

Office of
 Publications

EXTENSION DIGEST

May 3, 1944
 For Period
 April 15 - May 1

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

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
 DOCUMENTS

- April 18 - FERTILIZE GARDENS FOR BETTER CROPS, SAYS BURSON
- April 18 - ANNUAL CONGRESS OF VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURE STUDENTS
- April 18 - 96 PER CENT OF MINNESOTA CHICKENS FROM HATCHERIES

OCT 4 1976

ST. PAUL CAMPUS LIBRARIES

April 19 - ZAVORAL RECOMMENDS PASTURE FOR GROWING PIGS - Good ~~pasture for growing~~ pigs gives the swine grower two advantages that are especially important this year, says H. G. Zavoral, extension animal husbandman at University Farm. In the first place, it encourages sanitation, getting the pigs out of the filthy hog lots onto clean ground where they will have a better chance to avoid disease. In the second place, pasture can save a lot of the grain and protein feeds which are so scarce this year. "An acre of good legume pasture such as alfalfa can save 2,000 pounds of grain and 500 pounds of protein supplement," Zavoral declares. A good plan is to set aside a portion of the good-stand alfalfa or clover field for the pigs. Brome and timothy mixtures with legumes are also excellent. Where no established pasture is available, rape seeded alone will supply the green feed that can do so much to cut down the feed cost of growing out the spring pig crop. The best plan is to make provisions a year ahead for hog pasture so that a good legume stand will be available in a convenient place where the pigs have not run for several years.

April 19 - SOYBEAN HAY AS SUBSTITUTE FOR ALFALFA AND CLOVER - Shrinking acreages of alfalfa and clover may mean a serious shortage of high protein hay unless steps are taken to substitute an emergency legume crop. Soybeans raised for hay are the best bet for the dairyman who hasn't enough of the regular hay legumes. Properly handled soybean hay will yield well and furnish a forage feed almost as good as alfalfa. The beans should be put in immediately after the corn in a well-prepared seedbed. Seeding in rows about one inch apart and cultivating like corn is a popular method. On weed-free ground it is also satisfactory to drill the beans in solid and thereby save the labor of cultivating. Row planting will take about a bushel and a quarter to the acre while drilling in will take about two bushels. Manchua and Mukden are good varieties to choose, although other kinds will also do for hay purposes if seed is scarce. Any dairyman who must depend on soybeans for most of his legume hay needs should have about an acre to each cow.

April 19 - MAKE USE OF ALL ALFALFA AND CLOVER SEED - Unless the shrinkage in alfalfa and clover acreages is halted and some way is found to build up the potential supply of hay and pasture, Minnesota farmers may face a much more serious feed problem than the present one attributed largely to shortages of grain and protein, says J. B. McNulty, farm management specialist at University Farm. In spite of two good pasture years, a favorable fall and an open winter, supplies of legume hay have been disappearing at an alarming rate. To make matters worse, state-wide reports indicate that the acreages of legumes is in danger of being reduced even further this year. In spite of the scarcity of legume seeds, there are indications now that the reduced demand will not make full use of available seeds.

McNulty says that alfalfa, clover or recommended hay and pasture mixtures ought to get first call on acres to be used for growing feed. High cost of seed is counteracted by the fact that good legume hay and pasture are still the cheapest feeds that can be grown on the farm. He urges farmers, especially those who have dairy herds, to keep up their legume plantings even at relatively high cost. Since a good pasture and hay program must be planned one to three years in advance, it is very important there be no interruption in seedings. Farm management records show that hay crops are not only labor saving but they deliver a lot of good feed per acre at low cost.

* * * * *

- April 21 - TREATING CATTLE FOR GRUB IS PAYING PROPOSITION
- April 24 - EXECUTIVE SECRETARY OF NUTRITION COMMITTEE NAMED
- April 24 - GEORGE HOWARD, PIONEER RURAL YOUTH LEADER, DIES
- April 24 - BEEKEEPERS' SHORT COURSE MAY 11-13
- April 26 - MORE CORN FROM ROWS PLANTED ON CONTOUR

* * * * *

April 26 - WATCH BROODING TEMPERATURES FOR HEALTHY CHICKS - Poper temperature in the brooder house is of utmost importance in raising healthy, well feathered, productive birds. Too many poultrymen consider baby chicks quite frail and consequently overheat them in brooding. Overheating tends to produce anemic, listless chicks with faulty elimination. Probably more troubles have been caused by keeping the chicks too hot than any other one thing. When chicks are first put in the brooder they need a temperature of about 90 degrees at the edge of the hover. After two or three days, drop the temperature one degree a day. This brings the temperature under the hover down to about 70 degrees when the chicks are three weeks old. Instead of heating the entire house to a uniform temperature, fix some sort of curtain around the outer edge of the hover and provide a variety of temperatures, thus making it possible for chicks to get away from the heat. Also allow them to run outdoors by the time they are ten days to two weeks old. It doesn't pay to pamper chicks after the first week or ten days. If they can get from the warm brooder to the colder part of the house, and in turn outdoors, they are much more active, feather better, grow better and have greater appetities.

* * * * *

- April 26 - POTATOES GOOD WARTIME FOOD CROP
- April 28 - BEES PLAY VITAL PART IN WAR EFFORT
- April 28 - CURRANTS AND GOOSEBERRIES HARDY FRUITS
- April 28 - SPRAY BULLETIN OFF THE PRESS

* * * * *

DATES TO REMEMBER

- May 4-6 - High School Congress
- May 5-6 - Editors' Short Course
- May 11-13 - Beekeepers' Short Course
- May 17 - 20 - Sawmillers' and Loggers' Short Course at Cloquet

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

Copies available on request from county extension office or from Bulletin Room, University Farm, St. Paul 8, Minnesota.

GROWING GRAPES IN MINNESOTA by E. M. Hunt. Extension Folder 124 (April, 1944). Eight pages. Illustrated. Suggestions on varieties, planting and cultivation, pruning and spraying.

GROWING POTATOES IN THE HOME GARDEN by E. M. Hunt. Extension Folder 125 (April, 1944). Eight pages. Illustrated. Recommended varieties, planting, cultivation, pest control and storage discussed.

MINNESOTA COMMERCIAL ORCHARD SPRAY PROGRAM by E. G. Sharvelle and A. C. Hodson. Extension Bulletin 242 (April, 1944). Eight pages. Illustrated. Orchard sanitation and management program for apples and other tree fruits. Complete spray schedule.