

University Farm News  
University of Minnesota  
Institute of Agriculture  
St. Paul 1 Minnesota

August 26 1954



Prepared and distributed  
by the Minnesota Agricultural  
Extension Service.

For use during week of  
September 20, 1954

Air Tours Are Real Convincers -- "There's nothing like an air view to sharpen your resolve to work for soil conservation." So said Farm Planner Pat Kennedy after he returned from a flight over the Sibley County Soil Conservation District on July 4. Another thought that struck Kennedy was: "What's become of our rotations? If the whole county were one farm, it would seem the rotation pattern would be about one year of grass and legumes to ten or eleven of row crops and grain." Something to think about.

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Mahnomen County District Enters Contest -- Supervisors of the Mahnomen County Soil Conservation District are again entering the Minneapolis Star and Tribune Soil Conservation Contest. All township boards will join in picking from township toppers the winning farmer to represent the county. He will be honored at the annual district cooperators' meeting in December. A recent district project is conservation signs for 27 cooperators. They were bought from the National Association by the district and the farmer and show his and the district's names.

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How About a Conservation Bee? -- Back in what they call "the good old days" neighbors got together in building bees, husking bees and others. But did you ever hear of a soil conservation bee? Well, there was one in the Upper Zumbro Soil Conservation District this spring. Friends and neighbors came with plows and tractors to help build terraces on the Dick Chase farm near Dover and in only one day they built a mile of terrace. Many stopped to watch how easily such effective protection can be built with an ordinary plow and tractor. And once a terrace is built with a plow, there's no maintenance problem -- just a little work will keep them in good health for a long time.

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Chemical Renovations Being Tested -- Chemical pasture renovations, using TCA or Dalapon to kill grass cheaply, are not yet recommended because we don't know nearly enough about how to use them. This information comes from Rodney A. Briggs, extension agronomist at the University of Minnesota. Experiments are planned in chemical renovation and perhaps someday they will fit into our Minnesota "recommended practices."