

What's New!!

In This Issue

For the Birds

Growing bird seed is big business. North Dakota farmers now have an opportunity to cash in on the 100 million pounds of seed mixes stowed away by pet birds last year.

About half of these mixes is canary grass seed which can be grown successfully in North Dakota, but which is now being imported largely from other countries.

Dr. P. C. Sandal, NDAC agronomist says this crop will average about 1,000 pounds of seed per acre. At 4 cents a pound, it compares favorably with such non-allotment crops as barley.

This is a limited market crop, but as markets are established it can mean an additional cash income for North Dakota farmers. Don't grow it unless you have a buyer.

Some seed dealers in North Dakota are already contracting for the seed. A few Red River Valley farmers are raising about \$150,000 worth each year.

Sandal started the variety trials at the college because of the interest that has been shown. He is comparing Moroccan and Turkish varieties with Australian, Argentine and Dutch varieties.

If you think this crop fits into your farm plans, get in touch with Dr. Sandal.

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Vol. 20, No. 4

March-April, 1958

A BIMONTHLY progress report published
by the
**Agricultural Experiment Station,
North Dakota Agricultural College**
Fargo, N. D.

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