

University of Minnesota
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University Farm
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Boosting Corn Yield -- Taking inventory of the 1952 corn growing season, Harold Jones, extension soils specialist at University Farm, suggests that Minnesota corn yields can be increased to 60 bushels per acre or better in the foreseeable future by more general use of acceptable soil management and cultural practices. His recommendations for planning to increase corn yield next year include: (1) Make sure fertility level is sufficient to feed the crop; (2) be sure there are enough plants per acre to make use of the fertility level; (3) keep organic matter level up so that soil has good tilth and aeration; (4) grow adapted, disease-resistant hybrids suited to your conditions; (5) fall-plow heavy soils whenever possible.

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Conservation Boosts Oats -- Adrian Hayden, one of the district supervisors of the LeSueur County Soil Conservation District and a district co-operator for several years, reported an oat yield this year of 100 bushels per acre. It's the highest yield that Hayden has ever had. He has been following a 4-year rotation of corn, grain and two years of grass. He thinks it is his rotation plus strip cropping that paid off so well this year. Keeping the soil and rain on the field where they belong has been good business with Adrian Hayden.

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Forage Feeds Efficient -- Not only are forage crops among the most efficient feeds for both dairy and beef cattle, but those soil-building crops, the legumes, are needed in crop rotations, M. L. Armour, extension agronomist, stated at the annual Livestock Day at the University of Minnesota's West Central Experiment Station, Morris, recently.

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Big Chance for Roughages -- E. F. Ferrin, animal husbandry chief at the University of Minnesota, notes that sheep and hogs as well as beef animals are converters of grasses and roughages into human food. Thus they enable farmers to use soil-saving grasses and legumes more widely than was once thought possible.

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