

Department of Information
and Agricultural Journalism
Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101
May 6, 1974

Immediate release

IN BRIEF. . . .

Marketing Cattle. Marketing cattle at the proper weight is one way for cattle feeders to minimize feed costs. Many different types of cattle are present in Minnesota feedlots and are ready for market at different weights. If the cattle are weighed and accurate feed records are kept, the cost per pound of gain can be calculated and should be used as a guideline in marketing. When this figure starts to rise, the cattle should be marketed or the cattleman's potential profit margin will decrease.

* * * *

Feedlot Rations. Cattle feeders should make sure they're not overfeeding protein and phosphorus. When these nutrients were readily available at low costs, many cattle rations were calculated with extra amounts of protein and phosphorus to assure the animal's needs were met. However, present prices make this unprofitable.

* * * *

Forage Preservatives. The best forage preservative is good management, University of Minnesota specialists stress. They stress that no forage preservative will greatly improve feed value if you put the crop up at the right moisture content and stage of maturity.

In conventional silos, forage should have about 50 to 60 percent moisture when it's put in, and for oxygen limiting structures, from 40 to 50 percent. Alfalfa should be put up at the late bud to first sign of bloom stage, and corn silage when the kernels are about 35 percent moisture (full dent stage). Chop the forage about one-fourth inch, keep the chopper knives sharp, fill fast with no long layovers and distribute the silage evenly in the silo.

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Department of Information
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University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101
May 6, 1974

ATT: Extension Home Economists

Immediate release

MSC
GA27p

USE CABBAGE BARGAINS
FOR HOMEMADE 'KRAUT

This year has produced a bumper crop of cabbages. Why not take advantage of low prices and good quality by reviving the down-home skill of sauerkraut making? Although it requires patience to await the finished product, the investment in equipment and ingredients is small.

You will need cabbage, pickling salt, a sharp knife and shredder and a container to hold the fermenting cabbage, according to Edmund A. Zottola, extension food microbiologist at the University of Minnesota.

To make five gallons of sauerkraut, start with 50 pounds of cabbage and one pound of salt. Remove outer leaves and the core from the cabbage, wash and drain. Shred the cabbage and put it in food-grade plastic pails, which you can purchase at home winemaking shops, or in large containers lined with heavy plastic bags or liners.

Next mix the salt thoroughly with the shredded cabbage and pack the mixture firmly but gently into the container. Zottola says it is important to pack the cabbage-salt mixture so no air pockets remain. The desirable fermentation bacteria grow best when there isn't any air, and spoilage bacteria can thrive in air pockets.

For the same reason, you will need to cover the container so air won't come in contact with the mixture. A second plastic bag partly filled with water makes a good cover, Zottola says. Place it on top of the container so the whole surface is covered and the cabbage is pressed below the liquid level.

Store the mixture for five or six weeks at a temperature of about 68 degrees F. Zottola says a typical basement temperature of about 60 degrees is acceptable.

Because few people can use five gallons of sauerkraut in a short time, Zottola suggests canning it using proper heat treatment methods, refrigerating it in small containers or freezing it. Frozen sauerkraut can be stored about a year and thawed at room temperatures.

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Department of Information
and Agricultural Journalism
Institute of Agriculture
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101
May 6, 1974

4-H NEWS

Immediate release

4-H'ERS TO ATTEND
CONSERVATION CAMP

_____ from _____ County will attend the 40th Anniversary
(number)
Minnesota 4-H Conservation Leadership Camp June 10-14 at Itasca State Park.

(Insert junior and adult leaders who will attend from your county. You might include a short background sketch since only 2-3 will be attending from each county).

About 85 junior leaders and several adult leaders from all parts of Minnesota are expected to attend the conference.

The purposes of the 40th Annual Conservation Leadership Camp are to promote the 4-H conservation program in Minnesota, recognize 4-H junior and adult project leaders for their leadership in the conservation project, provide a meaningful group-living experience in an outdoor setting and train junior and adult county project chairmen in conservation. A special feature this year will be a commemorative program recognizing 40 years of sponsorship by Federal Cartridge Corp. Thursday, June 13th has been set aside by the planning committee to reflect the Camp's 40 year history. During the past four decades more than 3,000 4-H'ers have been involved in learning sound principles of resource management taught by over 80 different environmental experts.

Resource personnel at the camp will include Walter Breckenridge, former director of the Museum of Natural History; Armand Lemke, Water Quality Laboratory, Duluth; Ira Adelman, research associate, Department of Fisheries, Entomology, Wildlife; Grady Mann, former wildlife specialist and Pat Weicherding, St. Louis County extension forester.

-more-

add 1--4-H news

State extension staff specialist will include Marvin Smith and Bill Miles, extension foresters; Clifton Halsey, extension conservationist; O. C. Turnquist, extension horticulturalist; Dave Noetzel, extension entomologist; and Warren Gore, extension training specialist.

Conducting the camp will be conservation committee members RoxAnne Wegner, Murray County; Rhonda Huberg, Redwood County; Scott Schloesser, LeSueur County; Marvin Poegel, Todd County; Teri Paine, St. Louis County and Michael Richert, Brown County.

The camp is sponsored by the Federal Cartridge Corp., Minnesota Pheasants Unlimited and the Agricultural Extension Service. For registration information, contact _____ at the _____ County Extension Office at _____ (phone).

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Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101
May 13, 1974

Immediate release

MSC
GAZ 71p

SOIL SCIENTISTS GIVE
INFO ON TOPDRESS, LATE
APPLICATION OF NITROGEN

Short nitrogen fertilizer supplies and late deliveries this year are causing many crop producers to question whether to topdress nitrogen after small grain has been seeded or whether to apply nitrogen to corn in late June.

Small grain producers should consider nitrogen topdressing after the grain has been seeded, Charles A. Simkins, University of Minnesota soils specialist, says. Wheat, oats and barley can be fertilized successfully with nitrogen after seeding if the nitrogen material is applied before the crop has reached the "stooling" stage.

Liquid nitrogen fertilizer materials may be applied to small grains after they have emerged, but nitrogen rates of more than 20 pounds per acre can result in temporary leaf burning. Urea or ammonium nitrate can be broadcast on the small grain crop.

Anhydrous ammonia can also be successfully applied diagonal to the seeding direction after small grains have been seeded by using narrow knives and spacing them 12 inches or less apart. Although the grain stand will be reduced about 10 percent by the knives, this is not significant with a good stand. Apply anhydrous ammonia nitrogen before the grain is four to five inches high and remember that the application rate will depend on past cropping history and the grain being grown, Simkins advises.

Anhydrous ammonia or other nitrogen forms applied between corn rows presents no serious problem until the corn gets too tall. Illinois research shows that dry urea or ammonium nitrate is a satisfactory stopgap in an emergency late application, but late topdressings of nitrogen solutions on corn are not recommended unless directed away from plants, Curtis J. Overdahl, University of Minnesota extension soils specialist, says.

add 1--soil scientists

University of Illinois researchers in a limited study found a significant decrease in plant growth with increasing rates of 28-percent nitrogen solutions hand sprayed. Large areas of the leaf gradually turned brown. The plant appeared to outgrow the damage, but the scientists indicated that the harmful effect on growth was irreversible.

In some areas of Minnesota, a soil test for nitrate nitrogen can be helpful in determining nitrogen needs. The _____ County Extension Office can help you determine nitrogen rates under various cropping systems and local conditions.

-daz-

Department of Information
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St. Paul, Minnesota 55101
May 13, 1974

Immediate release

MSC
A27P

APPLY NOW FOR FUNDS
FOR POLLUTION CONTROL

Apply now to your local ASCS office for funds under the federal cost sharing assistance program to construct waste management facilities on your farm, Philip R. Goodrich, University of Minnesota extension agricultural engineer, says.

Funds for cost sharing animal waste facilities are not expected after Dec. 31, so it is important to get applications in soon.

Waste management facilities may be designed and constructed under the technical supervision of consulting agricultural engineers, but plans and specifications must be approved in advance by the Soil Conservation Service of the U. S. Department of Agriculture. The facilities must receive the proper certification after construction so that cost sharing funds can be received.

Farmers may want to have a private consulting firm design the facilities in areas where technical assistance is not available from the SCS due to personnel limitations, Goodrich says. But, he adds, keep in mind that plans and specifications must be approved in advance by SCS engineers, otherwise cost sharing will not be available.

Cost sharing may vary from county to county, but normally it is up to 80 percent of the project's cost with a maximum payment of \$2,500 to an operator per year.

The financial impact of constructing these facilities will be lessened somewhat by the cost sharing of the Rural Environmental Assistance Program (REAP) as well as state income tax credit for pollution control facilities. All animal waste management facilities and feedlot facilities constructed in Minnesota must have prior approval from the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (PCA). Application for a PCA permit may be made by sending a completed feedlot permit form to the county official in charge of processing these permits or, if the county has not designated an official to do this, to the Agricultural Section, Division of Solid Waste, PCA, 1935 W. County Road B2, Roseville, 55113.

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St. Paul, Minnesota 55101
May 13, 1974

Immediate release

MSC
8 A27p

SOME PRODUCERS
NEED TO APPLY
FOR FEED PERMITS

Many large cattle and poultry producers in Minnesota, whether they think they have discharge feedlot wastes or not, should apply for a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permits, University of Minnesota agricultural engineer Philip Goodrich says.

Under NPDES, all animal producing operations with a one-time capacity larger than 1,000 head of beef feeders, 700 mature dairy cattle, 2,500 or more swine over 55 pounds, 55,000 turkeys or 30,000 laying hens should apply for a permit. In fact the deadline for submitting Short Form B-Agriculture, which is used to apply for this permit, has passed.

The regional head of the Environmental Protection Agency permit team, John Nye, inspected a number of large facilities in Minnesota in early April. Enforcement is progression, so producers should get their applications made, Goodrich says.

If an operator has applied for a permit on the short form and subsequently has a waste discharge before he is issued the permit, he will be deemed to have a legal discharge on his farm operation, Goodrich adds. Large operators in Minnesota have a responsibility to make this formal application and it can be quite costly if an operator decides to wait and during that time he is prosecuted for having an illegal discharge from his feedlot, the agricultural engineer says.

Civil and criminal penalties can be as much as \$25,000 for violations of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act sections, enforced by the U. S. Environmental protection Agency, covering feedlot pollution of streams, rivers and lakes.

NPDES Application Short Form B-Agriculture is available by writing: Permit Branch, Region 5, U. S. Environmental Protection Agency, One North Wacker Drive, Chicago, Ill. 60606 or telephone (312) 353-1232.

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May 13, 1974

Immediate release

IN BRIEF. . . .

Cattle Health. Beef producers should not take for granted a certain death loss or percentage of "poor doers." Many programs are available through local veterinarians, and these programs can reduce losses due to death or poor performance through prevention, not cure after the problem occurs. The cattleman and his veterinarian should approach health problems as a team. Animal health involves housing, management, nutrition, waste control, fertility and residue management as well as the vaccine and antibiotic treatments normally associated with the animal health. The veterinarian brings scientific knowledge gained from experience and practice to help the cattleman.

* * * *

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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University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101
May 13, 1974

ATT: Extension Home Economists

Immediate release

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**NEW LABELING LAW
RESTRICTS PRODUCT CLAIMS**

Have you ever wondered what it means when a packaged food label or advertisement proclaims itself a "significant source" of a needed nutrient or boasts it is nutritionally "superior" to a competitor?

Your questions soon may be answered. Nutritional labeling, which becomes mandatory for many foods on Jan. 1, sets forth strict guidelines on taboo advertising claims and statements that must be validated, according to Vernal S. Packard, extension specialist at the University of Minnesota's Food Science and Nutrition Department.

The labeling will be mandatory only for food products that make claims about their nutritional status or that include added vitamins, minerals or protein. But Packard expects other food processors to comply voluntarily as consumers begin to look for the information and base their purchases on it.

The Food and Drug Administration prohibits claims that:

- . The presence or absence of dietary properties in the product will prevent or cure diseases or their symptoms.
- . A balanced diet of ordinary foods will not supply adequate nutrition.
- . The soil on which a product is grown is responsible for inadequate nutritive qualities.
- . Storing, transporting, processing or cooking a food will cause a daily diet deficiency.
- . A food has valuable nutritional properties when those properties aren't considered significant to human nutrition.
- . A naturally-occurring vitamin is superior to a vitamin added to the food.

-more-

add 1--new labeling law

Other package and advertising claims must be validated before the new law will allow them. If a food processor says his product is a "significant" source of a nutrient, each serving must contain at least 10 percent of the U. S. Recommended Daily Allowance (U.S. RDA). To claim that a food is nutritionally "superior" to a competitor, it must contain at least 10 percent more U.S. RDA of a given nutrient per serving than the other product.

Packard says food processors will be responsible for giving complete, accurate information. They must list serving size, number of servings per package, calories, protein, carbohydrate and fat content and U.S. RDA percentages for at least eight essential nutrients.

Companies that voluntarily comply with the requirements must meet the same standards and refrain from the same types of inaccurate claims as companies required to begin the new labeling.

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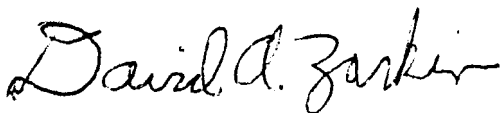
May 13, 1974

NOTICE TO 4-H AGENTS

Wayne Carlson has the following changes on the May 6 article (4-H'ers to attend conservation camp) for those of you who have not submitted it to your local papers:

1) In the second to last paragraph, 2nd page: Change Rhonda Huberg to Rhonda Heiling.

2) In the last paragraph, 2nd page: Delete "Minnesota Pheasants Unlimited."



David A. Zarkin
Extension Information Specialist

DAZ:hg

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GA27p

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Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101
May 13, 1974

4-H NEWS

Immediate release

AREA YOUNGSTERS
PARTICIPATE IN
4-H COMMUNITY PRIDE

Several _____ County 4-H'ers are working on community development projects to earn scholarships to the Community Pride '74 Program in September in the 4-H Building on the Minnesota State Fairgrounds, St. Paul.

(Agents: give names, description of projects of local 4-H'ers enrolled in Community Pride).

The 4-H Community Pride '74 Program, sponsored by Northrup King and Co. and the Minnesota Agricultural Extension Service, helps stimulate 4-H groups to work toward improvement of their community and environment. Last year, flowers and plants were included in a number of 4-H club projects. Some clubs planted trees to make wildlife shelters, while others built birdhouses and duck houses. Club members cleaned up bathing beaches, lake shores and town and village halls.

For more information on Community Pride, contact _____ at the _____ County Extension Office, _____, or phone _____.
(address)

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Department of Information
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Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108
May 20, 1974

Immediate release

IN BRIEF. . . .

Sediment Pollution. Muddy streams and lakes are a reminder that sediment is their number one pollutant. Contrary to popular belief, soil erosion has not been halted. More than four billion tons of sediment enter the nation's streams and rivers each year. About half of this originates from farms.

* * * *

Delay Oak Pruning. Don't prune oak trees in spring, especially in May and June when oaks are most susceptible to infection by the oak wilt fungus. University plant pathologists suggest applying a tree dressing if an oak tree is wounded by a windstorm, lightning or other natural causes.

* * * *

Hog Profit Tips. University of Minnesota extension specialists offer these profit tips for commercial hog producers:

--Select those breeds that excel in test station performance for crossbreeding programs.

--Choose purebred breeders who have top performing pigs in the test station.

--Select above average boars from performance test herds.

* * * *

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

* * * *

-more-

add 1--in brief

Livestock Clinic. A livestock and poultry clinic is scheduled at the University's St. Paul Campus in early June. The livestock clinic is scheduled for June 3 and 4, and the poultry clinic for June 5 and 6. Sheep will be featured at this year's livestock clinic, but classes of cattle and hogs also will be included. For more information, contact the county extension office or Extension Animal Science, Peters Hall, University of Minnesota, St. Paul 55108.

* * * *

Dairy Tour. The third annual Minnesota dairy tour is scheduled August 5-9, 1974. The tour is to the San Francisco, California, area. Purpose of the tour is to acquaint Minnesota dairymen with the latest dairy technology and management practices in California. The tour is limited to 48 people. For more information, contact the Office of Special Programs, University of Minnesota, St. Paul 55108.

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Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108
May 20, 1974

ATT: Extension Home Economist

Immediate release

MSC
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THINK TWICE ABOUT
FREEZER ECONOMY

The fruits and vegetables you're planting in your home garden this spring may yield bountiful harvests this summer. If you're tempted to buy a freezer to preserve this homegrown produce, think twice about how much money you will save says Edna Jordahl, extension home management specialist at the University of Minnesota.

A freezer will save shopping trips and enable you to enjoy your gardening success year-round, but it probably won't be the boon to your food budget that you might think. The cost of the freezer, depreciation, repairs, electricity to run it, freezer packaging and finance charges for its purchase are all part of your expense. Interest charges for a freezer food plan push the buyer's cost even higher.

Mrs. Jordahl reports that the average annual cost of owning a manual-defrost freezer is about \$65 assuming a 15-year life span. Frostfree freezers are more expensive to buy, and they consume about 60 percent more electricity.

To make up for the cost of owning a freezer, Mrs. Jordahl says a consumer must save at least \$.13 a pound on food stored there, assuming she uses about 500 pounds of freezer food each year. She stresses that the best reason for owning and stocking a freezer is not economy but the convenience and time saved.

"Food prices fluctuate enough so that it's generally pure luck to gain economically," Mrs. Jordahl says. "Or else a person must have a keen insight into food supply and price situations that few people have."

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May 20, 1974

Immediate release

CHECK FORMULA
ON PAINT LABEL

Waning summer days generally bring a rush of outside painting projects around home and farm buildings.

You can save time and money by knowing a few simple facts about exterior latex paint composition.

The paint formula on the container is the most important factor to consider. Look for the total amount of solids as compared to water content. With modern latex paints, the greater the water content, the cheaper the paint is to produce.

Solids consist of a number of materials, primarily the pigment for color and resin (or binder) to make the paint stick to the surface. Other solids include fungicides, wetting agents, titanium dioxide and iron oxide.

In ready-to-use paints, at least a third of total solids should be resin.

In good exterior latex paints the ratio of solids to water should be above 50 percent. In other words, the paint should be less than half water. For example, a paint that contains 37 percent solids and 63 percent water might be cheaper per gallon, but it's more expensive per pound of solids.

You may have to apply more coats of a paint with such a composition to get the desired thickness, and spend more time applying it. Ultimately, the cost could be greater than fewer gallons of a more expensive paint.

Here are some recommendations for home and farm building exteriors: White, ready-to-use latex paint, should contain 20 to 25 percent titanium dioxide.

Tint base, or white mixed at point-of-purchase with a desired color, should have about 8 percent titanium dioxide.

Red latex barn paint should contain from 8 to 10 percent iron oxide.

There's a trend in paint container labeling toward "direct reading" in which content proportions are given by weight. It's a simple matter to add these. However, some manufacturers still use a double percentage label. On these, for example, pigmentation percentage is given and composition of pigmentation is also broken down by percentages.

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May 20, 1974

Immediate release

Agents: Story is also being
sent directly to daily newspapers

CHECK FOR APPLE TREE
RUST AND SCAB FUNGI

Take steps now to combat cedar apple rust and scab fungi, Herbert G. Johnson, University of Minnesota extension plant pathologist, advised home gardeners and commercial growers.

Rainfall causes the woody galls on red cedar trees to sprout spore-producing, jelly-like horns. The spores produced by these horns cause cedar apple rust on the leaves, fruit and young twigs of apple trees. This process is repeated following rains until about mid-June. After that time there is no new infection of apple trees for the season, Johnson advised.

Apple tree leaf infection will be evident as yellow spots which continue to develop into August when the spots' centers are red and spots' undersides have cushion-line structures.

Two fungicides should be combined for rust control since apple spray mixtures contain captan fungicide which controls scab but not rust, Johnson said. For rust control, add another fungicide such as zineb, maneb plus zinc, zinc ion plus maneb, thiram, Polyram, Niacide M or ferbam. These fungicides control scab too, but captan and dodine have been somewhat superior in scab control, he added.

Scab, which survives in leaves during the winter, first appears as soot-like blotches after new growth starts, then appears as distinct black spots. Scab infections can continue through the season since the fungus produces new spores throughout the season.

Apple disease control publications are available from the _____ County Extension office. Or, send a postcard to the Bulletin Room, University of Minnesota, St. Paul 55108. Ask for Extension Pamphlet 184, "Home Fruit Spray Guide," and Plant Pathology Fact Sheet 4, "Cedar Apple Rust."

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May 20, 1974

4-H NEWS

Immediate release

LOCAL YOUNGSTERS
LEAVE FOR COURSE
IN WASHINGTON, D.C.

_____ 4-H'ers from _____ County will leave _____ for the six-
(number) (day, date)

day 1974 Citizenship Short Course at the National 4-H Center in Washington, D.C.

Attending from _____ County are:

The six-day course is conducted by the National 4-H Foundation to supplement citizenship training provided on the state level. Young citizens attending the course are helped in realizing their potential as an effective participant in a democratic system of government. The course includes citizenship discussions at the center followed by educational tours of the National Capitol.

Five groups of Minnesotans will go to the course starting July 13. Other groups will attend in successive weeks running through Aug. 17. A total of 465 teens and group leaders will participate.

Local firms and individuals sponsoring trips include _____.

