

news

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Agricultural Extension Service
Communication Resources
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108
October 1, 1983

MEDIA NEWS PACKET INDEX

Agricultural stories:

Page Numbers
(lower right corner)

Soviet grain imports decline by end of 80s	M-2,3
Competitive prices needed for Russian grain sales	M-4,5
Bates honored for super calf hutch plans	M-6,7
High court serious on land use	M-8,9,10
Don't give up on garden mums	M-11,12
Higher off-farm wages caused larger famrs	M-13,14
Farm policy briefs	M-15-18

Consumer stories:

Consumers have collection rights	M-19,20
As pool of older workers grows, employment picture will change	M-21,22
Employment picture for women improving	M-23,24
Some coin-operated washers pose hazards	M-25
Books deal with family stress	M-26,27

Specialists: If you would like a copy of the above releases, check them and send this cover sheet with your name and address to Marilyn Masterman, 433 Coffey Hall.

MP

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Agricultural Extension Service
Communication Resources
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

October 1, 1983

Source: Karen Brooks
612/376-3433
Writer: Jack Sperbeck
612/373-0715

SOVIET GRAIN IMPORTS DECLINE BY END OF 80S

We shouldn't plan on "large and continually expanding grain exports to the Soviet Union," according to an agricultural economist at the University of Minnesota.

"Soviet grain imports will level off and probably decline a bit by the end of the 1980s," says Karen Brooks, who has studied in the USSR and co-authored a book on Russian agriculture in the 80s.

Brooks expects less Soviet demand for imported grains by the end of this decade. "The Soviets have a large potential to reduce their need for imported grain, and we should expect them to realize some of that potential by the end of the decade." There is much room for improvement in animal feed efficiency and in increased production of non-grain feeds such as hay.

She thinks grain sales to the Soviet Union will average about 30 million metric tons a year for the next few years, then fall off a bit by the late 1980s.

Brooks spoke at a recent agricultural outlook conference sponsored by the University of Minnesota's Agricultural Extension Service. She was asked what structural changes are needed to make Russian agriculture more efficient, and listed two.

Page 1 of 2

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M-2

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page 2--soviet grain imports decline

"First, workers and managers need more incentives to make the system work. Lately there's been a slight change in offering incentives tied to production, but nothing major.

"Second, the Russians need better links between farms and input suppliers. Now a farm with a commitment to get fertilizer from a supplier may not get the fertilizer on time. There's no 'punishment' if the fertilizer doesn't get there. The new 'Food Program for the 1980s' addresses the problems that farms have with input suppliers, but not in a way that will bring much improvement."

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October 1, 1983

Source: Karen Brooks
612/376-3433

Writer: Jack Sperbeck
612/373-0715

COMPETITIVE PRICES NEEDED FOR RUSSIAN GRAIN SALES

Competitive prices are more important in selling grain to the Soviet Union than long-term grain agreements, according to a University of Minnesota agricultural economist.

"The recent long-term grain agreement with the Soviets has some advantages for both countries," says Karen Brooks, "but how U.S. prices compare to other exporting countries is more important."

Brooks has studied in the Soviet Union and co-authored a book on Russian agriculture in the 80s. She expects grain sales to the Soviet Union to average 30 million metric tons a year for the next few years, then fall off in the late 1980s to around 25 million tons.

Brooks says the grain embargo of January, 1980, forced the Soviets to negotiate with several smaller suppliers. "The major cost to the Russians was that they had to go to several small suppliers and negotiate with each of them separately.

"The U.S. share of Russian grain sales was about 60 to 70 percent before the embargo. After the embargo this dropped to 30 percent."

However, Brooks says the U.S. market share to Russia "may have dropped even if there hadn't been an embargo. The strength of the U.S. dollar made

page 2--competitive prices needed

our exports more costly compared to what the Soviets could find elsewhere. For example, Argentine corn prices dropped about 25 percent compared to ours."

Brooks says the recent grain agreement with the Soviet Union has advantages for both sides. Three factors are favorable to the USSR:

--They can make higher maximum purchases without further negotiations.

--There is a "no embargo" guarantee.

--There is no escape clause in case of a U.S. domestic shortage.

Brooks says two factors are favorable to the U.S.:

--A higher minimum commitment from Russia. This agreement calls for a minimum sale of 9 million metric tons, compared to 6 million under the old agreement.

--The potential for increased sales of soybeans to Russia. But Brooks is not sure how important the soybean provision is. "I'm tempted to label that only 'half' of a factor," she says, as the Soviets do not guarantee that they will increase their purchases of American soybeans.

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October 1, 1983

Writer: Anne Lewis
612/373-1786

BATES HONORED FOR SUPER CALF HUTCH PLANS

Donald Bates, agricultural engineering specialist with the University of Minnesota's Agricultural Extension Service, won honors for his design of an eight-calf super calf hutch at the recent annual meeting of the American Society of Agricultural Engineers.

Bates collaborated with Minnesota's Agricultural Experiment Station veterinary scientist John F. Anderson on the hutch, which was designed to protect older calves from respiratory diseases.

The building plans for the hutch gained a blue ribbon in the national competition for 1983 Extension Education Aids.

The hutch, built to house calves until they reach approximately 400 pounds, is a naturally ventilated building with panels that can be opened and closed according to the weather. It has a crowding gate and stanchion for treating calves and is built on skids so that it can be moved with a tractor for easy cleaning.

Calves can be transferred to the super hutch at about two months, after they outgrow the smaller hutches. Farmers using the super hutch say calves are healthier and less medication is needed. The Minnesota Agricultural Extension Service publication "Building a Super Calf Hutch" AG-F0-0416 is available from county extension offices.

Page 1 of 2

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M-6

page 2--bates honored

Forrest Bear, a professor in the Departments of Agricultural Engineering and Vocational and Technical Education, also won a blue ribbon. His winning entry, a slide cassette program, was titled "Electric Motor Speed Determination and Torque Curve Characteristics."

#

MP, 4D

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University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

October 1, 1983

Source: Bob Snyder
612/376-3433
Writer: Mary Kay O'Hearn
612/373-1786

HIGH COURT SERIOUS ON LAND USE

Land purchasers and government bodies should be paying close attention to planning and zoning laws, signals from Minnesota's Supreme Court this year would indicate.

Bob Snyder, Extension land economist with the University of Minnesota's Agricultural Extension Service, calls it "a rare event" when the Supreme Court looks at a variance from a zoning regulation as it did in one of the two cases.

When the highest state court said "no" to a lower court which had ordered the variance, the issue in dispute was a piece of suburban lakeshore property, nearly, but not quite, large enough to split into two lots. The owner wanted the City of Mendota Heights to waive setback and frontage requirements which couldn't be met, so that two houses, rather than one, could be built on waterfront property. The city council said no, prompting the landowner's suit in district court, where all the variances were granted. Then the city council appealed that decision to the Supreme Court, which reversed the district court and upheld the council's original, no. From the initial variance request through hearings and litigation the process took three years.

Page 1 of 3

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page 2--high court serious

Snyder, who is also an attorney, cautions that perhaps purchase agreements to buy land be made contingent on needed zoning changes if these are essential to using the land as the purchaser intends. The person requesting a variance can't create his/her own problem by buying land which already needs a variance, courts have held. Nor can economic reasons tip the balance for a variance. High taxes on the land or the expense of landscaping a large lot aren't sufficient reasons for granting.

"New planning laws went into effect in 1974 for Minnesota counties and the same rules took effect for cities and townships in 1982," Snyder says. "It is going to be more difficult to obtain variances in the future." As in this instance, a lower court may overturn a local unit only to have its decision nullified at the Supreme Court level.

In the second case, the Supreme Court merely affirmed a district court ruling, this time in favor of the landowner.

The City of New Ulm had wanted a subdivision developer to set aside a strip of land for public access to a scenic overlook in an adjoining state park. Even though this was private property, the public had been using it for convenient access.

Snyder says the court called the city on making undue demands on the landowner. Planning law requires that public use of dedicated land be beneficial to residents in the new subdivision. Here, people living in the subdivision already had this access while the request was just for others.

Subdivision developers, however, do have to pay their way. The Minnesota Supreme Court has adopted a liberal standard for land dedication of streets and parks or dollar payments in lieu of land, as requirements from subdividers. Anytime residents of new subdivisions will increase demands on

page 3--high court serious

recreational resources, the developer can be made to pay.

"Because the Supreme Court has a heavy docket and vast numbers of opinions to hand down, it merely affirmed what the trial court said in this instance. Though this case sets no legal precedent, it gives a message to cities and townships involved in similar situations," Snyder says.

He has some comments, too, for those who might be objecting to some variance being requested and subsequently granted on neighboring property or lakes. "First of all, attend the public hearings where discussion takes place and be sure your points are read into the record." It might be well to employ a land use attorney. It could cost something initially, but could be invaluable later on.

If a variance is granted that you disagree with, don't wait five years or until something has been built on the site to protest. If you can demonstrate that the variance granted was illegal, you can take your arguments to court. "Trial court judges are becoming more knowledgeable about zoning," Snyder says. This is why it is important to speak and be recorded at a hearing. The court may just look at the transcript of a zoning hearing to make its decision and by then it's too late to interject your points.

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October 1, 1983

Source: Richard Widmer
612/373-1562
Writer: Sam Brungardt
612/376-8182

DON'T GIVE UP ON GARDEN MUMS

If your chrysanthemums have not yet bloomed, don't despair. With favorable weather, you'll still be able to enjoy their color in the fall flower garden, according to Richard Widmer, horticultural scientist with the Agricultural Experiment Station at the University of Minnesota.

"Most varieties of garden mums are about three weeks late in flowering this year," Widmer says. "Chrysanthemums usually bloom in response to shortening days. This response can be delayed by extreme temperatures, either high or low. July and August were unusually and consistently hot this year. The August heat in particular delayed flower bud development."

Widmer says that mum varieties differ in their response to heat as well. For example, Mellow Moon--a 1983 University of Minnesota introduction--was not delayed by this summer's heat as much as most other varieties.

There's still time to enjoy your mums, even if they may bloom later than usual. "Chrysanthemum flower buds continue to develop and open until they are stopped by killing frosts," Widmer says. "Cold tolerance varies with the variety, but in general, mums will take more cold than most other garden flowers, down to as low as 25 degrees F."

Widmer says light frosts may damage a few petals on mums, but a few

Page 1 of 2

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page 2--garden mums

sunny days will bring the luster back to the blossoms. And, the speed of flower development depends on the weather; it is more rapid during warm autumn weather and slower when the days are cool and cloudy.

Other unfavorable environmental factors can also cause delayed flowering in mums. Among those Widmer cites are excess shade, nutrient deficiencies, and drought.

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Source: Willis Peterson
612/373-0951

Writer: Mary Kay O'Hearn
612/373-1786

HIGHER OFF-FARM WAGES CAUSED LARGER FARMS

Catch words such as "economies of scale" or "technological change" don't explain a 40-year growth in farm size for Yoav Kislev and Willis Peterson.

They explain it this way: Off-farm wages increased, drawing people out of agriculture, and those who no longer farmed sold to their neighbors, increasing farm size. Settlement and homesteading is the historic pattern in U.S. farming and it is centered around the family farm.

Changes in prices (including input prices, non-farm income and technology) play leading roles in farm size change, the two say in a paper called, "Prices, Technology and Farm Size." They collaborated on writing it while Kislev, from Hebrew University, was a visiting professor on sabbatical at the University of Minnesota's Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics where Peterson is a professor.

While the family unit dominates in the farming sector and large corporations dominate in the non-farming sector, their paper testifies further to the lack of significance of "economies of scale" in most farming operations and to its existence in other industries. "Owners of large amounts of wealth invest their capital in the non-farm sector," Kislev and Peterson say.

They point to the Bonanza Farms of the Red River Valley. In the late

Page 1 of 2

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page 2--higher off-farm wages

19th century some farms were as large as 20,000 acres, one had 55,000 acres. When these enterprises ran into diseconomies of scale and dependence on a large hired labor force that waned in the early 20th century, the farms were sold and divided up into family units.

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St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

October 1, 1983

Source: G. Edward Schuh
612/373-0945
Writer: Jack Sperbeck
612/373-0715

FARM POLICY BRIEFS

Eliminate farm programs? "There are times when I think farmers should ask for a gradual phase-out of all farm commodity programs over the next three to five years," says G. Edward Schuh, head of the University of Minnesota's Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics.

"Farm programs just don't work well anymore," Schuh says. "Loan rates and target prices have been about the same for the past three years. Yet our large federal deficit and the high interest rates it has caused have made for a strong U.S. dollar. That has caused a 30 percent increase in prices of our farm products overseas.

"Had we drawn up a plan to reduce our market share, we couldn't have done a better job. Our domestic farm policies don't address the problem. They just get swamped by things like our monetary policy, budget deficits and international economic factors."

* * *

PIK Expensive. The PIK program will add from \$12 to \$21 billion to budget costs of the 1983 farm program. That comes on top of regular farm program costs of \$21.8 billion, says G. Edward Schuh, head of the University of Minnesota's Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics.

Page 1 of 4

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page 2--farm policy briefs

"We could easily see a total \$35 billion cost for federal farm programs in 1983," Schuh says. "The sad part is that PIK may not have accomplished anything.

"PIK was a desperation attempt to get our surplus situation under control. But the problem was that someone had their numbers wrong. Sign-up for PIK was three times greater than what had been predicted. And rather quickly PIK went from a program that cost nothing to a program that cost quite a bit," he says.

"In 1981 and 1982, we badly needed a paid diversion program to get some land out of production. But the policy we had brought about very little adjustment. We tried to sell more farm products abroad when our national currency rates were rising 25 to 30 percent. This choked exports off, and surpluses got even larger. In 1983, desperation took over and PIK was the result," Schuh says.

* * *

Farm Trade Negotiations. Negotiating auto imports with Japan at the same time we talk about selling them beef and citrus products would be far more effective than separate negotiations, as we now do.

"If we'd tell the Japanese that 'starting next Monday, we'll knock off 1,000 auto imports a week until you change your policy on accepting our beef and citrus products', we'd get their attention," says G. Edward Schuh, head of the University of Minnesota's Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics.

"We get trapped into talking about just agriculture and we have little leverage," Schuh says. "We need to be more conscious of the fact that trade is a two-way street and be more sensitive to linkages."

page 3--farm policy briefs

Our temporary embargo on Chinese textile imports is an example. The Chinese cut our ag exports in retaliation. Fortunately, we made a quick adjustment. "We need to keep that lesson in mind when dealing with other trading partners," Schuh says.

* * *

International Bank. An international or "central bank for the world" would be a plus for the U.S. farm economy, says G. Edward Schuh, head of the University of Minnesota's Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics.

Schuh says our strong--perhaps too strong--U.S. dollar has severely hampered farm exports since it causes higher prices to the purchasing countries.

"The United States now serves as the world's central banker, but it's not working very well," he says. "It wouldn't be hard to start a central banking system--once we make up our minds to do it. The United States is presently opposed to an international bank."

* * *

1930 Farm Programs. Our farm commodity programs are "basically what we started with in the 1980s," says G. Edward Schuh, head of the University of Minnesota's Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics.

But our economy was "grossly different then," Schuh says. "Exports were low, there was no international capital market, and monetary policy was not a factor in the farm economy.

"We can't expect these programs to work now. They get swamped by other economic forces that are due to the very great changes over the past 15 years in the international economy and how we relate to it."

* * *

page 4--farm policy briefs

Changes in Farming. Some 50 years from now, people will look at the 1970s and 1980s as an era of "unprecedented change in agriculture as well as in the international economy."

So says G. Edward Schuh, head of the University of Minnesota's Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics. "Our dependence on world trade doubled in the 70s," he says. "Since agriculture is now an integral part of the international economy, our national farm policies have less impact on the agricultural economy."

Schuh says monetary policy is extremely important to agriculture. But before 1973, U.S. monetary policy had little to do with our farm economy. "Now we're finding that our unstable monetary policy imposes severe adjustments on agriculture.

"Unstable, zig-zag monetary policy and our large federal budget deficits give farmers headaches. They lead to high interest rates, a strong U.S. dollar and weak demand for our exports. We must reduce our federal budget deficit for the farm economy to prosper."

Schuh says we've paid a high price through unemployment and business liquidations to squeeze inflation out of the economy. "But this past year the Federal Reserve has been pouring money into the system like it's going out of style," he says. "That will lead to higher inflation and interest rates in the future."

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October 1, 1983

Source: Dottie Goss
612/373-0914
Writer: Mary Kay O'Hearn
612/373-1786

CONSUMERS HAVE COLLECTION RIGHTS

Unfair collection practices have resulted in a recent clamp down from the Federal Trade Commission (FTC).

Dottie Goss says the FTC consent agreement sends a message to both collectors and debtors. Goss is a family resource management specialist with the University of Minnesota's Agricultural Extension Service. In effect, the decision regarding a large consumer finance company says that debtors or third parties should not be harassed with obscene language, repeated telephoning or threats of violence either against the debtor or the debtor's property. If the debtor's employer objects, a debtor should not be contacted at work. Any consumer being represented by an attorney should not be contacted except under particular circumstances.

Also taboo is discussing the existence of a consumer's debt with third parties, such as employers, friends, neighbors or relatives without prior consent of the consumer or permission from a court--except under specific circumstances.

The FTC said all these alleged practices are unfair, can injure a debtor's reputation and can interfere with the debtor's or third party's employment.

Page 1 of 2

page 2--consumers have collection rights

Collectors may use regularly used pseudonyms, but may not misrepresent the identify of their company or its employees by pretending to be attorneys, law enforcement officials, insurance investigators or persons owing money to the debtors.

Threatening legal action (for instance saying a debtor's property would be seized) if there is no intention of following through is also off bounds.

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Agricultural Extension Service
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October 1, 1983

Source: Dottie Goss
612/373-0914
Writer: Deedee Nagy
612/373-1781

AS POOL OF OLDER WORKERS GROWS, EMPLOYMENT PICTURE WILL CHANGE

The U.S. work force is showing more and more gray hairs, and this aging of our population will have a big impact, says Dottie Goss, family resource management specialist with the University of Minnesota's Agricultural Extension Service.

In the next 30 years, the population age group of 55 and over will increase to nearly 70 million people or about one-fourth of the country's population. At the same time, the number of young entry-level workers (ages 18 to 34) will decline and the ranks of middle-aged workers will swell.

This will mean a variety of changes, Goss predicts. If workers continue to retire at about the same rate and age that they do now, the ratio of workers to non-workers will drop. This will produce a serious drain on both private and public pension plans and may encourage new policies to encourage longer employment for older persons.

This encouragement could come in the form of more part-time work and flexible work schedules, both options that appeal to persons approaching retirement age. Middle-aged workers will also become more attractive to companies faced with a dwindling pool of young potential employees. This will be good news for those who want to continue in the labor force. Presently,

Page 1 of 2

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page 2--as pool of older workers grows

unemployed persons over age 55 face long and often frustrating job searches, according to research done by the U.S. Department of Labor.

Goss foresees more companies encouraging their workers to stay on past normal retirement age. This will ease the burden on pension plans and will provide much needed manpower she adds. In addition, Goss predicts that in the coming years, middle-aged workers will be more in demand for entry level type jobs normally filled by younger workers. Many industries may develop extensive retraining programs to provide older workers with needed skills for new types of assignments, she adds. This will bode well for middle-aged workers in the next 20 to 30 years. But those over age 65 who would like to continue working will have difficulties. Goss says they will probably find it increasingly difficult to compete for jobs against the largest pool of middle-aged workers in U.S. history.

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October 1, 1983

Source: Dottie Goss
612/373-0914
Writer: Deedee Nagy
612/373-1781

EMPLOYMENT PICTURE FOR WOMEN IMPROVING

The employment picture for women is improving along with the general economy, reports Dottie Goss, family resource management specialist with the University of Minnesota's Agricultural Extension Service.

Recent figures from the U.S. Department of Labor show that the unemployment rate for women dropped from an average of 10.1 percent at this time last year to 9.6 percent as recently as three months ago.

In addition, fewer women are now in the "discouraged" workers category -- people who are not working because they believe they will be unable to find work. The total of discouraged women workers has fallen by 140,000 since the end of 1982, Goss says.

Among young women who graduated from high school in 1982, about half entered college. Of these college enrollees, nearly half were also employed, most often at part-time jobs. Their unemployment rate was a low 16.6 percent. In contrast, 78 percent of the young women who did not go on to college after high school had found jobs by October 1982, for an unemployment rate of 28.5 percent. The highest unemployment rate 38.3 percent, was among young women who dropped out of high school during the 1981-1982 school year.

Goss comments, "Clearly the number of years a woman can expect to spend

page 2--employment picture for women

working is rising steadily. In 1950, a 20-year-old woman had a worklife expectancy of about 14-1/2 years. By 1977, this had risen to 26 years of work for the average 20-year-old woman. The trend is for women to marry later and, as more marriages end in divorce, for women to be more responsible for their own support."

In addition, women are having fewer children so they spend fewer years of their lives in child-bearing and rearing, Goss adds. Combining employment with motherhood is also becoming more acceptable. Currently about half of all mothers with children under age six are employed.

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

October 1, 1983

Source: Cheryl Nelson
612/376-1536
Writer: Deedee Nagy
612/373-1781

SOME COIN-OPERATED WASHERS POSE HAZARDS

The Consumer Product Safety Commission is warning consumers and laundry operators that some coin-operated, heavy duty, front-loading washers found in commercial laundries can cause serious injuries to users.

Cheryl Nelson, textiles and clothing specialist with the University of Minnesota's Agricultural Extension Service, says injuries from the machines have included several arm, hand and finger amputations. The accidents have happened when the machines continued spinning after the door was opened or the washers started up again while the door was open. Those who were injured became entangled in the spinning machine while they were removing clothes or balancing the wash load.

The Consumer Product Safety Commission urges laundry operators to inspect their machines for proper safety devices. Replacement door locks that prevent the door from opening until the cylinder has stopped are being made available to laundry owners at no cost.

Nelson cautions person using such front-loading, commercial washers to keep children away, to keep the doors shut while the machine is operating, and to report any unsafe machines to the laundry owner.

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Page 1 of 1

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University of Minnesota
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October 1, 1983

Source: Hamilton McCubbin
612/373-1578
Writer: Mary Kay O'Hearn
612/373-1786

BOOKS DEAL WITH FAMILY STRESS

Stress and the Family is the title of two new volumes and the subject of three others published this year by University of Minnesota, Department of Family Social Science professionals.

The books are designed mainly for students and professionals. They give comprehensive accounts of family stress and coping strategies.

Volume I of Stress and the Family is subtitled "Coping With Normative Transitions". A sample of its chapter headings includes: parents and adolescents, dual-career families (strains of sharing), divorce, single parenting, stepparenting (blending families) and economic stress. Volume II, subtitled "Coping with Catastrophe" (extra-ordinary and sudden stress that strikes families), has chronic illness, drug abuse, abandonment, stress of sudden divorce, death, unemployment, rape, war and captivity among its topics.

Both volumes were edited by Hamilton McCubbin, professor and head of the department at the University, and Charles Figley, professor and director of the Child and Family Research Institute, Purdue University. Each book is built around case vignettes.

* * *

Bitter, Bitter Tears is Paul Rosenblatt's study of 19th and 20th century

Page 1 of 2

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M-26

page 2--books deal with family stress

grief theories through 56 diaries found in U.S. and Canadian libraries. He had some of the diaries translated from Scandinavian languages.

Rosenblatt, professor in the Department of Family Social Science, University of Minnesota, and a psychologist, looks at the theory of "grief work." The most difficult losses (through death or separation) are of people one has known for a long time or been closely associated with. There are more memories of them to disengage (grief work).

* * *

An anthology of 11 studies by 18 authors is contained in Social Stress and the Family: Advances and Developments in Family Stress Theory and Research. Co-editors are McCubbin and Joan Patterson, research associate, University of Minnesota Department of Family Social Science. Marvin Sussman, professor of human behavior, University of Delaware, is the editor. This book and Families: What Makes Them Work had grant funding from the Agricultural Experiment Station at the University of Minnesota. The latter studies more than 1,000 families, looking at how they manage their lives and the relative successes and failures in the process. David Olson, professor of Family Social Science at the University and a licensed consulting psychologist, and McCubbin and Associates are its authors.

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MP, Hec

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for County Agents

COUNTY NEWS PACKET
INDEX

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Communication Resources
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108
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Note to agents: If you distribute this packet to other agents in the office, then PLEASE CIRCULATE ALL PAGES OF THE COVER LETTER. We've been reminding you of the color code system for releases every month, but some people are still asking questions.

This packet is all consumer oriented, but the media packet has stories from other program areas. Weekly mailings have been abundant with agriculture stories lately.

Consumer stories:

	<u>Page Number</u>
	(lower right corner)
Clothing care labeling improved	C-4,5
Homemakers' economic worth gaining recognition	C-6,7
Homemakers' low self esteem is unjustified	C-8,9
Imported vs. domestic clothing poses consumer decision	C-10,11
Seeing spots? research before tackling stains	C-12,13
Insurance briefs	C-14,15,16
Don't let leather garments get under your skin	C-17,18
New lining can breathe new life into a coat	C-19
Shortcut mending techniques save time and money	C-20,21
New life for old clothes is rewarding challenge	C-22,23
Be a wise consumer of used clothing	C-24,25
Keeping kids clothed when the budget is strained	C-26

- more on next page -

CP

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C-1

Agents and specialists: Here is a list of releases that we sent out the past month, but not as part of the news media or agent packet. If you would like to receive a copy, check them and send this sheet with your name and address to Marilyn Masterman, 433 Coffey Hall.

