

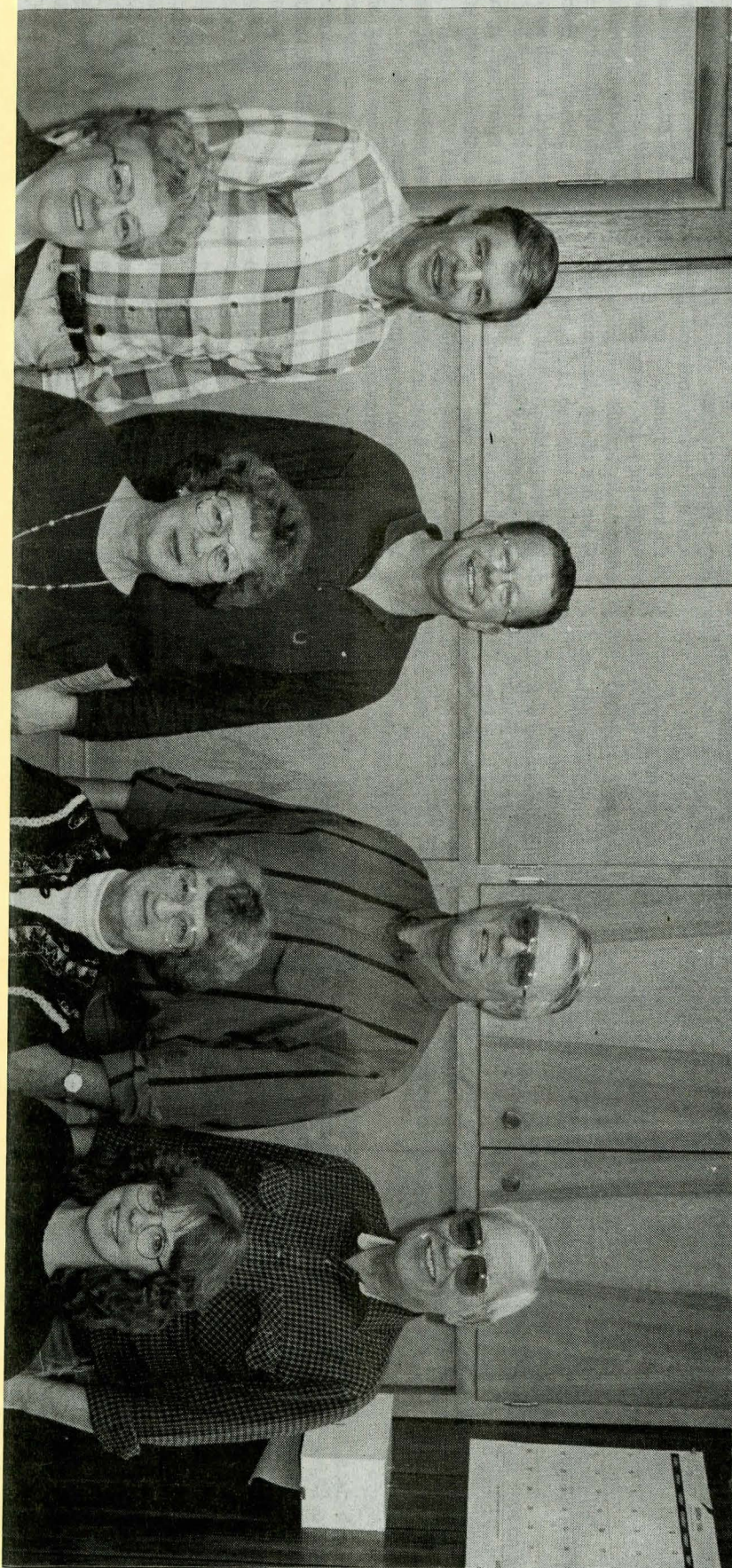
1994
52ND ANNUAL REPORT
CASS COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
ATLANTIC, IOWA

1994

Atlantic Farm Monthly

VOL. 33- NO. 3
MARCH, 1995

Cass County Soil Conservation District,
1207 Sunnyside Lane,
Atlantic, Iowa 50022
Putting conservation into practice



1994 Annual Report

- 1 Office
- 2 James Gulliford (Department of Soil Conservation)
- 3 Ernie Aust (Soil Conservation Service)
- 1 Senator Derryl McLaren; RR 1, Box 220; Farragut, IA 51639
- 1 Senator Charles Grassley, U.S. Senate, 135 Hart Senate Building
Washington, DC 20510
- 1 Senator Tom Harkin, 705 Hart Senate Building, Washington, DC 20510
- 1 Congressman James R. Lightfoot, 1609 Longworth Bldg, Washington DC 20515
- 1 Regional Director; Bernie Bolton, Rt. 2, Box 271, Oakland, IA 51560
- 1 Davis Conservation Library; P.O. Box 776; League City, TX 77573
- 17 SCDs in the following counties: Audubon, Taylor, Carroll, Adams,
Pottawattamie (2), Crawford, Adair, Guthrie, Shelby, Green, Harrison,
Mills, Monona, Montgomery, Page, Fremont

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Putting conservation into practice



Conservation practices around the area are being highlighted this month. Leading the way toward more conservation are the Cass County Soil Conservation District Commissioners and office staff. Members of the office staff include, front row (left to right): Alyce Lane, Carolyn Wilson, Florence Campbell and Connie

Reichenauer. Back row: Duane Orgies, Charles Peacock, Gary Wolfe and Bob Green. The SCS annual report is featured in this month's issue of the Atlantic Farm Monthly. (N-T staff photo by Christy Stinger)

Iowa farmers cut
soil erosion in
recent years.

Page 3

Commissioners
retire after many
years of service.

Page 5

Wetlands program
offers payment for
protection.

Page 11

Atlantic Farm Monthly Poet's Corner

A contributed collection of poetry

Childhood Reverie

I'd slip away to our circle of trees
and sit high in branches
warmly lulled by the breeze,
Watching entranced in the
clearing below as two rabbits
"talked"
as only they know.

Through clean, tall grasses
in stealth I'd see
gossamer nests of canaries
in a young willow tree.

Then off to the edge of a
field I'd run

to chase butterflies from
thistles lush in the sun.

In the lowland lay a willow
stripped bare in stormy nights,
and I'd climb this "steed"
and conquer the heights.

Thus passed the day
till a voice summoned me
from my world of
enchantment to leave reluctantly.

By Goldie Hagedorn, Omaha

Give Me Your Hand

Give me your hand,
the endearing touch,
the profound essence of you
enfolding beneficent.

Down time's corridor
span the stubborn differences.
The heart speaks
but a single tongue,
denies the proud pretenses.

Accept that
from the rim of another world
where sunsets flared
and hillsides danced with drums,
old centuries sleep in dust
as all horizons must.
For now,
give me your hand.

By Goldie Hagedorn, Omaha

Guilty Or Innocent

Have you all been watching the
new show that's on TV?

The actors and actresses are
talented don't you agree?

The main actor is smiling, and
frowning when the camera catches
his eye.

So many characters in the show
and I wonder why.

Couldn't be because the main

man in the show

Has lots of money and
influential friends that we know.

I, for one, can't understand why
so much of this show watching we
have to do.

Get tired of it, so thanks for
cable and those stations I turn to.

Interesting it is when sometimes
they forget their lines

And they have to look real quick
at their script at times.

Argue they too sometimes do
and get very uptight

When one of the characters says
something that the others or the
judge doesn't think is right.