-daz-

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"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 (June-November 1974)

- June 1-2 Sectional Fire School, University of Minnesota-Crookston. A basic firefighting course to provide firemen in the northwest region of Minnesota with the latest basic firefighting techniques and procedures.*PS
- June 3-6 Livestock and Poultry Judging and Meats Evaluation, St. Paul Campus. The course is for livestock judges, vo-ag instructors, county agents, livestock producers and buyers. Purpose is to teach evaluation and selection of desirable beef, horses, poultry, swine, and meats evaluation, and promote more uniformity in selection of desirable livestock and poultry at various state, regional and county shows.*CN
- June 6-7 Agricultural Education Seminar, Arrowwood, Alexandria. To provide an opportunity for the Minnesota Council for Coordinating Education in Agriculture to report to its broader constituency relative to the purpose, role and current projects of the council; to provide an opportunity for the constituency to review and discuss its primary concerns and issues with the council members, and to provide for interaction and joint working sessions involving the council and its broader constituency.*VF
- June 8 Christmas Tree Growers' Field Day, Keith Jacob's tree farm near Sunrise, Minnesota. All-day program will deal with establishing, culture and harvesting of the Christmas tree crop. Open to anyone interested in Christmas tree farming.^o
- June 18-19 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, by selected educational faculties.*RM
- June 21-23 Minnesota Veterinary Medical Association Summer Clinic, Quadna Mountain Lodge, Hill City. To provide a continuing education program for practicing veterinarians in large and small animal and equine medicine for practicing veterinarians and college faculty.*CN
- June 25 Visitors' Day, Southern Experiment Station, Waseca. For people to see the physical set-up of the Experiment Station, its research facilities, and to learn of the range of programs the Waseca station and its branch stations have to offer.+

add 1--special short course schedule

- July 8-11 Articulation in Agricultural Education, 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.*CN
- July 11,
17-18 Branch Station Crops and Soil Field Days. July 11, Morris Experiment Station; July 17, Crookston Experiment Station; and July 18, Grand Rapids Experiment Station. For people to see the research facilities and the range of programs in the branch stations.⁺
- July 28-
August 9 United States Army Reserve Research & Development Update 1974 Symposium, Curtis Hotel, Minneapolis and University of Minnesota, St. Paul Campus. To provide Army Reserve personnel assigned to Research and Development Mob Des units in the United States a two-week R&D effort during their annual training 1974 tour.*CN
- August 5-9 Minnesota Dairy Tour, San Francisco, Modesto, Stockton and Santa Rosa, California. To acquaint Minnesota dairymen with the latest dairy technology and management practices in California. For Minnesota dairy farm operators and their wives.*GW
- Sept. 7-8 Sectional Fire School, Hibbing. A basic firefighting course to provide firemen in the northeast region of Minnesota with the latest basic firefighting techniques and procedures.*PS
- Sept. 10 Corn and Soybean Day, Southern Experiment Station at Waseca. Intended for farmers and others interested in crop production.⁺
- Sept. 12-13 Sanitarian's Conference, North Star Ballroom, Student Center, St. Paul Campus. To discuss developments in dairy and food plant sanitation, quality control, and field service work as an update for Sanitarians working in the field of milk, food and environmental sanitation. For municipal, state and federal health officials, food plant management, and food plant fieldmen.^x
- Sept. 16-17 Minnesota Nutrition Conference, Sheraton Motor Inn, Bloomington, Minn. A north central area regional conference for animal nutritionists. Major emphasis is on nutrition topics of current interest for animal nutritionists representing producers, industry, universities, and research.*GW
- Sept. 18-19 Faculty Retreat on Instruction, location to be announced. To provide an opportunity for selected faculty to meet in a relaxed setting to discuss teaching techniques, to have representation from each academic department, to provide a program developed around small group and panel discussions and to share teaching ideas and questions for selected faculty from the College of Agriculture, two from each academic department and some from the Dean of the Institute's office.*GW

add 2--special short course schedule

- Sept. 26 Thirteenth Annual Meeting and Conference of the North Central Cheese Industries Association, Hyatt Lodge, 41 North 10th Street, Minneapolis. Program portion of meeting directed toward technology used in the manufacture of cheese. For individuals interested in the manufacture of cheese and problems associated therewith.^x
- Sept. 30- Elementary Teachers' Environmental Workshop, location to be announced.
October 4 To increase awareness of interrelationship of natural resources and to provide training for teachers in how to teach about ecology to their students in order to foster educational, attitudinal and behavioral changes necessary for environmental understanding. For elementary teachers from the greater metropolitan area and central district of Minnesota.*PS
- Oct. 12 Ruffed Grouse Symposium, Bald Eagle Center near Cass Lake. A discussion of life cycles, habitat, food habits, predator relationships, hunting, and forest management practices as related to the Ruffed Grouse. For teachers, game managers, land managers, sportsmen, and any others interested in the Ruffed Grouse.*PS
- Oct. 22, Beginning Practitioner Farm and Individual Income Tax Short Course for
24-25 1974. October 22, Detroit Lakes, Erie Junior Motel; October 24, Marshall, Ramada Inn; October 25, Owatonna, Owatonna Inn. A one-day short course designed for beginning income tax practitioners. Basic principles and practices will be covered regarding Minnesota state and federal income tax filing procedures. For beginning income tax practitioners and persons assisting in the preparation of tax forms.*CN
- Nov. 18-20 Farm and Individual Income Tax Short Course, Radisson Downtown Hotel, Minneapolis. To improve the skills of those preparing income tax returns through better understanding and application of procedures of computation of taxable income and changes in income tax law and regulation. To increase awareness and understanding of the issues of taxation in Minnesota and in the United States. For tax practitioners and consultants, accountants, lawyers, bankers, insurance agents, real estate agents, educators and others involved in preparing income tax returns.*CN

*For further information call Office of Special Programs:

| | | |
|----------------------|-------|----------|
| VF--Vern Freeh | (612) | 373-0725 |
| CN--Curtis Norenberg | " | " " |
| RM--Richard Meronuck | " | " " |
| GW--Gerald Wagner | " | " " |
| PS--Paul Stegmeir | " | " " |

†For further information call the Experiment or Research Station designated.

^xFor further information call Allen S. Levine (612) 373-1082

^oFor further information call Marvin Smith (612) 373-0720

MSC
5/21/74

Department of Information
and Agricultural Journalism
Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108
May 21, 1974

Immediate Release
(Do not release after May 30)

SIDEDRESSING NITROGEN
ON SUGARBEETS NOT
WIDELY RECOMMENDED

Although nitrogen can be applied successfully to small grains, corn and other row crops after emergence, be extremely cautious when trying this with sugarbeets, reports Ron Torkelson, sugarbeet specialist for North Dakota State University and the University of Minnesota.

Nitrogen, as a sidedress application on growing, non-irrigated beets, represents a potential excess that will continue to promote growth late in the growing season when the crop should be storing good quality sugar due to nitrogen deficiency. Research in a number of beet producing areas shows that sugar yields and quality are often reduced with a sidedress application.

But Torkelson says sidedressing nitrogen may be the only alternative if fertilizer nitrogen is in short supply, if nitrogen fertilizer will not be delivered to growers until after planting or if planting must precede fertilizer nitrogen applications because of the late planting season.

When sidedressing sugarbeets, apply only the recommended amount of nitrogen fertilizer as determined by a soil test, apply the nitrogen as soon after planting as possible and reduce the recommended rate of nitrogen 10 pounds per acre for each week beyond May 20 that the fertilizer is being applied.

-more-

add 1--sidedressing nitrogen

To avoid burning of plant parts, apply liquid nitrogen materials when leaves are moist and cool and apply dry materials when leaves are dry. Also reduce the recommended rate of nitrogen 10 pounds per acre for each week beyond May 20 that the planting date is delayed.

A cold, wet spring in most of the Red River Valley has possibly resulted in nitrogen loss from soil surfaces, Torkelson says. Whether the nitrogen has moved a few inches below the surface or whether it has been lost to the atmosphere through denitrification processes, an additional application of 5-10 pounds of nitrogen per acre for early seedling growth can be justified on fields that have already received the full recommended nitrogen rate.

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Department of Information
and Agricultural Journalism
Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108
May 28, 1974

4-H NEWS

Immediate release

STATE 4-H JUNIOR LEADER,
FEDERATION MEETS SET IN JUNE

_____ 4-H'ers will represent _____ County at the
(number)
annual Junior Leader Conference June 17-21 in the 4-H Building on the Minnesota
State Fairgrounds, St. Paul.

The county voting delegate, _____ of _____,
(name) (town)
will participate in annual meeting of the State 4-H Federation at the University
of Minnesota's St. Paul Campus on the afternoon of June 17. Others planning to
attend from _____ County include (list names and hometowns).

More than 700 4-H'ers throughout the state are expected to attend the five-day
event. The theme for this year's conference is "Be'an Alive." Workshops will be
entitled "What the Heck," "What's Good About Me" and "I know what You Think I
Said, But ...". Other activities will include recreation, discussion groups, an
annual banquet, a Twins baseball game, a tour of the Twin Cities and a dance.

Mayor Robert M. Benedict of Bloomington, also the founder of the Teen Corps
of America, will keynote the conference on the morning of June 18. Heads of
several firms will be honored at the banquet on the evening of June 19, sponsored
by the Greater Minneapolis Chamber of Commerce.

Officers of the State 4-H Federation will be elected on the morning of June 21
in the 4-H Building on the State Fairgrounds.

-daz_

Department of Information
and Agricultural Journalism
Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108
May 28, 1974

Immediate release

MSC
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IN BRIEF. . . .

Computerized Soil Tests. A computerized soil testing program to aid homeowners in lawn and garden care is underway at the University of Minnesota.

Soil tests measure the relative nutrient status and guide in the making of recommendations for the efficient and safe use of fertilizer and lime. Recommendations for lawns, gardens, fruit and shade trees and shrubs will be made to accommodate the soil's needs while attempting to avoid environmental pollution through excessive chemical usage.

Information and materials for soil testing are available from the _____ County Extension Office and most garden centers. There is a three dollar fee for each sample tested. Samples can be delivered to Room 29 in the Soil Science Building or mailed to the Soil Testing Laboratory, University of Minnesota, St. Paul, Minnesota 55108.

* * * *

Fertilization Guide. The method of fertilizer application on lawns is as important as the grade used. Uneven color and growth result when the fertilizer is not spread evenly. "Burning" or temporary browning of leaves can also occur.

A guide for home ground fertilization to use with University of Minnesota soil tests is available in Soils Fact Sheet 7 (revised 1974), "Fertilizing the Home Lawn and Landscape Materials." It is available from the _____ County Extension Office or the Bulletin Room, University of Minnesota, St. Paul 55108.

* * * *

-more-

add 1--in brief

Nutrition Conference. Current information on animal and poultry nutrition will be presented at the two-day 35th annual Minnesota Nutrition Conference starting Sept. 16 at the Sheraton Motor Inn, Bloomington, Minn.

Some of the topics for the upcoming North Central regional meeting include cow-calf feeding programs, disease nutrition, dairy and horse nutrition and turkey feeding and management. Symposiums on minerals and factors affecting feed intake also are planned.

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Department of Information
and Agricultural Journalism
Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108
May 28, 1974

Immediate release

TOUR OF DAIRY FARMS
SET FOR MINNESOTANS

An opportunity to learn about the latest dairy technology and management practices in California is available to 48 Minnesota dairymen during the third annual Minnesota Dairy Tour Aug. 5-9.

The program includes visits to 14 outstanding dairy farms and an opportunity to hear nationally known dairy specialists tell how California dairymen have achieved prominence in the industry. The dairymen also will have opportunities to discuss dairying with Joe Conlin, University of Minnesota extension dairy specialist, and Russ Krech, Houston County extension agent.

The registration fee is \$325 per person and \$50 of that amount must be paid soon to hold the reservation. Registration is limited to the first 48 people sending in the advance fee or the full amount. For more information, contact the Office of Special Program, 405 Coffey Hall, University of Minnesota, St. Paul 55108 or phone (612) 373-0725.

Department of Information
and Agricultural Journalism
Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55106
May 28, 1974

Immediate release

MSC
4/1/74

FROST INJURES ALFALFA
IN SOUTHERN MINNESOTA

Many alfalfa stands in southern Minnesota were injured by freezing temperatures during the second week of May, Oliver E. Strand, extension agronomist at the University of Minnesota, said.

Leaf tissue damage with few stands showing damage to stems and growing points generally was true in several Waseca and Morris town area fields observed by agronomists.

In the alfalfa variety trial plots, several of the more winter hardy varieties, such as Vernal, Ramsey and Titan, showed the least freezing injury. Several moderately hardy varieties, such as Tempo and Saranac, showed moderate leaf dieback. Low spots in fields were the hardest hit and some of these low, wet areas where phytophthora root rot or other diseases had apparently weakened the stand, showed the greatest amount of injury.

In an alfalfa fertility trial at Waseca, stands that had been fertilized with adequate amounts of phosphorous and potassium generally had vigorous growth that was not affected by the frost. Thin stands generally showed more leaf injury.

In a time-of-cutting trial at Waseca, plots cut four times with the last cutting taken Sept. 7 suffered considerably more injury than plots cut three times with the last cutting taken by Sept. 1.

-more-

add 1--frost injures

University of Minnesota agronomists are advising farmers NOT to clip the stand now to remove injured alfalfa. Do not cut the alfalfa now as carbohydrate root reserves are at a low point when alfalfa is six to eight inches tall and serious injury to the stand could result. Most stands will recover and be ready to cut by the first or second week in June. On severely injured stands, do not cut them before they reach late bud to first bloom stage. Also, plan to let the second cutting come into half bloom before harvesting to allow the stand to build up lowered carbohydrate root reserves.

If fertility is low, it may also be desirable to broadcast fertilizer, such as 0-15-30 at 200 to 300 pounds per acre or an equivalent on injured stands after the first cutting to speed recovery and regrowth.

-daz-

Department of Information
and Agricultural Journalism
Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108
May 28, 1974

ATT: Extension Home Economists

MSC
GAZ
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Immediate release

CONVERSION TO METRICS
DELAYED IN HOUSE

Consumers and home economists who have been gearing up for conversion to the metric system, may have to put their plans on "hold."

The U.S. House of Representatives recently defeated a bill that would have blocked amendments to the conversion plan. These amendments would have extended the conversion period from ten to 15 years, provided loans to small businesses affected by conversion and made grants available to workers forced to invest in new equipment and to those laid off their jobs because of conversion.

Metric advocates said the amendments would encumber conversion with needless bureaucracy and financial "giveaways and handouts." They favored a study by the National Metric Conversion Board followed by the board's recommendations to Congress on timing and needed legislation leading to metric conversion.

Metric opponents said costs of conversion would be passed on to consumers. They accused the Department of Commerce of overlooking these costs in its study of metrics in the U.S.

Although representatives of both sides see "metrication" as inevitable eventually, the delay allows businesses additional time to plan their changes before a federal timetable is established. The American National Metric Council is laying groundwork for national coordination of metric conversion efforts. The Council expects to work closely with a government metric conversion board that probably will be formed when the changeover is imminent.

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Department of Information
and Agricultural Journalism
Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108
June 3, 1974

Immediate release

UM ISSUES 3-PART
PUBLICATION ON
PRE-OWNED HOUSES

When selecting a pre-owned house, obtain as much information as possible and avoid decisions based only on opinions and first impressions, William J. Angell, University of Minnesota extension housing specialist, says.

The house you buy will be sold "as is," so any deficiencies will become your problems unless you discover them before you buy and demand that they be corrected or the price reduced.

More than 100,000 Minnesota families this year are expected to purchase pre-owned houses, while less than 20,000 will buy or build new dwellings. Before you examine specific houses and investigate financing methods, remember that buying a pre-owned house is not wise for everyone, Angell says.

A three-part "Selection Guide for Pre-Owned Houses" has been prepared by Angell for the Agricultural Extension Service and is available from the Bulletin Room, University of Minnesota, St. Paul 55108 or from the _____ County Extension Office.

--Part 1, "Facts to Know About Buying," deals with advantages and disadvantages of pre-owned houses, family needs, wants and activities and information on costs.

--Part 2, "Obtaining Financing and Professional Assistance," provides a systematic method of selecting a pre-owned house. You'll want to read Part 1 first. Part 2 includes a checklist to complete before looking seriously at houses.

--Part 3, "Finding Your Best Buy," supplements the other two publications and includes a checklist that will help you evaluate the quality of houses you are looking at and know comparatively what you are buying.

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Department of Information
and Agricultural Journalism
Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108
June 3, 1974

Immediate release

IN BRIEF. . . .

Dry Cow Management. Some good dairymen could improve milk production even more by emphasizing good dry cow management, says a University of Minnesota dairy specialist. "Good dry cow management usually doesn't involve much expense. Rather it's a combination of many 'little' things," according to Mike Hutjens. A new fact sheet is available at the _____ County Extension Office on the subject. Ask for Dairy Husbandry Fact Sheet No. 11, "Feeding the Dry Cow."

* * * *

Farm Loans. The eight percent usury ceiling in Minnesota is drying up loans for farmers, according to University of Minnesota Agricultural Economist E. Fred Koller. Some insurance companies and other lenders have quit loaning money to farmers for real estate since they can get nine to 10 percent from business and industry.

* * * *

Inflation Hurts. The "inflation premium" is adding to farm interest rates, already made high by an unusually high demand for money along with a limited supply. Another factor is the "tremendous competition for money by business and government units which are issuing more bonds this year," says E. Fred Koller, agricultural economist at the University of Minnesota. Lenders don't want to lend money and get "cheap money" back five to 10 years from now--hence the "inflation premium."

* * * *

Land Contracts. Farmers buying real estate are reminded that land contracts offer some special advantages--if you can get one. "Land contracts offer special advantages since you need a smaller down payment. The owner carries the rest and can defer income for tax purposes over a 10-year period," according to E. Fred Koller, University of Minnesota agricultural economist.

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Department of Information
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Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108
June 3, 1974

Immediate release

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NEW ULM SWINE EVALUATION
OPEN HOUSE SET FOR JUNE 18

About 100 pens of Minnesota's leading swine breeding stock will be on display June 18 at the New Ulm swine evaluation station.

The day's activities will begin with a swine judging conference at 1 p.m., according to Jerry Hawton, extension livestock specialist at the University of Minnesota and conference chairman. Nationally known judges and breeders will appraise the classes of breeding and market stock.

The afternoon will continue with a swine testing open forum, says C. J. Christians, extension livestock specialist at the University of Minnesota and test station supervisor. Producers are encouraged to voice their opinions on future conduct of performance tested boar sales, development of an addition to the test station for boar testing, plus employment of a new test station manager and possibly an on-the-farm field supervisor.

An on-the-hoof evaluation contest will be available to all attending. Actual carcass cutout data will be used for the final placing. Individuals who evaluate the live hogs closest to the actual cutout information will receive \$150 worth of certificate credit to be used at any of the Minnesota Pork Producers' Association performance tested boar sales. Awards are: first prize, \$50; second, \$40; third, \$30; fourth, \$20; and fifth, \$10.

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Department of Information
and Agricultural Journalism
Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108
June 3, 1974

Immediate release

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ECONOMIST EXPECTS
GROWING EXODUS OF
SMALL FEEDERS

Small beef cattle feeders probably will quit in larger numbers than ever during the next few years, Paul R. Hasbargen, University of Minnesota extension economist, says.

"Increasing technical and financial management skills required will make it even more difficult for the small farmer feeder to be competitive. To justify the time input necessary to become competitive would require expansion to 300 to 500 head," the economist adds.

Many small feeders will be discouraged by the high investment costs needed for modern feeding facilities. Cash flow payback considerations, the question of going deeper into debt and the drop in real net worth that often accompanies new facility investment will be discouraging, Hasbargen says.

Some small operators may lose interest in beef cattle feeding if returns from crop production continue to look more favorable --which could happen if the world food situation remains in precarious balance.

Although grain prices are expected to move down next year from the 1973-74 levels, cash grain sales still look more profitable than cattle production.

On the other hand, some recent developments have improved the competitive position of small Corn Belt feedlots. Higher fuel and fertilizer costs will make cattle feeding more complementary on Corn Belt farms than in the High Plains area. Farm feedlots that produce their own corn can store it wet, saving drying costs, and manure can be used to fertilize the crop, another substantial savings, he adds.

add 1--economist expects

A trend toward larger cattle feeder operations in recent years is evident with 1,000-head capacity lots first accounting for half of all feedlot marketings in 1969. By 1973 they accounted for 65 percent of all marketings in 23 states. Thirty-five percent of all fed cattle marketed last year came from 206 lots of more than 16,000-head capacity and these lots marketed as many cattle as the 146,000 lots of less than 1,000 head.

Hasbargen urges all small feeders to examine their past performance records. "Those with demonstrated ability to control feed costs and show satisfactory returns in cattle feeding may want to expand. Others may want to consider using their roughage supplies in a growing operation, while some others will quit," he concluded.

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Department of Information
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Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108
June 3, 1974

Immediate release

MSC
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DON'T STORE GAS
IN AUTO OR HOME

Gasoline should never be stored in car trunk or near living quarters.

"Summer plans for longer auto trips, boating or lawn cutting may prompt one to buy and store extra gasoline," says John True, extension agricultural engineer with the Agricultural Extension Service at the University of Minnesota.

"But dangers of storing gas may outweigh the possible need." There is no safe way to store extra gas in home or car. Home supplies should be limited to a gallon or two, in approved metal containers, stored in a garage or shed with good air drainage. Gasoline fumes are heavier than air and will accumulate in low spots such as a basement.

Gasoline is also a poisonous substance that can cause death if swallowed or inhaled in sufficient quantity, he says. For this reason, gas should never be siphoned by mouth.

Gasoline required for farm or business use must be stored in well-ventilated areas in locked safety containers approved by a recognized testing laboratory.

If gasoline is swallowed by accident, call a physician immediately. Do not attempt to induce vomiting.

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Department of Information
and Agricultural Journalism
Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108
June 3, 1974

4-H NEWS

Immediate release

COUNTY FAIR ARTS-IN
OFFERS NEW EXPERIENCE

A new experience in creative fun is being offered this year with the _____
County Fair Arts-In for Teens, _____ at the _____ County
(dates)
Fairgrounds in _____.
(town)

Teenagers who have an inclination to create and be resourceful are invited
to participate. The County Fair Arts-In is a live-in, share-in and work-in
experience guaranteed to bring excitement, visual pleasure and greater sense of
participation in our great county fair.

For more information, contact _____ at the _____ County
Extension Office, _____,
(phone) (address)

-daz-

MSC
8 A27p

Department of Information
and Agricultural Journalism
Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101
June 3, 1974

(First in 4-part series. Future stories
will deal with leading, clipping, and
procedures at fair time)

START FITTING
DAIRY HEIFERS

4-H dairy project members planning to show their heifers at county fairs should have the animals in the barn and start giving them some attention by early June.

"One of the most important first steps is to develop a good feeding program for your animal, based on her present condition," says Mike Hutjens, extension dairy specialist at the University of Minnesota.

Get the heifer into the barn and feed her plenty of hay to "body her down" so she will show more depth of body by county fair time. Amount of grain to feed depends on the animal's condition.

"Guard against getting your heifer too fat," Hutjens emphasizes. If your animal is showing excess flesh (coarse shouldered, patchy pin bones and throaty), get her off grain onto a low maintenance ration.

On the other hand, if she's skinny and frail, challenge her with extra grain, about five to seven pounds per day.

If your animal is in about the right condition now, feed one to two pounds of grain daily, depending on roughage quality. Include forage on a free choice basis. With good quality forage, home grown grains are sufficient for growing dairy heifers, Hutjens says.

Start grooming the animal to get her hair coat in good shape by fair time. Start daily brushing with a soft brush and use a currycomb to remove manure.

add 1--start fitting dairy heifers

Now is the time to make a decision on whether to clip the animal's entire body. If the animal is rough and still showing last winter's hair coat, clip her body right away so there's time for hair to grow out. "But clipping all over is a poor excuse for elbow grease," Hutjens emphasizes. Regular brushing is the best procedure if the animal's hair coat isn't long and rough at the start of the fitting period. You may also wish to blanket your animal to help get her hair coat in condition.

Start shaping the animal's hooves by removing extra growth. It's important to start this early so the animal's foot has time to recover by fair time in case you trim her too close. Have parents and adult dairy leaders give you a hand on hoof trimming.

Also start training the calf to lead. Put a halter on and walk her daily so she starts getting used to you.

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Next: Training the Dairy Calf to Lead

MSC
8A27p

Department of Information
and Agricultural Journalism
Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108
June 3, 1974

ATT: Extension Home Economists
Immediate release

COVER YOUR WINDOWS
FOR SUMMER COMFORT
AND ENERGY SAVINGS

As welcome as sunshine is after a long, gray winter, don't overdo or you may suffer from a hot, stuffy house or overburden your airconditioning to make up for heat entering through exposed glass. Linda Reece, extension interior design and furnishings specialist at the University of Minnesota, says cooling a room with uncovered windows may take 15 to 35 percent more energy, depending on what direction the windows face.

"Almost any kind of window covering--draperies, shades or blinds--will keep a room cooler during hot summer days," says Ms. Reece. "The important thing is to close them during the hottest part of the day."

