Diseases

Minnesota may lose many elm and oak shade trees unless well planned disease control programs are carried out.

The stories in this news packet provide information on the scope of the problem, give control recommendations for both Dutch elm and oak wilt disease, and tell where to get additional information.

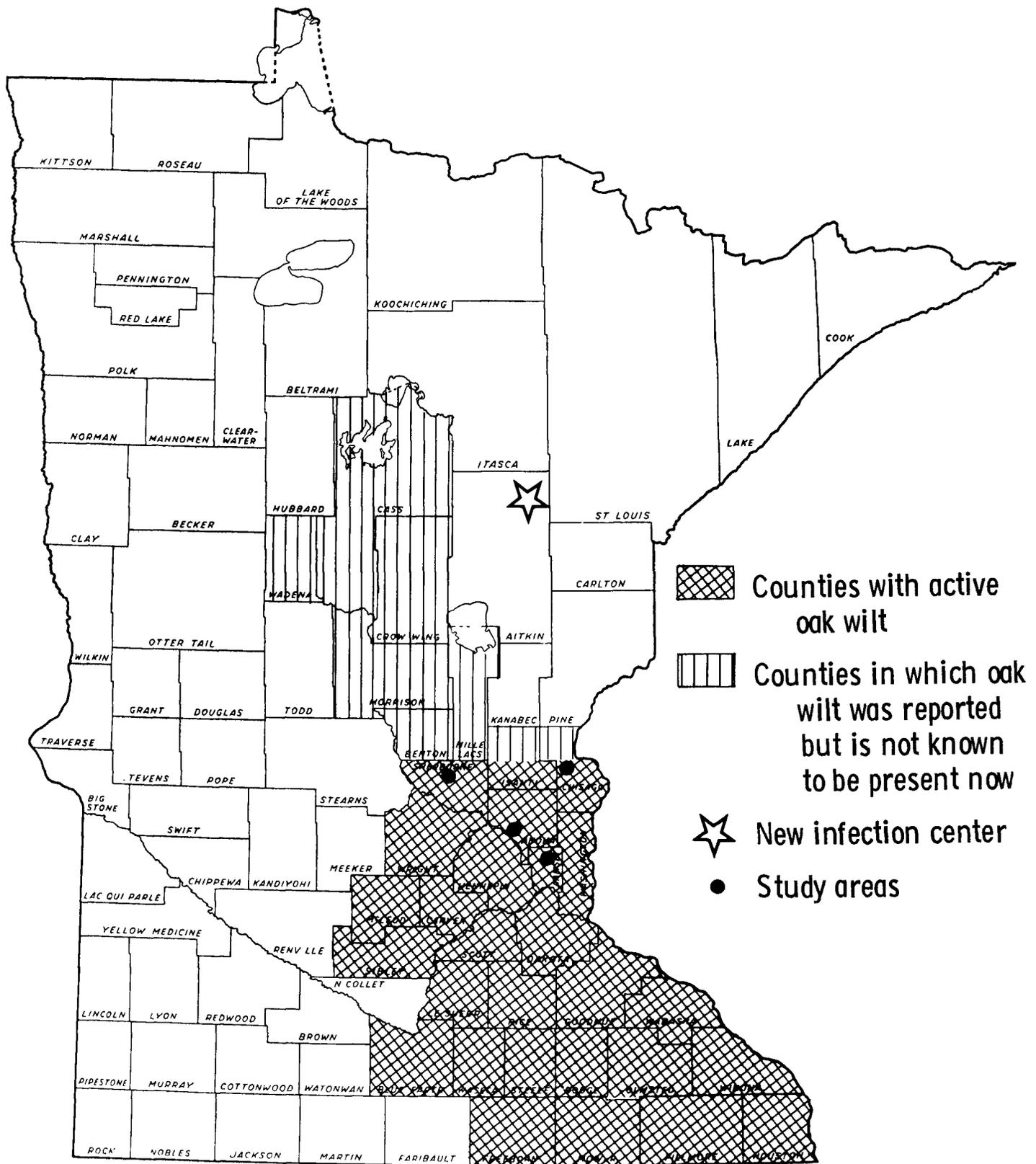
Also enclosed are maps showing the spread of Dutch elm and oak wilt disease, plus a listing of specific communities with the number of positive Dutch elm cases reported last year.

We hope you can use this information to make Minnesota's citizens better informed of the oak wilt and Dutch elm disease problem.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John M. Sperbeck".

John M. Sperbeck



-  Counties with active oak wilt
-  Counties in which oak wilt was reported but is not known to be present now
-  New infection center
-  Study areas

March 8, 1973

MAKING USE OF DISEASED TREES

Hundreds of millions dollars worth of Minnesota elm and oak trees could be lost to disease.

And although the value of these trees is primarily as shade trees, some of that loss could be recovered by making use of the diseased trees.

Dutch elm and oak wilt disease could cause the state great losses. In the Twin Cities alone, some have placed the landscape value of the elms at more than \$400 million.

University of Minnesota forest products researchers say their main concern is what to do with the diseased tree. "Is it a resource or a residue?" John G. Haygreen and Lewis T. Hendricks, both of the Forest Products Department, ask.

"Clearly, the cost of removal of most diseased elms in our metropolitan areas exceeds their value as a wood raw material," they add. It may cost \$200 to \$400 to remove a tree and the raw material may be worth only about \$40.

More information than is now available must be gathered to realize maximum economic returns from the diseased trees while reconciling the conflicts involved in controlling the disease and utilizing and replacing elm trees.

They suggest that this information be provided through studies in these areas:

-more-

add 1--making use

--Inventory elms in selected communities and gather information on tree diameters, volume and some measure of quality. With this information and assuming various mortality rates, the amount of material potentially available for utilization can be determined.

--Analyze available information on programs implemented in other states and their applicability to Minnesota.

--Analyze the economics of disposal alternatives, including costs of burning, burying and utilization. Haygreen and Hendricks say a metropolitan-wide disposal plan that will realize the greatest economic gain or least cost will need to be agreed upon. Also, the means of financing removal programs should be carefully studied.

--Study ways to utilize the entire tree in light of disposal problems caused by branches and other residue.

--Information is needed on quantity and grade yield for lumber, veneer and chips that can be expected from various sizes and forms of elms. How much do defects on open and lawn grown elms reduce yield? Are large trees suitable for veneer production or do streaks, shape and decay decrease the value of most of them?

--Analysis of several technical problems involved in the conversion of elms to salable products is required.

Once the elms are debarked or chipped, there is very little danger of spreading the disease from the wood or bark. However, more must be known about the dangers of moving beetle infested wood during certain times of the year, before it's chipped. If infected trees are moved in spring when the beetles are emerging, the beetles may infect other trees. It may be necessary to require that diseased trees be cut only when the beetles are inactive, or that they be hauled only into or through areas where Dutch elm disease is at low levels.

-more-

add 2--making use

The paper producing industry can use some elm and mix it with other chips, but the kind of chips produced by the chipper that can handle these elm trees most readily are not best for pulping. Also, debarking is desirable since the fungus carrying the beetle is in the bark and some pulp mills will not take more than three percent bark, but this requires another time and labor consuming process.

With many infected trees in the state, portable sawmills may be needed due to the added transportation costs and potential disease-spreading danger of transporting trees to a sawmill. But some study is needed of problems that might be involved in using a portable sawmill for large logs.

Mills pay about \$10 a thousand board feet less for trees from the city than those from rural areas, because city trees may have metal in them. The metal in trees may be nails used to attach clothes lines, railroad spikes used in surveying or lead from target practice and hunting. Some sawmill operators think that the costs incurred when saws are damaged from trees with metal make these trees undesirable for processing. Another area for research is the extent of the metal problem and whether metal can be effectively detected in these trees.

The wood from diseased elms can be used the same as that from healthy trees if the bark is removed promptly--within a year after infection (hopefully earlier for disease management). Early diagnosis of Dutch elm disease and oak wilt is needed. With removal costs great in some cases, it may be necessary to subsidize these costs so that homeowners have diseased trees removed promptly.

If reached in time and the bark is removed, diseased elms can be used for furniture, veneer, pallets, boxes, crates and firewood. Chips from elm trees are marketable, depending on their quality, for paper production, building materials, livestock bedding, temporary ground cover, erosion control and for a variety of mulches.

