

There are many types of diagnostic work submitted to the laboratory besides those enumerated above. A summary of the other types of specimens submitted is given in the following table.

Summary of Miscellaneous Diagnoses

Specimen	No. Submitted 1945-46	No. Submitted 1946-47
Rabbit	4	3
Cat	4	2
Love Bird		1
Deer		1
Horse	4	2
Mink	1	4
Meat sample	9	17
Bones		3
Miscellaneous	5	2
Feed	16	14
Dogs	8	17
TOTAL	51	66

For the most part the miscellaneous samples indicate only individual problems rather than problems of statewide interest. The increase in the number of meat samples submitted is of significance. These were for the most part samples of meat that had either spoiled or taken up disagreeable odors in public cold storage lockers. The sanitation of cold storage lockers is important and these data would indicate that some lockers are not maintained under the best of conditions.

The increase in the number of dog specimens submitted is a direct result of epidemic poisonings in several North Dakota and Minnesota cities.

CROP PLANT DISEASE FORECASTING¹

By

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Federal and State plant pathologists are trying to set up a crop disease forecasting service that would give growers more advance information on the approach of crop disease epidemics. If such a service can be made to work effectively it will remove some of the hazards on farms. Late blight of potatoes in particular has caused heavy losses to the crop in some years.

The forecasting project, now beginning under the Federal Research and Marketing Act will be on a limited scale, including late blight of the potato, late blight of the tomato, mildews of vine crops and blue mold of tobacco, where this crop is grown.

The warning service will have three parts. 1. Disease survey, consisting of visits to fields and gardens, throughout the country, by trained pathologists. 2. Collecting the information they obtain into one central point, the Plant Disease Survey, and 3, dissemination of information, together with recommendations of state pathologists, in regions where danger threatens.

¹This article is a brief review of a processed bulletin released by the Bureau of Plant Industry, Soils and Agricultural Engineering, March 1948, under title "The Crop Plant Disease Forecasting Project as authorized under the Research and Marketing Act."