You know, folks, I guess it
depends on who you are in this
day and age;

Who for many reasons as a
character you're put on a stage.

Money talks, so the saying goes,
and it's been proven time and
again it is a fact.

It's been shown so many times,
so that statement I don't think we
can retract.

Quite a story line it is, with even
a Bronco in a race

With two people in it, and
police cars after it did chase.

See this we all have and I'm still
trying to understand that trip.

Why, folks, did the main
character of this show, from the
law, away try to slip.

The defendant in this show
claims the murders he couldn't
have done,

Because of the injuries in all
those ball games that he and his
football team had won.

Yet have you seen his recent
video, the exercise one, he does
that real well;

Though to the judge, lawyers
and jury — unable to do the
murders he does tell.

The video was made not too
long before those murders were
committed, this has been said.

Now his book has been written
and published, which some people
have already read.

Here I again say, it sure does
make a difference who you are in
this land.

Guess we're not, or never will
understand.

Now, I'll be watching sometimes,
and listening in the months to
come, this farce of a show.

To find out like you all will how
the main character comes out,
innocent or guilty, I'm really
anxious to know.

By Shirley Buffon, Elliott.

Submit your poems to the
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Iowa farmers cut soil erosion in recent years

Iowa farmers have cut soil erosion by 35 percent in recent years, according to a recent study by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Soil Conservation Service.

Estimated annual soil erosion from wind and water on Iowa's cultivated croplands fell from 10.8 tons an acre in 1982 to 7.9 tons an acre in 1992, according to figures compiled in the 1992 National Resources Inventory. The inventory shows erosion by water was reduced from 7.9 tons in 1982 to 5.6 tons in 1992; erosion by wind fell from 3.1 tons to 1.4 tons in the 10 year period.

Current Iowa soil savings of 100 million tons each year compared to 1982 account for about 10 percent of the soil savings nationally.

"Our reporting system has been showing significant soil conservation progress in recent years, and this national inventory confirms that we have good news," says Lyle Asell, Assistant State Conservationist for the SCS in Des Moines. SCS reports have indicated conservation progress in the 1990s to be from two to nine times rates in the 1980s.

The NRI study looked at earth cover, erosion conditions, vegetative condition, wildlife habitat, and other land conditions on more than 800,000 random sample sites on nonfederal, rural land in the United States. At the direction of Congress, it is undertaken every 5 years by SCS to evaluate the conditions and trends of the nation's soil, water and related resources.

The latest inventory was begun in the fall of 1991 and finished in the spring of 1993, and reflected

1992 growing conditions.

In Iowa, 20,643 points were inventoried. Other information about Iowa land resources collected in the inventory includes:

-Since 1982, more than 57,000 acres of prime Iowa farmland has been converted to other uses. The amount equals about 200 average sized farms.

-Three fourths of the land being used to grow crops in Iowa is considered prime farmland.

-Soil erosion rates are highest on row crop fields, 5.6 tons an acre, compared to pasture land at 1.3 tons an acre.

Between 1982 and 1992, about 18 percent of Iowa pasture lands were converted to some other use. The drop amounted to an 1 percent drop in pasture land.

-Between 1982 and 1992, there was a 10 percent increase in wood-

lands in Iowa. These new woodlands would cover an area of 173,700 acres, more half the average size county in Iowa. Forest lands now comprise 5 percent of the land area in Iowa.

-Irrigated cropland has remained fairly constant in Iowa, from 148,500 acres in 1982 to 128,500 acres in 1987 to 144,700 acres in 1992. More than 75% of irrigated land is in western Iowa, concentrated along the Missouri River.

-About 90 percent of Iowa's cropland is corn and soybeans (13.4 million and 8.4 million acres respectively). Other major crops are hay (2 million acres) and oats (574,000 acres).

-Major land uses in Iowa's 35.8 million acres of nonfederal land are cropland, 24.9 million acres; pasture land, 3.7 million acres; forestland, 1.93 million acres; mi-

nor uses, 3 million acres (includes 2.1 million acres of Conservation Reserve lands); rural transportation, 1 million acres; urban, 691,000 acres; and water, 469,000 acres.

"The NRI information is the best resource information database we

have," says Gregg Schellentrager of the SCS in Des Moines. He says wide use has been made of the data by Congress and other federal and state agencies in designing conservation programs.

More information on the NRI is available from the SCS.

Windbreaks offer protection, reduce farm's energy needs

By DUANE ORTGIES
Soil Conservationist
Special for Farm Monthly

Are you tired of cold gusty winds blowing across your farmstead this winter? If so, maybe you should consider planting a windbreak for protection.

There are many benefits of windbreaks besides protecting your farmstead against wind and blowing snow. At the same time, they

reduce energy needs for heating your home. Windbreaks can also reduce weight loss of livestock, and provide food and shelter for wildlife. They also add beauty and extra value to your farmstead.

Cost-share funds and help with planning your windbreak are available from the Natural Resources Conservation Service (formerly the Soil Conservation Service).

Come in and let us help you get started on your windbreak plan.

Olsen begins duties as ISU specialist

Carroll Olsen of Minden has begun work as field specialist in crop production for the Iowa State University Extension Service in southwest Iowa.

Olsen has held a similar position in northwest Iowa since the reorganization of extension in 1992.

Prior to beginning as field specialist, Olsen served as county Extension director in west Pottawattamie County from 1981 until 1992.

He also held positions with ISU Extension in Wayne and Taylor counties from 1959 until 1965.

Olsen will serve Pottawattamie, Cass, Mills, Montgomery, Fremont and Page counties. His office will be in the West Pottawattamie County Office.

He replaces Marco Buske, who took a job with the Fish and Wildlife Service at DeSoto Bend.

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- 150 ACRES, M/L: Located 2 1/2 miles west of Griswold on Highway 92. No buildings. 100% tillable. \$1025 per acre, cash. **SOLD**
- 120 ACRES, M/L: Located 4 miles south of Atlantic. Highly tillable, all good quality Marshall soils. No bldgs. \$1,275 per acre, cash. **SOLD**
- 120 ACRES, M/L: Located 5 miles north of Atlantic on paved road. Appr. 92% tillable, mostly rolling Marshall soils. No buildings. \$1100 per acre. **SOLD**
- 74 ACRES, M/L: Located 8 miles southwest of Atlantic on Highway 6. 45.9 crop acres, balance pasture & timber. No buildings. \$725 per acre, cash.
- 70 ACRES, M/L: Located 6 1/2 miles south of Atlantic on Highway 71. 95% tillable. No buildings. \$1,250 per acre, cash. **SOLD**
- 90 ACRES, M/L: Located 2 1/2 miles N.E. of Cumberland, 12 miles S.E. of Atlantic. Appr. 25 acres of good quality cropland, balance seeded to hay & pasture. Two ponds & appr. 10 acres of Oak timber. No bldgs. \$550 per acre, cash.
- 332 ACRES, M/L: Located 2 miles S.W. of Red Oak. 206.7 acres of level, bottom cropland all in one field, balance river & bottom timber. No bldgs. \$850 per acre, cash.
- 40 ACRES, M/L: Located 3 miles N.W. of Anita. Unimproved cropland, appr. 37 acres tillable. Marshall soils with appr. half ridge. \$1000 per acre, cash. **SOLD**
- 317 ACRES, M/L: Located 2.5 miles east of Villisca. Appr. 240.6 acres of level, bottom cropland & 35 acres of rolling pasture. Nice ranch home, machine shed, grain storage & more. \$800 per acre.
- 40 ACRES, M/L: Located 3 1/2 miles south of Atlantic. Ranch home, 3 Harvestores & outbuildings. \$15,000. **SOLD**
- 102 ACRES M/L: Located 2 miles S.W. of Red Oak. All tillable, well drained top quality bottom cropland, 16,000 bu. grain storage. \$1550 per acre.
- 60 ACRES, M/L: Located 4 miles northeast of Cumberland. Unimproved cropland. \$817 per acre. **SOLD**

Land sales activity offering full spring possession is starting to draw to a close. Most landowners want tenants in place by the end of March if they lease the farm. We still have several farms that are owner-operated that can be sold with full possession. That's not to say a farm cannot be purchased that is leased. If the farm is cash rented, usually the lease is prorated, starting at March 1 of the current crop year. If the farm is crop-shared, an estimate can be placed on the value of the landlord's share of the crop and the landlord can be reimbursed for their share of crop inputs. If the farm involves a CRP payment, the payment can be prorated based upon the October 1 payment period date and the date of possession. Given a willing seller & buyer, anything is negotiable!