Even broader use can be made of oaks, which are desirable for furniture, railroad ties, veneer, flooring, fence posts, caskets and metalwork.

#

DAZ

March 8, 1973

STATE'S RED OAKS ENDANGERED, UM SCIENTIST SAYS

Oak wilt disease may destroy many of the state's red oak plus large numbers of white and bur oak trees unless effective control measures are applied.

This warning comes from a University of Minnesota scientist, Prof. David W. French of the Department of Plant Pathology.

Citing a recent study of oak wilt in three areas--Anoka, Chisago and Sherburne counties--French said the result was "almost total loss of the red oaks and some loss of white oaks in stands where control measures were not applied.

"In the Sherburne County study area consisting of 19 acres, 83 percent of the red oaks and 10 percent of the bur oaks were killed in 11 years."

In the Anoka County study, 59 percent of the red oaks were killed over an 11-year period, and in the Chisago County study, almost 2500 red oak trees within the infection center died. Had the original infection been in the middle instead of on the edge of the stand, perhaps twice as many trees would have died, French said.

But these serious losses do not have to go unchecked, French says. "In communities where control measures have been applied, losses have been kept to less than one percent of the original population in any one year. In one community, the red oak losses amounted to 7 percent of the original population over a 11-year period."

If Minnesota does eventually lose a large proportion of its red oak trees to oak wilt, French says it will be due to public apathy and overshadowing of the oak wilt problem by another shade tree disease--Dutch elm disease.

add 1--state's red oaks

"It's a shame there's so little concern about oak wilt disease. Not only does it threaten large numbers of shade trees, but we have a much better chance of controlling it than we do of stopping Dutch elm disease.

"To put it another way, a dollar spent for oak wilt control will save more oak trees than will a dollar spent to save elms.

"Unfortunately, many Dutch elm disease control programs just aren't paying off that much. A lot of money and effort is needed to control the disease.

"Shade trees are worth a lot of money--especially in metropolitan areas. Single oak trees have been appraised at values between \$5,000 and \$10,000," French said.

The oak wilt fungus is active in 28 southeastern Minnesota counties, including the Twin Cities metropolitan area.

However, the fungus has been slowly progressing northward and a new infection center was found in Aitkin County in 1972. "We think the fungus was brought to Aitkin County (southeast corner of Big Sandy Lake) by firewood, although this hasn't been confirmed," French says.

Control measures for oak wilt are relatively simple: First, don't haul red oak firewood from an infected area to uninfected places. This means Twin Citians shouldn't haul oak firewood to their cabins in northern Minnesota.

Secondly, do not prune oak trees in the spring--especially during May and June. This is when oak trees are most susceptible to infection. And if a oak tree is "wounded" due to a windstorm, lightning or other natural cause, apply a tree dressing.

-more-

add 2--state's red oaks

Vapam treatments can be used to prevent spread of the fungus from diseased to healthy trees by rootgrafts. The Vapam chemical is put in holes drilled into the ground surrounding the diseased tree to sever root connections and prevent fungus movement.

Persons wishing more information on oak wilt control may contact the University's Department of Plant Pathology, county extension offices, or the Minnesota Department of Plant Industry.

Two publications on oak wilt and Dutch Elm disease are available free from county extension offices, or by sending a post card to the Bulletin Room, University of Minnesota, St. Paul, Minn. 55101. Ask for Plant Pathology Fact Sheet No. 5, "Oak Wilt and its Control," or Extension Folder 211, "The Dutch Elm Disease."

#

JMS

Department of Information
and Agricultural Journalism
Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101
March 12, 1973

Housing Series

Immediate release

HOUSE BUYING
INVOLVES LEGAL
IMPLICATIONS

Every step in buying a house has legal implications, from signing a contract to receiving a deed to the property, according to Neil E. Harl, economics professor at Iowa State University.

Consult a lawyer before signing the contract, since the contract is one of the most important documents involved in purchasing a house. It binds the buyer and seller and determines their rights and responsibilities in the transaction.

The contract should specify who bears the risk of loss to the property by fire, wind or other casualty from the date the contract is signed until the deal is completed. The contract should also specify how much insurance is to be carried that period, who pays the insurance premiums and who receives the proceeds if a loss occurs. Several other items also are covered in the contract.

If you sign a contract and later change your mind, the seller may bring a lawsuit for the amount unpaid on the contract or he can foreclose by having the property sold under court order. If it is spelled out in the contract, the seller may forfeit the buyer's rights, which permits the seller to keep the property and all of the payments made by the buyer.

Another area in which you will want legal advice is on whether you are getting good title. Getting title to land is very important--a buyer wouldn't want to lose the property to someone who had a prior claim to it. Also, the buyer needs assurance that he will later be able to sell the property without questions being raised about the quality of the title at that time.

The title may be in the husband's name alone, the wife's name alone or in both their names. The choice may not only have important gift tax and death tax implications, but also may affect disposition of the property at death.

add 1--house buying

If the house is owned in the husband's name alone, at his death the property would pass under his will or to his heirs under state law. The value of the house would be subject to death taxes, including federal estate and state inheritance taxes, if the estate is large enough.

For houses owned between husband and wife in joint tenancy, the property passes to the survivor on death of one spouse. A will has no effect on joint tenancy property on the death of the first to die. Upon death of a joint tenant, the full value of the property is subject to death taxes unless the survivor can prove that he or she provided part of the money when the property was acquired.

Houses may be owned by a husband and wife as tenants in common. Upon death of one tenant of common, his interest, usually one-half, passes under his will or to his heirs. The death taxes are imposed only on his interest in the property.

Although joint tenancy may be acceptable to couples with small estates who do not have wills, joint tenancy is generally less advisable as estates increase in size, because of additional death taxes and costs as compared to tenancy in common.

Department of Information
and Agricultural Journalism
Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101
March 12, 1973

Immediate release

SMALL FRUIT
SHORT COURSE
SET AT UM

Possible effects of the new pesticide control act on small fruit producers will be discussed by University of Minnesota entomologist Phillip K. Harein March 26 at the University's St. Paul Campus.

Harein will address the morning program of the Agricultural Extension Service's day-long Commercial Small Fruit Short Course in the North Star Ballroom of the Student Center.

University Horticulturist Leonard B. Hertz will give weed control and fertility recommendations for strawberries and raspberries. During the afternoon session, strawberry production in Manitoba, Canada, and the importance of bees for strawberry and raspberry pollination will be discussed.

Registration for the program is through the Office of Special Programs, University of Minnesota, St. Paul, Minn. 55101.

-daz-

Department of Information
and Agricultural Journalism
Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101
March 12, 1973

FOR RELEASE MARCH 15

To: All Counties

UM ANNOUNCES
RELEASE OF TWO
ALFALFA VARIETIES

The release of two new alfalfa varieties--Agate and Ramsey--was announced today (March 15) by the University of Minnesota's Agricultural Experiment Station.

The two new varieties were developed and named by the Minnesota Agricultural Experiment Station and the Agricultural Research Service of the U. S. Department of Agriculture. Both were tested in other states and released jointly with agricultural experiment stations in Iowa, Michigan and Missouri.

Agate was developed specifically for use on poorly drained soils where Phytophthora root rot is a problem. Besides having a higher level of resistance to Phytophthora root rot than varieties it has been compared with, Agate has high levels of resistance to common leafspot and bacterial wilt. Agate is expected to make alfalfa better adapted to soils with somewhat poorer drainage than alfalfa has been in the past, Harley Otto, University of Minnesota extension agronomist, said.

Yields of Agate have been greater than those for other varieties under conditions where Phytophthora root rot has been a problem. In tests where Phytophthora root rot has not been a limiting factor, Agate has yielded slightly less than Vernal. Agate is winter hardy with a fall dormancy response similar to that for Vernal.

-more-

add 1--um announces

Ramsey is very winter hardy with higher levels of resistance to common leafspot and spring blackstem than other varieties with which it has been compared in Minnesota trials. It is similar in adaptation to Vernal, but it has higher levels of resistance to downy mildew, Leptosphaeulina leafspot, phytophthora root rot, potato leafhopper yellowing and lodging than Vernal. Ramsey's level of resistance to bacterial wilt is nearly equal to that of Vernal. It has consistently out yielded Vernal in long term stands due to its winter hardiness and high levels of multiple pest resistance.

