

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

December 3 1953



Prepared and distributed
by the Minnesota Agricultural
Extension Service.

For use during week of
December 14 1953

1952 Plowville Farm Greatly Improved -- If you were in the big crowd at the Henry Snow farm near Kasson in October, 1952, and heard President Eisenhower and Adlai Stevenson speak, you may have wondered how the farm is doing. A visitor to the farm reports a 90-bushel-per-acre corn crop was harvested from the area where the speakers' platform stood last year. Improvements are paying off. A wet section previously not tillable, was tilled and now is adding to the farm's output. Owner Snow told the reporter, "It's not the same farm. It's vastly improved."

* * * * *

Cull Woods Now -- Now is the time to take a good look at your forest crop and harvest mature trees, says Parker Anderson, University of Minnesota Extension forester. He says trees are ripe for harvest when they begin to slow down in their growth. While harvesting, check for damaged and disease-infected trees. A fungus growth on the trunk should be a tree's death warrant. Cut an infected tree down before it can infect healthy trees. Here are signs of injury to look for: Dead limbs at top, sparse and off-color foliage; loose or off-color bark; too-large trees; tree crown thinning--this means less manufacturing plant to produce wood. Rotten spots and swollen areas also indicate internal disease or defect.

* * * * *

Fertilizer Supplies Higher This Year -- You shouldn't have any trouble buying all the fertilizer you want this year, says Harold Jones, extension soils specialist at the University of Minnesota. Supplies of nitrogen are particularly good because two new producers of nitrogen fertilizer, anhydrous ammonia and liquid nitrogen began supplying Minnesota this year. However, nitrogen supplies may not be enough to meet demand until the 1955 or 1956 crop season. Phosphate supplies should be from five to ten per cent greater during 1954 but not enough to meet demands if buyers show the same demand as in 1953. Potash supplies will be at least 10 per cent higher than in 1953--probably enough to meet most demands.

-hrj-