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FILM**

Volume:

2

**"YOU'RE NEVER FULLY DRESSED UNTIL YOU WEAR A SMILE"**

## Something New

This publication marks the beginning of a new venture on the part of your Pennsylvania Vegetable Growers' Association. During the past year or so the association in cooperation with the canners of Pennsylvania has been publishing a "bang-up" issue of the News along with the Ten-Ton Tomato Club Report. Every member of the association, as well as many people out of the association will agree and have agreed that this issue is among the best published by any state organization in the country.

This has been good and still is, but it represents one "big spurt" from the association to the members once a year in early Spring and then things seem to "hang in air" until time for the next issue of the News the next year. In other words, the association, as a working tool for its vegetable grower members, becomes a bit stagnant perhaps during the time of the year when the industry is at the peak of its activities, and when members could use new and pertinent facts and information which might be useful in the production and harvesting of bigger and better crops of vegetables.

With this brief introduction and explanation, the publication committee of your association has decided to launch upon this idea of getting several issues of the News out to you in the form of a simple news letter. This is your first issue; read it over, criticize it both adversely as well as constructively, and let us know your thoughts on it; anything for the GOOD of our association.

It will serve to keep the association and members in touch with each other during the year, and perhaps give members a little more for their dollar invested in membership. **WHAT DO YOU THINK? LET US HAVE YOUR HONEST OPINION.**

**BUILD . . . BUILD . . . BUILD**

"Therefore, when we build, let us think that we build forever. Let it not be for present delight, nor for present use alone, let it be such work as our descendants will thank us for, and let us think, as we lay stone on stone, that a time will come when those stones will be held sacred because our hands have touched them, and that men will say as they look upon the

labor and the wrought substance of them, 'See, this our fathers did for us.' "

— John Ruskin

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## Membership

As you have no doubt gathered by this time, our primary aim in this first issue is to get every member thinking along the lines of greater strength and a bright future for the association. The old adage that "In Numbers There Is Strength" still holds true. Some years back The Pennsylvania Vegetable Growers' Association boasted a membership of 1000 or more members. At present we have something over 200. This certainly doesn't show growth, strength and progress. We can't expect wonders from our organization if we don't Get Behind it with support.

What about this, members? Maybe you feel you have supported your association, but what about these 800 members who have fallen by the wayside? Can't we do something about it? Let's get them back into the fold. **If every present member would make it a point to get one new member by September 1st., our membership would be doubled.** What do you say, members? Let's get these past members back with us and some new ones too. Use membership blank at bottom of column.

This is strictly a membership issue; More News will follow in next issue.

**ATTENTION!**—1949 Ten-Ton Tomato Growers. We have not forgotten about your Ten-Ton Certificates; they are in committee hands —will be mailed soon.

(cut on dotted line and mail with dues)

### APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

in The Penna. Vegetable Growers' Assoc.

Name -----

Address -----

Enclosed find my \$3.00—1950 dues. This includes P.V.G.A. News and affiliated membership in Vegetable Growers' Association of America. (Mail dues to H. B. Gerhart, Box 21, Curryville, Pa.)

There is bad in the best of us; there is good in the worst of us, so it ill behooves any of us to criticize the rest of us.

## Pennsylvania To Join National Vegetable Week, August 5-11

The 3rd National Vegetable Week is designed to acquaint the public (consumers) with the importance of vitamins and energy in vegetables, to suggest various uses of vegetables in the daily diet, and to recommend methods of preparation (salad making and vegetable cookery) to obtain the greatest amount of food and health-giving value. Also, to stimulate wholesale and retail outlets and purveyors of food to promote the sale and use of vegetables in over-supply in order to make good use of them, to avoid waste and loss to the grower. Further, to encourage research, marketing, packaging and transportation in order to give consumers fresher vegetables and better quality at lower prices.

It is the desire of the Pennsylvania National Vegetable Week Committee to tie-in with the program being promoted by the Vegetable Growers Association of America and the interest displayed by nationally known food organizations, including the National Association of Food Chains, A & P Food Stores, Coca-Cola, Kraft Foods Co., and many national publications. This year, 1951, the National Association of Chain Drug Stores has urged its members to participate.

The following groups will participate: 1. The Pennsylvania Vegetable Growers' Association, 2. County Growers' Organizations and Cooperative Marketing Groups, 3. The Wholesale Commission Markets and the Retail Food Store organizations, 4. The Hotel and Restaurant Associations, 5. The County Agricultural Extension Associations and the Marketing and Home Economic Specialists of Penn State College, 6. The Rural Farm publications, newspapers, radio and television stations.

