

news

MSC19A27A
Agricultural Extension Service
Communication Resources
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

April 1, 1984

MEDIA NEWS PACKET INDEX

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

M-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

April 1, 1984

Source: Ward Stienstra
612/373-0937

Writer: Cheryl Schwanke
612/373-0715

DON'T FORGET CORN HEAD SMUT

Remember the corn head smut scare of 1980? Disease losses due to head smut have remained low since then.

Use of resistant hybrids and rotation are excellent management methods for its continued control. Low survival levels of the fungus in Minnesota soil also reduce head smut's threat.

The disease, discovered in 1980 in Minnesota, has remained in all locations--Wadena, Otter Tail, Stearns and Todd counties. In 1981, the Stearns county fields were all rotated to either soybean or grain and no head smut was found. However, in 1982, corn in fields that had head smut in 1980 again had head smut present. The incidence of head smut has remained low and caused no serious problems in 1983.

Head smut usually results in a plant without a marketable ear and thus a direct yield loss. It can easily spread from place to place with equipment or seed and can survive for many years in the soil, reports Ward Stienstra, plant pathologist at the University of Minnesota.

Head smut differs from common smut in that the head smut pathogen is primarily soilborne. The spores are disseminated from smutted tassels or

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M-2

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ears by wind, rain or harvesting equipment. They overwinter in the soil and infect succeeding corn crops.

New fields may be infested by planting seed contaminated with head smut spores. The head smut fungus infects the corn seedling. An infected plant does not show symptoms until the tassel or ears develop.

The tassel or ears of an infected plant are transformed into a sorus (a clump of spores). Head smut, unlike common smut, does not have a distinct, persistent covering. It is found on the ears or tassels and rarely on leaves, while common smut can be found on leaves, stalks, tassels, ears or individual kernels.

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MP, 4FC

CRNHDSMT

news

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

April 1, 1984

Source: Ward Stienstra
612/373-0937
Writer: Cheryl Schwanke
612/373-0715

REDUCE CORN STALK ROT LOSSES

Corn stalk rot causes about a 5 percent yield loss every year. It is one of the most common corn diseases in Minnesota, reports Ward Stienstra, plant pathologist with the University of Minnesota's Agricultural Extension Service.

Stalk rot can't be completely controlled, but damage can be reduced by using an integrated management program. Stienstra recommends these practices to reduce stalk rot losses:

- * Select lodging-resistant hybrids. Full season hybrids generally have less damage from stalk rot than those that mature early.
- * Plant sound, locally adapted, fungicide-treated seed. Seed should not have seed coat cracks and should have been treated with fungicide. This aids in plant establishment and slows or delays fungal infection of the seedling.
- * Adjust plant population according to hybrid used, fertility level, soil type and available soil moisture.
- * Provide balanced soil fertility. Apply fertilizer based on results of a reliable soil test.
- * Harvest when crop is mature.

- * Scout fields for stalk rot and lodging when corn grain is 30-40 percent moisture.

Other control methods include controlling weeds and root- and stalk-ttacking insects, using recommended cultural practices and chemicals, and managing foliar disease.

Stalk rots common in Minnesota do not occur until several weeks after pollination. The first symptoms are dull grayish-green leaves and soft lower internodes that turn from green to tan or dark brown.

The stalk may be easily crushed. When it's split open, top to bottom, the pith tissue is soft and decayed and the vascular strands are intact. If the hybrid is susceptible, the entire plant dies and the field may appear to be frosted or suffering from drought.

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MP, 4FC

CORNSTLK

news

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

April 1, 1984

Source: Roger Machmeier
612/373-0764

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

STARTS CAN STOP WATER PUMP

Repeated starts are hard on electric motors and can wear them out rapidly. This problem may cause failure of your home water pump motor, if not corrected.

"A motor can run continuously for long spans of time with no more deterioration than from one starting cycle," says Roger Machmeier, agricultural engineer with the University of Minnesota's Agricultural Extension Service.

On a home water system the pump motor is controlled by a pressure switch connected to the pneumatic pressure tank. When the pressure drops to the low setting, the pump starts and runs until the pressure rises to the high setting. The amount of air in the pressure tank determines how many gallons of water can be withdrawn between start and stop settings.

Most pressure tanks installed within the last 10 years have inflatable bladders or other types of air-water separators. In older water systems, however, the air is usually in direct contact with water in the pressure tank and so gradually dissolves. This means the air must be replaced periodically.

The water well industry's rule of thumb, says Machmeier, is that the amount of water drawn from the pressure tank before the pump kicks in ought

to equal about one minute of pump operation. "If your pump delivers 10 gallons per minute, pneumatic tank size, air-water ratio, and pressure switch settings should be regulated so that about 10 gallons of water can be withdrawn before the pump starts," he says. Ten gallons will allow at least two toilet flushes before the pump begins operating.

If the air volume on a pressure tank is so low that only one gallon can be withdrawn without starting the pump, and a family uses 300 gallons of water daily, it could mean 300 pump starts. A 10-gallon draw only requires 30 pump starts.

"Making sure that your home water system has a large enough draw extends the pump life many times," Machmeier says.

Here's how to determine how much draw there is in your home water system. Run a faucet until you hear the pump start, then turn off the faucet. When the pump stops, turn on the faucet and run water into a pail until the pump starts again. Immediately shut the faucet off and measure how many gallons you have collected. If the amount is less than one-sixth the total volume of your pneumatic pressure tank, you need to add air to the tank.

"You can do this by draining the water out of the tank and allowing air to enter. An easier way is to install an air valve so that air can be pumped into the tank with a tire pump or air compressor," Machmeier says.

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WATRPUMP

news

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

April 1, 1984

Source: Joanne Slavin
612/376-8748

Writer: Deedee Nagy
612/373-1781

'FOOD AND FITNESS' ESSAY CONTEST WINNERS ANNOUNCED

Two youths from Douglas County and one from Pennington County have won top honors at the state level in the Food and Fitness essay contest sponsored by the Agricultural Extension Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The winners are Barbara Van Zomeren, Alexandria, in the 13-14 year age category; Mark Lee, Brandon, in the 15-16 year category; and Cindi Solem, Thief River Falls, among entrants 17 and 18 years old. All three are active 4-H members.

The youths submitted essays on the theme "Food: America's Growth Industry." Each state winner had previously won in his or her home county. The three Minnesota winners will have their essays submitted to Washington for national consideration and the awarding of savings bonds and trips to the capital for the Food and Fitness Fair set for August 16-18.

The winning essayists also won trips to the Twin Cities during 1984 Minnesota Agriculture Week, March 16-22. The week was a public awareness campaign sponsored by the metropolitan chapter of Minnesota Women for Agriculture in cooperation with the YWCAs of Minneapolis and St. Paul and several metropolitan area retailers.

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ESSAY.2

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

April 1, 1984

Source: Byron Schneider
612/373-1083
Writer: Mary Kay O'Hearn
612/373-1786

LEWIS NAMED 4-H FOUNDATION HEAD

James J. Lewis has been named executive secretary of the Minnesota 4-H Foundation effective April 1.

Most recently he has been an extension specialist with Staff Development and Personnel of the University of Minnesota's Agricultural Extension Service. Earlier, he was involved with 4-H, the youth educational arm of the Agricultural Extension Service, in county extension agent work in Mille Lacs and Washington counties. He is a 1970 graduate of the University of Minnesota, Morris, with a major in history.

"Jim's commitment, knowledge and dedication to Minnesota 4-H makes him a most valuable addition to our staff," says Byron J. Schneider, assistant director of 4-H Youth Development and head of the state's 4-H program. In his remarks, Schneider paid tribute to Leonard Harkness, retired Minnesota 4-H head, who temporarily filled the executive secretary position until Lewis's selection. Lewis succeeds Laurel E. Stulken, who resigned last year to accept a position in California. Stulken came to the University's Agricultural Extension Service in 1978 and was the first person to serve in the then newly created position of executive secretary.

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MP

Page 1 of 1

LEWIS4-H

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news

for County Agents

MSC 19, AD 718
Agricultural Extension Service
Communication Resources
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

April 1, 1984

COUNTY NEWS PACKET INDEX

A Reminder: The stories on blue paper are generally intended for agricultural audiences; those on green are for consumers. The media packet (tan paper) has gone to daily and regional newspapers and some magazine outlets, but not to weekly newspapers.

Stories in this packet:

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Also enclosed are PSA's that you can use with local stations. You may also find them useful as newspaper column fillers.

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C-1

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

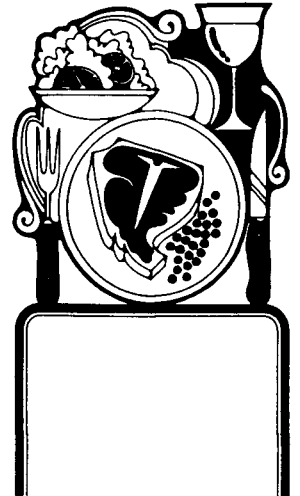
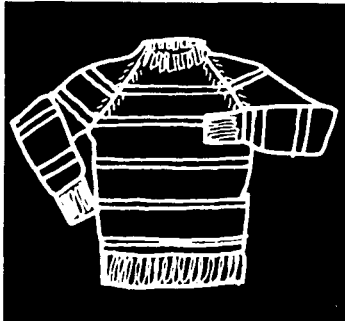
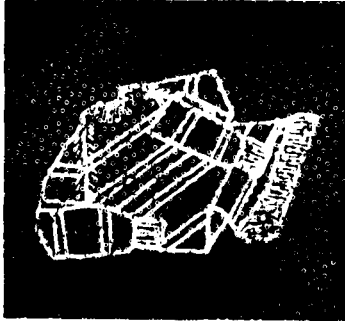
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Agents and specialists: Following is a list of releases that we sent out in weekly mailings from late February through late March. If you would like to receive any of them, please check the ones you'd like and send this sheet with your name and address to Marilyn Masterman, 433 Coffey Hall.

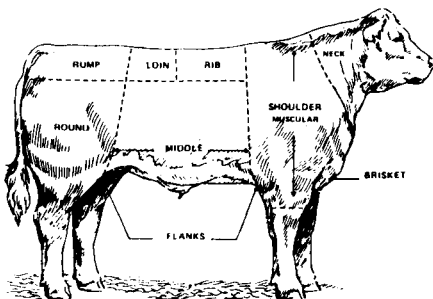
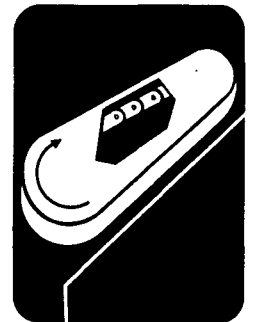
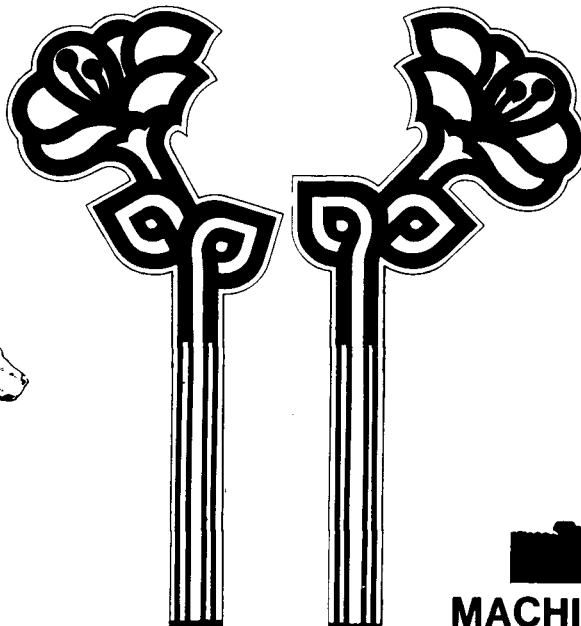
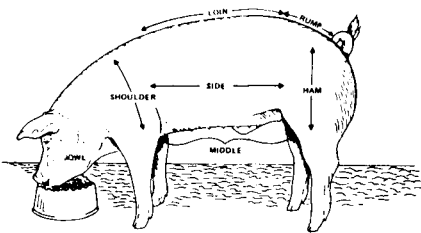
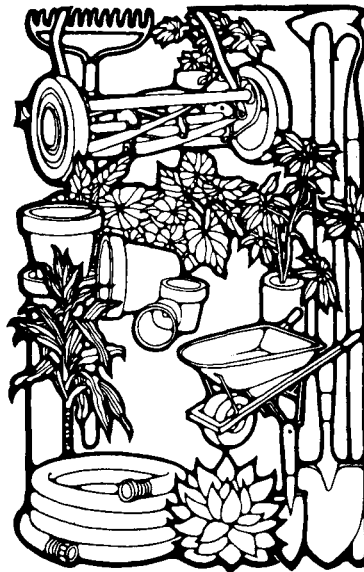
Controlling Wild Proso Millet
Feeding Sunflower Seeds to High Producing Cows
Shading Proso Millet
Learn How to Market Timber
Minnesota Research Evaluates Small Grain Silage in the Feedlot
Feedlot Cattle Need Additional Grain When Fed Snapped Ear Corn
Corn Set-Aside Can Net Over \$300 per Acre
Beware of Claims for Wonder Plants Like Gopher Purge
Borich to be Acting Director of U of M Agricultural Extension Service
Hardwood Class With Emphasis on Oak Is Offered
Be Sure of Adequate Reserve Before Cutting Surtax
Black Walnuts: A Good Investment
Researchers Seek Reason for Gain Boost With Thin Stillage
American Chestnut Foundation Formed
Power Plant Waste Usable for Crop Irrigation
Control Droplet Applicators not Superior to Conventional Sprayers
Synchronize Beef Cow Estrus to Increase Returns, Reduce Labor

CP

clipart



APRIL 1984



MACHINERY & EQUIPMENT

Agricultural Extension Service  University of Minnesota

news

for County Agents

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

April 1, 1984

Source: Cherilyn Nelson
612/376-1537
Writer: Deedee Nagy
612/373-1781

RETURN OF RAMIE IS 'NEW' ON THE SPRING SCENE

Consumers looking at spring and summer sweaters are getting to know ramie, an old fiber that's being put to new uses this year. Cherilyn Nelson, textiles and clothing specialist with the University of Minnesota's Agricultural Extension Service, explains that ramie is a natural cellulose fiber made from the stem of the nettle plant. Although it may be new to today's consumers, ramie has been used in China, the Philippines and the Mediterranean countries for hundreds of years.

As a natural fiber, ramie is strong but rigid, which means it will wrinkle if used in a flat woven fabric. Most ramie is combined with cotton in sweaters where the flexibility of the knit helps to compensate for the wrinkling tendency of both cotton and ramie. Although ramie is usually washable, Nelson cautions consumers to read and follow the instructions on the garment's care label.

Ramie has the added plus of being absorbent, which means a fabric containing ramie in open knit construction can be comfortable on warm, humid days. However, its absorbency will also cause it to pick up water-based stains such as coffee or soft drinks. Stain removal methods used on cotton are generally the recommended ones for ramie, she adds.

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CP, HE I & II

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RAMIECN.1

C-4

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news

for County Agents

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

April 1, 1984

Source: Dr. Samuel W. Hall
612/221-2113
Writer: Mary Kay O'Hearn
612/373-1786

CHECK ON IPECAC BEFORE USING

If your family includes young children, you may already know about syrup of ipecac (ip-e-kek). It should be in the medicine cabinet of every household with young children, but it should never be given to induce vomiting without first checking with the Poison Control Center or a doctor.

An over-the-counter drug, the liquid costs about \$1.50 for a one-ounce bottle. As a natural irritant to the stomach, it can safely induce vomiting in 20 minutes.

But, depending on what caused the poisoning, there could be additional injury if vomiting is induced and that is the reason for making the phone call to the center or doctor first.

"If a petroleum product were swallowed, for instance, vomiting should not be induced because lungs would be re-exposed to the petroleum product a second time," says Dr. Samuel W. Hall, Jr., medical director of the Minnesota Poison Control System, located at St. Paul-Ramsey Medical Center. Petroleum products in the lungs can cause a pneumonia that is very difficult to treat. Lungs are moist and very small amounts of a petroleum product could cause severe problems.

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

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Call the Poison Control Center at 221-2113 if you live in the Twin Cities area or toll free 1-800-222-1222 statewide. Do not phone the Twin Cities' 911 emergency number unless the poisoned patient needs emergency care--is unconscious, having convulsions or having difficulty breathing.

After the caller describes what was swallowed, the Poison Information pharmacist will suggest the best course of action. Syrup of ipecac (named because it is extracted from the South American ipecacuanha plant) may be called for or there may be a better way recommended for ridding the stomach of a particular poison.

Swallowing raw eggs, mustard water or salt water, or sticking a finger down the throat are ineffective and sometimes dangerous ways of attempting to empty the stomach, Dr. Hall says. People have died from an overdose of salt given to induce vomiting.

Medical experts recommend keeping one bottle of syrup of ipecac per child in the medicine cabinet. Replace the bottle if it is more than two years old. Syrup of ipecac does not decompose to anything harmful, but may lose some of its effectiveness after the expiration date.

It is not necessary to buy an entire "Poison Kit" at the drugstore to obtain syrup of ipecac. Kits also usually contain activated charcoal and laxatives which would not be recommended for use in the home, Dr. Hall says.

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CP

IPECAC

news



Living Resourcefully
File XIC

for County Agents

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

April 1, 1984

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

TIME TO STORE WINTER CLOTHING ALONG WITH MEMORIES OF SEASON PAST

No matter how eager you are to put aside thoughts of the hard winter just past, take some time to store your winter clothes properly and protect your wardrobe investment.

This is the suggestion of Cherilyn Nelson, textiles and clothing specialist with the University of Minnesota's Agricultural Extension Service. She suggests starting by washing or dry cleaning your garments. "Dirt and food stains, particularly on natural fibers, are an invitation to dinner for some insects," Nelson says. "Some insect larvae may already be on the fabric and these must be removed to prevent the insects from eating the fabric."

Garments can lose their shape during lengthy storage so remove belts from clothing, close buttons and zip zippers to prevent unnecessary stress on garments as they hang, she suggests.