Study Shows Connection Between Mastitis, Poor Milking Procedures
Animal Scientis Jordan Receives Two ASAS Awards
Wood machining workshop scheduled at Anoka
Wood machining workshop scheduled at Carlton
Wood machining workshop scheduled at Detroit Lakes
Wood machining workshop scheduled at Rochester
Low '84 wheat prices coul make PIK more profitable
Moderate improvement in farm credit seen
Hog management during price slump
Wheat price improvement to be slight
Oilseeds under weather market
Feedgrain prices to peak early
Hog prices to show late 1984 increase
More effective progrms needed to boost U.S. exports
Strong dollar harms U.S. exports
Crop prices increase sharply
Feeder cattle prices depressed
Slaughter cattle returns face short term slump
Lamb prices on increase
Milk diversion, price supports debated
New publication on quality milk standards available
4H receives grant to mediate disputes
Better farm first aid kits needed
Reduce milk production n September?
Check storage costs vs. returns
Tranquil dairy farm pasture scenes becoming scarce

Public Service Announcements (PSA's): The enclosed PSA's were rewritten for your convenience in working with local stations. You may also find them useful as newspaper column fillers.

University newslines: Remember to use the 612/376-8030 number to call for additional timely stories. That's the U of M Newslines number we'd like non-news media people to use.

Here's the color code reminder:

News Media Packet:

Tan - Stories that are being sent to daily newspaper, farm broadcasters, wire services and agricultural newspapers and magazines only...NOT to most weekly papers or smaller radio stations. A few weeklies are on by special request, but they're few and far between.

Agent News Packet (stories sent exclusively to you).

Blue - AG

Yellow - 4-H

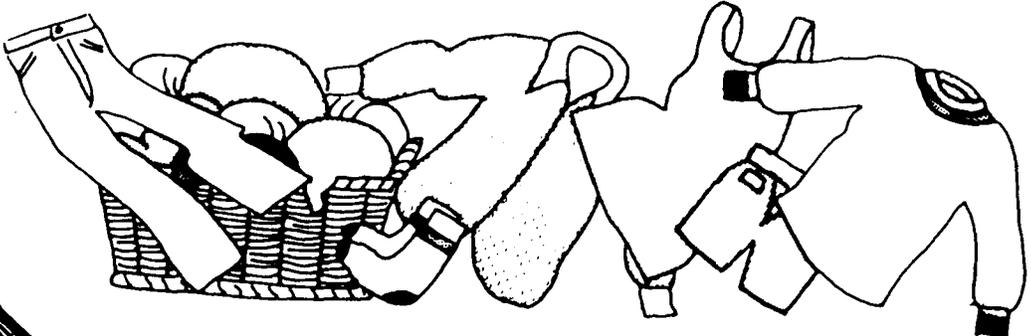
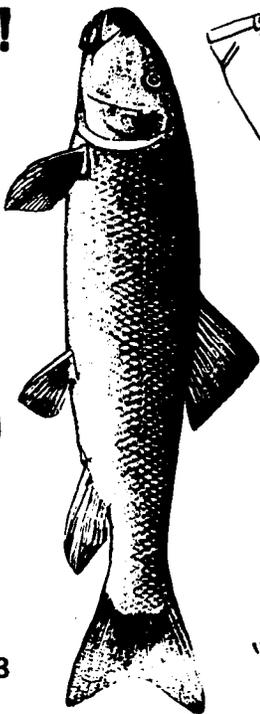
Green - HE/FL

Salmon - CNRD

clipart



Be Skeptical!



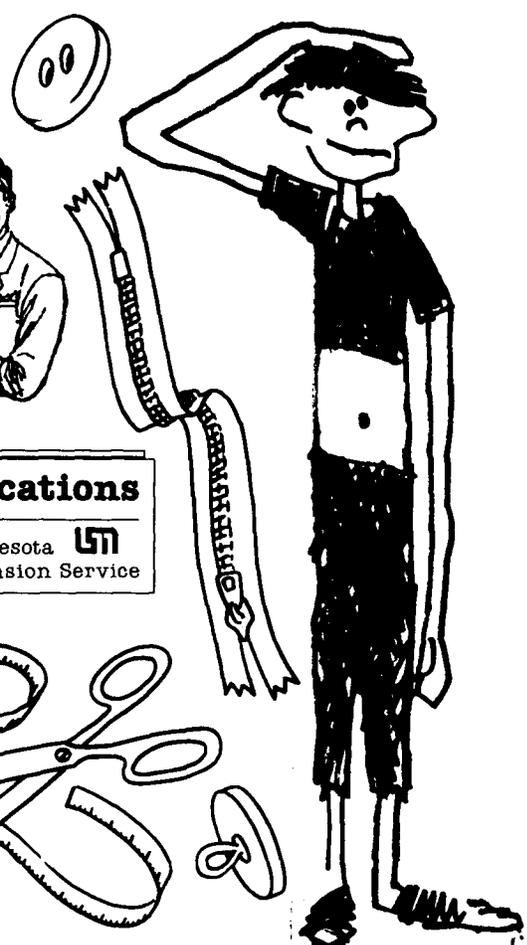
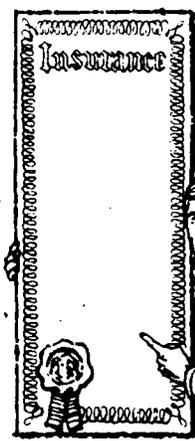
Be Smart!



OCTOBER 1983

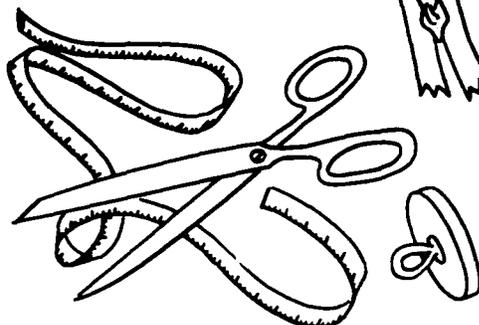
New Publications

University of Minnesota 
Agricultural Extension Service



New Publications

University of Minnesota 
Agricultural Extension Service



news

for County Agents

Agricultural Extension Service
Communication Resources
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

October 1, 1983

Source: Cherilyn Nelson
612/376-1536
Writer: Deedee Nagy
612/373-1781

CLOTHING CARE LABELING IMPROVED

The Federal Trade Commission has changed and strengthened its regulations on care labels for clothing and some piece goods. Cherilyn Nelson, textiles and clothing specialist at the University of Minnesota's Agricultural Extension Service, says the new labels should make it even easier for consumers to compare garments or piece goods and also to care for them properly once purchased. Care labels are required either on the garment, the outside of the package or on a hang tag. They must state what regular care is needed.

Nelson adds that apparel must have either washing or dry cleaning instructions. Washing instructions must include whether the product should be hand or machine washed and whether hot water will harm the fabric.

The new regulation also calls for more detailed drying information. If high temperatures will ruin the garment, the label must state that. Ironing directions must be included only if the garment is likely to need ironing as part of its regular care. Bleaching instructions or prohibitions are mandatory unless all commercially available bleaches are safe to use on the garment.

Clothing requiring dry cleaning must state at least one type of solvent

Page 1 of 2

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page 2--clothing care

that may be used unless any commonly available solvent is acceptable.

Nelson explains that the new labels will be more comprehensive than older labels and they will require manufacturers or importers to establish a reasonable basis for care instructions by processing the products prior to sale.

She adds, "The critical point is that some testing on the cleaning method must be done rather than simply relying on a "dry clean only" label. For most garments, dry cleaning is the safest but it isn't necessarily the least expensive or the method that consumers would prefer to use."

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news

for County Agents

Agricultural Extension Service
Communication Resources
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

October 1, 1983

Source: Geraldine Gage
612/376-4758
Writer: Deedee Nagy
612/373-1781

HOMEMAKERS' ECONOMIC WORTH GAINING RECOGNITION

Full time homemakers are gaining pride in their contributions to family life and this enhanced self-esteem reflects their economic contributions to the family even though they do not receive a paycheck for them.

Geraldine Gage, professor of family social science at the University of Minnesota, has researched the dollar value of what is traditionally called "women's work" -- child care, housekeeping, cooking and shopping. Although few homemakers think in terms of the hourly wage they would have to pay to hire someone for household duties, the yearly worth in most homes is equal to a full time worker's salary.

"All the research in this area indicates that homemakers' economic contributions as unpaid workers is at least equal to what their partners -- husbands in most cases -- earn outside the home," Gage told a group of Home Study Group members from the University of Minnesota's Agricultural Extension Service.

Gage is often called upon to testify on a homemaker's economic contributions in law suits where a woman has been killed or injured and the family is seeking compensation. She notes increasing acceptance for the idea that homemaking is worth a great deal. Losing the services of the homemaker

Page 1 of 2

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page 2--homemakers economic worth

can work an economic hardship on a family. Juries are awarding increasingly large damage settlements to bereaved families.

She notes that 15 to 20 years ago, a standard settlement for the wrongful death of a full time homemaker was about \$30,000 paid to the survivors. This did not take into account family size, household duties or the ages of the homemaker and her children.

Gage says that today's more realistic settlements are based in part on what it would cost to buy the services that the homemaker performed. Many of these settlements approach \$1 million and some surpass that figure.

"Now that attitudes are changing, it's important for homemakers themselves to believe these facts about their economic contributions. Juries would not make these decisions if the general population was not awakening to the tremendous importance of work done in the home," she said. The idea that someone is "just a homemaker" and therefore not contributing much is false and always has been, Gage told the Home Study Group members.

She suggested that her research and court settlements to families that had lost wives and mothers should bolster women whose self esteem may be low. "Because they perform homemaking duties out of love for their families, they feel somehow guilty thinking of it in economic terms," she concluded. "Instead they should be proud about what they do and their importance, not only for their own families but for the community as well."

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for County Agents

Agricultural Extension Service
Communication Resources
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

October 1, 1983

Source: Susan Meyers
612/376-3852

Writer: Deedee Nagy
612/373-1781

HOMEMAKERS' LOW SELF ESTEEM IS UNJUSTIFIED

Although attitudes are changing slowly, too many homemakers still devalue their role and importance and, as a result, suffer from poor self esteem and doubts about their abilities.

This is the conclusion of Susan Meyers, family life specialist with the University of Minnesota's Agricultural Extension Service. Speaking to a gathering of Home Study Group members from the Twin Cities and other communities in central Minnesota, Meyers applauded efforts to put a dollar value on services that women perform in the home without pay. "Self esteem is certainly based on more than one's worth in dollars, but in a society that values work, it's a healthy start to look at the tremendous contributions that women make inside the home as well as in the labor force."

She said that the increase in the numbers of employed women has sometimes caused both full time homemakers and employed women to feel uncomfortable and even guilty. "Women who aren't employed sometimes feel pressured to work outside the home while those who are employed feel they may be judged harshly because they have less time to spend with their families and their housekeeping standards may have to be lowered in the interest of time."

Meyers urged the Home Study Group members to base their self esteem on

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C-8

page 2--homemakers low self esteem

how others view how well they function, whether it's as a paid worker or a full time homemaker. She said a woman's satisfaction with her choice to either take a job or be a full time homemaker is a key to how she feels about herself.

She added, "Research shows that if a person consciously chooses a role or duty, he or she will be more satisfied with it than if it is seen as the only option. This is very true for women. Those who choose to be homemakers and are satisfied with their roles are, naturally, going to feel good about themselves just as women are who choose to work outside the home and are happy to be doing so. Problems and poor self image arise when women in either group -- homemakers or employed women -- see themselves as stuck doing what they do. Then their satisfaction level often drops and with it, their self esteem."

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File IC

for County Agents

Agricultural Extension Service
Communication Resources
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

October 1, 1983

Source: Cheryl Nelson
612/376-1536
Writer: Deedee Nagy
612/373-1781

IMPORTED VS. DOMESTIC CLOTHING POSES CONSUMER DECISION

The plight of the auto industry has caused many consumers to "Buy American" as much as possible. When it comes to clothing, however, this can be difficult. Widespread consumer boycotts or trade restrictions might even result in economic or political retaliation against this country.

Cheryl Nelson, textiles and clothing specialist at the University of Minnesota's Agricultural Extension Service, says most Americans would find that their closets contain many foreign made garments. "Originally most imported apparel items were sweaters, children's shirts and other low or moderate priced garments. Now, imported apparel is a high percentage of the market in all categories and prices," she says.

Predictably, the U.S. apparel industry is working for protective tariffs, quotas and other measures to protect manufacturers here from imports. They say that high labor costs in this country put them at a disadvantage when competing with manufacturers from abroad. In addition, the fashion industry requires a great deal of labor. It can't be automated as successfully as other industries that face foreign competition, according to Nelson.

She says that continued purchasing of imported clothing encourages imports, but when faced with lower priced imported garments, many consumers

Page 1 of 2

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C-10

page 2--imported vs domestic clothing

weaken in their support of American made goods. Labels stating the country of origin are required on garments if more than half of the manufacturing is done abroad. U.S. made clothing is not required to be labeled as such, but "Made in U.S.A." or "Buy American" labels are becoming more common. Some manufacturers appeal to patriotism by adding an American flag to their labels or tags.

"There is no simple solution to the problem of apparel imports," Nelson says. "International trade involves economic issues as well as social and political ones. Apparel manufacturing is important to the economies of many developing countries and trade barriers could hinder their development and might even result in economic or political retaliation. Consumers who are concerned about where their clothing dollars go should realize that there are broader issues involved in choosing between a domestic or foreign made garment."

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for County Agents

Agricultural Extension Service
Communication Resources
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

October 1, 1983

Source: Cherilyn Nelson
612/376-1536
Writer: Deedee Nagy
612/373-1781

SEEING SPOTS? RESEARCH BEFORE TACKLING STAINS

When stains and spots appear on carpeting or upholstered furniture, the response too often is to begin scrubbing with anything handy. Instead, Cherilyn Nelson, textiles and clothing specialist at the University of Minnesota's Agricultural Extension Service, suggests a more cautious and deliberate approach will produce better results.

Ordinary dirt and grease spots that occur with food spills and normal wear and tear can usually be removed without damage if treated promptly or referred to a professional cleaner. Fabric and carpet manufacturers publish care guides that deal with regular care and common stain problems. Your local county Agricultural Extension Service is also a good source of information on removing common stains.

More difficult are the chemical stains that actually change or destroy the dyes in carpeting or upholstery fabric. These may not appear until days or months after contact with the culprit chemical. Sometimes moisture, temperature or sunlight is needed to activate the chemical reaction so the spots seem to appear spontaneously.

Nelson says by the time many of these stains appear, it is already too late to do anything about them. Careful preventive action is the key to

Page 1 of 2

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page 2--seeing spots?

avoiding chemical stains. She cautions consumers to use household chemicals, medications, cleansers and insecticides very carefully because these are among the most common causes of stains. Here are some products that have the potential for serious stains and should be used with particular care:

* Acne medications -- Many of these contain benzoyl peroxide and this can cause orange or yellowish stains on any kind of fabric. Sheets, towels and clothing are particularly susceptible. Age or fade creams, some foot care preparations and pet shampoos also contain benzoyl peroxide.

* Bleaches -- Both chlorine bleaches and "all fabric" (oxygen) bleaches can cause bleaching and dye bleeding. These spots are generally yellow although they can turn some red dyes to green.

* Acids and alkalis -- Many household cleaning products including toilet bowl cleaners, tile cleaners, drain cleaners and oven cleaners fall into this category. These harsh chemicals can destroy fabrics as well as stain and spot them.

* Plant foods, fertilizer and insecticides -- Although these stains may not appear for months after a spill, they can cause permanent color changes in carpet. Insecticides sprayed around baseboards can cause fading when they contact the carpet.

* Furniture polish -- Chemicals in furniture polish can destroy red carpet dyes and leave green or blue discoloration. This usually happens around the base of a piece of furniture and may be hidden until the piece is moved.

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news



for County Agents

Agricultural Extension Service
Communication Resources
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

October 1, 1983

File IV C

Source: Dottie Goss
612/373-0914
Editor: Deedee Nagy
612/373-1781

INSURANCE BRIEFS . . .

Thieves Can Make Music Lovers Sing the Blues -- Cars with expensive stereo systems are becoming more common, but too often car owners don't realize their insurance does not cover them until after a loss occurs.

Dottie Goss, family resource management specialist at the University of Minnesota's Agricultural Extension Service, says such systems can cost from \$350 to \$1,000 and the car owners must decide whether to insure themselves for loss or handle any losses themselves. Comprehensive auto insurance provides coverage for the cost of replacing any stolen equipment plus any repairs needed to fix the damage if a thief rips the dashboard apart.

Goss points out that comprehensive coverage will replace any stereo system regardless of cost as long as it has been permanently installed in the vehicle's dashboard. For an additional premium, owners of add-on portable stereo equipment can insure their systems. She advises car stereo owners to check with an insurance agent on the terms and conditions of such a policy before a loss occurs. Also, she warns that many policies will not cover replacement cost of tapes.

* * *

Love, Marriage and Insurance -- Check your insurance coverage before you

Page 1 of 3

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C-14

page 2--insurance briefs . . .

leave on your honeymoon. This is the advice offered to newlyweds by Dottie Goss, family resource management specialist with the University of Minnesota's Agricultural Extension Service. She says many couples are devastated to find that a burglar has hit their home or apartment while they were away, often making off with thousands of dollars worth of gifts, silver, jewelry, antiques and other valuables.

Goss says, "Often young couples don't realize that a homeowner or tenant insurance policy limits the amount of coverage for such personal belongings. In the case of expensive items such as silverware, crystal or antiques, couples should have them appraised and then check with an insurance company representative to be sure they are adequately covered."

She adds that couples may want to increase the limits of their tenant or homeowner policies. It is also possible to add a personal articles floater to cover special items. "Save any appraisal slips or receipts for newly acquired furnishings or costly video or stereo systems," Goss suggests. "In case of a loss, these receipts will establish your claim more quickly."

* * *

Home Computers Pose New Insurance Questions -- Now that your family has entered the computer age, do you need to use your home computer to check on how adequate your insurance coverage on it is?

Dottie Goss, family resource management specialist with the University of Minnesota's Agricultural Extension Service, says most homeowners' insurance policies have a flat amount that covers damage or loss of personal property. As long as the value of your belongings is close to or under that amount, your computer would be covered just as your furniture and appliances are. It is probably not protected from damage from a power surge unless the surge should

page 3--insurance briefs . . .

cause a fire. Goss says home computer owners may want to invest in a surge arrestor.

The software, or disks, used in your computer may not be covered as completely as the computer itself, Goss warns. Some insurance companies offer coverage only under a special "floater" on a standard policy. It can be difficult to determine the value of software loss or damage. For purchased programs, your receipts determine their value. For some programs or information that the computer owner creates, however, no amount of money will replace them. These would include such things as vital financial records and records of transactions that don't have a back-up paper document. Goss suggests storing back-up copies of such programs in a safe deposit box or other safe spot.

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news

Agricultural Extension Service
Communication Resources
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108



for County Agents

October 1, 1983

Source: Cherilyn Nelson
612/376-1536
Writer: Deedee Nagy
612/373-1781

DON'T LET LEATHER GARMENTS GET UNDER YOUR SKIN

Leather and suede garments are an investment in good looks and comfort that can bring years of pleasure. To protect that investment, however, Cherilyn Nelson, textiles and clothing specialist at the University of Minnesota's Agricultural Extension Service, suggests some steps for regular care and cleaning.

- * Brush suede with a terry towel or soft brush to remove dust. An emery board or soft gum eraser may work on light spots.

- * Smooth leather is cleaned best with a damp sponge or cloth. Avoid heavier duty cleaners such as cleaning fluids, shoe creams or saddle soap.

- * If your leather garment becomes wet, dry it away from heat on a padded hanger. Never brush wet suede. Store leather garments in a cool, ventilated place. Never store leather garments in plastic bags. They need to breathe.

- * When leather garments are dirty enough to need professional cleaning, look for a cleaner who specializes in leather.

- * Give the cleaner any care instructions or hang tags that came with the garment and be sure to mention any stains or spots.

Nelson adds that professional cleaning of leather can be costly. She suggests asking for an estimate and doing some comparison shopping before any

Page 1 of 2

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C-17

page 2--don't let leather garments
work is done.

A free booklet "Consumer Care of Leather and Suede" is available to
consumers who send a stamped, self-addressed envelope to:

Consumer Relations Division
International Fabricare Institute
12251 Tech Road
Silver Spring, MD 20904

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news

for County Agents

Agricultural Extension Service
Communication Resources
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

October 1, 1983

Source: Sherri Johnson
612/376-1537
Writer: Deedee Nagy
612/373-1781

NEW LINING CAN BREATHE NEW LIFE INTO A COAT

Fall's first chill tells us that it's time to get winter coats out of storage. If your winter coat is wearable except for a tattered lining, you can coax another year or two of use from it by relining it, according to Sherri Johnson, textiles and clothing specialist with the University of Minnesota's Agricultural Extension Service.

She says acetate is commonly used for coat linings and this usually has a wearing life of only about two winters with every day use. She adds, "A slick lining makes a coat easier to put on and take off, but there are slick lining fabrics that wear better than acetate. These include crepes, tricots and satins in nylon, polyester or some types of rayon."

She recommends nylon or polyester linings for children's coats because they are particularly durable and are easily laundered.

To reline a coat, begin by carefully removing the old lining, making note of how it is attached to the coat. Take the lining apart at the seams and press the pieces. Use these as a pattern to cut a new lining. Sew the lining together by machine the way the original one was put together.

Johnson says that the completed lining can then be sewn to the coat's facings by machine, leaving only the sleeves to attach by hand.

"With an afternoon's work and about \$10 worth of lining material, a coat can be wearable for another season or two," she adds.

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Page 1 of 1

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news

for County Agents

Agricultural Extension Service
Communication Resources
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

October 1, 1983

Source: Sherri Johnson
612/376-1537

Editor: Deedee Nagy
612/373-1781

SHORTCUT MENDING TECHNIQUES SAVE TIME AND MONEY

Keeping your family's clothes in service is one way to get the most from your clothing dollar, suggests Sherri Johnson, textiles and clothing specialist with the University of Minnesota's Agricultural Extension Service. Some shortcut mending techniques can help you do this quickly and easily.

Fusible webs can make any piece of fabric into a handy iron-on patch. Fusible webs are available in 3/4-inch wide tapes, by the yard or in pre-cut sheets approximately 20 inches square. You can use fusibles on any fabric that can be steam pressed. Put the fusible web between two layers of fabric, set the iron on a "steam" setting and press for 15 seconds to let the fusing substance melt and bond the fabrics together. Fabrics fused together with a web can withstand machine washing, machine drying and drycleaning. The fusible does not make the fabric stiff - it stays as flexible as before.

Johnson adds that the garment stays bonded when you apply the fusible web properly. But if you need to separate the fabric layers later, simply steam the area thoroughly and pull the fabric layers apart while the fabric is still warm.

"For a creative touch to cover worn areas, crease lines or tears, fusible webs can be used to apply appliques, decorative patches, tapes and

Page 1 of 2

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page 2--shortcut mending techniques

trims," she says.

Fabric glues can be used to mend loose hems, dangling pockets and to replace or refasten loose tapes and hems.

Read the label to see if the glue can be used on machine washable clothes or if it is to be used on "dry clean only" garments. Both types of glue are available, Johnson adds.

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news

for County Agents

Agricultural Extension Service
Communication Resources
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

October 1, 1983

Source: Sherri Johnson
612/376-1537
Editor: Deedee Nagy
612/373-1781

NEW LIFE FOR OLD CLOTHES IS REWARDING CHALLENGE

"Sort through your closet and use your imagination. Rather than discarding or donating clothing, take something out of date and give it a new personality," says Sherri Johnson, textiles and clothing specialist with the University of Minnesota's Agricultural Extension Service. "By recycling what you already have, you'll save money while you add life and wearable clothing to your wardrobe. It's a real challenge, but a rewarding one."

She offers these suggestions to give your old clothes new life.

- * As you recycle, consider the color, design, texture and quality of fabric in the garment.

- * When you add new fabric or trim to a garment be sure it "belongs" in the design and overall effect.

- * Select becoming colors. Children's clothes should be bright and colorful. Dark colors, such as navy or black, may be brightened and made to look more youthful by using bright colors, such as red and white in plaids, rickrack or trim.

- * Keep good proportion in mind when using contrasting fabrics.

- * If fabrics show needle marks, seams can't be let out.

- * Have children and teenagers help plan their own "new" garments as much

Page 1 of 2

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page 2--new life for old clothes

as possible. "It is very important to most children and teenagers that their clothes be in tune with the ones that their friends are wearing," Johnson adds.

* A garment should be worth your time and effort. Good quality workmanship will help to give it a "new look."

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news

for County Agents

Agricultural Extension Service
Communication Resources
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

October 1, 1983

Source: Sherri Johnson
612/376-1537

Editor: Deedee Nagy
612/373-1781

BE A WISE CONSUMER OF USED CLOTHING

Some used clothing items are better buys than others. Knowing some fine points on used clothing shopping may help stretch your family budget, according to Sherri Johnson, extension textile and clothing specialist of the University of Minnesota's Agricultural Extension Service.

Items such as children's winter coats and jackets, skirts, long pants, shirts, sweaters and play clothes are good buys since children outgrow these items so fast. For adults, coats, suits, trousers, dresses, skirts and jackets can be added to the wardrobe for very little money as compared to the cost of new ready-to-wear garments. Accessories such as scarves, jewelry and handbags are also good buys.

When shopping for clothing to be used "as is" without extensive alteration, be sure the garment is in style so that you will be comfortable wearing it, Johnson advises. Here are other points of quality to look for:

- * Fabric in good condition, especially at the points of wear such as knees, elbows, cuffs and seat.
- * Stitching that is durable and intact.
- * Elastic with good stretch.
- * Zippers that slide easily.

Page 1 of 2

University of Minnesota, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Minnesota Counties Cooperating

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page 2--be a wise consumer

* Buttons sewn on securely.

* Buttonholes that are secure and free from broken threads and
ravelling.

* Permanent labels with care instructions.