Miss Hilda Ann Hogeland, daughter of a Bucks County vegetable grower, has been selected as Pennsylvania State Vegetable Queen. She will be featured in radio and television programs and in vegetable cookery demonstrations and in many other ways during National Vegetable Week. A tie-in of National Vegetable Week with the Pennsylvania Civil Defense program will emphasize its importance in the economic life of the State and Country.

**DO YOUR PART, LITTLE OR BIG, TO MAKE NATIONAL VEGETABLE WEEK IN PENNSYLVANIA A REAL SUCCESS—EVERYBODY WILL BENEFIT!!!**

**HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT IT, TOMATO GROWERS AND CANNERS — HAS OUR TEN-TON CLUB OUTLIVED ITS USEFULNESS ???**

Should we have a 15 ton Club or a 20 ton Club? Let us have your ideas on a change for this coming season. How should the new club be set up? Let us have any suggestions you have. Write to your secretary, H. B. Gerhart, Martinsburg, Pa.

## Hilda Hogeland, of Davisville, Named State Vegetable Queen

Hilda is a typical wholesome product of 100% American farm life; the 18 year old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Newlin F. Hogeland, a successful vegetable grower, operating an 87 acre farm at Davisville, Bucks County, that has been in control of the Hogeland family since 1870. In addition, 80 acres of leased land are cultivated. The major production of the farm includes potatoes, cucumbers, hay and grain crops and a poultry flock of 4000 chickens.

Since her early teens, Hilda was a helper on the farm, hoeing and being generally useful. Later she learned to drive the truck and tractor, hauling vegetables and other crops to the packing-house. She assisted in the grading and packing of cucumbers for market and became very efficient in this operation as 8000 bushels were harvested during the season.

Her record of accomplishments reflects the unique farm family environment so evident in American Agriculture. She was an active member of the Bucks County 4-H Club, participating in many projects, the profits from the sale of the crops produced in these projects were set aside and saved. Through conscientious work and thrift, Hilda was prepared to help substantially to pay her expenses for four years at college.

Hilda has led an active student life and is proficient in sports. She was graduated with honors from the Upper Southampton-Warminster High School. She is now completing her first year at Penn State College (Liberal Arts), later to major in Home Economics.

Hilda has a vivacious personality, outstanding poise and all the other qualities recognized and admired in young American womanhood.

### ATTENTION

Many past members have let their association down by not paying their dues. We're trying to do a job in behalf of the industry, but it takes money to operate. Help us help you by paying your dues if you have not as yet. Paid up members owe it to their organization to get new members, or old ones back in good stead.

(cut on dotted line and mail with dues)

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— SERVING THE VEGETABLE GROWERS OF PENNSYLVANIA —

TEXT CUT OFF

PENNSYLVANIA VEGETABLE GROWERS' NEWS

VOLUME 2

APRIL, 1932

NUMBER 1.

Officers of the State Vegetable Growers' Association

President - William G. Wenker, Bustleton  
Vice-President - C. M. Smith, Lewistown  
Sec'y-Treas. - W. B. Mack, State College

With this issue, the publication of the Pennsylvania Vegetable Growers' News, the official organ of the State Vegetable Growers' Association, is resumed, after a lapse of nearly four years. Its circulation to members of the Association will continue as long as interest in it may justify it, and as long as funds are available to finance it. It is proposed to publish numbers whenever sufficient material accumulates.

Members are invited to submit items of timely interest, which will be published as space is available. Inquiries on any subject will be referred to the proper authority, and if the subject is judged to be of widespread interest, the answers will be included in the News. Discussion of such topics, together with notes on new methods and discoveries in vegetable growing and distribution, will make up the News.

Our President, William G. Wenker, suggests that members keep in mind the next annual meeting, and suggest to the Secretary topics which should be included in the program. He suggests also that members tell us what they think of the News, and if they have suggestions for its improvement, make them in writing to the Secretary.

A suggestion has been made that the Vegetable Growers arrange a display exhibit advertising Pennsylvania produce, possibly in cooperation with the Potato Growers, at the Farm Show. Ideas on this subject should be communicated to our representatives on the Farm Show Committee, William G. Wenker and H. N. Dudley of Bustleton, and Gilbert S. Watts of Bellwood.

The following report is an abridged Proceedings of the Annual Meeting of the State Vegetable Growers' Association, held on January 19 and 20, 1932, in the Farm Show Building, Harrisburg.