Seeds will be produced for both new varieties in western states. Foundation seed of Agate has been distributed to seed companies and certified seed growers who will increase it in the west. Certified seed of Agate should be available to Minnesota forage producers in limited quantities in the spring of 1974. Some certified seed of Ramsey should be available to Minnesota growers in the spring of 1975.

-daz-

Department of Information
and Agricultural Journalism
Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101
March 12, 1973

Immediate release

UM SCIENTIST SUGGESTS
WAYS TO REDUCE LOSSES
FROM PORK STRESS

Reducing stress and eliminating the genetic origin are two ways of reducing death losses from pork stress syndrome (PSS), one of the latest problems facing hog producers, says C. Eugene Allen, animal scientist at the University of Minnesota doing research on PSS.

Allen says the condition has a genetic origin, but the severity of PSS is dependent on the type of environmental stress and the length of time hogs are exposed to the stress.

Death losses from PSS occur anytime after birth but most frequently while sorting, mixing strange pigs or during the marketing process--all forms of stress.

Symptoms of PSS include extreme muscularity, anxiety, muscle tremors, reddening and blanching of the skin, a relatively high rectal temperature and other stress signs such as leg weaknesses.

Pigs with PSS produce an abnormal amount of acids and have high temperatures. If hogs with the condition survive, the result is often a carcass of pale, soft and exudative (watery) pork (PSE).

Producers can do several things to reduce stress, says Allen. They include giving hogs plenty of room in pens--especially those in confinement, moving pigs with a minimum of exertion, putting strange pigs together only if absolutely necessary and properly regulating housing temperatures.

-more-

add 1--pork stress

"Even when a producer has done all he can to avoid stress he may still lose some hogs during marketing since that's usually the time they're stressed the most," says Allen. To reduce stress when marketing hogs, he recommends "treating hogs according to the existing temperature conditions." Hogs should be sprinkled when the weather is hot and given adequate ventilation. Also, trucks should be bedded with straw and ventilation reduced when the temperature is below about 60 degrees.

"In PSS herds, some death loss will still occur even though stress is minimal. That points to the importance of eliminating the genetic origin of the problem in the breeding stock which may require selling a boar or even some of the sows," says Allen. "Some lines of breeding are apparently more susceptible to PSS and PSE even though PSS and PSE pork have been found in pigsof all breeds, weights, and sexes."

A 1971 national survey of 564 swine producers conducted by Livestock Conservation, Inc., showed death losses from PSS in 36 percent of the surveyed herds. Fifty-five percent of the producers had losses while sorting or moving pigs and 27 percent reported death losses during marketing. In addition, death losses were three and one-half times greater in PSS "problem herds" than in PSS "problem-free herds."

The survey indicated that 44 percent of the U. S. market hogs come from herds with death losses due to PSS. They estimated total death loss from moving pigs on farms during 1970 at \$7,206,000.

In addition to death losses related to PSS, carcasses which become PSE will have 2-10 percent lower retail yields due to excessive shrinkage, says Allen. Surveys show that about 20 percent of all pork carcasses are PSE. This represents a retail loss of about \$95 million when pork is worth 70 cents per pound, according to James Hall of the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

Allen says other losses related to PSS such as lowered production efficiency due to reduced gain, smaller litters and breeding difficulties are hard to estimate but are probably very high. -bp-

Department of Information
and Agricultural Journalism
Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101
March 12, 1973

4-H NEWS

Immediate release

ADULTS TO ATTEND
FORUM IN WASH., D. C.

_____ from _____ will attend an Interstate 4-H Leader Forum at
(Names) (Addresses)

the National 4-H Center in Washington, D. C. March 26-31.

"The forum will help about 40 Minnesota 4-H leaders develop new ideas for local programs, broaden their understanding of 4-H and other youth programs in the United States and gain new enthusiasm for their leadership efforts," says Juanita Fehlhafer, assistant state leader, 4-H and youth development. In addition to seminars and other formal training, leaders will visit many places of interest in Washington, D. C.

The training at the national level is part of 4-H's continuing education program for adults. Other training takes place at local and state levels.

After returning to Minnesota, the 4-H leaders will host a group of Minnesota senators and legislators at a St. Paul luncheon to discuss 4-H and other youth extension programs.

In addition to adult training programs, youth 4-H leaders also attend training programs at county, state and national levels. More than 350 Minnesota teenagers participated in citizenship short courses at the National 4-H Center during 1972.

Taking an active interest in the 4-H Center, Minnesota 4-H'ers have made a \$60,000 three-year commitment to an \$8,500,000 building expansion. Nationally, 4-H'ers have pledged to contribute \$1,500,000. Other funds come from private and business sources.

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Note to agents: If you have no participants in the Leader Forum from your county change the lead to: Forty Minnesota 4-H leaders will attend an Interstate 4-H leader Forum at the National 4-H Center in Washington, D. C. March 26-31.

"The forum will help leaders develop....."

Food for Better Health Program



An Expanded Food
and Nutrition Education Program
in Home Economics Extension

Department of Information
and Agricultural Journalism
Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101
March 12, 1973

ATT: Extension Home Economists

Immediate release

MORE FOR YOUR FOOD DOLLARS Cooking Meat Correctly

You can be a good shopper, take care of your meat properly when you get home, but unless you know how to cook meat properly, you will waste food dollars. Food uneaten or thrown away is wasted food—and dollars.

There are only two easy, important rules when you cook meat and meat foods according to Muriel Brink, extension nutritionist at the University of Minnesota:

(1) Cook meat and meat foods over low or medium heat. High heat makes these foods tough and dry.

(2) Give less tender cuts of meat, such as shoulder, beef chuck and round steak, plenty of time to cook. Cover the pan with a tight lid to hold in steam. The long, slow cooking process has a tenderizing effect on the connective tissue. This makes the meat more tender.

If your family likes beef pot roast, and there's a good buy where you shop, why not serve an easy-to-prepare main dish:

Beef Pot Roast

* Brown roast in medium hot fat. Browning and cooking meat in the same pan will save on dish washing.

* Add a small amount of water. Add salt and pepper. Cover and simmer on top of the range until meat is tender.

* Or, put the roast in a 325° oven and bake it until tender. Allow about 45 minutes for each pound. Add quartered potatoes, carrots and onions during the last hour of cooking.

-more-

add 1--more for your food dollars

If you use the oven, tuck in some dessert to bake, and you will have most of your meal cooking at the same time. Serve your pot roast and vegetables with cole slaw and plenty of milk to drink. There's an easy, nutritious, economical meal that should please your entire family.

Plan before you buy! Shop the specials! Store food properly! Cook food correctly! You'll save food dollars!

-1sn-

(Do Not Use On Radio--Has been sent to radio stations for their exclusive use. For use only in columns as it is not news style.)

March 12, 1973

For Extension Home Economists

"Natural" Foods

Many consumers who buy "natural," "organic" and "health" foods have misconceptions about these foods.

University of Minnesota extension nutritionist Mary Darling says sales of so-called "natural" foods have more than doubled since 1970 despite apparent consumer confusion.

The difference between these foods is explained by Miss Darling in a new Agricultural Extension Service publication, "Natural, Organic and Health Foods," Extension Folder 280. A copy of this publication may be obtained by sending a postcard to the Bulletin Room, University of Minnesota, St. Paul, Minnesota 55101.

* * * *

Food Costs

Built-in conveniences, such as frozen, pre-cut and ready-to-serve foods, add about 25 percent to your food bill for processing and preparation.

Farmers don't share in the profits from these added conveniences. But a sizeable portion of the marketing receipts remain in Minnesota's economy since the state is a major food processing center.

* * * *

Consumer Meat Sense Clinic

The University of Minnesota's Agricultural Extension Service will hold Consumer Meat Sense Clinics at three locations in early April. The sessions will be April 3rd at Mankato State College, April 4th at Austin State Junior College and April 5th at Winona Vocational-Technical School.

* * * *

more ...

March 12, 1973

- 2 -

UM Specialist Advises:

Avoid costly mistakes when making choices about housing. If you are considering any changes in your housing situation, take comfort in the fact that many families are facing similar decisions.

University housing specialist William Angell says you should approach your task as an opportunity to make your life more satisfying rather than as a housing problem. A useful worksheet and checklist to help you make a wise decision is contained in Extension Folder 267, "Balancing Your Housing Needs and Resources." This publication is available from local extension offices or the Bulletin Room at the University's St. Paul Campus.

