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Care Brings Back Wornout Farm -- When Reuben Olsen of St. Charles moved onto a hilly, wornout farm a few years ago, some of his neighbors raised their eyebrows. One of them even told him, "If you never have been broke, you will be now".

But today, with good soil conservation practices and wise management, Olsen is harvesting crops from fields that yield three and four times as much as when he moved onto the place. Great helps, he says, are improved rotations to put needed organic matter back in the soil, and strip-cropping to help keep soil, water and vital plant nutrients on his steep-sloping fields.

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Good Trout Stream Depends on Good Farmers -- A long-awaited stream improvement project on Hay Creek near Red Wing is under way. Now fences protect legume plantings from livestock. Next spring, soil conservationists will plant willows and other shrubs which, when grown, will help keep the water cool for trout. Hay Creek can become a rich trout stream again, says John Walsh of the Minnesota Game and Fish Department. But it will take wise land use by area farmers to prevent pollution and silting.

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Proper Care Helps Manure Do Good Job -- Handling manure properly can give you a big boost in economical farming and wise land use. Wallace A. Nelson, agronomist at the University of Minnesota's Northeast Experiment Station at Duluth, gives a few tips for proper handling:...If you remove manure from barns during the winter, haul it to fairly level land as long as you can get into the field. Later, when outside piling is necessary, keep piles compact, moist and protected from animals. Adding 40 to 50 pounds of superphosphate (0-20-0) per ton makes it a more balanced fertilizer and cuts down nitrogen loss. Applying five to ten tons of manure per acre on poor land will give the largest return per ton. Besides adding valuable nutrients to the soil, manure increases organic matter and improves soil's workability;