

Los Espárragos ~ Asparagus





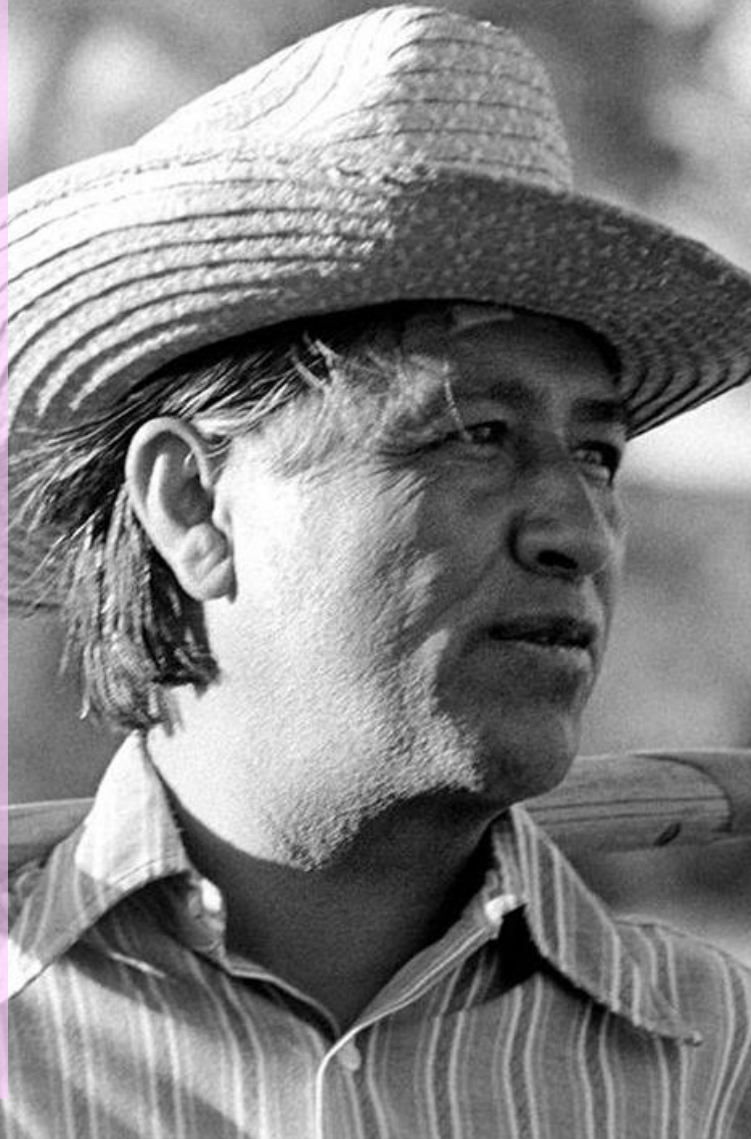
A **lug** is a shallow plastic container made for harvesting, transporting, and storing berries and asparagus.

Cesar Chavez

Cesar Chavez was born in 1927. His family lost their Arizona farm when he was 11 and moved to California.

Cesar became a migrant farm worker when he was old enough. Before that, he attended 35 schools because his family moved often to follow the crop harvests.

Working conditions were very bad. Pay was low, food was scarce, and there were no bathrooms for workers. Anyone who complained was fired. No one complained. Cesar knew it was not right.



When he grew up, Cesar wanted to help migrant farm workers in a peaceful manner.

Although people had tried to organize farm workers in the past, Cesar was finally able to succeed with his National Farm Workers Association.

They first planned a strike against grape growers. Thousands protested, and the owners agreed to many of the workers demands.

Civil Rights Activist and Founder of the National Farm Workers Association

A decorative border with a double-line black outline and stylized leaf motifs in the corners. The background is a purple-to-pink gradient.

Comprehension Questions Los Espárragos – Asparagus

1. Why did the strikers choose the asparagus season to stop work?
2. What did the strikers do to slow down work?
3. How did the owners fight back?
4. What surprising thing does Marta do?
5. How does Esperanza help Marta?
6. What does Esperanza see the day after the “sweep” when she returns to farm where Marta lived?
7. By the end of the chapter, how does Esperanza feel about the strike and strikers?