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ED July 1-15, 1943

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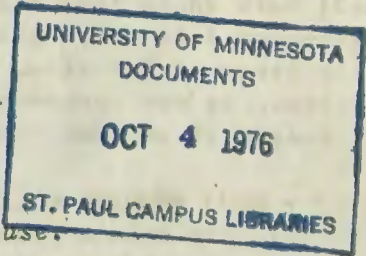
AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE  
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA  
University Farm, St. Paul, Minnesota

Office of  
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EXTENSION DIGEST

July 17, 1943  
For period  
July 1 - July 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.*



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**July 1 - APPLY SECOND SPRAY TO APPLE TREES** - Fruit growers were advised today by A. C. Hodson, University Farm entomologist, to apply the second cover spray to apple trees. Spraying at this time will prevent a build-up of the first generation of the codling moth and eliminate any late infection of apple scab. Spray materials recommended by Hodson are as follows: three pounds lead arsenate, one pound spray lime, five pounds wettable sulphur, and water to make 100 gallons of spray.

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**July 1 - OVERHEATING OF HORSES CAN BE AVOIDED** - Overheating of horses and mules will not occur if the animals are allowed free access to salt morning, noon, and night, and are given some water every hour while at work, according to A. L. Harvey, animal husbandman at University Farm. Recent studies indicate that farmers who give their work animals all the salt they want and water them every hour do not lose horses or mules for excessive heat.

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**July 1 - FREEZE STRAWBERRIES FOR NEXT WINTER** - If you own a home freezer or rent locker space, freeze some strawberries now for next winter's use, advises J. D. Winter, University Farm horticulturist. After the berries are hulled and washed, they may be packed whole or chopped. Chopped fruit usually retains a better flavor than the whole berries. Use four pounds of fruit to one pound of sugar. Stir sugar and fruit together until the fruit is coated with dissolved sugar and fruit juice. Pack in container made for frozen foods. Recommended for freezing are the following strawberry varieties: Dorsett, Dunlap, Premier, Burgandy (Minn. No. 1192), Beaver, Gem (everbearing) and Wayzata (everbearing).

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**July 7 - POTATO BLIGHT APPEARS IN MINNESOTA** - Growing threats of late blight to this year's potato crop were reported today by R. C. Rose, University Farm pathologist, following inspection of several potato growing areas in the state. Blight epidemics are already starting from potato refuse dumps which have not been destroyed. Potato growers, as well as victory gardeners, are urged to spray or dust their spud acreages immediately and continue control operations at weekly intervals as long as the plants stay green. Bordeaux mixture, prepared from copper sulfate and hydrated lime, is recommended for spraying potato fields.

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

July 7 - LEAF SPOT REPORTED ON TOMATOES - Reports of tomato leaf spot disease are reaching alarming proportions in the state, according to R. C. Rose, University Farm pathologist. He advises tomato growers to roll out the spraying or dusting equipment immediately rather than wait for the blight to strike. Copper fungicides are the only effective materials that can be used in controlling leaf spot which starts as small dark spots less than an eighth inch in diameter. Spotted leaves soon turn yellow and fall off. Lower leaves are first affected, but in severe cases entire vines become defoliated. Bordeaux mixture, used in controlling late blight of potatoes, is not recommended for leaf spot disease because it may actually increase the danger of another tomato disease, blossom-end rot.

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July 7 - DON'T OVERLOOK MILLET AS LATE CROP - In searching for late crops to use on land that has been drowned out or kept black for weed control, don't overlook millet, A. C. Army, University Farm agronomist, said today, pointing out that this crop can be put in as late as the middle of July in Minnesota and still make mature seed. According to Army, millet may be either a hay or a grain crop. In either case it is best cut with a binder and tied in small bundles. Ripe millet can then be threshed and the seed ground for cattle, sheep or hogs, or fed whole to chickens.

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July 7 - LESS MILK, MORE DRY FEED TO GALVES - With the government asking for more milk for our fighting forces, farmers will have to feed their calves less milk and more grain and hay, according to T. W. Gullickson of the dairy division at University Farm, who adds that many dairy calves have been receiving more milk than they actually need. Hundreds of calves have been raised successfully each year on farms in market milk areas on a so-called minimum milk-dry feed plan, says Gullickson. According to this plan a total of only about 200 to 300 pounds of whole milk and 350 pounds of skim milk are fed, a saving of over 8,000 pounds of skim milk for an average-sized herd where five or six heifer calves are raised each year. Success depends on giving the calves a good start on milk and on getting them to eat liberal amounts of grain and hay.

