

South Dakota State University
**Open PRAIRIE: Open Public Research Access Institutional
Repository and Information Exchange**

Cooperative Extension Circulars: 1917-1950

SDSU Extension

11-1918

Boys' and Girls' Club Work: Potato Club

C. Larsen

Follow this and additional works at: http://openprairie.sdstate.edu/extension_circ

 Part of the [Agriculture Commons](#)

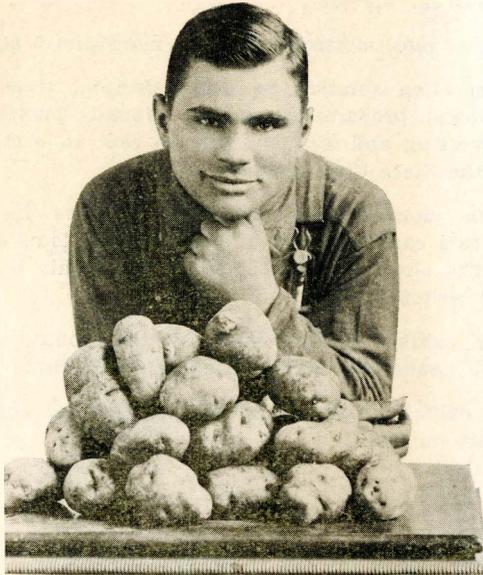
Recommended Citation

Larsen, C., "Boys' and Girls' Club Work: Potato Club" (1918). *Cooperative Extension Circulars: 1917-1950*. Paper 21.
http://openprairie.sdstate.edu/extension_circ/21

This Circular is brought to you for free and open access by the SDSU Extension at Open PRAIRIE: Open Public Research Access Institutional Repository and Information Exchange. It has been accepted for inclusion in Cooperative Extension Circulars: 1917-1950 by an authorized administrator of Open PRAIRIE: Open Public Research Access Institutional Repository and Information Exchange. For more information, please contact michael.biondo@sdstate.edu.

BOYS' AND GIRLS' CLUB WORK

POTATO CLUB



Elgie Coacher, 1918 Potato Club Champion.
Davison County; 52½ bushels from ¼ acre.

EXTENSION DIVISION

SOUTH DAKOTA STATE COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE AND MECHANIC ARTS AND U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, CO-OPERATING. C. LARSEN, DIRECTOR

JUNIOR EXTENSION WORK

Paul J. Scarbro State Club Leader
Irene Dunne Assistant State Club Leader
A. L. Haynes Assistant State Club Leader
Selma Rongstad Assistant State Club Leader

Brookings, S. Dak.

REGULATIONS

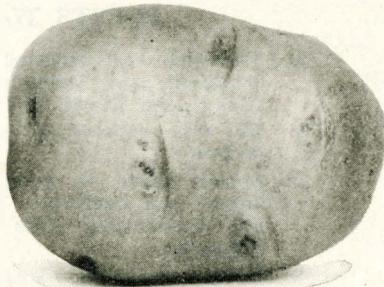
1. Any junior 10 to 18 years, inclusive, may enter.
2. Each club shall have at least five members and a local leader.
3. Enrollments close May first.
4. Each member plants, cares for and markets the potatoes from his plot.
5. Size of plot, minimum $\frac{1}{8}$ acre, maximum 5 acres.
6. Instruction relative to seed selection, treatment for diseases, preparation of the ground, planting, care, harvesting and storage, will be sent to each member by the State Club Leader.
7. Each member does his work, follows instructions, keeps a careful record and makes reports as called for. At the close of the project he makes his final report and writes a story.
8. Any exhibit recommended by the County Agent or Club Leader is eligible to entry at the State Fair.
9. An exhibit shall consist of one peck of potatoes, no more, no less.

BASIS OF ACHIEVEMENT

Greatest yield, per acre basis	40 %
Profit	25 %
Exhibit (one peck)	15 %
Best kept record	10 %
Best written story	10 %
Total	100 %



Bliss Triumph



Early Ohio

The above illustrations are good marketable types to keep in mind. Select seed from Irish Cobbler, Bliss Triumph or Early Ohio for early planting, Rural New York for late planting.

THE POTATO'S ECONOMIC VALUE

The past few years of food economy have proven to the Great American Food Producers the fact that Potatoes can be used in more ways as food substitute than any other crop. Not only are we using potatoes directly as a food, but we are using it as flour, as starch, and as a valuable stock and poultry food.

THE POTATO INDUSTRY

It is a crop easily raised. It insures thorough soil cultivation, crop rotation, and makes the grower self-sustaining. With the modern machinery we have, potato raising has become a real pleasure and more of a profit per acre than any other crop.

Some of our boys and girls in South Dakota have raised as much as 400 bushels per acre.

A straight variety of clean potatoes, free from disease will always command a good price on the market.

POINTS TO REMEMBER

1. Varieties best adapted for South Dakota are Bliss' Triumph, Irish Cobbler and Early Ohio for early maturity, and Rural New York for late maturity.
2. Be very careful to get pure seed of the variety chosen.
3. Select tubers of medium size, smooth skin, regular shape and uniform. They should be well rounded out at each end, have shallow eyes and be free from diseases.
4. Before planting, always treat your seed potatoes for diseases as recommended in letters received from State Club Leader.
5. Cut the potatoes by hand after above treatment. Have the pieces uniform and at least one good eye in each piece.
6. Plant the potatoes one piece in a hill and from 12 to 14 inches apart in the row. The rows should be 24 to 30 inches apart in the garden or from 36 to 42 inches apart in the field.
7. Plow the ground eight inches deep just before planting. See that it is perfectly mellow and plant the potatoes four inches deep. They must have mellow ground beneath them as well as above.
8. A loose, rich, gravelly or sandy loam soil is desirable in the production of potatoes.
9. Manure should be applied to crop that precedes rather than to the potato crop.
10. A clover, alfalfa, cowpea or soy-bean sod, plowed under in the fall, will make a good potato seed bed. Measure depth of furrow to see that it is 8 inches or more deep.
11. Never follow potatoes with potatoes. Rotate crops. Plan a three or four year rotation.
12. A crop of 200 bushels of potatoes per acre required 650 tons of water—equivalent to 6 inches of rainfall. Destroy the weeds. You cannot raise a crop of potatoes and a crop of weeds at the same time. Keep a dust mulch on your field to save moisture.
13. Harrow the soil several times before and after the plants appear above ground and cultivate six or seven times during the summer. Plow deep and close while the plants are small and continue plowing until the vines cover the ground. Each cultivation should be more shallow and farther from the plants. Do not hill the plants.
14. Write to the agricultural college of your state for information on potato culture especially adapted to your state and locality.

(F. E. McCall, Extension Specialist in Horticulture, assisted in the preparation of this circular.)