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Our LAND



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Planter-Planted Trees Do Well -- Despite a bad drought this summer, trees planted with a tree planter out in Lincoln County have been doing very well. Kenneth Sommervold, who runs the tree planter for the Lincoln County Soil Conservation District, says much of the reason the trees are doing so well is the careful way they were handled up until planting--and then getting the roots planted deep and packed well, a job a heavy tree planter is well suited for. Important after planting is good clean cultivation to keep down competition with weeds. Some of the trees planted in 1955 already are larger and healthier than 1954-planted trees that didn't get as good pre-planting care.

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University Foresters Plan Treating Unit -- A new treating unit for cold-soaking fence posts and home-harvested lumber in Penta has been designed by University of Minnesota foresters. It is about 16 feet long, a foot deep and a foot wide and will take 15 three-inch-top posts, or eight or ten inch-thick boards. It is made of wood and galvanized iron. Materials cost about \$30. Plans for the unit are found in University of Minnesota Extension Folder 153, available free at County Agents' offices.

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Small Grains Give Higher Yields from Fertilizer -- University of Minnesota's soils men finds that small grains can give paying yield increases from fertilizing. Yield boosts of as high as 30 bushels an acre have been obtained by putting fertilizer on soils found--by soil tests--to be low in certain essential plant foods. University Extension Soils Specialists Charles A. Simkin says that if the state's farmers fertilized small grain as much as it needed, we would harvest 40 per cent more than we do now.

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Choose Good Seed -- The best seed you can buy is the only answer to the problem of getting satisfying yields. This can't be a "hit or miss" affair, because the variety finally selected can mean the difference between a profit or a loss on that crop. Two University booklets--Report 24, "Varietal Trials of Farm Crops," and Folder 22, "Varieties of Farm Crops," each give detailed descriptions of how the many varieties of corn and small grains offered for sale actually perform--and which ones the University agronomists recommend for where.

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