Lined draperies insulate against incoming heat and thermal linings serve double duty by keeping your home cooler in the summer and preventing heat loss in the winter.

Homeowners who are building or remodeling may want to consider installing reflective window glass, particularly on south exposures where glare can be a year-round problem. Studies show that this glass reduces solar heat coming through windows by 40 to 70 percent.

The most effective cooling measures begin outside your house. Awnings, louvered sun screens, overhangs and trees can cut solar heat by as much as 80 percent. They help keep nonairconditioned homes more comfortable and cut the risks of "brown-outs" and power shortages due to widespread airconditioning, particularly during midday hours when homes and businesses compete for power to cool buildings.

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Department of Information
and Agricultural Journalism
Institute of Agriculture
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108
June 6, 1974

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7/1/74

RURAL MEDIA PRAISED FOR ROLE

Rural and community newspapers and other local media today play an increasingly important part in maintaining rural American communities and agriculture. Too often their important contributions are overlooked both nationally and locally, according to Harold B. Swanson, long-time rural journalist at the University of Minnesota.

Swanson, who has been working closely with rural press, radio, and other media for 25 years, made this statement as he resigned his post as head of the Department of Information and Agricultural Journalism and as program director of communications for the University's Agricultural Extension Service.

He will relinquish all administrative duties to devote full time to teaching agricultural journalism and working with county agents and other University faculty on communications problems. This will also allow him to continue his close relationship with rural people, communities and agriculture.

He has served in his present capacity since 1948. This included administering all news, radio, TV, publications, agricultural journalism teaching, visual aids, and other support for teaching in the Agricultural Extension Service and other units of the Institute of Agriculture, Forestry and Home Economics. He also has been the advertising manager of the Plainview, Minnesota News and writer for an army newspaper.

A graduate of Maple Lake High School, Swanson received his B.A. degree in journalism and M.S. degree in agricultural economics from the University of Minnesota and his Ph.D. degree in adult education from the University of Wisconsin.

He has been president of the American Association of Agricultural College Editors, vice-president of Extension Journal, Inc., vice-president of the North Central Chapter of the National Agricultural Marketing Association and president of the Minnesota Adult Education Association.

In 1974, he was named one of Minnesota's five outstanding adult educators and received the outstanding achievement award of the Minnesota Adult Education Association.

Swanson has been named honorary state farmer by the Minnesota Association of Future Farmers of America. In 1963, he was presented the Superior Service Award of the U.S. Department of Agriculture by vice-president Lyndon Johnson.

Swanson is the author of hundreds of articles for popular magazines and professional journals and is the author of the book Looking Forward to a Career in Agriculture. He has spoken throughout the nation on communications and adult education.

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Department of Information
and Agricultural Journalism
Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108
June 10, 1974

(Last in series)

MSC
8A27p

BE PREPARED FOR
DAIRY SHOW DAY

"On show day morning, 4-H dairy project members should follow the same routine that was used at home concerning feeding, watering, bedding and grooming," advises Mike Hutjens, extension dairy specialist at the University of Minnesota.

Water normally on show day morning, but limit grain to encourage hay intake to maintain body depth. You can feed damp beet pulp, but it's not necessary. Just before going into the ring, give your animal a final drink of water, but watch her sides (good spring of rib, but not rounded). If your animal dislikes the water, add a little molasses to it to cover up chlorine, mineral and other tastes. You may do this at home to get your animal used to molasses in the water.

And before going into the ring, have all health, registration and entry papers. Also know when the show begins and what breeds will be shown first. Know the birth date of your animal. If you're showing a yearling or cow, know breeding and due dates, freshening dates and production levels.

Be prompt and ready to go into the show ring with the correct animal. Watch the judge at all times and follow his directions closely. Present your animal to her best advantage, moving her slowly and keeping her between you and the judge. Once you are called in to line up, move smartly, but do not run. Don't cut in front of someone who is placed above you.

Above all, be a good showman--a modest winner and a gracious loser. "You'll make some mistakes and learn more about showing your animals as you grow up and show dairy cattle. This is one purpose of fitting and showing dairy cattle," Hutjens concludes.

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MSC
8A27P

Department of Information
and Agricultural Journalism
Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108
June 10, 1974

(Third in series)

CLIPPING 4-H
DAIRY ANIMALS

You can clip your 4-H dairy animal when you begin grooming six to eight weeks before fair time to get some experience. "But clip her again on the tail, legs, head, neck and udder one week before the show," recommends Mike Hutjens, extension dairyman at the University of Minnesota.

"Clipping the entire body is not recommended unless your animal has an extremely rough hair coat, excess sun bleaching or has not lost her winter coat," Hutjens says. Normally, daily brushing will give your animal a smooth hair coat. "Clipping is not a substitute for elbow grease," Hutjens emphasizes. Don't clip the animal's entire body if your show is less than two months away.

Help your animal get accustomed to the clipper and its noise by beginning at the tail and working forward. Careful clipping can improve the appearance of your animal. For example leave long hair in low areas, remove all the hair on high spots and leave hair on the belly to give the appearance of more body depth.

Clip the tail, leaving the switch long and large. Start at the top of the switch and clip up the tail against the grain of the hair to within four to five inches of the top of the tail head. Clip the tail head with the grain of the hair (blending) being careful not to call attention to defects in the rump region. If there is a high area, clip closely. If a low point exists, leave the hair.

-more-

add 1--clipping 4-H dairy animals

The side and back of the rear legs from the hock down should be clipped closely against the grain of the hair. Take advantage of natural lines and attempt to correct the legs by carefully removing hair. There is a blood vein in the hock region that makes an excellent point to blend. The back of the legs should be clipped in a straight line to the point of the pin bones.

Clip the entire udder on cows to bring out veining and show its quality. Don't clip the belly of calves or heifers since it makes the animals appear shallow bodied. Extremely long wooly hair can be removed by holding the clipper away from the body to clip the hair. The belly on cows should be clipped only enough to show milk veins to advantage.

The head and neck should be clipped closely by clipping against the grain of the hair. Clip the area forward of a line formed by the point of the shoulders and the front of the withers. The natural crease formed by the neck and shoulders can be used to blend the long hair. Take care--animals are sensitive to the clipper around the head and may throw their head.

Remove hair from inside the ear. If she won't allow the clipper, use a scissors to clip the long hair in the ear. Be careful with the scissors!

Lubricate your clipper as you are clipping by dipping the blades in a shallow wide mouth can of light oil or kerosene to remove dirt, dust, and minimize wear and dulling of the blades.

If you do a good job of clipping, there should be no visible lines where blending can be seen.

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MSC
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Department of Information
and Agricultural Journalism
Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108
June 10, 1974

(Second in series)

4-H DAIRYMEN:
TRAIN ANIMALS
FOR SHOWING

Start training 4-H dairy project calves to lead now so that you and the animal learn to work as a team by county fair time.

"Get your animal used to the halter you'll be using in the show ring," says Mike Hutjens, extension dairy specialist at the University of Minnesota.

Train the animal to walk slowly in a clock-wise direction, always keeping the animal between you and the judge. Keep the lead strap on the left side of the animal, loosely coiled in one hand (not wrapped tightly around your hand though). The other hand should grasp the halter next to the head of your animal so you can control her.

"You should be able to walk forward and backward with your animal under control so you can see the judge at all times," Hutjens says. When you stop your animal, have her feet positioned correctly. For calves and heifers, the front feet should be parallel or straight across from each other. The hind foot nearest the judge (usually the right leg) should be back--this makes the heifer look long and stretchy.

For cows, the front feet are parallel, but the hind foot nearest the judge is forward. This allows the judge to see the rear and fore udder attachments.

All movements and positioning of the animal and her feet should be done with halter commands, not your feet. Allow two to four feet between you and the animal ahead when circling.

"When you're called in by the judge, line up closely to the animal ahead of you--there's less chance of the judge placing another animal above you," Hutjens says. Never stop your animal with her front feet in a hole or going down hill--it makes her look smaller and less upstanding and powerful.

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Department of Information
and Agricultural Journalism
Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108
June 10, 1974

ATT: Extension Home Economists

Immediate release

MSC
6A27p

PROPER PESTICIDE STORAGE
CRUCIAL DURING SUMMER

With the gardening season here, many homes and backyard sheds include quantities of pesticides that could spell bloom to the yard, but doom to the unsuspecting child or pet who swallows some.

More than 100,000 accidental poisonings occur in and around the home each year, according to the National Clearinghouse for Poison Control Centers. Many of these involve children and could have been avoided with proper storage precautions.

To avoid tragedies with stored pesticides, follow these precautions:

- * Read the pesticide label carefully and follow the steps for safe use.
- * Never stir any chemical solution with your hands. Wash clothing and equipment thoroughly after use.
- * Don't eat, drink or smoke while mixing or applying pesticides.
- * Rinse and drain all empty pesticide containers.
- * Crush empty pesticide containers. Do not burn the containers that held volatile substances such as 2, 4-D.
- * When storing pesticides, protect the labels so they won't become illegible. Never use unlabeled pesticides.
- * Apply pesticides on quiet days when wind is at a minimum and blowing away from susceptible plants.
- * Buy only as much pesticide as you need for a single season.

Although pesticides can be valuable allies in the garden, their safe use is the responsibility of every purchaser. Some products retain their potency long after they are applied and they should be treated with respect for their dangerous nature.

If you must store pesticides, be certain they are locked up and out of reach of children and pets. A sturdy locked cabinet in a toolshed that is isolated from the house is an ideal storage spot.

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Department of Information
and Agricultural Journalism
Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108
June 10, 1974

Immediate release

MSC
GAZ7P

IN BRIEF. . . .

Leaf Problem. Many hardwood trees in Southern Minnesota may not be as handsome as they should be this spring due to a wide variety of leaf spot diseases called anthracnose.

University of Minnesota Extension Plant Pathologist Ward Stienstra says this disease will not cause serious problems. The tree may lose the leaves it has, but a new crop of leaves will be produced. Fungi infect host leaves in the spring during cool moist, wet periods. Spots, which are dead areas in the leaf, appear. When infection is heavy the spots may cause the leaf to fall.

Leaf drop also may occur when wind and rain break weak petioles of newly formed leaves. Squirrels cause large number of leaves to fall when feeding on tree seeds.

* * * *

Fly Control. Fly control in beef and dairy herds is the topic of two newly revised publications. The publications point to the need for good sanitation and management practices in both dairy and beef enterprises. Ask for Entomology Fact Sheet No. 35, "Fly Control for the Dairy Herd," or No. 36, "Fly Control for Beef Animals." They're available from the _____ County Extension Office, or the Bulletin Room, University of Minnesota, St. Paul 55108.

* * * *

Ant Control. Several insecticides will kill ants, but the trick is getting the two together, according to a newly revised University of Minnesota publication. The quickest, surest way to control ants is to treat their nests. Nests will be located in different places, depending on the kind of ants involved. For more information, get a copy of Entomology Fact Sheet No. 19, "What to do About Ants," from the _____ County Extension Office. Or, write to the Bulletin Room, University of Minnesota, St. Paul 55108.

* * * *

-more-

add 1--in brief

Lawn Insects. If insects are a nuisance on your lawn, a newly revised University of Minnesota publication should help. The publication lists chemical controls for white grubs, sod webworms, cutworms, armyworms and leafhoppers. Ask for Entomology Fact Sheet No. 22, "Controlling Lawn and Turf Insects." It's available from the _____ County Extension Office or the Bulletin Room, University of Minnesota, St. Paul 55108.

* * * *

Vegetable Diseases. You can't control most vegetable diseases with chemicals during the growing season, a newly revised University of Minnesota publication points out. Preventive measures, such as a long-range program of crop rotation are most important. Ask your _____ County Extension Office for a copy of Plant Pathology Fact Sheet, No. 9, Controlling Diseases in the Home Vegetable Garden. Or, write to the Bulletin Room, University of Minnesota, St. Paul 55108.

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Department of Information
and Agricultural Journalism
Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108
June 10, 1974

Immediate release

MSC
gA27p

UM CROPS, SOILS
FIELD DAYS SET

Crops and soils field days featuring the latest research from the University of Minnesota's Agricultural Experiment Station are scheduled for seven locations in June and July.

Dates and highlights:

--June 25, Southern Experiment, Waseca. The new dairy housing facility will be highlighted. Other research tours include weed control in corn and soybeans; spring wheat fertilization, weed control and diseases; oats, alfalfa and winter wheat; and corn management, tillage and animal waste management. Tours will run from 8:30 a.m. until 3:30 p.m.

--June 26, Southwest Experiment Station, Lamberton. Highlights will include crop variety trials, tillage experiments, weed control, hail experiments and rootworm studies. Tours run from 9 a.m. until 2:30 p.m.

--June 28, Rosemount Experiment Station. Weed control will be highlighted. Demonstration plots on commercially available herbicides have been relocated from the Dakota County Fairgrounds in Farmington to the Rosemount Station. Special corn, soybean and small grain plots have been prepared to demonstrate and aid identification of herbicide injury to crops. The event runs from 2 p.m. until 7 p.m.

--July 11, West Central Experiment Station, Morris. Tour stops will include small grain varietal trials and fertilization, weed control in corn and soybeans and corn and forage fertilization. A horticulture tour will be at 10:30 a.m. Times for the field day are 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

-more-

add 1--um crops

--July 17, Northwest Experiment Station, Crookston. On display will be fertilization with small grains, sugar beet rotation, grain varieties, wheat competition studies, wild oats studies, sunflowers, breeding nurseries for wheat, oats, barley and flax and in the afternoon a special tour of the potato breeding plots and alfalfa plots. Tours will run from 8:15 a.m. until 2:30 p.m.

--July 18, North Central Experiment Station, Grand Rapids. Wagon tours will be to the agronomy plots and garden area in the morning. Afternoon tours will be conducted to the wild rice area, the potato and blueberry projects and the forestry research plots. Livestock areas will be open to the public.

--July 23, Sand Plain Experimental Field, Elk River. Highlights include warm water research, blueberry and potato research, irrigation frequency studies with field corn, new and unusual crops research and herbicide-potato variety interaction studies.

-daz-

Department of Information
and Agricultural Journalism
Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108
June 17, 1974

4-H NEWS

Immediate release

JAPAN-MINNESOTA
YOUTH EXCHANGE
SET FOR SUMMER

Greater understanding among people of differing cultures is expected to result after an exchange between Minnesota and Japanese youngsters and contacts with host families from mid-July through mid-August.

About 50 Minnesota 4-H'ers and adults will visit host families in Japan during the Japan Labo-Minnesota 4-H Exchange. At the same time, Minnesotans will reciprocate by hosting 57 Japanese young people. Last summer 45 Japanese youngsters, ages 12 through 17, and eight tutors were hosted for four weeks by Minnesotans.

4-H'ers from _____ County scheduled to travel to Japan include:

(Agents: list names, addresses. See enclosed list).

Families in _____ County who plan to host Japanese youngsters include:

The exchange is sponsored by the University of Minnesota's Agricultural Extension Service, 4-H Youth Development Program and by the Labo Exchange Foundation of Japan. Both the Extension Service and the Labo Foundation are concerned with bettering international relations and deepening cross-cultural understanding through these exchange programs.

-daz-

MINNESOTA 4-H DELEGATES FOR JAPAN LABO EXCHANGE

| Name and Address | Name and Address |
|--|---|
| 1. Blaha, Rosanne Alma R.R. #2, Litchfield | 19. Lueck, Christine K. Box 323, Lafayette |
| 2. Brooks, Joni Kay R.R. #1, Byron | 20. Lutterman, William P. Rural Route, Dodge Center |
| 3. Clark, Robin Lee R.R. #1, Dover | 21. Mann, Wendy Marie R.R.#1, Box 184, Gilbert |
| 4. Collen, Julie Ann 1620 2nd Avenue, Anoka | 22. Matz, DeEtta Marie R.R.#3, Hayward |
| 5. Davidson, Mary E. R.R.#1, Floodwood | 23. Nelson, Coleen A. R.R.#2, Box 67, Nicollet |
| 6. Davis, Tamara Dawn 7420 Melody Drive, Fridley | 24. Nelson, Jennifer L. 895 73rd Ave. N.E. Fridley |
| 7. Delzer, Gayle E. R.R.#1, Box 211, Kasson | 25. Nuessmeier, Kenneth R.R.#2, Arlington |
| 8. Delzer, Gwen Lynn R.R.#1, Box 211, Kasson | 26. Pappenfus, Bettyann R.R.#2, Oak Park |
| 9. Dorschner, Connie M. R.R.#1, Box 219, Kasson | 27. Paul, John William R.R.#2, Box 221, Belle Plaine |
| 10. Eckberg, Barbara J. R.R.#1, Lafayette | 28. Pettey, Alan Dean Box 91, Mantorville |
| 11. Gehring, Douglas W. R.R.#1, Waseca | 29. Pettey, Jean Marie Box 91, Mantorville |
| 12. Groehler, Loren J. R.R.#2, Winthrop | 30. Riley, Terry Floodwood, MN |
| 13. Hass, Lisa LeeAnn Box 73, Claremont | 31. Roy, Craig Edward R.R.#3, Northfield |
| 14. Jaus, Linda Marie R.R.#1, Gibbon | 32. Schultz, Melody M. R.R.#2, Nicollet |
| 15. Johnson, Andrea R. R.R.#1, Box 144A, Litchfield | 33. Severson, Terry Lee R.R.#2, Hayfield |
| 16. Johnson, Pamela M. R.R.#1, Lafayette | 34. Sorenson, Becky Sue R.R.#1, Ada |
| 17. Knudson, Christine A. R.R.#1, Dodge Center | 35. Stark, Karlene H. 307 5th St. N.W., Kasson |
| 18. Kresl, Michelle M. 431 Jackson, Crookston | 36. Stark, Marlene L. R.R.#2, Gibbon |

add 1--Minnesota 4-H delegates

Name and Address

37. Strehlow, Kimberly
R.R.#1, Box 117, Gilbert
38. Strobel, Ken C.
R.R.#1, Box 62, Henderson
39. Sutter, Janice Kay
R.R. #4, Waseca
40. Trahms, Dorothy Ann
R.R.#3, Box 337, Janesville
41. Waldoch, KathyAnn
1001 Main St., Lino Lakes
42. Wherry, Cindy Sue
R.R.#2, LeRoy
43. Widdifield, Vicki L.
R.R.#3, St. Peter
44. Winsel, Ken M.
Woodstock
45. Woods, Linda Carol
R.R.#2, Winthrop

Department of Information
and Agricultural Journalism
Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108
June 17, 1974

ATT: Extension Home Economists

Immediate release

MSC
8A21P

**COOL SUMMER KNITS
REQUIRE SEWING CARE**

Lightweight single knits are ideal fabrics for easy care warm weather fashions, but they may offer some surprises to the uninitiated seamstress, says Lois Ingels, extension clothing specialist at the University of Minnesota.

When buying single knits, expect shrinkage particularly if the fabric has a high percentage of cotton. If it's 100 percent cotton knit, buy an extra three or four inches of material for each yard required, Ms. Ingels suggests.

Choose a pattern with simple lines that will be suitable for medium or lightweight fabric. Styles that depend on fabric firmness for shaping, such as A-line skirts, are not suited for most single knits. If the knit is quite stretchy, check the stretch gauge given on many patterns, Ms. Ingels says.

Preshrink the fabric. If it's washable, wash and dry it as you would the finished garment. Have "dry clean only" knits steamed at a cleaners for preshrinking.

Once the fabric is preshrunk, pin pattern pieces to the wrong side to control the natural "roll" of cut edges toward the right side of the knit. This same rolling tendency can produce bulky seams unless the seamstress uses some preventive measures in sewing a single knit garment, Ms. Ingels says.

She suggests joining seams with a double row of straight or zigzag stitching and then trimming the seam to one-fourth inch. If your machine offers an overedge stitch, use it and then trim the seam to one-fourth inch. A fourth method is to use a single row of straight stitching, press the seam open and stitch again about one-fourth inch from the seam edge.

Some types of zippers may be too stiff for use with supple single knits. Ms. Ingels recommends a lightweight, flexible zipper such as a coil type, particularly if the garment is designed with the zipper lying over a body curve.

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Department of Information
and Agricultural Journalism
Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108
June 17, 1974

Immediate release

IN BRIEF. . . .

Pasture Renovation. Minnesota research showed that renovated pastures produced an average of 140 pounds more beef per acre. And you can expect comparable results with dairy cattle, a newly revised University of Minnesota publication points out. Ask your county extension agent for a copy of Agronomy Fact Sheet No. 18, "Pasture Renovation."

* * * *

Grain Marketing. An up-to-date list of information sources about the grain market is contained in a University of Minnesota publication. The publication lists quick sources of comprehensive information about the grain market. Ask your county extension agent for a copy of Agricultural Economics 9, "Grain Market Information."

* * * *

Fly Control. Fly control on beef and dairy farms starts with good sanitation and management practices. Chemical treatments have little value unless fly breeding places are not cleaned up. More information is available from the county extension office.

* * * *

Cankerworms. The best time to spray trees for cankerworm control is before the leaves are badly damaged. Spray as soon as the leaves open early in the spring and before 50 percent of the leaf surface is consumed by the cankerworms.

It probably is not practical for home gardeners to spray large boulevard trees since they do not have the equipment to cover the entire tree. Home gardeners may have equipment to spray small ornamental and fruit trees.

For more information, get Entomology Fact Sheet 21, "Cankerworms," from the Bulletin Room, University of Minnesota, St. Paul 55108 or from your county extension office.

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Department of Information
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Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108
June 17, 1974

Immediate release

M.C.
A-7

CONSERVE GASOLINE
IN SUMMER TRAVELS

The need to conserve gasoline is a fact of life these days, even though there has been an easing of our fuel shortage.

Conservation of energy should still receive top priority, especially for persons planning a summer trip, says John True, extension agricultural engineer at the University of Minnesota.

The Federal Energy Office has suggested that Americans plan for reasonable summer vacations. Here are some tips on how to stretch gasoline mileage on your vacation trip and when you're driving to and from work.

Reduce your speed on the highway. Use the speed that gives you the greatest economy. This varies between car models, but it usually occurs between 50 and 60 miles per hour. Gas consumption generally increases significantly above 50.

Drive smoothly with gentle starts and stops. Sudden bursts of speed, fast getaways and jerky lane changes require the engine to use extra gas. Plan ahead for red lights, stop signs and bogged down, congested traffic. Press the accelerator down only as far as is necessary to reach a normal speed. Quickly pressing it to the floor puts an excessive amount of gasoline into the engine. Build up to a higher speed before climbing hills and long grades.

Don't pump the accelerator or race the engine when the car is not in motion. It wastes gasoline. Use the brake pedal rather than the accelerator to hold your car in place on a hill. When you stop the car, don't idle the engine for more than a minute. If you are waiting for someone, turn off the engine. It takes less gasoline to restart the car than it does to idle it.

Car maintenance plays an important part in stretching gasoline. Buy slightly less than a tank full. This will prevent wasteful overflow, allowing room for fuel expansion.

add 1--conserve gasoline

Use the proper grade of engine oil recommended by your car manufacturer. Lubricants that are too thick require more power and that means more gasoline. Check tire pressures at least monthly. Under inflated tires put an extra drag on the engine in the form of more rolling resistance, thus requiring it to use more gasoline.

Keep your car engine tuned, True adds, according to the specifications of the manufacturer. Some of the more important points in this regard are:

--Replace worn spark plugs and ignition points as needed.