ANNUAL MEETING  
STATE VEGETABLE GROWERS' ASSOCIATION  
HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA

JANUARY 19 and 20, 1932

Roadside Marketing Experiences

Mr. Ralph Crowell, Buckingham, Pennsylvania, a successful grower of fruits and vegetables, and an operator of a thriving roadside market since 1919, spoke on "Roadside Marketing Experiences". He says that a roadside market for vegetables and other produce, to be successful, must not be hard to distinguish from a "Hot Dawg" stand. He has observed that a location on the right side of the road for motorists returning to town is most favorable; a good sales room is a distinct advantage, but not a necessity; brand names and attractive labels help in advertising, but quality in the products and fair, cheerful dealing are necessary to hold customers. Some of the practical suggestions made by Mr. Crowell were the following:

Rectify mistakes or misunderstandings cheerfully, and thus make friends with customers.

Keep a mailing list and notify customers when certain desirable varieties are ready.

Grade your produce.

Keep a sales person on hand at all times.

When selling in small quantities, do not sell at wholesale prices; on the other hand, excessive prices should not be charged.

Clean packages, preferably carrying the name, address and telephone number of the market, should be used.

Mr. Crowell finds that adverse weather is one of the few drawbacks which influence the roadside market. He and his wife have enjoyed their contact with the buying public, and they count their acquaintances and friendships made in this way among the things which make life worth living.

Chain Stores as Vegetable Markets

Mr. C. H. Smith, Lewistown, President of the Association, and Mr. Wm. H. Evans, Plainsville, led the discussion on "Marketing to Chain Stores." Mr. Smith's experience has been with large and small chains in central Pennsylvania. He has found them satisfactory customers in many respects, though they

are inclined to depend more largely upon supplies from distant wholesale sources, than upon the local grower. Mr. Evans pointed out that chain stores may work considerable hardship upon growers through their practice of carrying "leaders" at prices much below the prevailing retail prices, and often below the wholesale price. He gave examples from his experiences last summer, when the wholesale price of certain vegetables, potatoes in particular, took sudden drops which were unaccountable until it was noted that large chains of stores had carried these products as leaders. Independent stores, in order to compete, had refused to pay the current wholesale price, and all producers suffered in consequence. Mr. Evans stated that he considers it easier to sell to 500 individual buyers than to one buyer for 500 stores. He believes that the chain stores whose managers buy independently are in a better position to handle vegetables profitably than those which are supplied from central warehouses; such managers are as easy to deal with as are the operators of independent groceries.

#### Commission Marketing of Vegetables

Mr. C. W. Waddington, of the Atlantic Commission Company, Philadelphia, could not deliver his address on "Commission Selling of Vegetables from the Standpoint of the Commission Dealer". Little discussion of this topic was forthcoming, in view of the fact that few growers present sold their crops on commission, and those who did so, found their dealings with their particular commission houses to be quite satisfactory.

#### The Depression a Challenge to Vegetable Growers

Dean R. L. Watts presented an inspiring talk on the "Challenge of Pennsylvania Vegetable Gardening". He discussed the factors involved in bringing about the present world-wide depression, and gave his judgment concerning the extent to which they affected the grower of vegetables in Pennsylvania. He pointed out that, regardless of the problems and difficulties confronting them in the present situation, a few of our vegetable farmers are bankrupt or dependent upon charity. With the advantages of nearness to market, improved culture methods, excellent varieties, and the best of highways over which to haul produce, the future, though not rosy, is promising, and affords reasons for optimism.

#### New Jersey Experiences with Green Manures

Professor H. R. Cox, Extension Specialist in Soils, New Jersey Agricultural Extension Service, related the experiences of New Jersey vegetable growers with green manures and cover crops. He pointed out the advantages of the practice of green manuring and cover cropping, among which were the conservation of nitrogen and the maintenance of the humus content of the soil, and the prevention of leaching and erosion, both by wind and water. The

reasons for the popularity of rye, hairy vetch, biennial white sweet clover, crimson and other clovers, and mixtures of these crops. Rates of seeding were mentioned; rye or wheat, 6 to 8 pecks per acre; clovers (except alsike) 20 pounds per acre; vetch alone, 30 pounds per acre; vetch, 15 pounds, and rye, 3 pecks. The necessity of plowing down green manures before they become woody, and the advisability of applying readily available nitrogen to hasten decomposition of the green material, were discussed.

#### Organizing the Vegetable Farm Business

Gilbert Watts, Bellwood, Pennsylvania, who manages successfully a vegetable, small fruit, and orchard farm of more than 125 acres, and conducts one of the best known roadside markets in eastern United States, presented some interesting observations on the organization of the vegetable farm enterprise. He described his method of keeping a detail blue-print map of his farm, on which the cropping plan was indicated in pencil, and the record of the crops as planted was kept in ink, to make a permanent record. A schedule of his plant growing operations is made, and the schedule is strictly adhered to.

