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ED May 15, 1943

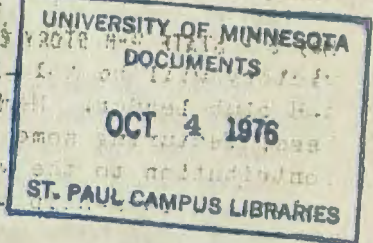
AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE  
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA  
University Farm, St. Paul, Minnesota

Office of  
Publications

EXTENSION DIGEST

May 17, 1943  
For Period:  
May 1 - May 15

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.



**May 4 - GRASSHOPPER CONTROL URGED** - Though Minnesota, as a whole will probably have one of the lightest grasshopper infestations in 1943 in many years, farmers are urged to watch for minor infestations during the rest of the season and use poison to prevent development of grasshopper population. Surveys conducted last fall indicate that several counties in east and west central Minnesota may be expected to have light to threatening conditions, while other counties may expect damaging populations in smaller local areas, according to A. G. Ruggles, state entomologist at University Farm. Extent of the trouble from grasshoppers will depend in part on weather conditions.

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**May 4 - FORAGE CROPS FROM WEED-INFESTED LAND** - Weed-infested land can produce important crops instead of lying fallow all summer, according to H. K. Wilson, University Farm agronomist, who suggests plowing the land in late May or early June after weeds have made some growth. The next step is to cultivate the land every two weeks, until about July 1, then seed it to a smother crop such as sudan grass, millet, or sorghum. Chief value of this plan, says Wilson, is that weed growth can be controlled without letting the land lie idle.

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**May 4 - YOUR GARDEN MAY NEED EROSION CONTROL** - Even the victory garden needs erosion control if it has been planted on sloping ground. Whether it's a 40-acre field or a 30 by 60-foot garden planted on a slope, the victory gardener may find some day that his crops have been damaged and precious soil washed away unless he puts conservation principles into practice. Herman Welch, Jr., soil conservation project supervisor at University Farm, suggests steps to take for erosion control of gardens.

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**May 4 - MORE MINNESOTA FARMS GET ELECTRICITY** - New information on the value Minnesota farmers place on electric power as an aid to war-time food production is contained in reports on 726 unelectrified farms made by five Minnesota REA-financed rural electric cooperatives in response to a request from the War Production Board. WPB, after examining the reports, authorized the five cooperatives to complete 218.9 miles of partially built rural electric lines to bring power to the 726 farms. The supply of manpower available to operate these farms is considerably less than normal because of the war, according to the reports of the cooperatives. The reports said that the farmers on the 726 farms had promised to increase their production of meats, poultry, eggs and dairy products, if electricity was made available.

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**May 6 - STATE VEGETABLE MARKETING COMMITTEE SET UP** - A Minnesota board of strategy for getting more fruits and vegetables grown commercially this year and moved into the hands of consumers to insure adequate winter food supplies has been set up with D. C. Dvoracek,

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.

extension marketing specialist at University Farm, as chairman. Other members of the committee are E. G. Booth, representing the Food Distribution Administration; Leo Knuti, representing the vocational agriculture section of the state department of education; George Christenson, representing the federal inspection service; and E. M. Hunt, extension horticulturist.

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**May 6 - STATE 4-H STORY CONTEST** - What 4-H club boys and girls are doing in the program for victory will be told in a statewide contest announced today by A. J. Kittleson, state 4-H club leader. Members who enter the contest will write stories of 250 words or less, featuring some experience or activity in which they have taken part as a definite contribution to the war effort. Activities may include whatever members do to help solve the farm-help problem.

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**May 6 - TWENTIETH ANNUAL HIGH SCHOOL CONGRESS HELD** - More than 600 boys representing approximately 100 Minnesota high schools registered for the twentieth annual congress for students of vocational agriculture being held this week at University Farm to consider present and future international relationships in agriculture. High school teachers of vocational agriculture are also attending the congress. Sessions of the Minnesota Association of Future Farmers of America will continue through Saturday, with election of officers Saturday morning.

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**May 6 - SPRAY FRUIT TREES TO SAFEGUARD CROP** - Fruit growers in the Twin City and southern Minnesota areas were urged this week to begin spraying operations to safeguard this year's crop from loss by insects or diseases. According to E. G. Sharvelle, University Farm plant pathologist, it is now time for commercial growers to apply the delayed dormant spray. Spraying of most apple varieties, with the exception of Wealthy, can be delayed until early next week, but recent showers may make it advisable to spray all varieties now. Spraying time for most plum varieties is at hand, and cherry plum hybrids should be sprayed the first part of next week.

