



ANNUAL

1913

History and Report
of
Margaret Brown
R. F. D. 7 Charlotte
N. C.

Macklinburg Co

How I Grew My Tomatoes.

The purpose of the girls canning club is to give the farm girls an opportunity to make some money, to use as they need it, and make it so they do not have to ask their parents for money every time they want it.

They learn how to use a canner, how to make different kinds of things out of tomatoes, and how to prepare different kinds of fruits and vegetables.

I enrolled as a member just because I thought it would do me good in some way.

Tomato.

Mother told me something that I never had heard about tomatoes when I ask her what the question, "Life history of tomatoes meant." Mother said, I can remember that when I was a child the tomatoes were raised mostly as a curiosity, people were almost afraid to eat them. Tomatoes are now one of the principal vegetables that a farmer raises for market, or home use.

My plat is sandy loam-sub. soil.

A garden seed-bed made during the winter here in Mecklenburg county should be made on the south side of a hill, or in a warm place

where the sun can strike it easily. It should be dug up well first. Then manure mixed with this dirt so as to make a good warm place to plant the seed. We put glass over our bed to keep the cold from chilling the plants. This should be done about the middle of February.

We used nitrate of soda under our tomato plants. We used this kind of fertilizer to keep moisture in the ground, and help to make the plants grow.

We pulled the largest plants first. This gives the smaller ones a chance to grow. We carried our plants to the garden in a guano sack folded. We could pour water on the sack and put the upper fold over them, this was to prevent them from wilting. We dug small holes and put out the plants. After putting in the plants, we poured water on the roots the plants, and set them out.

I cultivated my tomatoes with a hoe, and father plowed them with a cultivator and plow.

I did not stake, or prune my tomato plants.

I had a little patch of blight in my plot. I pulled up the vines and burnt them. Father put lime on our plot so as to prevent diseases.

I did not have any trouble with insects.

I managed my fresh vegetables right

well. They ripened fast and nicely. We picked our tomatoes when we had time, and when they were ready to pick. We used large soap boxes for packing our tomatoes in when sending them to Charlotte, to our regular market.

* ~~When~~ ^{When canned} We used an El Flo no. 30 canner. No. 3 cans having lids with solder on them. We used a good cap-paing steel and tipping copper. The cans are very easy to solder up when the irons are hot.

The tomato cans are easy to label.

Working with the tomato patch teaches both of us to work problems, as we have a great many problems to solve in this work. It is a daily task to get all our accounts straight, especially during marketing time.

Tomatoes can be used in many different ways. You can make tomato pies, pickles, with green tomatoes and ripe ones too. You can make preserves, chili sauce, catsup, sour pickles, or you can put them up as they are, or with corn or okra.

We yielded on our crop of tomatoes as follows: twenty one quarts of catsup, eighteen quarts of pickles, three hundred and six cans of tomatoes. And sold fresh, one hundred and eighty three dollars, and twenty nine cents worth of tomatoes.

Fresh fruit sold	\$183.29
Twenty one qts. catsup @ \$.50 per. qt.	\$ 10.50
Eighteen qts. of pickles. @ \$.50 per. qt.	\$ 9.00
Home use.	\$ 8.12
306 cans @ \$.10 per can.	<u>30.60</u>
Total with our expense.	\$241.51

This work has gotten us interested in nature and in the raising of tomatoes especially. It taught us a great deal about plant life. It taught us to do our work carefully, and as well as possible. It helped teach us habits of thrift and industry. It gave us good out door exercise. We made \$241.51 with our expense. Our expense were \$29.74. So we cleared \$211.77 over all expense.

Our Lettuce Crop.

We made our seed bed and planted our lettuce seed September the first and second. It was very hot. It was pretty hard work, but we made it any way, It was one hundred feet long, and eight feet wide.

After our tomatoes were done, father plowed up our tomato vines, then he took a harrow and harrowed it until it was well pulverized, then he bedded it up in rows, about August the twenty ninth.