In organizing labor, he has found that the fixing of individual responsibility is the ultimate solution of the problem. If the worker is responsible for certain units of work, and can be checked upon by his foreman, high standards of workmanship may be maintained. Working on a piece-work basis simplifies the fixing of responsibility; the marking of baskets or boxes, with a definite number for each picker, makes it possible to check the work of the individual picker, even in the distant retail market.

Bookkeeping and cost accounting were mentioned as essentials of a well-organized vegetable farm business. Among the other points of organization mentioned and described were the planning of fields on a definite area basis; arranging of irrigation lines to fit the field plan; the rotation of crops and green manures on a definite system, and the planning of a fertility program, including liming, fertilizing, and green manuring; and the organizing of marketing.

#### Vegetable Variety Trials and Demonstrations in 1931

W. B. Mack, of the Division of Vegetable Gardening, State College, and J. M. Huffington, Extension Specialist, reported the results of variety trials and demonstrations in 1931. Among the dependable varieties and strains of vegetables described were Golden Early Market, Whipple's Yellow, and Bantam Evergreen sweet corn; New York No. 12 head lettuce; Laxtonian, Hundredfold, Laxton's Progress, Laxton's Superb, and Thomas Laxton peas, all early, large podded, sweet wrinkled, dwarf or semi-dwarf varieties; California Wonder, World Beater, and Early Giant green and red sweet peppers, and Oshkosh, green and yellow sweet peppers; Brittle Wax or Round Pod Kidney Wax and Pencil Pod Wax, yellow round podded stringless beans; Wardwell and Sure Crop Wax, or

Yellow Bountiful, yellow, flat podded stringless beans; Stringless and Giant Stringless Green pod, and Full Measure, green, round podded stringless beans; Bountiful, green flat podded stringless bean; several superior strains of Marglobe tomato; and Fordhook Bush Lima bean. Marglobe tomato types were reported as being of two distinct types, a large, somewhat flattened, moderately thick walled type, and the other a smaller, more globular, very fleshy type with superior color; Black Knight, a very well colored beet of the Detroit type, and Lutz's Green Leaf, a late, half long beet.

Among the new varieties discussed were the following: Delicious tomato; a deep-globular, fleshy, mid-season market or canning tomato; Progress, a self-pruning, very early strain of Earliana; Tangerine, an orange yellow, large, sweet tomato for home garden use; Mills' Golden Sunrise corn, a late, very large, vigorous sweet corn of good quality, which withstood blowing down much better than many other tall-growing varieties; Mikaeli, a Norwegian late cabbage, similar to Danish Ballhead, but with a more rounded head.

#### Serious Damage by Insects to Vegetables in 1931

L. B. Smith, Extension Specialist in Entomology, State College, discussed the major insect pests of garden crops in 1931. By way of introduction, he stated that the annual American feed bill for the insects attacking vegetables is \$300,000,000 which represents the total value of the vegetables produced in the United States in 1909. The damage done by insects represents about 20 percent of the entire value of the vegetable crops grown in the United States.

Some of the insects which are most likely to cause serious financial loss in Pennsylvania are these:

- On sweet corn - Corn borer, corn ear worms, Japanese beetle. Cleaning up corn refuse is the control for the first, and dusting the silks with arsenicals is the control for the last two.
- On tomatoes - flea beetles and Colorado potato beetles. Arsenical sprays must be used in the control of these pests.
- On cabbage - imported cabbage worm, cabbage looper, and cabbage aphid. Arsenical sprays or dusts for the first two, and nicotine sulfate sprays or dusts for the last. Root maggot is controlled by the corrosive sublimate treatment.
- On celery - celery looper and celery leaf tyer. Pyrethrum dust or spray is effective on the latter.

- On asparagus - Common asparagus beetle and 12-spotted asparagus beetle. Use arsenical or pyrethrum dusts or sprays, after cutting has been discontinued.
- On beans - Mexican bean beetle. Thorough and timely dusting or spraying with calcium or magnesium arsenate.
- On spinach - Aphis or lice. Nicotine and soap spray, or 4 percent nicotine dust, applied on the under surfaces of the leaves with the proper equipment.
- On cucumber and related plants. - Striped cucumber beetle, 12-spotted cucumber beetle. Thorough dusting or spraying at weekly intervals with calcium arsenate and gypsum, from the time the plants are up until the blossoms appear, will give satisfactory commercial control.
- Squash bugs - were very abundant in 1931, can be controlled by hand picking in the small garden, or by nicotine spraying, or by dusting with 4 percent nicotine dust, within 4 or 5 days after the eggs have hatched.

Control of insects attacking truck crops, however, cannot be secured by one or two spraying or dusting operations. Proper farm sanitation necessarily is one of the important control measures for all types of insect enemies.

Mr. Smith emphasized the fact that properly adjusted or adapted equipment, and timely, thorough covering, are essential in securing control of insects with sprays or dusts.