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Farms cited for conservation programs

Nine Iowa farming operations have been honored by the Iowa Farm Bureau Federation for outstanding efforts in using soil and water conservation practices that protect the environment.

The conservationists will receive awards at the Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCD) spring meetings.

The program is sponsored by the Iowa SWCC and the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship. The winners:

Region 1-- Using total resource management systems on the whole farm, operators Jim Barker and Carl Johnson of Ireton farm 600 acres. The farm is owned by Norman Barker of LeMars. Conservation practices include no-till planting, installation of 66,380 feet of terraces, a waste management system for 1,000 hogs raised annually, contour planting, conservation tillage on 570 acres and windbreaks.

Region 2 -- Roger and Judy Kenny of Schaller farm 943 acres. Over the last four years, they have installed more than 6,300 feet of tile outlet terraces. In 1993, they

installed a farmstead windbreak, followed by seeding of seven acres of grassed waterways in 1994. They rotate corn and soybeans using contour planting, conservation terraces and grassed waterways.

Region 3 -- Bill Frei of Reinbeck has fully installed a conservation plan on his farm. Since 1990, he has installed 9,100 feet of sediment control basins, eight acres of grassed waterways and began using no-till planting on his 560-acre farm. He uses no-till on seed corn and corn on corn.

Region 4 -- John Miller of Cedar Falls has a lengthy list of conservation accomplishments on his 531-acre farm, including 384 acres planted on the contour, 16 acres of grassed waterways, 274 acres terraced, four acres of tree plantings, 475 acres planted using conservation tillage, 10.3 acres of field borders, and two acres of wildlife habitat with 2.8 acres of windbreaks.

Region 5-- Eugene Buckmiller of Des Moines is the owner and Ron Ross of Orient the operator of this 149-acre farm in Adair County. Only 33 acres is non-highly

erodible. They have installed terraces to protect 40 acres of cropland and one acre of field borders. Contour planting is used on 30 acres, plus they have five acres of pasture. In addition, they are planning a waste management program and are participating in a water quality incentive program in the Three-Mile Creek Watershed.

Region 6 -- Lee Kading of Dawson proves that a balance of farming and preserving wildlife can be reached. He and his wife, Angie, farm 200 acres in Dallas County. Their conservation practices include no-till farming, contour planting, nearly 22 acres of tree plantings, strip-cropping, several 30-foot wide grass filter strips, wetland development, grassed waterways and shelterbelts. The farm is developed around a 12-acre spring-fed lake.

Region 7-- Glenn Kaiser of Garrison farms 320 acres in west-central Benton County. He uses contour planting on 303 acres, has installed 3.5 acres of grassed waterways and 13.8 acres of terraces. He has reduced soil erosion on his farm.

Region 8 -- Larry Lauman is the owner-operator and Archie Lindburg is the owner of this 400-acre farm near Emerson. They have installed 195 acres of contour

planting, 172 acres of strip-cropping, 87 acres of terraces, 368 acres of conservation tillage and 10 acres of field borders. They also raise about 150 head of cattle fed hay from the buffer strips on the farm.

Region 9 -- Donald Johnson and his son, Doug, of Fairfield have installed several conservation

measures on their 1,202-acre farm, including 525 acres of contouring, 25 acres of grassed waterways, 32,400 feet of terraces, 13 acres of tree plantings, 40 acres of wildlife habitat, and two acres of wetlands. They also use conservation tillage on 900 acres and a planned grazing system on 360 acres and have 2.5 acres of filter strips.

ISU Extension plans judging workshop

Area residents interested in learning the information on guiding and directing youth can attend an Iowa State Extension workshop on becoming a 4-H fair judge.

Topics will cover how to help youth evaluate their exhibits and have a positive judging experience.

Judges help youth match their personal goals with the skills learned in completing an exhibit and fair judges help 4-H'ers

discover what they have learned about themselves from creating the exhibit, ISU Extension staff members report.

The workshop is open to any adult who has judged or is interested in judging 4-H exhibits at the county and state levels.

It will be held April 20 at the Red Oak Bethlehem Lutheran Church.

For more information contact the Cass County Extension Office.

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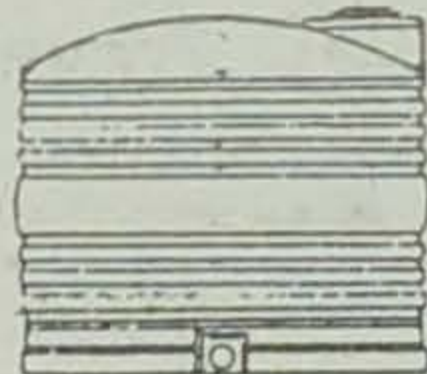
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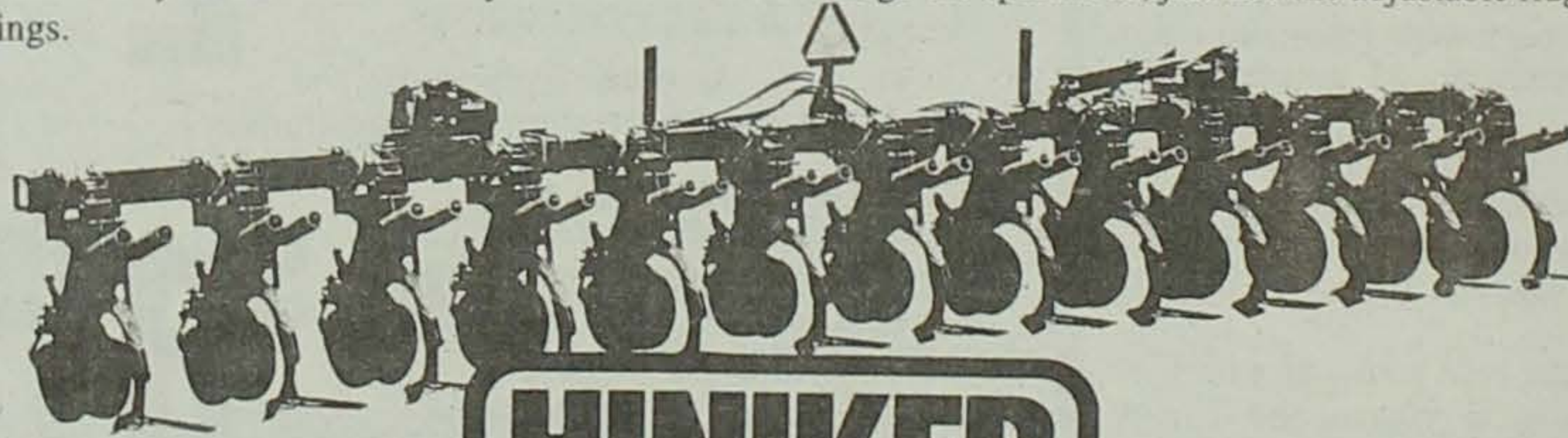
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Atlantic Farm Monthly

Commissioners retire
after years of service

George Hosfelt, of Massena, recently retired after serving 42 years on the Cass County Soil and Water Conservation District board of commissioners.

