

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

January 13 1950



Prepared and distributed
by the Minnesota Agricultural Extension Service.

For use during the week
of January 30, 1950.

A soil test is no better than the sample tested. Soils in the same field may vary considerably in fertility, Allan Curry, Farmington, found out this past year.

Tests on a field being used for Agricultural Extension Service corn fertilizer trials showed it to be uniformly low in phosphate. Adding phosphate gave a 9 bushel increase per acre over no fertilizer. But part of the field showed an additional deficiency in potash. Those areas gave an added 5 bushels above the phosphate when a potash-phosphate mixture was applied. The rest of the field showed a high potash test and gave no response to potash fertilizer.

* * * * *

Rochester chapter of Izaak Walton League believes firmly that soil conservation of farm land makes better hunting and fishing. At a public dinner, it awarded certificates of recognition to farmers who do the best job of conservation farming in Upper Zumbro Soil Conservation District.

* * * * *

In taking a sample for soil testing, be sure to include only those areas of field where soil color, texture, erosion, cropping and fertilizer treatment are uniform. Usually not more than 10 acres should be mixed together in one composite sample. Take the samples for the composite from about 10 locations within that area.

* * * * *

Q. How can I obtain help from my soil conservation district?

A. By applying to your district board of supervisors. If you don't know them, get their names from the local SCS office or the county agent.