Alfalfa is in the same family as peas but is primarily used as livestock fodder. Alfalfa is often grown in large fields like hay.

Apple Orchards in Minnesota have a shorter growing season than orchards in warmer areas like California, and because of such are often much smaller.

Beef Cattle are normally grown to full size and then sent for slaughter, whereas Dairy Cows are kept alive as long as possible to produce as much milk as possible.

Sweet Corn and Green Peas are produced in much smaller quantities than their other varieties and are sold for human consumption. Corn for Grain is primarily mass produced for animal fodder and ethanol production.

Minnesota is famous for its Wheat production for the use of making flour, and use to be a world center for wheat. The University of Minnesota is famous for producing a variety of winter wheat to better withstand the harsh winters of Minnesota.

Soybeans are multi-purpose for their use as animal fodder, but also in their use for making tofu, and vegetable oil.

Sugar beets require large amounts of land for higher yields and refined to produce sugar.
AP Human Geography
Modeling Minnesota Agriculture

Directions: Using the previous maps make a model of Minnesota’s agricultural zones. You don’t have to mark every area a particular agriculture practice is, but use your discretion to follow the primary areas or areas where it is a majority.
Thought Questions:

1. Does Minnesota more or less follow Von Thunen’s Model of Agricultural Development? Explain your reasoning. To best answer this question use the Assertion, Reasoning, Evidence method and use at least three different bits of reasoning with supportive evidence to best answer the question.

2. What areas/practices need to be changed to better fit Von Thunen’s model? Explain