If you store out-of-season clothing in boxes or drawers, you can retain garment shape by stuffing areas of fabric fullness such as gathered sleeves with white tissue paper. If the garment is destined for storage of longer than a year, line the box or drawer with clean, unbleached muslin. Another layer on top of the clothing will keep dust from settling on it.

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Hanging garments can be covered with garment bags or bags made from washed muslin. These protect the items from light, fumes and dust. Nelson says dry cleaning bags prevent air from circulating around the garment and aren't recommended for lengthy storage. Such bags can also disintegrate, causing yellowing of some fabrics. In some cases, the dye from printing on the bags can leach onto a garment and stain it.

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CP, HE I,II

STORECN.1

news

for County Agents

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

April 1, 1984

Source: Mary Darling
612/376-4663
Writer: Pat Samples
612/373-0715

PARENTS CAN HELP WITH KIDS' EATING PROBLEMS

When children pick at their food, or want just one kind of food when they do eat, or refuse anything not coated with sugar, parents often worry. Parents can do more than worry if they think their child has an eating problem, says nutritionist Mary Darling of the University of Minnesota's Agricultural Extension Service.

First, check on the child's health. Find out from the pediatrician how the child is doing according to the growth charts in his or her medical records. The doctor can tell you whether your child's growth is within the expected range for children of that age and whether the growth pattern has been relatively consistent. A significant change in the child's growth or growth pattern may be a cause for concern and should be discussed with the doctor.

Simple observations of the child will also reveal some things about the child's health. Healthy, well-nourished children should have skin that has an attractive color and texture. Children should appear alert and be actively interested in their surroundings. If a child can concentrate well

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enough to learn the normal skills for each age level, this is also a good sign that the child is adequately nourished.

Check with the pediatrician about the child's iron levels. The level of red blood cells should be around 35 to 40 percent. Hemoglobin--the iron-carrying red pigment in the blood--should register close to 12 grams. Good sources of iron in the diet are red meats, dried beans and peas, green vegetables, and iron-fortified cereals. Citrus fruits and other foods high in vitamin C will help the body absorb iron.

Here are some ways to improve your child's eating habits:

- * Keep the supply of "junk foods" in the house to a minimum. Milk and juice may have more appeal if the refrigerator isn't full of soft drinks.
- * Set a good example. Eat nutritiously yourself, and avoid talking about your food dislikes.
- * Have a supply of healthy snack foods available such as hard-cooked eggs, unsugared cereal, yogurt, cheese, peanut butter mixed with cooked beans, grated carrots, bananas, finely chopped apples, and canned fruit packed in juice or light syrup. Make snack time a quiet, sit-down time rather than a constant nibbling all day long.
- * Keep the child's menu simple. Too many choices may be overwhelming, especially for very young children.
- * Make mealtime a pleasant family time. Eat with the child. Have the table set and consider playing some relaxing music.

- * Keep in mind that children's stomachs are small and at times their appetites will be very limited. It's a good idea to keep them from drinking a lot of liquids before mealtime. If the child does not eat much, don't comment about it, but don't make cookies and candy and other "treats" available to make up for the missed meal later.
- * Provide water as a thirst-quencher rather than a supply of soda or even large amounts of juice or milk. Drinking too many liquids can contribute to anemia if the child uses them as a substitute for solid foods.

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PICKYEAT

news

for County Agents

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

April 1, 1984

Source: Donald Bates
612/373-0764

Writer: Jack Sperbeck
612/373-0715

SMALL FARMS HANDBOOK AVAILABLE

A new handbook can help you plan, design and build livestock buildings and equipment for small farms.

The new handbook is available from the Midwest Plan Service. It was designed for farmers with small enterprises looking for a complete guide to planning, designing and building small-scale units. It can also help you adapt or modify existing buildings.

The handbook includes guidelines for basic farmstead planning, site selection and space planning. A livestock enterprises chapter gives options and housing requirements for swine, beef, dairy cows, goats, horses, sheep, poultry and rabbits.

Other chapters cover materials and construction, utilities, ventilation and environmental control, waste and pest management, and fencing. There's also a chapter with plans for many housing, feeding, fencing and other items you can build yourself.

"Small Farms--Livestock Buildings and Equipment," MWPS-27, is available from Extension Agricultural Engineering, University of Minnesota, St. Paul, MN 55108. The price is \$4 plus 6% sales tax.

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SMALFRMS

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news

for County Agents

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

April 1, 1984

Source: John True
612/373-0764
Writer: Hank Drews
612/373-1250

REPLACE REMOVABLE SHIELDS

The guards and shields on farm machinery are often removed to make cleaning and maintenance easy. They should be replaced before the machinery is operated. "Many Minnesotans wish their fingers and hands were as easy to replace as the shields they had left off their machines when they were injured," says John True.

True is an agricultural engineer with the University of Minnesota's Agricultural Extension Service. For safety's sake he recommends that farmers inspect each machine before it is used to be sure all guards are in place and in good repair. They should check rotating shaft guards daily to be sure they operate freely.

Operators should keep everyone clear of any unguarded moving parts, says True. Common sense should tell anyone to shut down machinery before unclogging or working on it.

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CP

TRUERE

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

April 1, 1984

Source: Charles Christians
612/373-1166

Writer: Jack Sperbeck
612/373-0715

IN BRIEFS...

MEAT CONSUMPTION. Red meat eaten by consumers was 91 pounds per person in 1982. That's 48 pounds less than the 139 pounds usually quoted in news accounts based on U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) figures.

The USDA figure is based on the meat cut you see in the supermarket. It doesn't consider trimmable fat, bones, cooking losses and spoilage.

Red meat consumption figures per capita are as follows: fresh beef, 47.2 pounds; pork, 7.6 pounds; veal and lamb, 2 pounds; and processed meats, 34.2 pounds.

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FOOD COSTS. The "good old days" of 10 cents for a loaf of bread and 50 cents a pound for beefsteak weren't a bargain. Food costs, judged by the amount of time you need to work to buy groceries, have gone down. An hour's work today will buy twice as much food as an hour's work did in 1930, according to the Minnesota Agricultural Statistics Reporting Service. In 1980, the average wage earner needed to work 29 minutes to buy a pound of round steak. In 1950, it took 44 minutes and in 1930 it took 48 minutes.

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MEAT

University of Minnesota, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Minnesota Counties Cooperating C-14

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news

for County Agents

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

April 1, 1984

Source: Earl I. Fuller
612/373-1145

Writer: Cheryl Schwanke
612/373-0715

KEEP INVESTMENTS EARNING AT HIGH RATES

Double digit interest rates don't change the amounts of feed, lime and fertilizer or seed needed. But they do call for more careful managing of cash flow.

Earl Fuller, economist with the University of Minnesota's Agricultural Extension Service, recommends being cautious about buying such items ahead unless you get a big enough price break to pay the interest. Input items used up during the year usually provide rates of return in excess of the interest rates.

Don't make feeder livestock purchases unless you can get market prices for the feed plus the interest cost of the investment, even if you have facilities. The same goes for raising dairy steers. You can always sell the animals and feed, investing the proceeds instead.

Investments in machinery and equipment that let you handle more productive livestock may still make sense with high interest rates, but not in all cases. Fuller suggests that, when you budget it out, you'll usually need additional livestock to afford added machinery and equipment.

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C-15

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

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The same can be said for investments in livestock facilities. At current interest rates, you have to add production from the same land and labor to justify the investment. Otherwise, there will be lower returns to labor and more of your efforts will be spent just to support the new investment.

Land is the investment alternative which tends to earn the least. It is a residual claimant to returns in many respects. When crop prices go up, land prices go up. When crop prices go down, so do land prices. But year in and year out, the rates of return in terms of cash generated compared to land prices tend to run around three to four percent.

Appreciation of the land's real value over time can provide some additional earnings, occasionally enough to justify purchase, but it still tends to be a draw on cash as you go along. Fuller says the usual result is that livestock must help meet the cash flow obligations of the land purchase.

#

CP

INVEST

AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE
COMMUNICATION RESOURCES
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA 55108
April 1, 1984

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

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ANNOUNCER;
30 SECONDS

EVEN IF YOU MAY BE READY TO SET ASIDE ALL
THOUGHTS AND REMINDERS OF THE HARD WINTER JUST
PAST, IT'S WORTH YOUR WHILE TO TAKE SOME TIME TO
STORE YOUR WINTER CLOTHES PROPERLY AND PROTECT
YOUR WARDROBE INVESTMENT. WASH OR DRY CLEAN YOUR
CLOTHES BEFORE PUTTING THEM AWAY. HANGING
GARMENTS CAN BE COVERED WITH GARMENT BAGS. THESE
WILL PROTECT YOUR CLOTHES FROM LIGHT, FUMES AND
DUST DURING LENGTHY STORAGE. THIS MESSAGE IS
BROUGHT TO YOU BY YOUR ----- LOCAL OFFICE OF
THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA'S AGRICULTURAL
EXTENSION SERVICE.

AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE
COMMUNICATION RESOURCES
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA 55108
April 1, 1984

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

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ANNOUNCER;
30 SECONDS

CORN STALK ROT CAUSES ABOUT A FIVE PERCENT YIELD
LOSS EVERY YEAR. IT IS ONE OF THE MOST COMMON
CORN DISEASES IN MINNESOTA. BUT YOU CAN REDUCE
THE DAMAGE OF CORN STALK ROT BY USING AN
INTEGRATED MANAGEMENT PROGRAM. FIRST, SELECT
LODGING-RESISTANT HYBRIDS. THEN, PROVIDE
BALANCED SOIL FERTILITY. PRACTICE FIELD SCOUTING.
AND CONTROL WEEDS AND ROOT- AND STALK-ATTACKING
INSECTS. 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
April 1, 1984

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

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ANNOUNCER;
30 SECONDS

THERE'S A SPECIAL FEELING THAT COMES FROM
HELPING SOMEONE FIND A DIRECTION FOR LIFE.
THAT'S THE WAY IT IS IN THE 4-H SWINE PROGRAM.
YOUNG PEOPLE WHO WANT TO BE HOG FARMERS LEARNING
FROM ADULT VOLUNTEERS WITH THE KNOWLEDGE AND
DESIRE TO HELP. FROM BREED SELECTION TO
MARKETING, THE 4-H SWINE PROGRAM OFFERS YOUNG
PEOPLE A CHANCE TO BUILD ON THEIR OWN
EXPERIENCES. FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL YOUR
----- COUNTY OFFICE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF
MINNESOTA'S AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE.

AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE
COMMUNICATION RESOURCES
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA 55108
April 1, 1984

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PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ANNOUNCER;
30 SECONDS

DOUBLE DIGIT INTEREST RATES DON'T MUCH CHANGE
THE AMOUNTS OF FEED, LIME, FERTILIZER OR SEED YOU
NEED. BUT HIGH INTEREST RATES DO CALL FOR MORE
CAREFUL MANAGING OF YOUR CASH FLOW. IT'S A GOOD
IDEA TO BE CAUTIOUS ABOUT BUYING SUCH ITEMS AHEAD
UNLESS YOU GET A BIG ENOUGH PRICE BREAK TO PAY
THE INTEREST. 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
April, 1, 1984

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

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ANNOUNCER;
30 SECONDS

WHEN CHILDREN PICK AT THEIR FOOD, OR REFUSE ANY
FOOD NOT COATED WITH SUGAR, PARENTS OFTEN WORRY.
IF YOU THINK YOUR CHILD HAS BAD EATING HABITS,
THERE ARE SOME THINGS YOU CAN DO. KEEP THE
SUPPLY OF JUNK FOOD IN YOUR HOME TO A MINIMUM.
SET A GOOD EXAMPLE. EAT NUTRITIOUSLY YOURSELF.
HAVE A SUPPLY OF HEALTHY SNACK FOODS AVAILABLE
SUCH AS HARD-COOKED EGGS, YOGURT, CHEESE, PEANUT
BUTTER AND FRESH FRUIT. THIS MESSAGE FOR YOUR
FAMILY'S HEALTH IS BROUGHT TO YOU BY YOUR -----
LOCAL OFFICE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA'S
AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE.

AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE
COMMUNICATION RESOURCES
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA 55108
April 1, 1984

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

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ANNOUNCER;
30 SECONDS

FOR SAFETY'S SAKE FARMERS SHOULD INSPECT EACH
FARM MACHINE BEFORE IT IS USED TO BE SURE ALL
GUARDS ARE IN PLACE AND IN GOOD REPAIR. CHECK
ROTATING SHAFT GUARDS DAILY TO BE SURE THEY
OPERATE FREELY. ALSO, COMMON SENSE SHOULD TELL
ANYONE TO SHUT DOWN MACHINERY BEFORE UNCLOGGING
OR WORKING ON IT. THIS MESSAGE IS BROUGHT TO YOU
BY YOUR ----- LOCAL OFFICE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF
MINNESOTA'S AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE.

AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE
COMMUNICATION RESOURCES
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA 55108
April 1, 1984

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PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ANNOUNCER;
30 SECONDS

EVEN IF YOU HAVE READ IT BEFORE, READ IT
AGAIN--THAT IS, READ THE OPERATOR'S MANUAL WITH
ITS SAFETY, OPERATING AND MAINTENANCE
INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE TRACTOR YOU HAVEN'T HAD OUT
OF THE SHED SINCE LAST FALL. IT'S THE ORDINARY,
EVERYDAY HAZARDS THAT CATCH THE UNWARY,
EXPERIENCED OPERATOR. BE PERSONALLY FIT AND
READY FOR A SAFE DAY AT THE WHEEL BEFORE YOU GO
INTO THE FIELDS FOR A NEW SEASON OF PLANTING,
TENDING AND HARVESTING. THIS MESSAGE IS BROUGHT
TO YOU BY YOUR ----- LOCAL OFFICE OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA'S AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION
SERVICE.

AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE
COMMUNICATION RESOURCES
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA 55108
April 1, 1984

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

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ANNOUNCER;
30 SECONDS

THERE'S SOMETHING SPECIAL ABOUT KNOWING HOW TO
PRESERVE FOODS AT HOME. FROM FREEZING FRESH
FRUITS AND MEATS TO CANNING VEGETABLES AND MAKING
JAMS AND JELLIES -- YOU CAN LEARN HOW, IN 4-H.
IT'S "HOW TO" SKILLS WITH A BONUS -- THINK OF THE
MONEY YOU'LL SAVE YOUR FAMILY BY DOING YOUR OWN
PRESERVING. SO CALL YOUR ----- COUNTY OFFICE
OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA'S AGRICULTURAL
EXTENSION SERVICE AND JOIN THE FUN.

news

MSC/9A270
Agricultural Extension Service
Communication Resources
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

April 12, 1984

Source: Paul Hasbargen
612/373-1145
Writer: Jack Sperbeck
612/373-0715

WHEAT PROGRAM MADE MORE ATTRACTIVE

Participating wheat growers will get earlier and higher payments under a new wheat program just signed into law.

Changes in the wheat program include:

--A paid diversion of \$2.70 per bushel on 10 percent of a farmer's base acreage. The earlier program had no paid diversion.

--One-half of the paid diversion portion will be paid to farmers this spring. Under the earlier program, payments earned by participating farmers were not paid until next winter.

--Payment-in-kind (PIK) payments were increased from 75 percent of normal yield to 85 percent.

--The target price was decreased from \$4.45 to \$4.38. This same price will apply for 1985.

"These changes will mean a net gain of \$7 to \$10 per base acre enrolled," says Paul Hasbargen, extension economist with the University of Minnesota's Agricultural Extension Service. "Another way to look at it is that total payments per acre set aside will increase \$20 to \$30 over the earlier program," he says.

Page 1 of 2

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

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Hasbargen analyzes income effects of the new program as follows:

--The new paid diversion feature will pay \$8 to \$10 per base acre to typical wheat producers with normal per-acre yields of 30 to 37 bushels.

--The spring cash payment will put about \$1,000 into the cash inflows of each of the 9,000 program participants (who average 227 base acres). In addition, a second change in the program will permit a special fall sign-up for the 1985 program with early 1985 payments available at that time.

--The change in PIK payments increases the value of the PIK option by \$10 to \$15, depending on normal yield and prices received for PIK grain.

--The decrease in deficiency payments will reduce total cash payments from \$1 to \$2 per base acre enrolled in the program.

Minnesota farmers have already enrolled about 51 percent of their total base acres in the program. Hasbargen expects this to increase to about 60 percent when the program is reopened. "And, participation in the PIK option will increase from the one-in-five proportion of farmers now signed up to set aside additional PIK acres."

Hasbargen encourages wheat producers to take a close look at the new wheat program. "Given the large wheat carry-over, participation in the 1984 wheat program looked like good insurance before the recent change. The insurance payoff looks even better under this new program," he says.

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DPMP, 1A, P2

WHEATPRG

news

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

April 12, 1984

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

DON'T WORRY ABOUT NUTRIENT BALANCE

Farmers shouldn't worry about terms like "balanced fertilizer program" and "nutrient balance," according to George Rehm, soil fertility specialist with the University of Minnesota's Agricultural Extension Service.

"These terms have created so much confusion we might be better off forgetting about them," Rehm says. "Research has shown there is no critical, specific balanced relationship between nutrients in soils."

"Accurate, economical fertilizer programs for farmers are still based on soil testing and fertilizer recommendations based on sound field research," he emphasizes. Here are illustrations of how some terms can be misinterpreted.

--You can infer that a "balanced" fertilizer program means that you must add equal amounts of nitrogen, phosphate and potassium for top production. "The obvious answer to this is no," Rehm says. "We know that plants require different amounts of nutrients for normal growth. For example, a high-yielding corn crop will absorb much more nitrogen and potassium compared to zinc and other micronutrients."

--To other people, "nutrient balance" means that ideal ratios of various nutrients exist in soils. With this philosophy, if the ratio of one nutrient to another does not fall into a predetermined ideal range, the

Page 1 of 3

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nutrients are "out of balance" and you need a fertilizer application to adjust for the situation. "But research has shown that the ratio of one nutrient to another in soils can vary over a wide range without having negative effects on plant growth," Rehm says. "This is especially true for the rich, productive soils of Minnesota."

--Some people believe there's an ideal "balance" among potassium, calcium and magnesium in soils. In this concept of nutrient balance, calcium should occupy about 75 percent of the exchange sites in soils. Magnesium and potassium should occupy about 15 percent and five percent of these sites.

