

Mary Ann

SOLUTION

With her Kansas family farm experience, Mary Ann manages the castaways' agriculture and runs a tightly-organized garden. Each crop is in its own area of just the right size, and a carefully-planned path allows access throughout.

Shade squares to represent the path, leaving groups of unshaded squares for the crops.

- Every crop area will have exactly one number in it.
- Every crop area will have exactly one scarecrow. (Some scarecrows will be on the path.)
- Each number specifies how many squares including itself are in a crop's area (unshaded squares). Squares are considered part of the area if they touch along edges.
- No crop area may touch any other crop area along an edge. Touching at corners is permitted.
- The entire path (shaded squares) must be connected together along edges.

Once you have determined the layout, the scarecrows in the crop areas will help you discover what Mary Ann is bringing to the December 14 celebration.

The scarecrows are showing semaphore.

Read the letters in the crop areas from left to right, top to bottom for the answer:

LAYER CAKE

(The scarecrows in the shaded path, read from bottom to top, say "not these ones.")

