

1957 - - - ANNUAL REPORT - - - 1957

WEST POTTAWATTAMIE

Soil Conservation District

OUR YEAR OF 1957

Nine regular commissioner meetings were held during the year as well as several other meetings with various groups. Three meetings were held with farmers in the Mosquito Creek Watershed to discuss the recent watershed legislation and the possibility of submitting a petition for assistance in developing an erosion control and flood prevention project for the watershed.

We attended the South Western Iowa regional meeting of Commissioners held at Red Oak.

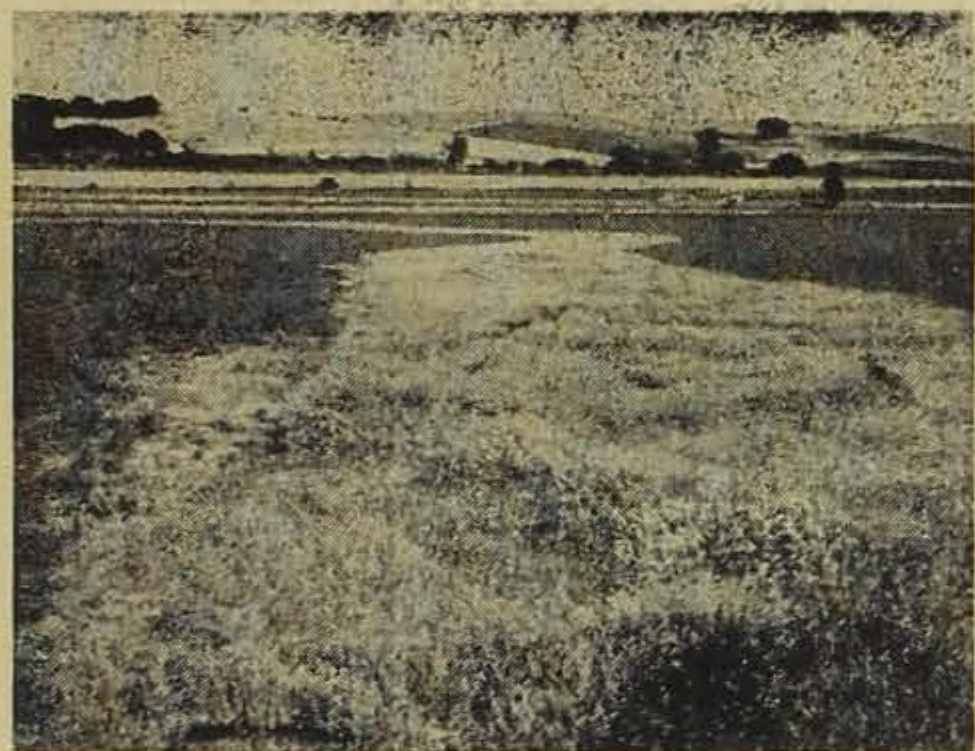
We attended a joint meeting of commissioners and agricultural agencies at Oakland to discuss cost-sharing practices for this section of the state.

The following assistant commissioners were appointed to work with the regular commissioners: Don Anderson, E. H. Harms, Eldon Ravlin, Al Fiala and Donald Bladt.

We attended meetings with the ASC county and township committeemen, the Extension Service and the SCS for the 1958 cost-sharing program.

Several tape recordings were made for radio broadcasts.

Several talks were given at the Girl Scout camp and at other organizations and clubs.



This picture shows a Waterway seeded to Brome grass on the Darrel Geise farm near Underwood, Iowa. Waterways are necessary on sloping land for the safe disposal of surplus water.

WATERSHED ACTIVITY

A formal petition for flood control assistance for the Indian Creek Watershed was submitted to the State Soil Conservation Committee for action. This petition was signed by the Soil Conservation District Commissioners, a farmer committee of the watershed, the Council Bluffs City Council and the Pottawattamie County Board of Supervisors.

This petition has been approved and the Soil Conservation Service expects to have the preliminary work plan developed for the watershed in 1958.

Several meetings were held in the Mosquito Creek Watershed to explain the watershed approach. Temporary officers were elected for the watershed with C.W. McManamy as chairman.

CONTESTS

The District entered the following contests:

1. The Omaha World-Herald contest.
2. The Goodyear Soil Conservation award program, and
3. The Des Moines Register & Tribune contest.

Winners for our District in the Des Moines Register & Tribune contests were:

LOREN BOYER, JR. District Winner for New Co-operator.

