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Soybeans Early - Rye in Fall -- Plant an early-maturing soybean variety the third or fourth week in May and you can combine the beans in September and sow winter-hardy rye on the same field. R. G. Robinson, University of Minnesota agronomist, says the best part is, unless your field is very weedy, little or no seedbed preparation is needed for the rye--and it is good winter soil cover, excellent annual weed control and a grain crop in 1955. Robinson suggests Flambeau since it's the earliest-maturing recommended variety. Often it can be combined before September 15.

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Big Reforestation Project Under Way -- The largest reforestation effort in Minnesota history - more than 21,000,000 trees - is under way right now, according to Parker Anderson, extension forester at the University of Minnesota. Farm owners now are receiving trees ear-marked for long-planned field windbreaks, shelterbelts, woodlots, erosion control, game-cover and food plantings. When you get yours, give them a good start. During planting, protect their roots from dry winds and sun by carrying conifers in pails with the roots in water. Dig a wide enough, deep enough hole to take the entire root system without crowding. And see that the dirt is firmly tamped around the plantings to prevent drying out.

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Plan Your Own Check Plots -- Many wise farmers who begin a fertility program leave small unfertilized plots for each treatment as "check" strips, reports Harold E. Jones, Extension soils specialist at the University of Minnesota. These check plots are especially valuable when you're trying to increase yields on an already high-yielding area. They give you a basis for measuring fertilizer value and cost.

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Ancient Civilizations Neglected Soil -- In many of the early civilizations once tops for their time--but now dead, you can see one reason for their death--perhaps the principal reason: They overworked the soil. Much of their richest topsoil, left unprotected from sun, wind and water, now clogs once-deep harbors.

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