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Flood Control Gets Boost in Southwestern Minnesota -- Southwestern Minnesota's flood control plans got a big boost recently with Soil Conservation Service's approval of a project for the area. The project calls for work on tributaries of the Chippewa, which joins the Minnesota river at Montevideo, and Hawk creek, which joins the Minnesota at Sacred Heart. The project will get underway before next winter.

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More Terraces for Better Water Control -- Rock County, out in the far western part of Minnesota, got a prescription for better land recently from Assistant County Agent Arnold Claasen, who specializes in soil conservation at Luverne.

Claasen says Rock County farmers need more terraces to reduce soil erosion and water runoff. Although field contouring helps, it can't do the whole job alone, he says. Terraces give added control by stopping water runoff at each terrace, thus breaking a long slope into several short ones.

Terracing also permits a whole field to be farmed as a single unit, Claasen points out. If slopes are nearly uniform, you can build parallel terraces and eliminate odd areas. For information on terrace building, call or come to the county extension or soil conservation service office.

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Birdsfoot Trefoil Must Stand Rugged Minnesota Winters -- Birdsfoot trefoil, a perennial legume for permanent pastures, has had hard luck in pastures north and west of the Twin Cities. So says A. R. Schmid, an agronomist at the U. of M. Reason for birdsfoot trefoil's disappearance from many pastures is poor winter hardiness, he says. Down in southeastern Minnesota, however, a few birdsfoot trefoil pastures have grown well for several years. Schmid says if birdsfoot is to be of value to Minnesota farmers, it must be able to take our rugged winters and last several years in a pasture. On a short-time basis, it cannot compete with present legume-grass mixtures. Most winter-hardy birdsfoot is Empire.

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