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UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA - U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
UNIVERSITY FARM, ST. PAUL 8, MINNESOTA

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EXTENSION DIGEST

June 1, 1944
For period
May 15 - May 31

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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- May 16 - SOIL CONSERVATION ADOPTED AS NEW 4-H PROJECT.
- May 16 - POTATO CROP CRITICAL FOR 1944.
- May 16 - ELECTRIC SERVICE AVAILABLE TO MORE FARMS AFTER WAR
- May 16 - WINTER INJURY RESPONSIBLE FOR EVERGREENS TURNING BROWN
- May 18 - GET YOUR FRESH CRISP GREENS FROM FIELDS AND WOODS
- May 18 - NATHAN GOODWIN WINS STATE 4-H FARM ACCOUNTING CONTEST

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May 18 - CITY RESIDENTS URGED TO HAVE GARDENS THIS YEAR - City folks will have to pitch in and help farm people with the job of wartime food production or the present appearance of abundance in the food picture may quickly change to serious shortages by next winter, warns Paul E. Miller, director of the Minnesota Agricultural Extension Service. Residents of both the large cities and smaller towns can help a great deal, he says, by raising gardens as large as last year or larger. "The easing up of rationing and the abundance of some products just now should not fool us into thinking that the nation's food supply for next winter is 'on ice.' Actually, we are off to a bad start in food production this spring, and the produce of every urban victory garden can do its part to fill out the supply next fall and winter," Miller declared.
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May 18 - KEEP UNUSED TREATED SEED GRAIN FOR NEXT YEAR - Unused treated seed grain need not represent a loss for farmers who did not put in the number of acres of small grain that they had originally planned, says R. C. Rose, extension plant pathologist at University Farm. Because of the wet conditions in many parts of the state which prevented farmers from making the usual seedings of small grains, utilization of the treated seed has become an important problem. Seed treatment does not injure the seed and germination will be equally as good as similar untreated seed kept for the same length of time. Although 1943-grown seed will not have as strong germination next year as it would have had this spring, the difference is not great enough to justify allowing this seed to go to waste. Germination will depend largely upon the condition under which the seed is stored, cool and dry conditions being best. As an added precaution, Rose advised that germination tests be made before seeding time next year. Since the organic mercury compounds used in seed treatment are poisonous to livestock and poultry, it is not advisable to use treated grain for feeding purposes.
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- May 18 - PLANT VEGETABLES FOR CANNING AND STORAGE
- May 24 - REA LINES BRING POWER TO OVER 60,000 FARMS
- May 24 - INCOME TAX SHORT COURSE OCTOBER 9-12
- May 31 - PRECAUTIONS TO TAKE AGAINST SILVERFISH
- May 31 - DON'T DO OVEN OR OPEN KETTLE CANNING

May 31 - CULL LOAFER HENS TO CONSERVE FEED SUPPLY - Most poultrymen think that disease losses account for the worst leak of time and money in the poultry enterprise, but there is another leak almost as bad that is usually overlooked, says Cora Cooke, extension poultry specialist at University Farm. Laying hens that quit producing in Cooperative Extension Work in Agriculture and Home Economics, University of Minnesota, Agricultural Extension Service 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.

the spring and early summer ought to be hustled off to market right away before they have a chance to eat up their value in feed. Summer is time of year when hens in the flock are constantly knocking off for a rest, and the earlier they quit, the longer they will stay out of production. They should be culled out promptly as soon as their combs develop a pale shrunken appearance and before they begin to moult.

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May 31 - USE VACCINATION TO COMBAT HOG CHOLERA - Vaccination is still the only safe protection against hog cholera. Although much progress has been made in the control of many diseases and parasites of hogs through the use of a system of strict sanitation, the same does not apply to the control of hog cholera, according to Dr. W. A. Billings, extension veterinarian at University Farm. Even farmers who practise the strictest sanitation cannot feel secure if their hogs are not vaccinated against cholera. The disease, which is caused by a virus, may be spread in a number of ways, all more or less beyond the farmer's control. Though vaccination adds to the cost of hog production, Billings points out that it is still cheap insurance against a devastating disease which can cause hundreds of dollars of loss on a single farm in a year. The cost of vaccination may be kept at a minimum by vaccinating early, either two weeks before or two weeks after weaning. Life-long immunity is assured by vaccinating at this time.

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May 31 - PLANT SOYBEANS FOR HAY - Soybeans for hay should rate ace-high as a crop this spring because they help to solve two of the problems brought on by the late spring and wet weather. Upsets in cropping plans because of heavy rains have left thousands of acres of good crop land still unplanted. Heavy kill of alfalfa and other legumes indicates a serious shortage of legume hays next winter. Soybeans can be planted as late as June 15 or even later, though hay yield will be heavier if the beans can be planted immediately. In central and southern parts of the state any seed that can be purchased will be satisfactory for hay, says A. C. Arny, University Farm agronomist. In the north central part of the state Mandarin will give best results, though other varieties will do passably well. Good soybean hay is almost as good as alfalfa for dairy forage, says H. R. Searles, extension dairyman, and adds that any dairyman who has acres to plant that can be released for soybean hay will do well to plant this crop liberally.

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DATES TO REMEMBER

- June 5-10 - Crookston 4-H Club Week
- June 12-14 - Summer Conference for Agriculture Teachers
- June 13-14 - Morris 4-H Club Week, First Section
- June 16-17 - Morris 4-H Club Week, Second Section
- June 15 - Rose Growers' Day
- June 20-22 - Homemakers' Week, West Central Station, Morris
- June 22-24 - Grand Rapids 4-H Club Week

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

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

APPLE MAGGOT CONTROL by A. C. Hodson. Extension Folder 122 (April 1944). 8 pages. Illustrated. Control steps for one of the most troublesome and destructive pests of apples.

WINTER BEHAVIOR OF STRAWBERRY PLANTS by W. G. Brierley and R. H. Landon. Station Bulletin 375 (March, 1944). 24 pages. Illustrated. Studies of the behavior of strawberry plants in winter, and recommendations as to more satisfactory mulching practices.

MAKE YOUR HAY. Extension Pamphlet 136 (May, 1944). 6 pages. Illustrated. How to make high-protein hay with milk-pail value.