#### Spraying Celery Profitable in 1931

R. S. Kirby, Extension Specialist in Plant Pathology, State College, discussed the important diseases of celery, which were unusually severe in 1931. He reported the results of spraying demonstrations in Philadelphia County in 1931, in which complete spraying (9 or 10 times from July 25 to October 25), resulted in a gain of 58 crates per acre over 2 sprays, and of 86 crates over no spraying. The cost of the increased yield, based on the cost of spraying, was 34 cents per crate. The important diseases of celery, according to Mr. Kirby, are early and late blights, Sclerotinia rot, and, to a lesser extent, bacterial heart rot and bacterial leaf spot. A celery disease control program should include seed treatment (wetting the seed thoroughly with a suspension of 6 ounce of calomel in 1 gallon of water),

and spraying with 4 - 4 - 50 Bordeaux, once to 3 times in the seed bed and from 6 to 11 applications in the field. Crop rotation and farm sanitation are necessary to control Sclerotinia rot; if damage from it cannot be kept in check in trench storage, cold storage must be adopted.

#### Hints on Celery Growing

Mr. Walter E. Peeling, Williamsport, and Frank M. Haugh, Montoursville, presented an interesting discussion of celery growing. Varieties, plant growing, soil preparation, fertilizing, disease and insect control, blanching, and storage were taken up. Mr. Peeling suggested the broadcasting of an ounce of seed to 10 to 15 sash as the proper rate of seed sowing in frames. He rakes this in lightly, and covers with a thin mulch of fine manure. For field grown plants, sow in rows 18 inches apart, cover with a very shallow covering of soil, and keep moist. Frame sowing is done from February 10-15 to April 1; field sowing on April 1. The temperature in frames is regulated closely, between 70 and 75° F. on fair days, and at 60° F. at night.

Part of the early celery is planted at distances of 8 x 10 inches under glass. Field planting is at distances of 8 x 32 inches. In planting, care must be exercised to have tap root straight down, and the heart or crown of the plant above the surface of the soil. The crop should be cultivated once a week until fall and hoed two or three times, as necessary to control weeds.

Spraying starts when plants are two weeks old, and is done at intervals of not longer than 10 days, until the celery is harvested. Bordeaux mixture 4 - 4 - 50 is used, with a pressure of 175-200 pounds.

Soil should be well fertilized with liberal applications of barnyard manure, and cover and green manure crops should be grown. Liming annually with 1/2 ton of lime per acre was recommended. One ton of 5 - 10 - 5 fertilizer to the acre is the usual application.

Moisture should be abundant at all times. For storage, trenching should begin about October 15 and continue, if weather permits, until November 15. Trenches are one foot wide and as deep as necessary to contain the celery; these are covered by placing two six-inch boards on sticks laid across the trench, and covering these in turn with paper and manure, the thickness of which is dictated by the temperature.

### Spinach and Greens Increase in Importance

Charles K. Hallowell, Philadelphia, discussed the production of spinach and other greens. He reported that of a total of 2002 carloads of spinach sold in Philadelphia in 1931, 614 carloads were hauled in motor trucks from Pennsylvania farms, and 682 carloads in the same way from New Jersey farms. He recommended the following as necessary steps in producing good spinach: preparation of a fine and firm seedbed; application of 1500 pounds per acre of 6 - 6 - 5 fertilizer before seeding and 200 pounds of readily available nitrogen fertilizer when leaves are formed; liming sufficiently to maintain the soil nearly neutral; use of proper varieties ( he recommends Long Standing Bloomsdale for plantings before August 1, and Virginia Savoy after that date); the sowing of 12-15 pounds of seed per acre broadcast, or 10-12 pounds when drilled in 12-inch rows; cultivation once or twice with wheel hoe or small tractor in rows, or once with a weeder or spike-tooth harrow when soil is dry on the surface, in the afternoon on a clear day; harvesting by hand with knives and packing in bushel hampers or baskets, and dipping in cold water from 20 seconds to two minutes before sending to market. Other greens discussed were dandelion, mustard and turnip greens, escarole, chicory endive, and sour grass. Mr. Hallowell listed the virtues of spinach as an article of food, stating that this vegetable leads all others in its mineral matter content. It is first in iron, potassium, and magnesium, and third in calcium; it is rich in vitamins A, B, and C, and is an excellent source of roughage. When well grown and properly cooked, its palatability is high.

