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More Corn Free--Just Be Accurate -- More corn for nothing? "Well, almost nothing--just being accurate and careful with planting rates," says Harold E. Jones, extension soils specialist at the University of Minnesota. Careful farmers get as much as 20 bushels an acre more simply by planting enough corn, he reports. The Minnesota Agricultural Experiment Station recommends a 16,000 plant stand--four stalks per hill in 40 x 40 inch plantings--on heavy soils and 12,000 plants per acre--three stalks per hill--on sandy land.

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Pioneer Contour Farmer is Key Plowville '54 Figure -- Ivan Kerr of Lincoln county, one of the farmers cooperating in staging "Plowville '54" near Lake Benton next September 17-18, was one of the first to start contouring in his township. He began putting the curvy soil-savers on his farm in the spring of 1947. Since then, many of his neighbors have followed the Kerr example. He has been in the forefront of soil improvement activities in his county.

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After-Planting Tree Care is Vital -- After planting summer care is important to the future of your young trees. Parker Anderson, Extension forester at the University of Minnesota, gives these tips: Keep cattle and chickens out of the newly-planted areas. Cultivate in the summer to make a dust mulch next to the plantings and to prevent grass and weeds from robbing the newcomers of moisture and nutrients. Even chickens can help wreck your carefully planned shelterbelt or woodlot. Hungry biddies picking tips of growing evergreens can cause heavy losses.

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How About The Year 2054? -- Ever think of how farming will be a hundred years from now? You won't be here? No, probably not. Still there will be people, your great-grandchildren, perhaps, on farms--and what kind of farms, how productive and pleasant, may well depend on how we care for our topsoil and forests now.

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