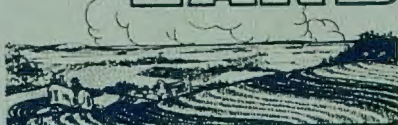


Our LAND



Appearing in newspapers of the Minnesota Editorial Association through the cooperation of the U.S. Soil Conservation service and conservation authorities at University Farm.

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

May 28 1954

Prepared and distributed
by the Minnesota Agricultural
Extension Service.

For use during week of
June 7 1954

Farm Pond Dam at Plowville -- A farm pond dam and contour strip-cropping will be shown at the Ernest Hollander farm in Lincoln county during Plowville '54, September 17-18. The pond dam was built last fall, trees planted and the area fenced. Soon it will be stocked with fish. Its purpose, according to Soil Conservation Agent Arnold Claassen of Ivanhoe, is manifold--gully erosion, wildlife refuge, water conservation, recreation and stock watering. Hollander has contoured almost all his cropland since moving to the farm in 1950. Strips now provide erosion control on the farms long, even slopes and a carefully planned crop rotation is in operation.

* * * * *

Good Water in Every Pasture -- Plan for good water in every pasture field, say livestock feeding authorities. A single drinking cup with pipe above the ground will do, says Rodney A. Briggs, extension agronomist at the University of Minnesota. Also good is a stock tank centrally located to radiating rotation pastures. "If you were producing 40 pounds of milk a day from grass and sunshine, you'd want 20 gallons of water a day, too," says Briggs, with an impish wink.

* * * * *

Grassed Waterways are Good Investment -- If you noticed a young gully in one of your fields after that last rain, now's the time to start planning a grassed waterway. Such waterways provide a safe path for water from rains--they allow streams to flow gently and slowly, without getting up speed and digging ugly gullies.

In addition, they can provide a good hay crop, says Wallace W. Nelson, agronomist at the University's northeast experiment station in Duluth. He gives these water-way building tips: After you've established the waterway, lift all tillage implements when crossing it and fertilize it well so the grass can grow a strong water-slowng mat.

* * * * *

"Full Pantry" Needed for Good Alfalfa -- A "full pantry" of plant nutrients is essential for thick stands of alfalfa, says University of Minnesota soils authority Paul M. Burson. When alfalfa starves, hunger signs will show on its leaves and stems. Take a close look and feed your alfalfa accordingly.