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ORCHARD AND GARDEN

May 1-8.

Set out all trees and shrubs, both fruit and ornamental, now.

Plant early potatoes. Better treat them for scab before planting.

Make a second sowing of peas, radishes, spinach, etc., as soon as the first is out of the ground.

Trim back weak-growing roses quite severely and they will give better flowers.

Plant gladioli bulbs now, and, for a good succession of bloom, plant every ten days until the last of June. Plant four to six inches deep.

Cover the first planting of peas about one inch deep. Later plantings should be planted deeper.

Do not allow the soil to crust over onion seed. Break it with a rake. They will smother if a crust is left.

Plant carrot and beet seed now. A few radish seed in the row will mark it so that cultivation will be easy before the roots are up.

Circular No. 48 from the office of the state entomologist, University Farm, St. Paul, gives many useful spraying formulas and a discussion of spraying machinery.

Let the young folks be patriotic and grow a good garden this year.

Dig out all purple-leaved and common green-leaved barberry plants. The Japanese, or Thunberg's barberry, is not a host plant for wheat rust and need not be taken out.—LeRoy Cady, associate horticulturalist, University Farm, St. Paul.

ORCHARD AND GARDEN

May 8-15.

Keep the cultivator going. Sweet corn may be planted now if the ground is warm.

Cultivate and fertilize the asparagus bed well and it will repay you for the work.

Cutworms will soon be active. Get them before they get the garden. A poisoned bran mash, scattered through the plants, has a quieting effect on them.

It is not wise to set out frost-tender plants before May 25, even though the weather is warm.

Keep the potatoes well cultivated early in the season.

Set out an asparagus bed now. Plants can be purchased from any seed house or nursery. Plants are easily grown from seed, but cannot be set for a year or two from the sowing of the seed.

A good muskmelon or watermelon patch will be highly appreciated next August. Now is the time to get the soil in shape to sow the seed late this month. Warm, rich soil is needed.

Did your squash keep until April this year? Perhaps you tried to store them in a cool, damp cellar. It can't be done. Squash should be stored in a warm, dry place. In the furnace room of a modern house is the best place. Keep at a temperature of about 50 in a dry atmosphere.—LeRoy Cady, associate horticulturalist, University Farm, St. Paul.

WOMEN ASKED TO CONSERVE CLOTHING

The women of Minnesota are being asked to cooperate in a campaign for the conservation of clothing. The appeal in one form comes through a bulletin on "Clothing Conservation" just published by the agricultural extension division of the University of Minnesota.

The bulletin is by Marion Weller of the division of home economics. It calls attention to conservation methods suggested by the National Council of Defense, tells what women's organizations can do, and gives hints to women who sew.

Copies of the bulletin may be had by addressing Office of Publications, University Farm, St. Paul, Minn.

HOGS FED CHEAPLY ON GOOD PASTURE

Recent experience has shown that a good pasture is one of the cheapest sources of food for hogs, says Andrew Boss of the Minnesota Experiment Station. Brood sows and their litters should have green feed of some kind. Green clover is best. Oats and peas are a good substitute. Oats and dwarf Essex rape or any of the cereal grains sown with rape and clover are also satisfactory pasture crops. A mixture of oats one and one-half bushels, peas one bushel, and rape two pounds an acre will give a splendid pasture that will furnish feed until about the first of August. A field of corn in which three pounds of rape has been sown broadcast at the last cultivation can very well supplement the oats and pea pasture. Such pastures will greatly reduce the grain feed and lessen the expense in the production of pork. It is very unwise to try to make pork on grain feed alone, as cheap forage is a large factor in pork production.

BIG PRODUCTION NOW MEANS BEST FOOD-SAVING FOR BOYS OVER THERE

U. S. MAKES DRIVE FOR COTTAGE CHEESE

Three representatives of the United States department of agriculture arrived in St. Paul about the middle of April and began a campaign to encourage the consumption of cottage cheese as a means of preventing an enormous economic waste. This campaign is to be pushed throughout the state.

About 41 per cent of the milk produced in the United States is manufactured into butter. A by-product of this butter-making is more than 29,000,000,000 pounds of skim milk. This would make more than 4,350,000,000 pounds of cottage cheese containing something like 913,000,000 pounds of protein. This is only about 40,000,000 pounds less than the protein in the more than 8,000,000,000 pounds of beef consumed in the United States in 1915.

All of the skim milk, of course, does not go to waste. Much of it is fed to livestock. Still there is an enormous waste and the government's drive is designed to stop it. By encouraging the consumption of cottage cheese in centers of population as a substitute for meat, the consumer will benefit in the saving effected, and the producer will benefit by finding a market for a by-product hitherto largely wasted.

CONFERENCE FEARS FOR DAIRY INDUSTRY

A conference representing producers, manufacturers and distributors of milk and milk products throughout the United States, in Chicago recently, announced that the dairy business was in grave danger through restricted consumption of dairy products and the accumulation of a vast supply of such products in storage.