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**May 11 - RECOGNITION ASSEMBLY HELD** - Seniors in the College of Agriculture, Forestry, and Home Economics will be guests of honor at the first of a series of spring events when the annual Recognition Assembly is held on Wednesday evening, May 12, at 7:45 in the auditorium at University Farm. On Thursday, May 13, Cap and Gown Day, seniors will have their annual tree planting ceremony at 9 a.m. at University Farm.

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**May 11 - BEST BUYS SERVICE RESUMED** - With increased activity at the Twin City fruit and vegetable markets expected in the near future, the Minnesota Agricultural Extension Service today resumed its daily reporting service to homemakers. Each week day Twin City newspapers and radio stations will report the activities at the local markets, informing housewives regarding best buys in homegrown fruits and vegetables.

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**May 11 - BEEKEEPERS' SHORT COURSE, MAY 13-15** - Attracting the attention of Minnesota beekeepers is the Short Course for Beekeepers to be held May 13, 14, and 15 at University Farm. With beekeeping playing an important wartime role in honey and wax production and pollination of crops, the course is designed to aid experienced beekeepers to increase efficiency in production and to give special help to beginners, Dr. M. C. Tanquary, professor of apiculture at University Farm, said today.

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**May 11 - SHORT COURSE FOR STORAGE LOCKER PATRONS** - Showing homemakers how to preserve foods by freezing will highlight the fifth annual Frozen Foods Short Course to be held at University Farm May 19 and 20, J. O. Christianson, director of agricultural short courses, said today. Thursday's sessions will be of special interest to locker patrons and others who have access to locker storage plants. They are open to the public without charge. Sessions on Wednesday, May 19, are restricted to locker operators.

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**May 12 - USE SUPPLEMENTARY PASTURES, CRIM ADVISES** - Supplementary pastures are highly important in providing good quality green feed at low cost in July and August when permanent pastures give out, according to Ralph Crim, University Farm extension agronomist, who

says too many pastures are on a feast and famine basis; Crim says rotation pasture mixtures such as alfalfa, brome and timothy, or alfalfa and meadow fescue yield at least twice as much as permanent pastures.

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**May 12 - WATCH FOR SLEEPING SICKNESS** - Farmers who may decide against vaccinating horses and mules this year because of last year's excellent record on sleeping sickness may be taking undue risks, according to W. L. Boyd, chief in the veterinary division at University Farm. It is important to recognize, Boyd says, that the disease has gained a foothold in this state.

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**May 12 - HOG RAISERS MAKE CHEAPER GAINS** - Faster, cheaper gains and larger litters have been reported by Minnesota farmers who are using the sow testing project method of selecting gilts and boars for breeding purposes, says H. G. Zavoral, extension animal husbandman at University Farm.

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**May 12 - AWARDS MADE AT RECOGNITION ASSEMBLY** - June L. Sederstrom, Litchfield, senior in the College of Agriculture, Forestry and Home Economics, was awarded the Dean E. M. Freeman medal for student leadership at the Recognition Assembly held Wednesday night at University Farm. Scholarship winners in the college were also announced at the assembly by Dean E. M. Freeman

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**May 12 - EGG AND POULTRY PRODUCTION ON INCREASE** - Entirely overlooked in the current "E" awards for productive efficiency, the nation's laying flocks are gaining in the race between supply and demand. Further gains will depend largely upon full rations at the feed racks and more support from the poorer laying members of the flock. That's the egg and poultry situation as seen by W. H. Dankers, extension marketing specialist at University Farm.

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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

Frozen Food Short Course - May 19-20

Agricultural Instructors' Conference - June 14-16

#### RECENT PUBLICATIONS

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

**FIELD BEANS FOR MINNESOTA** - Extension Folder 117 (May 1943) by A. C. Arny and R. C. Rose. Six pages. Information on planting and marketing field beans, prepared especially for new growers.

**DRYING FOODS AT HOME** - Extension Pamphlet 102 (Revised April 1943) by Inez Hobart. Eight pages. Information on new methods of drying vegetables and on sulphuring apples and brining kraut. Two tables with directions for drying vegetables and for refreshing and serving vegetables.

**FREEZING FRUITS AND VEGETABLES** - Extension Folder 111 (Revised April 1943). Eight pages. Information on the preparation and packaging of fruits and vegetables for freezing in the food locker. By J. D. Winter

**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 hot water bath. Time tables included with directions for processing.

**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.