--Clean or replace the positive crank case ventilation valve.

--Set the timing to the manufacturer's specifications.

--Check the ignition advance mechanism.

--Remember, True says, as you pack for the trip, a lighter car uses less gasoline. Eliminate any unnecessary weight in your car such as tools, extra spare tires, etc. in the trunk. Pack light. Such attachments as bicycle racks, hang-on luggage, etc., increase wind resistance.

Finally, travel during non-peak traffic hours whenever possible and use routes which have a minimum number of traffic lights and stop signs.

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Department of Information
and Agricultural Journalism
Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108
June 20, 1974

MSC
2/24/74
"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 (July-December 1974)

- July 1-2 Dutch Elm Disease and Oak Wilt Workshop, North Star Ballroom, St. Paul Campus. To provide municipal tree inspectors with information concerning Dutch elm disease and oak wilt, to aid them in understanding the diseases so that they may better identify these respective diseases, their hosts, and the treatment and control programs.*RM
- July 9-11 Dutch Elm Disease Workshop, July 9, Rochester, Holiday Inn South; July 10, Mankato, Happy Chef; July 11, Marshall, Ramada Inn. To provide municipal tree inspectors with information concerning Dutch elm disease and to aid them in understanding the disease so that they may better identify it, its hosts, and treatment and control programs.*RM
- July 8-11 Articulation in Agricultural Education, 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.*CN
- July 11, 17-18 Branch Station Crops and Soil Field Days. July 11, Morris Experiment Station; July 17, Crookston Experiment Station; and July 18, Grand Rapids Experiment Station. For people to see the research facilities and the range of programs at the branch stations.+
- July 19 Forage Information Day, Crookston Experiment Station. Information about different forages used, etc., at the Northwest Experiment Station.+
- July 28-August 9 United States Army Reserve Research & Development Update 1974 Symposium, Curtis Hotel, Minneapolis and University of Minnesota, St. Paul Campus. To provide Army Reserve personnel assigned to Research and Development Mob Des units in the U.S. a two-week R&D effort during their annual training 1974 tour.*CN
- August 5-9 Minnesota Dairy Tour, San Francisco, Modesto, Stockton and Santa Rosa, California. To acquaint Minnesota dairymen with the latest dairy technology and management practices in California. For Minnesota dairy farm operators and their wives.*CW
- Sept. 7-8 Sectional Fire School, Hibbing. A basic firefighting course to provide firemen in the northeast region of Minnesota with the latest basic firefighting techniques and procedures.*PS
- Sept. 10 Corn and Soybean Day, Southern Experiment Station at Waseca. Intended for farmers and others interested in crop production.+

add 1--special short course schedule

- Sept. 12-13 Sanitarian's Conference, North Star Ballroom, Student Center, St. Paul Campus. To discuss developments in dairy and food plant sanitation, quality control, and field service work as an update for sanitarians working in the field of milk, food and environmental sanitation. For municipal, state and federal health officials, food plant management, and food plant fieldmen.*X
- Sept. 16-17 Minnesota Nutrition Conference, Sheraton Motor Inn, Bloomington, Minn. A north central area regional conference for animal nutritionists. Major emphasis is on nutrition topics of current interest for animal nutritionists representing producers, industry, universities, and research.*GW
- Sept. 16-20 Fungi in Feeds and Foods, Plant Pathology Building, St. Paul Campus. A course designed for people in industry and in educational institutions who are concerned with how fungi affects the quality of feeds and foods. The laboratory lecture course will concentrate on the identification of fungi commonly found in feed and food products, their dissemination, conditions for optimum growth and their control.*RM
- Sept. 26 Thirteenth Annual Meeting and Conference of the North Central Cheese Industries Association, Hyatt Lodge, 41 North 10th Street, Minneapolis. Program portion of meeting directed toward technology used in the manufacture of cheese. For individuals interested in the manufacture of cheese and problems associated therewith.*X
- Sept. 30-
Oct. 4 Elementary Teachers Environmental Workshop, location to be announced. To increase awareness of interrelationship of natural resources and to provide training for teachers in how to teach about ecology to their students in order to foster educational, attitudinal and behavioral changes necessary for environmental understanding. For elementary teachers from the greater metropolitan area and central district of Minnesota.*PS
- October 3 Beef Cattlemen's Institute at Crookston Experiment Station, for beef raisers, agri-businessmen, etc.+
- October 12 Ruffed Grouse Symposium, Bald Eagle Center near Cass Lake. A discussion of life cycles, habitat, food habits, predator relationships, hunting, and forest management practices as related to the Ruffed Grouse. For teachers, game managers, land managers, sportsmen, and any others interested in the ruffed grouse.*PS
- October 22,
24-25 Beginning Practitioner Farm and Individual Income Tax Short Course for 1974. October 22, Detroit Lakes, Erie Junior Motel; October 24, Marshall, Ramada Inn; October 25, Owatonna, Owatonna Inn. A one-day short course designed for beginning income tax practitioners. Basic principles and practices will be covered regarding Minnesota state and federal income tax filing procedures. For beginning income tax practitioners and persons assisting in the preparation of tax forms.*CN
- Oct. 24-25 Annual Fall Conference for Veterinarians, location to be announced. Small and large animal seminars for practicing veterinarians (Minn. and surrounding states), faculty, College of Veterinary Medicine, and senior veterinary students.*CN

add 2--special short course schedule

- Nov. 18-20 Farm and Individual Income Tax Short Course, Radisson Downtown Hotel, Minneapolis. To improve the skills of those preparing income tax returns. To increase awareness and understanding of the issues of taxation in Minnesota and in the United States. For tax practitioners and consultants, accountants, lawyers, bankers, insurance agents, real estate agents, educators and others involved in preparing income tax returns.*CN
- Dec. 10-11 Beef Feeders Day, December 10, SW Experiment Station at Lamberton, for Jackson County, Sioux Valley; December 11, SW Experiment Station at Lamberton for Lyon County, Ramada Inn. Beef cattle feeders and producers will hear results of beef cattle research.†
- Dec. 13 Beef Cattle Day, Crookston Experiment Station. Seminars for beef raisers.†

*For further information call Office of Special Programs

| | | | |
|----------------------|----------------|---|---|
| VF--Vern Freeh | (612) 373-0725 | | |
| CN--Curtis Norenberg | " | " | " |
| RM--Richard Meronuck | " | " | " |
| GW--Gerald Wagner | " | " | " |
| PS--Paul Stegmeir | " | " | " |

†For further information call the Experiment or Research Station designated.

xFor further information call Allen S. Levine (612) 373-1082

Department of Information
and Agricultural Journalism
Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108
June 24, 1974

ATT: Extension Home Economists

Immediate release

MSC
2/27/74

HOME FREEZER SALES
LEAD APPLIANCE TRENDS

Home freezers were "in" in 1973, and their popularity probably will continue. Freezers experienced a 53 percent sales increase last year over previous years according to yearly statistics from Merchandising Week, trade magazine for the appliance industry.

More than 2.4 million freezers were manufactured last year compared to 1.6 million in 1972, the previous high year. About 45 percent of the 1973's freezer sales were in July and August when meat shortages, price fluctuations and the home gardening boom were at their peaks.

Minnesotans own even more home freezers than the national average says Wanda Olson, University of Minnesota extension household equipment specialist. Nationally about one-third of homes have separate freezer units, but 43 percent of Minneapolis homes have them and about half of the homes in Duluth do. The figure is even higher for nonmetropolitan areas where access to shopping may be difficult, Ms. Olson says.

Other trends in the appliance industry include the increasing popularity of self-and continuous-cleaning ranges. More than half of the electric ranges and about 40 percent of gas ranges had one of the cleaning features. Self-cleaning electric ranges were most popular while continuous-cleaning gas ranges led sales figures.

Microwave ovens are making their move on the kitchen appliance scene, Ms. Olson says. Some 500,000 ovens were sold in 1973 compared to 300,000 in 1970, the first year statistics were available. Prices on the ovens are falling at the rate of about \$50 a year, from \$500 in 1970 to about \$375 in 1973. Some microwave ovens are available for considerably less than the \$375 average, Ms. Olson reports.

Department of Information
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Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108
June 24, 1974

Immediate release

MSC
8/29/74

SWINE JUDGES SHOULD
EMPHASIZE TRAITS
RELATED TO GROWTH

Judges at swine shows should emphasize conformation that's related to growth rate such as width and depth of chest, stifle width and circumference of the front leg.

That's the recommendation of University of Minnesota animal scientist Charles Christians, who cites a recent study done at Minnesota's Central Swine Test Station.

"Let's not emphasize 'niceties' such as width of eyes at the expense of traits that are correlated with growth rate," Christians says.

He cites these highlights from the study, where 63 pigs were used:

--Depth of chest, width of chest, stifle width and circumference of the front leg had a close relationship with rate of gain. "So these are good measures to use when evaluating a live animal," Christians says.

--There was a significant relationship between growth rate and circumference of hind leg, tail circumference, and depth of jaw.

--Length of leg, width of eye and width between the eyes were not significantly correlated with rate of gain.

--Pigs with more circumference of front, depth and width of chest had significantly higher marbling scores. "This is probably due to the high relationship between average daily gain and marbling," Christians said.

"This positive correlation between growth rate and marbling is interesting, since selecting pigs for high daily gains means we're indirectly picking them for meat quality."

--Pigs with deeper chest measurements had more backfat. So part of this depth measurement was due to fat over the backbone and below the sternum.

Christians encourages hogmen to use the scales, in addition to eyeballing. Many hog farmers are. Christians estimates there's a 200 to 300 percent increase in the number of scales and use of performance records on Minnesota hog farms in the past few years.

-jms-

Department of Information
and Agricultural Journalism
Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108
June 24, 1974

Immediate release

MSC
2A27p

IN BRIEF. . . .

Animal Manure. Proper storage handling and application of manure to the land can increase the benefits of this natural fertilizer a great deal, Philip R. Goodrich, University of Minnesota agricultural engineer, says.

A ton of dairy manure generally contains about eight pounds of potassium, two pounds of phosphorus and 10 pounds of nitrogen. Nitrogen, which is volatilized in storage, often is lost. If the manure is plowed down within a couple of hours after being applied to the land, a lot less ammonia nitrogen is volatilized.

Liquid manure from swine, dairy or beef operations can be knifed directly into the ground with a knifing or plow-down unit attached to the liquid manure tank. The liquid manure is injected directly with the knives two to six inches into the soil and covered so ammonia does not have a chance to escape.

* * * *

Dairy Farms. Minnesota has about 36,000 dairy farms, a decline from previous years along with the general decline in the number of farms. About three-quarters of the farms have 10-to-50-cow herds, Vernal S. Packard, University of Minnesota extension dairy productions specialist, says.

He expects that there will be about 33,000 dairy farms in the state by 1975 and 28,000 by 1980, at which time it is expected that about 75 percent of these farms will be operating at herd sizes of 30 or more. By 1980 about 9,000 farms will have herds of 50 and more, he adds.

* * * *

-more-

add 1--in brief

Tomato Leaf Spot. Recent rains in Minnesota have provided sufficient moisture for leaf spot to be a problem on tomatoes. Leaf spot symptoms, which can appear at any stage of plant growth, are small circular spots on the undersurface of leaves.

As the spots enlarge, a dark border develops with gray or white centers. On the upper surface of the leaves, small black fruiting bodies can be seen. Control measures are given in Plant Pathology Fact Sheet 13, "Parasitic Diseases of Tomato." Ask the _____ County Extension Office for a copy or write the Bulletin Room, University of Minnesota, St. Paul 55108.

* * * *

Sod Webworms. University of Minnesota extension entomologists are receiving reports of sod webworms damaging grass leaves in lawns, particularly in the northern metropolitan suburbs.

The adults of sod webworms frequently are called lawn moths. The worms feed on the grass leaves at night and during the day hide in silk-lined tunnels or burrows at or slightly into the soil surface. Some species damage plants' crowns or roots as well as leaves. Heavy infestations may seriously damage large areas of turf.

Information on control measures is available in Entomology Fact Sheet 22, "Controlling Lawn and Turf Insects." Ask the _____ County Extension Office for a copy or write the Bulletin Room, University of Minnesota, St. Paul 55108.

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Department of Information
and Agricultural Journalism
Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108
June 24, 1974

Photos of new officers
available from Dave Zarkin,
(612) 373 0710

MSC
8/27/74

4-H FED OFFICERS ELECTED;
INDIVIDUALS, FIRMS AWARDED

Dawn Covert, 18, Faribault, was elected president of the Minnesota 4-H Federation Friday (June 21) during the 4-H Junior Leader Conference at the Minnesota State Fairgrounds, St. Paul.

Miss Covert, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Covert Jr., has held offices in local and county 4-H organizations and has been a three-year finalist in the Rice County 4-H radio speaking program. She says the most important thing she has learned in 4-H is "learning to work together with all different types of people and knowing in the end that we will all get along." She plans to attend St. Olaf College in Northfield.

Other new officers include Greg Jones, 17, Route 1, Barnum, vice president; Gail Gilman, 17, Route 1, Lake Crystal, secretary, and Terry Pike, 17, 108 First Avenue N. W., Kasson, treasurer.

Awards were presented to individuals and firms during the 52nd annual 4-H Recognition Banquet sponsored by the Greater Minneapolis Chamber of Commerce during the conference.

Individuals receiving 4-H Alumni Awards:

--Ethel Blasey, Ada, was a Norman County 4-H'er for three years. Mrs. Blasey has been a 4-H leader for 15 years, president of the Norman County Leader's Council for two years and a member of the Fair Board Youth Program Committee. She has been official chaperone for the Norman County 4-H State Fair delegation for 10 years and is active in church and Farm Bureau work. All seven of her children have been active 4-H members.

-more-

Add 1--4-H fed officers

--Roy Anderson, Fergus Falls, was a Carlton County 4-H'er for three years. He is a program director for the Lakeland Mental Health Center, Fergus Falls, where more than 1,000 children are treated at the center annually. He has served on the Mayor's Citizens Advisory Committee and the City Health Board and was chairman of the Otter Tail County American Cancer Society Drive and the Region Four Disability Council.

--Wilma Sim, Philadelphia, Pa., was a Hennepin County 4-H Club agent after working part time in the early 1940's as a Clearwater County 4-H Club leader. She later worked as consumer information source, "Martha Logan," for Swift and Co. She developed one of the country's first regular television homemaking programs while home economics director at KSD-TV, St. Louis Mo., for 10 years. She has served as consumer affairs consultant to advertising agencies and manufacturers. In 1972, she was named on the Top Ten Advertising Women of the Year by the American Advertising Federation.

--Clifford S. Lofgren, Gainesville, Fla., a Watonwan County 4-H'er for four years, is a research scientist for the U. S. Department of Agriculture's Agricultural Research Service. He has earned a reputation for his pioneering research in the eradication of imported fire ants and for other challenging insect problems. He did research in El Salvador on a technique to control the mosquito that transmits malaria in Central America and in the Caribbean Islands.

Firms and individuals accepting awards for continuous support of the Greater Minneapolis Chamber of Commerce recognition program are:

--John Deere Co., Neil Christenson, general manager.

--Ford Tractor and Implement Operations, Marion Kamp, assistant district manager.

--First Bank System, Lloyd Brandt, vice president, public affairs.

--J. C. Penney Co., William Bitter, manager of Southdale store.

Department of Information
and Agricultural Journalism
Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108
July 1, 1974

(Previously sent to dailies)

CORN TILLAGE
RESEARCH RESULTS

Don't overdo tillage on corn, University of Minnesota soil scientists James Swan and Gyles Randall tell Minnesota farmers.

Results of a four-year tillage study on continuous corn have been released by the scientists. On fall plowed ground, Swan and Randall compared three tillage operations: the conventional disk, field cultivate and plant; field cultivation and plant; and no cultivation after fall plowing and planting. There was no yield difference between any of these tillage operations. They all yielded 139 bushels per acre.

In the same study, with no plowing or tillage after corn harvest the previous year (zero tillage) they got a yield of 129 bushels per acre. However, they don't recommend zero till on Minnesota corn ground.

"It's important to remember that chemicals gave excellent weed control on these experimental plots," the researchers emphasized. "This study only illustrates the potential for getting top yields with reduced tillage. If a farmer had serious weed problems, he'd need secondary tillage after plowing to help control the weeds."

Also, eliminating all secondary tillage can't be recommended as a general farm practice since rough soil conditions could cause equipment breakdowns, efficiency loss and poor plant populations.

But generally, the scientists say, southern Minnesota farmers don't need "a great deal of spring tillage to get top results." A successful combination for reduced spring tillage would be a planter and a cultivator hitched together.

Department of Information
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University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108
July 1, 1974

Immediate release

WORKING AGREEMENTS
PROVIDE FLEXIBILITY
TO DAIRY BUSINESS

Dairying takes hard work and lots of capital. So if you're a young man without much capital who wants to get started in dairying you need to "agree to work."

A written "working agreement" may be the answer for a young prospective dairyman who wants to either get started on his own or eventually lead into a partnership or corporation.

"A working agreement is like a partnership only there's no joint ownership of property so it's more flexible," says Bob Appleman, extension dairy scientist at the University of Minnesota.

"Two situations normally lead to the establishment of a working agreement: replacement of hired help with a junior partner, or adding a second party when you're expanding the dairy business.

"Working agreements have some definite advantages," Appleman points out. They give a young man a chance to get started, provide an 'exploration' time for both parties, and help solve the always-present labor problem by getting time off for the other party."

The working agreement may also let you expand the business volume from the investment already on the dairy farm. If you have a milking parlor, you can add a few cows with little extra investment.

The working agreement can provide built-in incentives. When cattle run together they have to be cared for in the same way. Take care to avoid 'your cow-my cow' problems in individually owned cows--a potential problem, especially in stanchion or tie stall barns.

Department of Information
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Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

Immediate release

July 1, 1974

IN BRIEF. . . .

Storm Research. Hail storm damage does not delay corn maturity as measured by kernel moisture at harvest, Dale R. Hicks, University of Minnesota extension agronomist says.

Fifty percent and 100 percent of the leaf tissue of the corn plants have been removed by hand at various stages of growth, from five-leaf through full dent. Results of this year's work followed very closely the pattern that has been found in other states. One-hundred percent leaf removal causes greater yield loss than 50 percent removal. The greatest yield losses occur when damage is done at the pollination period, Hicks reported.

* * * *

Animal Facilities. Farmers planning to make changes in their animal housing facilities should first make sure they have a Minnesota Pollution Control Agency feedlot permit, Philip R. Goodrich, University of Minnesota extension agricultural engineer, says.

MPCA permits are required for all livestock facilities that are modified. Changes that require permits are those which will involve constructing new housing for animals, expanding feedlot sizes or transfer of farm ownership. MPCA permits must be secured before construction is started.

* * * *

Lawn, Landscape Fertilizing. Information on fertilizing home lawns, trees, shrubs and flowers is available in Soils Fact Sheet 7, "Fertilizing the Home Lawn and Landscape Materials." Ask the _____ County Extension Office for it or write the Bulletin Room, University of Minnesota, St. Paul 55108. The fact sheet is a guide for use with University of Minnesota soil tests. The _____ County Extension Office has information on soil tests.

* * * *

-more-

add 1--in brief

Sodding the Lawn. Many Minnesotans are choosing sod as the way to establish lawns. University of Minnesota horticultirist Donald Steinegger reminds gardeners to prepare the site properly before the sod is delivered.

Have a soil test taken of the proposed site and correct any known nutritional deficiency. For more information, get Horticulture Fact Sheet 35, "The Home Lawn--Sodding and Perennial Weed Grass," from the _____ County Extension Office.

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Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108
July 1, 1974

ATT: Extension Home Economists

Immediate release

MSC
GA27p

CLOTHING CARE LABELING
COMMENTS INVITED

If you have comments or complaints about the care instruction labels found in wearing apparel, the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) would like to hear them. The commission is sampling consumer reaction to the two-year-old Apparel Care Labeling Rule that requires care instructions in ready-to-wear and accompanying a fabric purchase.

Consumers are invited to comment on how understandable label instructions are, if the information is accurate and if the directions are complete enough. The FTC also is interested in how widespread the labeling is. A recent survey in 36 cities showed none of the stores checked automatically provided a care label with the sale of fabric as required by law.

Fifteen of the surveyed stores provided labels upon customer request, but the remainder didn't supply them even when asked. The FTC is considering placing some of the responsibility for label distribution upon the retailer rather than solely on the garment or fabric manufacturer.

The label rule also may be extended to include upholstery fabrics, draperies, linens, accessories such as neckties and scarves, yarn, headgear, footwear and gloves and mittens.

Specific questions to which the FTC would like consumer responses include:

- . Is the term "machine washable" misleading when, for example, warm water and a delicate setting is most appropriate?
- . If a garment can be bleached, should the label state whether chlorine or oxygen bleach is preferred?
- . Are the labels printed to last the useful life of the clothing to which they are attached?

-more-

add 1--clothing care labeling

. Do terms used on labels require definition?

. Should manufacturers provide information on how long the item will last with the prescribed care? On the colorfastness? On probable cost of cleaning procedures versus the item's initial cost?

. Are manufacturers using "low labeling," overly cautious instructions when such care is not necessary? (Example: use of the phrase "dry clean only" when the item can be treated equally well by other methods)

Answers to these questions and additional materials such as examples of labels should be submitted to the Bureau of Consumer Protection, Federal Trade Commission, Washington, D.C. 20580.

-dmn-

Department of Information
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Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108
July 1, 1974

4-H NEWS

Immediate release

4-H SLATES EXPRESSION
WORKSHOPS FOR CHILDREN

_____ County will hold a Workshop of Expression for _____
Indian, Black, etc.
_____ youngsters, ages six to 12 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. _____
or leave blank _____ day, date
at _____
place

The University of Minnesota Agricultural Extension Service's 4-H Youth Development program is conducting 13 day-long Workshops of Expression for children six through 12 years old in selected Minnesota communities. They are held through July and involve county extension staff and about 100 community adults and teenagers. Directing the workshops are June Schultz, assistant extension specialist, art education, and Lianne Anderson, assistant extension specialist, theater arts. Staff include volunteers trained in art and youth development.

The day-long activity is designed to enrich a child's creative experience and put children in touch with their feelings through poetry, music, movement, films, puppets and visual arts.

-daz-

(Agents: Dates and Places

July 9, White Earth Indian Reservation

July 10, Leech Lake Indian Reservation

July 11, Red Lake Indian Reservation

Aug. 7, Mt. Airy neighborhood, St. Paul)

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Department of Information
and Agricultural Journalism
Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108
July 8, 1974

4-H NEWS

Immediate release

THIRTY-FOUR ATTEND
4-H AMBASSADOR
ORIENTATION MEET

Thirty-four Minnesota 4-H'ers selected as 1974-75 4-H ambassadors recently attended a 4-H Ambassador Orientation Workshop at the Leamington Hotel, Minneapolis.

The workshop was aimed at giving the new ambassadors an increased understanding of the scope of the 4-H program of the University of Minnesota's Agricultural Extension Service.

Other objectives of the three-day event were to develop competencies that contribute to carrying out the roles and duties of 4-H ambassadors.

Ambassadors have many duties during the State Fair, including staffing of the 4-H Information Booth, acting as demonstration platform assistants and explaining 4-H to the fair visitors in the 4-H Building. The ambassadors plan and conduct the State 4-H Junior Leader Conference which was held in the Twin Cities in June.

