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Land Appreciation Contest -- Minnesota's first state-wide 4-H land appreciation contest will be held in connection with "Plowville, '53" between Maple Lake and Buffalo September 26. County contests are now under way to select three-man teams, according to Roger Harris, extension soil conservationist at University Farm, who is in charge of the contests. In land appreciation or judging contests, contestants judge the land to determine the best way to use it. Some of the things the 4-H'ers look for in judging the features of the soil are these: color of topsoil, depth of soil and subsoils favorable to root growth, ease of air and water movement through subsoil, texture of topsoil, slope of land, degree of wind or water erosion.

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Flood Damage -- June flood damage to crops in eight of the northern townships in Martin county will run to about \$275,000 according to I. H. Burnison, SCS Soil Conservationist at Fairmont. The high water was caused by the rampaging Elm Creek and Cedar Creek.

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Hog Pasture -- Why emphasize hog pastures? Here's an answer from L. E. Hanson, professor of animal husbandry at the University of Minnesota, to that question: In addition to being good for the soil, good pastures improve nutrition of the pig, save feed and labor, make parasite control easier. "There is no practical way of raising pigs efficiently without pasture," says Hanson. Good pastures supply protein. Lush alfalfa may contain better than 25 per cent protein on a dry basis; red clover, 23 per cent; brome, 20 per cent; rape, 17.8 per cent; rye, 25 per cent. Good pasture also supplies large amounts of carotene (vitamin A value) and riboflavin. It supplies other vitamins of the B complex and calcium.

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