### Sweet Corn is Leading Pennsylvania Vegetable

Mr. Robert M. Rahn, of Geigertown, presented his experiences in growing sweet corn for the markets in Reading and its vicinity. Mr. Rahn grows about 15 acres of sweet corn annually, half of which is early. His choice of varieties is based on trials on his own farm. The varieties preferred are Golden Early Market for early yellow, Whipple's Yellow for second early, and Golden Giant for late yellow; Early Market for early white, Whipple's Early for second early, and Early Evergreen or Stowell's Evergreen for late white varieties. He selects his own seed in the field, taking only disease-free ears from desirable type plants. He finds a sandy loam preferable for early corn, and wide variety of soil types satisfactory for later production. Sod land is preferable though any soil well supplied with humus will do. Stable manure, with 500 pounds per acre of 4 - 12 - 4 fertilizer broadcast and 200 pounds per acre applied in the row, makes a good fertilizer treatment, specially for early corn.

Mr. Rahn makes plantings from April 15 to July 15. He cultivates frequently enough to kill weeds, and does not concern himself with the soil mulch. He does not sucker sweet corn, having found that it does not pay. He harvests his corn in the milk stage,

and hauls the cars to market in slatted crates. He sells about 3/4 of the corn at the market stand in Reading, and wholesales the rest.

Early Market Tomatoes Unprofitable in 1931

Mr. Byron M. Breisch of Ringtown related his experiences in growing and marketing tomatoes. He has not found early tomatoes to be profitable during the past two years.

Publication of the State Vegetable Growers' Association

William G. Wenker, Bustleton, President  
C. M. Smith, Lewistown, Vice-President  
W. B. Mack, State College, Secretary-Treasurer.

Three timely articles are included in this issue of the News. If these articles interest you, let us know about it; if not, we welcome suggestions and requests - or, better still, send us your own articles, opinions, experiences, etc.

Time to begin thinking about the Vegetable Exhibit at the Farm Show next winter, and the program for the annual meeting. Professor H. C. Thompson, Head of the Department of Vegetable Crops, Cornell University, will judge the Exhibit and will have something worth while to contribute to our meetings. The Program Committee will welcome suggestions for topics, speakers, or both, which may be communicated through the Secretary-Treasurer.

#### SWEET CORN WILT AND STALK ROT

A severe outbreak of wilt and stalk rot diseases has occurred in Pennsylvania this year. These diseases have been most severe in the western part of the state, slightly less severe in the central part, and least severe in the southeastern part of the state. Reports from other states indicate that one or both of these two bacterial diseases are severe in all of the surrounding states.

The wilt disease should not be confused with corn root rots since it is a disease of the vascular bundles. The stalk rot disease also affects the vascular bundles, and in addition, causes a brownish discoloration of the inside of the lower nodes of the corn stem.

#### How to Identify these Diseases

Symptoms of these diseases usually appear when the plants are six to twenty-four inches high. Infected plants may die at any stage of development.

In young plants, the leaves become limp, showing a typical wilted condition. Yellow or white streaks often run nearly the entire length of the older leaves. Infected plants are often severely stunted, and tassel prematurely. The tassels die and turn white, while the leaves wilt and die as if killed by frost.

The vascular bundles turn yellow or brown in color. The inside of the lower nodes may become brownish purple. Yellow or creamy drops containing bacteria form at the ends of the bundles in infected stems when freshly cut.

Cause:

Both of these diseases are caused by bacteria.

Investigators have reported that one or both of these diseases are carried from year to year in or on the seed, in old, dead plant parts, and in the soil. The bacteria causing the wilt disease have been reported as being spread by insects and even by pollen from diseased plants.

Wet weather and high soil temperatures following planting favors infection by these bacteria.

The Bantam types of corn are reported as being the most susceptible to both diseases. The latest maturing varieties of sweet corn are the most resistant.

Control:

Since both diseases have been found associated, control measures should be considered for both diseases at the same time.

1. Disease free seed. Buy seed as free as possible from these diseases. If home grown seed is used, care should be taken to select seed ears from plants apparently free of the disease.
2. Rotation of crops should be practiced, care being taken not to grow sweet corn after any other type of corn crop.
3. Corn stalks or cobs should not be placed on ground on which sweet corn is to be planted.
4. Seed treatment, which is usually a paying practice with sweet corn, should be practiced.

While the foregoing statements might seem to be rather discouraging to the sweet corn grower, one must remember that weather conditions the past summer, winter, and spring were abnormally favorable to the development of these diseases, and that with the return of more nearly normal weather, these diseases will be less severe and more easily controlled. R.S. Kirby  
State College

SAVING SWEET CORN SEED

Early maturing varieties of sweet corn have been receiving special attention from seedsmen and growers in recent years. Locally grown sweet corn of high quality, marketed before the last of July, almost always sells at a much higher price than that sold at the height of the season. Variety demonstrations, conducted in nearly every county in Pennsylvania, show very clearly that "seed makes a difference", whether the crop is grown for early or late maturity. This year many growers are saving a portion of their own seed for next year's planting.

