

Our LAND



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Crop Rotations Help Check Weeds -- In one research study in which wheat was grown nine years in a row, over four times as many weed seeds were found in the surface layer of soil as on a nearby area which had an eight-year rotation. A University of Minnesota agronomist, Ed Jensen, says that without spraying mustard usually will increase in fields where grain is grown continuously. But it will decrease when corn and legumes are grown in rotation. Canada thistle usually will increase in corn and small grain fields and decrease in fields that have a good stand of legumes.

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Tree Planting Shows Up Well -- Just north of Gary, Minnesota, on Highway 32 is a spot of green that shows up like an oasis in a desert. It is the pine planting started by the folks at Gary with the help of the East Agassiz Soil Conservation District and other groups. During the thirties, this spot was an active sand dune which threatened to "walk over" the highway. Now, the pines are 20 to 30 feet high and make a place--once an eyesore--a place of production and beauty. Since 1941, tree planting has gone on here until this spring when the project was finished. It now covers 160 acres, 100 in pines.

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Enthusiastic About Pasture Renovation -- Here's a briefie from a letter from Ambrose Lewandowski of Winsted; "Harold Jones (he's the University of Minnesota extension soils specialist) started me on pasture renovation two years ago. This year on 12 acres of renovated pasture I have had 40 head of cattle every day except five since May 15 and have had hay off the land besides. The pasture--listen to this--grew up 40 inches tall. Can anyone beat that?"

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Long Contour Strip at Plowville '55 -- The longest contour strip in northern Minnesota--that's what visitors will see at the Trosvik Brothers' Farm near Rothsay, site of Plowville '55. The strip is a little over a mile and a half long. Plowville is Friday and Saturday, September 16-17.