H. H. Kildee of the Minnesota College of Agriculture has brought back to Minnesota resolutions passed by the conference. These resolutions ask:

That the food administration make public announcement that for the present there is no longer need for the curtailment of the use of milk and milk products; that the production and storing of butter and cheese be stimulated by encouraging the investment of capital in the coming butter and cheese crop; that the boys of the army and navy in service be supplied with butter; that cheese be placed in the army ration; that the forming of cooperative associations of farmers for making collective sales of farm products and effecting economies in production and marketing be encouraged; that a bureau of dairying in the United States department of agriculture be established.

The members of the conference pledged the food administration that during the war those engaged in any department of the dairy industry would demand only the cost of their operations plus a reasonable profit to be approved by the food administration or the government.

FARMERS WARNED OF WHITE GRUB MENACE

Farmers in southern Minnesota must look out for the white grub this spring, says A. G. Ruggles of University Farm, state entomologist. The white grub is likely to be particularly bad on timothy sod. Last year the grubs were small and there was little danger. This year they are likely to do much more damage, especially in the southern half of the state. North of a line east and west through St. Cloud, however, they are not likely to give much trouble.

In fields plowed this spring, therefore, if many white grubs are observed by the plowman, corn, potatoes and other hill crops should not be planted. To plant crops in such fields is to run the risk of having one's labors go for nothing.

NO IDLE LAND THIS YEAR, A GOOD SLOGAN

No land should stand idle this year, says Andrew Boss, chief of the division of agronomy at the Minnesota experiment station. All corners and pieces of land that are capable of growing crops should be planted to something. Among the crops that can be put in late and that offer a chance for good profit from growing, is flax, which can be put in as late as June 20 to July 1. It will do better if put in by May 10 to 20, but the later seeding will give a good crop under normal conditions. It is a crop that is especially fitted for sod lands or new breaking. It will succeed also on old land.

Navy beans make another crop that can well fill in on odd corners or land prepared late. Ordinarily they will yield from 14 to 16 bushels an acre and at present prices offer a good chance for a profitable crop. They do best on sandy loam soil and need not be planted on very rich land. They are one of the best catch crops where the fields must be cultivated.

Buckwheat is a third crop that will help on the food supply and which can be sown late and on land that is not ready to grow other crops. It does well on new land; it can be grown on sod land or on old land on which seeding has been delayed for some reason.

MR. HOOVER SAYS: EAT MORE POTATOES

A telegram just received from Herbert C. Hoover, United States food administrator, by the Minnesota food administration, urges that everything be done to stimulate the consumption of potatoes. Mr. Hoover says:

"Every effort must be made to get potatoes flowing freely to your markets and placed in the hands of consumers at reasonable prices that will stimulate consumption. If any shortage exists because of transportation difficulties, advise by wire and we will secure the necessary help from the railways' director general. "Do all possible to increase the consumption of potatoes to take the place of wheat flour."

Minnesota's Food Administration suggests as a slogan for this state: Buy a Bushel of Potatoes. Don't Be Satisfied With a Peck.

FEED PRICES MAKE CHICKS A PROBLEM

To raise chicks this spring is a problem, says A. C. Smith of the poultry division at University Farm. A comparison of prices of poultry and of poultry feeds shows where the problem lies, and chicks must be raised under the best conditions if a profit is to be obtained. Two questions are involved: How and when? Mr. Smith answers these questions as follows:

How? On ample range, so that the chickens may secure gratis an appreciable portion of their food, and, while in search of this, may acquire strong muscles, and sturdy frames upon which to amass flesh.

When? At a season when they may range from the start, which in this climate is not very often before May 15 or June 1. This is the favorable time to grow chicks in the northwest, because it is the cheapest time. Chicks of the larger breeds should be hatched earlier, if they are to lay in the fall or early winter, but the lighter breeds if hatched by June 1 should lay the first of November. Whether they will or not, depends upon their care.

Feed liberally, but not wastefully. Do not attempt to grow in company with fowls or older chicks. Do not place late chicks on a range that has been used by other chicks or fowls the same season.

SOIL MOISTURE MUST BE SAVED THIS YEAR

"Land last fall did not contain the usual amount of moisture. We have had less snow during the winter than usual and there has been but little rain this spring. As a consequence the soil is comparatively dry. It will be necessary, therefore, to save every bit of the moisture now in the ground if a full crop is to be secured," says Andrew Boss of the division of agronomy at the Minnesota experiment station.

"The moisture can be saved by proper preparation of the soil and by tillage. A compact soil retains the moisture better than a loose soil. Therefore, the soil should be compacted by harrowing well or by the use of a roller, preferably a subsurface packer. After the rolling it should be harrowed with a smoothing harrow to leave the surface mellow and dusty. If the surface crust can be broken it will mean much towards an adequate moisture supply during the season.

"Fields of fall rye and winter wheat should be harrowed this spring with a light spike-toothed harrow if the weather remains dry. It is safe to harrow until the rye or wheat is two and one-half or three inches high, though earlier harrowing would be better.

