

University Farm News
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Although plowing under sweetclover is better than the old method of summer fallow, Hugh Trowbridge, who operates 640 acres in the Clay Soil Conservation District, likes meadow fescue even better as a soil builder. He left the grass in 4 years and harvested three good seed crops. When he plowed the field he found it mellower than others. Now he plans to grow alfalfa with the fescue.

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Leland Schmidt, cooperater with the Scott Soil Conservation District for six years, reports: "I hill-drop my corn and keep ahead of the weeds. These practices, plus good rotations and plowing under of green manure crops enables me to grow more corn per acre than I formerly did."

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Start getting ready now for trees to be planted next spring. Marvin Smith, U Farm extension forester, says to break the sod a year before setting out trees. Disc and summer fallow the ground to build up moisture supplies and reduce weeds. A grain or row crop may be substituted for the summer fallow.

Young trees, already planted, will need cultivation soon; Smith recommends a quack digger or corn cultivator for shallow cultivation. A disc is not recommended because it hills earth up around the trees.

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Soil samples can be taken as soon as you can get a clean cut to spade depth. Take them then; send them in during the summer for testing on fields to be fertilized this fall. Paul Burson, U Farm testing lab head, promises 7 day service. Tests furnish information on kinds and rates of fertilizer best suited for your soil. See your county agent for more information.

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