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news

for County Agents

Agricultural Extension Service
Communication Resources
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

October 1, 1983

Source: Sherri Johnson
612/376-1537

Editor: Deedee Nagy
612/373-1781

KEEPING KIDS CLOTHED WHEN THE BUDGET IS STRAINED

Kids won't stop growing just because mom and/or dad are unemployed. Youngsters just keep growing right out of their clothes. Sherri Johnson, extension textile and clothing specialist of the University of Minnesota's Agricultural Extension Service offers four strategies for keeping children adequately clothed for school and play:

- * In some cases, garments can be made to grow with the child. Let down a hem or add a ruffle. In the process, you might also add a decorative patch to cover a heavily worn or discolored area.

- * Use hand-me-downs as much as possible. To minimize objections of the younger child, try to modify the garment so it takes on a changed look that's special for him or her.

- * Organize a "Swap Shop" among friends and acquaintances. Some children take pride in wearing something once owned by an older, more grown-up child whom they admire.

- * Shop for sales in stores that sell used clothing. Often the clothes there are hardly worn especially if the previous wearer was growing fast.

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CP

Page 1 of 1

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C-26

AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE
COMMUNICATION RESOURCES
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA 55108
October 1, 1983

ANY QUESTIONS? CALL Jennifer Obst
(612) 373-1579

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**ANNOUNCER:
30 SECONDS**

SUNSCALD IS A COMMON PROBLEM ON MANY YOUNG, THIN-BARKED TREES AND ON RECENTLY TRANSPLANTED TREES. SMOOTH-BARKED TREES SUCH AS HICKORY, APPLE, MAPLE, AND MOUNTAIN ASH ARE MOST SUSCEPTIBLE TO SUNSCALD INJURY. TREES CAN BE PROTECTED FROM SUNSCALD BY SHADING OR INSULATING THE TRUNKS FROM THE REFLECTED SUN. THE WRAP SHOULD BE APPLIED IN FALL, FROM THE GROUND TO THE LOWER BRANCHES, AND REMOVED IN SPRING. THIS MESSAGE IS BROUGHT TO YOU BY YOUR _____ COUNTY AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE.

AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE
COMMUNICATION RESOURCES
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA 55108
October 1, 1983

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PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ANNOUNCER:
30 SECONDS

IT'S ESPECIALLY IMPORTANT FOR FARMERS IN WESTERN
MINNESOTA TO TEST SOIL FOR NITRATE LATE THIS FALL. TAKE
THE TEST AFTER OCTOBER 15. IT'S ESPECIALLY IMPORTANT TO
TAKE A SOIL NITRATE TEST ON PIK ACRES PLANTED TO
SORGHUM-SUDAN. FIELDS IN THE PIK PROGRAM WERE USUALLY
"PROBLEM" OR LOWER PRODUCING ACRES. THEY WOULD NEED
SPECIAL FERTILIZER MANAGEMENT IN 1984 IF THEY HADN'T BEEN
IN PIK. THIS MESSAGE IS BROUGHT TO YOU BY YOUR
_____ COUNTY AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE.

AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE
COMMUNICATION RESOURCES
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA 55108
October 1, 1983

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PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ANNOUNCER:
30 SECONDS

PIK ACRES PLANTED TO SORGHUM-SUDAN WILL NEED 40 TO 50
EXTRA POUNDS PER ACRE OF NITROGEN FOR CORN NEXT SPRING.
BUT YOU SHOULDN'T APPLY THE NITROGEN NOW TO HELP
DECOMPOSE THE SORGHUM-SUDAN STALKS. YOU WANT THE
SORGHUM-SUDAN TO DECOMPOSE NEXT YEAR, WHEN THE CORN CROP
CAN USE THE NITROGEN. NITROGEN IN THE PLANT TISSUE IS
MONEY IN THE BANK IN THE FORM OF FERTILIZER FOR NEXT
YEAR'S CROP. THIS MESSAGE IS BROUGHT TO YOU BY YOUR
_____ COUNTY AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE.

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COMMUNICATION RESOURCES
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA 55108
October 1, 1983

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PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ANNOUNCER:
30 SECONDS

NEW REGULATIONS FOR CARE LABELS ON CLOTHING SHOULD MAKE IT EASIER TO KEEP YOUR CLOTHES IN GOOD SHAPE. CARE LABELS, INCLUDING WASHING OR DRY CLEANING INSTRUCTIONS, ARE NOW REQUIRED EITHER ON THE GARMENT, THE OUTSIDE OF THE PACKAGE, OR ON A HANG TAG. THE NEW REGULATION ALSO CALLS FOR MORE DETAILED DRYING INFORMATION. IF HIGH TEMPERATURES WILL RUIN THE GARMENT, THE LABEL MUST STATE THAT. THIS MESSAGE IS BROUGHT TO YOU BY YOUR _____ COUNTY AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE.

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COMMUNICATION RESOURCES
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA 55108
October 1, 1983

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(612) 373-1579

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**ANNOUNCER:
30 SECONDS**

IF YOUR FAMILY HAS ENTERED THE COMPUTER AGE WITH A NEW HOME COMPUTER, IT'S A GOOD IDEA TO CHECK TO SEE IF THAT HOME COMPUTER IS PROTECTED BY INSURANCE. MOST HOMEOWNERS' INSURANCE POLICIES HAVE A FLAT AMOUNT THAT COVERS DAMAGE OR LOSS OF PERSONAL PROPERTY. AS LONG AS THE VALUE OF YOUR BELONGINGS IS CLOSE TO THAT AMOUNT, YOUR COMPUTER WOULD BE COVERED. BUT YOUR SOFTWARE MAY NOT BE COVERED AS COMPLETELY AS THE COMPUTER ITSELF. IT CAN BE DIFFICULT TO DETERMINE THE VALUE OF SOFTWARE LOSS OR DAMAGE. STORE BACK-UP COPIES OF IRREPLACEABLE RECORDS ON DISKS IN A SAFE DEPOSIT BOX OR OTHER SAFE SPOT. THIS MESSAGE IS BROUGHT TO YOU BY YOUR _____ COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SERVICE.

AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE
COMMUNICATION RESOURCES
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA 55108
October 1, 1983

ANY QUESTIONS? CALL Jennifer Obst
(612) 373-1579

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**ANNOUNCER:
30 SECONDS**

IF YOU SEE STAINS OR SPOTS ON YOUR CARPETING OR UPHOLSTERED FURNITURE, DON'T BEGIN SCRUBBING WITH ANYTHING HANDY. A MORE CAUTIOUS AND DELIBERATE APPROACH WILL PRODUCE BETTER RESULTS. MORE DIFFICULT ARE THE CHEMICAL STAINS CAUSED BY SUCH PRODUCTS AS BLEACHES, ACIDS AND ALKALIS, AND FURNITURE POLISH. THEY CAN ACTUALLY CHANGE OR DESTROY THE DYES IN CARPETING OR UPHOLSTERY FABRIC. CAREFUL PREVENTIVE ACTION IS THE KEY TO AVOIDING CHEMICAL STAINS. THIS MESSAGE IS BROUGHT TO YOU BY YOUR _____ COUNTY AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE.

AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE
COMMUNICATION RESOURCES
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA 55108
October 1, 1983

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PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ANNOUNCER:
30 SECONDS

LEATHER AND SUEDE GARMENTS CAN BE AN INVESTMENT IN GOOD LOOKS AND COMFORT THAT CAN BRING YEARS OF PLEASURE. TO PROTECT THAT INVESTMENT, HERE ARE SOME STEPS FOR REGULAR CARE AND CLEANING. BRUSH SUEDE WITH A TERRY TOWEL OR SOFT BRUSH TO REMOVE DUST. SMOOTH LEATHER IS CLEANED BEST WITH A DAMP SPONGE OR CLOTH. IF YOUR LEATHER GARMENT BECOMES WET, DRY IT AWAY FROM HEAT ON A PADDED HANGER. STORE LEATHER GARMENTS IN A COOL, VENTILATED PLACE. NEVER STORE LEATHER GARMENTS IN PLASTIC BAGS. THEY NEED TO BREATHE. THIS MESSAGE IS BROUGHT TO YOU BY YOUR _____ COUNTY AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE.

AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE
COMMUNICATION RESOURCES
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA 55108
October 1, 1983

ANY QUESTIONS? CALL Jennifer Obst
(612) 373-1579

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ANNOUNCER:
30 SECONDS

THIS IS THE TIME OF THE YEAR TO GET SERIOUS ABOUT
MOUSEPROOFING YOUR HOUSE. UNLESS THIS IS DONE PROPERLY,
GLUE-BOARDS, TRAPS AND RODENTICIDES WILL NOT CORRECT THE
SITUATION. PROPER MOUSEPROOFING MEANS CLOSING ALL
POTENTIAL ENTRY POINTS. YOU MUST PLUG ALL OPENINGS 1/4
INCH WIDE AND LARGER. MICE GENERALLY ENTER BUILDINGS AT,
OR JUST BELOW, GROUND LEVEL. TAKE SPECIAL CARE TO SEAL
AROUND ANY DEVICE THAT PASSES THROUGH AN OUTSIDE WALL
SUCH AS WATER, GAS, OR UNDERGROUND ELECTRIC OR TELEPHONE
LINES. THIS MESSAGE IS BROUGHT TO YOU BY YOUR
_____ COUNTY AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE.

AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE
COMMUNICATION RESOURCES
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA 55108
October 1, 1983

ANY QUESTIONS? CALL Jennifer Obst
(612) 373-1579

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**ANNOUNCER:
30 SECONDS**

DID YOU EVER WONDER WHY SOME PEOPLE'S DOGS ARE SO WELL BEHAVED, AND OTHERS SEEM TO JUST RUN WILD? IF YOUR DOG FITS INTO THE LATTER CATEGORY, MAYBE THE 4-H DOG CARE AND TRAINING PROGRAM IS FOR YOU. 4-H CAN GIVE YOU THE TRAINING YOU NEED TO GIVE YOU THE MOST ENJOYMENT OUT OF YOUR DOG. WHETHER YOU'RE A YOUNG PERSON WHO WANTS TO LEARN, OR AN ADULT INTERESTED IN VOLUNTEERING TO HELP, YOU CAN BUILD GREAT EXPERIENCES IN 4-H. CALL YOUR _____ COUNTY AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE TODAY FOR MORE INFORMATION.

AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE
COMMUNICATION RESOURCES
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA 55108
October 1, 1983

ANY QUESTIONS? CALL Jennifer Obst
(612) 373-1579

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**ANNOUNCER:
30 SECONDS**

BEING A GOOD CITIZEN IS LEARNING HOW YOU CAN MAKE YOUR
COMMUNITY A BETTER PLACE TO LIVE; IT'S LEARNING HOW TO
USE YOUR GOVERNMENT AT ALL LEVELS; IT'S HELPING PEOPLE
LESS FORTUNATE THAN YOU; IT'S BEING THE BEST YOU CAN BE.
AND THAT'S WHAT 4-H IS ALL ABOUT TOO. 4-H TEACHES YOU
HOW TO GROW AND BECOME ACTIVE AND INVOLVED IN YOUR
HOMETOWN AND ITS FUTURE. SO COME ALONG AND LEARN --
CITIZENSHIP IS FUN, IT'S WORTHWHILE, AND IT MAKES YOU THE
BEST YOU CAN BE. CALL YOUR _____ COUNTY
AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE AND GET INTO 4-H TODAY!

AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE
COMMUNICATION RESOURCES
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA 55108
October 1, 1983

ANY QUESTIONS? CALL Jennifer Obst
(612) 373-1579

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ANNOUNCER:
30 SECONDS

GROWING UP MEANS TRYING A LOT OF DIFFERENT THINGS. YOU
DON'T ALWAYS SUCCEED, AND YOU AREN'T ALWAYS THE BEST AT
EVERYTHING YOU TRY; BUT THE IMPORTANT THING IS TO TRY.
AND THAT'S WHAT 4-H IS ALL ABOUT. 4-H IS LEARNING THINGS
THAT WILL HELP YOU THROUGHOUT YOUR LIFE. IT'S LEARNING
THINGS THAT ARE SPECIAL TO YOU -- THAT MIGHT BE A HOBBY,
OR JUST A PLEASANT WAY OF RELAXING. SO COME TRY
SOMETHING NEW. COME LEARN TO BE THE BEST YOU CAN BE.
CALL YOUR _____ COUNTY AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION
SERVICE AND LEARN TO ACHIEVE -- IN 4-H!

news

MSC/9A27p
Agricultural Extension Service
Communication Resources
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

October 4, 1983

Source: Gail McClure
612/373-1790
Writer: Anne Gillespie Lewis
612/373-1786

ANN BOSCH HONORED AT EXTENSION CONFERENCE

Ann Bosch, Kandiyohi County extension home economist, received the Director's Award to Distinguished Faculty Oct. 4 at the Agricultural Extension Service's Annual Staff Development Conference.

"Ann Bosch's success is the result of her professional competence, her instructive and innovative programming, and her willingness to give of herself and her own experiences to touch the lives of clients and colleagues," said Director Norman Brown.

Bosch, who has been an extension home economist in Kandiyohi County since she began her career in 1962, serves as a model for other home economists and is noted for her successful programs in such non-traditional subjects as child abuse, rape and widowhood.

Since Bosch began working in Kandiyohi County, the number of homemaker clubs and members has more than doubled. In addition, Bosch reaches beyond the boundaries of traditional study groups to involve many community resources and residents in exploring timely topics.

She has long been known for her efforts to communicate information in a variety of ways, including her popular newspaper column, correspondence courses, newsletters and slide shows.

Page 1 of 2

page 2--ann bosch honored

"Ann Bosch is a solid professional whose flexibility and receptiveness to new ideas have gained the admiration and respect of her colleagues and clients alike," Brown said. "The University of Minnesota and the Agricultural Extension Service are proud of her accomplishments."

The award, given annually to an outstanding field staff faculty member, carries a \$1,000 stipend. It is made possible through the University of Minnesota Foundation and is financed by contributions to the Agricultural Extension Service.

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DPMP, 1A, II-P

news

MSC/9 A27p
Agricultural Extension Service
Communication Resources
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

October 4, 1983

Source: Gail McClure
612/373-1790
Writer: Anne Gillespie Lewis
612/373-1786

GERALD MILLER HONORED AT EXTENSION CONFERENCE

Gerald Miller received the Director's Award to Distinguished Faculty Oct. 4 at the Agricultural Extension Service's Annual Staff Development Conference.

"Gerry Miller's success is due both to his scholarship and his diligence in reaching out to many different audiences with important information and innovative programs," said Director Norman Brown.

Miller, a weed scientist with the University of Minnesota since 1964, is currently serving as acting assistant director of agriculture. He is highly respected as an educator and administrator among county agents, area agents and state farmers, and has long been recognized by his peers as one of the nation's outstanding weed scientists.

Miller realized the importance of county and area agent training and established an exceptional program that included workshops, tours, short courses, annual updates and other teaching aids. He set up the Crop Pest Management Program in Minnesota and under his leadership the program developed into one of the most respected programs in the nation.

"Gerry Miller's research, his publications, and extension outreach efforts have not only helped state farmers increase profits but gained respect

page 2--gerald miller honored

for the University of Minnesota and the Agricultural Extension Service," Brown said. "We are fortunate to have him on our staff."

The award, given annually to an outstanding campus-based faculty member, includes a \$1,000 stipend. It is made possible through the University of Minnesota Foundation from contributions designated to the Agricultural Extension Service.

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DPMP, 1A, II-P

news

MSC/9A27P
Agricultural Extension Service
Communication Resources
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

October 6, 1983

Source: John Moncrief
612/373-1060
Writer: Jack Sperbeck
612/373-0715

CROP ROTATION HELPS MINIMUM TILLAGE

No-till or till plant systems require higher nitrogen rates if you're in a continuous corn cropping system.

"Corn after corn is a 'worst case' scenario for reducing nitrogen availability with extreme reductions in tillage," says John Moncrief, soils specialist with the University of Minnesota's Agricultural Extension Service. "Rotating with low residue crops like soybeans results in less reduction in nitrogen availability.

"Rotation is a valuable tool in managing crop residues for erosion control," Moncrief says. That assumes you want optimum soil cover with little or no tillage.

"Corn grown after legumes or low residue crops with no tillage generally yields as well as that grown with more tillage," Moncrief says.

In a 1982 experiment at Becker, Minn., continuous corn with no till yielded 110 bushels per acre. But no till rotations gave higher corn yields: a no till corn-soybean rotation yielded 177 bushels; a corn-potatoes rotation 148 bushels; and an oats-alfalfa-potatoes-corn rotation 175 bushels. All plots received 75 pounds per acre of nitrogen as anhydrous ammonia, spring preplant. "We've seen the same results with other Minnesota research,"

Page 1 of 2

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page 2--crop rotation helps

Moncrief says.

Moncrief says nitrogen response is the same for chisel and moldboard plowing. "It's crucial to use starter fertilizer on corn with conservation tillage," Moncrief says. "Phosphorus is always important in starter fertilizer. And in areas where native potassium is low, use a balanced P-K starter."

Ridge till and no-till systems require higher levels of soil potassium in soils that are medium to low in native potassium.

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DPMP, 1A, II-P, 4L

news

MSC/9A27p
Agricultural Extension Service
Communication Resources
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

October 6, 1983

Source: George Rehm
612/373-1060
Writer: Jack Sperbeck
612/373-0715

WAIT UNTIL MID-OCTOBER TO APPLY NITROGEN

Farmers in the southern half of Minnesota should wait until at least mid-October before applying urea or anhydrous ammonia, advises George Rehm, soils specialist with the University of Minnesota's Agricultural Extension Service.

Both urea and anhydrous ammonia should be applied after soil temperatures drop to 50 degrees F, Rehm emphasizes. "When you get air temperatures of 50 degrees maximum, within a day or two soil temperatures should get down to 50 degrees," he says.

Some farmers are already applying nitrogen, but Rehm says there's a chance of substantial losses. "If soil temperatures are below 50 degrees, the nitrogen will stay in the ammonia form until into next May. When soil temperatures are above 50 degrees, the potential for denitrification losses increases."

Rehm says urea and anhydrous ammonia are equally effective if they're applied properly. "Incorporate urea--never leave it on the soil surface. A light tillage operation is all that's needed," he says. Anhydrous ammonia can be knifed in at any depth.

After Oct. 15 to Oct. 20 (when soil temperatures in the southern half of

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page 2--wait until mid-october

the state are expected to be below 50 degrees), farmers still have about three weeks to get nitrogen on.

"This fall is a good time to buy nitrogen," Rehm says. The price of nitrogen is reasonable, corn prices are higher than expected, farmers are getting PIK payments, and this year's harvest is probably going to be completed early. "An early harvest means there should be ample time to get nitrogen on this fall," Rehm says.

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DPMP, II-P

news

for County Agents

MSC/9 A27P
Agricultural Extension Service
Communication Resources
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

October 13, 1983

Source: Cherilyn Nelson
612/376-1534
Editor: Deedee Nagy
612/373-1781

HALLOWEEN COSTUME TRAGEDIES CAN BE PREVENTED

Furry bear-like Ewok costumes inspired by the latest Star Wars movie are appearing in some commercial pattern books for use this Halloween. While the costumes can be charming, parents need to be aware that they pose a potential fire hazard for their children, according to Cherilyn Nelson, textiles and clothing specialist with the University of Minnesota's Agricultural Extension Service.

The costumes sewn from fake fur fabric can be very flammable because of the large amount of air incorporated in the fabric surface. If parents are unsure about the flammability of a fabric in their child's costume, Nelson suggests they can test burn a strip 1/4 inch by 2 inches. Do this in an ashtray or hold the strip with kitchen tongs over a sink to see how quickly flames will spread upward.

"Halloween safety for children involves several factors," Nelson says. "Consider the fabric and its fiber content. While some fibers such as modacrylics are less flammable than cotton, which burns readily, how the fabric is made also affects flammability. Thin or open fabrics burn rapidly. So do fabrics with pile, brushed or napped surfaces. Even though a fake fur may have modacrylic fibers in the pile, the backing could be cotton. If that

Page 1 of 2

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page 2--halloween costume tragedies

is the case, the whole fabric would burn if ignited."

Another safety factor to consider is the ease of getting out of the costume if it begins to burn. Nelson says to avoid costumes with back openings, tiny buttons and elaborate closures, all of which can make quick removal nearly impossible.

"And use common sense," she urges. "Don't send your children out on Halloween with candles or other sources of open flame. This may be the best way to avoid a costume fire tragedy."

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DPMP, HE I & II

news

MSC 19 A27P
Agricultural Extension Service
Communication Resources
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

October 13, 1983

Source: Vance Morey
612/373-0763
Writer: Jack Sperbeck
612/373-0715

SAVE MONEY BY USING COBS FOR DRYING GRAIN?

If you dry 50,000 bushels of corn per year, you could save \$6000 to \$7500 annually in propane costs by using corn cobs as fuel for the dryer. If you dry 300,000 bushels per year, your savings could be \$30,000 to \$40,000 in a wet year. The catch is that you need a substantial investment in equipment to collect, process and burn the cobs.

"Farmers drying large amounts of grain will be more attracted to using corn cobs as an alternative drying fuel," says Vance Morey, agricultural engineer with the University of Minnesota's Agricultural Experiment Station.

Morey and co-worker Cletus Schertz have been working with corn cobs as an alternative fuel for drying grain at the University's Rosemount branch research station.

"Farmers drying smaller amounts of grain find it feasible to use natural air drying to cut drying costs. But larger operators find it impractical to do it all with natural air," Morey says.

Drying the grain from 25.5 to 15.5 percent moisture using a conventional propane dryer that's not equipped with energy conservation measures costs 12 to 15 cents a bushel, according to Morey. His figures assume propane costs of 60 to 75 cents per gallon.

Page 1 of 2

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page 2--save money

"The money you save is available for investment for equipment and additional labor required to handle the cobs and operate the dryer," Morey says.

Larger farms will find it more economical to use cobs, Morey adds. "A large operator using cobs might replace three to four times the amount of propane as someone drying 50,000 bushels of grain a year. But it would cost little more in equipment and modification," he adds.

Many farmers ask Morey about building systems to use cobs as fuel. But he says "it's not practical for farmers to design and construct an automated system to replace propane. Only in rare cases where a farmer has considerable experience in machinery construction and development should he even consider it," he says. He thinks small specialty manufacturers--rather than larger equipment manufacturers--will probably start manufacturing the first cob combustion systems.

Only minor adjustments are needed to the combine. Both grain and cob fragments are collected in the combine's grain hopper. The concave is closed to break cobs and the cylinder is slowed to reduce grain damage. The bottom sieve is removed and the upper sieve is modified.

In addition to the University's Agricultural Experiment Station, other supporters of the research project include Northern States Power, General Dryer Corp., and the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Pictures available--call:
Don Breneman 612/373-1792

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DPMP, 1A, II-P, 4FC

news

MSC/A 27 p
Agricultural Extension Service
Communication Resources
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108
November 1, 1983

Source: Erlin Weness
507/376-6171
Writer: Anne Gillespie Lewis
612/373-1786

PIK MAKES TAX PLANNING CRUCIAL

The Payment In Kind (PIK) grain program has complicated tax planning for many farmers. Most farmers will need to discuss plans for this current tax year with a tax expert, according to Erlin Weness, an area agent for the University of Minnesota's Agricultural Extension Service.

It's a year to keep very careful records, Weness says. Most PIK farmers will receive checks from the ASCS office in 1983 for such things as advance storage, advance diversion, deficiency payments or conservation payments.

These should be declared as income in 1983. Some people think the IRS will especially watch farm records this year, Weness says. The ASCS will issue a form 1099 in early 1984 that can be used to double check accounting entries.

Many farms have lower expenses in 1983 (due to PIK) but high incomes, Weness says. Those farmers should be especially careful to get good tax advice from an expert familiar with the farmer's situation.

Farmers may decide to make some purchases in 1983 that will lessen the tax burden. Feed, fertilizer, chemicals, seed, etc., can be deducted from income directly as expenses, Weness said. Large machinery can be handled on a depreciation basis, which is spread over several years. Investment credits may also be advantageous to PIK farmers this year, Weness adds.

If farmers assign PIK benefits to a third party, this triggers taxable income and a partial loss of tax benefits for the farmer.

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news

Agricultural Extension Service
Communication Resources
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

November 1, 1983

Source: Lew Hendricks
612/373-1211
Writer: Don Breneman
612/373-1792

CLEAN CHIMNEY TO PREVENT FIRES

"Woodburners, clean your chimney now to minimize risks of a serious chimney fire later in the heating season," says forest products specialist Lew Hendricks of the University of Minnesota's Agricultural Extension Service.

Creosote, that sticky tar-like substance that is a by-product of woodburning, condenses in the chimney when flue temperatures fall below 275 - 300 degrees Fahrenheit. Creosote is highly flammable and can ignite causing a serious chimney fire. If your chimney is cracked or installed with improper clearances, the fire could spread to the frame of the house.

Hendricks recommends cleaning the chimney with a properly fitting brush made for that purpose. First, tightly close the stove to prevent soot from entering the house during the cleaning process. Then work the brush up and down in the chimney to remove the creosote that has been deposited inside the flue. Scoop out the loose creosote from the cleanout hole at the base of the chimney and vacuum up any soot that may have sifted into the room.

If your roof is steep or your chimney is difficult to reach, consider having a professional chimney sweep do the job for you. Professional sweeps are available in most metropolitan areas and can be found by looking in the yellow pages of your telephone directory.

Inspect your chimney frequently during the heating season and clean it whenever the creosote deposits reach 1/4 inch thick. Hendricks recommends

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holding a mirror in the cleanout door and looking up the flue to check creosote deposits. If your chimney does not have a cleanout door, you will have to inspect the flue from above.

During spring and fall when the weather is cool but not cold, Hendricks recommends building a small, hot fire and letting it burn out frequently. Don't load the stove up with wood and close the draft. That will produce a cool, smoky fire and more creosote.

Hendricks also recommends burning only wood dried to a 15 - 25 percent moisture content since it produces a hotter fire and less creosote.