Our seeds began to come up about September the twentieth. They grew fast and were so thick the bed that we had to set out some of them when they were very young. we set out our first plants, about the second week of October. Then we set them out every Saturday until November the seventh, because we went to school during the school days. We set out just $\frac{1}{10}$ of an A. That is one half of our plot. Our plants grew fine and were looking strong when a wave of cold weather came and our plants that were headed up almost froze, because we did not have the right kind of covering for them.

We cut and sold at first \$4.60 worth of that which wasn't frozen too bad. Then after it thawed

ed out we cut as follows:

32 doz. @ \$40 per doz. = \$12.80

23 doz. @ \$25 per doz. = \$5.65

After it had frozen some.

Before it froze.

\$18.45

\$4.60

\$23.05

Total made with our expenses.

Our expenses were

3.20

Cleared on our lettuce.

\$19.85

It is not hard to raise lettuce in the early spring, but it is hard to raise lettuce in the winter if you do not have the right kind of covering for it. Lettuce raised here in the winter should be in a hot bed, but we just put ours out in the open, to experiment as we had never tried it in the winter before.

United States Department of Agriculture

BUREAU OF PLANT INDUSTRY

FARMERS' COOPERATIVE DEMONSTRATION WORK

WASHINGTON, D. C.

GIRLS' CANNING AND POULTRY CLUBS.

To All Demonstrators in Girls' Club Work:

We are sending this blank form to you and ask that you make a full report of the preparation of the seed beds, planting, cultivation, gathering, etc., of the vegetables from your one-tenth acre.

Please keep an accurate record of your garden work, expenses, etc., as you proceed, and then fill out this report in full and mail it to your County Agent in charge of Girls' Club Work at the close of the season.

Very truly yours,

BRADFORD KNAPP,
Special Agent in Charge.

O. B. MARTIN,
Assistant in Charge of Demonstration Club Work.

I. W. HILL,
Assistant in Demonstration Club Work.

Approved:
WM. A. TAYLOR,
Chief of Bureau.

c 8-1848

MARCH 27, 1913.

To Member:

Please fill out the following report blank in full from the daily records of your club work for the past year.

ESTIMATE OF COSTS.

(NOTE.—Estimate the cost of your one-tenth acre as follows: Rental of land, \$1; count your own time worth 10 cents an hour; count all commercial fertilizers and hired help at actual cost; count barnyard manure at \$2 per ton, a good 2-horse load as a ton and a 1-horse load as half a ton.)

1. Cost of Production:

(a) Rent of land.....	\$1.00
(b) Preparation of tenth acre:	
(1) Cost of plowing..... <i>worked 2 hrs.</i>	<i>.20</i>
(2) Cost of pulverizing soil..... <i>" 1 1/2 hr.</i>	<i>.15</i>
(c) Cost of seed and plants.....	<i>.35</i>
(d) Cost of manure and fertilizer..... <i>1 load manure. 70 lb. smooth soda.</i>	<i>1.70</i>
(e) Cost of cultivation, staking , and pruning	<i>.10</i>
Total.....	<i>\$3.50</i>

2. Cost of Canning:

(a) Cost of gathering fruit.....	<i>\$2.15</i>
(b) Cost of cans, jars, labels, and supplies.....	<i>\$4.07</i>
(c) Cost of canning, pickling, and preserving.....	<i>\$5.15</i>
(d) Cost of crates and baskets.....	
Total.....	<i>\$11.37</i>

3. Garden Receipts:

(a) Receipts from fresh vegetables.....	<i>\$92.65</i>
(b) Estimated value of canned vegetables.....	<i>\$25.30</i>
(c) Estimated value of vegetables for home use.....	<i>\$4.06</i>
(d) Value of other products of the one-tenth acre.....	

Total value of all products.....	<i>\$122.01</i>
Expenses deducted.....	<i>\$14.87</i>
Net profit for year.....	<i>\$107.14</i>

(Settled for winter) 9.93 gain.

<i>total gain on years work.</i>	<i>9.93</i>
	<i>\$118.07</i>

CROP AND GARDEN REPORT.

Report of Margaret Brown, Charlotte^{N.C.} Mecklenburg. N. C.
(Name of member.) (P. O. address.) (County.) (State.)