* * * *

Nursing Homes

Developing a workable management system is a major difficulty in attempting to improve food services in nursing homes.

That's the report from University food service management extension specialist Louise Mullan.

Most food service personnel in nursing homes try to do good jobs. But she says they may lack experience in planning appealing nutritionally adequate meals and in purchasing, controlling and handling food.

Programs to help food service personnel in nursing homes and similar institutions with food service management problems are held throughout the state by the Agricultural Extension Service.

* * * *

Food Dollars

Here's a tip from University of Minnesota nutritionists: Buy dry beans and cook them yourself. Canned and frozen beans cost more.

* * * *

Department of Information
and Agricultural Journalism
Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101
March 12, 1973

ATT: Extension Home Economists

Immediate release

PLANT VEGETABLES
FOR FREEZING

If you plan to grow your own vegetables and put some in the freezer for future use, be sure to plant varieties adapted to freezing.

Careful selection is important because some varieties freeze much more successfully than others, according to Shirley Munson, food scientist, and O. C. Turnquist, extension horticulturist, University of Minnesota.

Although you may be in the habit of planting the same varieties from year to year they suggest trying some of the new, improved varieties. But whichever varieties you select, it's wise to buy seed as early as possible; otherwise stocks may be depleted.

Here are some of the newer vegetable varieties especially adapted to freezing:

Asparagus--Faribo Hybrid F_I; Mary Washington.

Green Beans--Blue Lake Bush and Tendercrop varieties.

Wax beans--Kinghorn Wax

Beets--Ruby Queen

Broccoli--Spartan Early

Brussels sprouts--Jade Cross

Carrots--Red cored Chantenay, Scarlet Nantes

Cauliflower--Use Snowball strains

Sweet corn--For cut corn, any good table corn, especially hybrids. For corn on the cob, Sugar King, Golden Beauty.

Peas--Little Marvel, Frosty

Rhubarb (rocts)--Chipman's Canada Red, McDonald Crimson, Valentine

Spinach--Bloomsdale Long Standing, New Zealand, America

Squash (summer)--Summer Straightneck, Golden Zucchini

Squash (winter)--For table use, Waltham Butternut, Burgess Buttercup, Hybrid R; for pies, Hybrid R, Golden Delicious

-jbn-

MSC
1/11/73

Immediate release

Department of Information
and Agricultural Journalism
Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101
March 12, 1973

IN BRIEF. . . .

Start Fire School. The four-day 1973 Minnesota State Fire School will start May 8 at the Pick-Nicollet Hotel in Minneapolis and the State Fairgrounds in St. Paul. One section of the school will feature a 15-hour course in tactical procedures, which is designed to be a sequential step-by-step process of teaching tactics used in fire fighting. A major part of this course is in applying steps through discussion and problem-solving sessions. Also included is a fire pump operators course. Registration is through the Office of Special Programs, University of Minnesota, St. Paul, Minn. 55101.

* * * *

Avoid Pesticide Winter-Storage Problem. It is best to purchase only enough pesticides for use in one growing season--this avoids the winter-storage problem. However, if you do end up with a small amount of liquid material, store it in areas where it won't freeze.

* * * *

Tips On Storing Pesticides. Here are some tips on storing pesticides from Phillip Harein, extension entomologist at the University of Minnesota: Store pesticides in a dry, well-ventilated room or building--away from food, feed or seed. Do not store volatile herbicides with other wettable powders, fertilizers, dusts or seeds. A separate storage area for most herbicides is desirable. Also, check pesticide containers regularly for possible leakage.

* * * *

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add 1--in brief

Tax Law Changes Expected. Congress may make some changes in current tax laws that would give less incentive to non-farm investors' using agriculture investments as tax shelters, according to Paul Hasbargen, University of Minnesota extension farm management specialist. This would decrease the amount of investor capital going into agriculture, but a recent report by the U. S. Department of Agriculture says such a change could increase tax problems for farmers in several ways. Other businesses that produce or sell goods must keep inventory records for tax purposes, which forces use of the more detailed accrual bookkeeping method. Removal of the more liberal cash accounting system in order to remove "tax shelters" would require that all farmers go to the more complete accrual method.

* * * *

Proper Inflation Use. Always use two sets of inflations, alternating a week of use with a week of rest, University of Minnesota specialists advise dairymen. Two sets alternated will outlast three sets used continuously.

Rinse with lukewarm water, wash with cleaning compound and rinse with acid to routinely clean rubber parts following milking. Store parts dry. During rest periods, wash and soak inflations in special compounds commercially prepared for this purpose. Rinse with tap water, then rinse with acid and store them dry. Or, to help preserve the rubber, store them in lye or commercially prepared rubber cleaner and conditioner. Butterfat absorbed by rubber is removed in this process. Use a half pound of caustic lye to five gallons of water to prepare the lye solution. Keep the solution in a crock or stainless steel or plastic pail and be sure it is out of the reach of children. After seven days of storage, remove the inflations. Rinse them with water and wash them in concentrated acid to neutralize them. Then they are ready for use.

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Department of Information
and Agricultural Journalism
Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101
March 19, 1973

Immediate release

ATT: Co. Extension Home Economists

COUNTY ARTIST
WINS AWARD

_____, _____, has been named one of 27 award winners at the University of Minnesota's 22nd Town/Country Art Show in the St. Paul Campus Student Center.

_____ received (first, second, third or a merit award) for (his, her) _____ entitled _____.

(Add any information here about the award winner.)

_____ 's work is among 121 paintings, drawings, prints and sculptures selected for the state show from four regional art exhibitions held during the past year. They went on exhibit Sunday, March 18, on the second floor of the St. Paul Campus Student Center and will be on display from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Mondays through Saturdays and from noon until 10 p.m. Sundays until April 6.

Highlight of the Town/Country Art Show will be a program of demonstrations, talks, a gallery tour and an artists' luncheon April 4-6. Reservations must be made for the luncheon, but all other events are open to the public free of charge.

-jbn-

AWARD WINNERS IN THE 22ND UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
TOWN/COUNTRY ART SHOW

First: Paula Elliott, Rochester, for acrylic painting, "Hands"

Second: Jan Strom, Worthington, welded steel sculpture, "Man, Mirror and Image"

Third: Carlo Stilinovich, Hibbing, oil, "Tomorro"

Merit Awards

Ron Adams, Willmar, oil, "Womanhood"

Mae Buckeye, Mankato, acrylic, "North Forty"

Donna Cybyske, Coon Rapids, acrylic, "Summer Safari"

Rosemary Davis, Willmar, acrylic, "Tribute to Cheyenne Mountain"

David Eisenreich, Murdock, ink drawing, "Bird"

Paula Elliott, Rochester, acrylic, "Reflections"

Konnie Ellis, Chatfield, oil, "Two Girls"

Wallace Flanders, Duluth, oil, "The Greenhouse"

Florence Hill, Hopkins, oil, "Winter Coming is Like a Heavy Hand"

J. C. Hussey, Apple Valley, watercolor, "Attack: 1 and 2"

Sharon Johnson, White Bear Lake, oil "Kurt"

Lonnie Eisenreich Kennedy, Murdock, oil "Kitchen Sink"

Becky Kruger, Plainview, pastel, "Millville Farm Scene"

Stuart Lenz, Vadnais Heights, welded steel sculpture, "Tetrahedral Crystal"

Tom Ling, Bigelow, soapstone sculpture, "Bear with Fish"

Ann Little, Roseville, acrylic, "Sforzando"

Sally Marcotte, West St. Paul, oil, "Autumn Glory"

Joe Merrill, Glenwood, oil, "Direct Hit"

Brad Nuorala, New Hope, acrylic, "Picture Window"

Cheri Sasse, Red Wing, woodcut, "The Water Street Bridge"

Amelia Schubert, Farwell, oil, "Passing of Time"

Jerryl Sherman, Austin, acrylic, "Tenth Summer"

George Swenson, Rochester, wall hanging, "Composition in Yarn"

Frank Zeller, White Bear Lake, water color, "Crossroads"

Department of Information
and Agricultural Journalism
Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101
March 15, 1973

ATT: County Extension Home Economists
Immediate release

MSC
GAZP

COLOR CHOICE
IMPORTANT
FOR DRAPERIES

What color to choose may be a question you'll be asking if curtains and draperies are a part of your plan for refurbishing your home this spring.