Chimney fires aren't likely if you keep your chimney clean. But in case a fire does occur, get everyone out of the house, call the fire department immediately, and close off the draft on the stove to choke off the fire.

Keep an ABC type fire extinguisher located near the stove and have your fire department phone number posted near your phone. Be sure that everyone in your house, including the babysitter, knows what to do in case of a fire.

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news

Agricultural Extension Service
Communication Resources
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

November 1, 1983

Source: Gary Ballman
612/376-3433
Writer: Anne Gillespie Lewis
612/373-1786

TOURISM REPORT AVAILABLE

A report on the efforts the University of Minnesota's Agricultural Extension Service has made to help tourism in the area surrounding the Boundary Waters Wilderness Canoe Area is now available, according to tourism development specialist Gary Ballman.

The three-year program included making a needs assessment for tourist-oriented businesses, presenting community education programs on recreational resources, and giving educational and technical assistance to individuals and firms. It also helped communities write grant applications, gave advice on marketing and helped promote the area's attractions.

Ballman also said the extension service surveyed tourists in the area and was involved in a number of special projects, all of which are detailed in the staff paper.

The report includes a list of area tourism publications. Copies of the staff paper may be obtained from the Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics, 231 COB, University of Minnesota, St. Paul, MN 55108.

The program was coordinated by Uel Blank, a former tourism specialist with the University of Minnesota's Agricultural Extension Service, and Lawrence Simonson, extension tourism specialist. Ballman was field coordinator of the project. Area extension agents James Burke and Richard Korte were assigned

University of Minnesota, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Minnesota Counties Cooperating

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full-time to the project, and area extension agent Arnie Heikkila and other extension personnel were involved in the program.

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news

Agricultural Extension Service
Communication Resources
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

November 1, 1983

Source: Erlin Weness
507/376-6171
Writer: Anne Gillespie Lewis
612/373-1786

EVALUATE TAX OPTIONS WITH PIK

Planning for this year's taxes is a key issue for farmers who participated in the Payment in Kind (PIK) program.

How producers declare the PIK grain depends on whether they treat their CCC loans as a loan or as income in the year the loans were received. Those declaring the CCC loan as income must declare the PIK grain as income when it is sold or as livestock sales if it is used as feed.

However, farmers calling the "loan a loan" must declare the original loan as income when taking possession of the PIK grain. The farmer must also declare the sale of PIK grain as taxable income when it is sold on the market. So before taking possession, farmers should plan carefully how that action will affect their tax situation.

Erlin Weness, area agent for the University of Minnesota's Agricultural Extension Service, gives the following example to help farmers assess their own situation:

A PIK farmer sealed CCC corn (2,000 bushels for \$5,000) in 1981 and called it a loan, not a sale. In 1983 he is entitled to possession of the entire loan (2,000 bushels) of PIK corn on Nov. 1.

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Here are his options and the tax consequences:

1. If he takes possession in 1983 and sells it in 1983, he must declare first the \$5,000 loan forgiveness plus the sale price of the 2,000 bushels in 1983.

2. If he takes possession in 1983 and sells it in 1984, he must declare only the \$5,000 loan forgiveness in 1983. The sale of grain would be declared in 1984

If he takes possession in 1984 and sells it later, he declares nothing in 1983, but must record the \$5,000 loan forgiveness in 1984 and record the sale--when it occurs or as sold through livestock.

If a farmer bid his CCC corn to the government, he has additional tax treatment problems because PIK tax benefits don't apply to the grain sold to CCC in the bid program, Weness cautions.

If CCC loans were considered income, the extra bushels received in the bid program must also be declared income when sold or as marketed through livestock that used it as feed. The difference between the original loan and the sale price is taxable.

If CCC loans are handled as loans, the entire loan must be declared as income when redeemed by the ASCS. Extra bushels received in the bid process are income when sold or as marketed through livestock.

Any unearned or repaid storage to the CCC should be recorded as a farm expense.

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news

Agricultural Extension Service
Communication Resources
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

November 1, 1983

Source: Don Rasmuson
612/373-1678
Writer: Anne Gillespie Lewis
612/373-1786

HIGH-YIELD BARLEY VARIETY APPROVED FOR MALTING

Robust, a high-yield barley released earlier this year by the University of Minnesota's Agricultural Experiment Station, gained recent approval for use as a malting barley by the American Malting Barley Association, Inc.

This approval means Robust will most likely bring a higher market price as it will be used by the malting and brewing industry. Robust out-yields Morex, the barley most preferred by maltsters and brewers and also the most widely grown barley in Minnesota, North Dakota and South Dakota. Robust matches Morex in desirable malting characteristics and may prove very valuable to growers.

The research leading to Robust was started in 1973 by agronomist Don Rasmuson and associates in the station's barley improvement program. Robust originated from a cross between Morex and Manker, both developed earlier by the station. It was extensively tested and researched in the decade between 1973 and its release ten years later.

Robust equals Morex in malt extract level and protein content, both of which are important to maltsters and brewers, Rasmuson says. In addition, tests show Robust out-yielding Morex by an average of 7 percent in state field trials and 10 percent in regional trials. Robust has plumper kernels (78 to 65 percent) than Morex and is less likely to lodge (19 percent, compared to 24 for Morex), both attributes traceable to its Manker parentage.

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Robust heads two days later than Morex, which can mean a slightly greater chance of preharvest losses. Robust is highly resistant to stem rust and spot blotch but is susceptible to loose smut, according to Roy Wilcoxson, University of Minnesota plant pathologist.

In 1983, 59 percent of the barley planted in Minnesota was Morex, 32 percent was Glenn, a variety developed by North Dakota State University, and 2 percent was Robust planted for seed. This may change rapidly as growers switch to Robust. Seed is available from various sources for 1984 planting, Rasmusson says, and most growers interested in trying the new variety should be able to find it.

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news

MSC 19 A270
Agricultural Extension Service
Communication Resources
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108
November 1, 1983

MEDIA NEWS PACKET INDEX

Stories:

Page Numbers
(Lower righthand corner)

Comfortable schoolroom clothing for children	M-2,3
Don't neglect rabies shots for cats	M-4,5
The season to be thankful for families	M-6,7
New wood can cause fires	M-8,9
Unchecked smoke detectors may be useless	M-10

Specialists: If you would like a copy of the above releases, check them and send this cover sheet with your name and address to Marilyn Masterman, 433 Coffey Hall.

MP

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November 1, 1983

Source: Margaret Grindereng
612/373-1537

Writer: Deedee Nagy
612/373-1781

COMFORTABLE SCHOOLROOM CLOTHING FOR CHILDREN

Despite their good intentions, many Minnesota parents are guilty of dressing their children too heavily for comfort in the classroom during the winter.

In a study of 430 elementary school students in Duluth, textiles and clothing professor Margaret Grindereng found that most youngsters were dressed too warm. Children reported being uncomfortable in their classrooms, which averaged 70 degrees F, but ranged to nearly 90 degrees F at times.

Grindereng says, "The idea of layering clothing so children can take off or add garments is an excellent one. We found, however, that too often the bottom layer was too heavy so children could not peel off enough clothing to be comfortable."

From her research, funded by the Agricultural Experiment Station, Grindereng recommends a light "core ensemble" for both boys and girls. This basic outfit should include lightweight jeans, pants or a dress, a medium weight short sleeved shirt or blouse, briefs, ankle socks, and running or tennis shoes.

If classrooms are consistently chilly or children complain of being cold, Grindereng suggests slightly heavier core ensembles, adding undershirts,

Page 1 of 2

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page 2--comfortable schoolroom clothing

long sleeves, and mid-calf length socks to the basic outfit. In addition, children may want to have a cardigan style sweater, vest, sweat shirt, or flannel shirt handy to put on and shed again according to conditions in the room.

The list of clothing "don'ts" for classroom comfort compiled from Grindereing's research includes such heavy, non-removable clothes as thermal underwear, heavy sweaters without layers underneath, insulated boots, and warm socks.

Along with these guidelines from her study, Grindereing suggests parents find out what temperatures are typical in their children's classrooms and dress their youngsters for that, not for frigid outdoor readings.

She concludes, "In most cases, it isn't possible to change the classroom temperature but children can manipulate their clothing to make themselves comfortable. Parents should try to dress their children to give them that option. Parents may also need to remind children to remove or add layers according to how active they are during the day and how cool their rooms are.

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MP

53-82

November 1, 1983

Source: Mike Pullen
612/373-1126
Writer: Hank Drews
612/373-1250

DON'T NEGLECT RABIES SHOTS FOR CATS

More cats now carry rabies than do dogs in the United States. There has been an alarming increase of confirmed cases in cats since 1978 that shows no sign of dropping, according to extension veterinarian Mike Pullen.

Apparently, cat owners are neglecting to get shots for their animals.

According to U.S. statistics, cats surpassed dogs as rabies carriers in 1981. However, neither animal has the disease as often as wild skunks or raccoons.

Pullen, a veterinarian with the University of Minnesota's Agricultural Extension Service, says, "We have a special reason to remember shots for our feline pets. The last Minnesotan to die from rabies was in 1975 and was bitten by a stray cat."

Domestic animals that are allowed to roam outdoors get the disease by contact with wild meat eaters, such as skunks or raccoons. Even cows, horses and mules can be infected. When the rabies causes a paralysis of the muscles in the throat, the animal can't swallow food or water. From then on, the animal can become either reclusive or vicious, snapping at the slightest provocation until it dies in convulsions or a coma.

Whether in animals or humans, there is no cure once the first signs of

page 2--don't neglect rabies shots

the disease are seen. If bitten by a rabid animal, the victim must immediately undergo a series of six inoculations to avoid the fatal effects of the disease. Any animal bite should receive attention by a doctor.

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MP

news

Agricultural Extension Service
Communication Resources
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

November 1, 1983

Source: Ron Pitzer
612/376-3851
Writer: Deedee Nagy
612/373-1781

THE SEASON TO BE THANKFUL FOR FAMILIES

A strong, supportive family is probably the most important element you can have in your own life and one of the most valuable things you can provide to your children. Ron Pitzer, family life specialist with the University of Minnesota's Agricultural Extension Service, suggests that National Family Week, Nov. 21-27, is a good time to look at your family's strengths and be thankful for them.

Pitzer says an undue amount of attention is focused on problems with American family life. "Yet despite difficulties, most families are happy and are creating a satisfying, beneficial way of life for their members."

He says the myth of failing families may come about because people hold unrealistically high expectations for marriage, parenthood and family. "Then, when families fail to measure up to these lovely fantasies, we are disappointed," Pitzer explains. "But that doesn't mean that most families are failures. Perhaps we confuse change, which is inevitable, with collapse."

Social scientists are discovering great strengths in family life. National Family Week, which is set aside to celebrate family life, might be a good time to take a "family check up," suggests Pitzer. "Call your family together, put aside the daily routine for an hour or so, and look at how

Page 1 of 2

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page 2--the season to be thankful

you're doing on the characteristics that strong families seem to have in common.

These characteristics include:

* Members of strong families frequently and spontaneously show support, respect, affection and appreciation for each other.

* Strong families are typically democratic in their planning and decision-making. Parents' powers are not authoritarian and children's opinions are invited and considered.

* Healthy families accept change and try to use it creatively. Their day-to-day patterns provide stability and continuity but are flexible enough to cope with crises or new roles and tasks.

* Communication flows easily, openly and frequently within healthy families. Members share their feelings, wants and needs with one another. They are able to talk through their conflicts so that there is no chronic resentment on anyone's part.

* Although individuals in strong families are encouraged to have their own views, there is a core of shared values and goals that all members have in common.

* Despite busy schedules and many interests outside the family, members of healthy families strive to spend time together. What families do together isn't so important. What does matter is that they do things that are mutually planned and enjoyed.

* Healthy families enjoy a network of social supports including regular contacts with relatives, neighbors and friends.

MP

#

news

Agricultural Extension Service
Communication Resources
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

November 1, 1983

Source: Frank Oberg
613/376-3535

Writer: Hank Drews
612/373-1250

NEW WOOD CAN CAUSE FIRES

Areas of Minnesota hard hit by windstorms during the summer can expect more house fires this winter. Summer storms knocked down many trees and people will be tempted to burn firewood from this huge supply before it is properly dried.

Frank Oberg, associate director of the University of Minnesota's F.I.R.E. Center says, "Burning green or wet wood intensifies the hazard of a fire. Almost 60 percent of the major home fires in the last several years have been the result of heating with wood burning appliances."

The wet wood doesn't burn hot enough to burn off the creosote present in all wood. Instead the creosote distills and deposits on the lining of the chimney.

"Eventually this tarlike mass will ignite and we have a chimney fire," Oberg says. "The temperatures can be in excess of 2000 degrees. Even tile-lined masonry can be damaged and the fire may spread. Metal chimneys are more prone to failure after a fire occurs."

Chimneys should be inspected for creosote build-up once a month. The heaviest concentration is within three feet of the top and can be readily seen either by rooftop inspection or by using a mirror at the base end clean-out.

Page 1 of 2

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page 2--new wood

"Creosote dripping into the fireplace or stove from pipejoints is a sure sign that a chimney fire is imminent," says Oberg.

He advises that fire prevention is the best idea for people who use wood to heat their homes. Allow split logs and limbs to dry or weather for 12 to 18 months, says Oberg. At least once a week, allow wood fires burn freely with wide open drafts. This generates temperatures hot enough to burn off creosote deposits before they become too heavy. Don't take a chance by burning green wood.

Oberg urges homeowners to call the fire department at once if they suspect they have a chimney fire. Too often firefighters aren't called until the fire has involved the structure itself, according to Oberg.

The F.I.R.E. Center is part of the University's Agricultural Extension Service.

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MP

news

Agricultural Extension Service
Communication Resources
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

November 1, 1983

Source: Frank Oberg
612/376-3535
Writer: Hank Drews
612/373-1250

UNCHECKED SMOKE DETECTORS MAY BE USELESS

Today most Minnesota homes have smoke detectors according to a spokesman from the University of Minnesota's F.I.R.E. Center. "Smoke detectors depend on either a battery to sound an alarm or work on house electricity," explains Frank Oberg, the center's associate director. "But detectors are useless if they don't operate."

Smoke detectors should be tested about once a month, says Oberg. All detectors can be tested by holding a lighted candle six inches underneath them. Heavy tobacco smoke will also work. The alarm should sound in less than twenty seconds.

If the detector emits an intermittent beeping sound, a new battery needs to be bought. Tape the date to the outside of the detector when you replace the battery so you know to change it in about a year.

"Besides keeping the smoke detector in working order," says Oberg, "the other precaution that families need in case of a fire is a well-rehearsed evacuation plan."

The F.I.R.E. Center is a part of the University's Agricultural Extension Service.

news

for County Agents

MLC/9A-7P
Agricultural Extension Service
Communication Resources
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

November 1, 1983

COUNTY NEWS PACKET INDEX

Note to agents: If you distribute this packet to other agents in the office, then PLEASE CIRCULATE ALL PAGES OF THE COVER LETTER. We've been reminding you of the color code system for releases every month, but some people are still asking questions.

Stories:

Page numbers
(lower righthand corner)

Stitch in time can save aggravation	C-4,5,6
Keep tape measure, measurements handy in used clothing shopping	C-7,8
Holiday catalogs are coming	C-9,10
Educational employment resources abundant for the elderly	C-11,12
Know your warranty before buying an appliance	C-13,14
IFYE has birthday	C-15
Water heating dishwasher could save you money	C-16,17

Here's the color code reminder:

News Media Packet:

Tan - Stories that are being sent to daily newspaper, farm broadcasters, wire services and agricultural newspapers and magazines only...NOT to most weekly papers or smaller radio stations. A few weeklies are on by special request, but they're few and far between.

Agent News Packet (stories sent exclusively to you).

Blue - AG Green - HE/FL Yellow - 4-H Salmon - CNRD

Public Service Announcements (PSA's): The enclosed PSA's were rewritten for your convenience in working with local stations. You may also find them useful as newspaper column fillers.

University newslines: Remember to use the 612/376-8030 number to call for additional timely stories. That's the U of M Newslines number we'd like non-news media people to use.

--more notes on next page--

CP

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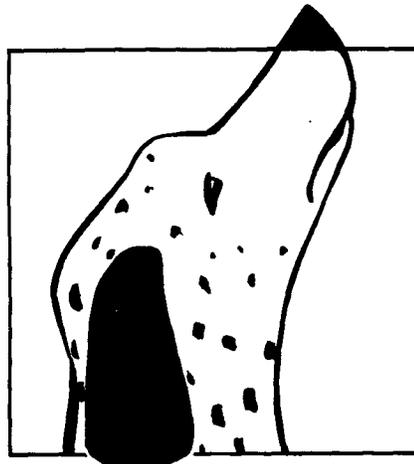
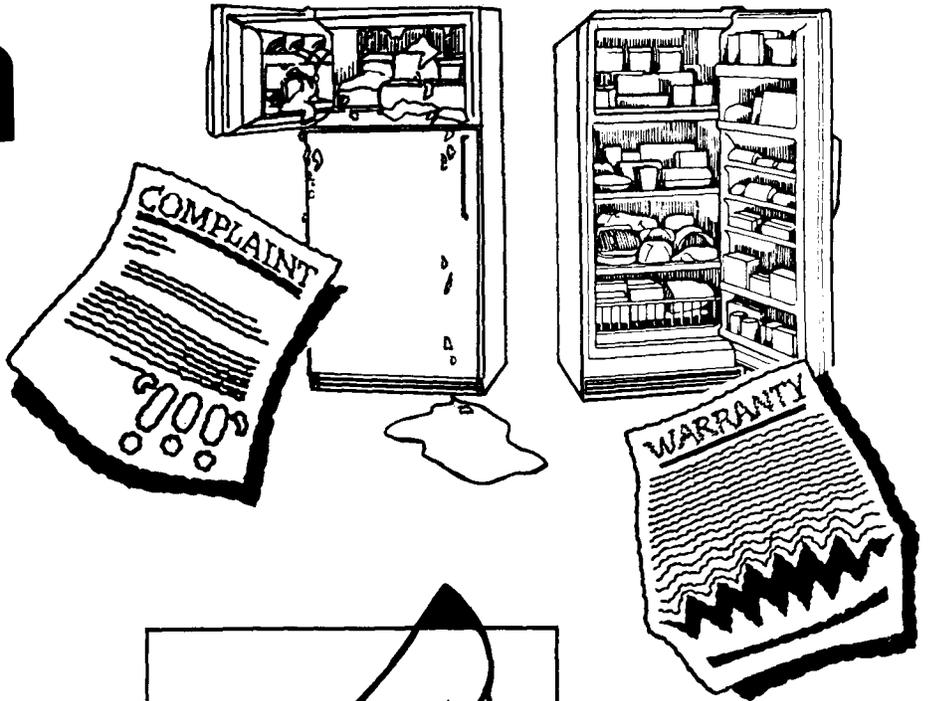
Agents and specialists: Here is a list of releases that we sent out in weekly mailings the past month. If you would like to receive a copy, check them and send this sheet with your name and address to Marilyn Masterman, 433 Coffey Hall.

Soil fertility tips

Pink mold on corn should ring warning bell
Harvesting wet corn preferable to heavy field losses
Little can be done now to head off corn borers
Ann Bosch honored at extension conference
Gerald Miller honored at extension conference
Nutrition education is essential to health, well being
Helping consumers manage resources is extension priority
Home economics leader calls family cornerstone of society
Missouri educator assumes U of M home economics extension post
Crop rotation helps minimum tillage
BRDC: an expensive feedlot problem
Preconditioning eases feedlot problems
Observation: a simple solution for feedlot problems
Wait until mid-October to apply nitrogen
Courses train safe hunters
North central region 4-H leaders forum in Mn
Lundeman receives extension award
Save money by using cobs for drying grain
Don't let spider mites hitchhike indoors on plants
Minnesota council on family relations is honored
Ag options as a marketing tool
Halloween costume tragedies can be prevented
Consider using livestock to salvage down corn
Manage cattle to salvage more down corn, avoid problems
Minneapolis to host bean, pea conference
Simmons, Lambert honored for agronomic achievements
Minnesota 4-H foundation completes third successful year
Slinder receives extension award
Krenik receives extension award
Machmeier receives ag engineering award
Kellog student becomes U research apprentice

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clipart



ON GUARD DUTY FOR SMOKE



New Publications
University of Minnesota 
Agricultural Extension Service



New Publications
University of Minnesota 
Agricultural Extension Service



EDUCATION

NOVEMBER 1983

news

Agricultural Extension Service
Communication Resources
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

for County Agents



File IC

November 1, 1983

Source: Sherri Johnson
612/376-1537

Writer: Deedee Nagy
612/373-1781

STITCH IN TIME CAN SAVE AGGRAVATION

If you're skimping on your clothing budget, you may be settling for clothes that aren't as well made or durable as you would like. Sherri Johnson, textiles and clothing specialist with the University of Minnesota's Agricultural Extension Service, says a few stitches of "preventive mending" can sometimes add the durability features that inexpensive garments lack.

Pockets, for example, take a great deal of strain. If they lack reinforcing stitches at the corners, they may begin to gape and tear off. Johnson suggests adding a diagonal or square line of hand or machine stitching at the corners for greater strength (Figure 1).

Jackets and sweaters with separating zippers benefit from extra reinforcement at the bottom of the zipper tape. A closely spaced zigzag stitch at the bottom of the zipper placket keeps the zipper in place and serviceable (Figure 2).

Sleeve plackets also can be reinforced at the top to reduce strain. Johnson suggests folding the placket together on the inside of the sleeve and stitching diagonally across the top of the placket (Figure 3). It's also wise to reinforce buttonhole ends closest to the edge of the garment. A few stitches of bar tacking at the edge of the buttonhole where the button "rides"

Page 1 of 2

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page 2--stitch in time

will prevent the hole from ripping into the rest of the garment (Figure 4).

Lost buttons are both annoying and expensive to replace. Instead, attach buttons securely with a thread shank. To allow for a shank between the button and the garment itself, stitch over a round toothpick. This allows for the shank. When the button is well attached, remove the pick, pull the button up tight against the stitches, and twist your thread several times around the thread holding the button in place. Then secure your thread in the normal fashion (Figure 5).

Before you even begin wearing a garment with a drawstring around the hood or the lower edge of a jacket, take a few stitches through the string at the top of the hood or the back of the jacket. This will prevent the string from pulling out, Johnson suggests (Figure 6).

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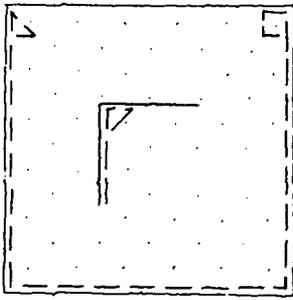


Figure 1

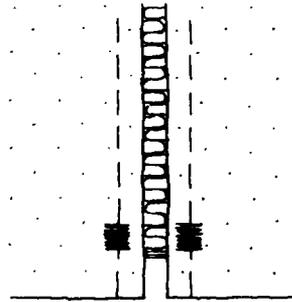


Figure 2

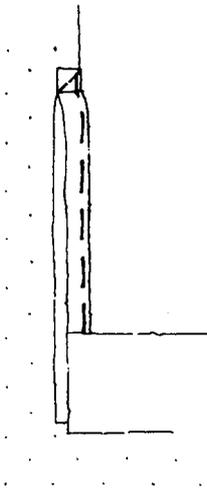


Figure 3

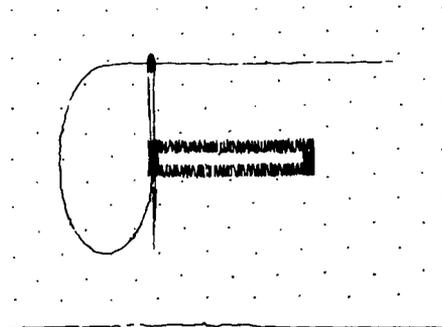


Figure 4

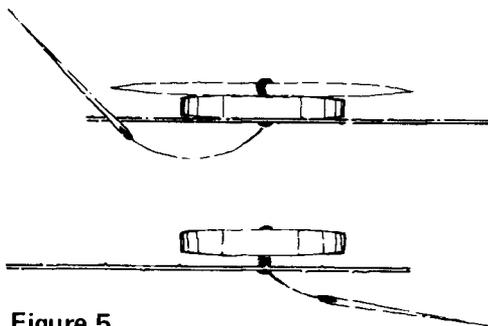


Figure 5

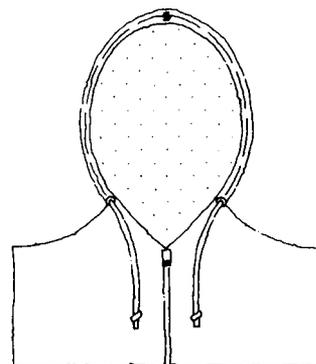


Figure 6

news

Agricultural Extension Service
Communication Resources
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108



LIVING
RESOURCEFULLY

File IC

for County Agents

November 1, 1983

Source: Sherri Johnson
612/376-1537
Writer: Deedee Nagy
612/373-1781

KEEP TAPE MEASURE, MEASUREMENTS HANDY IN USED CLOTHING SHOPPING

Garage sales, rummage sales and consignment shops can stretch your clothing budget. But clothing that doesn't fit is never a bargain, says Sherri Johnson, textiles and clothing specialist with the University of Minnesota's Agricultural Extension Service.

Used clothing often lacks precise size designations so Johnson recommends carrying a tape measure and a list of measurements for clothes that fit you and others you shop for. "Clothes of the same size can measure differently in the chest, waist and hips depending on how tightly or loosely they are meant to fit, but a measurement sheet will still be a useful guide," she adds.

In addition, she suggests asking yourself these questions before buying a used garment:

- * Will it fit? If seams and darts need to be let out, be sure there's enough fabric to make it comfortable.
- * Is the garment stretched out of shape?
- * Is the color attractive on the intended wearer? Will it fit into his or her wardrobe?
- * Are seams strong?