"Again, research in recent years has clearly shown that these percentages can vary over a wide range without affecting plant growth. The total amount available in soils is more important than the ratio of one nutrient to another," Rehm says.

He says there are some situations where excessive use of one nutrient will cause a deficiency of another. For example, highly excessive rates of phosphate fertilizer may cause a zinc deficiency in corn grown on soils with marginal zinc levels. However, the rates of phosphate fertilizer needed to cause the zinc deficiency are much higher than those normally used for corn production in Minnesota. "So we shouldn't get the idea that using any rate of phosphate fertilizer will induce a zinc deficiency in corn," Rehm says.

There's also some evidence that potash fertilizer may be helpful for corn production on "high lime rims" in Minnesota. But these situations are scattered and not typical of Minnesota.

The bottom line: don't spend time worrying about terms like "a balanced fertilizer program," "nutrient balance," and "balanced fertility." Rehm says he talks to people who use these terms or have read about them. "But many people have their own ideas about what these terms mean and they can be interpreted differently, which causes confusion," he says. "There's still nothing better than using a soil test as a base for making fertilizer recommendations."

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DPMP, 1A, P2, 4FC

FERTBAL

news

MSC 19A278
Agricultural Extension Service
Communication Resources
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

April 12, 1984

Source: Joanne Geigel
W.B. Sundquist
612/373-0950
Writer: Helen Quinn
612/373-0710

THE GREENHOUSE EFFECT: CATASTROPHE OR CHALLENGE?

A two- to three-degree increase in the average temperature doesn't sound like a big deal for Minnesota farmers. In fact, most Corn Belt farmers would probably welcome the change in climate as good news.

However, before farmers rush out and buy a longer-season corn variety or get ready to put out the tomatoes, they should take a careful look at some possible consequences. A controversy has developed as to whether a warming trend in the midwest would be a catastrophe or a challenge for the farming community.

The theory that is prompting all of this concern about a possible change in climate is known as the "greenhouse effect." Scientists have been aware for some time of a substantial buildup of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere that may be inhibiting the reradiation of heat from the earth's surface and causing the temperature to gradually increase. The concern is that this buildup is reaching a point where it is starting to have a measurable effect on the earth's climate.

The greenhouse effect was the subject of a recent report by Joanne M. Geigel and W.B. Sundquist, agricultural economists at the University of Minnesota, entitled "A Review and Evaluation of Weather-Crop Yield Models." In the report, Geigel and Sundquist argue that before it is known just how

Page 1 of 3

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serious the problem will be, better methods for measuring the long-term effects of climate on crop yields will have to be developed.

The University of Minnesota report indicates that while there is a consensus among scientists about the existence of the effect, there is some disagreement over just how serious the problem really is.

One viewpoint alluded to in the report holds that the effect will be dramatic and will have far-reaching public policy implications. For example, Sundquist and Geigel refer to a 1983 National Academy of Science report which supported the possible increase in average temperature. In this report, it was estimated that the increase would result in less rainfall and higher temperatures for the U.S. Corn Belt.

The authors also cite a national defense university study which found that while these increased temperatures would have a positive effect on Soviet and Canadian wheat, they would have a negative effect on U.S. wheat. Corn yields in the United States would also decrease and become less consistent.

At the same time, on a less ominous note, other scientists argue that the effect will be much less dramatic. This view holds that the change will occur gradually, and that farmers will be able to adjust to and deal with any problems.

In their report, Geigel and Sundquist also point out that even if the climate change is dramatic, it may be premature to predict dire crop problems. They contend that procedures that can accurately predict what the effect on agriculture will be have not yet been developed.

As the authors state, "The currently available climate-crop yield models are either (1) so global and so general in their specification or (2) so limited in their inclusion of functional (and long term) climatic variables so as to defy a comprehensive statistical evaluation of their predictive accuracy."

In short, any good estimates of future impacts of the greenhouse effect on Corn Belt crops will require a far more comprehensive study of the factors which scientists must consider if their predictions are to be even reasonably accurate. While they may disagree about the consequences of the phenomenon, scientists generally agree that more resources must be devoted to researching and developing solutions.

As Sundquist and Geigel conclude, "If substantial climatic changes do occur in the future, technology developments (such as new crop varieties, new soil moisture conservation techniques, etc.) will be induced to counteract the new climatic adversities."

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DPMP, 1A, P2, 4FC

GREENHOU

news

MSC19 A27P
Agricultural Extension Service
Communication Resources
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

April 19, 1984

Source: H. L. Bissonnette
612/373-0937
Writer: Sam Brungardt
612/376-8182

NEWSLETTER PROVIDES TIMELY INFORMATION ON CROP PEST CONTROL

It's not too late for Minnesota farmers to receive most of the 20 issues of this year's "Plant Pest Control Newsletter."

The newsletter, available on a subscription basis from the University of Minnesota's Agricultural Extension Service, is issued weekly from mid-April through July and every other week during August and September. It provides information on plant pest problems--weeds, insects and plant diseases--as they develop in the crop production areas of Minnesota. It also informs subscribers of control measures and changes in existing control practices.

Subscribers may elect to receive the newsletter through the mail or on their home computers via the Agricultural Extension Service's EXTEND computer network. Using the computer access system will put the information in a subscriber's hands three or four days earlier than receiving it by mail.

Persons may subscribe to the "Plant Pest Control Newsletter" by sending a check for \$10, payable to the University of Minnesota, to CR

Distribution, 3 Coffey Hall, University of Minnesota, 1420 Eckles Ave., St. Paul, MN 55108. Subscribers should specify whether they wish to receive the newsletter by mail or through EXTEND. Those electing computer access will receive the computer access number and identification code by return mail.

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DPMP, 1A, P2. 4FC

HB1SB044

Page 2 of 2

news

MSC / A.27P
Agricultural Extension Service
Communication Resources
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

April 23, 1984

Writer: Gail McClure
612/373-1790

BOB RUPP TO BE HONORED AT RECEPTION

A reception in honor of Bob Rupp will be held Sunday, April 29, from 2:00 - 4:30 p.m. at Land O'Lakes, 4001 Lexington Avenue North, St. Paul. Rupp, who recently retired as editor of The Farmer, is being recognized for his many contributions to agriculture.

The event will feature Minnesota's Table of Taste, a buffet of Minnesota produced foods. In addition, a brief program will begin at 3:00 p.m.

To attend, send \$7.50 per person to Minnesota Agri-Growth Council, Dan Gunderson, 8030 Cedar Avenue South, Suite 213, Bloomington, Minnesota 55420. Those who cannot attend but wish to make a contribution should also contact Dan Gunderson.

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1A, P2

RUPP.2GMC

Page 1 of 1

news

MSC 19 A 27p
Agricultural Extension Service
Communication Resources
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

April 26, 1984

Source: Ford Runge
612/373-1755
Writer: Helen Quinn
612/373-0715

FARMERS WITH LARGE FARMS AND BIG DEBTS IN MOST TROUBLE

Credit problems are most troublesome for farmers with large farm operations who are heavily indebted in terms of ratio of debts to assets.

More and more farmers have borrowed up to the limit, yet the income to repay is not there, said Ford Runge, an agricultural economist with the University of Minnesota's Agricultural Extension Service. Runge spoke at a recent agricultural policy conference at the university.

Runge sees the way for farmers to survive is by successful use of existing credit markets. "The most technologically up-to-date farmer is not necessarily the one who will survive," he said. "The inability to use credit markets, not technological inefficiency, may be the factor that drives farmers out. Without financial skills, technological expertise won't be enough."

Runge said agriculture needs a mechanism to roll over debts until the farm crisis is over. He also cited the lack of effort from the administration to deal with the climate currently causing problems in American agriculture. Runge suggested reducing the federal deficit and the use of futures markets by farmers as other possible ways of dealing with the current credit problem.

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DPMP, 1A, P2

FARMDEBT

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

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news

for County Agents

MSC 11/1/84
Agricultural Extension Service
Communication Resources
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

May 1, 1984

COUNTY NEWS PACKET INDEX

Stories in this packet:

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Gold: Three Kinds	C-8,9
Re-Examine Your Policies in 1984	C-10,11
Beware of Implied Warranties	C-12,13
Eradicating Wild Mustard is Impractical	C-14
New Fishing Project Offered by 4-H	C-15
Garden Spot Should Fit Size of 4-H'er	C-16

Also enclosed are Public Service Announcements (PSA's) that you can use with local stations. You may also find them useful as newspaper column fillers.

Remember, the color coding is blue for agricultural stories, yellow for 4-H and green for consumer stories.

The accompanying media packet (tan paper) has gone to daily newspapers, regional agricultural newspapers and magazines. It has not gone to weekly newspapers, so use it for your columns if you'd like to.

C-1

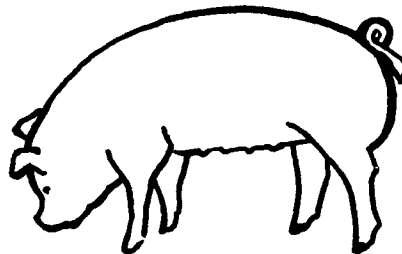
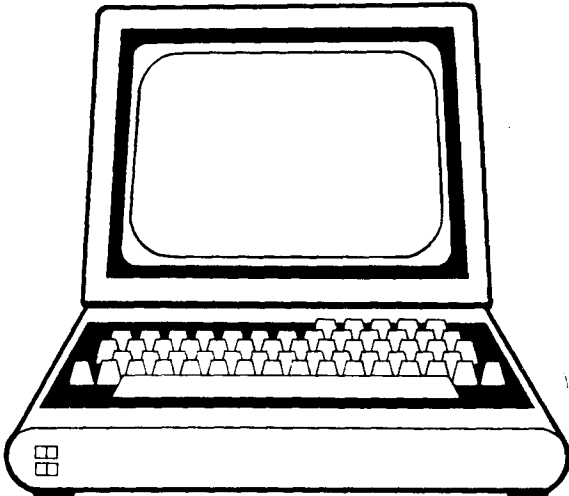
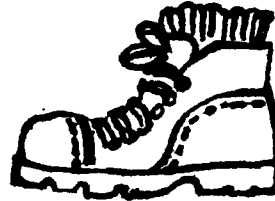
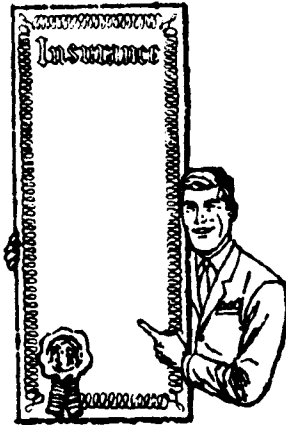
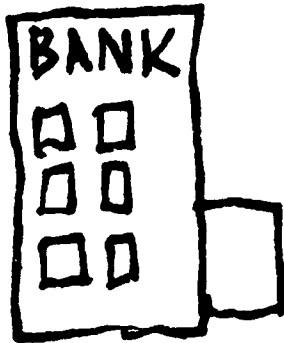
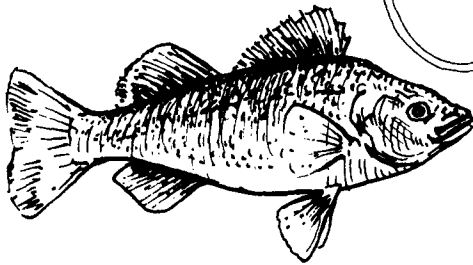
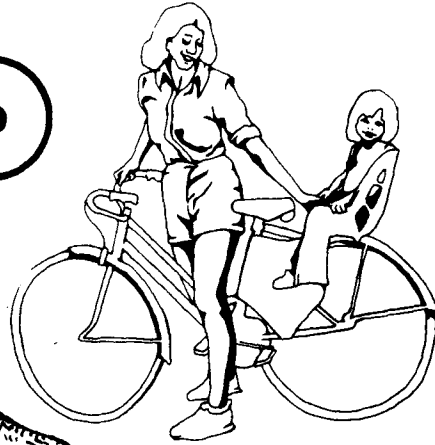
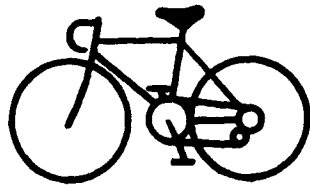
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Agents and specialist: Following is a list of releases that we sent out to weekly mailings during the past month. If you would like to receive any copies, check the ones you'd like and send this sheet with your name and address to Marilyn masterman, 433 Coffey Hall.

Promote Daytime Calving With Evening Feeding
Bone Up on Tractor Safety
Operate Farm Machinery Safely
Creep Feeding Can Boost Lamb Gains
Alfalfa Grower Program Entries Due April 15
Keep Flock Free of Sheep Keds, Lice/Wool
University of Minnesota Releases Two New Potato Cultivars
Bob Rupp To Be Honored at Reception
Consider High Producer Option on Federal Crop Insurance
Sheep Producers Need to Control Internal Parasites
Consumers Mean Business
Good Consumer does Write
Consumer Week Includes You
Choosing A Yield Goal
Test Soils For Boron Needs
How To Avoid Oak Wilt
Allen Named Dean of University of Minnesota College of Agriculture
Wheat Program Made More Attractive
The Greenhouse Effect: Catastrophe or Challenge
Don't Worry About Nutrient Balance

clipart



May, 1984

news

for County Agents

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

May 1, 1984

Source: Joanne Slavin
612/373-8748

Writer: Barbara LaCrosse
612/373-1781

Food & Fitness

THE BENEFITS OF WALKING

Walking can be a fun and easy way to relax, states Joanne Slavin, Agricultural Extension Service foods and nutrition specialist at the University of Minnesota.

Research shows that fifteen minutes of walking can keep a person relaxed for over an hour. "Exercise decreases tension better than any tranquilizer and without the side effects. It is a guaranteed depression chaser, and can also help relieve headaches, nervousness, and insomnia," Slavin adds.

Walking is rated high among activities that relax a person and help promote sleep. It ranks above basketball, calisthenics, and tennis, and is only surpassed by jogging, swimming, bicycling, skating, and cross-country skiing, explains Slavin.

Walking can be an aerobic exercise if the walking is brisk enough. This increases circulation and helps heart and lungs work more efficiently, stresses Slavin.

Page 1 of 2

University of Minnesota, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Minnesota Counties Cooperating C-4

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Walking at 2-1/2 miles per hour, similar to a leisurely bike ride, causes the body to use up approximately 210 calories per hour. At a brisker pace of about four miles per hour, you'll burn 300 calories. A fast one-hour walk that covers five miles will burn up 600 calories.

When beginning a walking program, start with 1/2 hour per day with three to five minutes of slow walking at the beginning to warm up, stresses Slavin. She adds that persons in generally good health usually do not need a doctor's approval to begin a walking program. Also, the only investment needed is in a good pair of cushioned shoes.

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CP

WALKING

news

for County Agents

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

May 1, 1984

Living Resourcefully
File IV C

Source: Jean W. Bauer
612/373-0909
Writer: Mary Kay O'Hearn
612/373-1786

SAFE DEPOSIT MAY NEED INSURANCE

You may think you have total protection when you put precious family possessions in a safe deposit box in a bank, when, in fact, you may have failed to insure them.

It is well to sit down with an insurance agent to determine whether you have the necessary coverage to protect the box's contents, says Jean W. Bauer, family resource management specialist with the University of Minnesota's Agricultural Extension Service.

Bauer quotes an American Bankers Association official who points out that boxholders are offered no compensation from banks if the contents of a box are lost through theft or fire. A lawsuit would have to be filed to prove the bank's negligence was responsible for a loss and then compensation might be collected.

A policyowner must be sure a homeowners' policy provides adequate coverage for specific items such as jewelry, cash, coins, gold and silver bullion. For bullion or coins the upper limits of coverage are \$100 or \$200 and for jewelry or stamps \$500 or \$1,000.

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

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"Be sure coverage in your policy includes off-premises coverage. Compensation for a loss suffered outside the home is often not automatically included in a homeowner or tenant policy. Check yours to be sure," she says.

A policy rider can be obtained to increase policy limits on the personal items kept in a safe deposit box. Some companies offer policy specifics written to insure against perils such as theft, flood and fire. One firm offers special protection for gold and silver buyers to insure against loss.

No matter how you choose to insure your valuables, all safe deposit box holders should keep an accurate inventory of items kept in the box. Keep the list outside the bank in some place you consider safe. Include serial numbers of all securities and appraisal forms or bills of sale for jewelry or other valuables.

#

CP

POLI84

news

for County Agents

Agricultural Extension Service
Communication Resources
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108
May 1, 1984

Source: Jean W. Bauer
612/373-0909

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

GOLD: THREE KINDS

The three necklaces you are debating buying, maybe for a graduation gift or for yourself, all look pretty much alike. But you can benefit from knowing the differences between them. Some of the differences can be determined from the terms used: karat gold, solid gold or gold filled.

"Any one of them could be a good purchase, depending on the quality and durability you desire," says Jean W. Bauer, family resource management specialist with the University of Minnesota's Agricultural Extension Service.

Karat Gold

Gold used by itself means 24 karat (24K) gold, according to guidelines established by the Federal Trade Commission in agreement with the jewelry industry. But gold is a very soft metal and usually mixed with base metals to harden it for jewelry.

The karat marking indicates what percentage of gold is mixed with the other metals. For instance, 14K means 14 parts of gold mixed with 10 parts of base metal. The higher the karat rating the more gold it contains.

Page 1 of 2

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C-8

Durability is influenced by the design of the jewelry, its resistance to wear and corrosion and condition and frequency of use.

Solid Gold

Solid gold means that the inside of the jewelry is not hollow. How much gold is in the jewelry is still controlled by the karat mark. Solid gold is not pure gold (24K).

Gold Filled

Gold filled jewelry is made from a base metal that has layers of karat gold bonded to both sides sandwich-like. This jewelry may be marked with the karat of gold used, plus the abbreviation for gold filled, GF. Unless it is marked otherwise, the total weight of the gold alloy in the object is 1/20th of the total weight of the object. If there is less gold alloy, it must be marked: for instance, 1/40th 12K GF. Gold filled jewelry is long-lasting, but its coating can eventually wear away, depending on the use it is given.

Gold jewelry is not required to bear a karat quality mark, but most jewelry does. If there is a quality mark, the National Stamping Act requires that it be accurate. The act also requires that the maker or seller who puts the item in interstate commerce place its U.S. registered trademark beside the quality mark. Then the purchaser knows who manufactured the item.

