Memories of Life on the Farm
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(Above) Workers cut lime in a quarry. (Harrison County, 1921)

(Top right) Loading agricultural limestone onto flatcars in Milltown (Crawford County, 1922)

(Bottom right) Carts filled with limestone at Marengo (Crawford County, 1922)
A crew crushes approximately 120 tons of limestone on the Bert Scott farm in Madison. Scott applied six tons of lime per acre to change his soil pH so he could grow alfalfa. (Jefferson County, 1925)

For this photo, Allen wrote, “The crew of Wagner and Fall from Dupont, Indiana, doing custom limestone pulverizing on the farm of Mr. Schnabelt near Madison, Indiana. It costs the farmer $1.50 per ton to have the stone pulverized if he quarries and delivers the stone himself, or if he prefers to have the crew quarry the stone, it costs him $2.50 per ton pulverized and ready to be applied to his farm. One hundred and fifty tons are being crushed for three different farmers at this location, where the stone is plentiful. During this spring of 1925 up to the first of May, this crew has pulverized 1,500 tons of limestone for farmers in this community, and they have contracted 1,200 tons more in the same community for this fall.” (Jefferson County, 1925)
Memories of Life on the Farm

Dairyman Ray Fyffe near Bloomington uses the Soiltest system to test for soil acidity while his son, Warren, looks on. The test would turn yellow for acidic soil, light green for neutral soil, and dark green to blue for alkaline soil. (Monroe County, 1927)

Farmers have their soils tested aboard the Muck Crops Special, an education train from Purdue University that traveled the state via the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad. (Indiana, 1939)

Purdue University Extension staff members test soil samples for acidity on a limestone education train stopped at Cayuga. (Vermillion County, 1929)
At Pimento, farmers unload lime that was delivered via railcars. (Vigo County, 1929)
A horse-drawn limestone spreader applies three tons of limestone per acre before the field is planted with alfalfa on the farm of Dr. J. H. Black in Lebanon. (Boone County, 1926)

Two men spread lime from a truck bed. At the time, the Marshall County Farm Bureau sold lime for $1.65 per ton if delivered by railcar or $2.40 per ton if delivered and spread. Most farmers chose the latter option. (Marshall County, 1935)

John M. McDonald spreads limestone on the W.R. Wiggins farm near Muncie. (Delaware County, 1951)
These men use four horses hitched to a wagon equipped with a Holden Spreader attachment to apply lime on the farm of Dr. John S. Morrison in Lafayette. (Tippecanoe County, 1929)