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Over-All Conservation Pays Off -- Scott County is winding up one of the best contour strip cropping seasons in the history of the area, says Dewey Hahn, soil conservation farm planner for the county. Drainage assistance has been in heavy demand there during recent years. Hahn reports that 27 farmers received help in staking out fields this spring and 52 asked for contour strip programs for this fall. Area farmers are combining contour farming with gully control, sod waterways, tree planting, tile and open ditch drainage, wildlife projects and good crop rotations.

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Ural Bush Willows Make Effective Windbreak -- Evergreens--usually the most popular trees for windbreaks--need several years to make enough growth. In Sherburne County, farmers are using ural bush willows and hybrid poplar trees to produce windbreaks in a few years. Henry Wilson, U. S. soil conservationist for the Sherburne County district, says bush willow plantings there have made good snow fences in three or four years, and hybrid poplar trees ten years old have an average yearly growth of four feet. Bush willow and hybrid poplar together make a good windbreak combination, says Wilson.

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Green Feeding Takes Less Pasture -- A third of an acre per cow is enough pasture for Louis Geronime's dairy herd, near Rosemount, Minn. Geronime stretches his pasture acres by green feeding--hauling the pasture to the cows. He chops a load of hay in the morning and again in the afternoon during the summer, and feeds it to the cows in the barnlot. The cows eat the material right off the wagon rack. With that system, Geronime fed 50 milk cows on 20 acres of pasture during the past summer, and gave them very little extra feed.

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Sunflower Seed Boon to Wildlife -- Each year, Harry Larson, Hasty, Minn. plants about a half acre of cane and a half acre of sunflower seed for winter feeding and about an acre of corn in a planting-feeding area for wildlife. The corn is cut, bundled, and fed to deer, pheasants and small game animals. Eighty acres of the Larson farm is kept just for wildlife; it isn't even pastured by farm animals.