



LABORING FOR FOOD



BOTH PHOTOS: SHS (IOWA CITY)

Gardening on the Gabelmann farm, near Clarksville, about 1910. Home gardens supplied families with fresh and preserved food.

Husking corn by hand, 1940. Only half of Iowa's corn was mechanically picked by 1940. (Photo by Don Ultang.)

LOOK AT ANY RECORD OF FOOD PRODUCTION and you're sure to find that Iowa is a world leader, and has been throughout its century-and-a-half of statehood. But behind those rankings is something even more constant, and clearly evident in the following images of Iowans—the dignity of a hard day's work, the satisfaction of producing food for your family, and the camaraderie of laboring together.

— *Ginalie Swaim, editor*





Meatpacking workers at Rath's Packing Company, Waterloo, November 1923. At the end of the decade, Iowa ranked third nationwide in total number of meatpacking workers. (Left third of panoramic photo. SHSI-Iowa City.)



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SHSI (IOWA CITY)

Pleased with his load of apples, this Iowan takes a moment to pose for the camera, about 1910. By that year, Iowa ranked sixth among U.S. states for apple production. Nearly three-quarters of all Iowa farms had home orchards.

JESSIE FIELD SHAMBAUGH PAPERS, IOWA WOMEN'S ARCHIVES, UNIVERSITY OF IOWA LIBRARIES



Teacher Jessie Field works with her rural students in their garden at Goldenrod School, Page County, spring 1901. New to teaching that year, Field realized the importance of relating curriculum to students' environments and likely future occupations. Her work with rural youth evolved into 4-H.