The first answer to that question is to look at the other furnishings in the room and to select colors that harmonize with them, says Linda Reece, extension specialist in interior design at the University of Minnesota. The fabric may repeat one or more of the principal colors in the room.

Small rooms always seem more spacious if walls and window treatment are the same color, or if one is slightly lighter or darker in value. Window treatments contrasting in color and pattern call attention to the windows and tend to make small rooms seem even smaller. On the other hand, such color contrast may be pleasing in large rooms with regularly spaced windows of similar size.

For rooms that are wallpapered, plain curtains or draperies of the background color of the paper are a good choice. Plain, textured fabrics are usually best also if other furnishings in the room have considerable pattern.

Patterned fabric is fine, however, if most of the other furnishings in the room are plain. If you choose patterned fabric, be sure it is in scale to the size of the windows, the size of the room and the scale of furnishings. Make sure also, that the pattern is printed straight with the "grainline" of the material. The grainline must hang straight if the draperies are to hang straight.

When you shop, examine the fabrics you are considering under both artificial and natural daylight for changes in color. It's a good idea, too, Mrs. Reece suggests, to carry small swatches of other furnishings in the room to serve as guides for color and texture choices.

(Do Not Use On Radio--Has been sent to radio stations for their exclusive use. For use only in columns as it is not news style.)

MSC
GA 27p

March 19, 1973

For Extension Home Economists

Ginger Root Tenderizes Meat

University of Minnesota researchers have learned that ginger root tenderizes meat when cooking conditions are right.

The research was done by extension nutritionist specialist Isabel Wolf and meat scientists Eugene Thompson and Eugene Allen. Immersing meat in a marinade solution allows an enzyme in the ginger root to penetrate the meat to a greater degree.

Ginger root looks like a distorted potato and is sold in Chinese grocery stores and supermarkets specializing in gourmet foods. Mrs. Wolf says she has used a piece of ginger root about three-fourths to an inch long for meat weighing about two pounds.

* * * *

Planting Vegetables

Plant vegetable varieties that you can freeze this season. Extension horticulturist Orrin Turnquist reminds consumers that some varieties freeze better than others.

* * * *

Buying Fruit Trees

University of Minnesota horticulturists are providing updated data for 1973 on fruits suitable for various areas of the state. This data is available in Horticulture Fact Sheet Three--Revised 1973. The publication is available from the Bulletin Room, University of Minnesota, St. Paul, Minnesota 55101.

* * * *

more ...

Mattress Material

U. S. Department of Agricultural scientists have developed methods to inhibit cigarettes from igniting mattresses. One method involves coating the back of the mattress ticking with a substance capable of dissipating heat. The other method utilizes compounds containing boron or phosphorus to make the cotton batting filler flame resistant.

* * * *

Buying Linen

A Cornell University study shows that there is no difference in the durability of sheets from famous "name brand" makers and those made by lesser known firms.

But the New York researchers say the price differences were great, even when the name brands were listed at "sale" prices.

* * * *

Furniture Care

University extension specialists say fine wood furniture should not be constantly subjected to heat, direct sunlight or open windows.

Frequent dusting of the wood and vacuuming upholstery will help keep it in top condition. Always remove spots promptly.

* * * *

Food Shopping Tips

University of Minnesota extension home economists offer these shopping tips:

Buy chicken backs and necks for soup. They usually are less expensive and meatier than beef soup bones.

Buy meats with the most lean. Don't pay high prices for fat, bone and gristle. Buy a whole chicken and learn to cut it up yourself.

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MSC
A 27p
3

Department of Information
and Agricultural Journalism
Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101
March 19, 1973

Immediate release
4-H NEWS

4-H HELPS TEENS
CHOOSE CAREERS

Choosing a career is a very important decision in anyone's life. That's why 4-H has a specific project area to help teenagers choose careers which match their interests and abilities.

"There are over 30,000 jobs to choose from but youth often explore only a few," says Phyllis E. Worden, assistant extension specialist, 4-H and youth development with the University of Minnesota. "That's one reason why the 4-H career exploration project is so important."

Worden says many youth cut off job opportunities by choosing a career too early without seriously considering what it involves. Others are influenced by friends and may not go into a field that matches their abilities.

Worden gives the following tips for career exploration:

--Know yourself and your capabilities. Ask your counselor or principal for personality tests and listen for feedback from friends, parents and teachers.

--Make sure you complete your high school education. Job opportunities for those without high school diplomas are very limited.

--Explore a variety of jobs and careers. Interview people, read about occupations, go on tours and join the 4-H career exploration project.

--Get a part-time job to meet your interests. The self-discipline, cooperation and judgment needed for holding down a part-time job are important qualities to develop.

--Be willing to improve yourself and your skills not necessarily through formal education but through continuous education.

-more-

add 1--4-H helps teens

--Learn to communicate. Course work at school and participation in 4-H and other organizations will help develop your communication skills.

--Analyze the role of work in your life. You'll pick up attitudes about work at home and at school. For example, your father's attitudes about working women may influence your attitudes. You may need to be selective in deciding your own feelings about work.

For more information on how you can become involved in the 4-H career exploration project, contact your county extension agent.

-bp-

MSC
8/2/73

Department of Information
and Agricultural Journalism
Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101
March 19, 1973

Immediate release

TRIAL RUN SUGGESTED
FOR NEW HERBICIDES

Farmers considering new soybean herbicides are encouraged to first do a trial run on a small acreage to see how they work under local conditions.

"Get all the information you can on new chemicals before using them on large acreages," advises Gerald Miller, extension agronomist at the University of Minnesota. "When selecting a chemical, consider the kinds of weeds you have, soil texture and organic matter and safety to the crops."

Several widely used chemicals are available for preplanting and preemergence use, including alachlor (Lasso), trifluralin (Treflan) and vernolate (Vernam). These chemicals control primarily annual grasses, pigweed and lambsquarters.

Chloramben (Amiben), fluorodifen (Peforan, Soyex), and linuron (Lorox) control a broader spectrum of both annual grasses and broadleaves, Miller says. "With some adjustment in rates, these chemicals work on a wide range of soils, with the exception of linuron, which is suggested only for medium textured soils of less than four percent organic matter."

Two new herbicides--metribuzin (Sencor) and dinitramine (Cobex)--have recently received label clearance. Metribuzin (Sencor) is a preemergence chemical that has given good control of most annual broadleaves and fair to good grass control. Cocklebur has been controlled at the higher rates tested, Miller says.

"However, soybeans have limited tolerance. Crop injury and stand reduction sometimes have occurred at active ingredient rates of three-fourth pound per acre or higher. Metribuzin should not be used on low organic, sandy soils," Miller cautions.

"Dinitramine (Cobex) recently received label approval for preplanting, incorporated applications on soybeans. Dinitramine is similar to trifluralin, but works at lower rates and soybean tolerance is not as good.

add 1--trial run for herbicides

"Dinitramine controls primarily annual grasses, pigweed and lambsquarters. Soybean tolerance is limited and severe stand reduction sometimes has occurred in experiments. The chemical should be applied uniformly at the rates suggested for your soil type."

Summing up, Miller gives these suggestions for farmers trying new chemicals:

--Try them on a small area first.

--Compare them to those chemicals you're already using.

--Check rates for your soil conditions.

--Check the crop for injury.

--Keep records of weather conditions, weeds controlled, weeds remaining and crop yields.

--Leave an untreated check strip.

--Compare cost on the basis of the weed control obtained and crop yields.

-jms-

Department of Information
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Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101
March 19, 1973

Immediate release

MCC
5/22/73

FARMERS MAY FIND
FLAX PROFITABLE

Higher prices may prompt experienced flax growers to try the crop again this year.

"Flax prices have gone up proportionately more than most other crops, except soybeans. The March price was \$4.60 per bushel, and prices at market time should be competitive with other crops," said Roy Thompson, extension agronomist at the University of Minnesota.

Flax was grown widely in western and northwestern Minnesota plus other scattered locations throughout the state until a few years ago.

"Flax acreage dropped rapidly in the past three or four years due to low returns compared to other crops. But with this price turnabout, experienced flax growers should be able to make money," Thompson said. Flax was only about \$2.50 per bushel a year ago.