Seed plants should be selected as soon as the corn is ready for harvest. Earliness in the seed plants is important. The selected plants may be marked by tying a bright-colored strip of cloth around the stalk just below the tassel. A good sized, stocky, healthy plant with a good sized and well shaped ear is highly desirable. Seed selected from the most vigorous plants produces the largest yield.

Sweet corn varieties cross pollinate very readily among themselves and field corn. To avoid mixing, many growers have adopted the rule of planting different varieties at least 50 rods apart. Planting the varieties at different times so that their blooming dates do not come at the same time will also prevent mixing.

Harvest the plants as soon as they are mature, when the stalks and husks are dead. Immature seed have a tendency towards earliness but less vigor and yield. Discard plants that are not typical for the variety or show signs of disease - either in the root, stalk or ear.

Husk the selected ears soon after harvesting and place in a dry room where there is circulation of dry air. The ears should be placed so that the air circulates about each kernel. The air may be warmed to a temperature of 100 degrees F. without impairing the vigor of the seed. Air circulation and low humidity, in addition to a warm temperature, hasten drying and eliminate molds.

After the ears have become thoroughly dry they may be shelled, sacked, and stored in a dry place.

Jesse M. Huffington  
State College

#### NOTES ON VEGETABLE INSECTS

Thus far, the season of 1932 has been notable for the abundance of certain of the more important vegetable insect pests. The Mexican bean beetle, flea beetles, Colorado potato beetle, corn ear-worm and several species of cut worms have all taken a heavy toll from this year's crops where proper preventive measures have not been applied. The Mexican bean beetle in particular caused severe damage during July and the later crops should be carefully watched and as soon as the beetles are found attacking them apply the sprays or dusts recommended. One part of magnesium arsenate diluted with five parts of hydrated lime has given excellent control on the larger commercial plantings in the south eastern part of the state. In localities where magnesium arsenate is not easily or quickly obtainable, calcium arsenate may be substituted, using one part of calcium arsenate diluted with nine parts of high grade hydrated lime.

The most essential feature determining the effective control of the bean beetle is the proper placing of the poison on the under sides of the leaves. Bean beetles do not feed on the

upper surfaces, although they may be found resting on them, and it is essential that the poison is applied so that the under surfaces of all leaves are covered. Growers using powder dusters have found considerable benefit from using a cloth or light burlap tent attached to the duster and covering the plants and nozzles as the dust is being applied. This results in a more uniform and better distribution of the dust particularly if the wind is blowing.

Early sweet corn in many of the eastern and central counties is being damaged by the corn ear-worm. This insect is causing more serious losses each year to the Pennsylvania sweet corn crop. In many counties where damage has heretofore occurred only to the late plantings serious losses are now occasioned to the early crop. No entirely satisfactory method has yet been devised for the control of this pest although the thorough application of arsenical dusts before and at the time the silk appears offers some promise. Late sweet corn, or corn ripening after August 20, should receive protection. Use either equal parts of lead arsenate and superfine dusting sulphur or use equal parts of calcium arsenate and a high grade hydrated lime.

In plantings up to an acre in size, the application may be made with a hand duster, preferable one giving a heavy discharge of dust. Apply the mixture to all parts of the developing ear and especially to the tip. Use at least 15 to 20 pounds of dust to each acre. Power dusters should be set so the ears will receive the full blast of the nozzles and should use at least 30 to 35 pounds of dust per acre. The first application should be made just before or as the first silk appears. Apply the second dusting when between 5% and 25% of the silk is showing and make the third or last dusting when the corn is in full silk but before more than 5% of the silk has turned brown. The results obtained will depend very largely upon the thoroughness of the application.

Squash bugs are beginning to appear and excellent results are being obtained in their control by the use of pyrethrum extract. Pyrethrum has proven more effective than nicotine against the mature bugs.

The second brood of potato flea beetles is appearing in very large numbers. Watch your late tomatoes and eggplants. When these tiny beetles appear, add 3 pounds of calcium arsenate to each 100 gallons of Bordeaux mixture or use 3 pounds of hydrated lime, 3 pounds of calcium arsenate and 100 gallons of water. Thorough spraying, particularly the tops of the plants is essential for good protection.

Wire-worms attacking carrots, turnips and certain other crops in small gardens may be destroyed by the use of a mixture of pyrethrum and soap applied directly to the soil about the roots of the plants.

Red spider, either in the field or in greenhouses, has proven susceptible to a spray composed of pyrethrum, rotenone and an activator. This is a long step in advance in the prevention of injury by a stubborn pest.