Hosfelt was instrumental in organizing Turkey Creek, Troublesome Creek and Crooked Creek Watershed, all three of which are approved PL-566 flood control watersheds in this area.



George Hosfelt

He was a strong voice in promoting the Massena Lake project that, if built, would provide recreation and water supply to Massena and the surrounding area.

In his 42 years of service, he never missed a district commissioner meeting. He received Outstanding Commissioner Award in 1958 and 1976, Honorary Member of Iowa Association of Soil Conservation District Commissioners in 1977, and Omaha World Herald Certificate of Merit in 1979.

Hosfelt and his wife of 65 years, Velma, live on the farm where they raised their two boys, north of Massena.

He has faithfully served as a commissioner since 1952 and his dedication of service will be greatly missed, SCS officials said.

Another long time board member, Max H. Miller, also retired in 1994. Miller and his wife, Jo, moved out of Cass County to the town of Villisca.

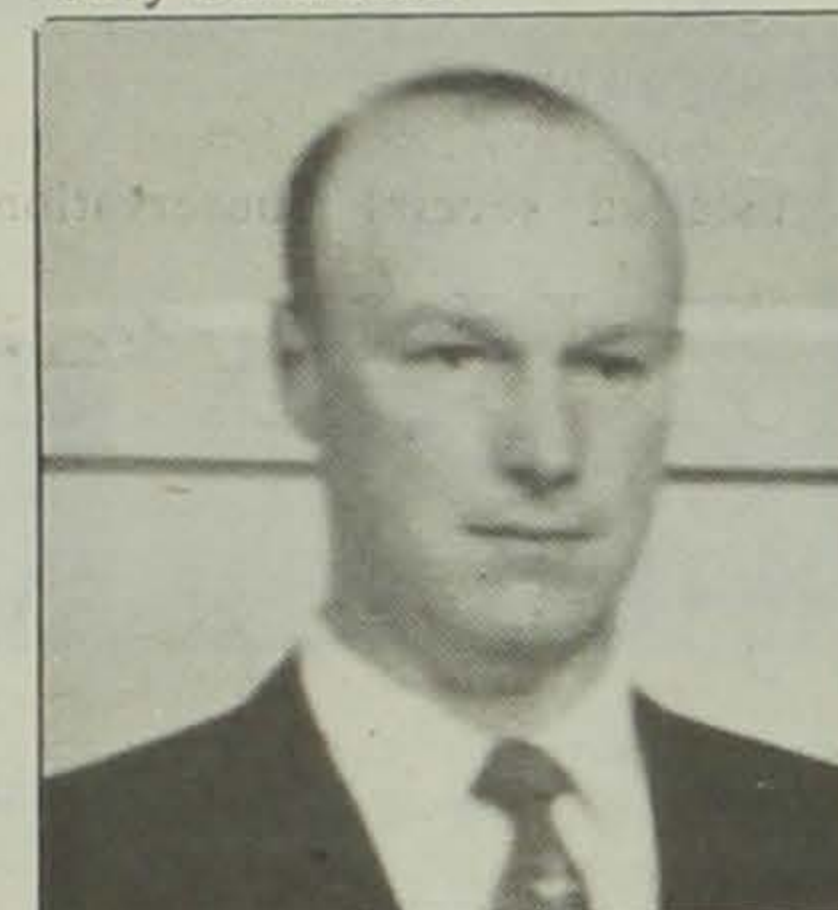
In 1946, Miller's father, Ross, first signed a cooperative agreement with the District to apply conservation to his farm. Miller soon followed in 1951, applying for assistance for a pond.

Since that time Miller has applied nearly 60,000 feet of terraces, 8 acres of waterways, a pond for gully erosion, and several acres of critical area seedings.

Miller became a commissioner in 1962 taking an active role in conservation as applied to the land in Cass County. He has been a strong supporter of the PL566 watersheds present in the area.

He also has served as a liaison between farmers of Cass County, the 1985 farm bill, and the Soil Conservation Service, now the Natural Resources Conservation Service.

Miller received Region 5 Outstanding Commissioner Award in 1981, has served as a member of the Cass County RC&D Committee and as Cass County delegate to Land Preservation Policy Committee.



Max Miller

Miller's keen attention to detail and unselfish commitment to conservation has served the district and farmers for 32 years, officials noted.

Costs vary for no-till
operations in local area

By MICHAEL HALL
Commissioner
Special for Farm Monthly

To till or no-till, that is the question. Input costs, compliance, erosion and machinery capability all enter into this question.

Input costs can vary widely when comparing conventional tillage soybeans to no-till beans. Current chemicals have greatly enhanced our ability to control weeds in a no-till situation, especially post-emergence. Number of trips across a field, compaction, time and costs of chemicals ~1 enter into the formula for figuring these costs.

Compliance, is also the word of the hour, coming from our government and its farm programs. To stay eligible and to reduce soil loss on many fields with unsuitable slopes, no-till beans are the only answer.

Machinery capability has also

changed, giving us more ability to deal with the no-till situation. New heavy duty drills have appeared on the market, making a one pass operation in heavy residue possible. Attachments are also

now available for many planters, to enable them to handle the no-till situation.

All of these factors enter into the farmers' decision on how and if each individual can or will be able to handle no-till beans.

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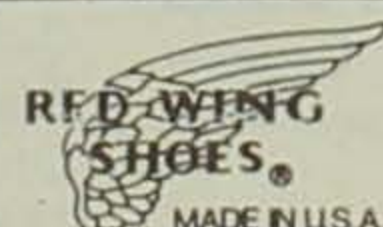


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Gary Wolfe Soil Conservation Technician II

USDA - SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE

Connie Reichenauer District Conservationist
Charles Peacock Soil Conservationist
Bob Green Soil Conservationist
Duane Ortgies Soil Conservation Technician
Alyce Lane WAE
Florence Campbell WAE
Clair Acker WAE

EXTENSION SERVICE

Rich Hall County Extension Education Director
Jill Euken Field Specialist/Families
Mary E. Ottmar Field Specialist/4-H Youth
Bev Gunderson Office Assistant

AGRICULTURAL STABILIZATION AND CONSERVATION SERVICE (ASCS)

Elaine Martens County Executive Director
OFFICE PERSONNEL: Sharon Boken, Jackie
Pelzer, Jamie Newbury, Jeanine Christensen,
Sharon Crane, Mona Ballinger, Diane
Carspecken
FIELD MEN: Forrest Winston, Elimar Sudmann
ASCS COUNTY COMMITTEE: Lawrence
Wohlenhaus, Roger Euken, David Knop

FARMERS HOME ADMINISTRATION (FmHA)

Alan Seehusen County Supervisor
Diane King Assistant County Supervisor
Madonna Nisson County Program Technician
Julie Aupperle County Office Clerk
Gary W. Ludington District Director
Shirley A. Winston District Loan Specialist
Merlyn Rees District Loan Specialist
Marvin Eblen Construction Inspector
Diane Larson District Loan Technician
Julie Hansen District Loan Clerk
Tammy Littleton District Loan Clerk

New Commissioners, Assistant Commissioners elected

Michael Hall of Massena, was elected last November to serve a 6 year term as District Commissioner. Jim Smith, of Griswold, has been appointed to fill the unexpired term of Max Miller. Jim's appointment will run until the 1996 general election.