Page 1 of 2

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C-7

page 2--keep tape measure

- * If repairs are needed, can they be done successfully?
- * If zippers are broken or buttons missing, can you replace them?
- * Will it be easy to care for at home? Or does it matter if it must be

dry cleaned?

- * Is it still in fashion?
- * Is there some other item of clothing you need more?

Cut out this chart and fill in your family members' measurements for easy reference. Folded once, it will fit in your purse or wallet and will be handy for used clothing shopping trips.

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CP

news

for County Agents

Agricultural Extension Service
Communication Resources
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

November 1, 1983

Source: Dottie Goss
612/373-0914
Editor: Deedee Nagy
612/373-1781

HOLIDAY CATALOGS ARE COMING

In case you haven't noticed, mail-order catalogs are appearing in mailboxes, anticipating a rush of holiday orders. They promise hassle-free shopping for specialty items and low cost buying to stretch your gift dollar.

Mail-order buying can be a little too easy and you may end up with too many gifts, the wrong gifts, or more bills than you need. Here's some advice from Dottie Goss, family resource management specialist with the University of Minnesota's Agricultural Extension Service, on how to cope with these catalogs:

- o Before you order, look carefully at the purchase. Is your selection a planned purchase within your budget or are you buying on impulse?

- o Be sure you have all the information you need for ordering: size, color, need for auxiliary equipment, handling and shipping charges, and shipping instructions.

- o Once you've completed the order form, check it. Be sure you haven't used confusing abbreviations and that your numbers and words are readable. Do a double check on the amount you agree to pay.

- o Never send cash. Use a money order, check or credit card number. Before you mail your order and payment, make a copy for your own reference.

Page 1 of 2

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C-9

page 2--holiday catalogs

o If the wrong item is sent to you or arrives damaged, check company policy on how returns are to be handled. Return goods with a copy of your order form to identify your original order. Return goods by insured parcel post, United Parcel Service or some other carrier that gives you a receipt and requires that the recipient acknowledge the package by a signature. Always keep receipts until the transaction is complete.

o Be sure you understand the company policy on returns--some allow them under certain circumstances, others don't at all.

o Most mail-order houses guarantee delivery within a specific amount of time and you assume they'll arrive sooner. If time is getting short, order from catalog houses that have toll-free phone numbers and that will charge items to your credit card.

o Keep a list of items you've ordered by phone or by mail, the company's address you've ordered from, and a running total of the cost. If you've allocated a certain amount for holiday spending, don't fool yourself that mail-order expenses don't count. They may not appear on your credit card statement for another month or two, but paying later may be harder than paying now.

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CP

news

Agricultural Extension Service
Communication Resources
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108



File IVC

for County Agents

November 1, 1983

Source: Dottie Goss
612/373-0914

Writer: Deedee Nagy
612/373-1781

EDUCATIONAL, EMPLOYMENT RESOURCES ABUNDANT FOR THE ELDERLY

Various Minnesota agencies and community programs offer the state's elderly some great opportunities for education and part-time employment, according to Dottie Goss, family resource management specialist with the University of Minnesota's Agricultural Extension Service. She adds that the popularity of these programs shows that no one is past the age to grow in mind and spirit.

Among the popular educational opportunities are these:

* Elderhostel -- Through this program, seniors take week-long courses at any of 24 participating colleges in the state. In past years nearly 2,000 seniors have spent parts of their summers taking classes. Fee for a class plus lodging and food is \$190 and some scholarships are available. Contact Elderhostel, 201 Wesbrook Hall, University of Minnesota, 77 Pleasant St. SE, Minneapolis, MN 55455.

* Free tuition -- Persons 62 and older can attend state-supported schools tuition-free when there is space available. Obtain information from the institution you would like to attend.

* High school and libraries -- By law, anyone over age 21 can enroll part-time in state secondary schools that have available space. Such students

Page 1 of 2

University of Minnesota, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Minnesota Counties Cooperating

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C-11

page 2--educational employment

also may ride school buses to class if they wish. Contact your local principal for information. Most libraries stock large print books and will deliver books to the homebound. Check with your local library for services available in your area.

There are a number of innovative employment programs for the state's seniors. These include:

* Job Service -- The Minnesota Department of Economic Security operates Job Service offices throughout Minnesota. Most have persons there who specialize in finding jobs for persons over age 45. Look for these offices under "Job Service" in your local phone book.

* Foster Grandparents -- Seniors in this program work half-time for a \$40 weekly, tax-free stipend plus other benefits. They work primarily with children who have special needs. There are income limitations for this program. For details call (612) 827-5641 or write to 3225 Lyndale Ave. S., Minneapolis, MN 55408.

* Green Thumb -- About 800 older Minnesotans work on this federally funded program for persons on fixed, low incomes. Participants work in public and non-profit agencies and receive federal minimum wage. Details are available by writing Box 310, Wadena, MN 56482.

* Green View -- Some 400 Green View workers help keep highway rest areas, state parks and forestry campgrounds clean and well maintained. The workers receive \$4.20 an hour. For information contact Green View at 1717 University Ave., St. Paul, MN 55104.

* Senior Community Service Employment Program -- The Department of Economic Security sponsors employment for about 300 seniors. For locations and types of work available, contact the department at 690 American Center Building, 150 E. Kellogg St., St. Paul, MN 55101.

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Page 2 of 2

news

Agricultural Extension Service
Communication Resources
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108



for County Agents

November 1, 1983

Source: Wanda Olson
612/373-0913
Writer: Deedee Nagy
612/373-1781

KNOW YOUR WARRANTY BEFORE BUYING AN APPLIANCE

When you're appliance shopping, compare warranties of different brands the same way you compare price, size and other features. This is the consumer suggestion of Wanda Olson, household equipment specialist with the University of Minnesota's Agricultural Extension Service.

She adds that too many consumers forget the importance of the warranty and its provisions.

There are two kinds of appliance warranties -- full and limited. A full warranty offers more protection to the consumer. It states that the warrantor will remedy problems within a reasonable time and without charge as long as the warranty is in effect. Any limitations on the warranty, such as responsibility for food loss or floor damage, must be clearly stated. If a reasonable number of attempts to correct an in-warranty problem fail, the consumer must be given either a replacement appliance or a refund.

Under a limited warranty, the protection is limited to what is outlined in the written warranty document. For example, a warranty may spell out that a consumer will have to pay for diagnosis costs and labor on repairs. A warranty might also only cover one part of an appliance, such as the motor, but not related parts or the rest of the machine. Study the breakdown of what

Page 1 of 2

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page 2--know your warranty

the warrantor will provide and what costs the consumer must pay to determine how good a warranty the appliance has, Olson suggests.

She also reminds consumers that warranties are based on time, not usage. Appliances that see only seasonal use such as air conditioners or kitchen appliances used in summer cottages are still covered under warranty only for the stated time, not for how much you use the item. She suggests trying out every feature and control on a new appliance soon after it is installed. If you find a problem, report it to your dealer and give him enough time to correct it.

If you aren't satisfied with your dealer's action, report your complaint to the manufacturer, always keeping copies of your correspondence and any other documents that pertain to the problem.

If you still are dissatisfied, contact the Major Appliance Consumer Action Panel (MACAP), 20 N. Wacker Drive, Chicago, Illinois 60606. Give MACAP the name and brand of the appliance, your dealer or service agency's address, purchase date, model and serial numbers, a description of the problem and your efforts to resolve it.

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CP

news

for County Agents

Agricultural Extension Service
Communication Resources
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

November 1, 1983

Source: Dave Pace
612/373-1675
Writer: Diane Winkler
612/373-1781

IFYE HAS BIRTHDAY

The International 4-H Youth Exchange (IFYE) is 35 years old.

In 1948, the year IFYE began, going to the state fair was a big trip for Rodney Langseth of Nobles County. Langseth soon took a much longer trip that year, by being one of the first IFYE exchangees to Norway. Europe was still a shambles from war and Langseth experienced the devastation first hand. But 35 years ago, Langseth also recognized the IFYE program as an opportunity to exchange ideas and promote world peace.

Since 1948, over 700 Minnesota 4-H delegates have traveled to 58 other countries. Minnesota 4-H host families have welcomed more than 2300 exchangees into their homes. This year IFYE has delegates from Italy, Portugal, Scotland, West Germany and Jamaica in Minnesota for three months.

Leonard Harkness, former state 4-H leader in Minnesota, says that through exchanges Minnesotans can learn to respect, appreciate and understand people who are often separated from this country by government and the press. Through IFYE programs, Harkness says, "We can begin to live in peace on this very, very small planet."

CP

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Page 1 of 1

University of Minnesota, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Minnesota Counties Cooperating

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news

Agricultural Extension Service
Communication Resources
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108



File VIIC

for County Agents

November 1, 1983

Source: Wanda Olson
612/373-0913
Writer: Deedee Nagy
612/373-1781

WATER HEATING DISHWASHER COULD SAVE YOU MONEY

If you will be buying a dishwasher soon, you might save yourself money with a water heating dishwasher instead of a conventional model. Wanda Olson, household equipment specialist with the University of Minnesota's Agricultural Extension Service, says water heating dishwashers are designed to operate at 120 degrees F inlet water temperature rather than the 140 degrees F temperature required for other types of dishwashers.

Olson explains that consumers who have a water heating dishwasher can lower their main water heater setting to 120 degrees F. This saves money from both the use of lower temperature hot water and reduced heat loss through the water heating tank. If you heat water with electricity, lowering your water heater setting from 140 degrees to 120 degrees F could save you \$25 a year from reduced heat loss. This amount is based on electric rates of about 7 cents per kilowatt hour, an average efficiency water heater, and a room temperature of 55 degrees F where the water heater is located. There could be additional savings whenever undiluted hot water is used.

If you lower the water temperature, you may need to change some warm water laundry washes to hot. In most washers the warm setting is an equal mix of hot and cold water. Lowering the water temperature may cause you to run

Page 1 of 2

University of Minnesota, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Minnesota Counties Cooperating

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C- 16

page 2--water heating dishwasher

out of hot water because of the increased number of gallons needed for mixed purposes such as baths and showers.

She adds that you may also be able to lower dishwasher operating costs by selecting an appliance that has an optional drying feature, uses less water per fill or eliminates one fill of water. Some dishwashers have a time-delay feature. This allows the dishwasher to run its cycle up to eight hours after the controls are set. This feature could be important if you pay less for electricity during off-peak hours.

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CP

AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE
COMMUNICATION RESOURCES
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA 55108
November 1, 1983

ANY QUESTIONS? CALL Jennifer Obst
(612) 373-1579

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ANNOUNCER:
30 SECONDS

YOUR HOME'S SMOKE DETECTOR IS AN IMPORTANT SAFETY DEVICE,
SO IT IS IMPORTANT TO TEST IT ABOUT ONCE A MONTH.
DETECTORS ARE USELESS IF THEY DON'T OPERATE. YOU CAN
TEST YOUR DETECTOR BY HOLDING A LIGHTED CANDLE SIX INCHES
UNDERNEATH IT. THE ALARM SHOULD SOUND IN LESS THAN
TWENTY SECONDS. IF THE DETECTOR EMITS AN INTERMITTENT
BEEPING SOUND, YOU NEED A NEW BATTERY. TAPE THE DATE TO
THE OUTSIDE OF THE DETECTOR WHEN YOU REPLACE THE BATTERY
SO YOU KNOW TO CHANGE IT IN ABOUT A YEAR. THIS MESSAGE
FOR YOUR SAFETY IS BROUGHT TO YOU BY YOUR
_____ COUNTY OFFICE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF
MINNESOTA'S AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE.

AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE
COMMUNICATION RESOURCES
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA 55108
November 1, 1983

ANY QUESTIONS? CALL Jennifer Obst
(612) 373-1579

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**ANNOUNCER:
30 SECONDS**

FARMERS MAY SOON BE ABLE TO HEDGE THEIR PRICE RISKS BY USING OPTIONS ON COMMODITY FUTURES CONTRACTS. FUTURES OPTIONS WOULD LIMIT FARMERS' RISKS AND STILL LET THEM PROFIT FROM SUBSTANTIAL INCREASES IN MARKET PRICES. UNLIKE FUTURES CONTRACTS, OPTIONS DON'T COMPLETELY LOCK IN PRICE AT A SPECIFIC LEVEL. THE COMMODITY FUTURES TRADING COMMISSION IS NOW CONSIDERING A THREE-YEAR PILOT PROGRAM FOR DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL OPTIONS. THE EFFECTIVENESS OF OPTIONS IN MARKETING STRATEGY WILL DEPEND LARGELY ON PREMIUM COSTS. THIS INFORMATION IS BROUGHT TO YOU BY YOUR _____ COUNTY OFFICE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA'S AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE.

AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE
COMMUNICATION RESOURCES
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA 55108
November 1, 1983

ANY QUESTIONS? CALL Jennifer Obst
(612) 373-1579

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ANNOUNCER:
30 SECONDS

THE TRANSITION FROM A COW/CALF OPERATION TO THE FEEDLOT LEAVES MANY CALVES WEAKENED AND STRESSED, INCREASING SUSCEPTIBILITY TO DISEASE. PRECONDITIONING CAN HELP, AND CAN MEAN COST SAVINGS FOR BOTH CALF PRODUCER AND FEEDLOT OPERATOR. PRECONDITIONING IS A COMPLETE HEALTH MANAGEMENT PROGRAM WHICH CAN REDUCE DISEASE AND MORTALITY DURING THE FIRST FEW WEEKS AT THE FEEDLOT. THE PROGRAM ALSO PREPARES THE CALF FOR THE MORE SEVERE STRESSES OF WEANING AND SHIPPING. THIS MESSAGE IS BROUGHT TO YOU BY YOUR _____ COUNTY OFFICE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA'S AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE.

AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE
COMMUNICATION RESOURCES
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA 55108
November 1, 1983

ANY QUESTIONS? CALL Jennifer Obst
(612) 373-1579

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ANNOUNCER:
30 SECONDS

A COZY FIRE IN THE FIREPLACE OR WOOD BURNING STOVE IS A COMFORT IN COLD WEATHER. BUT TO PLAY IT SAFE, MAKE SURE YOU BURN DRY WOOD. BURNING GREEN OR WET WOOD INTENSIFIES THE HAZARD OF A FIRE. ALMOST 60 PERCENT OF THE MAJOR HOME FIRES IN THE LAST SEVERAL YEARS HAVE BEEN THE RESULT OF HEATING WITH WOOD BURNING APPLIANCES. THE WET WOOD DOESN'T BURN HOT ENOUGH TO BURN OFF THE CREOSOTE PRESENT IN ALL WOOD. INSTEAD, THE CREOSOTE IS DEPOSITED ON THE LINING OF THE CHIMNEY. EVENTUALLY THIS TARLIKE MASS WILL IGNITE AND YOU HAVE A CHIMNEY FIRE. INSPECT YOUR CHIMNEY FOR CREOSOTE BUILD-UP ONCE A MONTH. THIS MESSAGE IS BROUGHT TO YOU BY YOUR _____ COUNTY OFFICE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA'S AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE.

AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE
COMMUNICATION RESOURCES
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA 55108
November 1, 1983

ANY QUESTIONS? CALL Jennifer Obst
(612) 373-1579

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ANNOUNCER:
30 SECONDS

RESEARCH DONE BY THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA'S
AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION HAS SHOWN THAT DESPITE
THEIR GOOD INTENTIONS, MANY MINNESOTA PARENTS MAY BE
DRESSING THEIR CHILDREN TOO HEAVILY FOR COMFORT IN THE
CLASSROOM DURING THE WINTER. THE IDEA OF LAYERING
CLOTHING IS A GOOD ONE. BUT THE BOTTOM LAYER SHOULDN'T
BE SO HEAVY THAT CHILDREN CANNOT PEEL OFF ENOUGH CLOTHING
TO BE COMFORTABLE. THIS MESSAGE IS BROUGHT TO YOU BY
YOUR _____ COUNTY OFFICE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF
MINNESOTA'S AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE.

AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE
COMMUNICATION RESOURCES
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA 55108
November 1, 1983

ANY QUESTIONS? CALL Jennifer Obst
(612) 373-1579

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ANNOUNCER:
30 SECONDS

WHEN IT COMES TO CARS...COME TO 4-H. YOU CAN LEARN ALL ABOUT HOW TO KEEP YOUR CAR OPERATING SMOOTHLY AND EFFICIENTLY. LEARN AUTOMOBILE PARTS, HOW TO SPOT TROUBLE, HOW TO PREVENT IT AND HOW TO REPAIR IT. AND IF YOU'RE AN ADULT, YOU CAN BE PART OF 4-H, AS A VOLUNTEER LEADER. SHARE YOUR SKILLS WITH 4-H MEMBERS, AND LEARN HOW MUCH FUN GIVING CAN BE. WHETHER IT'S HOT RODS, IMPORTS, COMPACTS OR PICK-UPS, YOU CAN LEARN ALL ABOUT IT IN 4-H. CALL _____ TO LEARN HOW YOU CAN JOIN 4-H, OR BE A VOLUNTEER 4-H LEADER.

AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE
COMMUNICATION RESOURCES
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA 55108
November 1, 1983

ANY QUESTIONS? CALL Jennifer Obst
(612) 373-1579

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**ANNOUNCER:
30 SECONDS**

THERE'S SOMETHING ELECTRIC ABOUT 4-H! YOU'LL FIND OUT JUST WHAT IT IS, WHEN YOU ENROLL IN THE 4-H ELECTRIC ENERGY PROGRAM. LEARN ALL ABOUT HOW ELECTRICITY WORKS. MAKE YOUR OWN ELECTRIC ENGINES. DO YOUR OWN ELECTRICAL REPAIRS. YOU'LL BE LEARNING SKILLS YOU CAN USE THE REST OF YOUR LIFE...AND YOU'LL BE HAVING A GOOD TIME DOING IT! WHETHER YOU LIVE IN THE CITY OR THE COUNTRY, YOU CAN BE PART OF THE 4-H FUN. CALL YOUR _____ COUNTY OFFICE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA'S AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE AND LET 4-H SHINE THROUGH FOR YOU!

AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE
COMMUNICATION RESOURCES
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA 55108
November 1, 1983

ANY QUESTIONS? CALL Jennifer Obst
(612) 373-1579

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**ANNOUNCER:
30 SECONDS**

WHEN IT COMES TO FARMING, AMERICA'S YOUNG PEOPLE COME TO 4-H. FOR THE LATEST TECHNIQUES IN BREEDING, PLANTING, MARKETING AND HARVESTING, THE 4-H SYSTEM IS A PROVEN LEADER. AFTER ALL, 4-H IS THE YOUTH PROGRAM OF THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE. BE IT TRAINING FOR A FUTURE ON THE FARM, AT THE MARKETPLACE OR IN AG-RELATED INDUSTRIES, 4-H CAN GIVE YOU THE KNOWLEDGE YOU NEED TO SUCCEED. WHETHER YOU LIVE IN THE CITY OR THE COUNTRY -- IF YOU WANT TO JOIN 4-H, OR BE A VOLUNTEER LEADER, CALL _____ . BE PART OF AMERICA'S FUTURE, IN 4-H.

AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE
COMMUNICATION RESOURCES
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA 55108
November 1, 1983

ANY QUESTIONS? CALL Jennifer Obst
(612) 373-1579

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ANNOUNCER:
30 SECONDS

YOU DON'T NEED A BIG YARD TO GET INTO 4-H GARDENING. WHETHER YOU'VE GOT ROOM ON AN EMPTY LOT, SPACE IN YOUR BACK YARD, OR JUST A SPACE FOR WINDOW BOXES OR FLOWER POTS, YOU CAN GET INTO 4-H GARDENING. LEARN ALL ABOUT HOW PLANTS AND FLOWERS GROW, HOW TO DECORATE WITH PLANTS, HOW TO MARKET YOUR PRODUCE, AND HOW TO CONDUCT YOUR OWN EXPERIMENTS WITH PLANTS. 4-H GARDENING IS FOR CITY KIDS, SUBURBAN KIDS AND COUNTRY KIDS. IF YOU'RE AN ADULT GARDENER, YOU CAN TEACH YOUR SKILLS TO 4-H'ERS AS A VOLUNTEER LEADER. COME JOIN THE FUN. CALL

_____ FOR INFORMATION ON 4-H.

AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE
COMMUNICATION RESOURCES
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA 55108
November 1, 1983

ANY QUESTIONS? CALL Jennifer Obst
(612) 373-1579

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**ANNOUNCER:
30 SECONDS**

4-H REALLY IS A FAMILY AFFAIR. YOUNG PEOPLE AGES 9-19
MAY CHOOSE TO BELONG TO 4-H. AND PARENTS AND ADULTS OF
ALL AGES SERVE AS 4-H VOLUNTEERS. 4-H ENTOMOLOGY
PROJECTS ARE JUST ONE EXAMPLE. YOUNG PEOPLE CAN LEARN
ALL ABOUT TYPES OF INSECTS, THEIR HABITS, WHICH ONES ARE
DESTRUCTIVE, WHICH ONES HELP, INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT
AND MORE. INTERESTED ADULTS CAN EXPAND THEIR OWN
KNOWLEDGE, WITH THE HELP OF THE COUNTY EXTENSION AGENT,
MAKING LEARNING A FUN-FILLED, SATISFYING EXPERIENCE. GOT
SOME EXTRA TIME? WHY NOT GIVE 4-H A TRY? CALL YOUR
_____ COUNTY OFFICE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF
MINNESOTA'S AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE AND GET INTO
4-H.

AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE
COMMUNICATION RESOURCES
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA 55108
November 11, 1983

ANY QUESTIONS? CALL Jennifer Obst
(612) 373-1579

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ANNOUNCER:
30 SECONDS

4-H MAKES SAFETY A PART OF YOUR LIFE. WHETHER IT'S SAFETY IN THE KITCHEN, AROUND THE HOME, ON THE PLAYGROUND, AT SCHOOL, IN THE CAR, AT WORK OR ON THE FARM, 4-H TEACHES YOU HOW TO MAKE SAFETY SECOND NATURE. YOU CAN EVEN GET INVOLVED IN SPECIAL SAFETY PROJECTS TO MAKE OTHER PEOPLE AWARE OF HOW TO LIVE MORE SAFELY. SET UP A SAFETY DISPLAY....GIVE CLINICS ON SAFE APPLIANCE USE, AUTOMOTIVE SAFETY OR MOTORCYCLE SAFETY. THERE ARE ALL KINDS OF THINGS YOU CAN DO. INTERESTED IN PLAYING IT SAFE? CALL _____ AND GET INTO 4-H.

AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE
COMMUNICATION RESOURCES
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA 55108
November 1, 1983

ANY QUESTIONS? CALL Jennifer Obst
(612) 373-1579

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ANNOUNCER:
30 SECONDS

IF YOU ARE SKIMPING ON YOUR CLOTHING BUDGET, YOU MAY BE
SETTLING FOR CLOTHES THAT AREN'T AS WELL-MADE OR DURABLE
AS YOU WOULD LIKE. A FEW STITCHES OF PREVENTIVE MENDING
CAN SOMETIMES ADD THE DURABILITY THAT INEXPENSIVE
GARMENTS LACK. ADDING MACHINE OR HAND STITCHING AT THE
CORNERS OF POCKETS BEFORE YOU EVER WEAR THE GARMENT, FOR
EXAMPLE, WILL HELP REINFORCE AN AREA THAT OFTEN GETS A
LOT OF STRAIN. REINFORCING BEFORE RIPS AND TEARS OCCUR
WILL SAVE TIME AND AGGRAVATION. THIS MESSAGE IS BROUGHT
TO YOU BY YOUR _____ COUNTY OFFICE OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA'S AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE.

AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE
COMMUNICATION RESOURCES
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA 55108
November 1, 1983

ANY QUESTIONS? CALL Jennifer Obst
(612) 373-1579

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**ANNOUNCER:
30 SECONDS**

MAIL ORDER CATALOGS PROMISE HASSLE-FREE HOLIDAY SHOPPING AND OFFER MANY OTHER ADVANTAGES. BUT YOU SHOULD BE AWARE OF THE PITFALLS TOO. MAIL-ORDER BUYING CAN BE A LITTLE TOO EASY, AND YOU MAY END UP WITH TOO MANY GIFTS, THE WRONG GIFTS, OR MORE BILLS THAN YOU NEED. HERE'S SOME ADVICE ON HOW TO COPE WITH CATALOGS: CHOOSE CAREFULLY, BE SURE YOU HAVE ALL THE INFORMATION YOU NEED FOR ORDERING, AND NEVER SEND CASH. THIS MESSAGE IS BROUGHT TO YOU BY YOUR _____ COUNTY OFFICE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA'S AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE.

AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE
COMMUNICATION RESOURCES
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA 55108
November 1, 1983

ANY QUESTIONS? CALL Jennifer Obst
(612) 373-1579

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ANNOUNCER:
30 SECONDS

IF YOU OWN A CAT, DON'T FORGET ABOUT ITS RABIES SHOTS. MORE CATS THAN DOGS NOW CARRY RABIES. THERE HAS BEEN AN ALARMING INCREASE OF CONFIRMED CASES IN CATS SINCE 1978 THAT SHOWS NO SIGN OF DROPPING. DOMESTIC ANIMALS THAT ARE ALLOWED TO ROAM OUTDOORS CAN GET THE DISEASE BY CONTACT WITH WILD MEAT-EATERS SUCH AS SKUNKS OR RACCOONS. IT'S IMPORTANT, BOTH FOR YOUR PET'S AND YOUR FAMILY'S HEALTH, THAT YOU TAKE PREVENTIVE MEASURES. THIS MESSAGE IS BROUGHT TO YOU BY YOUR _____ COUNTY OFFICE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA'S AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE.

news

MSC/9A27P
Agricultural Extension Service
Communication Resources
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

November 9, 1983

Source: Thomas Halbach
612/755-1280
Writer: Rodger Kemp
612/788-6294

MINNESOTA LEADERSHIP PROJECT IS OPPORTUNITY FOR YOUNG LEADERS

Thirty young community leaders from throughout Minnesota will participate in a new leadership development program offered by the University of Minnesota's Agricultural Extension Service. Applications are being taken now at local county extension offices.