Thompson said these factors point to a shortage of flax and continued high market prices this year:

--Total U.S. flax carryover was 20 million bushels last year, but will be only about two million bushels by July 1, 1973.

--The minimum crush requirement for linseed oil will be over two million bushels this year, which may result in a net deficiency of flax for crushing.

--All government storage stocks of flax and linseed oil have been liquidated.

--Argentina, which exports flax to the U. S., has a below normal crop again this year.

--And, projected U. S. seedings for 1973 indicate another reduction in flax acreage.

-more-

add 1--farmers may find

"Farmers who do a good job should get from 15 to 30 bushels of flax per acre--20 is an acceptable yield," according to Thompson. He offers these tips for top flax yields:

--Locate seed supplies as soon as possible, and plant recommended varieties. Recommended varieties are listed in Miscellaneous Report 24, "Varietal Trials of Farm Crops."

--Plant early--between April 15 and May 15.

--Use good cultural practices.

--Control weeds adequately. More information is contained in Extension Folder 212, "Cultural and Chemical Weed Control in Field Crops."

The above University of Minnesota publications are available from county extension offices or the Bulletin Room, University of Minnesota, St. Paul, Minn. 55101.

-jms-

Department of Information
and Agricultural Journalism
Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101
March 19, 1973

Housing Series
Immediate Release

MSC
8A27P

HOUSING SPECIALIST
GIVES INFORMATION
ON FINANCING

Always overestimate the cost of buying a house and don't commit all your liquid cash and savings to the down payment, William J. Angell, University of Minnesota extension housing specialist, says.

Before shopping for a mortgage loan, familiarize yourself with the terms of the lending business. Here are some you may encounter:

--An open-end mortgage allows you to borrow more money in the future without re-writing the mortgage. It is convenient if you want to repair, modernize or expand your home later, but use it with caution or an open-end mortgage can keep you in debt indefinitely.

--A packaged mortgage covers the cost of household appliances, furniture, carpeting and the house. It's more costly to buy furniture, appliances and carpeting this way since you pay on them as long as the mortgage runs and they will likely be worn out long before the mortgage is completely paid off.

--Prepayment permits you to pay off the mortgage before maturity without penalty. A waiting period may be specified. You may find you want to refinance at lower rates or pay off the mortgage in full before it is due.

--The mortgagee is the lender and the mortgagor is the borrower.

Home ownership and financing expenses vary depending on the rate of repayment of the loan, the interest rate, taxes, insurance, utility charges and the cost of maintenance and improvement. You can reduce interest rates, obtaining the lowest rate possible, on the basis of your record as a credit risk. Comparison shop for the best interest rate, investigating conventional loans, government insured and direct loans through the Federal Housing Administration (FHA), Veterans Administration and the Farmers Home Administration for rural and small town families.

add 1--housing series

If possible, when you buy a house assume the existing low-interest mortgage to reduce interest expenses. Also, the better your credit rating, the larger your downpayment, the larger the monthly payments and the shorter the mortgage--the more you save. The greater the down payment, the greater is your equity in the property and the less you will have to borrow. So your total interest costs are less. Sometimes a large down payment also permits the lender to set a lower interest rate since the risk is reduced.

You may want to pay off a mortgage as quickly as possible. For instance, repayment for a \$25,000 mortgage at eight percent for 20 years totals \$50,189, while the same mortgage and interest rate for 30 years totals \$66,042, a \$15,854 increase. Of course, the monthly payments will be more for the shorter term mortgage. For instance, the \$25,000-20 year mortgage at eight percent is paid at \$209 a month instead of \$183 a month for the 30 year mortgage. So, you will want to decide if you will be more comfortable with a larger monthly payment or a larger total payment.

Ask for a prepayment clause, Angell advises. If a windfall comes your way, you can pay off an extra month's payment and save a significant amount of interest. Offer a lower amount than the seller is asking when buying a home. A trained appraiser can give you professional advice on the value of a house.

-daz-

Department of Information
and Agricultural Journalism
Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101
March 19, 1973

Immediate release

MSC
A. J. P.

IN BRIEF. . . .

Disposing of DDT. It's unlawful to use leftover DDT as directed on the label if registered uses have been canceled, according to the new Federal Pesticide Control Act. DDT has been banned for most uses effective December 31, 1972. And commercial applicators caught illegally applying the chemical are subject to prosecution, says Phillip Harein, extension entomologist at the University of Minnesota. If found guilty, the punishment could be as much as \$25,000, jail for one year, or both.

* * * *

Don't Prune Oaks. Do not prune oak trees in spring--especially during May and June. This is when oak trees are most susceptible to infection by the oak wilt fungus, University of Minnesota plant pathologists say. If an oak tree is "wounded" due to a windstorm, lightning or other natural cause, apply a tree dressing.

* * * *

Farm Fires. Beware of tractor and machinery fires during spring field work. Common causes of tractor and machinery fires include defects in the fuel or ignition system, improper method of refueling, smoking and matches, overheated engine, plus sparks from exhaust and friction. The National Safety Council lists these preventive measures:

- Refuel with care--no smoking ever!
- Watch for and repair leaks in fuel lines, carburetors, pumps and filters.
- Keep exhaust systems in good condition to avoid sparks.
- Keep engines properly tuned and timed to avoid backfiring.
- Watch smoking and matches when operating. Make sure they are out before disposing of them. Equip tractors and combines with ashtrays.

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Department of Information
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Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101
March 23, 1973

Special to Livestock Magazines

UM SCIENTIST SUGGESTS
WAYS TO REDUCE LOSSES
FROM PORK STRESS

by Bruce Pankonin

Hogmen can reduce death losses from pork stress syndrome (PSS) by reducing stress factors and eliminating the PSS genetic origin. PSS is one of the latest problems facing hog producers, says C. E. Allen, animal science researcher at the University of Minnesota.

"The condition has a genetic origin, but the severity of PSS is dependent on the type of environmental stress and the length of time hogs are exposed to the stress," Allen says.

Death losses from PSS occur anytime after birth, but most frequently while sorting, mixing strange pigs or during the marketing process--all forms of stress.

Symptoms of PSS include extreme muscularity, anxiety, muscle tremors, reddening and blanching of the skin, a relatively high rectal temperature and other stress signs such as leg weaknesses.

Loren Christian, animal scientist at Iowa State University who studied PSS problem litters, said "Susceptible pigs are almost without exception the shortest-legged, most compact, tightest skinned, and display large circular-shaped hams and groove-shaped muscle development of the loin."

Pigs with PSS produce an abnormal amount of acids and have high temperatures. If hogs with the condition survive, the result is often a carcass of pale, soft and exudative pork (PSE).

Producers can do several things to reduce stress, says Allen. They include giving hogs plenty of room in pens--especially those in confinement, moving pigs with a minimum of exertion, putting strange pigs together only if absolutely necessary and properly regulating housing temperatures.

add 1--reduce losses from pork stress

"Even when a producer has done all he can to avoid stress he may still lose some hogs during marketing since that's usually the time they're stressed the most," says Allen. To reduce stress when marketing hogs, he recommends "treating hogs according to existing temperature conditions." (Hogs should be sprinkled down when the weather is hot and given adequate ventilation). Also, trucks should be bedded with straw and ventilation reduced when the temperature is below about 60 degrees.

"In PSS herds, some death loss will still occur even though stress is minimal. That points to the importance of eliminating the genetic origin of the problem in the breeding stock which may require selling a boar or even some of the sows," says Allen. "Some lines of breeding are apparently more susceptible to PSS and PSE even though PSS and PSE pork have been found in pigs of all breeds, weights and sexes.

"Heritability estimates for meat quality factors related to PSS range from 20-40 percent. However, since both PSS and PSE pork are readily influenced by environmental factors, it has been difficult to standardize environmental variables with large numbers of hogs. In addition, heritability of PSS has been estimated only indirectly through post-mortem muscle properties. Consequently, the actual heritability of PSS may be higher than 20-40 percent."

Carcasses with light colored loin eyes usually come from pigs with some degree of PSS. But Allen says not all carcasses from pigs with PSS will show light muscle color since color is also dependent upon the severity of environmental stress and the length of time the hog is exposed to the stress.