New assistant commissioners, appointed to serve fiscal year 1995, are Julie Schmidt of Atlantic and Rose

Holste of Massena. Assistant Commissioners assist with the activities of the district, act in an advisory capacity, offer suggestions or comments, but cannot make motions or vote on official district business.

Commissioners and Assistant Commissioners serve without compensation except for mileage and reimbursement for actual expenses incurred while performing their duties.

1994 Annual of the Cass County Soil

District Commissioners and Assistant Commissioners include:



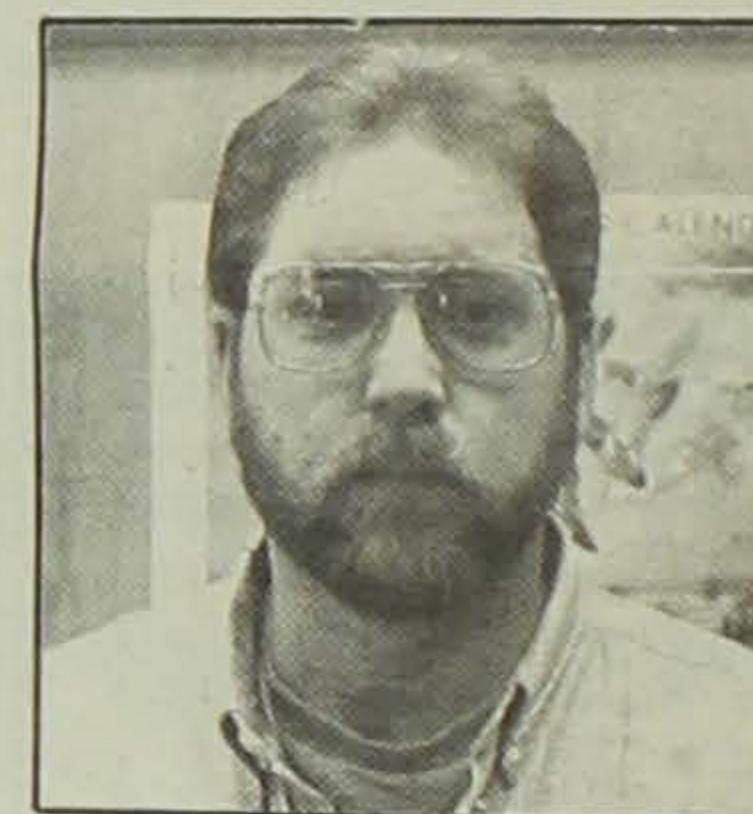
George Hosfelt

District Commissioner; Commissioner since 1952; Outstanding Commissioner Award, 1958, 1976; Honorary Member of Iowa Association of Soil Conservation District Commissioners, 1977; Omaha World-Herald Certificate of Merit, 1979.



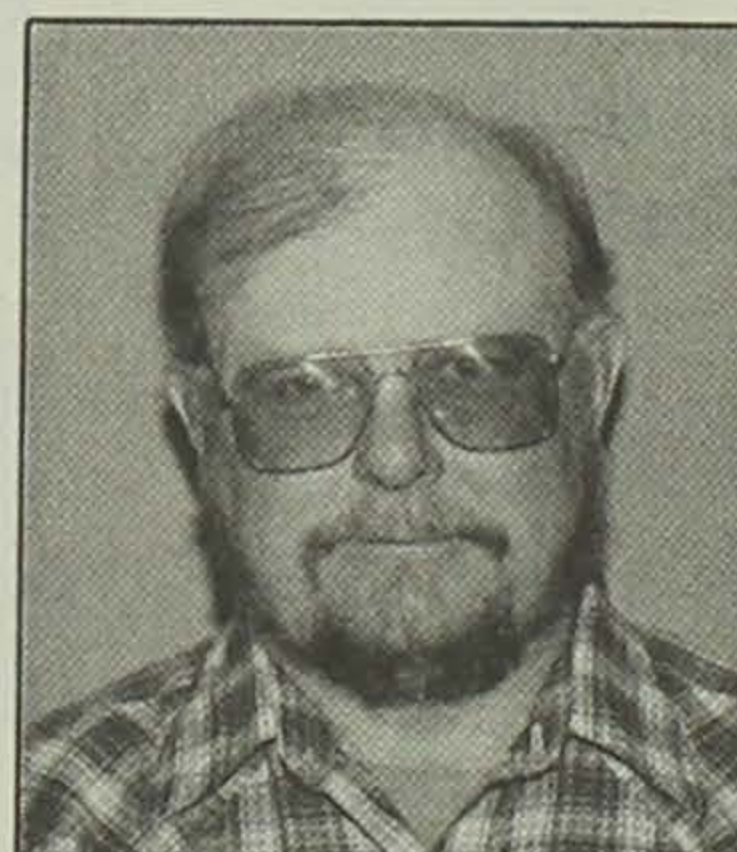
Max Miller

District Commissioner since 1962; Assistant Commissioner for six years; Region 5 Outstanding Commissioner Award, 1981; Member Cass County RC&D Committee; Cass County delegate to Land Preservation Policy Committee.



James K. Jordan

Commissioner for six years, farmed since 1976; Graduated from Rolfe Community High School; Attended Iowa and Iowa State; Member of Pork Producers; Has three children, ages 14, 13 and 10; Wife Gini is an elementary school teacher in Atlantic.



Greg Zellmer

Elected to board of commissioners in 1992; Serves on Cass Agriculture and Education Association Danish Mutual board; Member of Cass County Cattlemen's Association.



Bill Fudge

Assistant Commissioner after serving as Commissioner from 1980 - 1994; Assistant Commissioner from 1974-1980; Goodyear Award, 1970; Iowa Conservation Award, 1960; Omaha World Herald Certificate of Merit, 1978; Outstanding Commissioner Award, 1984; Watershed Achievement Award, 1986.

Annual Report

Soil Conservation District



Jim Smith

Commissioner since 1994, when took over Max Miller's position; Farmed south of Griswold since 1969; Has three children: Brian, Diane and Carol; Been married for 33 years to Joy.



Fred Kay

Elected to Board of Commissioners in 1992; Serves on Rural Development Committee, FACT Foundation, Iowa Poultry Association, Cass County Cattlemen's Association, Pork Producers, Farm Bureau speaker's board, Corn Grower's Association.



Rose Holste

Assistant Commissioner since 1994; Farms south of Massena on Century Farm; She and husband Louis have four children.



Mike Hall

Commissioner since 1994; Began farming north of Massena in 1975; He and wife Jeanette have three children: Jeremy, Leah and Cale.

Members of the SCS office staff include: Florence Campbell, Bob Green, Alyce Lane, Duane Ortgies, Charles Peacock, Connie Reichenauer, Carolyn Wilson, and Gary Wolfe.

