

University Farm News
University of Minnesota
University Farm
St. Paul 1 Minnesota

December 31, 1952



Prepared and distributed
by the Minnesota Agricultural
Extension Service.

For use during week of
January 12, 1953

Rotation Boosts Profits -- "Yes, a good rotation increased the profits on my farm," says Kenneth Brogen, secretary of the Becker County SCD. "When I can double my yields by having a rotation with 2 years of alfalfa-brome in six years of cropping, it is well worthwhile."

"It was just by accident that the big difference in yields came to my attention. I knew I could expect some difference in my crop yields, but I never expected twice as much. The reason it was so apparent this year was due to a different field arrangement I adopted. A field where I had plowed down alfalfa-brome was split in two, and another field that hadn't had alfalfa-brome yet was also split in two. Therefore, I had seeded oats and wheat in half of the field that had alfalfa-brome plowed down and the other half in the field that hadn't had any alfalfa-brome in it as yet. The difference was noticeable throughout the growing season especially in color, top growth, and in the amount of moisture that was available for plant growth."

Plans to Expand -- "You see, we had a semi-drouth in our area this year. We had about 7 or 8 inches of rain from the time we put our crops in until harvest, and where the soil had organic matter from plowing down the alfalfa-brome, the moisture we got from the spring thaw and the small amount of rain we got this year stayed in the field, giving the crop enough moisture to grow on. With the results I got from the first field I had in my six-year rotation, I sure am anxious to get the rest of my farm established in the rotation, because it's the amount of money per acre I have left after the expenses are subtracted that I am interested in, not the amount of land I can run over a poor rotation."

Canners Boost 4-H Conservation -- New impetus was given the 4-H soil conservation project in Minnesota recently with the announcement of substantial financial support from the Minnesota Canners' Association. This support is being used for leadership training, demonstration awards, state land use judging contest, educational folders and project training materials, says Leonard Harkness, state 4-H club leader.

--rr--