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Our LAND



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A "doubting Thomas" asked George Fox of the Dakhue Soil Conservation District whether soil conserving measures didn't take more time and slow down his farming operations. "The time I invested in getting this program started has paid me good wages," Fox said. "Sure, it took a little more time. It always takes more time to build than to tear down."

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In thinning the woodlot, the poorer, spindlier trees should be removed, leaving the best to grow to larger size for home use or industrial demands, says Parker Anderson, extension forester. The small trees removed can be used for fence posts this spring.

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Seven farmers of the Freeborn County Soil Conservation District met recently to discuss the fate of a community woods. They had asked Stanley Locke, SCS forester, to look over the woodlots and give his recommendations. The timber proved to be of little value at this time for co-operative marketing and one farmer suggested the land be cleared. "Oh no," said Farmer John Nordby. "We may have a war sometime when gas and electric power will be bombed and people will be happy to find timber like this for fuel." The woods remains.

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Nominations for Minnesota's outstanding farmer-conservationists are now open. Four district winners will receive valuable prizes and be guests of the Northwest Sports, Travel and Boat show in Minneapolis March 23 - April 1. Selection will be based on land use--soil, forest and water conservation program on the farm; preservation of wildlife; and promotion of better farmer-sportsmen relations. Nominations may be made to the county agent, from whom additional details are available.

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