CONSERVATION ACCOMPLISHMENTS

New Cooperators	No. 80
Landowners requesting assistance	No. 850
Landowners applying a practice	No. 245
New conservation plans	No. 57,135
Revised conservation plans	No. 57,135
Terraces	221,275
Tile Drainage	87,025
Grassed waterway	58 acres
Contouring	10,301 acres
Conservation tillage	14,463 acres
Farmstead and feedlot windbreak	5 acres
Pasture and hayland management	6 acres
Field boarders	384,441 feet
Farm ponds	No. 5

EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS

1-M BUDGET

93-94 Allocation	\$2,855.00
Commissioner Mileage & Expenses	\$1,341.65
Office Supplies & Expenses	747.65
State & National Dues	500.00
Returned to Division of Soil Conservation	<u>265.70</u>
Total:	\$2,855.00

II-M BUDGET

93-94 Allocation	\$88,037.92
Cost-share Warrants Paid	\$87,330.39
Unobligated Balance	<u>707.53</u>
Total:	\$88,037.92

94-95 Allocation	\$67,574.00
Cost-share Warrants Paid	\$28,730.50
Unobligated Balance	<u>38,843.50</u>
Total:	\$67,574.00

1994 Organic Nutrient Management System Allocation	\$8,640.00
Obligated But Not Paid	\$8,640.00

1994 REAP Forestry/Native Grass Allocation	\$5,586.00
Cost-Share Warrants Paid	\$1,597.01
Returned Balance to State	<u>3,988.99</u>
Total:	\$5,586.00

1994 REAP Practice Fund Allocation	\$22,935.00
Cost-Share Warrants Paid	\$1,391.67
Obligated, But Not Paid	<u>21,543.33</u>
Total:	\$22,935.00

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1994 Annual Report

of the Cass County Soil Conservation District

District Commissioners and Assistant Commissioners include:



George Hosfelt

District Commissioner; Commissioner since 1952; Outstanding Commissioner Award, 1958, 1976; Honorary Member of Iowa Association of Soil Conservation District Commissioners, 1977; Omaha World-Herald Certificate of Merit, 1979.



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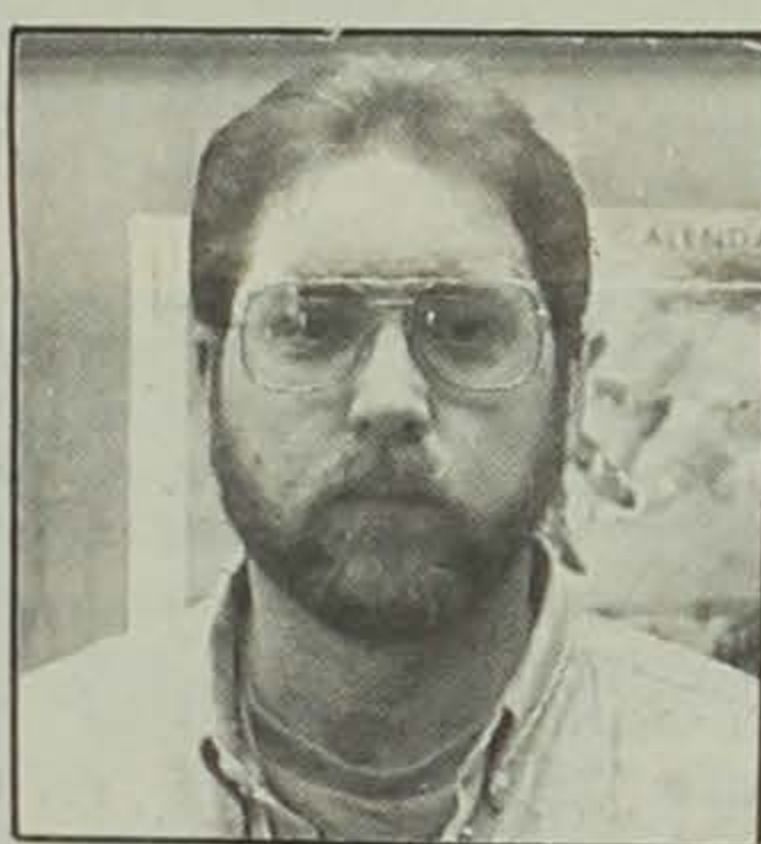
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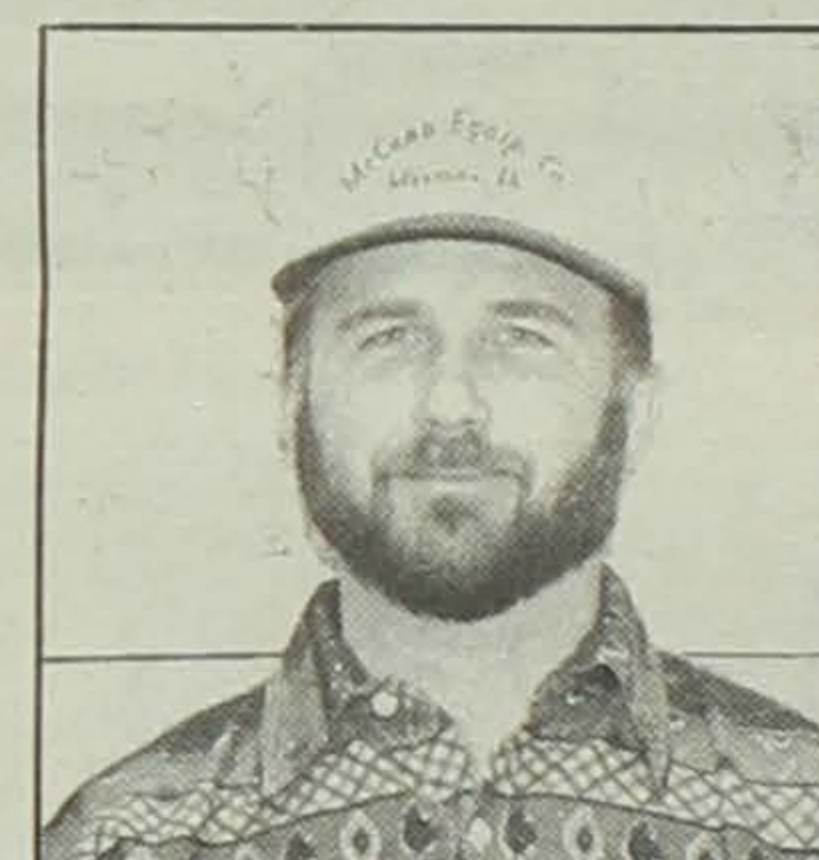
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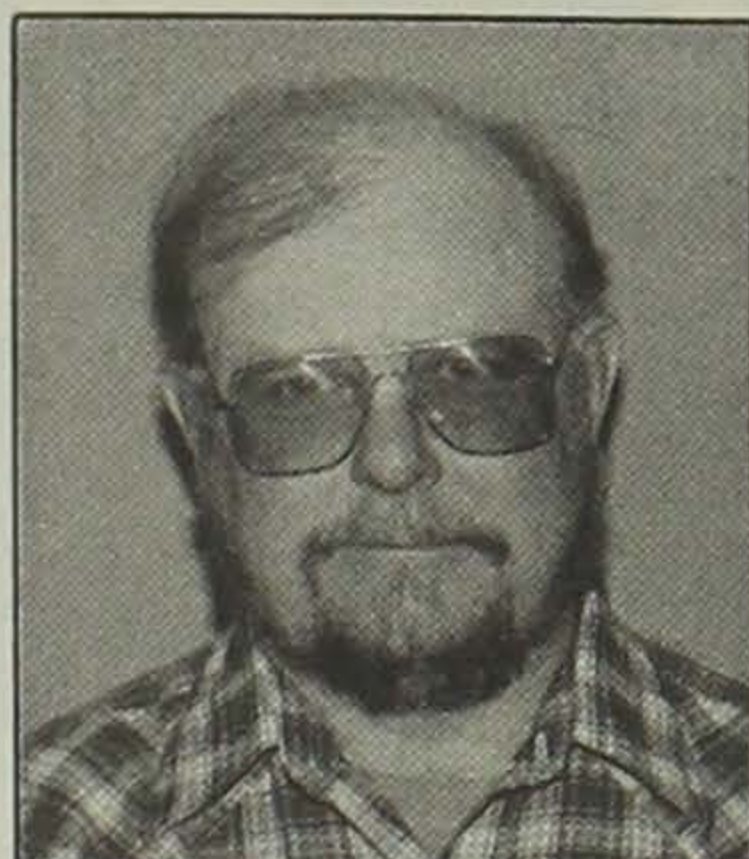
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ISU Extension Office issues warning on danger of carbon monoxide

On cold mornings, many Iowans like to start their cars and let them warm up for a few minutes before leaving for work.

