

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

April 29 1955



Prepared and distributed
by the Minnesota Agricultural
Extension Service.

For use during week of
May 2 1955

Watersheds and Flood Control -- Secretary of Agriculture Benson says that over half of the country's \$1,200,000,000 annual flood water and sediment damage occurs on headwater streams and small tributaries. About 70 per cent of this upstream damage is agricultural and includes pasture and crop loss, damage to property, roads, stored crops and livestock. And in many small tributary valleys, three-fourths of the total flood losses are caused by small storms--the kind a community can expect once every 10 years or oftener. Add, of course, sedimenting damage to 10,000 storage reservoirs--not including farm ponds--from soil erosion on our small watersheds.

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Sherburne District 10 Years Old -- A publication entitled, "Sherburne County Soil Conservation District--1944-1954," has just been issued. It is a history of the district since its organization in March, 1944. If you'd like a copy, write J. H. Weis, St. Cloud. He's chairman of the board of supervisors. The booklet might give you ideas on what you'd like to do when your group reaches its 10th birthday.

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Good Time For Tree Planting -- This is the preferred season for planting trees in Minnesota and every year more people are planting more trees than the year before. So reports Marvin Smith, Extension forester at the University of Minnesota. Some may plant a single tree in the home yard. Others may plant thousands as a means of restoring idle land. This week is a most opportune time. Governor Freeman proclaimed it Conservation Week with Arbor Day on Friday, May 6. To quote an old saying, "No man stands so upright as when he stoops to plant a tree."

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District Endorsement -- "We have just about doubled our yields--but without the kind of assistance the district gives us in planning for such land use, we'd be lost! That's what one Minnesota farmer wrote about his soil conservation district. -hrj-