

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

March 6, 1950



Prepared and distributed
by the Minnesota Agricultural
Extension Service.

For use during the week
of March 13, 1950.

Free soil tests are helping West Otter Tail County 4-H members carrying the soil conservation project do a better job, says County Agent Carl Gustafson. The West Otter Tail Soil Conservation District voted to pay for soil tests for club members carrying the project. Donald Meyer, Dane Prairie 4-H Club, recently had a soil analysis returned to him from the State Lab and thus became the first 4-H'er to benefit by the district's action.

* * * * *

Conrad Anderson, chairman of the Martin Soil Conservation District, last year harvested 400 pounds of Fischer brome grass seed per acre from a 10-acre field on his farm near Sherburn. Gross income was about \$200 an acre. The field seeded in 1948 with flax as nurse crop. Anderson says this southern type brome, now on the University of Minnesota recommended list, is a better strain and a faster starting grass than the ordinary Canadian type.

* * * * *

Now before seeding time, check to see that you have enough good legume hay for your dairy cows. Legumes will help save your soil and feed your dairy herd. So plan to seed more this spring, says University Farm economist S. B. Cleland.

A good rough rule if you have a silo is one acre of good legume hay for every cow, plus a half acre for each head of young stock. Provide additional legumes for pasture.

Don't forget that you have to look ahead. Now's the time to plan your 1951 hay acreage considering the cattle you will have in the winter of 1951-52.

* * * * *

Good conservation farming pays off in many ways -- not the least of which is improved wildlife habitat. Soil-holding shrubs provide game cover. Streams that run clear support more fish.

A search is now on for the four Minnesota farmers who are best improving wildlife conditions through conservation farming. Tell your county agent, commissioner or sports club about any deserving farmer who practices good land use and promotes farmer-hunter relations. Turn in your nominations by March 25.