But letting a car warm up in the garage can be a deadly mistake, reports Iowa State University Extension Service personnel.

Carbon monoxide can build up to dangerous levels in the garage and spread into the home.

Carbon monoxide is a colorless, odorless gas that comes from incomplete or inefficient burning of fuel.

Exposure to carbon monoxide can cause headaches, fatigue,

dizziness and even death at higher concentrations. Symptoms of carbon monoxide poisoning are often dismissed as flu symptoms.

Possible sources of carbon monoxide in the home include malfunctioning gas appliances, kerosene heaters, wood burning stoves or fireplaces, cigarette smoke and cars running in attached garages.

In addition to having gas appliances checked regularly, homeowners can install carbon monoxide detectors to warn of dangerous conditions.

These detectors operate much

like a smoke detector and are available from many hardware stores for about \$40.

Warming a car up is a good idea. Auto manufacturers and service experts recommend one or two minutes of warm-up in extreme cold.

Waiting until the windshield defroster is working adequately is another possible guideline.

In any circumstance, never run a car in an attached garage. Even with the garage door open, exhaust fumes can be forced back into the house.

The car will warm just as quickly if it is back out of the garage to idle.

For more information about carbon monoxide, contact a County Extension office and ask for bulletin AEN-160 "Combustion Pollutants in Your Home."

Tip of the Hat to 4-H CLUB MEMBERS

Craig Scholl, 17, of Atlantic, a member of the Grove H. O. T. 4-H Club, is the Junior Leader of the Month.

He is the son of Martha Scholl and has two brothers, Cory and Chris.

Scholl has carried a number of projects in 4-H, including woodworking, aerospace, Best Of Iowa, beef, swine, sheep and rabbits.

On the club level, Scholl has participated in a number of activities.

"My club has done many things around the community, such as donating fruit baskets to Heritage House at Christmas, highway pickup, planted trees at the fairgrounds and at the Sunshine Home.

On the county level, Scholl has been busy.

"I have participated in the Cass Youth Safety Fair, 4-H Youth Council, and made signs in support of the Extension referendum for 4-H," he said.



Craig Scholl

Scholl says the highlight of his 4-H career was being elected to the 1994-95 4-H Youth Council.

He is sold on the junior leader program carried out in the county.

"It gives me a chance to work with a lot of younger kids, and teach them all of the wonderful things that 4-H can do for them."

The 10-year 4-H club member feels that 4-H is very important to the next generation in giving them a chance to learn all of the things that they may have missed out on, and it also has many different things to learn about.

He explained that 4-H is no longer just about livestock, but gives members information in such areas as clothing, woodworking, welding, foods, aerospace, painting, drawing and writing a story.

Scholl plans to attend college this fall for one or two years and major in diesel mechanics.

Ag Dept. looks for comments

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Agriculture Department wants comments from the public on Ciba Seeds' request to produce its genetically engineered corn without having to get further USDA permits.

Ciba Seeds' product, called "Event 176 Corn," is genetically engineered for insect resistance. It is engineered to produce an insect control protein that is effective against certain caterpillars, including the European corn borer, a major pest.



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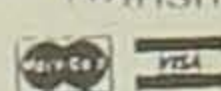


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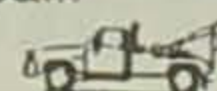
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Atlantic Farm Monthly

WAYSIDE COLUMN

By Grace Rasmussen

The wayside we will be observing this month is probably the most expansive wayside we can imagine.

Beatrix Potter (Peter Rabbit author) left 4,000 acres of land that was the Monk Coniston Estate, plus numerous farms and cottages to the National Trust. Her Hill Top home was to be kept in the present condition.

Our Manilla Library has a Beatrix Potter Corner established by Marge Collins in honor of her

Mother, Tess Theobald.

I have a friend who traveled to Hill Top and brought back information and illustrations from this far away wayside.

Hill Top was a working farm near the village of New Sawrey. At the time that Beatrix purchased it she had six successful books, but was grieving over the loss of her fiancé, Norman Warne.

I find this interesting because Frederick Warne was the publisher of her books.

But, wait, there is another romance connected with this wayside because Beatrix relied on a solicitor's firm that specialized in property and land contracts.

Over a number of years she grew to respect and appreciate one of the partner's efficient manner of handling purchases and super-

vising alterations at the farm.

He, at the same while, became intrigued by the author's interest in his part of the world.

After overcoming her parents' objections, Beatrix and William Heelis were married and chose to live in Castle Cottage rather than Hill Top.

It was at Hill Top that Beatrix kept her most precious china and furnishings.

It was here that she found and used many illustrations that appeared in her charming books.

You will find the Hill Top fireplace, gates, porches, garden paths, sideboards and even stairways and bedroom scenes appearing in such books as "The Tailor of Gloucester" or "The Tale of Samuel Whiskers."

It is an alluring wayside into time and place.

Three models for U. S. pork production

Dennis DePietre, Extension economist at the University of Missouri, outlined three models, or phases, the swine business has gone through at a recent swine conference in Red Oak.

DePietre described the agrarian, industrial, and post-industrial phases.

He said the agrarian phase was characterized by diversity on each farm, low volume, low efficiency, low knowledge and skills required, and seeing livestock mostly as a way to market grain.

The products were characterized as having low quality, low value, and high variability.

The industrial phase was described as having the emphasis on profitability and volume.

Operations are specialized, standardized, and efficient, requiring high levels of skill and management.

The post-industrial phase will use an enlarged systems approach, concentrating on long-term goals.

Emphasis will be on quality, safety, and value. Specialized and custom products will be featured.

He reported that U.S. producers have several advantages in the world market, and need to formulate strategies to exploit them.

One advantage includes an expanding market, a world-wide preference for pork, low feed costs, access to land for distance separation from populated areas and for waste disposal, a labor force with a strong work ethic, and access to advanced technology.

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1992 Kinze 16-30 w/Interplant	1994 JD 750 No-Till Drill
1984 Kinze 8-30, 3 pt.	1984 JD 7000 4-38
1979 Kinze 16-30	1992 Krause 15 ft. No-Till Drill
1990 JD 7200 6-30	1994 Krause 15 ft. No-Till Drill
1984 JD 7000 8-38	
1981 JD 7000 8-38 Flex Fold	

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Manure management discussed at seminar

Various topics designed to help diversified farms utilize the manure produced by livestock were covered at a conference attended by 25 producers in Fontanelle.

Mike Duffy, Iowa State University Extension economist, discussed the economic value of manure, and the effect of livestock production on the economic development of a community.

