

University Farm News
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Nominations for Minnesota's outstanding farmer-conservationists must be submitted or mailed to your local county agent by March 10. Four district winners will receive prizes and be guests of the Northwest Sports, Travel and Boat show in Minneapolis March 23 - April 1. Other awards will be made to 12 other farmer-sportsmen whose conservation efforts have made them leaders in their communities. More information is available at the county agent's office.

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Farmers and farm managers and others interested in farm drainage are eligible to enroll in the Farm Drainage short course at University Farm March 5 - 7. Details are available from your county agent.

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After watching results of a complete farm conservation plan on Donald Olson's farm, Marvin Anderson applied to Dakhue Soil Conservation district for U. S. Soil Conservation Service help in planning and establishing conservation on his three farms. Anderson said, "I picked Olson's corn for 10 years. That's proof enough for me. The farm shows great improvement and is easier on machinery because there are no gullies to cross."

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Question is not how much conservation farming costs but, "How much will it cost me not to put a complete farm conservation system into effect?" Warren R. Gregg, Luverne, SCS work unit conservationist in Rock County Soil Conservation District, helps answer his own question by pointing out that better rotations increase ability of soil to absorb water, reduce soil loss, increase productivity per acre, provide more and better forage which in turn increases livestock numbers. Contouring increases corn yields by 5 to 20 bushels an acre, depending on how good the other parts of the conservation program are. And it's easier on machinery and often saves a fifth on tractor fuel.

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