

Our LAND



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THE QUICKEST WAY TO SOIL CONSERVATION IS THROUGH GOOD GRASS FARMING. A GOOD ROTATION IS BASIC TO SOIL CONSERVATION.

THOSE TWO STATEMENTS WERE MADE BY THE MINNESOTA STATE SOIL CONSERVATION COMMITTEE AT THE NOVEMBER MEETING AT UNIVERSITY FARM.

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Q. What's the difference between SCS, ACP and Extension Service?

A. The U. S. Soil Conservation Service gives technical help to farmers who develop complete farm conservation plans, based on scientific analysis and capabilities of the land. The Agricultural Conservation Program (ACP) of PMA, as a part of its program, makes incentive payments for the various soil conservation practices that constitute a complete farm plan.

The Extension Service conducts broad educational programs, sponsored by local planning committees, on all phases of agriculture, homemaking and 4-H work. Its education job paves the way and helps the work of action agencies on soil conservation, agricultural adjustment and other programs.

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According to July figures, farmers in the United States had organized 2,141 soil conservation districts. Sixty-nine per cent of the farmland was within districts. Minnesota had 38 districts with 32 per cent of its farmland within districts.

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An older farmer near Owatonna says: "When gang plows first came out we plowed with four horses. Later we switched to five to do the same job. Now we use powerful tractors, so I know our ground works harder. Maybe if we went back to horses we would get busy and rebuild the organic matter in the soil. That would improve tilth and make it plow easier, as well as hold more water and resist erosion."