

A news story from April 1957

A Bumper Harvest for Spaghetti Growers

This year's spaghetti harvest has been one of the best for over a decade. This has been mainly due to damp weather and no frost in the winter. Another reason is that the Pasta Fly has been virtually wiped out this year due to new controls on imports of pasta seeds from infected regions.

In previous years the Pasta Fly has been responsible for the destruction of almost 50% of the crop.

There had been concerns that some of the spaghetti had been drying out too early before it had grown to its premium length of 43 centimetres. Luckily the damp weather enabled the pasta to hang freely before



Spaghetti harvester

hardening just in time for harvest.

The harvest of other varieties of pasta is also set to increase in volume. The south of Italy has large plantations of ravioli parcels ready for harvest in two months while an experimental plantation in northern England has managed to produce a small amount of macaroni for the first time on these shores.

Picture source © BBC *Panorama* 1957
Based on a report by Richard Dimpleby