

Plow Under

Words and Music by Lee Hays and Pete Seeger (1941)
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Remember when the AAA
Killed a million hogs a day?
Instead of hogs it's men today.
Plow the fourth one under.

CHORUS:

Plow under!
Plow under!
Plow under
Ev'ry fourth American boy.
They said our agricultural
System was about to fall.
So from Washington they sent a call.
Plow the fourth one under.

CHORUS

The price of cotton wouldn't rise,
They said, "We've got to fertilize."
So now on us they turn their eyes.
Plow the fourth one under.

CHORUS

They said our system wouldn't work
Until we killed the surplus off.
So now they look at us and say.
Plow the fourth one under.

CHORUS

Any ignorant mule does know
Better than to step on a cotton row
But there ain't no mules in Congress,
So plow the fourth one under.

CHORUS

Now the politicians rant
A boy's no better than a cotton plant
But we are here to say you can't
Plow the fourth one under.

FINAL CHORUS:

Plow under,
Don't you... plow under
Don't you... plow under
Every fourth American boy.
Now, don't you... plow under,
Don't you... plow under
Don't you... plow under
Every fourth American boy.