The Minnesota Emerging Leadership Project will provide 25 to 35 days of instruction over a two-year period beginning early in 1984. Instruction will feature a combination of seminars, group projects, lectures, tours and one-to-one discussions. Topics covered will include communications, functions of government, resource allocation, economic policies and related subjects.

The project is directed by Thomas Halbach, an area agent for Community and Natural Resource Development. Halbach explains the project goals as building leadership capacity among younger Minnesotans and helping to maintain Minnesota's tradition of strong local and state leadership.

Extension services in other states have some type of program similar to this, according to Halbach. "But we think our project is special in several ways," he said. "We're going to be statewide. We're intentionally looking for a diversity of background and experience in our participants. We're going to challenge participants to examine options on difficult issues; we're going to ask them to find new ways to induce cooperation among Minnesotans."

Participants will be asked to share the information and ideas they gather with other people in their communities. Through this approach, the project

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hopes to provide some additional resources for communities to use in local decision-making.

The project is designed for persons age twenty-five to thirty-five. The application form asks candidates to summarize their leadership interests and experience. It also requests a written statement about several aspects of leadership.

There is a participant's fee of \$500 per year for the cost of meals and lodging. All other costs are covered by the Agricultural Extension Service and private donors. There are five scholarships available to people with financial need. Application forms are available at local county offices of the Agricultural Extension Service, or from Thomas Halbach, Minnesota Emerging Leadership Project, Room 146 Classroom Office Building, University of Minnesota, St. Paul, MN 55108.

Applications will be accepted through November 30, 1983. Participants will be selected and notified by December 30. The first scheduled event is a seminar in St. Paul from February 2-4, 1984.

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DPMP, II-P

news

M3C/9 A27e
Agricultural Extension Service
Communication Resources
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

November 9, 1983

Source: Juanita Reed
612/373-1108
Writer: Cheryl Schwanke
612/373-0715

MINNESOTA 4-H MEMBERS SELECTED FOR 4-H CONGRESS

Thirty-nine Minnesota 4-H members have been selected to attend the 62nd National 4-H Congress from Nov. 27-Dec. 1 at the Conrad Hilton Hotel, Chicago, Ill.

They were selected by the University of Minnesota's Agricultural Extension Service for outstanding achievements in 4-H projects. Before leaving for the congress, the Minnesota delegates will be honored at a recognition dinner in Minneapolis, Nov. 25.

The theme of the congress, "4-H: Building on Experience," challenges young people to develop their potential for the betterment of self, community, nation and world. The week-long educational program features workshops, assemblies, field trips and recognition events. During the week, 290 scholarships totaling \$280,600 will be awarded in 40 project areas.

Delegates will also meet with 500 leaders of business, agriculture, education and public affairs who will be attending the annual event in the Windy City. In addition, eight outstanding 4-H alumni will be honored in the national 4-H alumni recognition program. Edna Thayer, Faribault, is a national alumni winner.

Attached is a list of Minnesota delegates and chaperones.

#

DPMP, II-P, 1A, Sel Media

University of Minnesota, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Minnesota Counties Cooperating

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news

MSC/9AQT
Agricultural Extension Service
Communication Resources
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

November 17, 1983

Source: Ron Pitzer
612/376-3851
Writer: Deedee Nagy
612/373-1781

GIFT-GIVING RITUALS PART OF HOLIDAY TRADITION

Gaily wrapped packages, stockings overflowing with Santa's bounty, tables groaning under the traditional fare -- our Christmas traditions tend to be jealously guarded, elaborate and expensive.

Ron Pitzer, family life specialist with the University of Minnesota's Agricultural Extension Service, says research by University of Virginia sociologists in Muncie, Ind., shows that gift-givers spend an average of three percent of their income on Christmas gifts. In 1978, when the study was done, this was about \$300 per person.

The study pointed out other interesting patterns of gift exchange and holiday entertaining that Pitzer says are probably as true in Minnesota as they were in Muncie.

* Women are the most active gift-givers. Either alone or jointly, they gave about 84 percent of the gifts but received only about 60 percent.

* Children received about seven gifts for every gift they gave. They typically have few responsibilities for the Christmas celebration except providing a token gift for each close family member. Even this is usually done with assistance from parents, Pitzer adds.

* Clothing was the most common gift, followed by toys, money and food, decorations, cosmetics, household equipment, appliances and hobby equipment.

* Most Christmas gifts were physical objects capable of being wrapped and

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set under the tree. Fewer than two percent of the gifts were handmade, and most of those were gifts from young children to parents or grandparents.

* Women perform most of the tasks associated with Christmas gift-giving. This includes not only shopping, wrapping and mailing gifts but also decorating the home, organizing family gatherings and preparing meals and traditional foods. Pitzer says this may be changing gradually, particularly in households where both husband and wife work outside the home.

* Gift-giving is clearly directional. Nearly three times as many gifts go down one generation as go up one generation.

* Distance has little effect on gift-giving among close relatives. In fact, Pitzer says, gift-giving may be one way families resist the tendency of distance to interfere with ties to kin.

Christmas rituals seem to serve many functions in cementing family relationships, Pitzer concludes. Gifts are given to persons whose affection and good will are wanted but cannot be taken for granted. This may be especially important during adolescence, when the exchange of gifts between parents and children is particularly unequal and children may be defiant and hostile toward their parents.

This system appears to work, Pitzer adds. Parents usually continue Christmas gift-giving no matter how unequal the exchanges are, and most adolescents grow into adults who strive to keep up ties with aging parents.

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news

for County Agents

MSC/9-277P
Agricultural Extension Service
Communication Resources
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

December 1, 1983

COUNTY NEWS PACKET INDEX

Stories in this packet:

Page numbers
(lower righthand corner)

Finding the "right" condition for sows	C4,5
Farm safety specialist urges four fire precautions	C6
Keep warm with clean, dry work clothes	C7
Use caution on slick surfaces	C8
Self help relief from mortgage foreclosure	C9,10
White lupines tested in turkey diets	C11,12
Controlling discharges in sows	C13,14
Plan your gift buying before you overspend	C15,16
Appliance trends: off-the-counter and automatic	C17
Tailor your holiday season to available time	C18,19
Help your children 'catch' the art of giving	C20,21
No money for college? plan ahead for aid	C22
Outlet stores offer good prices, spartan surroundings	C24,25
Plan now for next year's canning season	C26,27

Here's the color code reminder:

News Media Packet:

Tan - Stories that are being sent to daily new spaper, farm broadcasters, wire services and agricultural newspapers and magazines only...NOT to most weekly papers or smaller radio stations. A few weeklies are on by special request, but they're few and far between.

Agent News Packet (stories sent exclusively to you).

Blue - AG Green - HE/FL Yellow - 4-H Salmon - CNRD

Public Service Announcements (PSA's): The enclosed PSA's were rewritten for your convenience in working with local stations. You may also find them useful as newspaper column fillers.

University newslines: Remember to use the 612/376-8030 number to call for additional timely stories. That's the U of M Newslines number we'd like non-news media people to use.

--more notes on next page--

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Agents and specialists: Here is a list of releases that we sent out in weekly mailings the past month. If you would like to receive a copy, check them and send this sheet with your name and address to Marilyn Masterman, 433 Coffey Hall.

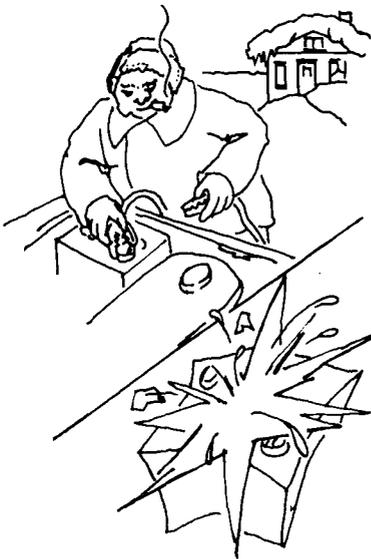
Changes in DHI somatic cell count reporting
Changes made in DHI somatic cell count reporting
Evaluate tax options with PIK
PIK makes tax planning crucial
High-yield barley variety approved for malting
Tourism report available
Clean chimney to prevent fires
Richfield student was U research apprentice
Minnesota 4-H members selected for 4-H congress
Minnesota leadership project is opportunity for young
leaders
Dates set for 1984 beef cow-calf days

clipart



EDUCATION

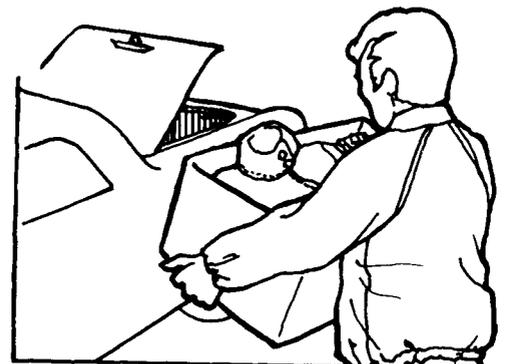
14 people
\$200.00
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14/200.
about \$14
per person



New Publications
University of Minnesota 
Agricultural Extension Service

New Publications
University of Minnesota 
Agricultural Extension Service

DECEMBER 1983



news

for County Agents

Agricultural Extension Service
Communication Resources
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

December 1, 1983

Source: Ron Moser
612/373-0980
Writer: Jack Sperbeck
612/373-0715

FINDING THE "RIGHT" CONDITION FOR SOWS

When is a sow fed to the right condition? We use terms like "fat" and "thin" to describe sows, but there are no clear guidelines for monitoring sow condition, says Ron Moser, animal scientist with the University of Minnesota's Agricultural Experiment Station.

Moser and other researchers are evaluating a zero- to five-point scoring system established in Great Britain as a tool for monitoring sow condition. An extremely fat sow gets a score of five while a thin, emaciated sow gets a zero.

Scoring is based on an overall appearance of the sow plus perceived amount of fat covering the shoulders, ribs, vertebrae, pin bones and tail head. "While using the system, we've made two observations," Moser says.

1. Sows with similar fat thickness but different genetic backgrounds have different condition scores.
2. Condition scores seem to reveal changes in protein turnover as well as in fat deposition.

"The condition scores are practical and can be easily collected while the sow stands in a crate or small pen," Moser says.

In the study, researchers are estimating backfat and correlating it with other factors. "Sows with low condition scores--like 0.5 and 1--will maintain some fat cover. But other sows have similar fat thickness but score higher. This suggests that the very thin sows have lost muscle protein as well as fat, which results in low

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condition scores," Moser says.

Sows are under intense pressure compared to past years. "The sow must be in a productive state for no less than 85 percent of her adult life. Only a five- to seven-day postweaning anestrus is considered acceptable 'down time' in one farrowing to farrowing interval," Moser says. This intense pressure has increased the need for a sound feeding and management program throughout all stages of production.

Moser notes that research on human females suggests that women runners experience reduced body weight, putting them below a body fat threshold necessary for regular menstruation. "Is it possible that sows experiencing an intense lactation must maintain a minimum level of body fat to insure prompt return to estrus after weaning?" he asks.

To answer that question, we must first establish an accurate measurement of body fat in the live animal, Moser says. "It's well established in pigs and humans that body weight is not an accurate indicator of body fat," he says.

Moser is using deuterium oxide to measure body water in the sows. "With this method, prediction equations can be established for estimating body composition, including percentage of body fat, protein and bone. Proper feeding levels and nutrient requirements can be accurately determined if this technique is successful," Moser says.

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CP, 4L

B:MOSERCON

news

for County Agents

Agricultural Extension Service
Communication Resources
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

December 1, 1983

Source: Bob Aherin
612/373-0764
Writer: Hank Drews
612/373-1250

FARM SAFETY SPECIALIST URGES FOUR FIRE PRECAUTIONS

Home fires hurt or kill thousands of Americans each year. Bob Aherin, safety specialist with the University of Minnesota's Agricultural Extension Service, recommends these four tips from the National Safety Council for this heating season.

- Keep unnecessary flammable materials out of your home.
- Equip your home and other buildings with fire extinguishers. Fire extinguishers are also a good idea for tractors, trucks and combines.
- Install smoke detectors outside your bedrooms, high on walls or ceilings. Remember to check the batteries monthly.
- Develop a home fire escape plan with responsibilities for every member of the family.

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Page 1 of 1

B:FARMSAFE

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C-6

news

for County Agents

Agricultural Extension Service
Communication Resources
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

December 1, 1983

Source: Bob Aherin
612/373-0764
Writer: Hank Drews
612/373-1250

KEEP WARM WITH CLEAN, DRY WORK CLOTHES

Miserable weather can be tolerable for work if you dress wisely.

Wear layers of clean, dry clothes when working in cold, wet weather. The inner layers should let the body's moisture pass through. Dirty clothes are colder because dirt, body salts and oils fill the insulating air spaces.

Pay special attention to keeping the outer layer waterproof. Some fabrics need periodic waterproofing, and plastic or rubberized materials should be inspected and repaired as necessary.

"One especially good idea," says University of Minnesota's Agricultural Extension Service safety specialist Bob Aherin, "is to store a change of clothing in your car or locker." Anyone who's had wet feet knows what relief dry socks can be.

"Dressing wise and warm will prevent accidents and other health problems," says Aherin.

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Page 1 of 1

B:KEEPWARM

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for County Agents

Agricultural Extension Service
Communication Resources
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

December 1, 1983

Source: Bob Aherin
612/373-0764
Writer: Hank Drews
612/373-1250

USE CAUTION ON SLICK SURFACES

One out of every four work-related accidents in farming happens because a person falls, said Bob Aherin, safety specialist for the University of Minnesota's Agricultural Extension Service.

According to National Safety Council statistics, 11,000 people died from falls in 1982. In order to prevent fall-related accidents while you work, Aherin suggests these tips:

- Wear comfortable footwear with soles that provide good slip resistance for surfaces you'll be working on.
- Keep work area walk ways and stairs free of clutter and objects that might cause you to trip.
- Never allow children or others to accompany you on farm machinery. Riders could fall and be crushed between the ground and the machinery.
- When you're working on high surfaces, use a ladder that is in proper working condition. Check the rungs to make sure they are sturdy. When you position your ladder, remember the four-to-one rule: allow one foot of distance from the base of the wall or building for every four feet up on the surface.
- Carry a heavy or bulky object carefully, holding it so it doesn't block your view. And don't be afraid to ask for help.

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Page 1 of 1

B:USECAUTI

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news

for County Agents

Agricultural Extension Service
Communication Resources
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

December 1, 1983

Source: Robert W. Snyder
612/376-3433
Writer: Jack Sperbeck
612/373-0715

SELF-HELP RELIEF FROM MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE

Farmers and homeowners facing mortgage foreclosure can use a new publication from the University of Minnesota's Agricultural Extension Service to try to cut legal costs.

The new publication is called "Self-Help Relief from Mortgage Foreclosure," and available from county extension offices.

It includes a description of the 1983 Mortgage Foreclosure Moratorium Act, as well as forms and detailed instructions that will let landowners initiate legal proceedings giving them up to 30 days to work out an agreement with a foreclosing bank or agency.

In 1983 the Minnesota Legislature passed a new law, known as the Mortgage Foreclosure Moratorium Act, which gives temporary relief to certain owners of mortgaged property who are facing financial difficulties. In general terms, the law allows a distressed landowner to get up to a 12-month delay in the foreclosure sale of mortgaged property.

"We are not suggesting that using this new law is wise for every farmer and homeowner facing mortgage foreclosure," note Robert Snyder and Richard Hawkins, in a letter describing the publication. Both are economists with the University's Agricultural Extension Service.

"In some instances, owners may suffer less by letting the foreclosure run its course. In many cases, they will need to do some financial planning to decide."

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If an agreement can be reached during the up-to-30-day period, the landowner will benefit from the new law without incurring legal fees. If no agreement results, the owner should retain a lawyer to get further relief through District Court. Some farmers and homeowners may be eligible for free legal services from Legal Services Offices.

The publication deals directly with two situations:

--Landowners who were the original borrowers of a loan secured by the mortgage.

--Landowners who assumed the mortgage through a contract for deed with the original borrower.

Forms and instructions in the publication can be modified to fit other circumstances.

Landowners who invoke this law before the Notice of Foreclosure Sale is published will also avoid having to reimburse the foreclosing party for its foreclosure expenses.

More information about using the new law is available from the Home Preservation Hotline, 800/652-9747 or 612/297-4111.

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B:SELFHELP

news

for County Agents

Agricultural Extension Service
Communication Resources
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

December 1, 1983

Source: Paul Waibel
612/373-0900
Jim Halvorson
612/373-0828
Editor: Sam Brungardt
612/376-8182

WHITE LUPINES TESTED IN TURKEY DIETS

Research by animal scientists with the Agricultural Experiment Station at the University of Minnesota has investigated the worth of white lupines in turkey rations. The results indicate that ground, whole lupines can compose as much as 15 percent of the diet. Above that, growth is depressed. However, if the lupines are dehulled, as much as 30 percent of the diet can be lupines without adversely affecting growth.

In the past, white lupines have not been used much as a protein source because they contain quinolizidine alkaloids, which are toxic. However, plant breeders have recently produced varieties that have a lower content of alkaloids and other toxic compounds.

White lupines contain about 32 percent protein, 9 percent fat, and 12 percent fiber. Their amino acid content is fairly good except they are low in methionine.

Results of the first experiment conducted by animal scientists Paul Waibel and Jim Halvorson showed that young starting turkeys fed a diet composed of 60 percent finely ground, whole white lupines had a growth rate 83 percent as great as a control group fed a 28.8-percent-protein, corn-soybean meal diet.

In an experiment with older turkeys, complete replacement of soybean meal protein by lupine protein (again, finely ground, whole lupines) resulted in 85 percent of the growth of the control group, which received a corn-soybean meal diet

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containing 21.9 percent protein. Further, there was no evidence of any reduction in the general health of the birds. Female turkeys 8 to 12 weeks old and male turkeys 0 to 3 weeks old accepted 10 and 15 percent of lupins in their diets, respectively, with no reduction in performance. However, higher levels of lupines resulted in increasingly depressed growth.

In their most recent research, Waibel and Halvorson found that when 40 percent dehulled lupines were included in the diet of young turkeys 1 to 3 weeks old, the birds grew 95 percent as much as a control group fed a standard corn-soybean meal diet.

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Page 2 of 2

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news

for County Agents

Agricultural Extension Service
Communication Resources
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

December 1, 1983

Source: Jack Sperbeck
612/373-0715

Writer: Allen Leman
612/373-1633

CONTROLLING DISCHARGES IN SOWS

Many hog producers are complaining about discharging sows, and the first sign of the problem is often a higher than normal repeat breeding rate.

Managers with high repeat breeding rates often report higher rates of discharging sows, says Dr. Al Leman, veterinarian with the University of Minnesota's Agricultural Extension Service.

Leman says researchers have established anything over three percent as an abnormally high discharge rate. Many discharges occur 14 to 17 days after mating. During problem periods, Leman suggests inspecting slats three time daily.

Leman says cause of the problem isn't known. He advises working with your veterinarian and following these control recommendations:

1. Cull all discharging sows that return to estrus or are found to be non-pregnant by mechanical diagnosis.
2. Mate each sow to one boar only.
3. Clean boars that aren't associated with discharging sows should be used on young sows and gilts.
4. Consider treating all boars and sows with long-lasting tetracycline. Intramammary infusions may be useful in boars.
5. Clean the entire breeding area and early gestation area each Friday.
6. Cull sows after six or seven litters. Old sows seem more prone to discharge problems.

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7. Prolong lactation as much as possible to allow sows more time to clear up post-parturient infections.

8. Review the hand-mating procedure. Anyone assisting the boar must wear clean gloves.

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CP, 4L

Page 2 of 2

B:LEMANDIS

news

for County Agents

Agricultural Extension Service
Communication Resources
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

December 1, 1983

Source: Dottie Goss
612/373-0914

Writer: Deedee Nagy
612/373-1781

PLAN YOUR GIFT BUYING BEFORE YOU OVERSPEND

Holiday shopping doesn't have to be the first step toward a long winter of paying overdue department store bills and cutting corners to make up for overshooting your budget.

Dottie Goss, family resource management specialist with the University of Minnesota's Agricultural Extension Service, says a realistic shopping strategy is the key to keeping spending in line with your resources. She suggests asking yourself:

- * Who do I want to remember with gifts?
- * What price range is appropriate and affordable?
- * How much of my current income can I afford to devote to holiday gifts?
- * How much can I afford to spend on credit payments in the months ahead?

If these questions reveal that the amount you have available is less than you need to complete your gift buying, you will need to take a second look at your gift list.

Goss says you may be able to find less costly alternatives to what you planned to give. Would jeans with a store label be a substitute for designer jeans? Or would it be better to select a different gift? For some people, that designer label could be important.

You also may want to discuss budget limits with your family members. If funds are tight this year, letting everyone know this could save some disappointment later.

Not all gifts have to be purchased, Goss reminds consumers. Food and craft

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items are appreciated, but these may require more of your time than you have to devote to holiday preparations. "It doesn't help if you become frazzled and still have lots of unfinished projects facing you," she adds. "Handcrafted gifts require careful planning and working months ahead of the holiday season."

Gifts of services can be especially thoughtful. Babysitting coupons for young parents or window washing or snow shoveling "gift certificates" for older friends can be welcome gifts.

Similarly, you may have gifts among the things you already own. Special family heirlooms make memorable gifts. Or you could divide house plants and share them with others. Home-preserved food, dressed up with a holiday ribbon, is always a handy gift.

Goss concludes, "Gift giving should be a joy for the giver as well as the recipient. Planning so the cost of gifts fits easily within the limits of the family budget can help make it so."

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Page 2 of 2

B:GOSSGIFT

news

for County Agents

Agricultural Extension Service
Communication Resources
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

December 1, 1983

Source: Wanda Olson
612/373-0914

Writer: Deedee Nagy
612/373-1781

APPLIANCE TRENDS; OFF-THE-COUNTER AND AUTOMATIC

The trend in portable appliances today is to have them off the counter and equipped with automatic timers for delayed starting.

Wanda Olson, household equipment specialist with the University of Minnesota's Agricultural Extension Service, says a number of manufacturers are introducing appliances that can be mounted on the wall or under a cabinet, leaving counter space underneath. Leading this trend is the microwave oven, which is being promoted heavily as a built-in and also as an over-the-range mounted unit.

Olson cautions consumers that research shows for safe use, the oven shelf or cooking rack should be no higher than the user's shoulder. This allows the user to see inside a cooking dish when checking the food and when lifting the dish out. For convenient as well as safe use of the microwave oven, shelf or rack height should be between two inches below the elbow and ten inches above it. This height is very convenient for food handling, stirring and oven cleaning.

She adds that over-the-range microwave ovens need to have a high capacity hood fan if they are to be installed over ranges with top grilling features.

Other appliances being designed for wall and cabinet mounting include automatic coffee makers, can openers and electric knives.

Increasing numbers of cooking appliances are being marketed with automatic timers, Olson says. Delayed-start features have been available on coffee makers for some time, but timers are now found on electric fry pans, portable ovens and other such appliances. Most also have automatic shut-off devices.

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TRENDSWO

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C-17

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news

for County Agents

Agricultural Extension Service
Communication Resources
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

December 1, 1983

Source: Dottie Goss
612/373-0914
Writer: Deedee Nagy
612/373-1781

TAILOR YOUR HOLIDAY SEASON TO AVAILABLE TIME

If the hands on your clock and the pages of the calendar seem to move too fast during the holiday season, learn to budget your time much as you budget your other holiday spending.

This is the suggestion of Dottie Goss, family resource management specialist with the University of Minnesota's Agricultural Extension Service. She recommends looking first at how you traditionally prepare for the holidays. "You may be spending time, energy and money because you think it's expected, when, in fact, no one would mind a change of routines and family members might even welcome some new traditions and types of responsibilities."

She adds that circumstances and resources change from year to year, but holiday observances often don't. "This might be an ideal time to examine which parts of your usual celebration are special to you," she suggests. "A family discussion might reveal ways to expand or maintain the events central to your celebration while eliminating those that have little meaning or have become a burden."

An example, she says, might be the large family holiday meal. If this has become more headache than pleasure for the person hosting the meal, it may be time to change to a catered or restaurant meal or to a new location for the family gathering.

She also suggests outlining all the tasks leading up to the holidays and dividing them up among family members. Food preparation, gift purchasing, wrapping and decorating can be family events. They need not fall to the same person each

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year.

Some other do-ahead tasks that will free time during the holidays include freezing meals, buying gifts throughout the year rather than just during the weeks before the holidays and preserving extra food for holiday gifts.

Goss concludes, "Time is a scarce resource for nearly everyone but during the holidays it's something we want to share with others. Keeping this in mind may help you set priorities and eliminate some of the less important activities that steal time away from traditions that matter more."

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CP

B:GOSSTIME

news

Agricultural Extension Service
Communication Resources
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108



for County Agents

December 1, 1983

File III C

Source: Ron Pitzer
612/376-3851
Writer: Deedee Nagy
612/373-1781

HELP YOUR CHILDREN 'CATCH' THE ART OF GIVING

Most children focus on the receiving side of gift-oriented holidays. It's up to parents to help them "catch" the spirit of giving as well, suggests Ron Pitzer, family life specialist with the University of Minnesota's Agricultural Extension Service.

He says parents' examples are vital in teaching children to share and give gifts graciously. "This year, when gifts are exchanged, remember that you're making a big impression on your child in the way you accept gifts from him," he adds. "Don't complain about 'having to give' or about not receiving enough in return."

Parents are sometimes guilty of giving generously but not receiving gifts in the same spirit. Ask yourself if you make it possible for your children to feel satisfied with their efforts at sharing. "The feeling of good will that can come through giving is more wonderful to a child than is his or her pleasure at receiving gifts," Pitzer says.