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CP

GOLD3

news

for County Agents

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

May 1, 1984

Source: Jean W. Bauer
612/373-0909
Writer: Mary Kay O'Hearn
612/373-1786

RE-EXAMINE YOUR POLICIES IN 1984

New tax regulations affecting deductions for casualty losses are in effect during 1984. This makes it a good time to re-examine homeowners' and auto insurance policies.

The new Internal Revenue Service ruling, according to Jean W. Bauer, family resource management specialist with the University of Minnesota's Agricultural Extension Service, says all nonbusiness casualty losses can be deducted if the total loss for the past year is more than 10 percent of an individual's adjusted gross income. That's after the first \$100 of loss on each separate occurrence.

Before 1983 all casualty losses above \$100 were deductible, but the Tax Equity and Fiscal Responsibility Act of 1982 changed the allowable deductions. For instance, if you had a 1983 adjusted gross income of \$30,000, the unreimbursed loss must exceed \$3,100 (10 percent of \$30,000 plus the first \$100 of loss = \$3,100) before any deduction can be made.

The IRS also requires you to reduce any deduction on your income tax by the amount you could have received from an insurance company even if you did not file a claim. The IRS views your loss as failure to put in a claim, not the casualty

Page 1 of 2

C-10

or theft.

In looking over present insurance policies, Bauer suggests determining whether or not you can absorb any losses that may fall below 10 percent of your adjusted gross income.

She says, "Household inventory and photos of the property before and after damage will be valuable in proving condition and value. Any bits of information gathered can help establish loss: description of what was taken, evidence that the loss was a direct result of the casualty or theft and that you were the owner of what was taken; fair market value determined immediately before and after the loss, and amount of compensation insurance or other compensation received." Any property appraisals before and after the loss are other good ways of proving a casualty loss. Time may be well spent documenting the loss as it could significantly reduce the amount of taxes you will have to pay.

Of course, losses can't be claimed on money or property misplaced or lost; breakage of china, glassware, or furniture under normal conditions; or damage to property caused progressively by termites, moths or other insects, disease or drought. This would all come under the category of progressing deterioration.

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CP

POLICIES

news

for County Agents

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

May 1, 1984

Source: C.J. Christians
612/373-1166

Writer: Jack Sperbeck
612/373-0715

BEWARE OF IMPLIED WARRANTIES

Buyers and sellers of breeding stock should be careful of implied warranties.

When you buy a sire, only one-half of the resulting genetic material comes from the sire, says Charles Christians, livestock specialist with the University of Minnesota's Agricultural Extension Service. Christians says advertising could be construed to imply that the buyer of breeding stock can expect results as good as what's advertised.

Christians advises livestock breeders to take steps to cover themselves legally. "We're seeing court cases where the buyer is not only getting replacement animals, but damages to cover production losses," he says.

Implied warranties on disease-free animals are even trickier. John M. Sands, an attorney practicing in St. Paul, Minn., has these recommendations for sellers of breeding stock:

Page 1 of 2

University of Minnesota, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Minnesota Counties Cooperating C-12

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--Have the following language printed in bold face on the sales contract for an SPF herd: "These swine come from an SPF herd. There is controversy about the meaning of the SPF designation. No representation or warranty is made that the herd or individual pigs in the herd are free from Bordetella bronchiseptica, which is believed to be the main cause of atrophic rhinitis."

--Use this statement for a non-SPF herd: "These swine come from a non-SPF herd. No representation or warranty is made that these swine are free from diseases associated with SPF status."

--For interstate shipments, be sure there are no visible signs of disease in the entire herd.

Sands recommends that buyers inspect animals carefully. Try to get a warranty in writing, and make it clear to the seller what the stock is to be used for.

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CP

WARRANTYS

news

for County Agents

Agricultural Extension Service
Communication Resources
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108
May 1, 1984

Source: Dennis Warnes
612/589-1711
Writer: Jack Sperbeck
612/373-0715

ERADICATING WILD MUSTARD IS IMPRACTICAL

Eradicating wild mustard from an infested field is impractical with currently available weed control techniques.

Researchers used nine different cultural and chemical treatments and tried to eradicate a wild mustard patch at Morris, Minn. "Sad to say, after seven years of tests, the most effective treatment proved to be an impractical combination of three plowings and constant fallow treatments with a field cultivator," says Dennis Warnes, agronomist with the University of Minnesota's Agricultural Experiment Station, Morris.

"When we sampled the top 12 inches of soil, we found we had reduced the wild mustard seed by 97 percent. But that remaining 3 percent worked out to 5.9 million seeds per acre," he says. Robert Andersen, research agronomist with the U.S. Department of Agriculture, worked with Warnes on the project.

Wild mustard is a serious problem in spring-seeded small grains in western Minnesota and in North and South Dakota. Recent improvements in herbicides have provided control methods for wild mustard in soybeans.

#

CP

WILDMUST

Page 1 of 1

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C-14

news

for County Agents

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

May 1, 1984

Source: Jim Winkler
612/373-0849

Writer: Jack Sperbeck
612/373-0715

NEW FISHING PROJECT OFFERED BY 4-H

A new 4-H fishing project record is available from the _____
County office of the University of Minnesota's Agricultural Extension Service.

The fishing project record can help youngsters learn more about fish and
the waters fish live in. It can also help develop respect for water resources
and the need to conserve and manage waters.

The fishing project covers fish and their life history, safety and
regulations, tackle, going fishing and fixing fish once you've caught them.

For more information, contact _____ at the _____
County Extension Office.

#

CP

4HFISH

Page 1 of 1

news

for County Agents

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

May 1, 1984

Source: State 4-H Office
612/373-1083
Writer: Jack Sperbeck
612/373-0715

GARDEN SPACE SHOULD FIT SIZE OF 4-H'er

Children's gardening projects should be geared to the child's capabilities. That way there's a good chance of success, says (name) ,
(county name) County extension agent .

The best lessons are learned by actually doing. Sowing a few seeds or setting out some plants can give children the chance to help produce food for the family.

As soon as youngsters show interest, encourage a small garden plot of their own. Help them choose vegetables or flowers with easy-to-plant seeds and quick maturity so they won't be discouraged waiting for results.

For more information, contact the (county name) office of the University of Minnesota's Agricultural Extension Service at (town) .

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DPMP

4HGARDEN

Page 1 of 1

University of Minnesota, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Minnesota Counties Cooperating C-16

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AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE
COMMUNICATION RESOURCES
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA 55108
May 1, 1984

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

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ANNOUNCER;
30 SECONDS

NOW IS NOT THE TIME TO TRIM YOUR OAK TREES. IF
YOU DO, YOU WILL BE OPENING THEM UP TO POTENTIAL
OAK WILT DISEASE. FOR SOME UNKNOWN REASON, TREES
CAN ONLY BE INFECTED BY BEETLES CARRYING THE OAK
WILT FUNGUS DURING MAY AND JUNE. SO WAIT UNTIL
JULY TO MAKE ANY CUTS ON YOUR OAK TREES FOR
PRUNING, AND YOU CAN AVOID OAK WILT DISEASE.
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
May 1, 1984

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PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ANNOUNCER;
30 SECONDS

YOU CAN LEARN TO CAPTURE BEAUTIFUL IMAGES IN THE
4-H PHOTOGRAPHY PROGRAM. FROM TAKING PICTURES TO
DEVELOPING FILM, LEARNING SPECIAL LIGHTING
TECHNIQUES, SELECTING THE BEST CAMERA FOR THE
JOB--YOU'LL LEARN IT ALL, IN 4-H. SO CREATE A
SPECIAL IMAGE--YOU, IN 4-H. CALL YOUR -----
LOCAL OFFICE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA'S
AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE FOR MORE
INFORMATION, AND JOIN THE 4-H FUN.

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

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PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ANNOUNCER;
30 SECONDS

NOW IS THE TIME TO PICK A YIELD GOAL FOR YOUR CROPS. YOUR YIELD GOAL IS THE PRODUCTION PER ACRE YOU HOPE TO OBTAIN. BE OPTIMISTIC YET PRACTICAL IN SETTING A YIELD GOAL. USE THE MAXIMUM REPORTED YIELDS FROM YOUR AREA AS A GUIDE, BUT DON'T BE INFLUENCED BY YIELDS FROM SOME PLACE FAR FROM HOME. THE PRACTICAL RANGE IS BETWEEN ABOVE AVERAGE AND THE HIGHEST YIELD OBTAINED BY YOU OR A NEIGHBOR ON A SIMILAR TYPE OF SOIL. 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
May 1, 1984

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

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ANNOUNCER;
30 SECONDS

BEEF PRODUCERS SHOULD BE ALERT FOR GRASS TETANY PROBLEMS THIS SPRING. CATTLE ARE MOST PRONE TO GRASS TETANY IN APRIL AND MAY. IT IS CAUSED BY LOW BLOOD MAGNESIUM LEVELS AND IS A POTENTIAL PROBLEM WHEN FORAGES CONTAIN HIGH LEVELS OF POTASSIUM AND ADEQUATE OR MARGINAL LEVELS OF MAGNESIUM. PRODUCERS CAN REDUCE THE INCIDENCE OF GRASS TETANY BY PROVIDING SUPPLEMENTAL MAGNESIUM AND BY AVOIDING HEAVY NITROGEN FERTILIZATION OF GRASS PASTURE. 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
May 1, 1983

ANY QUESTIONS? CALL Jennifer Obst
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PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ANNOUNCER;
30 SECONDS

AS A CONSUMER, IF YOU HAVE A PROBLEM WITH A
PRODUCT AND CAN'T RESOLVE THAT PROBLEM WHERE YOU
MADE THE PURCHASE, YOU SHOULDN'T HESITATE TO
WRITE A LETTER TO THE PRODUCT'S MANUFACTURER. IF
YOU DO, MAKE THE LETTER BRIEF, AND KEEP A COPY OF
WHATEVER YOU WRITE FOR YOUR RECORDS. BE
BUSINESSLIKE. STATE THE PROBLEM IMMEDIATELY AND
WHAT YOU CONSIDER TO BE A FAIR SETTLEMENT. THIS
KIND OF FEEDBACK IS ALSO PART OF BEING A GOOD
CONSUMER. 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
May 1, 1984

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PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ANNOUNCER;
30 SECONDS

YOU MAY THINK YOU HAVE TOTAL PROTECTION WHEN YOU
PUT PRECIOUS FAMILY POSSESSIONS IN A SAFE DEPOSIT
BOX IN A BANK, BUT MAKE SURE YOU HAVE INSURED
THEM TOO. ITS A GOOD IDEA TO SIT DOWN WITH AN
INSURANCE AGENT TO DETERMINE WHETHER YOU HAVE THE
NECESSARY COVERAGE TO PROTECT THE BOX'S CONTENTS.
BOXHOLDERS ARE OFFERED NO COMPENSATION FROM BANKS
IF THE CONTENTS OF A BOX ARE LOST THROUGH THEFT
OR FIRE. THIS MESSAGE IS BROUGHT TO YOU BY YOUR
----- LOCAL OFFICE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF
MINNESOTA'S AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE.

AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE
COMMUNICATION RESOURCES
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA 55108
May 1, 1984

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

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ANNOUNCER;
30 SECONDS

IF YOU OWN A HOME COMPUTER YOU SHOULD BE AWARE
THAT TYPICAL HOMEOWNER'S INSURANCE POLICIES WON'T
COMPENSATE YOU IF YOUR COMPUTER EQUIPMENT IS
DAMAGED BY AN ELECTRICAL SURGE, BY TEMPERATURE
EXTREMES, OR BY OTHER PERILS TO WHICH SENSITIVE
DATA PROCESSING EQUIPMENT IS PRONE. YOU SHOULD
CHECK WITH YOUR INSURANCE AGENT TO DETERMINE THE
BEST TYPE COVERAGE FOR YOUR HARDWARE AND
SOFTWARE. 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
May, 1, 1984

ANY QUESTIONS? CALL Jennifer Obst
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PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ANNOUNCER;
30 SECONDS

EVEN IF YOU'VE READ IT BEFORE, NOW'S THE TIME TO
READ IT AGAIN--THE OPERATOR'S MANUAL FOR THE
TRACTOR YOU HAVEN'T HAD OUT OF THE SHED SINCE
LAST FALL. THAT'S BECAUSE IT'S FREQUENTLY THE
ORDINARY, EVERYDAY HAZARDS THAT CATCH THE UNWARY,
EXPERIENCED OPERATOR. BE PERSONALLY FIT AND
READY FOR A SAFE DAY AT THE WHEEL BEFORE YOU GO
INTO THE FIELDS FOR A NEW SEASON OF PLANTING,
TENDING AND HARVESTING. 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
May 1, 1984

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

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ANNOUNCER;
30 SECONDS

WHEN IT COMES TO NUTRITION, MOST PEOPLE THINK OF THE BASIC FOOD GROUPS. AND MOST PEOPLE TAKE THE GRAIN AND CEREAL GROUP FOR GRANTED. BUT IN 4-H YOU'LL LEARN ALL ABOUT THE RICH HERITAGE OF MAKING BREAD AND GRAIN PRODUCTS. FROM THE FRAGRANT AROMA OF FRUIT PIES, TO THAT SPECIAL WARMTH OF HOMEMADE BREAD--YOU CAN LEARN IT ALL, IN 4-H. SO COME EXPERIENCE THE FUN OF BAKING--IN 4-H. CALL YOUR ----- LOCAL OFFICE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA'S AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE FOR MORE INFORMATION.

news

MSC19A2712
Agricultural Extension Service
Communication Resources
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

May 1, 1984

MEDIA NEWS PACKET INDEX

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

University of Minnesota, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Minnesota Counties Cooperating M-1

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May 1, 1984

Source: C.J. Christians
612/373-1166
Writer: Jack Sperbeck
612/373-0715

HOGS ARE LOSING THEIR LEANNESS

There's been a disturbing trend in the swine industry the past few years. Economic mandates have led producers to select for less muscular breeding stock.

"In the future I would expect the average commercial producer will find his hogs fatter, with smaller loin eyes if he selects for average boars", says C. J. Christians, animal scientist with the University of Minnesota's Agricultural Extension Service.

"In the past five years, producers have shied away from the extreme muscled hogs, which were stress susceptible and had pale, soft, watery pork. In addition, the price differential in the marketplace has not reflected the economic advantage to select for more muscular pigs. Profit margins have fallen due to spiraling increases in building costs, interest rates, labor expenses and other non-feed costs.

"Efficiency in pork production had to come through improving reproduction, meaning more pigs weaned per sow per year. This caused the

Page 1 of 3

trend to using a higher percentage of white breeds in the sow herd.

"The white breeds (Chester White, Landrace and Yorkshire) have superior reproduction. But they produce fatter pigs with smaller loin eye areas than most colored breeds," Christians says.

An analysis of the 1983 National Barrow Show Central Test conducted at New Ulm, Minn., showed that only 34 percent made the loin eye area standards. "If this is a reflection of the trends in the swine industry, we need to be concerned," Christians says.

"In commercial pork production we should maximize reproduction. But we also need to continue to produce an acceptable lean product. We need a marketing scheme where there's more compensation for producing a leaner product. If the "Lean Guide to Pork Value" study were implemented, it would offer incentives for increasing pork carcass leanness," says Christians. The study was initiated by the National Pork Producers Council. Research was conducted at Iowa State University and the U.S. Animal Research Center.

Christians says Hormel is using a new pricing system that rewards hogs with less fat and more lean.

"The solution is following a sound selection program," Christians says.

"Breeders have a challenge to identify more reproductive lines in all breeds and to re-emphasize muscle and leanness in all breeds.

"It's sobering if we accept the National Barrow Show results of the hogs available to commercial producers in 1983. Commercial producers who select boars will have a two-year lag in their performance. This means that

commercial producers have sow herds that are genetically similar to the hogs evaluated by breeders in 1981."

We need crossbreeding programs that utilize white breeds. But terminal sire breeds or lines must be superior in carcass leanness, growth and efficiency, Christians says. "Producers must have records to know what performance level they have in the herd. Most genetic change comes from herd sire selection, so you should require performance records on the boar selected.

"Selecting breeding stock by visual appraisal without performance records is like trying to fly the Wright brothers' airplane to the moon," he says.

#

MP, 4-L

CHRISTNS

news

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

May 1, 1984

Source: James Hanson
612/373-1154
Writer: Kathy Hohmann
612/373-8436

FIGHT PINKEYE WITH NEW VACCINE, FLY CONTROL

Early summer is the time for pinkeye problems. Cattle producers should be ready to control flies and be aware that a new vaccine is available to combat the disease, says James Hanson, veterinarian with the University of Minnesota's Agricultural Extension Service.

Unlike other vaccines on the market, Piliguard-Pinkeye is made specifically for cattle pinkeye. This new vaccine, available from veterinarians, is given by subcutaneous injection. Two doses should be given before peak fly season for best results.

Pinkeye is caused by a bacterium that is carried from one animal to another, often by flies. It can also be spread by direct contact between animals. Producers sometimes spread pinkeye in the herd by using contaminated equipment.

Some years up to 80 percent of a herd can have pinkeye, but that doesn't mean that all infected animals will have pinkeye in both eyes. The disease is rarely fatal, and only if the central nervous system is affected. Calves are more prone to pinkeye than older cattle, so they

Page 1 of 2

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

M-5

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should be watched closely. Some breeds are more susceptible, too, especially Herefords, Holsteins and Shorthorns.

The first signs of pinkeye are moist eyes and constricted pupils. Affected cattle will turn away from bright light. Later, their eyes may overflow with tears, become cloudy and have enlarged blood vessels. Pinkeye lasts one to six weeks.

Infected animals can be put in a dark shed away from sunlight, which is irritating to inflamed eyes. If they are outside, they will benefit from having eye patches applied.

Producers should have a veterinarian diagnose eye problems in the herd. Veterinarians can take culture tests on bacteria from infected eyes to determine which antibiotic will be most effective. Antibiotic lotions can be applied to the upper and lower eyelids. In more severe cases, the veterinarian may have to inject drugs into an animal's eyelids. Or, he may choose to suture the third eyelid over the eye for seven to 10 days to provide protection from the sunlight.