The 4-H ambassadors in the past have told the 4-H story to Minnesota's leading business and industry people and conducted television programs and interviews on 4-H throughout the state. Others have met with state and county legislators and other government officials, served on the state Safety Council and assisted with the filming of educational 4-H films.

The 1974-75 ambassadors are: Scot Schloesser, Route 1, LeCenter; Doreen DeVos, Route 3, Marshall; Elizabeth Templin, Route 1, Plato; Janell Benjamin, Route 2, Litchfield; Dan Edgren, Route 1, Foreston; Mary Rosendahl, 104 2nd St. East, Ada; Barb Steger, 11 Oak Knoll Drive, White Bear Lake; Steve Hinderks, Route 1, Renville; Dawn Covert, Route 1, Faribault; Bill Cooper, Route 1, Kimball; Peter Neigebauer, Route 1, Owatonna; Marcia Bartels, Route 1, Lake City;

-more-

add 1--thirty-four attend

Pam Hermes, Route 1, Fairmount, N.D.; Mary Anderson, Route 2, Buffalo; Jeff
Hawkins, Route 1, Rosemount; Kathy Arndt, Route 2, Hanska; Claire Klingelhutz,
8601 Great Plains Boulevard, Chanhassen; John Schafer, Route 2, Buffalo Lake;
Jim Sanders, Frazee; Alene Churness, 539 N. Minnesota, Ortonville; Gail Gilman,
Route 1, Lake Crystal; Greg Jones, Route 1, Barnum; George Tri, Route 2, Stacy;
Daniel Aakre, Route 3, Hawley; Kris Bjornson, Route 3, Hawley; Mayo Rusten,
Route 1, Clearbrook; Marie Tibbetts, Route 1, Bagley; Dave Edin, Route 1, Brainerd;
Terry Pike, 108 1st Ave. N.W., Kasson; Bruce Schwartau, Route 3, Goodhue; Sheldon
Bengtson, Braham; Debra Lang, 517 W. Central, Braham; Mark Hoffer, Route 1,
Kandiyohi, and Julie Bahr, Humboldt.

-daz-

Department of Information
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Immediate release

MSC
g A27p

IN BRIEF. . . .

Currants, Gooseberries. Currants and gooseberries are hardy and can be grown almost anywhere in Minnesota. They grow best in areas where summer temperatures are relatively low and moisture plentiful.

They are well suited to the home garden. Currants and gooseberries bear some fruit the second and third years and a full crop the fourth year after planting.

For more information, get Horticulture Fact Sheet 39, "Currants and Gooseberries for the Home Garden," from the _____ County Extension Office or the Bulletin Room, University of Minnesota, St. Paul 55108.

* * * *

Bulk Trend. The increased cost of hauling milk in cans, among other reasons, likely will continue to put pressure on dairymen to convert to bulk operations, Vernal S. Packard, University of Minnesota dairy products specialist, says.

Grade A, almost 40 percent of the state's milk production, is all shipped in bulk, but some manufacturing milk, which accounts for about 20 percent of total state production, still is handled in cans. Bulk milk accounts for more than 75 percent of the state's total milk volume and Packard estimates that by 1975 80 percent will be bulk and by 1980, 90 percent.

* * * *

Blueberries. Interest in growing the highbush or cultivated blueberry has increased considerably in recent years. Native lowbush blueberries have always grown wild in some areas of Minnesota. But the blueberry plant has very exacting soil and moisture requirements.

Also, highbush blueberries need winter protection in Minnesota. For more information, get Horticulture Fact Sheet 14, "Blueberries for the Home Fruit Garden," from the _____ County Extension Office or the Bulletin Room, University of Minnesota, St. Paul, Minnesota 55108.

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Department of Information
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July 8, 1974

Immediate release

MSC
8 AZP

WHEN TO SELL
BEEF CATTLE

Unless a higher price is received for heavier cattle, there is little incentive to go much over 1,025 pounds if cattle will grade at that weight, University of Minnesota extension economist Paul R. Hasbargen says.

Since last summer's high prices a pattern has evolved: Average market weights have been increasing while cattle prices have been decreasing. When cattle prices start to move down, producers tend to delay marketings while waiting for prices to rise. This adds to beef production by increasing average market weights and leads to even lower prices.

Besides helping to drive down all cattle prices, the individual hurts himself in other ways by holding cattle to heavier weights. His feed costs increase and his cattle's selling price drops even more than average cattle prices since his cattle are discounted for excess fat. So delay of sale past optimum market weight usually leads to a drop in income, Hasbargen adds.

Optimum market weight depends on the weight and type of cattle placed on feed, type of ration fed, number of groups fed each year, geographic location of the feedlot and the prevailing discount on heavy cattle.

The economist says producers will improve their decision making on when to sell beef cattle as they:

--Learn the market weight required to reach choice grade for each type of cattle and ration.

--Become more familiar with the variations in market premiums and discounts as average cattle weight changes.

--Weigh feed and develop their ability to evaluate changes in daily feed consumption.

Department of Information
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Immediate release

MSC
8 A27 p

POTATO LEAFHOPPERS
IN SOUTH MINNESOTA
ALFALFA FIELDS

Potato leafhoppers, one of the most economically important alfalfa pests in the state, have been in fairly high numbers in southern Minnesota alfalfa fields this year, John A. Lofgren, University of Minnesota extension entomologist, says.

As the regrowth for the second hay crop reaches six inches tall, a count of two or more leafhoppers per net sweep will warrant spraying and the same holds for the third crop.

Lofgren says, at current hay prices, spraying is an investment that will pay off in yield, vitamin A and dollars per acre.

For information on control measures, get Entomology Fact Sheet 4, "Insect Control on Forage Crops," from the _____ County Extension Office.

-daz-

Department of Information
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University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108
July 15, 1974

FOR RELEASE July 18

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9/11/74

SCIENTISTS STUDY
BROMEGRASS RECOVERY

GRAND RAPIDS--Recovery of bromegrass is not as good if it is cut at the boot stage as compared to the fully headed stage or when the growing points are still below the cutting plane, according to University of Minnesota agronomist A. R. Schmid.

Effect of clipping and time of defoliation on the recovery rate and stand persistence of bromegrass was featured today (July 18) at the Crops and Soil Field Day of the North Central School and Experiment Station, Grand Rapids.

It also appears that lack of recovery is aggravated by heavy nitrogen applications, Schmid added.

The bromegrass management project was started at the station because of the difficulty in maintaining productive bromegrass stands in pastures and in research plots harvested to simulated pasture management. Possible causes of stand loss and poor performance were thought to be related to time of grazing or defoliation and intensity of defoliation, according to David L. Rabas, station agronomist.

The scientists are comparing three clipping dates based on the stage of maturity of the bromegrass (15-inch height, boot stage and fully headed stage) and two clipping heights (two-and-three-quarters inches and five-and-a-half inches) to determine the effect of time and degree of defoliation on the recovery and persistence of the stand.

-daz-

Department of Information
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July 15, 1974

FOR RELEASE JULY 17

17-2
A-214

UM SCIENTISTS TELL
SUGARBEET DATA

CROOKSTON--It is NOT necessary to fallow for sugarbeet production, according to research at the University of Minnesota's Northwest Experiment Station, Crookston.

Previously it was considered necessary to fallow the land the year before planting sugarbeets to store up extra moisture and to control weeds.

Results of an eight-year study, which ends this season, were highlighted at the Northwest Experiment Station's Crops and Soil Field Day today (July 17).

Three of the six different rotations contained one year of fallow and the other three had continuous crops each of the four years.

During the second four-year period the effect of nitrogen fertilizer on the yield and quality of sugarbeets has been studied. The amount of nitrate-nitrogen in the 0-24 inch depth of soil has been determined and, if necessary, nitrogen fertilizer has been added to reach a total of 150 pounds per acre, which is applied prior to planting sugarbeets. The three fallow rotations can store from 90-180 pounds of nitrate-nitrogen in the soil and usually require no additional nitrogen fertilizer. The three non-fallow rotations usually contained from 30 to 40 pounds of nitrate-nitrogen and require 110 to 120 pounds of commercial nitrogen to reach the 150-pound mark.

Even though the three fallow rotations have yielded more beets than the non-fallow plots, higher impurities have lessened sugar yield per acre. The addition of commercial nitrogen to the three non-fallowed plots has increased the amount of recoverable sugar.

The highest average net return of \$102 per acre per year was obtained with fertilization from a rotation of beets, potatoes, wheat and barley. The lowest net return per acre was \$60 from a rotation of beets, wheat, barley and sweet clover fallow.

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July 15, 1974

Immediate release

MSC
E. J. P.

IN BRIEF. . . .

Using Sod. Although initially more expensive than seed, sod has several advantages. First, the lawn is established faster--two to three weeks to root firmly compared to two to four months for seed.

Second, sod can be put in at midsummer when seeding is difficult. Third, a lawn can be established more readily on a steep slope or terrace with sod. Fourth, sodding can repair a bare area on an already established lawn.

For more information, get Horticulture Fact Sheet 35, "The Home Lawn-Sodding and Perennial Weed Grass," from the _____ County Extension Office or the Bulletin Room, University of Minnesota, St. Paul 55108.

* * * *

Early, Late Blights. University of Minnesota extension plant pathologist Frank Pflieger (flee-ger) says recent warm, humid weather has been ideal for development of early blight and late blight on tomato plants.

Early blight symptoms appear as circular dark brown spots on leaflets. Late blight symptoms appear as purple black lesions on leaf, fruit and stem. Humid conditions favor rapid development of this disease. Fungicides, such as maneb and Polyram, are effective in controlling these diseases.

Also, leaf spot, which appears as small spots, may be a problem with the warm, humid weather. For more information, get Plant Pathology Fact Sheet 13, "Parasitic Diseases of Tomato," from the _____ County Extension Office or the Bulletin Room, University of Minnesota, St. Paul 55108.

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July 15, 1974

Immediate release

4-H NEWS

MISC
g. H27 p

WHAT IS BEING JUDGED
IN 4-H HORSE SHOWS?

Watching a 4-H horse show can be lots of fun if you know what is being judged, says _____, _____ County extension agent.

There are four basic classes in 4-H horse shows. They are halter, showmanship, pleasure and horsemanship.

In a halter class, the judge is selecting the best animals as winners. Conformation and way of going are primary considerations, but a good disposition is also important.

Showmanship classes test the exhibitor's ability to prepare and show his horse at halter. The horse must be properly groomed and trained and the exhibitor must be able to show the horse correctly and alertly.

Pleasure and horsemanship are under saddle classes. They may also be divided into Western, Hunt Seat and Saddle Seat divisions.

Pleasure classes are judged on the horse as a pleasure animal. He must be smooth gaited and mannerly.

Horsemanship is the ability of a rider to handle and ride his horse. Of course, a good horse and rider combination complement each other in both classes, says _____.

-daz-

Department of Information
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St. Paul, Minnesota 55108
July 15, 1974

ATT: Extension Home Economists

Immediate release

MSC
9A27P

**BEWARE HOME-CANNED VEGETABLES
AND MEAT UNLESS BOILED**

An Indiana woman's nibbling habit almost cost her life when she sampled home-canned vegetables directly from the jar without boiling them first. She contracted botulism food poisoning and nearly died. Her family members were spared her brush with death because the vegetables they ate with meals had been boiled to destroy the deadly *Clostridium botulinum* toxin.

Isabel Wolf, extension food and nutrition specialist at the University of Minnesota, warns home canners that boiling for 10 minutes (20 minutes for corn and spinach) before tasting or serving is essential to avoid any risk of botulism. This applies to meat and all low acid vegetables, a category that excludes only tomatoes and sauerkraut.

Even vegetables that are processed in a pressure canner can be dangerous, Mrs. Wolf says. A 240 degree (10 pounds pressure) temperature should destroy all *C. botulinum* spores, but if any survive they can germinate and produce the toxin or poison causing botulism. The toxin is destroyed at the 212 degree boiling point.

"With the wide number of variables in home canning--equipment accuracy, pressure and temperature fluctuations and others--the 10 or 20 minute boiling period before serving is an absolute must," Mrs. Wolf says. "The risks from even the tiniest amount of toxin are too tremendous to gamble against."

The botulism-producing toxin is one of the most lethal poisons known to man. One-millionth of a gram could kill a million people, and an amount the size of a nickel could kill everyone in the United States.

-more-

add 1--beware home-canned vegetables

Mrs. Wolf cautions home canners not to assume the dial-type gauge on a pressure canner is accurate because it registers zero when not in use. It still could be wrong at higher pressures and fall short of the 240 degrees needed to kill *C. botulinum* spores. If this happens and the homemaker fails to boil the meat or vegetable before serving, she is flirting with the powerful poison.

The only way to be absolutely safe in the potentially-risky meat and vegetable canning procedure is to use an accurate pressure canner, follow directions precisely and boil before tasting or serving. The Minnesota Department of Agriculture will test gauges and safety valves for state residents. Send them in secure boxes along with 80 cents in stamps for return postage to the Department's Division of Laboratory Services, Room 510, State Office Building, St. Paul 55155.

When using home-canned foods, be on the alert for signs of spoilage, Mrs. Wolf says. Unsealed jar lids, leakage, off odors and spurting liquids are signs of trouble, but *C. botulinum* toxin could be present even if the jar shows no such signs. If the food looks spoiled, foams or has a strange odor during heating, destroy it.

Homemakers shouldn't worry that the additional 10 or 20 minutes of boiling before serving will destroy the food's nutritional content, Mrs. Wolf says. The greatest nutrient loss comes during canning itself and the additional boiling won't subtract appreciably from the food value.

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St. Paul, Minnesota 55108
July 15, 1974

Immediate release

4-H NEWS

MSC
8A27P

TIPS GIVEN FOR
4-H DAIRY JUDGES

Giving reasons adds an exciting dimension to the 4-H dairy judging contest.

Here are some tips on giving oral reasons from Mike Hutjens, dairy specialist at the University of Minnesota:

--Compare the animals, don't just describe animals in the class.

--Tell the truth. "Make sure what you're saying about an animal is correct,"

Hutjens emphasizes. Good notes help you recall the classes correctly.

--Hit the major differences between animals.

--Be clear, concise. Use good grammar and terminology.

--Practice your reasons. You're allowed two minutes to give your reasons to the judge. Practice will help you get your timing down.

For written reasons practice your penmanship and make sure you spell correctly. Don't wait until the end of the time period before you start writing.

"You're given 12-15 minutes to judge the class and take notes for reasons. Don't spend all your time judging, Hutjens cautions. Pace yourself as you go along so you have a complete set of notes when time is up.

-jms-

Department of Information
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University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108
July 22, 1974

ATT: Extension Home Economists

Immediate release

MSC
JHNP

SELECTING BEEF
FOR OUTDOOR GRILLING

The outdoor barbecue season is in full swing, but the unique characteristics of charcoal cookery may leave some consumers pondering what cuts to select from the meat counter.

Richard Epley, extension meat specialist at the University of Minnesota, advises backyard chefs to choose beef cuts from the rib and loin. These steaks are normally tender and they respond well to the dry heat of a grill.

Epley says two things happen when meat is cooked. The muscle toughens and the connective tissue softens into a gelatin-type substance. Tender beef from the rib and loin contains little connective tissue, so the cook's main concern should be cooking the meat quickly to prevent the muscle from toughening.

If you choose less tender, and often cheaper, beef cuts, watch for adequate fat marbling, Epley recommends. Much of this fat will cook away, but the resulting meat will be juicier and more tender compared to cuts with little or no marbling.

Beef that usually responds best to moist heat and slow cooking is not as well suited to grilling. It can be marinated before cooking or treated with meat tenderizers, but Epley reminds consumers that these methods have little effect on the internal tenderness of thick meat. They only break down tough connective tissues close to the meat surface.

He suggests starting your charcoal fire at least 30 minutes before you put on the meat. Spread the coals about an inch apart and adjust the grid so it is 6 to 8 inches from the coals.

Cook inch-thick steaks 10 to 15 minutes for rare, 15 to 20 minutes for medium, and 20 to 30 minutes for well done. Add about five minutes to these times for 1½-inch thick steaks.

Department of Information
and Agricultural Journalism
Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108
July 22, 1974

Immediate release

HITCHHIKING TABOO ON FARM EQUIPMENT

Hitchhiking, a dangerous activity on the highway, is doubly hazardous on farm implements.

Every year, young farm equipment riders are injured or killed in accidents, usually due to falls from the vehicle into the path of tractor wheels or trailing equipment, reminds John True, University of Minnesota extension agricultural engineer. He recommends a few simple safety suggestions to prevent this type of accident:

Keep children off and away from farm machinery. Never permit them to ride or offer them rides. Never permit a family worker or employee to let children ride.

Before moving, be sure that no children have climbed aboard without your knowledge. And make a 360 degree inspection on the ground to be sure tykes aren't under the vehicle.

A tractor is not a place to babysit. Arrange for proper child care if you have small children to care for but must operate farm machinery.

A hard jolt, lurch, or sharp turn can throw an adult off a tractor just as quickly as a child. Make it a rule that no one is to be on farm equipment except those who are necessary for its operation or the job being done. Workers being transported in wagons, etc., should be required to sit or hold on tight. Never let anyone ride atop a loaded wagon. Make arrangements for transporting people to and from worksites other than by letting them hang onto tractors.

-more-

add 1--hitchhiking taboo

When training a new operator, make certain that you choose the most secure place to ride, with provision for good hand holds and footing. Be prepared for bumps, sudden starts and stops, erratic maneuvers, etc.

Equip your tractor with a protective cab. Though it's best to enforce a "no riders" rule, if a passenger is in a cab he or she is much less likely to get thrown off and run over.

July 25-31 is National Farm Safety Week in Minnesota. The theme is "Alertness, Balance, Care"--ABC's of avoiding falls.

-daz-

Department of Information
and Agricultural Journalism
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University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108
July 22, 1974

Immediate release

DUTCH ELM DISEASE
STRIKES IN STATE

Dutch elm disease has struck elm trees in several areas of Minnesota with a "fury" during the last two weeks, Ward Stienstra, University of Minnesota extension plant pathologist, says.

With the present outbreak and a new state law regarding Dutch elm disease and oak wilt control programs, many individuals and communities are concerned about the disease and are inquiring about it.

Elm trees infected in 1973 but not detected are called carryover trees. In general these trees showed only mild symptoms last year or were infected late and normal fall coloration masked the symptom. This can occur even when elm tree populations are under surveillance and it is frequent when tree populations are not under organized ground-aerial observations.

Also, elm trees may be infected by root graft transmission. There is really no reason for this type of infection. Specific control details to prevent root graft infection are available and the technique is well worked out. The root graft control program is a fundamental key in the control of Dutch elm disease and oak wilt. Without an effective root graft control program any other Dutch elm disease or oak wilt control effort is nearly worthless, Stienstra adds.

Elm trees also have been infected by beetles this year. Elm bark beetle survival last winter was reported to be high and the extended cool, wet spring season has expanded the elms' period of high susceptibility. So in areas with poor sanitation or in areas near non-control areas, these conditions combine to favor many new beetle vector infections. This type of infection is described and recognized by "flagging branches." Several trees observed showing the "first flag" had symptoms throughout an entire large branch just a few days later.

-more-

add 1--dutch elm disease

Dutch elm disease prevention is gained from tight sanitation and root graft control. The fungicide benomyl does not have sufficient activity to combat the disease under epidemic situations. It has no effect on carryovers, root graft infections and rapidly moving current season infections. Dutch elm disease control recommendations in Minnesota are effective root graft barriers, tight sanitation and replanting programs, the plant pathologist says.

#

Department of Information
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Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108
July 22, 1974

(Previously sent to dailies)

MSC
J. M. J.

WARM WATER STUDIES
HIGHLIGHTED
AT FIELD DAY

ELK RIVER--Results of research highlighted Tuesday (July 23) at the University of Minnesota Sand Plain Experimental Field are expected to assist in the development of means for better utilization of thermal energy.

Scientists discussed the warm water irrigation research underway at the Elk River site during a Crops and Soil Field Day.

Less thermal pollution in streams and increased yields on irrigated crop land is the aim of the research, which involves testing warm waste water from electric generating plants to irrigate sandy soils. If the system works, it could help reduce the amount of waste heat discharged by power plants during the hot summer months when thermal pollution problems are most serious.

The main advantage in using waste heat energy to grow crops is to extend the growing season into the spring and fall, University researchers report. These extensions permit the grower to receive higher prices in the spring and the yield from a second crop in the fall. The scientists said there "was no measurable enhancement of growth strictly as the result of heat application during the regular part of the growing season."

Other conclusions from the study:

--Artificial warming of a field soil by using waste heat energy does not provide significant protection for potatoes against frost at temperatures below 28 degrees.

--Moderate second crop yields are possible with heated soils in Minnesota if replanting is done immediately following the first crop harvest.

add 1--warm water

--Soil warming is necessary to extend the growing season for field crops in Minnesota, but soil warming cannot be done effectively by using an irrigation system alone.

--The maturity date for early potato varieties grown in heated soil can be advanced between two and three weeks as compared to potatoes grown in unheated field soils.

--Only small quantities of waste heat energy can be utilized by a field soil in Minnesota during July and August.

-daz-

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July 22, 1974

Immediate release

MSC
7/22/74

MANURE MANAGEMENT
DAY AT MORRIS

A statewide manure management field day featuring the latest in manure handling equipment is set for Morris Thursday, Aug. 8.

The event is scheduled for the University of Minnesota's West Central Experiment Station starting at 9:30 a.m.

The morning program will include these four stops: Heavy applications of up to 284 tons per acre, a rate of manure study on corn, runoff plots, agitation of manure pits, manure rates on the soil surface and liquid hog manure on pasture.

The afternoon program will feature demonstrations of about 35 pieces of manure handling equipment, including knifing or plow down liquid manure, surface applied liquid manure, a small irrigation unit to pump a retention pond and pumping liquid manure through an irrigation gun.

Research results from both the U. S. Department of Agriculture's Agricultural Research Service and the University's West Central Experiment Station will be on display. Also cooperating are the University's Agricultural Extension Service and equipment manufacturers.

-jms-

Department of Information
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University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108
July 22, 1974

Immediate release

MSC
[Handwritten signature]

IN BRIEF. . . .

Safety Week. The theme for this year's National Farm Safety Week, July 25-31, is "Alertness, Balance, Care"--ABC's of avoiding falls.

In Minnesota, research shows that almost one-third of all accidents involving farm people are from falls, says Wayne H. Hanson, chairman, Agricultural Extension Service Safety Committee. That means that almost 10,000 farm people in Minnesota are unable to work for a half-day or more each year because of a fall.

A 53-year-old farmer, according to the study, fell through the hay chute in his barn, fractured his shoulder and ribs and lost three weeks of work. "How much time would it have taken to prevent this accident. Probably an hour at the most to build a guard around the hay chute," says Hanson.

* * * *

Precautions. Here are some precautions to take to prevent accidents from falls:

Put guard rails around openings in hay mows and granaries. Provide and use handrails on stairways. Keep all junk that you could stumble over off the floor, yard and walkways. Sand icy parts of sidewalks and steps. Never permit children to ride on tractors or other farm equipment. Think before acting and move slowly when there is danger of falling.