Muscle color scores were used in selecting breeding stock for an experimental PSS herd at the New Ulm test station. "The criteria used were very successful in identifying PSS pigs," says Allen. "The sows were hard to settle and produced small litters. Many of their offspring died between weaning and marketing and displayed many of the symptoms common to PSS pigs."

add 2--reduce losses from pork stress

A 1971 national survey of 564 swine producers conducted by Livestock Conservation, Inc. showed death losses from PSS in 36 percent of the surveyed herds. Fifty-five percent of the producers had losses while sorting or moving pigs and 27 percent reported death losses during marketing. In addition, death losses were three and one-half times greater in PSS "problem herds" than in PSS "problem-free herds."

The survey showed herd frequency for death due to PSS at 24 percent for open lots, 37 percent for partial confinement and 46 percent for total confinement-- indicating that raising hogs in confinement is more stressful than in open lots.

The survey indicated that 44 percent of the U.S. market hogs come from herds with death losses due to PSS. Total death loss from moving pigs on farms during 1970 was estimated at \$7,206,000.

In addition to death losses related to PSS, carcasses which become PSE will have 2-10 percent lower retail yields due to excessive shrinkage, says Allen. Surveys show that about 20 percent of all pork carcasses are PSE. James Hall of the United States Department of Agriculture estimates that this represents a retail loss of about \$95 million when pork is worth 70 cents per pound.

Allen says other PSS related losses such as lowered production efficiency due to reduced gain, smaller litters and breeding difficulties are hard to estimate but are probably very high.

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March 26, 1973

Immediate release

IN BRIEF. . . .

DDT Out. DDT can no longer be used on most crops. It's being replaced by many pesticides that may be more toxic, and their use will require extra caution on the part of growers, says Phillip Harein, University of Minnesota entomologist. Check labels when applying pesticides, and use protective clothing when required.

* * * *

Dicamba Not For Lawns. Weed killers and combination fertilizer-herbicide products containing dicamba should not be used on lawns since this chemical is very potent, University of Minnesota plant pathologist Ward Stienstra warns. Dicamba, when applied to light, sandy soils, will move down with the rain to landscape tree and shrub roots. The chemical is then carried to growing plant tops. If the leaves are fully formed, the leaves appear wilted. Actually the leaf has grown to that shape because of the weed killer. Small, developing leaves become twisted and puckered when dicamba affects them.

* * * *

Slope Lawns From House. Help prevent water from seeping down the outside walls of your house by having your lawn slope away from the house. Excessively drained sands may be good for foundations and basements, but they are poor for lawns since they hold much less of the natural rainfall and are very dry. Loam soils are the best for yards and gardens. Soil tests provide some good answers to problems homeowners may have with lawns and gardens.

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Housing Series

Immediate Release

MORTGAGE PLANS
PRESENT BUYER
MANY OPTIONS

Advantages and disadvantages can be named for each type of home mortgage loan plan available today, Edna Jordahl, University of Minnesota extension home management specialist, says.

Conventional loans are made between the borrower and a private lender, such as a bank, savings and loan association, credit union or insurance company. Information on conventional loans can be obtained from the lenders or from the real estate office you are dealing with. You may find that it pays to do some shopping on your own.

Conventional loans generally are easy to get if your credit is good. Mrs. Jordahl says, and they involve little "red tape." Interest rates for conventional loans usually are stated "high," but often they are no higher than the "lower" stated Veterans Administration or Federal Housing Administration (FHA) guaranteed loans. A large down payment usually is required with a conventional loan. Other disadvantages are "stiff restrictions," fewer years to pay and, although the buyer pays for an appraisal, he does not get any information on the appraisal, she adds.

Veterans Administration guaranteed loans are made to eligible veterans by private lenders and the VA guarantees repayment of 60 percent of the outstanding balance on the loan. FHA loans are made by private lenders and insured by the FHA, which agrees to insure the private lender against loss in case the borrower fails to repay the loan in full.

-more-

add 1--mortgage plans

FHA-VA-guaranteed loans feature low down payments, built in legal protections, a long time to pay, prepayment without penalty and no limit on the amount of the mortgage. A low interest rate is stated, but it may be as high as the interest rate in a conventional loan when points are added. One point is one percent of the principle and is paid by the seller to the lender at the time of the sale. Often the points are hidden in the sale price of the house and the buyer does not know he is paying extra, Mrs. Jordahl says. Also, in a FHA or VA guaranteed loan, the appraiser may limit the loan, loans may be difficult to get because of low interest rates and "red tape" and a waiting period are involved.

You can apply for a conventional, FHA or VA-guaranteed home mortgage loan at a bank, savings and loan association, mortgage firm and any of the other usual sources. At the lending institution, ask to speak with the mortgage loan officer. Tell him of your wish to buy a home and how much you want to borrow. If the lender wants your business, he will suggest that you file an application.

Another type of financing is a contract for deed between two parties. It can be flexible and fast to process. Closing costs are little or nothing, but the seller can foreclose in a short time if the contract is broken. Very often the contract is drawn up in a haphazard way.

-daz-

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Immediate release

PLANT SCIENTIST
QUESTIONS QUALITY
OF SOME BEAN SEEDS

Although most soybean seed produced in Minnesota in 1972 was "very good," some soybean seed lots in storage are "questionable," Herbert G. Johnson, extension plant pathologist at the University of Minnesota, said.

He advised farmers to test any soybeans that are intended for planting this spring. Lots that have cracked or discolored seed coats are most likely to have low germination. Even seed that looks good has an unknown germination until tested, he added.

Seed may have lower germination due to harvest damage if they were harvested too wet or too dry, or if the combine was not set properly. Soybean seed may deteriorate in storage if the moisture content was above 12 percent.

A quick test for percentage of cracked seed coats can be made by counting out 100 seeds and covering them with water at room temperature. The seeds can be sorted out after about ten minutes. All seeds with cracked coats will be soft and swelled. Broken seed coats will be obvious. Sound seed will be hard with no uptake of water in that short time.

Seed treatment with a fungicide is most important for seed that is low in germination and otherwise of poor quality, Johnson said.

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NOT MUCH CHANGE
SEEN BY ECONOMIST
IN '73 CORN MARKET

The market for the 1973 corn crop may be much like this year, featuring good, but not overwhelming demand for corn, Willis E. Anthony, University of Minnesota agricultural economist, said.

Prices averaging about \$1.30 a bushel can be expected on the Minneapolis market from November through July, he added.

U.S. farmers intend to plant 71.6 million acres of corn in 1973 and Minnesota farmers intend to plant six million acres, according to a recent U. S. Department of Agriculture survey. Both intentions are seven percent more than the 1972 plantings.

Minnesota corn prices have been disappointing for many farmers in 1972-73, remaining at \$1.20 a bushel or less at many country points, the economist said. But prices for corn in the first week of March were \$2.03 at the Gulf, \$1.62 in Chicago and \$1.36 in Minneapolis on rail, reflecting the strong export demand for feed grain this year and the related transportation and storage space shortage, Anthony said. Stored grain began moving at Mississippi River points in the third week of March as barge traffic resumed.

Spurred by high feeding, domestic use of 1972-73 corn supplies is expected to reach 4.7 billion bushels and exports may reach one billion bushels, which would reduce year-end carryover to less than a billion bushels.

The United States will produce 5.9 billion bushels of corn this year if farmers plant intended acreage as reported by the USDA recently and if 1973 corn yields match 1972 yields. Production and carryover would result in about a 6.8 billion bushel supply for the 1973-74 marketing year and other feed grain production probably will not be up much in 1973, Anthony said.

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FALL SOYBEAN
PRICES MAY
BE \$3.50-4

Soybean producers who have been enjoying rocketing prices for their 1972 beans should not expect more sharp price rises.

Soybean prices, which reached \$6.73 per bushel in Minneapolis March 7, will likely drop to about \$3.75 to \$4 by fall, 1973 harvest, said Willis E. Anthony, University of Minnesota agricultural economist.

Current high prices were caused largely by a tight supply of the 1972 crop relative to expected use, Anthony explained. The March 15 United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) crop report estimated 1972 soybean production at 1.28 billion bushels for the U.S. and 93 million bushels for Minnesota.

"Most or all of the '72 crop will be used," he said. "Domestic crushing is expected to be about 810 million bushels, and exports will be about 475 million bushels in 1972-73. Carryover at the end of the marketing year will be at a minimum.

