



Postscript: Postscript: De Las Democracias Será La Victoria

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Photographs / Images: Mexican farm workers recruited by the U.S. Farm Security Administration to harvest sugar beets in the North Platte Valley in 1943



Library of Congress, Farm
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Photograph Collection

Irrigation brought sugar beets to Nebraska's North Platte Valley, and sugar beets drew workers to harvest them. Starting in the early twentieth century the area became home to Mexican workers and Germans from Russia. During World War II, a labor shortage led to what eventually became known as the Bracero Program, which brought temporary Mexican agricultural laborers to the United States.

As part of the program, the U.S. Farm Security Administration recruited Mexican workers to Nebraska, Colorado, Minnesota, and the Arkansas valley to harvest and process sugar beets under contract with the Inter-mountain Agricultural Improvement Association. Mexico had its own troops fighting overseas, and these men, looking from a railroad car in May 1943, leave no doubt as to who they think will win.

—David Bristow, Editor