He adds that the younger the child, the more he depends on adults to help him give. Very young children should not be excluded from planning, making and presenting gifts. As they grow older, the happiness experienced through early gift-giving will enable them to give generously and joyously as adults.

Pitzer thinks children should be encouraged to make at least some of their gifts. "It doesn't really matter how it looks to you," he adds. "He or she
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will feel the joy of creating and the good will of giving. If you have to say something about the gift, stick to 'Wasn't that fun to make?' or 'Grandma will be pleased that you remembered her.' Children aren't fooled by gushing, but insincere, praise."

For adults who may laugh at or pass over the homemade gifts of your children, Pitzer suggests you guide your children in buying or making appropriate gifts. He recommends food and decorations as nearly foolproof gifts for children to make because nearly anyone can appreciate the usefulness of such items.

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CP

Page 2 of 2

B:GIVINGRP

news

Agricultural Extension Service
Communication Resources
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

December 1, 1983



for County Agents

File III C

Source: Dottie Goss
612/373-0914

Writer: Deedee Nagy
612/373-1781

NO MONEY FOR COLLEGE? PLAN AHEAD FOR AID

Attending college is one of the things that follows the saying "Where there's a will, there's a way." Dottie Goss, family resource management specialist with the University of Minnesota's Agricultural Extension Service, says that if you are planning on college but lack the money, it's not too early to begin researching financial aid a year or more before you plan to enroll.

She adds that the key to securing financial aid is to be informed about your options, be persistent and be well organized. Students receiving the largest financial aid packages are nearly always needy, full-time day students working on a first bachelor's degree who applied in January or February for aid for the following fall.

She suggests beginning your aid search by talking with someone like a high school counselor or a financial aid official at the school you plan to attend. They can narrow your list of options and offer direction.

She adds that each financial aid program has its own set of eligibility criteria and subscribes to its own definition of "need." Most, however, base eligibility on household size, income and assets. Most require that recipients be admitted to a degree or certificate program and enroll in credit classes. Many also have state or U.S. citizenship requirements.

Next, do some research about aid and how it works. Goss suggests checking with your public library for books and pamphlets outlining available aid and the steps to obtaining it.

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news

Agricultural Extension Service
Communication Resources
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108



for County Agents

December 1, 1983

Source: Sherri Johnson
612/376-1537

Writer: Deedee Nagy
612/373-1781

OUTLET STORES OFFER GOOD PRICES, SPARTAN SURROUNDINGS

Discount outlet stores are cropping up everywhere and for the careful shopper, they can offer some true bargains. Sherri Johnson, textiles and clothing specialist with the University of Minnesota's Agricultural Extension Service, says these stores sell manufacturers' overruns, discontinued styles, samples and some irregulars at discounted prices.

The stores are often in small shopping centers or other out-of-the-way locations where low rents keep the overhead manageable. The stores are usually self-service with few decorations or places for clothing display. Some have communal dressing rooms.

Johnson adds that discount outlet stores vary in their policies on credit, returns and alterations. A smart discount store shopper should inquire about these things before making a purchase.

It helps to know current retail prices for similar items when shopping at discount stores. It's also useful to know designer and name brands. Stores that offer these at low prices may give you the best quality for your clothing dollar. Some discount outlets remove the labels from garments. In those cases, you will want to inspect the workmanship carefully to be certain the garment is of the quality you expect.

If an item is marked "irregular," look it over to find out why, Johnson says. If the flaw or imperfection won't interfere with your use or enjoyment, you may have

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found a bargain.

Johnson suggests shopping at such outlets at the beginning of each buying season. This is when you will find the best selection and the widest size range. Back-to-school fashions sell quickly during the late summer, for example.

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Page 2 of 2

B:OUTLETST

news

for County Agents

Agricultural Extension Service
Communication Resources
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

December 1, 1983

Source: Nancy Goebel
612/376-3401
Writer: Deedee Nagy
612/373-1781

PLAN NOW FOR NEXT YEAR'S CANNING SEASON

Before you put your pressure canner away for the season, check it for wear and needed repairs so it will be in good condition to begin next year's canning effort. This is the suggestion of Nancy Goebel, Agricultural Extension Service fellow with the University of Minnesota.

She also suggests a thorough cleaning before putting the canner into storage. Use a pipe cleaner or small brush to clean small parts or openings such as the vent tube, vent pipe or hole in the canner cover. If harmless discoloration has occurred inside your canner, a solution of one tablespoon of cream of tartar to a quart of water is effective. Heat the solution with the pressure regulator in place and the canner less than two-thirds filled until the regulator begins to rock gently. Remove from the heat and allow to stand about two hours before scouring the canner with steel wool.

Goebel adds that both the Mirro and Presto canners have parts that need periodic checking and replacement, and most other manufacturers' canners do too. The owner's manual should be your guide.

Many types of canners have gaskets or canner sealing rings that need regular replacement, Goebel says. She says a replacement gasket is needed when the current gasket is stretched, swollen or no longer fits easily in the cover. Other signs that a replacement is needed include hardness and slipperiness, steam leaks around the rim or difficulty in building up steam and difficulty in

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sliding the cover open and closed.

Dial gauges also need periodic testing. Presto, one manufacturer of dial gauges, offers testing services for gauges, or you can check with your local county extension office or a local hardware store.

She adds that an owner's manual is essential to safe operation of a canner. If yours is missing, you can order a new one along with replacement parts from the manufacturer. Addresses for the two major pressure canner manufacturers are Mirro Aluminum Co., Manitowoc, WI 54220 and Presto, Eau Claire, WI 54701.

Store your canner with cover inverted in a dry place. Crumpled newspapers inside the canner will absorb any possible moisture that occurs Goebel adds.

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CP

B:PLANNOWF

AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE
COMMUNICATION RESOURCES
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA 55108
December 1, 1983

ANY QUESTIONS? CALL Jennifer Obst
(612) 373-1579

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ANNOUNCER;
30 SECONDS

IF YOU'RE IN THE MIDST OF HOLIDAY COOKING AND BAKING, HERE'S A REMINDER FOR KITCHEN SAFETY. IF YOU ARE USING A MICROWAVE OVEN FOR SOME OF THOSE HOLIDAY TREATS, REMEMBER THE OVEN SHELF OR COOKING RACK SHOULD BE NO HIGHER THAN THE USER'S SHOULDER. THIS ALLOWS YOU TO SEE INSIDE A COOKING DISH WHEN CHECKING THE FOOD AND WHEN LIFTING THE DISH OUT. FOR CONVENIENT AS WELL AS SAFE USE OF THE MICROWAVE OVEN, THE SHELF OR RACK HEIGHT SHOULD BE BETWEEN TWO INCHES BELOW THE ELBOW AND TEN INCHES ABOVE IT. THIS HEIGHT IS VERY CONVENIENT FOR FOOD HANDLING, STIRRING AND OVEN CLEANING. THIS MESSAGE IS BROUGHT TO YOU BY YOUR _____ COUNTY OFFICE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA'S AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE.

AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE
COMMUNICATION RESOURCES
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA 55108
December 1, 1983

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PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ANNOUNCER;
30 SECONDS

IF THE HANDS ON THE CLOCK AND THE PAGES OF THE
CALENDAR SEEM TO MOVE TOO FAST DURING THE HOLIDAY
SEASON, LEARN TO BUDGET YOUR TIME LIKE YOU BUDGET
YOUR OTHER HOLIDAY SPENDING. THIS MIGHT BE AN
IDEAL TIME TO EXAMINE WHICH PARTS OF YOUR USUAL
CELEBRATION ARE SPECIAL TO YOU. TIME IS A SCARCE
RESOURCE FOR NEARLY EVERYONE BUT DURING THE
HOLIDAY'S IT'S SOMETHING WE WANT TO SHARE WITH
OTHERS. THIS MESSAGE IS BROUGHT TO YOU BY
YOUR _____ COUNTY OFFICE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF
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COMMUNICATION RESOURCES
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA 55108
December 1, 1983

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PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ANNOUNCER;
30 SECONDS

HOLIDAY SHOPPING DOESN'T HAVE TO BE THE FIRST
STEP TOWARD A LONG WINTER OF PAYING OVERDUE
DEPARTMENT STORE BILLS AND CUTTING CORNERS TO
MAKE UP FOR OVERSHOOTING YOUR BUDGET. A
REALISTIC SHOPPING STRATEGY IS THE KEY TO KEEPING
GIFT BUYING IN LINE WITH YOUR RESOURCES. DECIDE,
BEFORE YOU SHOP, WHO YOU WANT TO REMEMBER WITH
GIFTS. DECIDE WHAT PRICE RANGE IS APPROPRIATE
AND AFFORDABLE, AND HOW MUCH OF YOUR INCOME YOU
CAN AFFORD TO DEVOTE TO HOLIDAY GIFTS. THIS
MESSAGE IS BROUGHT TO YOU BY YOUR _____
COUNTY OFFICE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
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ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA 55108
December 1, 1983

ANY QUESTIONS? CALL Jennifer Obst
(612) 373-1579

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ANNOUNCER;
30 SECONDS

IF YOU ARE PLANNING ON COLLEGE BUT LACK THE
MONEY, IT'S NOT TOO EARLY TO BEGIN RESEARCHING
FINANCIAL AID A YEAR OR MORE BEFORE YOU PLAN TO
ENROLL. THE KEY TO SECURING FINANCIAL AID IS TO
BE INFORMED ABOUT YOUR OPTIONS, BE PERSISTENT AND
BE WELL ORGANIZED. YOUR FIRST STEP SHOULD BE
TALKING WITH SOMEONE LIKE A HIGH SCHOOL COUNSELOR
OR A FINANCIAL AID OFFICIAL AT THE SCHOOL YOU
PLAN TO ATTEND. THEY CAN HELP NARROW YOUR LIST
OF OPTIONS AND OFFER DIRECTION. THIS MESSAGE FOR
YOUR FUTURE IS BROUGHT TO YOU BY YOUR _____
COUNTY OFFICE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE.

AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE
COMMUNICATION RESOURCES
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ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA 55108
December 1, 1983

ANY QUESTIONS? CALL Jennifer Obst
(612) 373-1579

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ANNOUNCER;
30 SECONDS

WINTER CAN BE HARD ON YOUR HOUSE. IT'S THE EXCESSIVE WINTERTIME LEVELS OF MOISTURE THAT CAN DO A LOT OF DAMAGE. THE SYMPTOMS OF EXCESSIVE HUMIDITY INCLUDE WATER OR ICE ON WINDOWS, FROST ON DOOR HINGES, AND DAMP SPOTS OR MILDEW ON WALLS AND CEILINGS. A WAY TO HELP REDUCE EXCESSIVE MOISTURE DAMAGE IN YOUR HOUSE IS TO REMOVE MOISTURE AT THE SOURCE BY USING EXTERIOR-VENTED FANS WHEN COOKING AND BATHING. ALSO YOU COULD RESTRICT HUMIDITY FROM ENTERING CAVITIES BY CALKING AND SEALING INTERIOR JOINTS. THIS MESSAGE IS BROUGHT TO YOU BY YOUR _____ COUNTY OFFICE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA'S AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE.

news

MSC/9A27P
Agricultural Extension Service
Communication Resources
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

December 1, 1983

MEDIA NEWS PACKET INDEX

Stories:

Page Numbers
(lower righthand corner)

Dairy profits in southwest higher than in midwest	M2,3
Controlling ewe rations is good way to economize	M4,5
Swine days set for January	M6
Phytophthora root rot more serious in minnesota soybeans	M7-10
How to jump-start a car safely	M11,12
College training still counts in paycheck	M13,14
Time can be important gift for your child	M15
Creative giving means a gift of yourself	M16,17
Winter squash: an "easy keeper"	M18
Winter squash gets "A" grade for nutrition	M19
Pasta: is what you see, what you get?	M20,21
Cold weather doesn't bring an end to Minnesota produce	M22

Specialists: If you would like a copy of the above releases, check them and send this cover sheet with your name and address to Marilyn Masterman, 433 Coffey Hall.

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December 1, 1983

Source: Boyd Buxton
612/376-3436
Writer: Anne Gillespie Lewis
612/373-1786

DAIRY PROFITS IN SOUTHWEST HIGHERS THAN IN MIDWEST

A milk producer starting from scratch may find it more profitable to locate a dairy in the Southwest, rather than in the traditional dairy states of Minnesota and Wisconsin, according to a recent study in the latest issue of *The Minnesota Agricultural Economist*.

The study, "Profitability of Minnesota Dairy Farms Compared to Large Drylot Dairies in the Southwest," was made by Boyd Buxton, a researcher with the U.S. Department of Agriculture at the University of Minnesota, and others.

Costs and profits for dairy operations in Minnesota, Wisconsin, Arizona and New Mexico were compared in the study. The results show that the expected annual rate of return for a large (900-cow) dairy in New Mexico, for example, will be 20 percent compared to only 6 percent for a 125-cow Minnesota dairy farm.

Buxton says the southwest dairies need less money for buildings and equipment and have lower average costs because the operations are larger. Per-cow milk production is higher in southwest dairies as well (over 16,000 pounds annually compared to 14,800 for Minnesota.) This may be due in part, Buxton says, to their employing more specialized workers. In Minnesota, the farm operator typically is responsible for all dairy chores plus planting and harvesting crops for feed.

Despite the implications of the study, Buxton says, "Minnesota and Wisconsin will remain significant suppliers of dairy products, but their share of the U.S. market might be smaller in the future."

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Copies of the publication are available from the Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics, 231 COB, University of Minnesota, St. Paul, MN 55108.

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MP, 4D

Page 2 of 2

B:DAIRYPRO

December 1, 1983

Source: Robert Jordan
612/373-0974
Writer: Sam Brungardt
612/376-8182

CONTROLLING EWE RATIOS IS GOOD WAY TO ECONOMIZE

Ewes are major consumers of feed dollars, and the only way to economize to any extent in sheep production is to carefully watch what you feed them.

That's the advice of Robert Jordan, animal husbandman with the University of Minnesota's Agricultural Extension Service.

He points out that about 75 percent of total annual feed costs for a ewe with one lamb is expended on the ewe. If she has two lambs, it's 60 percent; and if she produces three lambs her share still represents about 50 percent of total annual feed costs.

Since a ewe's nutritional requirements are relatively low during early gestation (the first 120 days of pregnancy), this is a good time to reduce feed costs if at all possible. However, producers still need to carefully monitor the energy, protein and phosphorus levels of the diet and know exactly how much the ewes actually consume. Failure to do so will result in ewes in poor condition that produce weak lambs and little milk.

One way that Jordan suggests producers trim feed costs is by feeding their lower-quality hay during early gestation, when ewes are still able to eat enough to compensate for the low protein content of the forage. A 150-pound ewe, for example, requires 0.3 pound of protein daily during early gestation. Her daily protein requirement increases to 0.4 pounds during only the last month of her pregnancy. Feeding poorer-quality hay during late gestation is not advisable because the ewe's

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capacity is reduced because of the lambs she's carrying at a time when she needs more protein.

"Feed your lower-quality feed during the non-critical time," Jordan advises, "but know its protein content and exactly how much of it the ewes are consuming. Having the hay tested by a commercial lab costs only \$8 to \$10. Merely guessing is a poor way to go about economizing on feed costs."

Jordan says forage for pregnant ewes should contain at least 10 percent protein. If it doesn't, the diet should be augmented with a protein supplement or a small amount of high-quality legume hay of known protein content.

Another way to reduce costs is to feed ewes according to their needs. "Perhaps the best way a sheep producer can spend \$50 is for a roll of wire to make several different pens," Jordan says. "Then, determine which ewes are fat and getting fatter and which are thin and getting thinner. Divide the flock into several groups--those that can afford to lose some condition and those that need to put on some fat--and feed each group according to its needs."

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MP, 4L

Page 2 of 2

B:RJ.SB111

news

Agricultural Extension Service
Communication Resources
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

December 1, 1983

Source: Jerry Hawton
612/373-1166
Writer: Jack Sperbeck
612/373-0715

SWINE DAYS SET FOR JANUARY

Swine day programs sponsored by the University of Minnesota's Agricultural Extension Service have been scheduled at four Minnesota locations in January.

Dates and locations are:

- Jan. 10, Southern Experiment Station, Waseca
- Jan. 11, Best Western, Marshall
- Jan. 11, VFW Hall, Luverne
- Jan. 12, Edson Hall, University of Minnesota, Morris

Registration for all four programs starts at 9 a.m., and the morning program begins at 10 a.m.

Speakers will include Ron Moser, Jim Pettigrew, Steve Cornelius, Al Leman and Chuck Christians, all from the University of Minnesota; and Bill Goette, swine producer from Alden and national vice president of the National Pork Producer's Council.

Topics covered will include feeding PIK corn in 1984, the mystery of amino acid balance, feeding processed soybeans, controlling deaths and pneumonia in growing-finishing pens, and on-farm feed mixing decisions.

The afternoon program will feature discussions on protein levels, current carcass trends (the "lean guide to pork value"), and activities of the National Pork Producers' Council.

MP, 4L

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B:SWINEDYS

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news

Agricultural Extension Service
Communication Resources
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

December 1, 1983

Source: Bill Kennedy
612/373-1351
Writer: Anne Gillespie Lewis
612/313-1786

PHYTOPHTHORA ROOT ROT MORE SERIOUS IN MINNESOTA SOYBEANS

There were numerous reports of Phytophthora (root rot) in supposedly resistant soybeans in Minnesota in 1983, according to University of Minnesota plant pathologist Bill Kennedy.

Subsequent laboratory analysis of the diseased plants revealed that much of the Phytophthora was of race 3, a relatively new strain of the disease, although races 4 and 6 were also present.

"This is the first year race 3 of this fungus has been widespread in the state and many of our varieties that were resistant to race 1 are susceptible to race 3," he adds. Kennedy is a researcher with the university's Agricultural Experiment Station.

Weather conditions were very favorable to the development of Phytophthora in 1983 (rainy weather during the fall of 1982 and a rainy, cool planting season in the spring of 1983). Subsequent years may see a drop in the disease as the weather conditions are more "normal," but the threat posed by Phytophthora will not diminish, Kennedy says.

"It is likely that we will need to put more emphasis on control of this disease in the future. We encourage vigilance; several methods of control are being considered and additional research is needed to identify the best method or methods for the grower.

Root rot has been a problem since the early 1950s, when significant root rot

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disease in soybeans developed in Canada and shortly thereafter was observed in the eastern soybeanbelt of the U.S. The fungus Phytophthora magasperma had made its appearance and a series of studies were begun on factors related to its epidemiology. It was quickly recognized as a disease that would probably persist and increase as the crop was planted more widely. In 1964, root rot disease was found in a commercial field near Mankato, Minnesota; by then there were several soybean varieties already developed elsewhere that were resistant to the fungus.

"Jean Lambert, Dick Cooper (plant breeders in the University of Minnesota Agronomy Dept.) and I were careful to avoid overemphasis of the existing economic importance of Phytophthora in Minnesota when this occurrence was exceedingly limited. However, we knew we would eventually have to deal with it and that we would also be obliged to deal with the different races of this fungus that would inevitably follow," Kennedy says.

Race 1, the original race that occurred in Canada and the United States, began to change rapidly and within 10 years farmers in the eastern sections of the soybean belt no longer could count on protection via race 1 resistant varieties. "In Minnesota, we predicted many years could go by without the same magnitude of threat. However, we made available soybean varieties that were resistant to race 1 and recommended judicious use of them. We encouraged usage only when there was a real probability that Phytophthora might occur. Conditions considered conducive to development were wet and poorly drained soil, compacted soils, and history of Phytophthora occurrence. In this way, we hoped to prolong the useful life to resistant varieties by delaying natural development of additional races of the fungus," Kennedy says.

"In 1979, we were called to a farm near Faribault, Minnesota, where race 1 resistant variety was being grown and where Phytophthora had caused significant damage. It turned out to be race 3. Following this occurrence, we became more conservative in predicting the longevity of race 1 resistant varieties in Minnesota.

Still, race 1 resistance appeared to protect the vast plantings in the state during the following years; we encountered an example or report of susceptibility of those varieties resistant to race 1 only occasionally. Late in the 1982 seasons, we found root rot in two fields planted to varieties that were supposedly resistant to race 1; one field was devastated. We arranged for plot work on the seriously affected field during the 1983 season and alerted colleagues to watch for occurrence of Phytophthora in 1983.

"We had a wet fall in 1982 according to data obtained from National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. For the last four months of the year, every month had higher than average rainfall for central (5.5 inches above normal) and southeast Minnesota (7.5 inches above normal). Then in the spring of 1983, a similar thing happened--central Minnesota had 2.1 inches of rainfall above normal during March through June, Southwest was 3.3 inches above, and Southeast was 1.3 above. If we consider just May and June, the months that we think are more critical for the infectious stage of Phytophthora, the differences were even greater all across the southern part of Minnesota. Also, during the planting season, temperatures were about four degrees colder than normal.

"In accordance with predictions, the disease developed more severely than normal during the 1983 season. Isolation of samples from an assortment of varieties resistant to race 1 revealed that race 3 predominated, but races 4 and 6 were also present. Since we suspect that perhaps 90 percent of the Minnesota plantings are resistant to race 1, it is not surprising that those that developed Phytophthora this year were infected with something other than race 1. In nature the fungus can move from one location to another in water and soil. It is not seedborne, thus a grower will not have a problem with Phytophthora in his field by planting seeds grown in some other field.

"There is no clear-cut strategy for controlling Phytophthora in the future. Resistant soybeans, at least the types of race-specific resistance we have had in the

past, have a limited time of use since the fungus changed on its own. When confronted by massive plantings of resistant soybeans it invariably develops a new race to attack that resistance. The fungus is exceedingly variable; there is evidence that a whole array of variants (races) exist in the environment. Moreover, the widespread use of race-specific resistance increases the speed of change once the resistant variety is released and widely grown.

The relative importance of resistance, temperature, use of chemicals, rotation and other tillage practices, soil drainage, and soil compaction are not well sorted out at this time but are under study. The relationship of "tolerance" or "field resistance" (as compared to single gene resistance to a single race) and its relationship to commercial production is a matter of serious consideration in the public and private sectors.

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MP, 4FC

Page 4 of 4

PHYTOPHT

December 1, 1983

Source: Bob Aherin
612/373-0764

Writer: Hank Drews
612/373-1250

HOW TO JUMP-START A CAR SAFELY

Using jumper cables to start a car with a dead battery could cause eye damage and skin burns. Every battery gives off hydrogen gas. A nearby spark or cigarette could result in a violent explosion.

Bob Aherin, safety specialist with the University of Minnesota's Agricultural Extension Service, recommends these procedures when using jumper cables:

1. First, make sure you need a jump-start. Many seemingly dead batteries are actually suffering from loose or corroded connections. Check them out and make sure the battery fluid level is okay (if your battery is not the sealed variety).
2. When jump-starting, be sure that no part of the vehicle with the live battery is touching the vehicle with the dead battery. Also, take care that the clips on the cable don't make accidental contact with any part of either vehicle.
3. Put out cigarettes, pipes and cigars.
4. Switch off accessories in both cars (except lights if needed).
5. Remove caps from both batteries to allow the hydrogen gas to escape.
6. Connect the red clamp on the jumper cable to the positive pole of the dead battery
7. Connect the other end of the same cable to the positive pole of the

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booster battery.

8. Connect the second cable to the negative pole of the booster battery.
9. Connect the other end of the second cable to the engine block of the disabled car as far away from its battery as possible. Keep your face away from the battery when you do this.
10. After starting the disabled vehicle, first remove the cable from the engine block, then its other end from the booster battery. Disconnect the red cable first from the recharging battery, and then from the booster battery.

These procedures are for vehicles with negative grounds, which includes most U.S. and Canadian cars. However, many European and Japanese cars, and some U.S. and Canadian models, have positive grounds. In these cars, the battery cable runs from the positive post to the engine block or chassis.

If the car with a bad battery has a positive ground, the negative terminals should be connected first. Then the cable from the positive terminal of the booster battery is connected to the engine block of the car with the positive ground.

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MP

Page 2 of 2

B:HOWTOJUM

news

Agricultural Extension Service
Communication Resources
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108
December 1, 1983

Source: Dottie Goss
612/373-0914
Writer: Deedee Nagy
612/373-1781

COLLEGE TRAINING STILL COUNTS IN PAYCHECK

Even though many college graduates have been in the ranks of the unemployed recently, a survey confirms that added years of schooling still bring financial rewards.

Dottie Goss, family resource management specialist at the University of Minnesota's Agricultural Extension Service, says data from the National Center for Education Statistics show that salaries of college graduates quickly overtake those of non-college educated workers of the same age.

Goss says young female college graduates caught up to their non-college educated peers' salaries most quickly, usually within a year of college graduation. At age 22, female college graduates were paid an average of \$4.72 per hour while women with no college education averaged \$4.27. This is despite the fact that those without college degrees had been employed full-time for four or five years while the 22-year-old college graduates were new to full-time work.

The same pattern held for males, but it took them longer to catch up to the wages of their non-college educated peers. Men tended to surpass their less-educated peers by the time they were 25, when their wages averaged \$6.86 per hour. Goss adds that young women earned less per hour than comparably educated young men in every educational level and age group.

The study of some 23,000 young adults also showed the value of advanced

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college degrees. For example, the starting wage rates for young men ranged from \$4.71 per hour for those with no college to \$5.96 for holders of bachelor's degrees and \$6.98 for those with advanced degrees. The same pattern held for young women, Goss notes.

She adds, "These statistics confirm that for both sexes, the financial rewards of a college education repay the actual costs of the schooling as well as the wages lost by not working full-time during the college years."

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MP, HE1, HE2

Page 2 of 2

B:WAGES

news

Agricultural Extension Service
Communication Resources
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

December 1, 1983

Source: Ron Pitzer
612/376-3851
Writer: Deedee Nagy
612/373-1781

TIME CAN BE IMPORTANT GIFT FOR YOUR CHILD

"The most valuable gift a child can get is quality time with his or her parent," says Ron Pitzer, family life specialist with the University of Minnesota's Agricultural Extension Service.