Loren B. Smith  
State College

PENNSYLVANIA VEGETABLE GROWERS' NEWS

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Publication of the State Vegetable Growers' Association

William G. Wenker, Bustleton, President  
C. M. Smith, Lewistown, Vice-President  
W. B. Mack, State College, Secretary-Treasurer

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TWO WORTHWHILE PROGRAMS

Two programs which will be interesting and valuable to every vegetable grower in the Commonwealth are the Ninth Annual Horticulture Week at State College, December 14, 15, and 16, 1932, a program of which has been sent to each member of the Association, and the Annual Meeting of the Pennsylvania Vegetable Growers' Association in the Farm Show Building, Harrisburg, on January 17 and 18, 1933. The program for the latter meeting is as follows:

Tuesday, January 17

9:00 - 12:00 a. m.

Remarks by the President, William G. Wenker, Bustleton, Chairman.  
Market Reports, their Collection and Use. - J. G. Scott, U. S. Bureau of Agricultural Economics, Philadelphia.  
Supplying Vegetables for the Roadside Market Trade. - Harry G. Brackbill, Malvern.  
Studies on Grading, Handling, and Storage of Vegetables. - H. C. Thompson, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York.  
The How and Why of Vegetables. - Grace P. Bacon, Extension Nutritionist, State College.  
Growers' Question Box.

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Afternoon Session, 1:30-4:30 - Past President, C. M. Smith, Lewistown, Chairman.

Recent Studies on Cultural Practices for Vegetable Crops. - H. C. Thompson, Cornell University.  
Portable Irrigation in use on Pennsylvania Farms. - Walter B. Nissley, State College.  
Quantities and Time of Application of Irrigation Water. - G. J. Stout, State College.  
New and Old Reliable Varieties of Vegetables for Pennsylvania. - W. B. Mack and J. M. Huffington, State College.  
Growers' Question Box.

Wednesday, January 18

Morning Session, 9:00 - 12:00 - William G. Wenker, Chairman  
Serious Insect Pests of 1932. - L. B. Smith, State College.  
Combatting Diseases of Sweet Corn and other Vegetables. -  
R. S. Kirby, State College.  
Growers' Question Box on Insects and Diseases.  
Business Session.

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Afternoon Session, 1:30 - 4:30 - Dean Ralph L. Watts,  
State College, Chairman.

Timely Remarks by the Chairman.  
How the Cabbage for the Farm Show Exhibit was Grown. - R. B.  
Stutzman, Vintondale.  
How the Celery for the Farm Show Exhibit was Grown. - Charles  
K. Hallowell, Philadelphia.  
Experiences in Sweet Corn Growing. - Charles P. Shenot, Wexford.  
Vegetables for the Farm Family. - Ella Reynolds, Home Economics  
Extension Representative, Lewisburg.  
Food Bills and Garden Vegetables. - Mrs. F. K. Benner, Vicksburg.  
Vegetables for Our Family Every Day of the Year. - Mrs. John  
Miller, Mifflinburg.  
The Union County Farm Garden Program. - L. E. Craumer, Lewisburg.  
Growers' Question Box.

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Every speaker has information which will be valuable for  
Pennsylvania vegetable growers. Questions, experiences, and  
discussion will be welcome.

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Half-Fare Return Certificates

The Secretary-Treasurer has a supply of Round Trip  
Identification Certificates, which entitle the holder and dependent  
members of his family, to a round trip by railroad for three-  
fourths of the regular fare (Full fare to Harrisburg, and half-  
fare return). Members who are paid up for 1932 are entitled to  
these certificates, and may secure them by sending a self-  
addressed, stamped envelope to the Secretary, W. B. Mack, State  
College, Pa. If you are not paid up, send \$1.00 for a year's  
dues, and your certificate will be mailed by return mail.

Items

Contributed by Walter B. Nissley, State College.

Tomato growers who practiced mulching with straw or other  
litter between the rows about the time the plants started to  
branch and set fruit were very well satisfied with the results.

This practice is becoming more general each year,  
especially with farmer growers who have the straw available.

The tomatoes are more easily gathered, they are clean and during dry periods the mulch conserves moisture, thus decreasing the amount of blossom end rot.

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Several tomato growers in Allegheny County compared the practice of pruning tomatoes to two stems tied to four foot stakes with the ordinary practice of not pruning and not staking. Penn State Earliana and Bonny Best varieties were used.

The results showed that there was practically no difference in earliness and the yield of marketable tomatoes from 12 plants was as follows:

Ist grower	Penn State Earliana		Bonny Best	
	Staked	Unstaked	Staked	Unstaked
	59½ lbs.	129½ lbs.	73 lbs.	91 lbs.
2nd grower	84 lbs.	123 lbs.	68 lbs.	86 lbs.

**End of  
Volume**