Cattle producers can reduce the incidence of pinkeye by controlling flies. Cattle can be dipped or fitted with insecticide ear tags. Producers may want to hang insecticide-soaked flaps over salt feeders or around water tanks so cattle are treated each time they walk under the flaps.

#

MP

VACCINE

news

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

May 1, 1984

Source: Jean W. Bauer
612/373-0909
Writer: Mary Kay O'Hearn
612/373-1786

CONSIDER COMPUTER INSURANCE

Typical homeowners insurance policies won't compensate you if your computer equipment is damaged by an electrical surge, temperature extremes or other perils to which sensitive data processing equipment is prone.

Jean W. Bauer, family resource management specialist with the University of Minnesota's Agricultural Extension Service, advises home computer owners to check with their insurance agent to determine the best type coverage for their hardware and software.

"A homeowner policy may not provide coverage if you use your home computer for business pursuits, even if the computer damage is caused by a covered peril such as fire," she says. Several insurance companies apparently offer this protection, but she advises checking this out in advance before trying to collect for any calamity that might occur.

Page 1 of 2

M-7

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

The University of Minnesota, including the Agricultural Extension Service, is committed to the policy that all persons shall have equal access to its programs, facilities, and employment without regard to race, creed, color, sex, national origin or handicap.

Any creative ideas which could be lost from a computer by theft, fire or power surge should be stored on a backup copy as they cannot be covered by insurance. If a fire or other disaster causes a business interruption, insurance protection is available for a small additional premium.

#

MP

COMPINS

news

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

May 1, 1984

Source: George Donohue
612/376-3849
Writer: Mary Kay O'Hearn
612/373-1786

IMAGINE RURAL LIVING IN YEAR 2000

If you plan to be living in rural Minnesota in the year 2000 have you any idea what it might be like?

A look at some emerging patterns comes from two rural sociologists and a journalist at the University of Minnesota, based on their research.

"There will be need for more services for the elderly, especially in southwest and northeast Minnesota where the largest concentrations of population over age 65 will be," says Randy Cantrell, assistant professor of rural sociology. While living at the end of a long road today might not pose problems, keeping it open for services such as meals on wheels when residents are older could be a worry.

Population losses in many parts of the state will mean it is harder to keep a doctor in the community and some regions could be in for another round of school consolidation, he says. Between 1970 and 1980 Minnesota had a slight 7.1 percent population gain and most of it came through births (meaning natural increases) not moves. Nationally the country gained 11.5

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University of Minnesota, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Minnesota Counties Cooperating M-9

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percent in the same span.

Farm size will continue to grow while the number of farmers dwindles. Today 8 percent of Minnesota is living on farms (315,000 people) while it is 3 percent nationally (six million people).

Cantrell mentions Hubbard and Cass counties as showing growth in the 1980 census. One reason was summer residents converting dwellings to year-round retirement homes. "But percentage increases in population can be deceptive. In small population counties just 10 more families could wind up as a large percentage of an already small number," he says.

People who move to small communities, but on the fringes of cities, often feel more a part of the city than the small community. They may be of more benefit to the corner convenience grocery than the total small community.

Phillip Tichenor, professor of journalism and mass communication, looks at newspapers and makes some conjectures on how communities are likely to obtain the information needed to control their own destiny in the year 2000.

Studies done by George Donohue, Clarice Olien and Tichenor follow newspaper ownership trends from local ownership toward corporate conglomerates. "In 1966 and 1967 in Wolf Point, Montana, residents could read the same day Minneapolis (morning) Tribune with their breakfast coffee," Tichenor says. Now this can't happen in many parts of Minnesota as dailies seek "to maximize profit and today draw less than 25 percent of their support from local subscribers." Most of it now is from advertising.

Daily newspapers owned by out-of-state corporations in the late 1970s, says Tichenor, reported far less controversy in local government issues than did daily newspapers locally owned. Minnesota has some 200 cable TV systems and this points to a fragmented audience. Home computers, once touted as going to provide newspaper printouts and become the newspapers of the future, have been "muted" he terms it. People have simply stopped talking about it.

Meanwhile, specialized magazines and newsletters, targeted to specific audiences such as farming or agribusiness, have increased. He includes some 50 community newspapers which have sprung up in the last 20 years in this specialty group.

James Krile, research fellow in rural sociology, looks at rural communities and finds that power and influence usually stem from positions of power rather than personal wealth. In a study where residents were asked to list influentials in their community, often the position of a plant manager or school superintendent or bank cashier would surface: someone not personally wealthy but representing an organization with power.

He defines power as "the ability to get one group to do what another wants." Patterns of power are both vertical (meaning a small community relating to a larger community) and horizontal (power within communities). "Power accrues more to groups that organize," he says, mentioning today's many single-issue groups. It also depends on where you sit in an organization. "A school superintendent is often seen as more influential than a longtime member of the school board. But the superintendent who loses a job with the school gets little listening from then on," Krile comments.

Usually better-educated males rather than rural women hold the power. Rural women tend to be represented in a community's social service issues but seldom in economic community leadership patterns. "But," he predicts, "they will emerge in the future."

George Donohue, head of rural sociology, sums it up. People still express preference for living in small towns, but percentages drop when missing amenities are mentioned. Nostalgia remains, however, for the good life associated with country living that represented security in the past and perhaps patterns of life that no longer exist.

#

MP

RURAL200

news

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

May 1, 1984

Source: Sherri Wagner
612/376-1369

Writer: Jack Sperbeck
612/373-0715

4-H RECEIVES GRANT FOR PEDAL POWER CAMP

Young bicycle enthusiasts can participate in a Pedal Power camp June 10-15 at Camp Lincoln, near Nisswa, Minn.

The MSI Insurance Company has awarded \$2,100 to the University of Minnesota Agricultural Extension Service 4-H Youth Development Office for the Minnesota Pedal Power Camp. The grant will provide \$70 sponsorships to 30 teens interested in attending the camp and learning how to promote safe bicycling.

Interested teens should contact their county 4-H agent or a local MSI agent. They may also contact Dave Buettner at the state MSI office (612) 631-7268, or Tim Crampton at the state 4-H office (612) 373-1625.

At the camp, teens ages 14-17 will be trained in bicycling techniques and safety rules. They will also learn how to teach others what they've learned. They'll learn how to conduct bike rodeos, rallies, trips, tours, group rides and get tips on organizing bicycle clubs for promoting safe bicycling. Campers will take short bike trips throughout the week plus one round trip to Brainerd.

MSI agents will recruit teens for the camp and support them when they conduct bicycle activities in their home communities following camp.

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MP

PEDALPWR

Page 1 of 1

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M-13

news

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

May 3, 1984

Source: Irene Ott
612/373-1863
Writer: Barbara LaCrosse
612/373-1781

DON WAFLER'S A VOLUNTEER FOOD PRESERVATION CONSULTANT

Don Wafler of Faribault began cooking when he was 10, and that's 50-plus years ago. So when his vegetable gardening hobby took him to the Rice County Agricultural Extension Service office for canning information, he liked the suggestion that he become a volunteer food preservation consultant.

Wafler is one of 171 Minnesota volunteers in 47 counties trained by extension to teach safe preservation methods. Irene Ott, home economics - family living program leader with the University of Minnesota's Agricultural Extension Service, says three of the 171 are men.

After 20 hours of extension training to qualify as a volunteer food preservation consultant, Wafler answered 80 questions over the phone during his first canning season in the program.

He's also called on to give talks about food preservation. Once each semester it's to the high school home economics classes to talk about the importance of canning correctly--"especially with low acid foods, it can be a matter of life and death," Wafler says.

The eldest of four (two boys and two girls), Wafler grew up on a farm in Ohio. When his mother became ill, Wafler and his father cooked the meals. "Labor wasn't segregated in our family. When the girls were old enough they

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helped in the fields and the boys helped in the house." It's a tradition passed along to his own sons, now married.

Wafler retired in 1976 in Faribault where he has lived since 1943. He had taught at the School for the Blind, been a social studies and English teacher, a speech clinician and director of special education for the Faribault schools, Cannon Valley Special Education Cooperative.

"I had always gardened some, but in 1972 I did it in a big way with a quarter-acre," Wafler says. Tomatoes are a principal crop, and there is juice, puree, paste, spaghetti sauce and catsup to can. He pressure-cans beans, and makes beet, dill, sweet dill, and bread and butter pickles. He also cans chunked beef, fruits and jellies. It's all done in the basement where the stove, refrigerator, freezer and food storage shelves are within easy reach.

Food preservation is just one of many interests for Wafler. "I put in 35 to 40 hours a week volunteering in church and the community," he says. He is an ordained deacon in the Episcopal Church and is involved in starting a hospice movement.

With the arrival of spring and summer, he still plans to manage to find time for planting, tending his garden, canning and answering the questions that will come to him as a volunteer food preservation consultant. He calls that role "of great benefit to me personally. I enjoyed this learning for my own personal use and to help others."

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DPMP, P2, 4HE

DONWAFLE

news

MSC/9 A37P
Agricultural Extension Service
Communication Resources
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

May 3, 1984

Source: Bert Swanson
612/373-1011
Writer: Kathy Hohmann
612/645-8231

CHOOSE AND PLANT BAREROOT NURSERY STOCK WITH CARE

Choose bareroot nursery stock carefully and take precautions when planting to insure that it survives the critical first year, says Bert Swanson, horticulturist with the University of Minnesota's Agricultural Extension Service.

"Buy bareroot stock early in the season," Swanson advises. "Look for plants that have been kept moist with moss, wood chips or straw. Avoid plants that have dry root systems, as this is detrimental to root hairs and smaller roots."

Bareroot stock with buds that already have begun to grow may mean problems. Swanson says it's best to start with a dormant root and stem system. Green or white tissue should be present on both roots and stems to insure that the plant is alive.

Bareroot plants should be pruned so there are no broken or damaged roots. The tops can be pruned also so there's a good root-to-shoot ratio. This will result in stronger top growth.

It's essential to keep the packing material around the roots until you are ready to plant. Keep the plant moist and cool. And, it's a good idea to set the plant in water shortly before planting.

When planting, use the soil from the area where the plant will grow. Mix any soil amendments with the existing soil. Mix fertilizer with the soil; don't apply it directly to the roots.

To plant at the correct depth, match the soil level on the plant to the depth of the hole. Pack soil firmly in the bottom of the hole to prevent the plant from settling lower.

If the soil is sandy, it may help to leave a slope towards the plant to aid in watering. This isn't needed with clay soils. For the first year, keep the soil moist but not soaked.

Bareroot nursery stock is often less expensive than potted items, Swanson says. For success, bareroot stock should be bought from a reputable nursery and planted with care.

#

DPMP, P2

BS1KH044

news

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

May 3, 1984

Source: Irene Ott
612/373-1863
Writer: Barbara LaCrosse
612/373-1781

VOLUNTEERS TEACH FOOD PRESERVATION

Seven volunteers who learned food preservation methods through the University of Minnesota's Agricultural Extension Service later put their knowledge to use as paid food preservation teachers.

"It is an interesting sidelight," says Irene Ott, extension home economics - family living program leader, "although it is not the main reason for the program." Home canners still use unsafe home preservation equipment and methods, Ott says. By training 171 Minnesota volunteers in 47 counties to teach safe, approved preservation methods, extension is trying to help stamp out unsafe practices.

Food preservation volunteers were trained in pressure canning, freezing and other techniques, and received a resource notebook with up-to-date information and publications. After completing 20 hours of training, each volunteer donated from 15 to 18 hours to reach a total of 11,120 people. This happened in many different ways: phone consultations, personal visits and group activities at county fairs, community festivals and community centers. Some volunteers were on radio and television.

"Volunteering allows individuals to learn a lot about themselves as well as about canning," says Ott, who is emphasizing these achievements

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during National Volunteer Recognition Week, May 6-12, 1984. "Passing along information learned about safe food preservation practices seems to result in a great deal of satisfaction, from what food preservation volunteers tell us."

#

DPMP, P2

FDPRES

news

MSC/3A37A
Agricultural Extension Service
Communication Resources
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

May 10, 1984

Source: Patricia Kramm
612/376-3402

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

'U' HOME EC INFORMATION LINE CUTS HOURS

Starting May 15, 1984 consumer telephone calls will be answered mornings only (8:30 to noon) Monday through Friday at the Home Economics Information Center, University of Minnesota Agricultural Extension Service. This change in hours of service is due to staff time needed to computerize the service. This free service at 612/373-0912 has operated from the St. Paul Campus of the university since 1960.

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CAS

CUTSHRS

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news

MSC 19 A 27P
Agricultural Extension Service
Communication Resources
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

May 17, 1984

Source: Mary Darling
612/376-4663

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

CHECK CONNECTION BETWEEN WEIGHT AND BLOOD PRESSURE

Hypertension or high blood pressure can be a signal that a stroke or heart disease may be on the way. Persons with high blood pressure will need to take steps medically and physically to offset the disease.

Now is a good time during May, which has been designated as Older Americans Month, to look at hypertension and its connection with weight control, says Mary Darling, nutrition specialist with the University of Minnesota's Agricultural Extension Service.

High blood pressure is a disease that affects about 25 percent of the population and can creep up without symptoms. "Usually, the disease doesn't make one feel dizzy or nervous or sick, and people can live for years without knowing they have it, much less trying to treat it," she says. "That's why it is important to have your blood pressure checked regularly and to follow the treatment your doctor prescribes if it is too high."

No one knows definitely, but maintaining the right weight may reduce the risk of getting high blood pressure. Keeping to a weight recommended for your height and build makes you feel better all around and is healthier. Keeping weight down is doubly important if family members have a history of high blood pressure, heart disease or stroke. Eating habits

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are usually formed in childhood so it's important to develop good ones, Darling says.

Scientists and doctors do know that high blood pressure is more common in overweight people. As pounds go on, blood pressure tends to rise and losing weight will often lower it. For some individuals but not all, weight loss will control high blood pressure so well that no medicine is needed, especially if the blood pressure was not too high at the start.

As a first step in treating high blood pressure, doctors often ask overweight patients to lose weight. Sometimes there is a need for medicine, too, or the doctor may decide that isn't necessary as long as the weight is not gained back. Often, the lower a person's weight, the smaller the medicine dosages can be and the fewer chances of side effects from medication.

The best way to lose weight is gradually, Darling says. "Avoid fad diets and other gimmicks. Eat fewer calories and exercise more." Losing weight means burning up more calories than are eaten. Keep weight off by finding low calorie foods and doing exercise you like. If you just think you are overweight, find out for sure from your doctor or nutritionist. Ask their help in weight control.

Some permanent changes must be made to keep blood pressure down and these can last a lifetime. Many changes involve different eating habits, learning how to prepare tasty meals with little or no salt but adding spices and herbs, and how to shop for low calorie food. Friends and family

of persons with high blood pressure need to help these persons stick to a prescribed treatment. This is true whether it means taking medicine, losing weight or changing eating habits.

"Ask your doctor before you try a salt substitute," Darling says. "Salt substitutes may be harmful for people with certain medical conditions."

Black males are more susceptible to high blood pressure than white populations. They should be especially aware of the consequences of untreated high blood pressure.

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DPMP, 4HE

CHECCONN

news

MSC/9A.27P
Agricultural Extension Service
Communication Resources
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

May 17, 1984

Source: Mary Darling
612/376-4663
Writer: Mary Kay O'Hearn
612/373-1786

DIETARY SELF-DOSING UNWISE

More in the way of dietary supplements is not always better.

The National Institute on Aging points out that most older people can get the nutrients they need while eating a wide range of nutritious foods daily. This information is especially pertinent this month, which has been designated as Older Americans Month.

Mary Darling, nutrition specialist with the University of Minnesota's Agricultural Extension Service, says a guide to a well-balanced diet, unless conditions restrict intake of certain foods, should include: two servings of milk or dairy products such as cheese, cottage cheese or yogurt; two servings of protein-rich foods such as lean meat, poultry, fish, eggs, beans, nuts or peanut butter; four servings of fruits and vegetables, including a citrus fruit or juice and a dark-green leafy vegetable; and four servings of bread and cereal products (made with whole grain or enriched flours), rice or pasta.

Darling mentions a survey conducted at the Human Nutrition Center, which is located at Grand Forks, North Dakota, and reported by Harold H. Sandstead, the center's director. It looked at putting more zinc in the diet (in food choices) to improve resistance to disease and the healing of wounds.

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Liver or beef heart are rich sources of zinc, the study says. Additional sources of zinc are veal, other kinds of beef, oysters, dark poultry meat and crabmeat. Beef is the major dietary source of zinc for most Americans.

It was estimated that the men in the survey, age 65 to 74, who consumed 81 grams of protein and 1.2 grams of phosphorus in their daily diets, needed 10.05 milligrams of zinc. Women in the same age range who consumed 60 grams of protein and 0.93 grams of phosphorus needed 6.49 milligrams of zinc.

Zinc toxicity has been observed in patients who have received pharmacologic amounts of zinc, Sandstead says. The interplay among food and drug components that make zinc available to the body needs to be more clearly understood -- especially in older individuals.

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DPMP, 4HE

SELF-DOS

news

MSCB A 87P
Agricultural Extension Service
Communication Resources
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108
May 17, 1984

Source: Frank Oberg
612/376-3535
Writer: Hank Drews
612/373-1259

COOKOUT CARE

Barbecuing is fun, but don't forget you are cooking with fire. Carelessness can result in pain and possibly medical bills, says Frank Oberg of the University of Minnesota's Fire Information, Research and Education Center. Remember the following tips so you don't become one of the thousands of people injured each year in cookout accidents.

First, a clean grill prevents flare-ups from accumulated grease. A steel brush can be used to clean off baked-on grime. Also, line the grill bottom with foil, then cover it with an inch of ash, sand or commercial charcoal base to absorb grease drippings.

Set the grill on a level surface and a safe distance from dry brush or other combustibles. Give thought to how the wind might blow any sparks. It's never good practice to use a barbecue on an apartment balcony, especially one with a wood deck. Either flare-ups or falling embers can start serious fires. In fact, many communities have laws banning such practice.

Never grill indoors. Even with open fireplace dampers, the ventilation may not be adequate to prevent being overcome by the carbon monoxide generated by a charcoal fire. Carbon monoxide is odorless, tasteless, colorless, and extremely toxic.

