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Avoid a 50 Per Cent Loss - Failure to conserve and return the liquid portion of barnyard manure to the soil means a loss of more than half the fertilizer value of manure, says Harold E. Jones, extension soils specialist at University Farm. Sixty-five per cent of the plant food nutrients in manure is in the liquid portion. This includes over 70 per cent of the potash, about 55 per cent of the nitrogen but only about 5 per cent of the phosphate. The use of plenty of bedding to absorb liquid manure will pay dividends in increased crop production in addition to keeping the cattle clean and comfortable. Experiments show that it takes about 6 to 8 pounds of oats or wheat straw to absorb the liquid manure from one cow each day.

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See For Themselves - The supervisors of the Carver, Scott and LeSueur Soil Conservation districts recently made a trip to the soil conservation experimental farm at Grandad's Bluff, LaCrosse, Wisconsin, to study first-hand the research work being carried on at the station. On the way to LaCrosse they observed conservation practices in the Root River Valley and made a short side trip up Bush Valley where some of the first contour strip cropping in Minnesota was carried out. The supervisors feel that the trip was very worthwhile and have expressed the wish that every Southern Minnesota farmer could visit the experiment station.

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Trees Stop Erosion - Sanford Wenstrom, 19-year-old St. Cloud 4-H club member, first took an interest in forestry as a club member back in 1945. That spring he set out 6,000 seedlings in double windbreak rows across the farm lengthwise and also across the ends. Each year since then he has had an extensive seed bed system. These trees have added to the beauty of the farm and have already stopped much of the wind erosion that formerly took place, Sanford says. Now a student at St. Cloud Teachers' College, Sanford is the 1951 Minnesota 4-H Forestry Project winner.

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