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Use TCA and Avoid Excessive Tillage in Quackgrass Control -- So urges R. G.

Robinson, University of Minnesota agronomist. He says TCA at 22 pounds per acre in September or early October on fall-plowed ground gives as good quack grass control as repeated tillage and it will work in both wet and dry falls. Tillage does not successfully control quack grass during wet seasons. In 1954, flax, oats, corn, or potatoes can be planted on fall-treated ground. However, if very little rain falls after TCA application in 1953, better sow flax in 1954. Enough TCA might remain on the soil to injure corn or oats.

This method of quack control has not yet been tried on sand or peat so the above suggestions apply primarily to medium and heavy-textured mineral soils.

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Soil Conservation Pays Off -- Evert Pousi of Kingston, first Meeker County farmer to apply soil conservation measures to his farm, said recently that he finds them very valuable. Pousi is a supervisor of the Meeker County Soil Conservation District. He began strip cropping in 1942. "I figure soil conservation measures have increased my yields about 25 per cent on the steepest slopes and soil on those slopes have been improved considerably," he says. He is particularly pleased with the way his hilly land withstood heavy rains of the past two summers. He reports he had only a little washing during the summer's heaviest rain.

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Special Attention to Fresh Cows Essential -- This advice comes from Ralph Wayne, extension dairyman at the University of Minnesota. He says such special attention is important if you want more efficient production. Fresh cows should be barn-fed not only grain but liberal amounts of roughage. Good legume hay or hay crop silage are best since they provide an abundance of both total nutrients and protein at low cost. Corn silage is excellent in total nutrients but low in protein. So cows fed heavy amounts of corn silage and little or no legume roughages, should also receive additional protein in the grain mixture to provide a well-balanced, efficient ration.

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