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Before you light the coals, roll up your sleeves and put on an apron to prevent clothing from being damaged by flames or grease splatters. Build your charcoal pyramid and pour on a generous amount of charcoal lighter fluid. Allow a moment for the fluid to soak in, then light the charcoal with a long match or one which is carefully tossed on. Don't use a cigarette lighter and never substitute gasoline, kerosene or other flammables for the charcoal lighter fluid.

While the coals are turning gray, you can trim the excess fat from the meat which can cause flare-ups as it melts and burns. Keep a quart bottle of water nearby to sprinkle on those grease fires. The grill should not be left unattended while it is hot.

When finished, douse the coals with water and cover the grill so it can't ignite. Don't put coals back in the bag because they have been known to spontaneously reignite days after appearing to be out. Store coals outdoors in a metal pail or container.

Consider safety in any recreational fire situation. Campfires and cookouts are good times as long as the fire stays under control.

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DPMP, 4HE

COOKOUT

Page 2 of 2

news

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

May 17, 1984

Source: Mary Darling
612/376-4663
Writer: Mary Kay O'Hearn
612/373-1786

BONES NEED TO LAST A LIFETIME

If you are over 60 and have fractured a bone, it may have been due to bone tissue loss or osteoporosis. Some estimates suggest that 90 percent of fractures in this age group, and especially among women, are osteoporosis-related.

Osteoporosis is defined as a gradual decrease in the amount of bone, leading to increased incidences of bone fractures either spontaneously or from only minor injuries. Spontaneous means the fall occurs, as in a hip fracture, because the bone breaks.

It is said that more than a billion dollars are spent annually in the United States in care of hip fractures.

Mary Darling, nutrition specialist with the University of Minnesota's Agricultural Extension Service, cites some statistics pertinent during May, which has been designated as Older Americans Month. Its theme is "Health: Make It Last a Lifetime." She says 25 percent of all postmenopausal women in the United States develop an unhealthy degree of bone loss. Fifty percent of U.S. women past age 64 are considered to have tendencies toward osteoporosis. These statistics refer more to Caucasian rather than Black

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

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women. The latter are genetically equipped with greater bone mass and less apt to have bone loss with age.

"Exact causes of osteoporosis are still in doubt, but consider some of the contributing factors. Hormonal changes in women at menopause is linked with a rapid rate of bone loss," Darling says. While estrogen replacement therapy can improve calcium absorption and prevent bone loss, long-term addition of estrogen has been associated with an increased risk of uterine cancer.

It's been established that high protein intake results in increased calcium leaving the body. It isn't known how significant this is to osteoporosis, but the potential exists since Americans eat nearly twice the Recommended Dietary Allowance (RDA) for protein. The body may be able to adjust to increased protein over time, but this is still a question.

When dietary calcium is lacking in experimental animals, osteoporosis which results can be reversed by restoring calcium intakes to normal. The picture becomes more puzzling with humans. Recommendations are usually for increased dietary calcium allowances, but as the body ages it is said that the calcium absorption decreases.

What is the solution? Darling suggests consulting your physician first to see what may be best for you, remembering that estrogen and fluoride, which has been shown to actually stimulate new bone formation as it has provided teeth with greater resistance to decay, are not without risks.

Darling says the best recommendation for prevention of osteoporosis are the rules for general good health: eating a well-balanced diet. This would include calcium-rich foods from the milk group, fish and vegetables. "Good

dietary sources of calcium," she says, "are whole milk, lowfat milk (2 percent), skim milk, lowfat yogurt, Swiss cheese, cheddar cheese, brick cheese, pink salmon, sardines, spinach, kale and broccoli. Maintaining your best weight and regular exercise need to be included with good eating patterns."

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news

MSC19 A27P
Agricultural Extension Service
Communication Resources
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

May 24, 1984

Source: Byron J. Schneider
612/373-1083
Writer: Mary Kay O'Hearn
612/373-1786

RICE COUNTY DAIRY FARMER WINS TOP 4-H ALUMNI AWARD

Rice County has a national winner in the 4-H alumni recognition program for the second year in a row. He is Willard Carl Tripp, Faribault dairy farmer.

A surprised Tripp heard the news of his selection at the Rice County 4-H Federation meeting May 22 at River Bend Nature Center, Faribault.

Tripp is one of eight former 4-H members who will receive the Gold Key Award during the 63rd National 4-H Congress November 25-29 at the Palmer House, Chicago. Awards are presented by Friends of the National 4-H Council.

Byron J. Schneider, who heads the University of Minnesota Agricultural Extension Service's 4-H Youth Development program, says, "Tripp represents the backbone of the 4-H program."

"My 4-H training and experiences have truly helped me to succeed in life," Tripp says. "My 4-H projects and leadership activities have helped pave the way for my continuing expansion of my farming enterprise and involvement in local, county, community and state activities." Tripp and his wife, Carmen, have four children, all of whom have been in 4-H.

Page 1 of 2

Tripp was a 4-H member for 10 years in Rice County. He held offices as club president, secretary and treasurer, was recognized as the outstanding 4-H dairy member and received the county 4-H Foundation calf. He was active in beef, health, safety and junior leadership projects and won a trip to the state fair.

After high school graduation and six months in the Army, he returned home to continue his farming career. As an adult he has been a 4-H volunteer leader more than 20 years, has hosted 4-H tours of his farm and served on numerous advisory committees.

He is president of the Rice County Dairy Association, active in the Minnesota Dairy Association, a member of the agribusiness committee of the Faribault Area Chamber of Commerce and active in working with visually handicapped children and the Minnesota Braille School for the Blind.

The Tripp family was one of 10 in Minnesota to host congressional aides in a pilot program for improving relationships and solving problems among cooperatives, farmers and members of Congress. He is featured in a children's book, "A Dairy Farm," published by a local author. Last year he was on a 10-member board to discuss ways to improve and develop new ideas for the National Holstein-Friesian Association.

Edna Wilke Thayer, a hospital administrator in Faribault, was one of the national award winners last year.

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DPMP, IA, FB2, P2, 4D

RICEFARM

news

MSC 19 A27
Agricultural Extension Service
Communication Resources
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

May 31, 1984

COUNTIES: ADD THE NAMES
AND ADDRESSES OF YOUR
PARTICIPATING DELEGATES

Source: David Pace
612/373-1083
Writer: Mary Kay O'Hearn
612/373-1786

MINNESOTA COUNTIES PARTICIPATE IN 4-H EXCHANGES

Look around Minnesota this summer. You should see some friendly, new faces who just may be international visitors taking part in 4-H Youth Development programs. And some Minnesotans in 4-H are leaving the state to become international visitors in other lands.

Tracking the incoming and outgoing schedules is one of David Pace's jobs as extension specialist with the University of Minnesota's 4-H Youth Development international program.

"This year 45 counties will be hosting Japanese visitors, 36 counties will host Norwegian youngsters, and 12 counties will entertain Finnish participants," Pace says. Each visitor stays in a private home.

International 4-H Youth Exchange Ambassadors, popularly called IFYE, will have Minnesotans visiting the United Kingdom (June 10-August 1), West Germany (June 18-August 2), Denmark (June 19-August 2) and France (June 20-August 4). Individuals in this traveling group are called IFYE ambassadors.

IFYE representatives, who are 4-H alumni on extended six month travels, will have a participant from Minnesota in each of these countries: Belgium, Botswana, Jamaica and the United Kingdom.

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

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Pace says 81 youth and four adults will arrive in Minnesota from Japan on July 25 and remain here until August 23. Ten 4-H'ers from Minnesota, who are 4-H delegates to Japan, will be leaving the state on July 21 and returning August 22. Stan and Irene Meinen will lead the Minnesota group, which includes two delegates from Wisconsin and one each from Connecticut, Iowa and South Dakota. Meinen is also an extension specialist with 4-H Youth Development at the University. Some 25 states will send 4-H delegates to Japan.

For the first time this summer a group of 4-H'ers is coming to Minnesota from Finland. IFYEs have come before, but not 4-H'ers. Pace says, "A group of 12 will arrive June 25 and return home again on July 23."

On June 27, a group of 98 will come from Norway to be in the states until July 22. "Fifty-one of them will remain in Minnesota for their visits. The rest will go to Iowa, North Dakota and South Dakota. We host a Norwegian group one year and then send a group to Norway the next," Pace explains. "Minnesotans first traveled to Norway in 1975 while the first Norwegian group came here in 1976. The Japanese exchange began in 1973 with Minnesota 4-H and we have sent a group there every year since."

Since 1949, almost 2,400 youth and adults have come to Minnesota from 83 countries. Minnesota has sent 711 delegates, including both youth and adults, to 58 countries. Ninety of the 711 have been Minnesota 4-H'ers going to Japan.

Japan, Norway, India and the Soviet Union have sent the largest number of delegates to the United States in 4-H Youth Development programs sponsored by Minnesota. There have been 1,254 hosted from Japan, 620 from Norway (Minnesota has sent 322 participants there), 50 from India and 36 from the Soviet Union.

Two Minnesota 4-H staff members, Daniel Lindsey and Joyce Walker, will be taking delegations from the National 4-H Council in Washington, D.C., to Australia and West Germany, respectively, this summer as part of the IFYE ambassador program.

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DPMP, 1A, P2, FB2

4HTRAVEL

news

for County Agents

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

June 1, 1984

COUNTY NEWS PACKET INDEX

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Room Air Conditioner Complaints May Be Easy to Remedy	C-8,9
Some Tips on Food Temperatures	C-10,11
How to Escape Controversial Caffeine	C-12,13
Erase Food Poisoning Threat	C-14,15
Planning a Used Clothing Sale? Here Are Some Tips	C-16,17,18

Also enclosed are Public Service Announcements (PSA's) that you can use with local stations. You may also find them useful as newspaper column fillers.

Remember, the color coding is blue for agricultural stories and green for consumer stories.

The accompanying media packet (tan paper) has gone to daily newspapers, regional agricultural newspapers and magazines. It has not gone to weekly newspapers, so use it for your columns if you'd like to.

C-1

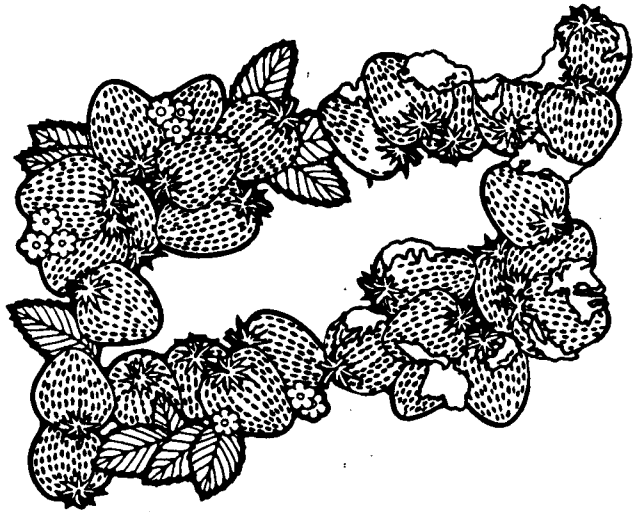
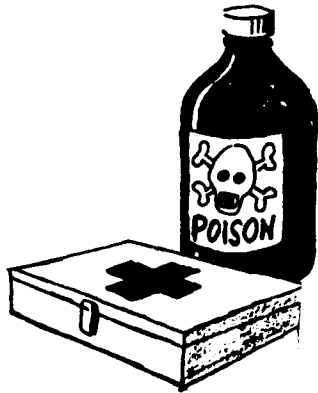
University of Minnesota, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Minnesota Counties Cooperating

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Agents and specialists: Following is a list of releases that we sent out to weekly mailings during the past month. If you would like to receive any copies, check the ones you'd like and send this sheet with your name and address to Marilyn Masterman, 433 Coffey Hall.

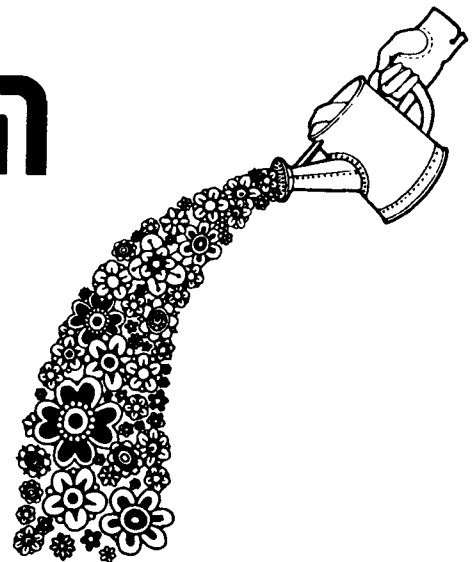
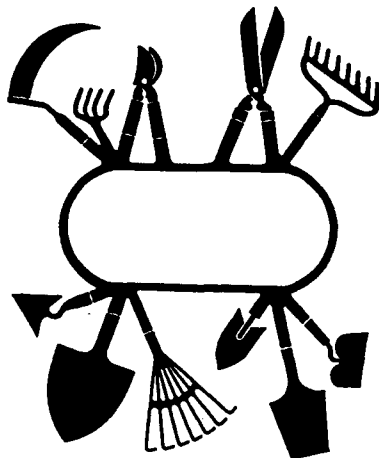
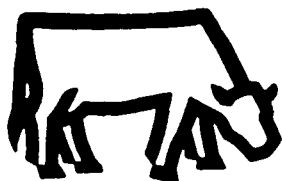
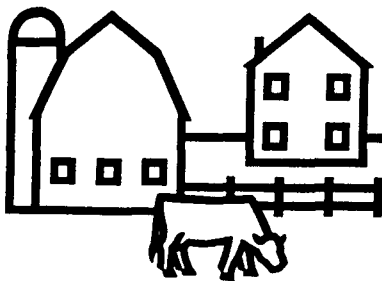
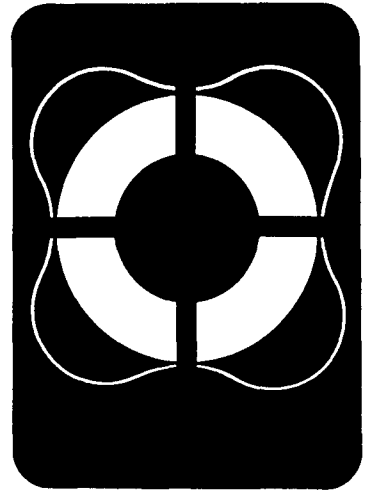
Newsletter Provides Timely Information on Crop Pest Control
Improve Pasture Productivity by Interseeding Legumes
Publication Outlines Strategy for Dealing With Avian Influenza
Beef Producers Should Watch for Grass Tetany in Spring
Bob Rupp To Be Honored at Reception
Large Farmers With Big Debts in Most Troubles
Don Wafler's a Volunteer Food Preservation Consultant
Evaluate Pastures' Nitrogen, Mineral Needs to Improve Productivity
Choose and Plant Barefoot Nursery Stock With Care
Volunteers Teach Food Preservation
Grant Will Reward Outstanding Agronomy and Plant Genetics Faculty
"U" Home Ec Information Line Cuts Hours
Beef Producers Should Watch Prices, Use Caution if Feeding Wheat

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New Publications

University of Minnesota 
Agricultural Extension Service



JUNE 1984

news

for County Agents

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

June 1, 1984

Source: Steven Plegge
612/373-2151
Writer: Kathy Hohmann
612/645-8231

BEEF PRODUCERS CAN MAXIMIZE GAINS WITH GOOD FEEDBUNK MANAGEMENT

Maximizing dry matter intake will ensure that feedlot cattle gain as efficiently as possible. Producers should manage feedbunks and waterers to keep cattle gaining, advises Steven Plegge, animal scientist with the University of Minnesota's Agricultural Extension Service.

Cattle should have feed available at all times, so feeding a predetermined amount each day doesn't always work. Instead, feed animals according to their appetites, checking the bunks at the same time each day and making daily adjustments in feeding levels. Ideally, cattle shouldn't be without feed for more than 30 minutes a day, but it's important to let them empty the bunk at least every other day to prevent feed from spoiling.

Generally, there is no advantage to feeding cattle more than once a day. However, feed twice daily to keep feed fresh in summer, when ensiled feeds lose condition quickly in the heat. Also, new cattle benefit from twice-a-day feeding. This allows more frequent observation of the animals and helps keep feed fresh at this

Page 1 of 2

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critical time.

If cattle are on a high-grain diet and feed is available at all times, provide 9 to 12 inches of bunk space per head. But adequate bunk space is not enough; the feed must be evenly distributed along the bunk. Since cattle tend to eat from the same area of the bunk, some cattle will have restricted intakes if feed is not evenly distributed.

Plegge advises producers to keep bunks free of manure and stale feed at all times to encourage intake. Feedbunks should be located in well-drained areas that are easily accessible to cattle.

Don't neglect the water supply, Plegge warns. Clean, fresh water is essential for good performance. Waterers should be checked daily and cleaned if necessary. All waterers should be cleaned twice a week. Anything that reduces water intake will restrict dry matter intake and lower performance.

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news

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

for County Agents



Living Resourcefully
File VIIC

June 1, 1984

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

CEILING, WHOLE-HOUSE FANS MAY SAVE AIR CONDITIONING \$\$\$

If the cost of installing and operating an air conditioner leaves you hot under the collar, consider ceiling or whole-house fans instead. According to Wanda Olson, household equipment specialist with the University of Minnesota's Agricultural Extension Service, our region of the country is classified as a "moderately effective" area for saving money by cooling with fans instead of air conditioning or a heat pump.

High humidity can minimize a fan's cooling effectiveness. For this reason, low humidity areas of the Southwest and East Coast are best suited for widespread fan use.

Fans reduce the cooling needs in a home by exhausting hot air and by creating a flow of air that helps cool persons in the house. When the humidity is lower than about 65 percent, a whole-house fan can cut or eliminate air conditioning requirements for temperatures up to the low 80s, according to Department of Energy research.

Page 1 of 2

University of Minnesota, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Minnesota Counties Cooperating C-6

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Whole-house fans can be noisy. They are most effective when located in a ceiling with a well-ventilated attic above it. Wall mounting is also possible but the fan should be centrally located within the house and it should be high on an exterior wall.

Ceiling fans are effective for a single room. In most cases one or two ceiling units will be adequate for the major living space in a home. They are often installed in the upper reaches of vaulted ceilings. Wherever they are installed, the homeowner should be certain there is enough head room to operate the unit safely.

