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Publications

EXTENSION DIGEST

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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February 16 - CORN SUPPLY IMPORTANT - Minnesota farmers should make their corn supply a first order of business this year, S. B. Cleland, farm management specialist at University Farm, said today. Even with the large reserves of corn and wheat which may be available for feed, the tremendous increase in hog numbers anticipated this spring may more than use up these feed reserves. The practical thing for farmers to do seems to be to shift as many acres of small grain to corn as can be handled and to do just as good a job of production as possible.

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February 16- RADIO WINNERS TO BE CHOSEN - Champion in a state-wide 4-H radio public speaking contest will be named Sunday, February 21, when the two top-ranking contestants broadcast their talks over a network of Minnesota stations at 10:15 a.m. The 4-H members speak on "What the Four Freedoms Mean to Me." Winners from 13 districts will compete in the state elimination contest on Saturday afternoon, February 20, at 2 p.m. in the auditorium at University Farm. At that time the two highest scoring participants will be chosen for the Sunday morning broadcast.

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February 16 - SHORTAGE OF SHEEP SHEARERS - There may be a serious shortage of sheep shearers to harvest the Minnesota wool crop this year, says W. E. Morris, extension sheep specialist at University Farm. In some communities army recruiting and defense industries have taken some of the men who have the skill and equipment to do this specialized work. The Agricultural Extension Service is planning to hold sheep shearing schools for men wishing to learn the trade, Morris reports. Morris is also making a survey of shearing equipment in the state in order to draft all usable machines.

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February 17 - INCLUDE FARM PROPERTY DEPRECIATION IN TAX REPORT - While the purchase price of farm property cannot be charged off on the income tax report in the year purchased if the items are useful for several years, the cost is covered by means of an annual depreciation over the estimated useful life of the items, according to G. E. Toben of the agricultural economics division at University Farm. Annual depreciation is determined, says Toben, by dividing the original cost of the item by the estimated useful life in years. This amount of depreciation is charged every year until the original cost has been recovered.

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February 17 - LEARN TO USE MEAT ALTERNATES - Since variety meats are now to be included in the rationing program, learning to use meat alternates will not only take on increasing importance but will help keep family expenses down. Inez Hobart, extension nutritionist at University Farm, suggests a number of substitutes for meat.

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.

February 17 - POTATOES A GOOD WARTIME CROP - Potatoes are coming to the front to help solve the wartime food problem, says R. C. Rose, plant pathologist at University Farm. High yields of food value at low cost and ability to store well for use throughout the year make potatoes an excellent wartime crop for the farmer and the home gardener. In growing potatoes, healthy seed is important, says Rose, since potatoes are subject to many diseases carried in the seed. The difference in cost of using certified seed is usually repaid many times by the difference in the crop.

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February 18 - MAPLE TREES CAN ADD TO SUGAR RATION - Minnesota's maple trees can make an important contribution to our wartime food supply if we give them a chance, says Parker Anderson, extension forester at University Farm. Because the younger generation of Minnesotans have neglected the art of tapping maples each spring to make syrup and sugar, only a few thousand gallons, a very small percentage of available maple tree products, are harvested annually here. Once a working plan is established, says Anderson, this crop will require little of the owner's time in looking after the sugar bush and will be profit making as well.

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February 23 - DRIED MILK MANUFACTURER'S SHORT COURSE - Wartime demands for milk powder from Minnesota drying plants now having difficulty in reaching capacity production because of insufficient milk supplies will be one of the problems for discussion during the two-day short course for dried milk manufacturers beginning March 2 at University Farm. Hints on efficient powder plant operation, quality control, and some of the technical problems in egg drying will highlight discussions.

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February 23 - 4-H SAFETY CHAMPIONS NAMED - Grand champion of the Minnesota 1942 4-H safety contest is Lorraine Wright, Menahga, according to an announcement made today by A. J. Kittleson, state club leader. Top honors for safety activities went to Ramsey county, while the North Star 4-H club in Mower county was rated champion Minnesota club for its achievements in the safety campaign.

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February 23 - COURSES FOR GARDENERS - Of special interest to this year's victory gardeners are two courses to be given at University Farm in March. Designed to meet the needs of those who wish to grow garden crops and to act as leaders in the victory garden campaign is an eight-weeks' night-school course beginning Tuesday, March 9, at 7:30 p.m. in Room 102, Horticulture Building. Announcement was also made today by J. O. Christianson, director of short courses, of a horticulture short course March 24, 25, and 26 featuring victory gardens, fruit growing, and preservation of garden products.

