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Outstanding Farmer-Sportsman is Great Conservationist -- Leonard Latteral,

recently named Benton County's outstanding farmer-sportsman, is a great believer in both soil and wildlife conservation. He has planted over 2,000 trees and has planted sweet clover and set aside four acres of woodlot fences and used for wildlife. Among his wild crop: pheasants.

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Lake Bottom Now Has 20 Feet of Silt -- Once productive farmland is now 20 feet thick on the bottom of Lake Shetek, Murray County. Bill Oemichen, SCS man at Slayton, says the silt is destroying the home for game fish and land it came from has lost millions of dollars worth of fertility. The only answer to save the rest of the lake: Proper land use and wind and erosion control.

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Fertilizing Lets Him Handle More Cows -- A business-like program of fertilizing and rotational grazing has paid off for Edward Fischer of Redwood County. He carried 102 beef steers through the summer on 40 acres of pasture and cut his protein bill and his corn feeding needs by having well-managed, fast-growing pastures even during the extremely dry 1955 season. His corn gave more than 100 bushels per acre--and on rented land once thought worthless. Fischer's prescription: "Test the soil, then feed it what it needs--and handle it right."

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Formula for Keeping Organic Matter -- Northern Minnesota's forest soils are naturally low in organic matter. In his land-clearing operations, Eino Sikkila of Cook, a cooperator in the Little Fork Soil Conservation District, doesn't destroy the organic matter that the native grass cover has provided. He windrows the trees and brush--leaves it to decay for about six years. By then the material has decomposed enough that it can be spread to either side by tractor and manure bucket.