"In corn fields this year the ground should be made compact and then harrowed well before planting. Moisture is essential to the growth of corn. With surface cultivation there need but little moisture be lost. Corn promises to be one of the best dry weather crops."

BEAN-GROWING URGED; SUPPLY IS LIMITED

The extended planting of field beans this year in order to increase the supply next fall, is being urged by A. C. Arny, crop specialist of the division of agronomy at the Minnesota experiment station. The United States does not produce enough to supply its demands.

Light soils, the sandy loams and loams, are best suited to beans. In the regular rotation, beans should take part of the space reserved to corn and potatoes. Clover sod plowed in the fall is an ideal soil.

Small navy beans command the highest market price and less seed is required to the acre. Only choice, hand selected seed should be used. From 30 to 45 pounds of seed of the smaller varieties, and from 60 to 75 pounds of the larger varieties are used to the acre.

Land plowed in the fall should be thoroughly worked again in the spring. Early and constant cultivation before the seed is sown will help reduce the weeding later.

From May 20 to June 10, depending upon the latitude, is the usual time for planting. Under average conditions in the humid regions, beans should be planted one and one-half or two inches deep. The highest yields at University Farm have been obtained where the beans were drilled in rows 24 inches apart, with the plants approximately four inches apart in the rows. Only such cultivation should be given as is needed to keep the soil mellow and the crop free from weeds.

SECRET OF GROWING BETTER POTATOES

The secret of growing better potatoes is found in a small bulletin, "Growing Better Potatoes," prepared by A. G. Tolaas and G. R. Bisby, University Farm, and published by the agricultural extension division at the farm. The bulletin treats of seed selection, seed treatment, seed-cutting, rotation, cultivation, the seed plot, spraying, and storage. Copies may be had free by addressing the Office of Publications, University Farm, St. Paul.

PRESSURE ON PRODUCTION WILL MAKE CONSERVATION EASIER NEXT WINTER

(NOTE TO EDITORS)

This is the time of year to put emphasis on crop-production in garden and field, as a means of supplementing the food conservation campaign that has been carried on so effectively through the winter just past, and as a means of making conservation easier next winter.

This issue of the Press News is designed to aid you in giving production the needed emphasis. It is believed you will find in it something to meet your local needs.

SCOUTS HUNT STATE FOR THE BARBERRY

A. G. Ruggles, state entomologist, with his headquarters at University Farm, has started scouts out over the state to begin a statewide hunt for the common barberry, which is a menace of wheat and other grains.

The Minnesota Commission of Public Safety a few weeks ago issued an order that every owner or agent of property on which common barberry plants—not the Japanese barberry—are found should dig up and destroy such plants. The commission instructed Mr. Ruggles to see that the order was carried out, and these scouts are being sent out in compliance with these instructions.

Those wishing aid in identifying the common barberry as distinguished from the Japanese barberry can have it in the form of Special Bulletin 26 on "The Common Barberry—An Enemy of Wheat," prepared by E. M. Freeman of the division of plant pathology and botany at University Farm, if they will address Office of Publications, University Farm, St. Paul.

BOYS GET READY FOR PIG CONTEST

The boys—and girls, too—of Minnesota are getting ready for the fourth annual pig contest carried on under the direction of T. A. Erickson, state leader of Minnesota boys' and girls' clubs. More than 700 boys and girls enrolled for this contest last year, and an even larger number is expected this year.

Any boy or girl between the ages of 10 and 18 may become a club member. Each club member must agree to keep a feed record of at least one pig not more than three months old at the time the record is started for at least four months.

A valuable help to those entering the contest will be found in directions as to selecting, handling, and feeding pig-club pigs by R. C. Ashby of the division of animal husbandry, University Farm. These directions are found in Special Bulletin 24 of the agricultural extension division of the University of Minnesota.

Copies of this bulletin may be had by addressing Office of Publications, University Farm, St. Paul.

HOW TO CONSERVE FOR BOYS OVER THERE

An answer to the question how to conserve in support of our boys on the battle lines in France, and for those who are fighting with them is found in a new bulletin just issued by the agricultural extension division of the University of Minnesota. This is Bulletin 64, Minnesota Farmers' Library, and bears the title, "Conservation Recipes and Suggestions." It was prepared by the division of home economics and those who have tried its recipes and suggestions speak very highly of it.

Copies of the bulletin may be had from the Office of Publications, University Farm, St. Paul.

EDITOR'S CORNER

The Press-News regrets to announce that the linotype course to be offered by Dunwoody Institute in connection with the summer work in journalism at University Farm from June 17 to July 26 will not be open to women. Dunwoody Institute is a vocational school for men only, and this fundamental policy cannot be suspended.

You have offered to do everything in your power to help win the war

Push
Offer
Talk
Advertise
Think
Order
Eat
Sell

Potatoes

UNITED STATES FOOD ADMINISTRATION