* * * *

Control Thatch. Your lawn may have too much thatch, which is an accumulated layer of organic matter that resists decay.

If your lawn is properly mowed (remove no more than a half-inch of turf at a time), watered and fertilized, the grass clippings will decompose rapidly and will not contribute to the thatch layer.

For more information, get Horticulture Fact Sheet 40, "Control Thatch in the Home Lawn," from the _____ County Extension Office or the Bulletin Room, University of Minnesota, St. Paul 55108.

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Department of Information
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Agricultural Extension Service
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St. Paul, Minnesota 55108
July 22, 1974

4-H NEWS

Immediate release

LOCAL PARTICIPANTS
TOLD FOR 4-H ARTS-IN

About 200 Minnesota 4-H'ers are expected to encounter music, dance, photography, writing, art, drama, costume design and construction, performing arts and technical support experiences Aug. 10-16 during the second annual 4-H Arts-In at the Minnesota State Fairgrounds, St. Paul.

Teen delegates planning to attend from _____ County are (Agents, see listing of participants by county sent with July Monthly Memos).

The 4-H Arts-In, sponsored by Cargill Co. and the University of Minnesota's Agricultural Extension Service, is an opportunity for teens interested in visual and performing arts to live-in, share-in and work-in with other teens and professionals in the arts. It is an experience designed for self-understanding, realizing one's potential, appreciating and becoming sensitive to others. Teens also will have an opportunity to explore career possibilities in the arts.

-daz-

MSC
7 A27P

Department of Information
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Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108
July 29, 1974

4-H NEWS

Immediate release

KEEP CATTLE
COMFORTABLE

4-H club members showing dairy animals at county, district and state fairs should keep a close eye on their animals to be sure they are comfortable, especially on hot, humid days, suggests Mike Hutjens, University of Minnesota extension dairyman.

He offers these tips:

- Provide water several times during the day.
- Remove some cattle from the show barn, resulting in less body heat and cattle concentration.
- Tie the animals in a shady cool breezy area.
- Provide fans to move the air and open windows and doors in the building.
- Avoid deep litter packs under the cattle to cut down on heat production.
- Wetting or washing can help, but it can also mat the hair down.
- Shake up the bedding to dissipate heat.
- Replace some forage with grain. Less body heat is produced.
- Do not use heavy coats of oil on the hair.

-daz-

Department of Information
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Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108
July 29, 1974

Immediate release

MSC
7/29/74

CONTRACT CATTLE
SALES NOW

Now is a good time to contract cattle sales for late 1974 or 1975, Paul R. Hasbargen, University of Minnesota agricultural economist, suggests.

During the next six to eight weeks Hasbargen expects higher cash prices on slaughter cattle than will be seen again for many months. Prices in the futures markets will also be high--approaching \$50 per hundred pounds on choice steers. This will offer cattle feeders the opportunity to make contracts on cattle that will not be marketed until near the end of the year or through August of 1975.

Cattlemen should look into contracting their expected sales for the coming year. If a buyer can be found who will make a binding contract based on current futures quotations, the beef producer may be able to lock in a profit greater than will be available later on the cash market. If no such buyer can be found, a broker can be engaged to help the producer to make a hedge in the futures market.

Hasbargen expects lower cattle prices in 1975 because beef production will be higher. If feed grain prices remain high, fewer cattle will go through feedlots and the price drop will not be too severe. Under these conditions feedlot losses may disappear but cow-calf producers will take severe losses.

However, if weather permits the harvest of a six billion bushel corn crop, corn prices will drop, feedlot placements will jump and fed cattle prices will drop below \$40 in 1975. Under these conditions feeding losses would continue for another year unless contracts have been made at the higher prices now available.

Department of Information
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July 29, 1974

Immediate release

DKC
2/27/74

IN BRIEF. . . .

Water for Corn. Apply enough water to corn fields to replace the water used in evapotranspiration, James Swan, University of Minnesota extension soils specialist, says.

This is the water that evaporates from the soil surface and is transpired by the crop. For more information, get Extension Folder 257, "Irrigation--How Much and How Often," from the _____ County Extension Office.

* * * *

Checking Irrigation. A farmer can make several checks to determine if his irrigation is adequate.

Tensionmeters can be used and are especially valuable in sandy soils of low available water capacity to check the adequacy of irrigation and to assure that the crop is not suffering from water stress. The wetness of the soil can be estimated by the "ball-squeeze or feel method." Some experience is required to use this method successfully.

An auger or shovel can be used to check the depth of irrigation to assure that the rooting volume is being recharged. A reduction in yield is likely when moisture deficiency is severe enough to cause a visible stress.

* * * *

Water Stress. Water stress can cause severe yield reductions during the reproductive stage in corn, studies in several states have shown.

Two days of moisture stress during silking and tasseling can decrease corn yields more than 20 percent and four to eight days can decrease yields more than 50 percent. Short periods of moisture stress cause the greatest yield decreases from tasseling through the dough stage.

For more information, get Extension Folder 263, "Irrigated Corn Production," from the _____ County Extension Office.

* * * *

-more-

add 1--in brief

Nitrogen Leaching. University of Minnesota extension soils specialist James Swan says a single annual application of nitrogen on shallow sandy soils is not desirable since nitrates are readily lost due to leaching from rain and irrigation water.

Since nitrogen uptake continues nearly to maturity of the corn plant, deficiencies due to leaching can limit corn yields. Leaching of nitrogen fertilizer can be greatly reduced by split nitrogen applications throughout the growing season as described in the Extension publication, "Nitrogen Fertilizer Injection," (M-152), available from the _____ County Extension Office.

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Department of Information
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University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108
July 29, 1974

ATT: Extension Home Economists

MEC
9A270

IN A SWEAT?
SO IS YOUR BASEMENT

If these hot, sticky summer days are making you break out in a sweat, there's a pretty good chance your basement is having the same reaction.

The summer syndrome of damp, clammy basements is caused by warm, moist air from outdoors entering the basement where lower temperatures cause the moisture to condense on walls and floors, according to Harold Cloud, extension agricultural engineer at the University of Minnesota.

There are two ways to tackle the problem, Cloud says. You can ventilate your basement by leaving windows and doors open when temperatures outside are relatively low. Ventilation on very warm days will only make your problem worse.

Household dehumidifiers offer another solution. Cloud says these are actually small refrigeration units that condense moisture out of the air by cooling it. A small heating element in the dehumidifier then rewarms the air and returns it to the room a little warmer, but considerably drier.

Dehumidifiers are rated by the number of pints of water they will remove in a 24-hour period. Cloud suggests a 16 to 20 pint unit for an average size basement with normal dampness problems. Large basements or those with severe moisture problems may require a dehumidifier with a larger capacity.

He advises potential dehumidifier purchasers to look for two things--a humidistat control and ease of water removal. The humidistat will turn the unit on when basement dampness reaches a certain level and shut it off when the moisture content in the air is lowered sufficiently.

Moisture condensed out of basement air collects in a tray or pan in the dehumidifier. This may need to be emptied every day during very humid weather, and a forgetful homeowner runs the risk of an overflowing pan unless the unit has an automatic shut off. Cloud recommends connecting the drip pan to a basement drain with a length of hose to prevent accidental overflowing that can damage carpets or furniture.

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Department of Information
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Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108
July 29, 1974

Agents: Sent to dailies. You
may want to update and localize for
your media.

MS
1/2/74

**RAINFALL MAY BE TOO LATE
FOR SOUTHWEST CORN YIELD**

Recent rainfall may have been too late to save visibly stressed corn from yield loss in southwestern Minnesota fields, Dale Hicks, University of Minnesota extension agronomist, said. Now is a critical time for corn in Minnesota--when it is tasseling and silking. Even with adequate rainfall for the rest of the season, yields could be 20 to 30 percent lower because of the dry conditions up until now, Hicks added.

According to preliminary reports, last Tuesday's (July 23) rainfall was spotty in southwestern Minnesota, a field corn growing area. New Ulm got about an inch, Willmar, 1.5 inches; Mankato, 1.17 inches; and in Swift County some areas got as much as two inches while others got none.

In a visit to the Lamberton area last week, Hicks found that most of the corn in the area showed visible signs of drought stress. "It's past being critical," he added. Corn in southwestern Minnesota fields has been visibly stressed due to lack of moisture for the last three weeks. With drought stress, sometimes the corn plants shed pollen, but it is past the point where pollen will do any good, the agronomist said. The pollen does not germinate on the silk and grow down the silk because the silk is moisture stressed.

The situation in the Lamberton area is deteriorating and unless rain comes shortly, some fields will not set ears, says Wallace W. Nelson, superintendent of the Southwestern Experiment Station at Lamberton. Before last Tuesday's rain, the last rain was June 9 with a few minor sprinkles since then.

At the Lamberton station, the soil moisture dropped eight inches available in mid-June to recent readings of less than 2½ inches in the top five feet and all of that was below three feet. The corn plants need a good root system to get moisture with this hot weather. It's difficult to keep up, particularly with the hot dry winds and the above 85-degree temperatures, Nelson added.

add 1--rainfall may be too late

To the west at Morris, Agronomist Dennis Warnes of the West Central Experiment Station says weather stress conditions on plants were spotty and moisture definitely was needed. High temperatures caused corn and soybean leaves to roll. Rainfall for the area from April 1 to June 30 is three inches below normal this season. Before last Tuesday's rainfall, the last precipitation was on July 13. Warnes said the area was getting the best moisture distribution with the spacing of the rainfalls, causing the corn plants to look for moisture between rainfalls so they could tolerate a little more dryness than the time before.

The situation was much the same in the Waseca area. William E. Lueschen, agronomist at the Southern Experiment Station, Waseca, said he did not think that soybeans were hurt as bad as corn. Before last Tuesday's rain, the area had 1.72 inches on June 21 and much smaller amounts since then that did not have much of a lasting effect on the crops.

Crops in the Crookston area, mostly spring wheat, barley, sugarbeets and potatoes, were in pretty good shape, according to Olaf Soine, soil scientist at the Northwest Experiment Station, Crookston. Crookston is north of the corn and soybean growing area.

Drought and heat could reduce yield for commercial and market sweet corn in Minnesota, David W. Davis, University of Minnesota horticulturist said. The approximately 140,000 acres of sweet corn grown for commercial canning and freezing in south central and southwestern Minnesota is not irrigated. Corn that matures in July and August probably could have been affected by the dry conditions and heat.

Sweet corn grown for market in the seven-county metropolitan area could be under stress if it did not get water, Davis added. Without moisture, the ears will be shorter due to reduced tip fill and the kernel set in the ear will not be uniform. Because of poor pollination, the kernels will tend to be smaller and yield won't be as great. Rainfall, including what fell last Tuesday, has been spotty in the sweet corn growing areas of Minnesota at this critical time.

Also, pea yields were reduced considerably in the south central and south-eastern areas of the state because of much wet weather early in the season, hot weather later and root rot, Davis said. Most of the pea crop has been harvested.

Department of Information
and Agricultural Journalism
Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108
August 5, 1974

4-H NEWS

Immediate release

4-H EVENTS TOLD
FOR STATE FAIR

The schedule of 4-H events for the 1974 Minnesota State Fair was announced today by _____ of the _____ County Extension Office.

Thursday

Aug. 22 3-5 pm 4-H exhibitors, demonstrators register. 4-H building.
 7 pm Orientation for exhibitors, demonstrators, 4-H Building.

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Friday

Aug. 23 8:30-Noon Demonstrations, conference judging and dress revue activities. 4-H Building
 10-Noon 4-H Arts-In Troubadours on fairgrounds. Art in the Park (across from 4-H Building). Children visiting fair may participate in free art experiences. 4-H'ers entertain with drama, dance and music.
 Noon 225 Japanese youngsters and adults visit 4-H building. 4-H Performing Arts (Share the Fun). Plays, songs, dance, pantomime, puppetry, etc. 4-H Building.
 1 pm Demonstrations.
 3-5 pm Art in the Park--Free art experiences for children.
 6 pm, 7:30pm 4-H Performing Arts. 4-H Building.

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Saturday

Aug. 24 8:30-Noon Demonstrations, judging. 4-H Building.
 10-Noon 4-H Arts-In Troubadours on fairgrounds Art in the Park. Art experiences for kids and 4-H entertainment.
 Noon 4-H Performing Arts. 4-H Building
 1 pm 4-H Demonstrations
 2 pm 4-H Public Dress Revue. 4-H Building.
 3-5 pm Art in the Park--Free art experiences for kids.
 7 pm Orientation for second group--4-H exhibitors, demonstrators. 4-H Building.

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-more-

add 1--4-H events told

Sunday
Aug. 25

9 am Church services. 4-H Building

10-Noon 4-H Arts-In Troubadours on fairgrounds.
Art in the Park--Free art experiences for kids
and entertainment.

11 am Demonstrations

Noon 4-H performing Arts. 4-H building.

1 pm Demonstrations, dress revue activities. 4-H Building

3-5 pm Art in the Park--Art experiences for kids.

6 pm, 7:30 pm 4-H Performing Arts. 4-H Building.

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Monday
Aug. 26

8:30 am Demonstrations, judging, dress revue activities.
4-H building

10-Noon 4-H Arts-In Troubadours on fairgrounds.
Art in the Park--Art experiences for kids and
entertainment.

Noon 4-H Performing Arts. 4-H Building

1 pm 4-H Demonstrations

2 pm Public Dress Revue. 4-H Building.

3-5 pm Art in the Park--Art experiences for kids

7 pm Orientation for third group--4-H exhibitors and
demonstrators. 4-H Building.

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Tuesday
Aug. 27

8:30 am Judging, demonstrations, dress revue activities.
4-H Building.

10-Noon 4-H Arts-In Troubadours on fairgrounds.
Art in the Park--Art experiences for kids and
entertainment.

Noon 4-H Performing Arts. 4-H Building.

1 pm 4-H Demonstrations.

3-5 pm Art in the Park--Art experiences for kids.

6 pm, 7:30pm 4-H Performing Arts. 4-H Building

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add 2--4-H events told

Wednesday

| | | |
|---------|---------|--|
| Aug. 28 | 8:30 am | Demonstrations, judging, dress revue activities. 4-H Building. |
| | 10-Noon | 4-H Arts-In Troubadours on fairgrounds. Art in the Park--Art experiences for kids and entertainment. |
| | Noon | 4-H performing Arts. 4-H Building |
| | 1 pm | 4-H Demonstrations |
| | 2 pm | Public Dress Revue. 4-H Building. |
| | 3-5 pm | Art in the Park--Art experiences for kids. |
| | 7 pm | Orientation for fourth group--demonstrators, exhibitors, tractor contest participants and judging teams. 4-H Building. |

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Thursday

| | | |
|---------|---------------|---|
| Aug. 29 | 7:45 am | 4-H Dairy Judging Contest. Hippodrome 4-H Livestock Judging Contest, Livestock Pavilion, University of Minnesota, St. Paul. |
| | 8:30 am | Demonstrations, judging, dress revue activities. 4-H Building. |
| | 10-Noon | 4-H Arts-In Troubadours on fairgrounds. Art in the Park--Art experiences for kids and entertainment. |
| | Noon | 4-H Performing Arts. 4-H Building. |
| | 1 pm | 4-H Demonstrations |
| | 3-5 pm | Art in the Park--Art experiences for kids. |
| | 6 pm, 7:30 pm | 4-H Performing Arts. 4-H Building. |

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Friday

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|---------|---------|--|
| Aug. 30 | 8:30 am | Demonstrations, judging. 4-H Building. |
| | 10 am | State 4-H-FFA Tractor Driving Finals. In front of 4-H Building. |
| | 10-Noon | 4-H Arts-In Troubadours on fairgrounds. Art in the Park--Art experiences for kids and entertainment. |
| | Noon | 4-H Performing Arts. 4-H Building. |
| | 1 pm | 4-H Demonstrations. |

-more-

add 3--4-H events told

1 pm 4-H Bicycle Road-E-O. In front of 4-H Building.
2 pm Public Dress Revue. 4-H Building.
6:45 pm Orientation--livestock exhibitors. 4-H Building.
7:30 pm 4-H Sheep Judging. Sheep Barn.

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Saturday
Aug. 31

8 am 4-H Dairy cattle judging. Hippodrome.
9 am 4-H Swine judging. Sheep Barn.
4-H Poultry and rabbit judging. Poultry Barn.
10-Noon 4-H Arts-In Troubadours on fairgrounds.
Art in the Park--Art experiences for kids and
entertainment.
Noon 4-H Performing Arts. 4-H Building.
1 pm 4-H Dairy cattle judging. Hippodrome.
1:30 pm 4-H duck, geese, turkey judging. Poultry Barn.
2 pm 4-H Beef cattle judging. Judging Arena.
3-5 pm Art in the Park--Art experiences for kids.

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Sunday
Sept. 1

9 am Church services. 4-H Building.
Noon 4-H Performing Arts. 4-H Building.

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Monday
Sept. 2

8:30 am 4-H Livestock and Youth in Action demonstrations.
(Youngsters give about one-hour long presentations).
10 -Noon 4-H Arts-In Troubadours on fairgrounds.
Art in the Park--Art experiences for kids and
entertainment.
Noon 4-H Performing Arts. 4-H Building.
3-5 pm Art in the Park--Art experiences for kids.
4 pm Presentation of 4-H Herdmanship Award. Sheep Barn.

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Department of Information
and Agricultural Journalism
Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108
August 5, 1974

4-H NEWS

Immediate release

COUNTY 4-H'ERS TO
SHOW EXHIBITS AT
MINN. STATE FAIR

 County 4-H members are looking forward to the 1974 Minnesota State Fair Aug. 23 through Sept. 2 in St. Paul and several of them are working on exhibits for the affair.

(Include names of exhibitors, description of exhibits, etc. if available at this time).

The exhibits will be evaluated at the State Fair through conference judging, which has proved to be enjoyable and informative for the 4-H'ers. This evaluation is done on a one-to-one relationship, with judges meeting each 4-H member individually during five to 10 minute discussion periods.

Judges may ask exhibitors where they got their ideas for their exhibit, when and how they learned about the exhibit and where the materials for the exhibit were obtained. Judges discuss good and bad points of the exhibit with 4-H members and help them see how they might improve their work.

Entering 4-H exhibits at the State Fair is intended to be a learning experience. Participants receive ribbons for their achievements.

-daz-

Department of Information
and Agricultural Journalism
Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108
August 5, 1974

Immediate release

IN BRIEF. . . .

Flower Beds. If your annual flowers are a disappointment this summer, you may need to find a new location for a flower bed. When zinnias mildew, nasturtiums are thin, spindly and fail to bloom, and marigolds are late with few blossoms, you are probably not getting enough sunlight for vigorous growth.

At least six hours of full sunlight is necessary for most summer annuals, and they often grow best where they are not shaded at all. Planning the size and the location for flower borders in August can precede soil preparation in September. Annual borders should be dug in the fall, and improved with compost or well-rotted manure before winter, just as fields and vegetable gardens are fall-plowed. Chemical fertilizer need not be added until early spring.

* * * *

Ground Covers. Strips of thin lawn filled with moss and weeds, defying any improvement with fertilizers, herbicides and water, clearly tell homeowners that ground covers would be a better plant for such a place. Hosta (funkia), Ajuga, Bishop's Weed (often erroneous called "Snow-on-the-Mountain"), or Lily-of-the-Valley will all grow better than grass in shaded places.

Lily-of-the-Valley should be divided for re-setting in August. It should be replanted in soil prepared with well-rotted manure and 1 pound of complete garden fertilizer per 100 square feet. Vigorous leaves and long-stemmed fragrant blossoms will be the result next May, since Lilies-of-the-Valley are heavy feeders. Bishop's Weed, Ajuga and Hosta can be divided later in August on any cool, cloudy day, and if they are kept well watered, they can establish themselves before cold weather.

* * * *

-more-

add 1--in brief

Planting Grass. Any gardener who has pulled chickweed, knotweed and purslane under the August sun from an old overgrown perennial or rock garden, will know why grass is easier to maintain. August is the best month of the year to clean up overgrown on unneeded flower beds and for planting grass.

Mixtures of bluegrass, creeping red fescue and, one of the new perennial ryegrass selections winter-hardy in Minnesota can begin to sprout in a week and make good growth in the shortening days and cooler nights of late summer. Before planting grass, be sure that all perennial roots are removed to the compost pile, and work in organic material if the soil is hard or sandy. Either superphosphate or 0-20-20 is a useful fertilizer to cultivate into new lawn areas. Nitrogen fertilizer can be used in very small amounts. The "Home Lawn Bulletin" available from the County Extension Office will give further information about preparing and seeding new lawns.

* * * *

Perennial Flowers. If your property is well divided into sunny and shady areas, but needs some extra color and interest, August is a good time to add some of the fine Minnesota perennials for next year.

Iris, Oriental Poppies and Bleeding Heart are best planted this month from rhizome or root divisions. Many other perennials are offered for sale in pots and the season is early enough to get them well established before winter. Astilbe, which finished blooming in mid-July, will add ferny foilage for the rest of the year.

The tall Garden Phlox is potted and in bloom at Minnesota garden centers, and it is easy to select the color you prefer for a quick addition to your own border. Veronicas, white, pink and blue in several heights, can also be chosen and planted immediately. Other perennials easily planted from potted stock are gas plant, lythrum, monarda, pinks, gallardia and showy sedum.

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-more-

add 2--in brief

Fertilizing Flowers. Some of the flowers Minnesota gardeners enjoy during August and September need feeding all through their blooming season. Petunias, chrysanthemums, geraniums, fall blooming perennial asters, pansies (if any have survived the hot weather), impatiens and begonias all benefit from light fertilizing each month. Water soluble fertilizers used according to package directions are safe even in hot weather.

Home landscape arrangements rarely ever reach perfection, so take a long, slow walk around your grounds to see if you don't want to make some very pleasant improvements to make your property both more useful and more beautiful.

* * * *

Cattle Down. Cattle and calves on feed in Minnesota July 1 totaled 365,000, or 15 percent below a year ago. And for the 23 major feeding states, numbers totaled 10,047,000 head, 21 percent below a year ago and the lowest number for this date since 1968, according to the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

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Soviet Grain. A gross grain crop of about 215 million metric tons appears to be in prospect for the Soviet Union, according to USDA estimates of early July. This would amount to 10 million tons more than the amount USDA estimated in mid-June.

* * * *

Land Prices. The national index of farmland values rose a record 25 percent for the year ended March 1, 1974. And farm real estate values may rise 15 percent for the year ending March 1, 1975, USDA estimates. This would be sharply above average gains in recent years, but less than 1974's record increase because of less optimism over prospects for farm income and agricultural exports. The value of farm real estate in an average farm operating unit now exceeds \$125,000.

* * * *

-more-

add 3--in brief

Acid Preservatives. If you're planning to preserve high moisture corn with an acid preservative for livestock feed, make sure you buy a good preservative. Preservatives consisting of propionic acid are good, says Richard Meronuck, extension plant pathologist at the University of Minnesota. He says mixtures of propionic and acetic acid also will work if there's at least 80 percent propionic acid in the mixture. But if a salesman or distributor won't tell you how much propionic acid is in the mixture, don't buy it, he emphasizes. For more information, ask for Agronomy Fact Sheet 29, "Preservation and Storage of High-Moisture Grain With Propionic Acid," from your county extension office.

