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WHAT THE EXTENSION SERVICE OF OREGON STATE COLLEGE  
IS DOING ON THE VICTORY GARDEN PROGRAM

Summary by O. T. McWhorter, Extension Horticulturist, Oregon State College,  
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The kick-off for Oregon's Victory Garden Program was a State-wide Victory Garden Conference held at Corvallis, January 17, 1942. Representatives of 19 state organizations and agencies were represented at this conference where plans were formulated for carrying the Victory Garden program to all parts of the state.

Oregon Victory Garden Advisory Committee Authorized

An Oregon Victory Garden Advisory Committee was created at this state-wide conference to consist of heads of the agencies and organizations in attendance as follows:

- State Horticultural Society
- State Grange
- State Federation of Garden Clubs
- Oregon Consumers Council
- State Nutrition Council
- State Home Economics Extension Council
- State 4-H Club Leaders Association
- State Future Farmers
- Seedsman
- Oregon Nurserymen Association
- Oregon Feed and Seed Dealers Association
- Oregon Cooperative Council
- Oregon State Defense Council
- Oregon USDA War Board
- State Department of Education
- State Department of Agriculture
- Agricultural Adjustment Administration
- Farm Security Administration
- Federal Cooperative Extension Service.

The first Victory Garden Conference recommended that the Extension Service of Oregon State College and the County USDA War Boards be charged with the responsibility of holding county victory garden conferences to set up plans for carrying the recommendations of the state conference to farm families, suburban families, and to urban families and individuals having facilities for gardening.

It was the recommendation of the state conference that representatives of the agencies and organizations participating in the state conference be invited to take part in the county conferences and the formulating of county program.

State goals in 1942 were 38 percent increase in farm gardens, city and urban gardens whenever facilities favored gardening.

### Farm Gardens Increased in Number and Size

A partial survey of the farm areas in Oregon indicated that there was a 20 percent increase in farm gardens in 1942 over 1941 and that 80 percent of the farm gardens were larger in 1942 than they were the year before.

### City and Suburban Gardens

Home gardens were greatly increased by city and suburban home owners in 1942. Many gardens were planted where gardens had never been grown before. The large number of these gardens and the amount of food produced was a splendid contribution to the war effort and to the family living.

### County Victory Garden Organization Meetings Held

Following the State Victory Garden Conference, county extension agents and the county war boards held county conferences and planned the victory garden procedure for the county as recommended by the State Victory Garden Advisory Committee at its first meeting.

- (a) Sixteen counties held county victory garden conferences. Cooperative plans for victory garden promotion within their counties were formulated.
- (b) Eleven other counties promoted victory garden work vigorously with the help of local representatives of organizations and agencies. County-wide conferences were not held.
- (c) The remaining nine counties promoted victory gardens from the county extension offices through usual Extension Service channels.

All thirty-six Oregon county extension units contributed time and effort to the Victory Garden Program in 1942.

The Oregon home garden plantings in 1942 were all that could be expected from a region which, in the past, produced more food than could be sold.

### The Second Victory Garden Conference

The second Victory Garden Conference was held at Corvallis December 4, 1942, by the Oregon Victory Garden Advisory Committee.

This conference recommended that: (1) The Victory Garden program be made more inclusive and that the project be known as "The Oregon Victory Garden and Family Food Supply Program". (2) That every Oregon home having the facilities grow a garden in 1943. (3) That the county extension offices take the initiative in formulating the County Victory Garden and Home Food Supply Programs by calling together representatives of all agencies and organizations within the counties that

are in position to assist for the purpose of making a county plan of procedure.

(4) That the Oregon State College Extension Service supported by the Experiment Station serve as the source of factual information for the Victory Garden Program.

(5) And that the program be coordinated with all phases of the State Defense Council and especially the nutrition division.

#### Printed Information Provided

Information in printed and mimeographed form has been made available by the Oregon State College through county extension offices, neighborhood leaders and OCD block leaders to those who have engaged in the Victory Garden and Family Food Supply Program.

#### Neighborhood Leaders Contact Rural Homes

The neighborhood leaders of Oregon cooperating with the county extension units distributed Victory Garden and family food supply information to homes in all rural areas in 1943. The information supplied each home was a list of available publications on wartime food production that are available at county extension offices, a copy of Extension Bulletin 616, "Planning Your Family Food Supply," and Extension Bulletin 614, "Farm and Home Vegetable Garden."

The State College Staff located at Corvallis and in the counties have prepared timely news releases on gardening and home food supply. Radio broadcasts have been made regularly on all phases of the program. County extension agents have been supplied with and have released timely garden and home food supply information within their respective counties.

County agents located in certain areas of Oregon have issued Victory Garden information to fit the climatic conditions or factors of their respective localities.

This year (1943) Oregon has gone "all out" for Victory Gardens. There are gardens everywhere and in places where home gardening has never been practiced before - large gardens with plantings of well selected vegetables - small gardens where there is not space for the large plantings, and they are all being well cared for.

While Oregon has done a good job of planting and caring for gardens thus far this year, the critical period for care and harvest of planted crops is ahead, and there are the fall and winter vegetable crops yet to be planted.

A list of the more important publications used in connection with the Victory Garden and home food supply program is herewith listed.