ERICH GEISE District Winner for Owner-operated Farm.

ROY SCOFIELD—owner) (District Winner for Landlord-

ALFRED TIMM—operator) (tenant-operated Farm.



Lawrence Dittmer William Strohbehn Louie Fahrenkrog, Ch.
Minden, Iowa Council Bluffs, Iowa Carson, Iowa

The Soils Commissioners are the governing body of each Soil Conservation District. The policy of the District is established by the Commissioners. They operate the District in cooperation with the personnel assigned by the Soil Conservation Service.

The Commissioners would like every cooperator in the District to feel free to contact them on any question that they may have regarding the operation of their District.

The Commissioners' objective is to see soil and water conservation on every acre in West Pottawattamie Soil Conservation District. We restate, as we have in other reports, "Each acre should be used according to its capabilities with treatment according to its needs."

District Commissioners
Louie Fahrenkrog, Chairman

S. C. S. PERSONNEL ASSISTING THE DISTRICT

Verle M. Arnold Work Unit Conservationist
Earl Kizzler Soil Conservationist
Oliver A. Hall Conservation Aid
Perry L. Thomas Conservation Aid
Howard Knox Conservation Aid
Howard Angeroth Part Time Aid
Kathryn Starr State Clerk

EDUCATION AND INFORMATION WORK

Meetings were held with the 4-H groups, F.F.A. groups, Veteran Farmers' school, Girl and Boy Scouts, public schools, and other civic groups to discuss Soil and Water Conservation problems.

An Irrigation meeting was held in cooperation with the Extension Service and the U.S. Soil Conservation Service.

Assistance was given at the Annual Fruit School and on tours held at S.W. Iowa Horticultural Farm.

Soil Stewardship booklets were distributed to the churches in the District to furnish them with technical material and suggestions for sermons on soil conservation.

The District sponsored a booth at the local county fair.

A tour of the Indian Creek Watershed for Council Bluffs businessmen was co-sponsored by the District and the Council Bluffs Chamber of Commerce.



OUR SOIL ★ OUR STRENGTH

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Accomplishments in our District in 1957 were as follows:

Practices	Unit	This Year	To Date
District Cooperators	No.	97	990
Basic Conservation Plans	No.	40	719
Farms Serviced	No.	630	
Contouring	Acres	3,545	84,349
Terraces	Miles	169	1,711
Diversions	Mile	3	30
Grass Waterways	Acres	89	1,465
Surface Drainage	Miles	10	69
Benefitted by Drainage	Acres	791	7,661
Erosion Control Structures	No.	3	50
Land Grading	Acres	413	869
Field Boundaries	Rods	1,348	71,332

GOALS FOR 1958

	Unit	Number
New District Cooperators	No.	65
Basic Conservation Plans	No.	50
Farms Serviced	No.	625
Contouring	Acres	3,000
Terraces	Miles	170
Diversions	Miles	4
Grass Waterways	Acres	120
Surface Drainage	Miles	6
Erosion Control Structures	No.	10
Field Boundaries	Rods	4,000
Land Grading	Acres	300



This picture shows Terraces on the Max Bebensee farm northwest of Treynor, Iowa. Mr. Bebensee is shown on the left of the picture and Eugene Krohn is on the right. Level terraces are the most effective mechanical practice for soil and moisture conservation in this District.

WE EXTEND OUR APPRECIATION

We wish to thank the U.S. Soil Conservation Service, County Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Committee, Extension Service, State Conservation Committee, Vocational Agricultural groups, the Council Bluffs Nonpareil and the many other civic organizations in the District that have assisted us in our District activities.

Clifford Johnson, our County Extension Agent, has served as secretary for the District since its organization in 1944. We sincerely appreciate his efforts to further soil and water conservation in the District.

The West Pottawattamie A.S.C. Committee under the leadership of Charles Minahan, chairman, is a strong booster for permanent type conservation practices and their contribution has materially increased the amount of conservation applied in the District.

Special thanks to the County Board of Supervisors and the County Engineer for their cooperation in installing erosion control structures to replace bridges. This type of cooperation between the Supervisors and the adjacent landowners can be a real boost to gully control in our area.

Our sincerest appreciation to you the cooperators of the District for your interest in applying needed soil and water conservation measures to your land. With your assistance we will be able to obtain the goal of:

"EVERY ACRE IN THE DISTRICT TREATED ACCORDING TO ITS NEEDS."

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