Studies consistently show that parents spend very little time with their children, often much less than the children want, Pitzer adds.

Items that involve parents' time can be good gift choices because the child will have something tangible as well as the time and attention of the parent, he explains. "If you give your child a game, play it with him. If you give her a book, take the time to read it together. Even older children enjoy family reading-out-loud sessions."

"Older children might also enjoy going to a movie, concert or restaurant with you," he says. "Don't just give them a ticket. Promise to go with them."

Craft items are also ideal gifts for children, Pitzer suggests. "Take time to teach your child the skills necessary. He will gain knowledge, and you both will have pleasant and productive time together."

"If it's necessary to plan time with your child into your schedule, then do it," he adds. "You may need to set aside certain times to be with your children, and older children may need to plan for time with you. But this time is vitally important to family life."

MP

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B:TIMERP

Page 1 of 1

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M-15

news

Agricultural Extension Service
Communication Resources
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

December 1, 1983

Source: Ron Pitzer
612/376-3851
Writer: Deedee Nagy
612/373-1781

CREATIVE GIVING MEANS A GIFT OF YOURSELF

"We've all heard the saying that 'the only real gift is a gift of yourself,' and I really believe it's true," says Ron Pitzer, family life specialist with the University of Minnesota's Agricultural Extension Service.

"During the gift-giving season, we need to look at the reasons for giving gifts and the meaning we want them to have," he says. "Giving creative and meaningful gifts will probably take extra time, but it can be rewarding and enjoyable."

Pitzer points out that creative gift-giving should not become one more cause of holiday tension and stress. "People have enough demands on them without adding guilt about giving gifts," he says. "Gift-giving should be looked at as a potential for productive family and personal time."

Creative gift-giving doesn't have to mean creative gifts, he says. The creativity can be in the method of presenting a purchased gift. He suggests making or buying a card that will give the gift personal meaning, packaging it in an unusual manner or perhaps making a treasure hunt with the gift as the final prize.

The gift can come out of interests or needs that the receiver has. "It can also come out of your own interests," says Pitzer. "Sharing a part of yourself and things you like can be very special."

Gifts should have a shared meaning between giver and receiver, he says.

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"That's why it's important to make them personal. A gift should say you think the other person is special and you wanted to do something nice for them."

He adds that the receiver isn't the only one who benefits from the time spent to make gifts special. The giver gains warm feelings and a boost to self-esteem for having done something nice for someone else.

"For example," Pitzer says, "one year my family spent a lot of time planning a gift for the grandparents. This was an enjoyable family time together. If we hadn't been working on the gift, we probably would have been watching TV or something. We would have lost the spirit of cooperation and family fun."

"Taking time to make a gift personal will force some creativity, even from people who don't feel they are creative," he adds. "The skills they gain will be useful on a daily basis."

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MP

Page 2 of 2

B:CREATIVE

December 1, 1983

Source: Shirley T. Munson
612/373-1561
Writer: Sam Brungardt
612/376-8182

WINTER SQUASH: AN "EASY KEEPER"

Winter squash is a popular vegetable in many Minnesota homes. It's also a vegetable that often can be stored for long periods without refrigeration.

"Most of the winter squashes available to Minnesota consumers are easy keepers," says Shirley Munson, a horticultural scientist at the University of Minnesota.

"Hubbard squash can be successfully stored for six months or longer under the right conditions, Butternut and Buttercup squash for nearly as long, and Acorn or Table Queen squash for three to six months."

Munson says consumers should buy winter squash whose hard shells are intact with no signs of decay such as soft or watery areas. Also, squash that still have the stem attached are more likely to store better than those whose stem has been broken from the vegetable.

"The ideal storage conditions for hard-shelled or winter squash is 50 degrees F and a relative humidity of 70 to 75 percent," Munson says. "Although this is a cooler, moister environment than is usually found in newer homes, conditions that approach the ideal sometimes occur in a basement or an unheated, enclosed porch or breezeway where the temperatures do not fall below 45 or 50 degrees. If you live in an older home and are fortunate enough to have a vegetable cellar or basement storage area for produce and canned goods, this is also a good place to store winter squash."

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MP, HE1,2

Page 1 of 1

STM.SB11

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December 1, 1983

Source: Mary Darling
612/376-4663

Writer: Deedee Nagy
612/373-1781

WINTER SQUASH GETS "A" GRADE FOR NUTRITION

If you're grading vegetables for nutrition, give winter squash an "A" -- an "A" because that is one vitamin it has in abundance. Mary Darling, nutritionist with the University of Minnesota's Agricultural Extension Service, suggests that squash also deserves high marks for its low calorie content.

A cup of mashed squash, which is two or more average sized servings, contains about 100 calories. This is comparable to the calories in a similar amount of mashed potatoes. Like potatoes, squash sometimes gets blamed for the calories in favorite toppings for the vegetable. Adding several pats of butter or a sprinkling of brown sugar increases the calorie count dramatically. Instead, Darling suggests a little cinnamon or nutmeg for seasoning.

Darling adds that butternut and hubbard squash are particularly nutritious varieties. A serving of either contains at least twice as much vitamin A as a serving of acorn squash. Although not quite as high in vitamin A content as either sweet potatoes or carrots, a standard size serving of most squash varieties would provide the Recommended Dietary Allowance (RDA) or more. The vitamin A content of squash may increase with storage.

Cooked squash can substitute for pumpkin in recipes for pumpkin bread and cake, Darling notes.

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MP

Page 1 of 1

B:SQUASHMD

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news

Agricultural Extension Service
Communication Resources
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

December 1, 1983

Source: J.J. Warthesen
612/373-1049
Writer: Deedee Nagy
612/373-1781

PASTA: IS WHAT YOU SEE, WHAT YOU GET?

Most pasta is enriched to provide consumers with riboflavin, one of the B vitamins. Unfortunately, however, supermarket shoppers who select pasta in clear packages or consumers who store pasta in glass jars may be getting only part of the riboflavin to which they're entitled under the standards for such foods.

Ellen Furuya, former University of Minnesota Ph.D. candidate and now a food scientist at Pillsbury, and Joseph Warthesen, associate professor in the university's Department of Food Science and Nutrition, tested 20 enriched pasta products bought in Twin Cities supermarkets. They found that riboflavin, a light-sensitive nutrient, breaks down quickly. The pasta's packaging had an effect on how much riboflavin it retained.

Warthesen reports that nearly all of the pasta packaged in cardboard boxes retained riboflavin levels set as a standard for such foods. The same was true of pasta in cardboard boxes with small cellophane windows.

Riboflavin levels varied more in cellophane-wrapped spaghetti noodles and macaroni. Half of these had riboflavin levels below the standard for vitamin enrichment. Warthesen adds, "Transparent bags appear to provide the least protection. Products packaged in this way may warrant higher-than-normal levels of riboflavin enrichment in manufacture because of the tendency for riboflavin to break down."

In studies funded by the Agricultural Experiment Station, they subjected
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packaged pasta to various light levels. Furuya and Warthesen found that about one-third of pasta's riboflavin breaks down after a week of exposure to light levels comparable to those in a supermarket.

Warthesen concludes that consumers may be faced with a trade-off. Most shoppers like to examine foods they buy for color and quality, but the packaging that caters to that desire may also rob pasta of some food value. Boxes with cellophane windows seem to offer a good compromise for consumers who want to see what they are buying but are also concerned about maximum food value.

Riboflavin is available in many foods so the amount in pasta isn't critical unless a person eats few other foods, Warthesen says. It is added to enriched breads and cereals, and occurs naturally in milk, many vegetables, meat and eggs.

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MP, HE 1, HE 2

18-87

B:PASTAJJW

Page 2 of 2

news

Agricultural Extension Service
Communication Resources
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

December 1, 1983

Source: Luther Waters, Jr.
612/373-1102
Writer: Sam Brungardt
612/236-8182

COLD WEATHER DOESN'T BRING AN END TO MINNESOTA PRODUCE

Many Minnesotans think that cold weather brings an end to the availability of Minnesota-grown produce. Not so, says Luther Waters, horticultural specialist with the University of Minnesota's Agricultural Extension Service. "Much of the winter squash--Hubbard, Butternut, Buttercup and Acorn--that's now being sold in Minnesota supermarkets is Minnesota grown," he says. "Although we experienced some very dry weather last summer, many commercial growers were able to irrigate. The combination of enough water and hot, sunny days resulted in winter squash of very high quality."

Waters says Minnesota consumers are likely to find Minnesota-grown winter squash for sale until early December. After that, any squash for sale in the state will likely be from other production areas.

Other Minnesota-grown vegetables will continue to be sold into the cold weather season, according to Waters. "We grow excellent-quality parsnips in this state," he says. This is a very hardy vegetable that's stored in the ground and harvested as needed until the ground becomes frozen. Then, harvesting resumes when the ground thaws in early spring."

Minnesota-grown carrots continue to be available also. "Carrots store well, and many growers store them for a short period of time until their supply runs out in early winter," Waters says.

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MP, HE1, HE 2

Page 1 of 1

LW.SB11

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news

MSC 19A27p
Agricultural Extension Service
Communication Resources
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108
December 15, 1983

Source: Joanne Slavin
612/376-8748
Writer: Hank Drews
612/373-1250

FOOD POISONING RISK INCREASES DURING HOLIDAYS

Food poisoning cases always increase during year-end holidays. The symptoms are usually flu-like: headache, nausea, vomiting and diarrhea. For most people these symptoms develop within 12 hours after eating contaminated food and disappear within 36 hours.

The Minnesota Poison Control System (MPCS) warns that although most cases are not severe, food poisoning can be fatal to senior citizens, children and people with other illnesses.

The four most common bacteria sources are: salmonella, clostridium perfringens, staphylococcus and clostridium botilium. That last one can be deadly. Any warm, moist environment helps these bacteria grow rapidly.

Nutritionist Joanne Slavin of the University of Minnesota's Agricultural Extension Service says, "There is a higher incidence of food poisonings around the holidays because people tend to eat more foods that they did not prepare themselves, more food is kept at room temperature for longer periods, plus holiday foods tend to be more bacteria-prone such as mayonnaise salads, smoked fish and eggnog."

To prevent food poisoning from spoiling your holidays, follow these guidelines prepared by Slavin and the MPCS:

--Wash hands before preparing meals. Keep hands away from nose, mouth and hair. Anyone with acne, a boil, a hand cut, a cold or flu should take

particular care not to contaminate food. Wash hands thoroughly after going to the toilet, smoking or blowing your nose.

--Scrub containers and utensils used in handling uncooked foods with hot, soapy water before using read-to-serve foods. Use separate cutting boards to help prevent contamination between raw and cooked foods.

--Keep foods to be served hot above 140 degrees F (60 degrees C) and foods to be served cold below 40 degrees F (4.4 degrees C).

--Refrigerate food promptly after meals or cooking.

--Thaw frozen foods in refrigerator or under cold running water.

--Do not allow meat, poultry, fish, egg dressings or sandwich fillings, potato salad, cream-filled baked goods or ham to stand at temperatures between 40 and 140 degrees F.

--Stuff meat, poultry or fish just before roasting -- never the night before. Never partially cook stuffed meat, poultry or fish.

--Use pasteurized milk and milk products.

--Do not use dirty or cracked eggs in raw or slightly-cooked egg products such as eggnog.

--Cook home-smoked fish or meat at 180 degrees F for at least 30 minutes. Do not refrigerate smoked fish in an airtight plastic pouch.

--Do not put food (especially milk, egg or cheese casseroles) in the oven with a timer set to begin cooking later.

--Heat leftovers thoroughly, boil broths and gravies several minutes when reheating them.

--Discard leftovers having off-color or foul odor.

--Preserve low-acid foods in a pressure canner at correct pressure according to altitude. Use correct time for each product. Be sure pressure gauge is functioning well.

--Boil all home-canned vegetables and meats between 15 and 20 minutes before eating.

--Avoid food in containers with leaky seal, or in bent, broken or bulging cans.

Your county agricultural extension office has more information on recommended cooking procedures, as well as the causes and prevention of food poisoning.

Call the Minnesota Poison Control System emergency hotline anytime you suspect a case of poisoning. In the Twin Cities call 221-2113 and outstate call 1-800-222-1222 toll-free.

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DPMP, II-P, Hec

FOODPOIS

news

MSC 19A27p
Agricultural Extension Service
Communication Resources
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

December 15, 1983

Source: Harold Wilkins
612/373-1665
Writer: Sam Brungardt
612/376-8182

BUMPER CROP OF MINNESOTA-GROWN FLOWERS WILL BRIGHTEN THE HOLIDAYS

Consumers will be able to choose from a bumper crop of Minnesota-grown potted flowers to brighten the holidays, says Harold Wilkins, a horticultural specialist with the University of Minnesota's Agricultural Extension Service.

"The state's 260 commercial flower growers have a bumper crop of poinsettias--some half million pots of them--as well as large supplies of azaleas, chrysanthemums and cyclamen ready for the holiday season," he says. "Growers try to have their holiday floral crops ready shortly after Thanksgiving. But because of poor light conditions, the crop matured more slowly than usual this year. This means it will be in prime condition for the holidays."

Wilkins says azaleas are enjoying a resurgence in popularity as a Christmas flower. And, consumers may be surprised to find the all-time-favorite Christmas flower, the poinsettia, available in new shades of pink as well as variegated red and white and red and pink. New also are poinsettias in hanging baskets. Other potted flowers will be available to consumers also. These include paperwhite narcissus, amaryllis, and Christmas cactus.

The horticultural specialist says consumers can get the longest enjoyment from their holiday plant purchases if they set them in a sunny location in the home away from excessive heat and cold drafts. He adds that plants will stay in prime condition only if they are watered properly: "Stick your finger into the

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pot and if it feels cool and moist, don't water the plant. If the soil feels dry, water the plant thoroughly, until water runs out the bottom of the pot. If properly cared for, poinsettias should last until Easter."

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II-P, DPMP

HW.SB12

news

MSC/9A27P
Agricultural Extension Service
Communication Resources
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

December 15, 1983

Source: Robert W. Snyder
612/376-3433
Writer: Anne G. Lewis
612/373-1786

EDIT ORDINANCES CAREFULLY TO ELIMINATE AMBIGUITIES

Zoning ordinances should be carefully written to eliminate ambiguities that could be the basis of potentially costly lawsuits, according to Robert W. Snyder of the University of Minnesota. Snyder is a land economist for the Agricultural Extension Service.

His warning was prompted in part by a November decision by the Minnesota Supreme Court interpreting the language in a Minneapolis zoning ordinance in favor of a landowner -- a church in southwest Minneapolis with an attached monastery -- rather than the city.

The decision of the court, which affirmed a district court ruling, was based on the definition of the word "monastery." The city and the church each submitted a definition of the word and the court sided with the church. According to Snyder, who is also an attorney, it is more common for courts to rule in favor of landowners than regulatory bodies when interpretation of an unclear ordinance is at issue.

"This is just the latest in a series of cases in which the regulatory body was declared in the wrong because of the language in ordinances," he explained. Ordinances can contain terms that are ambiguous, an entire ordinance may be subject to differing interpretations, or multiple provisions in an ordinance and these may present internal inconsistencies.

"Many of these ordinances are poorly edited and should be carefully gone

over and revised to make their intent clear," he added, "preferably by someone familiar with zoning law. Over and over I see courts rule in favor of the landowner because an ordinance was unclear. If they are made more clear, all the parties know what is expected and permissible."

Snyder said that rewriting ordinances to eliminate ambiguities can make them longer and more difficult to follow, but not necessarily so. Definitions should be as close to customary use as possible. Exclusions can also be drafted into the ordinances.

Clarity in ordinance language is becoming increasingly important, he said, for several reasons. Many townships are adopting ordinances for the first time and are not familiar with the process, there are more and more ordinances in existence as communities deal with increased housing and business needs, and landowners are becoming increasingly familiar with zoning laws and more inclined to challenge those laws if they think they will win.

Another very important incentive for municipalities to rewrite ordinances to minimize the possibility of lawsuits is the recent reinterpretation of an old federal statute that may cause municipalities losing such suits to pay the legal costs of bringing suit. "Up to now, the landowners had to pay their own legal costs; now, if landowners become aware of this federal statute and think they have a good case, they'll be more likely to bring suit," Snyder said .

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DPMP, II-P, SN2

SNYDER

news

for County Agents

MSC/9 A27p
Agricultural Extension Service
Communication Resources
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

December 15, 1983

Source: Jerry Heaps
612/376-3377

Editor: Sam Brungardt
612/376-8182

PRECAUTIONS FOIL INSECTS' INVASION OF STORED FOODS

This is the time of the year when many people are surprised to find insects in stored food products. Jerry Heaps, entomologist with the University of Minnesota's Agricultural Extension Service, says sawtoothed grain and flour beetles and Indian meal moths are the insects most commonly found in foods like flour, cake mixes, oatmeal, rice, pasta, dried fruits, nuts, seeds, spices and even birdseed and dry pet food.

"Many people wonder why they have problems with insects in food all of a sudden and where the insects came from," Heaps says. "In most cases, the insects are in the food for a number of weeks before they increase to the point that they become noticeable. They can enter food anywhere along the processing procedure. The adults and immature stages can even chew into unopened thin paper, plastic or cardboard containers.

"Insect infestations are not related to the age of the food; new food is as attractive to insects as old. What matters is the type of container the food is stored in; insects cannot penetrate glass, metal or heavy-plastic containers with tight-fitting lids."

What can be done with insect-infested food?

Heaps says, "It can be disinfested and used. Throwing it away

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●Locate the food source(s). Check any areas where food is stored, not just the kitchen. Insects are mobile, so where they are found may have no bearing on where they're coming from.

●Insects and pieces of insects are no health hazard. Heavily infested food can be thrown out; lightly infested food can be disinfested and saved. To do this, freeze it for at least four days or spread it on a cookie sheet and heat it in an oven for 30 minutes at 150 degrees F. This will kill all insect life stages. Then, sift the food and store it and other insect-free food in insect-proof containers.

●Periodically vacuum (not wash) food crumbs from cracks and crevices in food-storage areas. Attempting to control insects with household bleaches, detergents or ammonia is worthless.

Heaps says insects may continue to appear after these steps have been taken. This may be because a food source was overlooked, or because insects have emerged from cracks and crevices.

"You shouldn't be alarmed by the continued appearance of insects because without an available food source for feeding and egg-laying, they will die of starvation in three to four weeks," he says.

Nor does he recommend that insecticides be used to control stored-food insects. He says they are only temporarily helpful. What really matters is good housekeeping and proper food storage.

To prevent future infestations, Heaps makes the following recommendations:

●Avoid storing for long periods foods that are likely to be infested by insects. If you are going to keep such foods for three weeks or longer, freeze or heat them to kill any insects that may be present. Then, sift the food and store in insect-proof containers.

●When buying food, check it as best you can for insects or holes in the

packaging. But don't shake it up; insects are usually near the surface and shaking the package may mix them with the food and prevent your seeing them.

- Use older food first to keep "turning" food over.

- Vacuum food storage areas periodically to keep them free of crumbs.

- Don't forget to check food stored in areas other than the kitchen-- dry pet food, bird feed, sunflower seeds, cracked corn for squirrels, and hamster food--for insects.

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4HE, DPMP

JH.SB12

news

MSC/9A27p
Agricultural Extension Service
Communication Resources
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

December 16, 1983

Source: Sam Brungardt
612/376-8182
Writer: Jack Sperbeck
612/373-0715

DAIRY ADJUSTMENT BILL TO BE DISCUSSED ON PUBLIC TV

A television program entitled "The New Dairy Bill--What Can Farmers Do?" will be broadcast on two Minnesota stations Dec. 23 and 24.

The program will be produced by agricultural specialists at Cornell University in New York and made available to all Public Broadcast Service (PBS) stations via satellite.

In Minnesota, the program will be broadcast by KAVT-TV, Austin, at 11 a.m. Friday, Dec. 23; and KWCM-TV, Appleton, at 1 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 24.

The hour-long program will cover the bill and its provisions, options for dairy farmers, how dairy farmers decide what to do, and how to enroll.

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DPMP, II-P, FB-1

DAIRYBIL

news

MSC/9 A272
Agricultural Extension Service
Communication Resources
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

December 22, 1983

Source: Sherri Wagner
612/376-1369

Writer: Kathy Berg
612/376-7518

BICYCLE SAFETY CONFERENCE SCHEDULED

The Minnesota State Bicycle Safety Conference will be held Feb. 12-14, 1984, at Cragun's Conference Center in Brainerd. Guest speakers are Dan Burden, Florida's state bicycle coordinator, and David Prouty, director of the United States Cycling Federation (USCF).

Burden will advise Minnesota's bicyclists, educators, enforcers and state agency personnel who will be working to implement Governor Perpich's Bikeways Commission recommendations. He will also describe Florida's bicycle plan which includes a state coordinator and a permanent advisory board as established by the executive order of Florida's governor in 1979.

Richard Braun, Minnesota Department of Transportation (MNDOT) commissioner, will explain MNDOT's plans for implementing Minnesota's bicycle plan. Governor Perpich has recommended that Braun establish a state bicycle advisory board as well as an office for the board similar to Florida's plan.

While speaking on "Bicycling and the '84 Olympics," Prouty will discuss the growth of bicycle racing in the U.S. and the potential for U.S. cyclists to win Olympic medals. He will also comment upon the impact the '84 Olympics may have on efforts to promote bicycling in general.

The conference will begin with a slide show by bicyclist Ken Rogers on his 10,000 mile bicycle expedition through the 48 contiguous states.

Page 1 of 2

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The State Bicycle Safety Conference is open to all Minnesotans interested in bicycling and is sponsored by the Minnesota Department of Public Safety and the Minnesota Coalition of Bicyclists. The deadline for registration is Jan. 5. For registration information, contact Sherri Wagner, State 4-H Office, University of Minnesota, St. Paul, MN 55108.

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DPMP, II-P

BIKESAFE

news

MSC/9A27
Agricultural Extension Service
Communication Resources
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

December 23, 1983

Source: Jerry Heaps
612/376-3377
Writer: Sam Brungardt
612/376-8182

CORRECTION

This is a correction to the news release entitled, "Precautions foil insects' invasion of stored foods," dated Dec. 15, 1983. Several lines were omitted from the end of the last paragraph on page 1 of the release as well as the first paragraph on page 2. These two paragraphs follow in their entirety:

...done with infested food?

Heaps says, "It can be disinfested and used. Throwing it away is unnecessary and expensive, and it doesn't necessarily solve the insect problem."

The entomologist recommends the following when infested food is discovered:

Locate the food source(s). Check any areas...

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4HE, DPMP

JH.12A

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news

MSC/9 A27p
Agricultural Extension Service
Communication Resources
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

December 29, 1983

Source: Bill Angell
612/373-0910

Writer: Deedee Nagy
612/373-1781

HOW'S YOUR ROOF BEARING UP UNDER 11 OR MORE TONS OF SNOW?

With the official arrival of winter, many homeowners are already ahead of the season in their concern about the weight of snow on their roofs.

This worry may be premature for many Minnesotans, but it may be justified in the northeastern, eastern and southern parts of the state where snow totals are the highest, according to a University of Minnesota extension housing specialist. So far this season, many parts of the southern and the eastern two-thirds of the state have already received snowfalls approaching or surpassing average seasonal totals. The current 1-1/2 to 3 feet of snow, if evenly distributed, may weigh between 11 and 27 tons for a typical 1,200- to 1,500- square-foot house.

Shocking as these totals seem, however, most homes built in communities that enforce the state building code will withstand the weight of the current snow load, the specialist states. Unfortunately, the seasonal snow totals are likely to rise more, and many rural areas of the state do not enforce minimum building performance standards.

To determine if they have a problem over their heads, homeowners should consider their own situations, particularly the weight of the snow and their own roof's load carrying capacity. Snow weight is determined by moisture content rather than by snow depth. Weather experts figure that each inch of moderately

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Page 2-roof bearing

compacted snow weighs about one pound per square foot. Snow depth figures from your region can be helpful in determining the weight on your roof, but snow depth alone is not the sole factor to consider. The amount of moisture, drifting, ice build-up and slide-off all affect each home differently. The only precise way to determine snow weight is by removing and measuring samples from the roof.

Another critical factor is your roof's structural capability and this, too, may be difficult to determine. If your home was built since 1972 in an area that adheres to the state building code, the minimum snowload capability will be 40 pounds per square foot (PSF) in the seven-county Twin Cities metropolitan area and the Arrowhead region or 30 PSF in most other areas of the state. Snow on some roofs may already be nearing the 30- to -40 inch depths that could spell trouble on even code-built homes.

If yours is an older home or you are uncertain whether your home meets these snow load requirements, a local building inspector, material supplier or remodeling contractor may be able to pinpoint your roof's load capacity.

If snow build-up continues at a steady pace, the homes most susceptible to damage from snow weight are:

- *Those with large, projecting overhangs, especially if there is substantial ice build-up.

- * Those with multi-level roofs where a lower roof accumulates build-up from melting on a higher roof.

- * Those built before 1972 with flat or minimum-pitched roofs.

- * Those with patio covers and carports that have little or no slope.

- * Those built before 1920, since roofs then were often built with 2 inch by 4 inch rafters spaced irregularly up to 36 inches.

- * Those that have visible rafter spread or sagging.

Page 3-roof bearing

- * Those that have rafters or sheathing rotting from moisture.
- * Those that have notching or splitting rafters.
- * Those that have widely varying snow build-up due to drifting.

The university housing specialists suggest that homeowners who realize that their dwellings have one or more of these characteristics should examine their rafters from the attic for spreading, deflection, sagging or splitting.

Further information on snow load factors is available in the fact sheet "Roof Snow Loads", which can be obtained from your local county Agricultural Extension Service office.

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TCO, PII-P, DPMP

SNOW.BA