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CP, 4HE

fans.1

news

for County Agents

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

June 1, 1984

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

ROOM AIR CONDITIONER COMPLAINTS MAY BE EASY TO REMEDY

On a hot, sticky day when your room air conditioner doesn't seem to be working properly, it's easy to become annoyed. Wanda Olson, household equipment specialist with the University of Minnesota's Agricultural Extension Service, suggests checking the owner's manual and doing some simple troubleshooting yourself.

"Some trial and error problem-solving may save you from an unnecessary service call," Olson says. "Of course, if your efforts aren't successful, you may have a mechanical problem that can only be solved by a service technician."

Owner manuals suggest four problems that the air conditioner owner may be able to correct without a service call. The first--an air conditioner failing to cool--may have numerous causes.

If the unit's controls are set improperly, you may need to reset the fan to a higher speed and the thermostat to a cooler setting. If a dirty filter or evaporator is the culprit, consult the manufacturer's care guide for cleaning instructions. Never operate an air conditioner without a filter; dust will collect and impair efficiency.

Page 1 of 2

You may have furniture blocking the air path of an air conditioner or open doors may be letting your cooled air escape, preventing the room from becoming a comfortable temperature. If too much heat is entering the room, be sure that windows and doors are tightly closed. Storm windows left on during the summer will help keep air conditioned rooms cool. Sunlight coming through uncovered windows can also heat a room beyond the air conditioner's ability to cool it.

Another problem could be low voltage due to a long extension cord. This is solved by having an electrician install an outlet closer to the air conditioner. An exhaust damper door left open admits warm outdoor air. Closing the damper will help in some cases.

If your problem is warm air right around the air conditioner, chances are your unit is improperly installed and sealed. Reinstallation with attention to sealing potential air leaks may correct the problem.

Cold air close to an air conditioner with warm air at the far sides of the same room may suggest you are trying to cool too large an area with your air conditioner. Two smaller units, one at each end of the area, may work better.

If your air conditioned area feels cold and clammy, your unit isn't dehumidifying properly. This could be because the unit is too large for your room. If the BTU/hour rating is too high, the unit cools the space quickly and shuts off before adequate moisture is removed from the air. This is best avoided by following the manufacturer's instructions for selecting the correct size air conditioner for the space you want to cool.

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CP, 4HE

aircond.1

news

for County Agents

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

June 1, 1984

Source: Mary Darling
612/376-4663

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

SOME TIPS ON FOOD TEMPERATURES

Here are some tips on keeping cold foods cold and hot foods hot as you go into the picnic season and want to keep far away any threat of food poisoning.

"Buy ice or make your own ahead of time in the refrigerator freezing compartment," suggests Mary Darling, nutrition specialist with the University of Minnesota's Agricultural Extension Service. For make-your-own ice, fill non-leaking, tightly lidded containers nearly full of water. Leave some space to allow for freezing expansion. Tins with plastic covers (flat surface cans are best), plastic containers, even some types of closable milk cartons can be used. Then, let them stay in the freezer until just before using. It is easier to fit foods around the flat-sided vessels containing the solidly frozen ice. These can be placed under a tray of cold food. "Remember to protect the surface beneath with foil or plastic if it shouldn't be exposed to moisture," Darling says.

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University of Minnesota, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Minnesota Counties Cooperating C-10

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Freezing water in a shallow pan that can be placed under a bowl you want to keep cold is another good method. Choose sizes so that the serving dish is large enough to conceal the cooling pan beneath.

Chilled food should be covered with a heavy foil cap when standing. A double wrap of foil or at least 17 thicknesses of newspaper will keep containers of cold foods cold or of hot foods hot up to an hour.

Darling says, "Take solidly frozen packages of fruit on your picnics. While thawing, they will still be cold enough for serving."

Insulated jugs or thermoses keep foods and beverages hot or cold. To get the most from the bottle or jug, warm it with hot water for foods you want to keep hot, or cool it with ice water for foods you want to keep cold and drain before filling it with the food. Fill to capacity for best temperature retention, she says. And a warning: don't put a carbonated beverage in a glass-filler vacuum bottle because the pressure can break it.

"If you are using glass filler bottles, it is a good idea every so often to unscrew the casing to check for leaks or cracks. Replace the filler when needed. And never plunge a glass filler bottle in water to clean it--that invites leaks into the casing. The same can happen to an insulated jug. So handle a glass filler carefully. If it breaks it can shatter with some force."

For patio serving or keeping food hot where there are electric outlets, an electric hot tray or trivet may be the answer. Darling says it is best to use one with several settings such as low, medium, hot.

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FOODTEMP

news

for County Agents

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

June 1, 1984

Source: Mary Darling
612/376-4663
Writer: Mary Kay O'Hearn
612/373-1786

HOW TO ESCAPE CONTROVERSIAL CAFFEINE

Controversial caffeine. It goes back thousands of years--back to the origins of tea in China around 4700 B.C.

Of course it's in coffee and tea and many soft drinks, but it can also be in baked goods, frozen dairy products, gelatins, puddings, chocolate, soft candies and even cold, headache, allergy, stay-awake and other remedies, both over-the-counter and prescription.

"Today, there is also a wide selection of products not containing caffeine," says Mary Darling, nutrition specialist with the University of Minnesota's Agricultural Extension Service. Many were introduced after 1980 when the Food and Drug Administration advised pregnant women to be prudent about how much caffeine they consumed.

Like most other drugs, it goes into the blood stream and crosses the placental barrier to reach the unborn child. The Department of Health and Human Services has advised pregnant women to check with their doctors before

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University of Minnesota, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Minnesota Counties Cooperating C-12

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taking any drugs, including simple over-the-counter medicines such as aspirin and sleeping preparations. Darling says the "harm" done is unknown, minimal or questionable, but the baby does get the caffeine. After birth, caffeine reaches the child via the mother's milk, too.

Brewing methods can make a difference in the amounts of caffeine consumed in tea and coffee. A five-ounce cup of coffee brewed by the drip method averages 115 milligrams of caffeine. Percolator coffee could be 80 milligrams, instant, 65 milligrams, brewed decaffeinated as low as 3 milligrams and instant decaffeinated, 2 milligrams. The same size cup of tea is estimated to have 60 milligrams brewed with imported brands, 40 milligrams with major U.S. brands, 30 milligrams with instant. There are 70 milligrams in a 12-ounce glass of iced tea. Source for these caffeine estimates is the Food and Drug Administration, Food Additive Chemistry Evaluation Branch.

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CAFFEINE

news

for County Agents

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

June 1, 1984

Source: Mary Darling
612/376-4663
Writer: Mary Kay O'Hearn
612/373-1786

ERASE FOOD POISONING THREAT

Memories of the summer wedding, the family reunion picnic, or the graduation party needn't be overshadowed by the count of guests who came down with food poisoning.

"Don't let it happen to your gathering. Tangles with food poisoning can be prevented," says Mary Darling, nutrition specialist with the University of Minnesota's Agricultural Extension Service.

Preventing illness by keeping hot foods hot and cold foods cold can save a bundle, too. "Wasted food is wasted money any way you look at it," Darling says. "Don't be in doubt; know the food you are serving is safe."

The secret is in keeping hot foods hot and cold foods cold. Heated dishes should be kept at a temperature of 150 degrees or higher and cold at 40 degrees or lower. Temperatures between 40 and 140 degrees are just right for the growth of bacteria causing food poisoning.

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University of Minnesota, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Minnesota Counties Cooperating C-14

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She suggests not preparing or purchasing picnic food more than four hours in advance of eating, unless it can be adequately refrigerated or frozen. Don't let food stand at room temperature more than the time needed to prepare and serve it. "If you know facilities for keeping food at proper temperatures aren't available, work around it when planning your picnic menus. Use canned or preserved foods and fresh fruits and vegetables."

Take cold foods in a portable refrigerator or ice chest. Use a refrigerator thermometer to check temperatures occasionally on long trips. If temperatures rise above 40 degrees, replenish the ice supply with dry ice, ice or reusable ice packs. Place dry ice (don't touch it with your bare hands) on top of the covered or wrapped food because the chilling gas is heavier than air. Cans of frozen juice can help in keeping food cold. But don't refreeze the cans.

Pack picnic food bags inside the car and out of the direct rays of the sun rather than inside the trunk where temperatures are higher.

Keep all food covered to prevent contamination by insects. If you are using insect spray, be sure foods are covered. Never spray for insects while food is being served.

Add dressings to salads just before serving.

Always wash hands thoroughly before preparing food and frequently while preparing it.

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ERASFOOD

news

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



for County Agents

June 1, 1984

Living Resourcefully
File 1C

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

PLANNING A USED CLOTHING SALE? HERE ARE SOME TIPS

Summer is the season when garage sale signs sprout as commonly as crabgrass. If you are planning a sale that will include used clothing, Sherri Johnson, extension textiles and clothing specialist at the University of Minnesota's Agricultural Extension Service, offers some advice.

"Used clothes sell for very low prices, and you need to consider the value of your time," she says. "Don't expect to get rich quick, but with some simple guidelines you should be able to pick up some extra money and also clear out items you no longer want to store."

She suggests setting your pricing policy in line with your motivation for having the sale. If you really want to earn some money and have top quality merchandise, keep your prices fairly high, particularly in the early hours of the sale. If you just want someone to carry away your used or outgrown clothing, start with low prices and begin your markdowns early.

Fresh, cleaned clothing sells best, and maternity and children's items are among the hottest selling items. Johnson says a clever sales promoter should

Page 1 of 3

be ready to suggest alternative uses for some types of adult clothes. For example, some items can be cut down for children's wear. Others may be made of attractive fabric that would be good for crafts.

Before giving your own sale, Johnson suggests visiting several sales in your area to get a feel for prices. She also tells sales organizers to ask themselves several questions before setting a price:

- * How much would this item be at a discount store or other local retail outlet if it were new?
- * Is it free of stains, tears and rips?
- * Are all zippers, snaps and buttons present and working well?
- * Has the fabric faded or lost its shape?
- * Are labels still on the garment telling the brand, size, fiber content and care information?

For best sales, Johnson recommends arranging merchandise as attractively and neatly as possible according to sizes. Separate tables or areas for infant, toddler, preschool and school-age children's clothing will help shoppers looking for those specific items.

Keep a tape measure handy to help customers measure sizes if they are in doubt. Some garments such as sweaters, T-shirts and jeans can be worn by either boys or girls so you may have better luck if you don't label them by sex.

Be sure all two- or three-piece outfits (even mittens and pajamas) are safety-pinned together so pieces don't get lost. The same holds true for suits and matching sports outfits.

When your sale is over, Johnson says you may want to donate your remaining items to a charitable organization. Some will gladly send trucks out to pick up donations and will give you a receipt for the value of the items so you can prove your contribution at tax deduction time.

"Leftovers" can also go to churches or can be used for free clothing exchanges. "Some people enjoy having sales so much, they just pack up any remaining things and wait a while for their next sale," Johnson adds.

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usedclo.1

AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE
COMMUNICATION RESOURCES
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA 55108
June 1, 1984

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

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ANNOUNCER;
30 SECONDS

YOU SHOULD BE AWARE OF SOME OF THE MOST
IMPORTANT LAWS THAT CONTROL THE USE OF
PESTICIDES. IF YOU USE A PESTICIDE IN A MANNER
CONTRARY TO STATE AND FEDERAL LAWS, YOU CAN BE
FINED OR EVEN IMPRISONED. FEDERAL LAW, FOR
EXAMPLE, SAYS THAT ALL PESTICIDE USES MUST BE
CLASSIFIED AS EITHER GENERAL OR RESTRICTED. IT
REQUIRES YOU TO BE CERTIFIED AS COMPETENT TO USE
ANY OF THE PESTICIDES CLASSIFIED FOR RESTRICTED
USE. FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE PROPER USE OF
PESTICIDES CONTACT YOUR ----- COUNTY OFFICE OF
THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA'S AGRICULTURAL
EXTENSION SERVICE.

AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE
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ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA 55108
June 1, 1984

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PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ANNOUNCER;
30 SECONDS

TO USE PESTICIDES ON THE FARM PROPERLY, YOU NEED AN ADEQUATE FACILITY FOR STORAGE AND FORMULATION. THIS FACILITY MUST BE SEPARATE, ISOLATED AND LOCKABLE. OTHER BUILDING SPECIFICATIONS PARTLY DEPEND ON THE QUANTITY AND TYPE OF PESTICIDE TO BE STORED OR FORMULATED. BUT YOU WILL NEED ADEQUATE VENTILATION IN THIS BUILDING TO PREVENT A BUILDUP OF TOXIC OR FLAMMABLE VAPORS AND DUST. FURTHER INFORMATION ON SPECIFICATIONS FOR BUILDING A PESTICIDE STORAGE AND FORMULATION SHED ARE AVAILABLE FROM YOUR ----- COUNTY OFFICE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA'S AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE.

AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE
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June 1, 1984

ANY QUESTIONS? CALL Jennifer Obst
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PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ANNOUNCER;
30 SECONDS

MAINTAINING THE RIGHT WEIGHT FOR YOU MIGHT HELP
REDUCE THE RISK OF HIGH BLOOD PRESSURE. KEEPING
TO YOUR PROPER WEIGHT FOR YOUR HEIGHT AND BUILD
MAKES YOU FEEL BETTER ALL AROUND BECAUSE IT WILL
KEEP YOU HEALTHIER. KEEPING YOUR WEIGHT DOWN IS
DOUBLY IMPORTANT IF ANY OF YOUR FAMILY MEMBERS
HAS A HISTORY OF HIGH BLOOD PRESSURE, HEART
DISEASE OR STROKE. HIGH BLOOD PRESSURE IS MORE
COMMON IN OVERWEIGHT PEOPLE. THIS MESSAGE FOR
YOUR HEALTH IS BROUGHT TO YOU BY YOUR -----
COUNTY OFFICE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA'S
AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE.

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ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA 55108
June 1, 1984

ANY QUESTIONS? CALL Jennifer Obst
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PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ANNOUNCER;
30 SECONDS

MORE DIET SUPPLEMENTS ARE NOT ALWAYS BETTER,
ESPECIALLY FOR OLDER PEOPLE. MOST OLDER PEOPLE
CAN GET THE NUTRIENTS THEY NEED BY EATING A GOOD
RANGE OF NUTRITIOUS FOODS DAILY. A WELL-BALANCED
DAILY DIET SHOULD INCLUDE TWO SERVINGS OF MILK OR
DAIRY PRODUCTS; TWO SERVINGS OF PROTEIN-RICH
FOODS SUCH AS LEAN MEAT, POULTRY, FISH, EGGS,
BEANS OR NUTS; FOUR SERVINGS OF FRUITS AND
VEGETABLES; AND FOUR SERVINGS OF BREAD AND CEREAL
PRODUCTS, RICE OR PASTA. THIS MESSAGE FOR YOUR
HEALTH IS BROUGHT TO YOU BY YOUR ----- COUNTY
OFFICE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA'S
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AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE
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ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA 55108
June 1, 1984

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(612) 373-1579

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ANNOUNCER;
30 SECONDS

THERE'S MORE TO WHAT PEOPLE THINK OF YOU THAN
JUST THE CLOTHES YOU WEAR. IN 4-H YOU CAN LEARN
HOW TO LOOK YOUR BEST IN ANY SITUATION. THE 4-H
FASHION REVUE PROGRAM TEACHES YOUNG PEOPLE HOW TO
PUT THEIR BEST FOOT FORWARD--FROM WELL-GROOMED
HAIR TO WELL-SHINED SHOES. IT'S ALL PART OF
BEING THE BEST YOU CAN BE--AND THAT'S WHAT 4-H IS
ALL ABOUT. CALL YOUR ----- COUNTY OFFICE OF
THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA'S AGRICULTURAL
EXTENSION SERVICE AND LEARN MORE ABOUT 4-H.

AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE
COMMUNICATION RESOURCES
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA 55108
June 1, 1984

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

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ANNOUNCER;
30 SECONDS

IT'S PERFECTLY NATURAL TO BE A LITTLE NERVOUS
WHEN YOU HAVE TO GIVE A SPEECH, OR SPEAK IN FRONT
OF A GROUP OF PEOPLE. BUT DON'T YOU WISH YOU
DIDN'T GET SWEATY PALMS, HAVE A CRACKING VOICE,
AND STAND ON SHAKY KNEES? IN THE 4-H PUBLIC
SPEAKING PROGRAM, YOU CAN LEARN TO BE A
CONFIDENT, VIBRANT SPEAKER. CALL YOUR -----
COUNTY OFFICE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA'S
AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE, AND GET INTO 4-H.
YOU'LL LOVE THE CONFIDENCE YOU'LL HAVE!

AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE
COMMUNICATION RESOURCES
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA 55108
June 1, 1984

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

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ANNOUNCER;
30 SECONDS

IF YOU ARE OVER 60 AND HAVE FRACTURED A BONE IT
MAY HAVE BEEN DUE TO BONE TISSUE LOSS OR
OSTEOPOROSIS. SOME ESTIMATES SAY 90 PERCENT OF
FRACTURES IN THIS AGE GROUP, ESPECIALLY IN WOMEN,
ARE OSTEOPOROSIS RELATED. THE BEST
RECOMMENDATIONS FOR PREVENTING OSTEOPOROSIS ARE
THE RULES FOR GENERAL GOOD HEALTH--EATING A
WELL-BALANCED DIET. THIS SHOULD INCLUDE
CALCIUM-RICH FOODS FROM THE MILK GROUP, FISH AND
VEGETABLES. THIS MESSAGE FOR YOUR HEALTH IS
BROUGHT TO YOU BY YOUR ----- LOCAL OFFICE OF
THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA'S AGRICULTURAL
EXTENSION SERVICE.

