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**BULLETIN ROOM**

**AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE  
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA  
University Farm, St. Paul, Minnesota**

Office of  
Publications

**EXTENSION DIGEST**

March 30, 1943  
For period  
March 15-March 29

*This digest of selected press and radio releases is intended primarily to keep editors and professional workers in general touch with the activities of the Agricultural Extension Service and the Department of Agriculture, University of Minnesota. For detailed information on topics referred to, please ask for copy of original release.*

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**March 16 - TIPS ON CARE OF LAMBS** - Sheep producers this year more than ever will want to take all possible steps to help newborn lambs make rapid, growthy development for the early market, says P. A. Anderson, in charge of the sheep section at University Farm. Anderson passes on some suggestions on care of lambs.

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**March 16 - SUGGESTIONS FOR STRETCHING FATS** - With all fats added to the rationing list, extending their use takes on new significance, says Inez Hobart, extension nutritionist at University Farm, who suggests ways of using fats to advantage.

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**March 16 - PREVENT EROSION BY CONTOUR PLANTING** - Soil conservation is necessary if our farms are to continue producing at a high rate to meet war and postwar needs, according to C. Herman Welch, Jr., soil conservation project supervisor at University Farm, who adds that after the war we can replace soil fertility but not soil lost by erosion. Soybeans and corn, which will be raised in greater quantity this year, are responsible for some of the greatest soil losses by erosion. For that reason, Welch advises keeping corn and soybeans, as well as other row crops, on level land. If planted on sloping land, the rows should run on the contour, or at right angles to the slope, he says.

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**March 17 - HOMEMADE BROODERS REQUIRE SPECIAL CARE** - Homemade electric brooders will prove satisfactory if chick raisers take special precautions with them, says Cora Cooke, extension poultry specialist at University Farm. Shortcomings of the homemade brooder as compared to commercial types now practically off the market are the lack of thermo-static control and ventilation, she says.

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**March 17 - SHERBET AND ICE MANUFACTURE ON INCREASE** - Sherbet and ice production will continue to expand and the amount of ice cream manufactured will decrease, producers were told who attended the short course at University Farm this week to consider war problems of the ice cream industry. Among subjects of special interest on the program were discussions of ways of improving sherbets and ices.

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**March 17 - FARMERS' WEEK FEATURES GRADING SCHOOL** - A grading school and special sessions devoted to farm and home mobilization will highlight Northeast Minnesota Farmers' Week at the Northeast Experiment station in Duluth March 29 - April 1. Among the special guests at the four-day institute for Arrowhead farm people will be Lieutenant Governor Ed Thye, who will speak at the rural leadership dinner Thursday evening.

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**March 19 - FEEDERS ADVISED TO SHEAR LAMBS** - Feeder lambs ready to market in another 30 or 60 days will yield several dollars worth of wool and regrow a shearling pelt before

*Cooperative Extension Work in Agriculture and Home Economics, University of Minnesota, Agricultural Extension Division and U. S. Department of Agriculture Cooperating, Paul E. Miller, Director. Published in furtherance of Agricultural Extension Acts of May 8 and June 30, 1914.*

market time if sheared now, according to W. E. Morris, extension animal husbandman at University Farm. He explained that the armed services are again calling on sheep producers to supply shearling pelts for suits worn by the men in the air forces when flying at high altitudes. Shearling pelts are obtained from sheep or lambs which have been sheared and the wool regrown up to one inch in length.

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**March 19 - NEW CHRYSANTHEMUM VARIETIES INTRODUCED** - Two new chrysanthemums have been added to the list of recommended varieties for Minnesota growers by the division of horticulture of the University of Minnesota. Stock of the two varieties, Waterlily and Pipestone, will be distributed only to nurserymen and florists for testing and propagation. Waterlily is a better white than Boreas, according to L. E. Longley, University Farm horticulturist. Pipestone is a low type somewhat like Harmony, but more robust and spreading.

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**March 20 - TREATING SEED GRAIN IMPORTANT** - Don't take a chance on untreated seed grain this year. That's the advice from W. B. Moore, plant pathologist at University Farm, who reports the condition of this year's seed supply the worst in years. Wheat and corn are particularly bad, he says, with numerous reports from the State Seed Testing Laboratory indicating low germination. Farmers who take chances without first treating wheat, oats, barley, flax, and corn to control seed and seedling diseases may experience serious crop losses later.

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**March 23 - EMIGRATION, DRAFT CAUSE POPULATION DROP** - The population of Minnesota declined by 112,738 or 4 per cent between April, 1940, and May, 1942, according to estimates just released by the United States Census Bureau. This decline was rather general over the state, says Lowry Nelson, professor of sociology at University Farm. A special analysis of changes by counties, made by the Division of Rural Sociology of the Minnesota Agricultural Experiment Station, revealed that only four counties showed any gain at all, and these gains were slight. The comparatively uniform decline in population by counties, according to Nelson, was due to the operation of the Selective Service Act. Responsible also for the decline was emigration from the state.

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**March 23 - TWO APPLES ADDED TO RECOMMENDED LIST** - Two new varieties of apples of exceptional quality, Victory and Fireside, have just been recommended for introduction by the Minnesota Agricultural Experiment station. Well adapted to home and market use, the varieties have already received the stamp of approval from numerous commercial growers who became familiar with them during pre-introduction tests, according to W. H. Alderman, chief in the horticulture division at University Farm.

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**March 23 - EGGS ARE GOOD MEAT SUBSTITUTE** - With production of eggs on the increase during spring months, it is a wise homemaker who uses this abundant food as a substitute for rationed meat, says Inez Hobart, extension nutritionist at University Farm. Eggs are easily digested and constitute an almost perfect food, containing nearly every necessary food element except vitamin C.