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Department of Information
and Agricultural Journalism
Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108
August 5, 1974

ATT: Extension Home Economists

Immediate release

MSC
2/27/74

HOME CANNING REQUIRES BOTULISM PRECAUTIONS

If you cut corners or improvise on home canning methods you may be inviting a deadly intruder--botulism--to your dinner table.

Botulism is a deadly disease caused by toxins produced by hardy microorganisms found in some improperly preserved foods. Scientists estimate that a cupful of the purified toxins could kill all the people on earth.

Although nearly 72 percent of the botulism outbreaks in this century were caused by home-canned food, the homemaker needn't be frightened away from the craft, says Isabel Wolf, extension food and nutrition specialist at the University of Minnesota. Proper home canning procedures are designed to destroy botulism-producing bacteria. Follow them carefully and you'll have no problems.

Acid in foods such as fruits and tomatoes inhibits the growth of botulism-producing bacteria. Yeasts, molds and some bacteria will grow in acid foods but they are destroyed at the 212 degree temperatures of a boiling water bath.

Immerse the sealed jars in a deep container of boiling water so at least an inch of water covers the jar lids. Consult a home canning chart for the proper time the product should be boiled, adding more boiling water to the vat as some evaporates.

When the processing time is complete, remove the jars. Don't disturb the lids on self-seal jars, but tighten closures on all other types. When the jars are cool, test the seals, label and store in a cool, dry place.

Low-acid foods, including most vegetables, meat and fish, will permit the growth of the botulism bacteria unless the bacteria are destroyed by proper canning techniques and temperatures in excess of 240 degrees for a specified time. This can't be achieved with a boiling water bath, Mrs. Wolf says. Low-acid foods must be canned under 10 pounds of pressure in a pressure canner to reach the proper temperature.

add 1--home canning requires

The amount of time this takes depends on the vegetable involved and the size container used. Follow the recommendations on a home canning guide, and be certain the pressure gauge on your canner is in good condition.

The Minnesota Department of Agriculture will test gauges and safety valves at no cost. Send them and 80¢ in stamps for return postage and insurance to the Department's Division of Laboratory Services, Room 510, State Office Building, St. Paul 55155.

Never use canned food that shows any signs of spoilage. Boil low-acid home canned foods for at least 10 minutes before tasting and if you do dispose of any home canned products, be certain they won't be eaten by humans or animals after you have thrown them out.

Mrs. Wolf cautions home canners that food never should be processed in the oven. Jars may explode and the temperatures are not high enough to destroy spoilage bacteria in vegetables.

For further details on canning methods, times and safety precautions, send for Extension Folder 100 Home Canning Fruits and Vegetables, Room 3, Coffey Hall, University of Minnesota, St. Paul 55108. The folder is offered at no charge.

-dmn-

Department of Information
and Agricultural Journalism
Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108
August 5, 1974

Immediate release

10-2
3-11-74

COST OF STORING
ACID-PRESERVED GRAIN

There are a lot of advantages to using acid preservatives to store grain, including low initial investment.

But on an annual cost basis, storing acid-treated corn in new bins proved more expensive than other drying or preservative systems, according to figures compiled by Richard Meronuck, extension plant pathologist at the University of Minnesota.

He compared these systems: on-farm drying system with bin dryer; propionic acid preservative program with outside storage; glass-lined sealed silo; custom drying system; corn cribs; and an acid preservative program with bin storage.

For the sake of uniform cost figures, Meronuck assumed all bins had to be purchased in July, 1974, at a cost of 50¢ per bushel of capacity. He calculated shrinkage and other losses using an estimated long-term corn price of \$1.75 per bushel.

Of the different systems checked, the acid preservative program with bin storage cost the most, 29.3¢ per bushel with the acid preservative priced at 35¢ per pound. Keep in mind, though, that this cost figure assumed the preserved grain would be stored in new bins. Costs will vary considerably by farm depending on available storage space that could be used for high moisture grain. And, Meronuck points out that cost of constructing new bins could be reduced considerably--roughly one-half--by using your own labor to put the bins up.

For short-term storage you may want to pile treated grain outside between plastic sheets. Cost of this system figured out to 23.8¢ per bushel. Cost of aerating ducts and fans, needed to prevent spoilage for year-long storage, was included in the calculations.

Lowest cost that Meronuck came up with was for an on-farm drying system with a bin dryer. Cost of this alternative was 23.4¢ per bushel.

Department of Information
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Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108
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Immediate release

MSC
8/5/74

ECONOMIST FORECASTS
SLIM PROFIT RETURNS
FOR CATTLEMEN

Profit returns for beef cattle producers and feeders will be "slim" for the next 18 months, Paul Hasbargen, University of Minnesota extension economist in farm management, says.

Part of the reason for the not-so-rosy outlook is due to higher feed prices. Higher hay costs and \$3 a bushel corn pushes feed costs alone to about \$50 per hundredweight of gain.

"Cattle feeders aren't going to want to pay more than about \$35 per hundred pounds for either yearlings or for young calves," Hasbargen adds, because when the cost of production in the feedlot is higher than the market price, a positive price margin is needed.

The economist predicts a cutback in the total beef cattle herd in 1975 and 1976, then a turn-around in cattle prices can be expected. Prices should be moving up again in 1977 and 1978.

The recent U.S. Department of Agriculture Cattle on Feed Report shows a sharp drop in cattle on feed--down 20 percent from year ago levels. But this should not be interpreted as an indication that beef prices will jump up in the next six or nine months. "It simply isn't true," Hasbargen says. The price of choice slaughter steers will be strong in August and September--but might well weaken after that.

Cattle on feed numbers are down because of losses of \$100 a head for most sales during the past nine months and losses of over \$200 a head on excessively heavy cattle. "Because of this and high grain prices, feeders just have not been eager to fill their lots again," he adds.

(more)

add 1--economist forecasts

Fed cattle marketings will probably be somewhat lower than levels a year ago for the rest of the year, but this should not give rise to the conclusion that beef prices will be \$50 per hundredweight, the economist adds. Beef prices are not expected to hold at August levels because:

--A good deal more non-fed beef will be slaughtered. Cow slaughter is expected to run more than a year ago. More non-fed heifers and steers are going off grass directly to slaughter--a trend that is expected to increase more so in the next 12 months than has been noted in the past five years. Feedlots are being bypassed because money is being lost by putting the cattle through the lots.

--Cattle coming out of feedlots are about 30 pounds a head heavier than cattle coming out of feedlots a year ago.

Lower prices for beef are coming from the "supply side" rather than from consumer pressure, Hasbargen says. More beef and pork is being sold than a year ago and in the case of beef, consumption is up four percent per capita as compared to a year ago.

Consumers are still buying meat, but prices definitely are lower because of the increased supplies plus the effect of inflation on consumer buying power. Consumers do not want to pay quite as much for beef as a year ago because their real purchasing power is actually less than it was.

-daz-

Department of Information
and Agricultural Journalism
Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108
August 5, 1974

Immediate release

PLAN LANDSCAPE
IN AUGUST

August is a better time for planning landscape improvement than the often recommended winter, says Jane McKinnon, University of Minnesota extension horticulturist.

During the out-of-doors season, it is easy to recognize places needing shade for eating or sitting, sunny areas where annual flowers could bloom well, damp dark spots better planted to a ground cover instead of grass or an overgrown and impossibly weedy rock garden that could be sodded over.

Almost every Minnesota home needs a shade tree or two to the southwest of the house, close enough to cast a shadow across the entrance sidewalk or the driveway where the car may be parked for several hours. If a hard-surfaced patio or deck is open to the afternoon sun, it is of very little use during the hottest part of the day. So if your yard has a spot you can't use in the August sun, plan a tree-planting for fall.

Small size trees are for sale in large baskets or tubs. Six to ten foot potted materials can be planted on any cool, cloudy day if the root ball is not disturbed. Larger balled and burlapped specimens can be ordered for October planting or such trees can be transplanted with tree-moving equipment after leaf-fall. Ironwood, Hackberry, Linden (Basswood), Green Ash, Sugar, Red and Schweidler Maples are Minnesota-hardy shade trees from which selections can be made according to your own local conditions.

MSE
8/11/74

Department of Information
and Agricultural Journalism
Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108
August 7, 1974

TO SELECTED COUNTIES

BEEF COW-CALF
DEMONSTRATION
IN FIVE COUNTIES

Farms have been selected in five northern Minnesota counties for a beef cow-calf demonstration aimed at providing greater income opportunities for northern Minnesota farmers and ranchers.

The project, funded for a year by the Upper Great Lakes Regional Commission, is being carried out by the University of Minnesota's Agricultural Extension Service on Carlton, Cass, Beltrami, Roseau and Itasca county farms.

The Extension Service will work closely with other agencies, such as the Soil Conservation Service and the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service, in implementing and carrying out the project. University extension specialists directly involved are Ray Arthaud, extension animal scientist, Harley Otto, extension agronomist, and Gerald Sullivan, Grand Rapids, area extension agent. They are working with county agents in northern Minnesota on the project.

The Upper Great Lakes Regional Commission is represented by Howard Potter, Duluth, special assistant to Federal Co-chairman Roy Anderson, and a beef advisory committee consisting of two appointed members from each state; Minnesota, Wisconsin and Michigan. Ed Miniatt, Bruce, Wis., serves as chairman of the advisory committee and Cliff Ouse, Rothsay, and Will Ahonen, Grand Rapids, are the Minnesota representatives.

-more

add 1--beef cow-calf demonstration

The demonstration farms have been selected to illustrate forage production systems, beef cattle management, land clearing for forage production, and systems of forage handling, according to Gene Pilgram, program director for agriculture and related industries for the Agricultural Extension Service.

The aim of the project is to demonstrate more profitable ways to organize and operate a beef cow-calf enterprise and produce feeder cattle in the Upper Great Lakes Region of Minnesota. The project will further demonstrate whether it is possible to provide a greater income for the region through these enterprises by effectively using available resources.

Other phases of the beef development project are underway in northern Wisconsin and Michigan.

"Much of the information needed for improving income from beef cattle is already available, but hasn't been demonstrated to local producers. Demonstrations of profitable practices on local farms has shown to be a very effective teaching method," Pilgram added.

There has been a large increase in the number of beef cows in northern Minnesota, along with a drastic reduction in dairy herds. Beef cows are one of the best alternate users of available grassland. About half the beef cows in Minnesota are located in the Upper Great Lakes Region of the state. Generally about half of the land in farms in northern Minnesota is undeveloped and non-productive, but has good potential for forage use.

Beef cattle are compatible with other resources in the area. Many people work at seasonal employment in the timber industry and a beef operation could fit their labor requirements very well.

Department of Information
and Agricultural Journalism
Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108
August 12, 1974

4-H NEWS

Immediate release

LIVESTOCK EXHIBITS
SCHEDULED FOR
STATE FAIR

About 1,300 4-H livestock and poultry winners will compete at this year's Minnesota State Fair, including _____ 4-H'ers from _____ County.
(no.) (Name)

Livestock exhibitors will be: (list names, addresses and exhibitors).

Pens and stalls for 4-H livestock will be ready by 7 a.m. Friday, August 30. All 4-H exhibits must be in place in the barns by 2 p.m. that day. The public is urged to come and see the livestock exhibits and talk with the 4-H'ers after that time.

All dairy and beef cattle judging will be on Aug. 31. Dairy will be judged starting at 8 a.m. and continuing through the day in the Hippodrome. Beef judging will start at 2 p.m. in the Livestock Judging Arena.

Sheep judging will be at 7:30 p.m. Aug. 30 in the Sheep Barn. On Aug. 31, 4-H Swine judging will start at 9 a.m. in the Sheep Barn and poultry and rabbit judging will start at 9 a.m. in the Poultry Barn.

Also on Aug. 31, duck, geese and turkey judging will be at 1:30 p.m. in the Poultry Barn. All showmanship contests will be held following judging of all classes in the respective species.

-daz-

Department of Information
and Agricultural Journalism
Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108
August 12, 1974

4-H NEWS

Immediate release

1157
7/27/74

TOP LOCAL DAIRY
COMPETITORS ELIGIBLE
FOR AK-SAR-BEN

For the first time, Minnesota 4-H dairy exhibitors may compete at the Ak-Sar-Ben 4-H Livestock Show in Omaha, Neb., Sept. 20-28.

They can compete in the Omaha event by qualifying at county fairs in Minnesota and placing in the top third of the dairy entries at the local events.

The same exhibitor must show the individual animal at both shows regardless of ownership. The 4-H'ers enrolled in dairy projects who qualify are reminded that entries for the Ak-Sar-Ben Dairy Show close on Wednesday, August 28, with the Dairy Show to be held on Saturday, Sept. 21.

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Department of Information
and Agricultural Journalism
Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108
August 12, 1974

4-H NEWS

Immediate release

COUNTY JUDGING
TEAMS WILL COMPETE
AT STATE FAIR

4-H general livestock and dairy judging teams from _____ County will
(Name)
compete for state honors at the Minnesota State Fair on Thursday, August 29.

The general livestock team will be competing with nearly 40 other teams while the dairy team will be vying with 50 other county teams.

Members of the _____ County general livestock judging team are:
(name)

(include names, ages and addresses). The coach is _____ from _____.

Members of the _____ County dairy judging team are: (list names,
(Name)
ages, and addresses). Coach of the team is _____ from _____.

The top general livestock judging team at the State Fair will compete in the National 4-H Livestock Judging Contest at the North American Livestock Exposition in Louisville, Ky., on Nov. 22. The second place general livestock judging team winners will compete at the American Royal Judging Contest in Kansas City, Mo., on Oct. 18. Both trips are sponsored by the Minnesota Livestock Breeders Association and the Minnesota State Fair.

The third place team will represent Minnesota at the Western National Stock Show at Denver, Colo., on Jan. 11. That trip will be sponsored by the Minnesota State Fair.

The first place dairy judging in State Fair competition will represent Minnesota this fall at the National 4-H Dairy Judging Contest at Columbus, Ohio, on Oct. 6. The trip is sponsored by the Hubbard Milling Co., Mankato, the Minnesota Livestock Breeders Association and the Minnesota State Fair. The second place winner in the dairy judging contest will compete in the 4-H judging contest at the World Dairy Exposition at Madison, Wis., on Oct 2. That trip will be sponsored by the Minnesota State Fair.

Department of Information
and Agricultural Journalism
Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108
August 12, 1974

ATT: Extension Home Economist

Immediate release

MSC
EAGY

IS THERE A WAY TO WIN
THE INFLATION RACE?

During inflationary periods, such as the current one, everyone tries to beat the system, says Edna Jordahl, extension home management specialist at the University of Minnesota. Interest rates rise, wage earners ask for higher salaries, and people save less.

But with higher incomes, prices go up and no one really wins over a long period of time. About the only people who benefit at all from inflation are those who owe money -- because debts can be repaid with dollars that buy less -- and real estate owners -- because land prices are spiraling.

One way to deal with inflation's inroads to the family budget is to spend less by purchasing items during the months when they are at their lowest price. Mrs. Jordahl suggests dollar-stretching buys during August on coats, furs, tires, white goods, bedding, furniture, garden equipment, housewares, and back-to-school supplies.

Other ways that persons can cope with inflation include:

1. Decreasing purchases or doing without things.
2. Setting priorities for purchases and buying what is needed most first.
3. Using free public services whenever possible.
4. Making things last longer by proper care and upkeep.
5. Increasing family production by using all available wage earners or producing things at home that normally would be purchased such as clothing, home repairs, and garden produce.

-more-

add 1--inflation race

While these measures may help individuals balance their budgets, Mrs. Jordahl says that new problems arise when inflation is partially controlled by decreased demands for goods. Unemployment rises, particularly among minority groups. Fewer houses are built and sold because lending institutions are reluctant to finance mortgages and building projects that will be repaid with less valuable dollars.

If inflation continues for many years, everyone loses, Mrs. Jordahl says.

But those who feel the pocketbook crunch most are:

1. Retired people on fixed incomes.
2. People with savings whose thrift is undermined by decreased purchasing power per dollar.
3. Low-income people who have little left after paying inflated prices for food and housing.
4. Working people whose wages do not keep up with the inflation rate.

Government has several options in easing inflation although there is no assurance of balance because consumer behavior is varied and unpredictable. It can:

1. Impose credit controls and require larger down payments for items.
2. Increase taxes to take money out of circulation.
3. Adjust the rates at which banks are allowed to borrow money from the Federal Reserve system.
4. Impose wage and price freezes.

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Department of Information
and Agricultural Journalism
Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108
August 12, 1974

Immediate release

IN BRIEF. . . .

Farm Income. For years you've been seeing figures that showed farmers' per capita income ranging from 60 to about 80 percent of their city cousins. But that all changed last year, according to Farm Income Situation. In 1973, farmers had a disposable income of \$4,820, compared to their city cousins' \$4,270. That's a 13 percent differential--in the farmers' favor.

* * * *

Bigger Farms. Back in 1963, the U.S. had only 31,000 farms with cash receipts of \$100,000 or more. This was less than 1 percent of the nation's 3.5 million farms, but they still accounted for about 22 percent of the cash receipts from farming.

In 1973, there were 109,000 farms with cash receipts of over \$100,000. These farms--3.8 percent of the nation's 2.8 million--accounted for just under 46 percent of all cash receipts from farming.

* * * *

Korean Soybeans. In Korea, the demand for soybeans is so strong that the Koreans started planting them on their rice paddy dikes last year. But most of these "dike beans" are not allowed to mature. Soybeans are an important Oriental food and most of the young tender bean pods are harvested daily from the "dike" fields and eaten as cooked green vegetables. So it looks like these "dike beans" won't affect the growing market for Minnesota and U.S. soybeans to Korea. The Koreans imported 81,000 metric tons of U.S. soybeans in 1973, more than double their 1972 purchases.

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Department of Information
and Agricultural Journalism
Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108
August 12, 1974

Immediate release

DELAY HARVEST OF
DROUGHT DAMAGED CORN

Drought damaged corn can be salvaged for silage, according to Neal P. Martin, University of Minnesota extension agronomist.

Immature corn that has been damaged by extremely high temperatures should not be immediately ensiled. Although these plants may never produce an ear, some additional stalk growth and extra feed may be produced by delaying harvest, Martin says.

Silage from immature corn often contains more than 70 percent moisture which, if ensiled, will produce undesirable fermentation and loss of valuable nutrients. Good quality forage can be produced if harvest is delayed until moisture drops to 65 percent. If moisture concentration falls below 65 percent, add water at the rate of four gallons per ton of silage for each percent increase needed to get 65 percent moisture.

Drought damaged corn may also contain sufficient amounts of nitrate to cause nitrate toxicity to livestock consuming this material. When rapidly growing plants, particularly corn, have normal growth suddenly interrupted, nitrates build up in the stalks and leaves. Highest concentrations of nitrate often occur in the lower portion of the stalk. So raising the cutter bar as high as possible during harvesting will reduce the nitrate concentration in the silage.

Testing for nitrates before silage harvest is frequently unreliable as a feeding guide. Nitrate levels in the plant fluctuate rapidly from day to day and it is usually reduced by one-third during ensiling. Therefore, representative silage samples should be analyzed before feeding so that feeding recommendations can be made to reduce damages of nitrate toxicity. Nitrate levels in the plant material greater than three-tenth of a percent nitrate have been found to be

add 1--delay harvest

toxic to animals. Check with your private forage testing laboratory or county agent for testing and sampling procedures.

Lethal gases, poisonous to humans and livestock, may occur at any time during silo filling with silage containing high concentrations of nitrate. The greatest danger occurs 12 to 72 hours after filling, but gas may occur up to two weeks after the last silage is put in. Some of these nitrogen gases can be recognized by an irritating odor or a reddish-brown to yellow color. Gases will linger at the top of the silo, in the silo chute, or in a silo feeding room for as long as three to four weeks. Be sure these areas are adequately ventilated before entering the area, Martin advises.

-daz-

Department of Information
and Agricultural Journalism
Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108
Tel. (612) 373-0710
August 19, 1974

4-H NEWS

Immediate release

REGIONAL 4-H DOG
SHOWS SET FOR
SEPT. IN MINNESOTA

Any 4-H club member enrolled in the dog project and winning a blue ribbon at a county 4-H show is eligible to enter the 1974 Regional 4-H Dog Show in this area.

The 4-H Regional Dog Show for this area will be held on _____
(date)

in _____ . For more information, contact _____ at the
(town)

_____ County Extension Office, _____ or phone _____ .
(address)

Entries, which must be mailed to the host county, must be submitted by _____ .
(date)

A \$1 registration fee per exhibit will be charged. The show includes six classes: Pre-beginner, beginner class "A," beginner class "B," novice, graduate novice and open.

-daz-

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Agents:

| <u>Location</u> | <u>Host County</u> | <u>Date</u> | <u>Entry Deadline</u> |
|-----------------|--------------------|-------------|-----------------------|
| Farmington | Dakota | Sept. 14 | Sept. 1 |
| Austin | Mower | Sept. 14 | Sept. 1 |
| Foley | Benton | Sept. 14 | Sept. 1 |
| Wadena | Wadena | Sept. 15 | Sept. 1 |

Department of Information
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University of Minnesota
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Immediate release

MSC

CORN BETTER
THAN SORGHUM
IN UM TRIAL

Dry soil conditions this year are a reminder to cattle feeders in western and southwestern Minnesota that sorghum fares better than corn when the rains don't come.

But a recent University of Minnesota trial showed that cattle weren't able to use rolled sorghum grain as efficiently as rolled corn grain. Cattle fed the sorghum grain gained slower (2.13 pounds/day) than those fed corn grain (2.57 pounds/day). They also required more feed (972 pounds of ration dry matter/100 pounds gain) than cattle fed corn (658 pounds).

"Smaller feedlot operators using sorghum grain should consider feeding rolled high moisture grain that has been harvested early or reconstituted," said scientists Jay C. Meiske and Richard D. Goodrich. These methods of feeding sorghum grain should result in a better feed than the dry, ground sorghum grain fed in this trial.

"Processing methods for sorghum such as flaking, micronizing and popping require costly equipment and can be justified only if several thousand cattle are fed," they said.

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Department of Information
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Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108
Tel. (612) 373-0710
August 19, 1974

Immediate release

IN BRIEF. . . .

Farmers' Share Down. The farmers' share of the food dollar averaged 39 cents during June. This was the lowest since April, 1972, according to USDA. For the second quarter (April-June), farmers received an average of 40 cents of the dollar consumers spent in retail food stores for farm-produced foods. This was 5 cents less than that received from January through June, 1973.

* * * *

Fire Extinguishers. Keep fire extinguishers handy and in condition for instant use on all motorized vehicles and equipment. Portable fire extinguishers keep you prepared to take quick and effective action against a fire. Extinguishing a fire or at least keeping it under control until help arrives minimizes the damage that could occur. Keep fire extinguishers on tractors, combines, trucks, cars, boats and campers.

* * * *

Grain Sales. Mexico expects to have larger grain crops this year but will continue to be a big importer of U.S. grain. Mexico's wheat crop is estimated up 5 percent, but consumption is up even more. Mexico had a bumper corn crop last year and the 1974 corn crop may be even better. Still, the Mexicans will need to import an estimated 400,000 tons. Enough to make a lot of tortillas.