- Ext. Bul. 588 - Planning Your Family's Food Supply
- Ext. Bul. 615 - Victory Garden and Family Food Supply
- Ext. Bul. 582 - Food To Keep You Fit
- Ext. Bul. 589 - Planting Plan, Farm and Home Vegetable Garden
- \*Ext. Bul. 614 - The Farm and Home Vegetable Garden - (110,000 issued)
- 4-H Club Series D 12 - Vegetable Growing
- Ext. Cir. 384 - Starter Solutions for Tomato and Other Transplants

\* 16,672 set aside for use by OCD in Oregon

- Ext. Bul. 612 - Garden Soil Management
- Ext. Cir. 387 - Composts for Garden Soils
- Ext. Bul. 594 - Growing Fall and Early Winter Vegetables
- Ext. Cir. 401 - Potato Production in Home Gardens
- Ext. Bul. 621 - Growing Tomatoes in the Home Garden
- Ext. Cir. 275 - Growing Vegetable Plants in Manure Heated Hotbed
- Ext. Cir. 279 - Brussels Sprouts
- Ext. Cir. 313 - Growing Late Cabbage
- Ext. Cir. 344 - Sweet Corn Growing and Marketing
- Ext. Cir. 341 - Cannery Beans
- Ext. Cir. 372 - Tomato Growing and Preparing for Market
- Ext. Cir. 411 - Broccoli
- Ext. Cir. 277 - Growing Squash and Pumpkins
- Ext. Cir. 256 - Rhubarb Growing and Forcing
- Ext. Bul. 601 - Vegetable Storage
- Ext. Bul. 551 - Vegetable Garden Insect Pest Control
- Sta. Cir. of Infor. 226 - The Onion Maggot
- Sta. Cir. of Infor. 227 - Potato Flea Beetle Control
- Sta. Cir. of Infor. 258 - The Garden Slug and Its Control
- Sta. Cir. of Infor. 121 - The Currant and Gooseberry Maggot
- Sta. Cir. of Infor. 312 - Control of Corn Earworm on Sweet Corn
- Sta. Cir. 111 - Outworm Control in Oregon
- Cir. of Infor. 258 - The Garden Slug and Its Control
- Sta. Bul. 357 - Insect Pests and Diseases of the Strawberry in Oregon
- Sta. Cir. of Infor. 300 - Questions and Answers about the Cherry Fruit Fly
- Sta. Cir. of Infor. 267 - Suggested Substitutes for the Poisoned Bait Spray for Cherry Fruit Fly Control
- Sta. Cir. of Infor. 180 - The Curly Top Disease of Vegetables in the Pacific Northwest
- Sta. Cir. of Infor. 290 - Late Blight of Potato
- Sta. Cir. of Informat. 291 - Late Blight of Tomato
- Sta. Cir. 307 - Electric Hotbeds and Propagating Beds
- Ext. Cir. 258 - Construction and Operation of the Cold Frame in Vegetable Growing
- Ext. Bul. 282 - Rabbits
- Sta. Cir. 148 - Game Bird Control
- Ext. Bul. 617 - Growing Small Fruits in Eastern Oregon Home Gardens
- Ext. Bul. 618 - Small Fruits for Western Oregon Home Gardens
- Ext. Cir. 356 - Suggestions for Training Boysenberries and Youngberries
- Ext. Cir. 488 - Crown Division - A Means of Propagating Everbearing Strawberries
- Ext. Cir. 350 - Pruning Suggestions for Fruit Trees
- Ext. Bul. 591 - Organizing for Farm Fire Protection in Oregon
- Ext. Bul. 527 - Marketing the Surplus Wheat of the Pacific Northwest Through Live-stock Swine Management in Oregon
- Ext. Bul. 582 - Feeding Wheat to Hogs in the Columbia Basin and Blue Mountain Counties in Oregon in Connection with National Defense Program
- Ext. Bul. 609 - Converting Wheat to Meat
- Ext. Bul. 611 - Wheat for Milk Cows Under Wartime Conditions
- Ext. Bul. 513 - Beekeeping in Oregon
- Ext. Bul. 549 - Chick Brooding and Rearing
- Ext. Bul. 511 - O.S.C. Brooder Houses
- Ext. Bul. 602 - Brooding and Rearing Turkeys
- Ext. Bul. 590 - Culling the Poultry Flock
- Ext. Bul. 526 - Feeding Laying Hens

- Ext. Cir. 381 - Grow Our Own Garden, Meat, Poultry, and Milk
- Ext. Bul. 583 - Use Milk, Eggs and Milk Products
- Ext. Bul. 604 - Enriched Flour and Waste Fat Programs
- Ext. Bul. 599 - Voluntary Community and Neighborhood Leadership in Oregon
- Ext. Bul. 605 - Enrich Health Through Enriched Flour and Bread
- Ext. Bul. 600 - Curing Meats and Fish
- Ext. Bul. 593 - Food Preservation by Freezing
- H. E. 1687 - Sugar Saving Methods of Canning and Freezing
- H. E. 1683 - Homemade Evaporators

In 1942 and 1943 there have been 23 issues of "Timely Victory Garden Notes" by the Extension Service which were sent to county agents for press and radio releases and for circular letters to home gardeners.

Extensive use was made of USDA Misc. Publication No. 483, "Victory Gardens". 15,411 copies of this bulletin were made available to OCD through county agricultural agents.