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July 13 - CLEAN BINS BEFORE STORING NEW GRAIN - Putting dry grain in clean bins is the most practical way to prevent insect damage to this year's grain crop, says H. H. Shepard, entomologist at University Farm. Safe storage is determined largely by proper handling at threshing and binning time, according to Shepard.

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July 13 - HARVESTING FLAX EARLY REDUCES WEED PROBLEMS - Early harvesting will greatly reduce weed problems in flax fields, according to M. L. Armour, extension agronomist at University Farm. The longer a flax crop is left standing, the greater the labor and mechanical power required to handle the crop and the higher the dockage in the threshed flax because of greater weed growth. Flax can be harvested either with the windrower or binder when 90 per cent of the bolls are brown, says Armour. The 10 per cent of green bolls will mature in the windrow or shock without loss of quality and with very little or no loss in yield.

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July 13 - PHOSPHATE FERTILIZER INCREASES ALFALFA YIELDS - Farmers can pep up their alfalfa fields by applying a phosphate fertilizer or one of the phosphate-potash combinations now following the first cutting of hay, says Paul Burson, extension soils specialist at University Farm. Treatments of phosphate or phosphate-potash will increase the yield by stepping up the growth of existing stand, will provide better quality of hay, higher feeding value in phosphorus content, and a better root growth. Though top-dressing produces good results, better results are obtained when phosphate fertilizer is thoroughly worked into the soil at the time a new seeding is made, according to Burson.

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July 13 - FOUR-H WINNERS GET TRIPS TO FAIR -Minnesota 4-H boys and girls who exhibit livestock at county fairs held throughout the state during the summer months have an opportunity to win trips to the Minnesota State Fair, it was announced today by A. J. Kittleson, state 4-H club leader at University Farm. While no 4-H livestock will be shown at the State Fair this year, county 4-H winners in dairy, swine, sheep, and colt projects will be awarded trips as a result of a recent contribution made by the Minnesota Livestock Breeders' association for this purpose.

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July 13 - APPLE MAGGOT FLIES THREAT TO APPLE CROP - Advance notice on the appearance of apple maggot flies, serious midsummer threat to this year's apple crop, was given to growers today by A. C. Hodson, University Farm entomologist. Most effective means of controlling this pest, according to Hodson, is to poison the flies before they have a chance to deposit their eggs. Spraying with arsenical poison a week after the first appearance of apple maggot flies will insure good coverage during the critical period. All trees including non-bearing and bordering woodlot trees should be sprayed.

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July 13 - PROTECT SHADE TREES NOW - If you don't want your shade trees to be bare come August, you'd better waste no time in going after the eggs laid by the tussock moth. That's the advice of A. C. Hodson, University Farm entomologist. Within a few days white masses of eggs will be conspicuous on the trunks and large branches of elms and other shade trees. If left undisturbed, the eggs will hatch into caterpillars which will defoliate trees. The egg masses can be scraped away easily and should be destroyed at once.

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

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WEEKLY - TIMESAVERS FOR FARM AND HOME -A weekly column of labor saving tips supplied to county extension agents for local release.

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### RECENT PUBLICATIONS

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

THE LEAFHOPPERS OF MINNESOTA by John T. Medler. Technical Bulletin 155 (June 1942). 196 pages. Nine plates. A technical guide for the identification of the leafhoppers of Minnesota.

INCOME AND EXPENDITURES OF MINNESOTA AGRICULTURE by Rex W. Cox, Warren C. Waite, W. B. Garver. Experiment Station Bulletin 366 (May 1943). Forty-four pages. Tables. Estimates of the cash sales by farmers of 19 principal agricultural products and of the principal expenditures involved in the farm operations in the state. Estimates for the state cover 1910 to 1941 and for nine type-of-farming areas from 1924 to 1940.

CONTROL HOG LICE AND MANGE by H. G. Zavoral. Extension Folder 46 (Revised June 1943). Twelve pages, illustrated. Preventive and control measures to use against hog lice and mange.

PRODUCE QUALITY MILK by E. A. Hanson, Extension Folder 106 (Revised June 1943). Six pages, illustrated. How to handle milk from cow to factory so as to avoid contamination and keep milk of high quality. Tips on care of the milking machine.