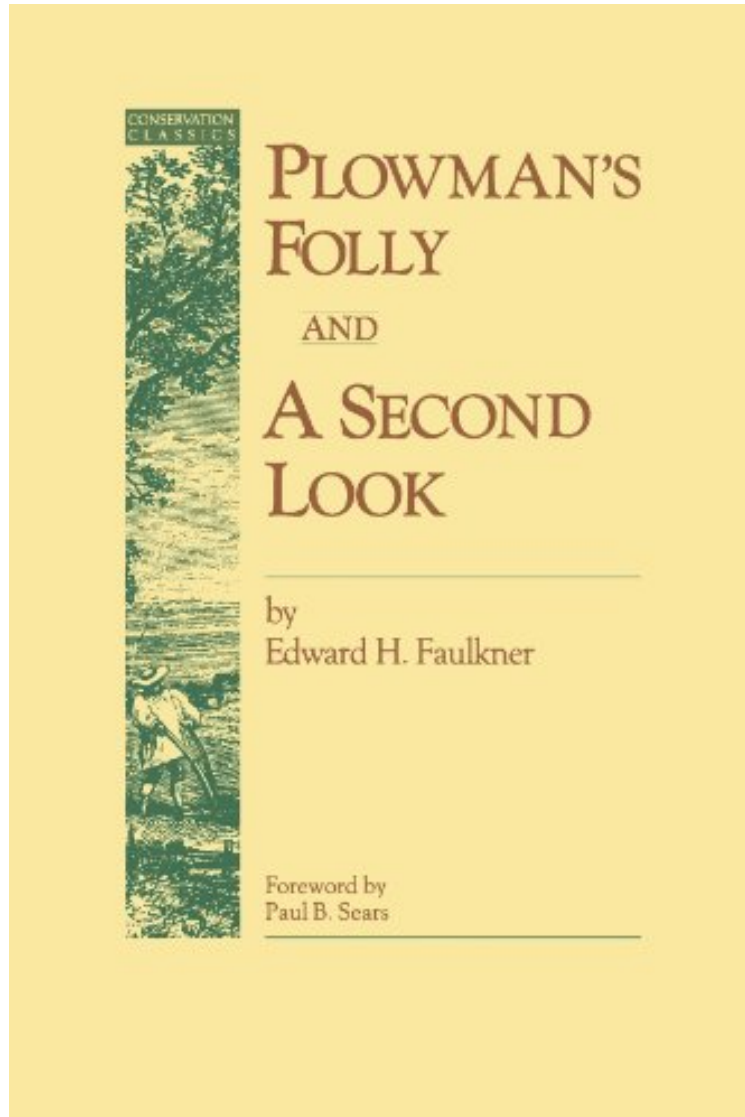


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Plowman's Folly and A Second Look (Conservation Classics)

Edward H. Faulkner

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Edward H. Faulkner : Plowman's Folly and A Second Look (Conservation Classics) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Plowman's Folly and A Second Look (Conservation Classics):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Great informationBy CustomerThis is an excellent book for anyone interested in learning about natural, common sense soil management and willing to do so with an open mind. Also well presented and glad for the included "second look" portion.2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. From back coverBy Bob's Your UncleIn 1943 an agronomist named Edward H. Faulkner threw down the gauntlet to the agricultural establishment when he wrote: "no one has ever advanced a scientific reason for plowing." In one explosive

little volume, Faulkner claimed that the almost universal use of the moldboard plow, which laid bare disloyal to the elements, was directly responsible for the phenomenal rate of soil erosion that America was experiencing, and the dust bowl of the 30s and 40s. The resulting all poor led Faulkner to write A SECOND LOOK in 1947 to clarify and modify his ideas for broader application. Both volumes are included in this Island Press edition. Plowman's Folly sold over 500,000 copies, but Faulkner's concept did not gain real acceptance until the 1970s. It quietly heralded the advance of conservation tillage and is now recognized as the theoretical cornerstone of the movement. In his preface, Paul B. Sears, a contemporary of Faulkner's and author of Deserts on the March, offers an astute assessment of Faulkner's ideas in the context of today's serious and unrelenting soil erosion problems. 3 of 4 people found the following review helpful. a pionner work challenging old agricultural practices By ducati@if1.if.ufrgs.br This is the pionner book that had set grounds to new agricultural methods of soil management. Decades before direct planting and soil conservation became fashionable, Faulkner challenged the multiseular tradition which stated that plowing the soil was mandatory to any farmer. This book was praised by Louis Bromfield (Out of the Earth), when he launched his agricultural revolution at Malabar Farm.

As the ruinous Dust Bowl settled in the early 1940s, agronomist Edward Faulkner dropped what Nature magazine termed "an agricultural bombshell" when he blamed the then universally used moldboard plow for disastrous pillage of the soil. Faulkner's assault on the orthodoxy of his day will stimulate today's farmers to seek out fresh solutions to the problems that plague modern American agriculture. Plowman's Folly is bound together here with its companion volume A Second Look.

About the Author Edward H. Faulkner (1886-1964) was a personable gentleman from Elyria, Ohio who worked as an agricultural agent in the upper Ohio and Erie basins. After witnessing the soil being 'worn-out', Faulkner's concern with a 'problem vital to Man's survival on this planet' led him to search, through observation and experimentation, for ways to care for the soil. Faulkner's genius was to question the use of the plow. He came up with the remedy of using the 'disc plow', which cuts up and incorporates organic matter into the soil, rather than burying them deep in the subsoil, insuring healthy and fertile soil. Faulkner was one of the first true conservationists. His ideas were considered 'mad' and without merit, until after his death when soil experts and scientists began to admit 'We didn't pay attention, and we should have.'