"However, current soybean product prices do not suggest additional sharp price rises at the present time," said Anthony.

"The cash crushing margin, which measures the difference between the price of beans and soybean meal and oil prices, dropped below five cents a bushel in mid-March. Early in 1973 it was nearly \$1.25. Protein meal prices have been strong, but soybean oil has not enjoyed comparable demand," he explained.

U. S. farmers will plant nearly 54 million acres of soybeans in 1973, according to a USDA survey conducted March 1. This is 14 percent more than the 1972 acreage. And Minnesota farmers plan to plant 4.35 million acres, a 30 percent increase over 1972.

-more-

add 1--fall soybean prices

"If 1973 soybean yields match the 1972 average of 28 bushels per acre, U. S. farmers will grow 1.465 billion bushels of soybeans. Adding modest carryover, the 1973-74 marketing year will have to absorb about 1.5 billion bushels of soybeans.

"It appears the market can do this with little difficulty, so this should put soybeans in the \$3.75 to \$4 range from 1973 harvest until early 1974. But since almost all the 1973-74 supply depends on the 1973 crop, prices will be extremely sensitive to changing crop conditions during the 1973 planting and growing season," Anthony pointed out.

-jms-

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LIVESTOCK INCOMES
TO SET RECORD,
ECONOMIST SAYS

Farm income in 1973 will at least match if not surpass that of 1972, Paul Hasbargen, University of Minnesota extension economist, said.

High prices for livestock, soybeans, wheat and, in the fall, for corn resulted in a record year nationally in '72. Hasbargen says he expects that in '73 record beef, hog and soybean prices will help maintain the improved farm income level.

Beef prices will continue strong through the year at the \$40-plus-per-hundredweight level, which means Minnesota beef producers will have record incomes. Cattle feeders, however, may be in a profit pinch on feeders bought at current high feeder cattle prices.

Feeder calf prices have been rising rapidly in the past three months, but Hasbargen said the more than \$60-per-hundredweight calves will be a short-lived phenomena. Prices are expected to slip in 1974 with the possibility of sharply lower beef prices in 1975 and '76. So, he suggests that those considering cow head expansion should use a planning price in the low \$40-per-hundredweight range as an average for the rest of the '70's.

Current high feeder calf prices resulted from a smaller feeder supply than expected and a rising fed cattle market. Death losses have been greater than usual and weight gain has been slowed in many of the large commercial feedlots by poor weather, the economist said. Cattle prices probably will peak this March and the 1973 average price will set a record that may stand for a number of years, he added.

-more-

add 1--livestock incomes

Hog producers will be in a good situation with both higher prices and higher volume for the year. Hog prices will maintain their strength through the year, although hog production will increase after mid-year, leading to lower prices in the second half of the year.

Prices for lambs will follow those for good beef prices, he said.

Overall livestock prices and incomes will average higher than in 1972. Even though the much bigger crop now being planned will lead to lower crop prices, total net farm income should be maintained in 1973, the economist said.

The possibility of over expansion of crop and livestock supplies during the next year and lower prices and incomes in 1974 should be concerns at this time, he added.

-daz-

(Do Not Use On Radio--Has been sent to radio stations for their exclusive use. For use only in columns as it is not news style.)

March 26, 1973

For Extension Home Economists

Annuals For Garden

Try some of the new annuals in your flower garden this spring. University of Minnesota horticulturist Jane McKinnon says Peter Pan Scarlet Zinnia and Happy Face Marigold will make bright additions.

Peter Pan makes a nice border plant and Happy Face is good as a container plant and as a patio accent. Zinnias and marigolds should be started indoors about April 15th, but no sooner.

* * * *

Buy Nutrition (PSA)

University extension nutritionist Mary Darling advises consumers to invest in themselves, buy nutrition.

Frequently groceries are purchased on the run. Miss Darling suggests that you take the time to read the labels on the foods you buy. If you can't take the time in the supermarket, study them as you prepare a meal. Instead of throwing away the packages, save them for comparison purposes.

It takes effort to be an informed consumer. Take time to read labels so you can buy nutrition for your family.

* * * *

4-H Consumerism

When it comes time to buy a car, many young people sink their hard earned cash into an "experienced" vehicle.

Look that used car over carefully. Springs tend to sag after 40-thousand miles. Estimate 10-thousand miles per year usage unless you know the previous owner, regardless of what the odometer reads.

* * * *

more ...

Behind The Shopping Cart

University of Minnesota extension home economists offer these shopping tips:

Buy peanut butter in regular jars rather than in fancy containers and in as large a quantity as you can use. Teach your family to eat liver. It's one of the less expensive meats with no bone. Ask the man in charge of the meat counter if you have questions.

Plan before you buy. Shop for the "specials" if they really are good buys. Buy eggs only where they are kept cold.

* * * *

UM Housing Specialist Says:

Always overestimate the cost of buying a house and don't commit all your liquid cash and savings to the down payment.

Before shopping for a mortgage loan, familiarize yourself with the terms of the lending business.

* * * *

Meat Quality Varies

University meat specialist Richard Epley says meat varies in appearance, fat content and eating quality. Also, the care you give it can make a difference.

Keep meat cold when you get it home and clean it so it will retain the same quality it had when you bought it.

* * * *

Carpenter Ants

Carpenter ants generally swarm in spring and early summer and often are mistaken for termites. Be wary of persons that contact you and say your house should be treated for termites. Check with a building inspector or the Better Business Bureau if you are in doubt about the credentials of a person claiming to be a pest control operator.

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ATT: Extension Home Economists

Immediate release

CHECK QUALITY
OF FABRIC WHEN
BUYING DRAPERIES

What fabric is best for curtains and draperies from the wide range now on the market?

Whether you're planning to buy fabric to make your own draperies or purchase them readymade, Linda Reece, extension specialist in interior design at the University of Minnesota, says it is important to look for certain qualities that will determine your satisfaction with them.

Look for fabric that:

- . Has good draping quality.
- . Will not shrink, stretch or sag.
- . Is wrinkle resistant.
- . Is resistant to the weakening effects of light, sun and heat.
- . Is easy to wash or satisfactory to dryclean.
- . Has a label or tag giving information about the fiber.

When you buy drapery or curtain fabric, take time to read the labels to find out what you are getting, Mrs. Reece emphasizes. If the fabric is a fiber blend, it will perform only as well as the largest percentage of the blend. At least 20 percent of a fiber must be present for its characteristics to be effective.

If you choose loosely woven material, find out from the label or the sales person if the material is guaranteed 100 percent dimensionally stable so it will not sag or hike up. Sagging occurs when crosswise or filling threads of fabric are too thick in relation to fine lengthwise or warp threads. The draperies may hike up or sag unevenly when these crosswise threads take up moisture, swell and pull up or warp. Because fabrics with a thick, loose, open weave and fine fabrics like batiste gather in moisture, they look limp when the weather is very humid.

add 1--check quality of drapery fabric

Some fibers have characteristics which make them less susceptible to sunlight than others. This is another point to check carefully if your windows get a good deal of sunshine. Examples of fibers that can take stronger sunlight than others are glass fiber fabrics, Dacron or Fortrel (both polyester), Verel (modacrylic), Rovanna or Saranspun (both Saran).

A publication called "Shopping Notes--Curtains and Draperies," Ext. Pamphlet 217, will give you helpful information. Get a free copy from your county extension office.

-jbn-

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STRONG PRICES
FOR WHEAT
TO CONTINUE

Wheat prices in the United States likely will continue relatively strong for the 1973 crop, although export competition will be greater, Willis E. Anthony, University of Minnesota agricultural economist, said.

Production, estimated at 1.6 billion bushels, and carryover will provide a two-billion-bushel wheat supply for the 1973-74 marketing year.

Use of the 1972-73 wheat supply has been high, with 818 million bushels utilized domestically. Also, 1,150 million bushels will be exported, Anthony added.

Farmers plan to plant 58.2 million acres of wheat for the 1973 harvest, according to the U. S. Department of Agriculture's recent planting intentions survey. About 42.8 million acres of winter wheat are in the ground. Farmers intend to plant 3.1 million acres of durum and 12.3 million acres of other spring wheat. This, if realized, would give the United States six percent more planted acres than in 1972, the economist said.

-daz-

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