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Department of Information
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Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108
Tel. (612) 373-0710
August 19, 1974

Immediate release

FARM PRODUCT CAN
CURE CONCRETE, SAVE
OIL-BASED PLASTIC

Linseed oil--produced from the farm crop flaxseed grown in Minnesota and the Dakotas--can replace scarce petroleum-based plastic sheets in curing concrete roads, streets and bridges.

Adoption of the practice by contractors could be significant for farmers in Minnesota, North and South Dakota who produced over 99 percent of the nation's flax crop last year, according to Willis Anthony, extension economist at the University of Minnesota.

"Supplies of linseed oil as of July 1 are the tightest they've been in 30 years, and flax prices are at historically high levels. In recent years there has been concern about lagging flax product demand, but if linseed oil is widely accepted for curing concrete it could help create high long term demand for the flax crop," Anthony said.

Two Twin Cities based firms, Farmers Union Grain Terminal Association and Cargill, Inc., are major processors of linseed oil. Flax breeding and testing programs are being conducted at the University of Minnesota, St. Paul, by Verne E. Comstock, with funding from the Minnesota and South Dakota agricultural experiment stations.

Lyle E. Gast, in charge of studies on oil-based coatings at the U. S. Department of Agriculture's Northern Regional Research Laboratory in Peoria, Ill. said contractors and highway officials are inquiring about replacing polyethylene sheets with a USDA-patented emulsion of linseed (flaxseed) oil in water. Both materials are used to keep fresh concrete from drying too fast.

-more-

add 1--farm product can cure concrete

Many states specify plastic sheets for curing concrete, but Gast said some contractors are now reporting they can not obtain the thick sheets that are specified. Some contractors have obtained state approval to cure concrete with linseed oil emulsion instead of polyethylene sheets. They can obtain the emulsion from several suppliers that have licensed USDA patents.

"Linseed oil emulsion is made from a renewable resource, flax, and can replace polyethylene film made from non-renewable petroleum that we need for industrial chemicals and energy," Gast said. "As a curing agent, the emulsion is more than a replacement. It has enough advantages that it offers a whole new method of curing."

The emulsion is a 2-in-1 agent, both curing concrete and protecting it against surface scaling caused by freezing, thawing and deicing chemicals. Emulsion curing takes less time and work than using plastic film because the emulsion does not have to be removed for operations like painting traffic lines or sawing joints or after curing is done.

Linseed emulsion is specified now as a curing agent in dry and humid states in cities and in industry. It is used in Arkansas, New Hampshire, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Vermont and in cities or industrial plants in Massachusetts, Kansas and Illinois, including Peoria and Chicago. One of the first public projects to employ emulsion curing was a bridge built in Wichita, Kansas, in 1966.

USDA's research is designed to find new markets for linseed oil, a familiar ingredient of house paints, and to preserve flax as a valuable, renewable resource.

Polyethylene film is made from ethylene. Ethylene will be in short supply through 1977 primarily because of inadequate manufacturing capacity, the magazine Chemical Week, reported in July. The ethylene market could remain tight until 1980 even if production is increased, the magazine reported. Ethylene is made from natural gas, which is used for fuel, and from other limited fossil energy resources.

Department of Information
and Agricultural Journalism
Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108
Tel. (612) 373-0710
August 19, 1974

ATT: Extension Home Economists

Immediate release

MSC
gA27P

FLAME PROTECTION OR FASHION--
CONSUMERS MAY HAVE TO CHOOSE

Government regulations and industry actions to make fabric more flame retardant may leave consumers with one choice, "to buy less apparel, and to wear out what is bought." The Textile Industry Product Safety newsletter predicts that price increases and supply problems stemming from processes required for flame protection will curb our consuming habits.

California, for example, is considering legislation requiring flammability standards or warning labels in all children's clothing up to size 14. Other states are expected to adopt similar laws, and some may require all fabrics and things made of them to be flame retardant.

The newsletter says, "Not only will the buyer be faced with costs which may double and items which may be unavailable, but also with warning labels which may be more confusing than protective, and care instructions which compound washday problems. It is also quite possible that the homemaker who has forgotten how to iron will, until technology catches up with regulation, be deprived of permanent press garments for children."

According to the article, our clothing buying habits may change drastically. "The consumer probably will buy less clothing, wear the same shirt more frequently, wear garments out rather than throwing them out, and resist fashion changes which make out-of-style garments obsolete."

As they are adopted, flammability standards are expected to exclude only such clothing items as underwear, hats, gloves, footwear and socks.

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Department of Information
and Agricultural Journalism
Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108
Tel. (612) 373-0710
August 19, 1974

4-H NEWS

Immediate release

LOCAL 4-H'ERS RECEIVE
AWARDS AT STATE FAIR

Several 4-H members from _____ County received awards for excellence in demonstrations and exhibits at the Minnesota State Fair, according to an announcement from County Extension Agent _____.

Receiving ribbons for their demonstrations were:

Purple:

Blue:

Red:

White:

(Add a sentence or two on the subject of the purple and blue demonstrations).

Participants in non-competitive, informal Youth-In-Action demonstrations were: (Include names, address and other pertinent info.)

Junior leaders from _____ County who were demonstrating also served as junior evaluators. Included were: (Give names of junior leaders, address and other pertinent info.) The junior leaders attended a training session and joined with the official judge in demonstration conferences with 4-H members.

Approximately 900 young people competed in 4-H demonstrations during the 11 days.

4-H'ers who received awards for their exhibits are: (List names, addresses, exhibit class and ribbon received. If your county booth received a ribbon, mention and describe the booth here.)

_____(Name)_____, _____(Address)_____, was selected for the Court of Honor in the state 4-H Dress Revue. _____wore(describe).

All Dress Revue participants modeled clothes they had made. Girls from all over the state took part in the four dress revues during the State Fair.

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Department of Information
and Agricultural Journalism
Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108
Tel. (612) 373-0710
August 26, 1974

4-H NEWS

Immediate release

STATE 4-H HORSE SHOW
SET FOR SEPT. 16, 17

_____ 4-H'ers from _____ County will participate in the State 4-H Horse Show at the State Fairgrounds beginning Monday, Sept. 16, at 9:00 a.m.

The two-day event will be held concurrently with the Market Livestock Show and will be held in the Hippodrome.

(Include name of 4-H'ers involved, address and other pertinent information).

Some 300 4-H'ers will participate in halter showmanship, horsemanship, barrel racing, reining, egg and spoon contests, pole weaving and western and English pleasure classes at the show.

The evening horse show, beginning at 7 p.m. on Monday, Sept. 16 will feature several attractions. The show begins with a Grand Entry Parade of county riders. Egg and Spoon, Barrel Racing and pole weaving finalists will vie for trophies. The top five reiners from the afternoon and a jumping demonstration will round out an exciting program of top riders.

The Dan Patch Trophy, awarded to the top 4-H Horse project member in the state, will be presented along with awards for the top judging teams from the afternoon horse judging contest as well as other awards.

Some 35 4-H judging teams will be involved in a horse judging contest on Monday afternoon, Sept. 16, at 1:00 p.m. The 4-H'ers will judge six classes of horses.

All 4-H members participating in the horse show are at least 11 years of age and are currently enrolled in the 4-H horse project. They represent more than 6,000 horse project members throughout the state.

The public is invited to attend all Horse and Market Livestock Show activities with a special invitation to the Monday night show.

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Note to agents: If your county has no entries in the State 4-H Horse Show change the lead to read as follows: This year's State 4-H Horse Show will be held concurrently with the Market Livestock Show at the Hippodrome on the State Fairgrounds. The two-day event will begin on Monday, Sept. 16 at 9 a.m.

Department of Information
and Agricultural Journalism
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University of Minnesota
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To Extension Home
Economists and
Food Editors

MSE
9/29/70
J

ARTICLE RAISES NEEDLESS
FEARS AMONG HOME CANNERS

Misleading statements in an article in the August issue of Consumer Reports have raised unnecessary fears among many home canners in the state, says Isabel Wolf, University of Minnesota extension foods and nutrition specialist.

The article on recent botulism cases resulting from unsafe home canning procedures for tomatoes, fruit and vinegared pickles says that the spores of Clostridium botulinum, the organism responsible for the deadly botulism food poisoning, will be destroyed after about an hour in a boiling water bath. This is true, but Mrs. Wolf points out that the acidity of these home canned foods prevents the dormant spores from germinating into an actively growing stage that produces the deadly toxin responsible for botulism poisoning.

Mrs. Wolf and county extension home economists have received many calls from home canners who have read the article and fear that their foods, particularly tomatoes, may be dangerous. She says the boiling water bath times recommended by University food experts (40 minutes for pints, 50 minutes for quarts of raw packed tomatoes; 35 minutes pints, 45 minutes quarts of hot packed tomatoes) are sufficient.

She doesn't agree with the Consumer Reports recommendation that tomatoes be processed in a pressure canner at 15 lbs. pressure for botulism safety. Properly canned ripe red tomatoes are acid enough to prevent any germination of the dormant C. botulinum spores. She is conducting studies on yellow tomato varieties that are less acid and may approach the pH level at which the spores will germinate and produce deadly poison.

-more-

add 1--article raises needless fears

The tomatoes mentioned in Consumer Reports that caused the botulism food poisoning were canned by the open kettle method, an improper and unsafe technique that the magazine article fails to denounce. It involves spooning tomatoes into sterilized jars that are sealed without further heat treatment. Food is easily contaminated during transfer to the jars, and in a few rare instances this contamination with micro-organisms might lower the acidity level of tomatoes enough to permit botulism toxin production.

Home canners who wish details on proper canning procedures for both acid and low acid foods may obtain copies of Extension Folder 100, Home Canning Fruits and Vegetables, by writing to the Bulletin Room, 3 Coffey Hall, University of Minnesota, St. Paul 55108. Copies are offered free to individuals.

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Department of Information
and Agricultural Journalism
Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108
Tel (612) 373-0710
August 26, 1974

ATT: Extension Home Economists

Immediate release

mse
gls 7p

SIMPLE STEPS CAN
CUT YOUR CALORIES

Whether you're actively trying to shed pounds or are watching your menus to keep your waistline where it is, there are quick painless ways you can trim calories without sacrificing eating enjoyment. Mary Darling, extension nutritionist at the University of Minnesota offers these tips for the calorie conscious:

- . Use teflon pans for scrambling or frying eggs.
- . Skim fat from stock before making soup or gravy. If possible refrigerate stock over night to allow fat to harden.
- . Cook vegetables with a bouillon cube or serve them well seasoned with herbs instead of adding butter or rich cheese or cream sauces. Flavor is lost with overcooking.
- . Broil meat, fish and chicken. Trim extra fat and remove poultry skin.
- . Make your own or buy low calorie salad dressings.
- . Use reconstituted nonfat dry milk whenever a recipe calls for milk.
- . Instead of rich pastry, shortcakes or graham cracker-butter crusts, try pie crusts made of crisp zwieback crumbs, graham crackers without butter or gingersnap crumbs.
- . Make whipped topping with nonfat dry milk instead of whipping cream. Artificial sweetener will cut even more calories.
- . Take advantage of the season. Serve fresh, unsweetened fruit for desserts frequently. Pies and cobblers from fresh fruit should be a rare treat.
- . If you crave something sweet to top off a meal, eat a hard candy. It will last longer and add fewer calories than a pastry or ice cream.

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Department of Information
and Agricultural Journalism
Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108
Tel. (612) 373-0710
August 26, 1974

Immediate release

IN BRIEF. . . .

Cull Beef Cows. It might pay off to cull more beef cows this fall. "Beef cow and feeder cattle prices probably will go down in the year ahead," says Paul Hasbargen, extension economist at the University of Minnesota. Since prices of yearling feeder heifers are low, consider saving more of them and selling cows instead. By selling cows instead of heifers this fall, you'll also save on your 1974 taxes since income from cow sales is taxed at the lower capital gains rate. Beef animals less than two years of age are taxed at the regular tax rate.

* * * *

Ag. Exports. More than ever, the market for American agriculture is world wide. Last year Asian countries took 37 percent of all U. S. agricultural shipments, compared with 31 percent for Western Europe, our oldest market. Our exports to Latin America more than doubled, and shipments to Africa more than tripled from the preceding year.

The People's Republic of China became a major customer last year with purchases of \$852 million. But the Japanese market was four times that big. And three countries were above the billion-dollar mark--Canada, West Germany and the Netherlands.

* * * *

Twine Prices. You can expect supplies of baler twine to remain tight and prices to be higher this year than last. World suppliers of the natural hard fibers used to make twine--sisal and henequen--report only a slight increase in the supply of raw materials this year over 1973.

* * * *

Milk Production. For the first time in 22 months last June milk output was higher than that of a corresponding month a year earlier. June output was 10 billion, 59 million pounds--up 2/10 of one percent from a year earlier.

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Department of Information
and Agricultural Journalism
Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108
Tel. (612) 373-0710
August 28, 1974

AG. LAW MEET
SET FOR SEPT.
IN ST. PAUL

Attorneys and those who advise farmers, including bankers and extension agents, are invited to enroll in the second annual Conference on Agriculture and Law starting 9 a.m. in the Classroom-Office Building of the University of Minnesota's St. Paul Campus on Thursday, September 5.

Some of the topics of the three-day conference include: family farm planning, agricultural cooperatives, surface water management in rural areas, agriculture finance, commercial law and the farmer, farm labor law and farm trusts.

The Conference on Agriculture and Law is designed to benefit the attorney with an established practice as well as the less experienced attorney encountering farm and farmer's legal problems for the first time. Conference participation is not restricted to attorneys. Also invited are professional farm advisers, such as bankers, accountants, educators and government officials. The registration fee for the entire conference is \$95.

Registration can be made the days of Thursday or Friday, September 5 and 6 at the St. Paul Campus location. Detailed program information is available from Continuing Legal Education, 338 Nolte Center, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis 55455.

Sponsoring the three-day event are the Minnesota State Bar Association and the University of Minnesota.

-daz-

Department of Information
and Agricultural Journalism
Agricultural Extension Service
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108
Tel. (612) 373-0710
August 28, 1974

Special to County Extension
Agents and Livestock Magazines--
Budgets enclosed

HOW MUCH CORN
SILAGE IN BEEF
CATTLE RATIONS?

Beef feeders should consider high silage rations to cut feed costs for their calf feeding programs.

"However, be cautious about going to high silage rations when finishing heavier feeders," says Paul Hasbargen, extension economist at the University of Minnesota.

"Choice carcasses can be produced without any corn grain in the ration when top quality silage is fed. However, dressing percentage will be 1.5 to 2 percent lower, meaning live weight selling prices will be 50¢ to \$1 lower on the all silage cattle," Hasbargen points out. "With more forage, animals will need to be carried to heavier weights to reach choice grade. And the more weight you add in the feedlot these days the more money you lose, figuring purchase price at \$35 per cwt., feedlot cost of \$55 per cwt. and a sales price of \$45 per cwt.

"Even if you shave a few dollars off feed costs with a high forage ration you still lose money every day in relation to the expected sales price. So your best bet is to buy more pounds, convert them to choice grade as soon as possible and capitalize on the positive price margin," Hasbargen says.

-more-

add 1--how much corn silage

As an example, Hasbargen has compared budgets of liberal silage and liberal grain rations for steer calves purchased at 450 lbs. Figuring corn at \$3.50 per bushel, steers on the liberal silage ration returned an extra \$2.19 to labor and facilities. Actually, the budgeted return for labor and facilities came to \$1.17 on the liberal grain ration and to \$3.36 on the liberal silage ration.

"The point we should make is that the extra \$2.19 isn't worth the extra work and worry since the steers on the heavy silage ration would have to be on feed an extra month. And, if the market is moving down after the 2nd quarter of next year, returns could actually be lower on the high silage ration.

"At this time I'm encouraging corn silage rations for calf feeding programs. But it's not a sure road to profits in light of the large cattle slaughter expected in 1975," Hasbargen emphasizes. "Right now the more profitable alternative for good corn that matures appears to be to harvest as grain and feed it to feeder pigs."

But, for the many farmers with drought damaged corn, utilization as corn silage to grow out calves will be the best use.

In order to make money, feeding cattle, he says, calves will have to be bought for under \$30 and yearlings for under \$33 per hundred. And, this low price will leave the feeder producer with a net loss on his cow-calf enterprise.

-jms-

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
 AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE
 PROGRAM - BEEFERS.

BUDGET FOR STEER YEARLING USING LIBERAL SILAGE RATION

| | HEAD | CWT GAIN |
|-------------------------------|-------|----------|
| PERFORMANCE: | | |
| PURCHASE WEIGHT, LBS | 700. | |
| SELLING WEIGHT, LBS | 1150. | |
| TOTAL GAIN, LBS | 450. | |
| AVERAGE DAILY GAIN, LBS | 2.20 | |
| DAYS ON FEED | 205. | |

| | | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------|----------|
| VALUE PRODUCED: | | |
| SALE VALUE AT \$ 43.00 /CWT..... | \$ 494.50 | |
| PURCHASE COST AT \$ 32.00 /CWT | 224.00 | |
| GROSS MARGIN | 270.50 | \$ 60.11 |

| | | |
|------------------------------------|--------|-------|
| FEED REQUIREMENTS AND COSTS: | | |
| CORN 36.00 BU AT \$ 3.50 | 126.00 | 28.00 |
| SILAGE 2.97 TON AT \$ 24.00 | 71.28 | 15.84 |
| HAY .27 TON AT \$ 50.00 | 13.50 | 3.00 |
| PROTSUP 2.07 CWT AT \$ 10.00 | 20.70 | 4.60 |
| MINERAL .30 CWT AT \$ 13.00 | 3.86 | .86 |
| TOTAL FEED COST | 235.34 | 52.30 |

| | | |
|---------------------------------------|-------|------|
| OPERATING COSTS: | | |
| INTEREST ON ANIMALS (9.0 PERCENT) .. | 11.30 | 2.51 |
| DEATH LOSS (.7 PERCENT) | 1.67 | .37 |
| SELLING AND BUYING COSTS | 10.83 | 2.41 |
| OTHER OPERATING COSTS | 8.00 | 1.73 |
| TOTAL OPERATING COSTS | 31.80 | 7.07 |

TOTAL FEED & OPERATING COSTS 267.14 59.36

BUDGETED RETURN FOR LABOR & FACILITIES. 3.36 .75

RETURN PER HEAD FOR LABOR & FACILITIES WITH DIFFERENT PRICES.

| SELLING PRICE/CWT | WHEN PURCHASE COST PER CWT IS: | | | | |
|----------------------|--------------------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| | 28.00 | 30.00 | 32.00 | 34.00 | 36.00 |
| 39.00 | -13.02 | -27.83 | -42.64 | -57.45 | -72.26 |
| 41.00 | 9.98 | -4.83 | -19.64 | -34.45 | -49.26 |
| 43.00 | 32.98 | 18.17 | 3.36 | -11.45 | -26.26 |
| 45.00 | 55.98 | 41.17 | 26.36 | 11.55 | -3.26 |
| 47.00 | 78.98 | 64.17 | 49.36 | 34.55 | 19.74 |

BREAK EVEN SELLING PRICES THAT WILL COVER FEED, OPERATING,
 AND \$ 20.00 RETURN FOR LABOR AND FACILITIES.

| PURCHASE PRICE/CWT | WHEN CORN PRICE PER BU IS: | | | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| | 3.30 | 3.40 | 3.50 | 3.60 | 3.70 |
| 28.00 | 40.80 | 41.27 | 41.74 | 42.21 | 42.69 |
| 30.00 | 42.09 | 42.56 | 43.03 | 43.50 | 43.97 |
| 32.00 | 43.37 | 43.85 | 44.32 | 44.79 | 45.26 |
| 34.00 | 44.66 | 45.13 | 45.61 | 46.08 | 46.55 |
| 36.00 | 45.95 | 46.42 | 46.89 | 47.37 | 47.84 |

NOTE: TO COVER ONLY FEED AND OPERATING COSTS AND \$ 20.00 RETURN FOR LABOR AND FACILITIES.

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
 AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE
 PROGRAM - FBEEFS

BUDGET FOR STEER YEARLING USING LIBERAL GRAIN RATION

| | HEAD | CWT GAIN |
|---|-----------|----------|
| PERFORMANCE: | | |
| PURCHASE WEIGHT, LBS | 700. | |
| SELLING WEIGHT, LBS | 1100. | |
| TOTAL GAIN, LBS | 400. | |
| AVERAGE DAILY GAIN, LBS | 2.40 | |
| DAYS ON FEED | 167. | |
| VALUE PRODUCED: | | |
| SALE VALUE AT \$ 43.00 /CWT..... | \$ 473.00 | |
| PURCHASE COST AT \$ 32.00 /CWT | 224.00 | |
| GROSS MARGIN | 249.00 | \$ 62.25 |
| FEED REQUIREMENTS AND COSTS: | | |
| CORN 53.33 BU AT \$ 3.50 | 186.67 | 46.67 |
| HAY .27 TON AT \$ 50.00 | 13.33 | 3.33 |
| PROTSUP 1.60 CWT AT \$ 10.00 | 16.00 | 4.00 |
| MINERAL .27 CWT AT \$ 13.00 | 3.47 | .87 |
| TOTAL FEED COST | 219.47 | 54.87 |
| OPERATING COSTS: | | |
| INTEREST ON ANIMALS (9.0 PERCENT) .. | 9.21 | 2.30 |
| DEATH LOSS (.7 PERCENT) | 1.66 | .41 |
| SELLING AND BUYING COSTS | 10.50 | 2.63 |
| OTHER OPERATING COSTS | 7.00 | 1.75 |
| TOTAL OPERATING COSTS | 28.36 | 7.09 |
| TOTAL FEED & OPERATING COSTS | 247.83 | 61.96 |
| BUDGETED RETURN FOR LABOR & FACILITIES. | 1.17 | .29 |

RETURN PER HEAD FOR LABOR & FACILITIES WITH DIFFERENT PRICES.

| SELLING PRICE/CWT | WHEN PURCHASE COST PER CWT IS: | | | | |
|----------------------|--------------------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| | 28.00 | 30.00 | 32.00 | 34.00 | 36.00 |
| 39.00 | -13.47 | -23.15 | -42.83 | -57.51 | -72.18 |
| 41.00 | 8.53 | -6.15 | -20.83 | -35.51 | -50.18 |
| 43.00 | 30.53 | 15.85 | 1.17 | -13.51 | -28.18 |
| 45.00 | 52.53 | 37.85 | 23.17 | 8.49 | -6.18 |
| 47.00 | 74.53 | 59.85 | 45.17 | 30.49 | 15.82 |

BREAK EVEN SELLING PRICES THAT WILL COVER FEED, OPERATING,
 AND \$ 20.00 RETURN FOR LABOR AND FACILITIES.

| PURCHASE PRICE/CWT | WHEN CORN PRICE PER BU IS: | | | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| | 3.30 | 3.40 | 3.50 | 3.60 | 3.70 |
| 28.00 | 41.07 | 41.56 | 42.04 | 42.53 | 43.01 |
| 30.00 | 42.41 | 42.89 | 43.38 | 43.86 | 44.35 |
| 32.00 | 43.74 | 44.23 | 44.71 | 45.20 | 45.68 |
| 34.00 | 45.08 | 45.56 | 46.05 | 46.53 | 47.02 |
| 36.00 | 46.41 | 46.90 | 47.38 | 47.87 | 48.35 |

NOTE: TO COVER ONLY FEED AND OPERATING COSTS SUBTRACT \$ 1.82