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# Our LAND



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Further evidence is provided by the Soils division at University Farm that commercial fertilizer applied to legumes may have greater influence on increasing yield of roots than tops. On alfalfa in Redwood county, the yield of tops was 1.1 tons. When phosphate was applied, the yield was 1.4 tons. However, when roots were sampled, the check yield was 1.7 for roots and 2.3 for the phosphated plants.

Potash will also give this response where the soil test shows the need for it. Nitrogen, however, has a tendency to retard legume growth and did not show an increase in either root or top growth with these legumes. This information is important when the soil building value of legume crops is considered, says Harold Jones, extension soils specialist.

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Multiflora rose, shrub used farther south as living stock-tight fence, is not proving satisfactory in Minnesota except possibly the extreme southern fringe. Henry M. Wilson, U. S. Soil Conservation Service technician at St. Cloud, reports that plantings made in Sherburne county in 1942 and 1943 have never been thick enough to stop livestock. Plants kill back each year unless covered by snow drifts. A few multiflora rose may, however, have some value in plantings for wildlife food and cover

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The beef producing ability of good grass is illustrated by returns with cattle on pasture trials at the Dixon Springs experiment station of the University of Illinois, reports W. E. Morris, extension animal husbandman at University Farm. Ten 2-year-olds and 10 yearling steers, strictly grass cattle, were marketed in the fall of 1949 at an average price of \$24.55 per cwt. A return of \$73.65 an acre or \$4,419 on a 60-acre tract was received, therefore, from the 1949 grazing season.

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