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Crops Rotations Help Control Weeds -- In addition to many other benefits, a good crop rotation helps control weeds. In one research study where wheat was grown nine years in a row there were over four times as many weed seeds in the surface layer of soil as on the area where an eight-year rotation was used. Without control spraying, mustard will usually increase in fields where grain is grown. But it will decrease when corn and legumes are grown, whereas Canada Thistle will usually increase in corn and small grain fields and decrease in fields that have a good stand of legumes. These facts come from a University Extension agronomist, Edwin H. Jensen.

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Strip-Cropping Gives Three-Way Protection -- Here's a good sales message for contour strip-cropping. First, contour strips store moisture and protect land from washing because of contour operations and sod filter strips. Second, the narrow strips of crops, including sod, prevent wind erosion. Third, the definite rotation of sod crops builds and nourishes a soil structure which resists the eroding forces of wind, raindrop force and water flow. Fourth, good soil structure increases moisture intake and the soil's ability to hold water it has captured. Sold! When do you want it delivered to your place?

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More Efficient Corn Growing Means Better Conservation -- Eight farmers who cooperated in corn production projects with the University of Minnesota's soils department achieved an average yield increase of 33 bushels of corn per acre last summer. Starting at 77 bushels, yields stepped up to 110 bushels--just by wise and soil-saving corn growing practices. Corn, of course, is a soil-depleting crop and the purpose of this program is to inform farmers that with very little effort they can produce far more corn on fewer acres--and reduce soil erosion and depletion. By such methods, the land will support a heavier stand of corn plants and earlier maturing varieties can be grown to insure a "cribable" crop. This story comes from Goodhue County Soil Conservation Agent Arnold Wiebusch at Red Wing.

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Efficiency Growing -- Today,  $8\frac{1}{2}$  million U. S. farm workers are producing more than  $13\frac{1}{2}$  million workers did just 30 short years ago. And following soil conservation plans could increase production per man hour far more.