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**March 23 - GET SOYBEAN SEED NOW** - If Minnesota farmers are to meet the goal of 225,000 acres of soybeans this year, they will be wise to grab on to available supplies of good Minnesota-grown seed now, says A. C. Arny, professor of agronomy at University Farm. Growers have been asked by the Secretary of Agriculture to plant this acreage to help supply the human food need of soybean oil and flour and the protein supplement, soybean meal, necessary for livestock feeding.

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**March 25 - MORE PORK FROM MINNESOTA WEEK** - April 1 to 7 has been proclaimed "More Pork from Minnesota Week." Minnesota, with over 5,000,000 hogs on hand January 1, 1943, and more than seven million hogs raised last year, ranks among the leading hog producing states in the nation. Every effort is being made, says H. G. Zavoral, extension

animal husbandman at University Farm, to promote those practices among hog producers that will save more of the pigs farrowed this spring. About 40 per cent of the pigs born never reach the market, he says. More than half a million leaflets urging practices that will save more pigs have been prepared by the Minnesota Agricultural Extension Service and the Agricultural Experiment Station of the University of Minnesota for distribution to farmers in the State through feed manufacturers and dealers, livestock handlers, and bankers.

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March 25 - TRAINING SESSION FOR NEW 4-H AGENTS - Forty newly appointed county 4-H club agents will meet at University Farm April 1, 2, and 3 for a series of training sessions to prepare them for work with 4-H clubs during the spring and summer months. They will assist county agricultural agents in making club work a 100 per cent effort for victory and will attempt to enroll every farm boy and girl in the 4-H program.

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March 25 - GARDENERS GIVEN SHORT COURSE - Interested victory gardeners attending the last day's session of the twenty-second annual horticulture short course at University Farm today were told how to preserve garden produce for winter use. Speakers discussed storing, drying, brining, sulphuring, freezing, and canning and told how a storage room could be constructed. Advising the ornamental gardener to devote at least half of his space to growing vegetables, speakers at Thursday's garden session urged the planting of flowers and vegetables in the same garden and suggested utilizing vegetables and fruit trees for their ornamental value. Emphasis throughout the sessions was placed on the importance of specializing in crops that have high food values and produce a large yield.

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March 25 - COMMENTS ON BUTTER SITUATION - Butter is such a valuable food that we may have to get it on a doctor's prescription before the war is over, Professor W. B. Combs of the dairy division, University Farm, said today in summing up the butter situation. One of our most valuable fats, butter is essential in the diet of children, Combs said. For that reason it may be necessary for adults to go without butter part of the time in order that children may have more of it.

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March 26 - MINNESOTA PORK WEEK - Three short interviews with E. F. Ferrin, professor of animal husbandry, and H. G. Zavoral, extension animal husbandman at University Farm, on improving pig production practices, prepared for More Pork from Minnesota Week, April 1 - 7. (A series of three transcribed radio broadcasts for state-wide use.)

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WEEKLY - GARDEN AND TABLE - (Column of timely, practical paragraphs on vegetable and fruit production, canning and storage, and on foods and nutrition. Supplied to county extension agents for local release.)

#### DATES TO REMEMBER

Training Session for 4-H Club Agents - April 1-3.

Farm Help Training Sessions - April 3, 10, 17, 24.

Statewide Extension Conference - April 12-15.

High School Congress - May 6-8

Editors' Short Course - May 7-8

Beekeepers' Short Course - May 13-15.

## RECENT PUBLICATIONS

*Copies available on request from county extension agents or Bulletin Office, University Farm, St. Paul, Minnesota.*

**SEGMENTED SUGAR-BEET SEED** - Extension Bulletin 240 (March 1943) by J. O. Culbertson. Eight pages, illustrated. Discussion of the use of segmented sugar-beet seed to reduce hand labor.

**PASTURE RENOVATION** - Extension Folder 115 (March 1943) by Paul M. Burson and Ralph F. Crim. Six pages. Suggested steps for renovating permanent pastures.

**HOME CANNING FRUITS AND VEGETABLES** - Extension Folder 100 (Revised April 1943). Eight pages. Helps for successful canning of fruits and vegetables by using the pressure cooker and the hot water bath. Timetables included with directions for processing.

**IMPROVED VARIETIES OF FARM CROPS** - Extension Folder 22 (Revised March 1943). Twenty-four pages. A list of varieties of farm crops recommended for Minnesota by the Minnesota Experiment Station.

**4-H HOMEMAKING ASSISTANCE** - Extension 4-H Bulletin 28 (April 1943) by Mary May Miller and State 4-H Club Staff. Eight pages, illustrated. Designed for club members enrolling in the 4-H homemaking assistance project.

**4-H HOME IMPROVEMENT** - Extension 4-H Bulletin 29 (April 1943) by Charlotte Kirchner and State 4-H Club staff. Eight pages, illustrated. Prepared for club members in the 4-H home improvement project.

**VEGETABLE GARDENING** - Extension Bulletin 174 (Revised March 1943) by A. E. Hutchins. Thirty-two pages, illustrated. A comprehensive guide for the victory gardener, including directions for making a hotbed. Sections on insect pests and common diseases of garden vegetables. Planting tables.

**VICTORY GARDEN** - Extension Pamphlet 122 (March 1943) by E. M. Hunt and A. E. Hutchins. Eight pages. A terse guide for the victory gardener. Discusses seed, preparation of the soil, arrangement of crops, fertilizer, transplanting, thinning and cultivating, and watering. A table gives information on recommended varieties and tells when and how much to plant.

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