

University Farm and
Home News
Institute of Agriculture
University of Minnesota
St. Paul 1 Minnesota

October 30 1956



Prepared and distributed
by the Minnesota Agricultural
Extension Service.

For use during week of
November 26 1956

Crop Rotation Brings Higher Yields -- Crops have nearly doubled in yield and gone up in quality on the Erling Storbeck farm in Becker county. A 6-year rotation made the difference. Storbeck is a district cooperater and supervisor of the Becker county Soil Conservation District. His rotation in corn, grain, grain, grain seeded with alfalfa-brome, one year of hay and one year of pasture--just what's needed for the heavy-flat soil on his farm. The rotation also eliminated cropping worries for Storbeck.

* * *

Terraces Stop Erosion, Hold Water -- Terraces, or ridges across slopes, are important soil savers. There are two common types of terraces--graded and level. Graded terraces have a small slope, like a river, that forces water to flow gently to outlet waterways. Level terraces are built on the contour with both ends closed. With that type, water collects in the terrace, then seeps into the soil.

* * *

Heavy Fertilizing Triples Field Production -- Crop yields are more than twice as high as they were 13 years ago on the B. A. Ackerman farm near Sauk Rapids, due to heavy fertilizing, reports Burton Olson, assistant agricultural agent in Benton county. On corn, for example, Ackerman plows down 200 pounds of 10-10-10 per acre, then applies another 160 pounds of 4-12-24 at planting time. His corn yields have recently gone over 90 bushels per acre, compared to 35 bushels per acre in 1944. Oats yields on the Ackerman farm have increased from 30 bushels to almost 70 bushels per acre in the same period.

* * *

Cull Trees Are Possible Income Source -- Trees that are culled out of the farm woodlot can bring some extra income to 4-H youths, says Parker Anderson, extension forester at the University of Minnesota. Any crooked or dead trees that are fairly sound or "thinnings" from where the stand is too thick can be cut up into 16-inch lengths and sold for fireplaces. Pile the wood into units 2 feet high, 2 feet wide, and 16 inches long, and sell it at a roadside stand. Then city folks driving around the country can take advantage of your fireplace "fuel-wood" market. The small wood "packages" will be just right to put in a car trunk.

* * *