1. Size of plat operated under Government instructions 132 ft long; 83 ft wide or $\frac{7}{10}$ A
2. Kind and depth of soil Sandy soil. 18 inches deep.
3. Kind of subsoil clay subsoil.
4. When and how soil was prepared April 4, 1913, plowed with a turn plow.
5. Condition of plats when plants were put out It was in good condition.
6. How did you raise your plants? I raised my plants in a hot bed.
7. Date of planting seed in hot beds or cold frames I planted my seed, Feb. 15, 1913.
8. Date of transplanting I did not transplant my plants, because they ^{no foot} grew.
9. Kind of seed used and where secured Used Spark's Earliana. Got from Burpee.
10. Width of rows The rows were four feet wide.
11. Kind and quality of fertilizer used Used some Nitrate of soda.
12. State here any trouble you may have had with plant diseases, insects, accidents, etc. Had a little trouble with the blight, and four pigs got in our plat and broke some ^{vines} vines.
13. What treatment did you use in combating diseases and insects? We pulled up our vines that had the blight and burnt them.
14. How did you cultivate and manage the crop? I cultivated with hoe, and father with plow. I managed my work all right.
15. Date and method of staking I did not stake my plants.
16. Date of first bloom Saw first bloom April 23, 1913.
17. Date of first fruit Saw first small green tomato May 7, 1913.
18. Date of ripening Saw first ripe tomato June 14, 1913.
19. Did you prune the plants? I did not prune ^{how} my plants.
20. (a) Total number of pounds of tomatoes gathered from your one-tenth acre 2,450 lbs.
 (b) Give names of other vegetables planted on the one-tenth acre and yield of each in pounds.
I did not plant anything else except winter lettuce
21. (a) Give list of tomato products put up from the one-tenth acre, for sale or home use, showing number and size of cans, jars, and bottles 158 No. 3 cans of tomatoes. 11 qts of catsups, 9 quarts of pickles in quart jars.
 (b) Make similar list of other vegetables, such as peppers, beans, and okra, from the same garden, showing number and size of cans, jars, etc. Did not have any other kind of vegetables on my plat.
22. Make similar list of other vegetables and fruits which you have canned and preserved from the farm this year 6 qts of grapes. 8 cans of blackberries. 88 cans of tomatoes for neighbor. 209 cans of beans. 30 cans of corn.
23. How many visits did you have from agents of the U. S. Department of Agriculture and school superintendents and teachers? Miss Bertha Howland two visits. Mr. R. W. Graeber one visit.
24. Will you continue to be a club member for next year? I do not know for sure yet.

GIRLS' CANNING AND POULTRY CLUB WORK.

ATTEST OF REPORT AND YIELD.

Member's Certificate:

I hereby certify that the foregoing report is complete and correct in every particular, and that I have answered all questions to the best of my ability and understanding.

(Signed)

Margaret E. Brown.

Club Member.

NOTE.—Each member must secure two local and responsible people to inspect this report, the crop and canning work of the season, and sign this report. We recommend that a teacher, school official, or some local leader of influence be requested to serve on this committee.

INSTRUCTIONS TO COMMITTEE ON ATTEST.

There should be 4,356 square feet in the garden. A plat 33 by 132 feet, or 66 feet square, will meet the requirements.

1. Measure plat of ground, giving length and width:

(a) How long? 126 ft long.

(b) How wide? 35 ft wide.

(c) Number of square feet in plat? 4,410 sq. ft.

2. Get information in regard to crop

3. Total receipts

\$122.01

4. Total cost

\$14.87

5. Give net profit

\$107.14

ATTEST: We hereby certify that we have carefully inspected the report and the items referred to above and find the same to be correct.

(Signed)

Mr. J. R. Price.

(Name.)

Farmer.

(Title.)

P. O. Address

Charlotte, N. C. R. F. D. 7.

Mr. H. M. Armstrong.

(Name.)

Farmer & dairyman.

(Title.)

P. O. Address

Charlotte, N. C. R. F. D. 7.

Mental development -
Economy in living -
Noble purpose -
Business methods
Cooperation
Sincerity
Originality
Cautiousness.

Wendell Phillips