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In addition to its soil conserving value, a ton of top quality alfalfa hay has the same feeding value as a mixture containing 400 pounds of soybean meal, 500 pounds of oats and 400 pounds of shelled corn. The cost of this mixture at present prices will equal the feeding worth of a ton of high quality alfalfa hay for milk cows, says Ralph Wayne, extension dairyman.

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Paul Bloemendaal, a G. I. and new district cooperator at Luverne, Minnesota, knew exactly why he had asked Warren R. Gregg, SCS farm planner, to help him develop a conservation program. "I paid a good price for this land and, believe me, I intend to keep it," Bloemendaal explained.

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Marvin Smith, extension forester, advises that best results are obtained from tree belts planted at right angles to prevailing wind direction. Plant low-growing trees and shrubs in the outside rows, taller trees in the interior rows. Choose fast-growing trees such as cottonwood, as well as slow-growing long-lived trees. Spacing between rows will depend on width of cultivating equipment. Trees should be given shallow but thorough cultivation as long as possible after establishment.

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The cows owned by Glenn Featherstone, cooperator in the East Goodhue Soil Conservation District, are natural born animals who prefer water in the raw to a drink from a man-made gadget such as a farm pump. In 1949 Featherstone built a stock pond and renovated the permanent pasture draining into it. When he turned his cattle into the pasture last year, Featherstone was surprised to see his cows turn up their noses at the usual watering tank and head for the pond. The fact that pond water came from clean, fertilized pasture may have had something to do with it.

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