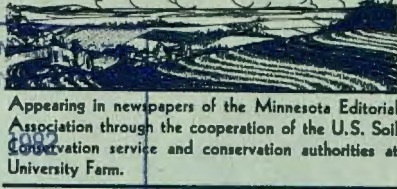
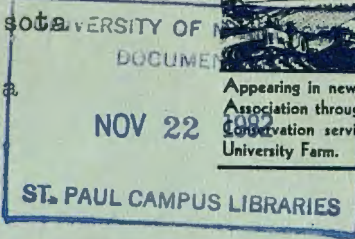


Our LAND

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This marks the beginning of a new weekly column --- OUR LAND. This new feature is being added by the _____ because we believe soil and water are basic resources which must be protected. It's good business for farmers. It's equally important to everyone who likes to eat, or wear clothes, or whose business in any way hinges on agriculture.

The column is prepared by the U. S. Soil Conservation service and conservation authorities at University Farm. It is appearing through the courtesy of the Minnesota Editorial Association.

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There is an old saying "we never miss the water till the well runs dry." In the same way we don't miss our soil and water resources until they've gone down the river.

FORTUNATELY, IN MINNESOTA OUR "WELL" HAS NOT RUN DRY. BUT TOO MUCH OF OUR SOIL RESOURCES HAS BEEN LOST. AT THE RATE WE ARE GOING, THE LOSS COULD HURT BADLY IN THE FUTURE. IN THAT CASE, BOTH TOWNSPEOPLE AND FARMERS WILL SUFFER.

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Now's a good time to apply phosphate or phosphate-potash fertilizer to new legume seedings, according to University Farm soils men. Older alfalfa seedings that will be used for hay next year should also be fertilized. It will pep up the stand next year and improve the yield.

Apply 0-20-0 at 250 to 300 pounds per acre, and 0-45-0 at 150 pounds per acre. Or, either 0-20-10 or 0-20-20 can be applied at 250 pounds per acre. It's not necessary to work it into the soil.

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Fall plowing makes seedbed preparation easier and quicker in the spring. It speeds up decomposition by turning under material. That helps make nitrogen available to young growing plants next spring. If soil is subject to erosion, plowing should be delayed until spring. Erosion losses may offset the other benefits.

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