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June 1, 1984

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

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ANNOUNCER;
30 SECONDS

WHEN YOU USE PESTICIDES, YOU ALSO HAVE TO ANTICIPATE HOW YOU ARE GOING TO DISPOSE OF ANY EXCESS PESTICIDES AND THE PESTICIDE CONTAINER. PREPLANNING CAN REDUCE YOUR DISPOSAL PROBLEMS. YOU CAN REDUCE THE AMOUNTS OF PESTICIDES OR PESTICIDE CONTAINERS THAT MUST BE DISPOSED OF BY PURCHASING ONLY WHAT YOU NEED TO ACCOMPLISH THE INTENDED PEST CONTROL PRACTICE. OR PURCHASE ONLY AS MUCH AS YOU'LL NEED FOR THE SEASON'S USE. ALSO, YOU COULD PREPARE ONLY A SUFFICIENT AMOUNT FOR THE INTENDED PEST CONTROL OPERATION. THE GOAL IS TO HAVE AS LITTLE LEFT TO DISPOSE OF AS POSSIBLE. FOR MORE INFORMATION ON PROPER PESTICIDE HANDLING AND DISPOSAL, CONTACT YOUR ----- COUNTY OFFICE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA'S AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE.

news

M 5019 A27p
Agricultural Extension Service
Communication Resources
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

June 1, 1984

MEDIA NEWS PACKET INDEX

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

University of Minnesota, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Minnesota Counties Cooperating M-1

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June 1, 1984

Source: Francis Pierce
612/373-1352
Writer: Jack Sperbeck
612/373-0715

"HOT SPOTS" ARE MOST SERIOUS SOIL EROSION PROBLEM

Soils of southeastern Minnesota and northeastern Iowa are especially vulnerable to erosion. They're examples of "hot spots," localized areas that could suffer serious loss of soil productivity in the future.

These soils may have average productivity losses of 20 percent over the next hundred years, according to research studies at the University of Minnesota's Agricultural Experiment Station. Using information gathered by the Soil Conservation Service, researchers studied the long-term effects of erosion on crop growth potential in the Corn Belt.

Estimated changes in soil productivity--averaged over broad land areas--were less than 8 percent. Much of the Corn Belt is buffered against significant changes due to its deep fertile soils and nearly level terrain. "The average figure of 8 percent is encouraging," says researcher Francis Pierce. But he's quick to emphasize that localized areas have serious soil erosion problems.

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"Some areas could risk devastation in the next century if erosion is allowed to continue at present rates. Areas where slopes exceed 6 percent or where subsoils are unfavorable for crop growth are most vulnerable," he says.

Pierce says both slope and subsoil conditions must be considered in determining the effects of erosion. Some heavily sloped areas may suffer productivity losses of over 20 percent, while others with steep slopes will escape much effect on long-term crop growth.

For example, the deep loess soils of western Iowa slope as much as 20 percent in some areas. But on the average these soils will have no more than a 5 percent drop in productivity in the next century. Erosion on the steeper slopes occurs at high rates, but soil conditions for root growth and water storage don't vary much with depth.

By contrast, soils of northeastern Iowa and southeastern Minnesota that have a rocky subsoil under a loamy topsoil will be unable to support crop growth indefinitely. "Southeastern Minnesota soils are vulnerable to erosion, but there's also some good conservation practices in the area," Pierce says.

He says we need to remember that soil is a finite resource--like oil. "Our oil supplies will eventually run out--it's just a matter of when. Soils will also decline in productivity. Whether we have serious problems 50 or 200 years from now is partially due to technology.

"We know how to control erosion," says Pierce. The trick is to make soil conservation attractive to people working the land. "Conservation

tillage is becoming popular largely because it saves money since fewer trips over the field are required. It also helps control erosion, but that's not the main reason farmers use conservation tillage."

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MP,4-FC

PIERCE

news

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

June 1, 1984

Source: Mary Darling
612/376-4663
Writer: Mary Kay O'Hearn
612/373-1786

WHAT'S YOUR PICK: FRESH OR FROZEN?

You might expect fresh foods to outscore frozen in nutrient content. But that's not necessarily true.

Mary Darling, nutrition specialist with the University of Minnesota's Agricultural Extension Service, says it depends on how you define "fresh."

"The freshest vegetables and fruits are those picked from the yard, taken directly into the house, washed and eaten immediately without cooking. The nutrient content is probably at its peak with little vitamin loss," she says.

The longer fresh produce is stored, the more nutrients are lost due to effects of air and temperature changes. If fresh produce has made long trips by truck, spent several days in the grocery and a few more in your refrigerator before being used, this must be considered in speaking of "fresh" providing better nutrition.

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Freezing foods is one of the least destructive methods of food preservation. Some vitamins can be lost in the processing steps--washing, slicing, and blanching--before freezing, Darling explains. (Blanching is a mild heat treatment with vegetables which inactivates enzymes that cause undesirable flavor and texture changes and degrade some vitamins during storage. It is a mixed bag, causing some vitamin loss while protecting other vitamins from enzymatic destruction.)

At storage temperatures of 0 degrees F or below, Darling says, the amount of vitamin C in many foods remain essentially unchanged for a year or more. In contrast, half of the vitamin C in asparagus, peas or lima beans will be lost during storage at 15 degrees F for six months. One study showed that vitamin C in orange juice concentrate dropped less than 10 percent even if temperatures came close to 32 degrees F during two years of storage.

Supermarket freezers are designed to maintain the 0 degrees F or below temperatures. "Home freezers should be kept equally cold if you decide to store frozen foods for long periods of time," she says.

Fresh broccoli and leafy green vegetables lose half of their vitamin C in five days of refrigeration. Room temperatures are worse. In two days at 68 degrees F fresh spinach lost half of its vitamin C. This means the levels of vitamins, particularly vitamin C, may be higher in frozen vegetables than in fresh ones which have spent even one day unrefrigerated in the supermarket, or several days in a home refrigerator.

Vitamin C content of cooked peas was shown to be between 35 and 45 percent of that of fresh raw peas whether the cooked dish was prepared from fresh peas,

freeze-dried peas, or canned peas.

For both fresh and frozen processed foods, techniques used in cooking influence nutritional content. To minimize loss of vitamin C, folic acid and other heat-sensitive vitamins, vegetables should be cooked a short time. Use little water or steam-cook to avoid losing nutrients that dissolve in water. Use the cooking water in soups or gravies if you like.

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MP, 4-HE

FRESFROZ

news

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

June 1, 1984

Source: Jean W. Bauer
612/373-0910
Writer: Deedee Nagy
612/373-1781

POVERTY TURNOVER HIGH, FEW ARE IMMUNE

There's little truth to the widely held idea that welfare recipients are a small, hardcore group of people who may never be able to support themselves. A ten-year study recently completed by the Institute of Social Research at the University of Michigan shows that between 1968 and 1978, one in every four Americans lived in a family that had received at least some welfare income.

As widespread as the need for welfare is, it is also a short-term situation for most recipients. Jean W. Bauer, family resource management specialist with the University of Minnesota's Agricultural Extension Service, reports that only one out of 12 persons who received any welfare was dependent on it for seven or more years in the decade studied.

"The majority were short-term welfare recipients, often in the early stages of recovery from an economic blow such as the death, departure or disability of the major wage earner. Typically, after a few years of welfare, a recipient would get a job with enough pay to move off the welfare rolls," Bauer adds. "Contrary to popular belief, children raised in so-called 'welfare families' did not tend to go on welfare after leaving home and forming their own families."

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University of Minnesota, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Minnesota Counties Cooperating M-8

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Bauer stresses that the temporarily poor are a cross-section of the general population. "Few of us are completely immune to such misfortunes as personal illness, national economic conditions or the loss of a spouse. These are the kinds of events that typically precipitate a year or two of severe economic hardship and the resulting need for welfare."

About 2 percent of the nation's population could be classified as consistently dependent on welfare. Bauer says that these welfare families are more likely than short-term welfare users to be black or women heading households with young children. The elderly are also a large component of this group.

Bauer says the newly published research is the first to follow families for a number of years. It shows how common the periodic need for welfare is rather than emphasizing the small percentage of persons who never become self sufficient.

She cautions, however, that this research shouldn't minimize the importance of poverty programs for long-term welfare recipients. "Although 'only' 2 percent of the nation's population lives in long-term poverty, that's still five to six million who need and deserve help."

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news

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

June 7, 1984

Source: Luther Waters
612/373-1102
Writer: Kathy Hohmann
612/645-8231

HERE'S SOME GOOD NEWS FOR ASPARAGUS LOVERS

Steamed and served with melted butter or a hollandaise. Stir-fried with beef and fermented black beans. Blended into a velvety cream soup. Tucked into a quiche. For true addicts, there's practically no end to the way asparagus can be enjoyed.

Well, here's good news for Minnesotans who love asparagus: in the last four years, 1,200 more acres of this delectable vegetable have been put into permanent production.

Horticulturist Luther Waters is playing a role in the expansion; he works with people who want to get into commercial asparagus production. He says, "Asparagus is a high-value vegetable crop that can be grown by both large and small landowners."

Waters, who is with the University of Minnesota's Agricultural Extension Service and Agricultural Experiment Station, says asparagus is grown throughout Minnesota, except in extreme northern regions. "There are asparagus fields as far north as Grand Rapids and south to Fairmont," he says. "The asparagus is grown for fresh sales and for canning."

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Asparagus, unlike most vegetable crops, represents a long-term investment. Although a planting may remain productive for more than 15 years, a grower must wait three years for the first full harvest. Then, it's approximately five to seven years more before the planting reaches peak production.

Waters advises people on establishing new asparagus plantings. One way to do this is to plant crowns--the dormant root systems of one-year-old asparagus plants--in deep furrows. Another way is to transplant 10- to 12-week-old asparagus seedlings that have been grown in a greenhouse. Part of Waters' work involves research to increase the survival and vigor of transplants used to establish new plantings.

Asparagus has a relatively short season. It is hand harvested in Minnesota for six to eight weeks, beginning in early May. For the rest of the year, Minnesotans must use canned or frozen asparagus or fresh asparagus shipped from California, Washington or Michigan.

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DPMP, 1A, P2, 4H

LW2KH05

news

MSC/AA/MP
Agricultural Extension Service
Communication Resources
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

June 21, 1984

Source: Michael Pullen
612/373-1126
Writer: Kathy Hohmann
612/645-8231

KEEP YOUR DOG FREE OF TICKS THIS SUMMER

June is a peak month for wood ticks in Minnesota. Dog owners should know how to keep ticks from infesting their pets and how to remove ticks if dogs have them. The American dog tick and the brown dog tick both annoy dogs at this time of year. These pests can cause infections as well as irritation.

Michael Pullen, veterinarian with the University of Minnesota's Agricultural Extension Service, advises dog owners to prevent infestations with a combination of tick collars and dips. Contact your veterinarian about the most suitable dip and procedure for your dog.

For best control, examine your dog daily for ticks. Ticks will most often embed themselves around the dog's eyes, nose and ears, says Pullen. This is where the female tick lodges to feed on the dog's blood for three or four days. She then drops off the dog and lays up to 3,000 eggs. If she lays eggs indoors, they may hatch and grow there. Thus, ticks may be found year-round in heated homes and kennels.

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If you find a tick attached to your dog, grasp its body with a tweezers or tissue. Don't touch the tick with your hands--this may cause infection. Pull the tick out slowly to avoid breaking the mouthparts off. Treat the area with an antiseptic.

If dog owners use a combination of flea and tick collars, dips, and frequent examination, their pets will stay healthier this summer.

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DPMP, P2

MP2KH06

Page 2 of 2

June 28, 1984

Source: David Halvorson
612/373-1152
Writer: Mary Kay O'Hearn
612/373-1786

PRECAUTIONS CAN REDUCE BIRD-WINDOW COLLISIONS

That ghostly thud against the plate glass window or solar panel could be another songbird mixing a flight pattern with your house. Sometimes the bird is just stunned and recovers, other times it dies.

"Whatever is used to prevent this collision from happening must be detectable by the birds," says David Halvorson, University of Minnesota extension veterinarian in avian health. Either the glass must be made visible, which is difficult to do, or disguised (darkened) in some manner.

A spokesperson from the Audubon Society suggests trying to give birds the impression there is an obstacle in their way. If the roof has an overhang, wind chimes or a wooden mobile could be the solution.

Pasting a silhouette of a large bird such as a hawk or owl on the window might also have the desired result. When two metal owl decoys were placed near a glassed walkway between two buildings on the University of Minnesota's Twin Cities campus, fewer birds were killed in collisions with the walkway. The dead bird toll had been 15 to 20 a week until a museum assistant from the university's Bell Museum of Natural History suggested the decoys, which caused birds to change their flight patterns.

In woody areas where birds can see through two windows in a home to woods beyond, the problem is compounded.

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And what can you do for the poor birds?

If a bird is only stunned, it will probably move along before you can get to it to help. Halvorson says it's a good idea to keep stunned birds out of the path of cats or other predators until they recover sufficiently to take off on their own.

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DPMP, CON, TCO, P2

WINDOWS

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news

MSC19A27P
Agricultural Extension Service
Communication Resources
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

June 28, 1984

Source: Juanita J. Reed
612/373-1108

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

4-H HONORS ALUMNI, PARTNERS

Four Minnesotans have been named State 4-H Alumni Award recipients and five have been designated Partners in 4-H. Each received a plaque during this year's 4-H Junior Leader Conference in St. Paul.

Alumni awards went to Ethel Hest and Shirley Rockstad, both of Norman County; Barbara Whitcomb Pagel, Olmsted County; and Willard Tripp, Rice County. Receiving Partner in 4-H awards were Karol (Bud) Berglind, Norman County; Norman A. Brown, dean and director of the University of Minnesota's Agricultural Extension Service; Jim Foss, Goodhue County; Vern Moore, vice president of Land O' Lakes; and Chuck Orvik, manager of Tuffy's Pet Foods, Perham.

Juanita J. Reed, 4-H youth development specialist with the University of Minnesota's Agricultural Extension Service, says the alumni recognition program demonstrates the value of 4-H as a training ground for good citizenship. The alumni award goes to persons who have contributed to society through effective citizenship and leadership, attained success in their careers, and have a sustaining interest in 4-H and other worthy community endeavors. Production Credit Association supports the program locally. The national sponsors are the National 4-H Council and Friends of Kenneth H. Anderson, long-time employee of the council.

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Partner in 4-H recognizes individuals, groups, business organizations, foundations, associations, governmental bodies and other institutions who have worked closely with the Agricultural Extension Service in supporting the 4-H program.

Alumni Honored

Ethel Hest and her husband, Ralph, live on a farm near Perley. The Hests have served as 4-H leaders and have guided their family through many years in 4-H. She has been active in community leadership and co-chaired Perley's centennial celebration.

Shirley Rockstad is a librarian at the Ada Public Library. She has served on several educational, political and religious committees in the community. She calls the "learning-by-doing" philosophy gained in 4-H an invaluable skill in coping with life.

Barbara Whitcomb Pagel is a former teacher and currently the retail manager of Brown Photo in Rochester. She and her husband, Tony, own and operate a dairy farm near Rochester. She continued her interest in 4-H as a parent and leader and believes 4-H training helps in her daily contact with people, both as a store manager and teacher.

Willard Tripp, a dairy farmer near Faribault, is also a national winner in the 4-H alumni recognition program and will receive a gold key award during the 63rd National 4-H Congress, November 25-29 in Chicago.

Partners Honored

Karol (Bud) Berglind is recognized as an outstanding farmer and community leader in northwestern Minnesota. He serves on the board of directors of the Red River Valley Winter Shows in Crookston and has provided significant leadership to make 4-H a visible part of the shows.

Norman A. Brown, who is leaving Minnesota for a new assignment as program director of the W. K. Kellogg Foundation, Battle Creek, Mich., was instrumental in the formation of the 4-H Foundation and the Leonard Harkness Endowment Fund. He and his wife have been 4-H leaders. Brown will continue his commitment to youth in his new position.

Jim Foss farms in Goodhue County and has been actively involved in merging the 4-H Market Livestock Show and the 4-H Breeding Show into the state fair. Foss has served as chairman of the Minnesota Livestock Breeders' Association Youth Committee.

Vern Moore, former 4-H member from Iowa, is vice president of the board of trustees of the Minnesota 4-H Foundation and has served on the board since 1981. He has been instrumental in leading the business industry campaign for the 4-H Foundation and also has conducted training for the solicitors.

Chuck Orvik is a strong supporter of the 4-H dog program statewide. He and his wife are 4-H parents and provide leadership in their local 4-H club. He has provided leadership for the 4-H dog project in East Otter Tail County and this year is a member of the state 4-H Dog Project Development Committee.

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DPMP, 1A, P2

4-HHONOR

news

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

June 28, 1984

Source: John D. Helmberger
612/373-1755
Writer: Mary Kay O'Hearn
612/373-1786

MINNESOTA: RANKS NINTH AMONG STATES IN JOBS GAINED

"Minnesota stands out as an island of success in a sea of failure," says University of Minnesota agricultural economist John D. Helmberger, citing recent U.S. Labor Department figures measuring economic recovery in terms of jobs.

"The allegations that Minnesota's economy is lagging are simply not true," according to Helmberger, who is affiliated with the University's Agricultural Experiment Station and deals with projects on the economics of the public sector.

"Between March 1983 and March 1984," says Helmberger, who quotes the Labor Department, "non-agricultural employment grew 4.1% throughout the 50 states while Minnesota's employment grew 4.8%. From the Rocky Mountains across the northern tier of states to the Atlantic Ocean, only New Hampshire at 6.6% grew faster."

In addition to New Hampshire, the other seven states that grew faster than Minnesota included: Tennessee, 4.5%; Utah, 5.2%; Georgia, 5.6%; Arkansas, 6.1%; Nevada, 6.5%; Florida, 6.6%; and Arizona, 7.8%--all Sun Belt states.

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In numbers of jobs, Minnesota's 4.8% employment growth rate meant growing to a total of 1,738,000 non-agricultural jobs. Nationally, an estimated 91.8 million Americans held nonfarm jobs in March 1984, which was up 4.1% from a year earlier.

According to the Labor Department, the work force expanded by 9,900 jobs daily during the 12 month period which ended in March 1984. In the same period a year earlier, the United States was said to have lost 3,800 jobs daily.

State and national figures for agricultural employment are harder to determine. According to the Minnesota Census Data Center located in St. Paul, 1982 figures on the census of agriculture will become available in the next few weeks. Arley Waldo, economist in public policy for the University of Minnesota's Agricultural Extension Service, comments that this agricultural workers census is brought up-to-date every five years. However, it is difficult to pin down full-time agricultural equivalents because of sporadic employment, the unpaid family labor involved, and the fact that farmers may have other jobs in addition to agriculture.

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1A, P2, TCO

STRONG50