

# Farming 1942 – 1945

Diss Express 10<sup>th</sup> March 1944



## Get **TOP YIELDS** *from* **POTATO FIELDS**

Here are the facts. The Nation needs every extra sack of potatoes you can produce from your land. You can make potatoes a paying crop if you get high yields.

### **HERE ARE THE ESSENTIALS TO BEST POSSIBLE YIELDS:**

★ **USE CERTIFIED SEED—**

New Scotch or Irish — or seed from English or Welsh seed growers' associations bearing "A" certificate. ("H" certificate for reliable "once-grown" seed).

★ **PROTECT AND SPROUT SEED—**

Protect seed in storage. Sprout in frost-proof place with plenty of light to get short, sturdy "sprouts."

★ **CULTIVATE THOROUGHLY—**

Plough as deeply as possible. Prepare seed-bed as soon as the land is dry enough. Depth of till is more important than fineness. Don't work down too fine. Draw ridges with rigging plough or three-row ridger.

★ **DUNG IF YOU CAN, AND BE  
GENEROUS WITH ARTIFICIALS—**

see next week's advertisement.

### **SAFEGUARD YOUR SEED CORN**

by disinfecting with an approved  
**Organo-Mercury Dust**

YOU CAN GET SOUND ADVICE FROM YOUR  
WAR AGRICULTURAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

★ EVERY FARM



A BETTER FARM

Directives from the East Suffolk War Agricultural Committee had to be followed. Farmers breaking these rules were taken to court and, if found guilty, fined. Crops and the acreage under cultivation were strictly controlled. Many farmers resented this interference.

In January 1943, despite the 1942 harvest being the biggest ever, farmers were encouraged to increase production, making the best use of their land by accepting the technological advice and guidance available. By this time much of the pre-war grassland had been ploughed. Farmers were told that as much corn as could be grown was needed. More barley was needed for milling and the growing of potatoes and sugar beet should be kept up. Farmers were urged to get ahead with threshing so as not to interfere with spring cultivation. The best use should be made of threshing tackle with the employment of land army girls solving the problem of manning it. Labour gangs and threshing equipment were available for hire for the 1943 harvest.

The Buckwheat and Canary seed order of December 1944 banned the sowing of these seeds without permission. Any breach of this would result in the farmer being fined.

In July 1943 Alfred Taylor Bland of Elm House Farm was fined £75 for planting fruit trees, without the permission of the East Suffolk War Agricultural Committee, between 1<sup>st</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> January 1943. In January 1942 he had put in a request to the committee that he would like to plant some apple trees in a certain field under-planted with potatoes or perhaps currant bushes. It was considered that it would not be in the national interest to plant the trees. Regardless of this the trees were planted.

In December 1943 at Hoxne Petty Sessions 4 local farmers were fined for not growing their allocated acres of sugar beet. The Ministry of Agriculture decided the acreage necessary to be grown to maintain the nation, and this acreage was allocated to the different district committees, who decided the number of acres each farmer should be able to manage.

In 1946 the East Suffolk War Agricultural Executive Committee decreed that the cropping on farms in 1945 was to be continued in 1946.