

Women – WWII - Farming – Primary Source

What can you learn by looking at these propaganda posters related to farming?



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Canadian farms help their own pressures to meet the growing need for food for the war effort, while also losing many of their young male workers to military service.

Many farm women were faced with the reality that they had to maintain the family farm themselves, as well as raise the children, while their husbands, sons, and hired labourers were off at war.

Mothers and children worked side-by-side on the farm to ensure it survived and prospered with responsibilities like planting, harvesting, caring for livestock, milking cows, and managing the finances being added to women's normal farm chores.

Women adjusted well to this shift in roles and when the men returned after the war, many women continued helping on the farm in these new ways.

Many women tended their own gardens, known as Victory Gardens, or volunteered in community gardens in order for more vegetables and fruits to be grown to feed the local population.

How did rationing help the war effort through farming?