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Cockleburs to Corn -- "From cockleburs to corn" just about sizes up the experience of John Christian of Le Sueur. Christian bought 160 acres of land in 1948 that was so poor that the last corn crop in one field wasn't even harvested. Last year his corn crop averaged 60 to 80 bushels. He gives credit for the increase to crop rotations, contour farming and strip cropping and other changes that are all part of his soil conservation plan which he worked out with SCS soil conservationist, Lynn Skaife, when he took over the farm.

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Quit Cultivating Young Trees Now -- So says Marvin Smith, extension forester at University Farm. There never has been a better year for establishing young trees than the past summer. Survival was good; growth was way above normal. A sudden cold spell this fall could badly injure or even kill new growth not sufficiently hardened off to winter temperatures. So it's important, especially during good growing seasons, to quit cultivating trees three or four weeks before killing frost to avoid stimulation of late growth.

\* \* \* \* \*

4-H'ers Attention! -- When selecting your projects later this fall, you'll want to consider the new 4-H Soil Conservation project. You'll learn how soil is formed, how to judge land, keep your soil productive, and use soil conserving methods. Why not talk to your local leader or county agent now? And while you are at it, ask them to get you a copy of Minn. 4-H form M-40, "Your 4-H Soil Conservation Project."

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Red Pine Sawfly Attack -- Ingolf Sather, SCS work unit conservationist at Buffalo, reports a heavy infestation of red pine sawfly in Wright County. Under direction of one of the soil conservation district supervisors, the county weed sprayer is being made available to farmers to spray infected trees.

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