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Plowing Best Done at Proper Soil Moisture -- Clifford Keller of Orwell Township West Otter Tail County reports that plowing has to be done when soil moisture is right. Says he, "I ruined a seven-acre piece a couple of years ago by plowing it when it was too wet." It seems the heavy soils up there clod up and lose their structure and tilth when worked at too high a moisture content. And all the plant food in the world won't help if that soil tilth is ruined by too much working under wet conditions. This story came to us from John Mulvehill, West Otter Tail county extension soil conservation agent at Fergus Falls.

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Farmstead Shelterbelt Grows Valuable -- Clem Zender, who farms between St. James and Butterfield, helped his Dad lay out a farm shelterbelt in 1927 and 1928, when Clem was a little boy. Clem remembers that the trees cost just about \$50. Today, they're worth about \$2,000, considering value as an improvement for less windy fields and farmstead and better-gaining livestock. Marvin Smith, extension forester at the University of Minnesota, gave us this story.

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Feed Cows Wisely to Maintain Milk Flow -- You know, one big reason for a sudden drop in milk production in your herd could be that the cows just aren't getting enough to eat. Pastures this time of year may be short--or what's left is not very tasty and appealing or has only a low feed value. Thus, cows don't bother with it. The answer is hay or silage feeding--either one or both, whatever you have on the place. This will allow a cow to fill her tank on roughage, save on your grain supply. She will get those needed nutrients and be able to produce well, again. This suggestion comes from a University of Minnesota extension dairyman, Ralph Wayne.

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Watch for Soybean Field Days -- Some good soybean days have been staged this month and more are coming in October. Your County agent may have one coming up. Ask him or give him a ring on the 'phone to find out. These field days are very worthwhile.

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