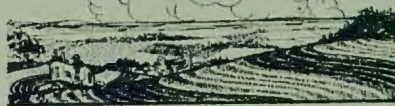


# Our LAND



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SOIL SYMPTOMS: Yields too low, field work delayed by wet land, soil doesn't work well, soil drouthy and needs more rain than formerly, when rains come erosion is worse, tile installed a few years ago isn't working right, plowing takes more power and you aren't "quite satisfied" with the job.

DIAGNOSIS: Soil structure is breaking down, says Joseph F. Cummins, U. S. Soil Conservation Service soil scientist, Owatonna. Structure represents "breathing space" in soil. Remedy is more grass and legumes in rotation,

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What about beef production under defense mobilization conditions? Many farmers are planning to attend the Livestock and the Land Institute at Albert Lea September 26 to get some new slants on the problem. The beef cow herd will be featured.

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Back in 1933, many of the nation's farmers were plowing under crops because of burdensome surpluses, but today two farmers of this state are burying at least one crop for far different reasons. Bruce Jensen and Gerald Thompson, living near Storden, are burying their alfalfa in a ditch carved out of a hill. The idea is not to remove crop surpluses but to create a surplus of high quality ensilage.

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"On light soils", remarked E. F. Ferrin, chief of the animal husbandry division at the University of Minnesota, recently, "the value of organic matter in manure may be as great as the value of the fertility elements. It is no accident that dairy cattle are used in many parts of the country to build up worn-out soils. Beef cattle will do that, but it takes a longer period of time."

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