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February 24 - PREPARE NOW FOR MAPLE SUGAR HARVEST - Maple-sugar time will soon be here for Minnesota farmers who each year harvest a crop of maple syrup and for those who this year will have their first experience in tapping maple trees. Parker Anderson, extension forester at University Farm, urges farmers who have even a few hard maples on their land to make preparations now for harvesting a crop that will add to the family sugar ration and sources of income.

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February 24 - SOYBEANS A NUTRITIOUS FOOD - Soybeans are increasing in popularity as a meat substitute on the American dinner table, says Eva Blair, extension nutritionist, University Farm, who urges farmers to plant them this spring for family use. Soybeans are high in nutritional value and both field and garden varieties are edible.

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February 24 - TIME TO PLANT POTATOES - When to plant potatoes is a question many farmers are asking as they make plans for spring work. In northern Minnesota all varieties should be planted as soon as possible after the frost is out of the ground, according to R. C. Rose, extension plant pathologist at University Farm. Southern Minnesota farmers are urged to plant short-season varieties as early as possible, but late varieties should be planted after May 15 in order to delay tuber development until after the hottest weather.

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February 25 - **INCREASING ACREAGES OF CORN AND ALFALFA URGED** - More corn and alfalfa in the 1943 cropping system is seen as the major hope of meeting livestock production goals this year, according to George A. Pond, University Farm economist, who states that farmers must raise from 1942 acreages more feed than we produced last year. Stating that the acreage of feed crops grown in 1942 with normal yields would not provide the amount of feed needed this year, Pond adds that farmers "must select and combine these crops that will produce the maximum quantity and quality of livestock feed at the minimum cost with special emphasis on economy in the use of labor."

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February 25 - **SELF FEEDERS GROW BETTER HOGS** - Self feeders are booming on Minnesota farms these days. The Minnesota Extension Service has developed plans for an improved type of hog feeder to meet wartime demands. Various ideas were tried out at University Farm and the best ones used in preparing Plan Sheet 101, now available at local lumberyards or at the county agent's office.

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February 25 - **4-H WINNERS ON FARM AND HOME HOUR** - Two Minnesota 4-H winners have been chosen to take part in the National Farm and Home hour broadcast from Chicago on Saturday, February 27 and Saturday, March 6. The two are Lorraine Wright, Menahga, grand champion of the Minnesota 4-H safety contest for 1942, and Charles Benrud, Goodhue, winner of the state 4-H radio public speaking contest.

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February 25 - **SCHOLARSHIPS ANNOUNCED** - Six freshmen in the College of Agriculture, Forestry, and Home Economics of the University of Minnesota have been recommended by the College Scholarship committee for Sears-Roebuck freshman scholarships for 1942-1943, according to Dean E. M. Freeman, who also announced the award of the Alpha Zeta freshman scholarship to LeRoy W. Hanson, Hallock.

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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

Dry Milk Manufacturers' Short Course - March 2 and 3.
Ice Cream Manufacturers' Short Course - March 15 and 16.
Horticulture Short Course - March 24, 25 and 26.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

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

COMMERCIAL FERTILIZERS FOR MINNESOTA IN 1943 - Extension Pamphlet 118 (February 1943) by C. O. Rost and Paul M. Burson. Eight pages. Maximum rates and recommendations established by the Minnesota Agricultural Experiment Station as required by FPA Order No. 5.

PIG QUIZ - Extension Pamphlet 119 (February 1943). Four pages. Questions and scoring sheet for the pig producer, together with pig production pointers.

WARTIME HEMP PRODUCTION IN MINNESOTA - Extension Pamphlet 117 (January 1943) by A. C. Army and R. F. Crim. Six pages. Cost of production, soil and moisture requirements, rotation, seed and seeding, harvesting and retting are discussed.

QUALITY IN FROZEN FRUITS AND VEGETABLES - Experiment Station Bulletin 362 (June 1942) by J. D. Winter. Twenty-four pages. Investigations on the problems of freezing fruits and vegetables under conditions applicable to locker storage space. Directions are given for preparing fruits and vegetables for freezing.