Stewart Melvin, ISU Extension agricultural engineer, described a whole-farm management system, balancing nutrient requirements with nutrient value of manure produced.

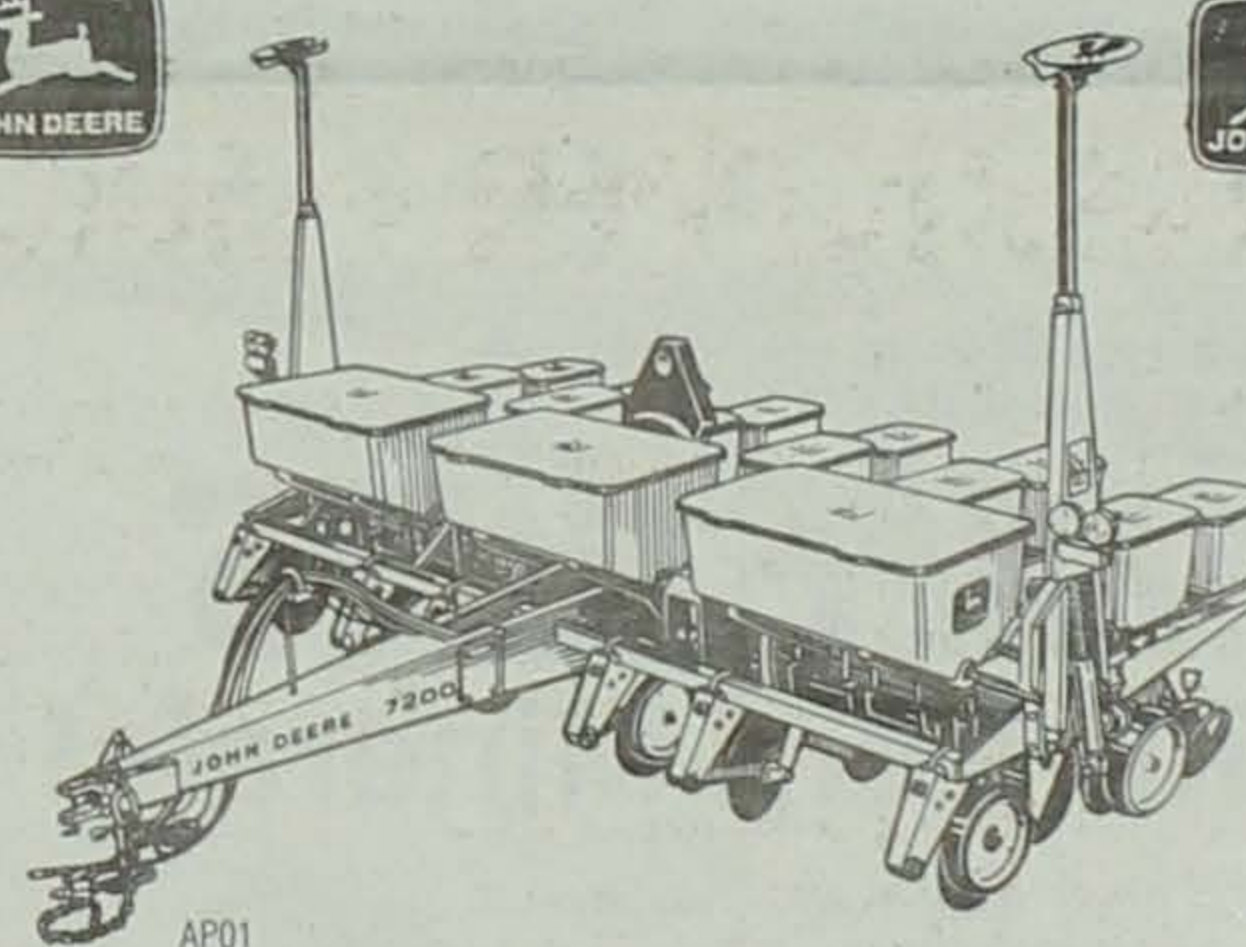
Ruihong Zhang, ISU Extension

agricultural engineer, presented construction costs, operating costs, and nutrient loss for several different manure handling and storage systems.

Ubo Agena, Iowa Department of Natural Resources, covered regulations governing location of livestock facilities, storage of manure, and application of the manure to the ground.

The producers attending had the opportunity to complete a Nutrient Balance Sheet. ISU Extension agricultural field specialists then calculated the most effective areas in which to utilize the waste generated by the livestock on each individual farm.

PLANTER EXPO & CLINIC



10:00 AM to 3:00 PM

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By Gene Mallette
of Atlantic

The Battle of the Bulge was north of the 7th Army sector and did not affect them so much.

They were very jumpy after that and took precautions that they had not taken any time before.

The winter snows in France as well as Belgium and the Netherlands made the going much more unpleasant for the Allied troops.

There was more frost-bite and everything else that goes along with the cold and the snow.

Of course, all of these inconveniences were present for the troops in the Italian mountains.

It seemed in Italy much of the hard fighting was in the mountains. It was easier for the Germans to prepare defensive positions in the rough country.

In the plains and the broad valleys the Germans would not have as good observation as they would in the mountainous country.

Good observation is essential for good artillery and mortar fire. Those men in the 5th Army in Italy would have it a little warmer if they were located in the coastal plain or in lower elevations in the wintertime.

They would not be immune to the cold rains which, of course, would turn to snow in the

mountains.

The Germans seemed to delight in causing as much confusion as possible behind the American front lines. This would be true for all fronts. It did not make any difference if it was in Italy, France, Belgium, the Netherlands, Russia or any place else.

There are always many uncertainties in wartime and they were not always one sided.

There were two or three things that the Germans did that often kept the U.S. troops on edge. This kept them alert and this was a good thing.

At night, since their actions and movements could not be followed very well because of the darkness, the Germans would try to send four to six heavy tanks through or around the American front lines and disrupt communications and anything else that they might be able to do.

This was unnerving to the U.S. troops in front of the tanks as well as those behind. News like this made all troops alert to what was going on around them.

Sometimes the tanks would get back to the German lines and other times some of them would be "knocked out" or destroyed.

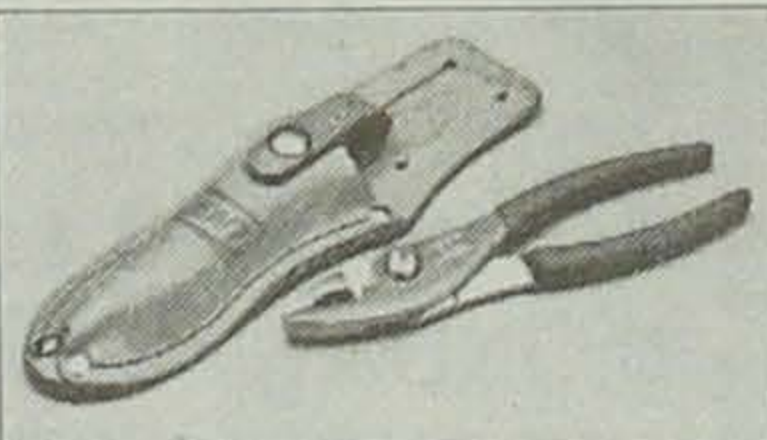


Ships carrying men and equipment for the invasion of Southern France in 1944 sailed from ports in Africa, Italy and Corsica, with the most important loading port being Naples, Italy. In all 853 vessels from the Allied navies formed the task force, with an additional 1,267 small landing crafts, all deck-loaded, posed for the invasion.

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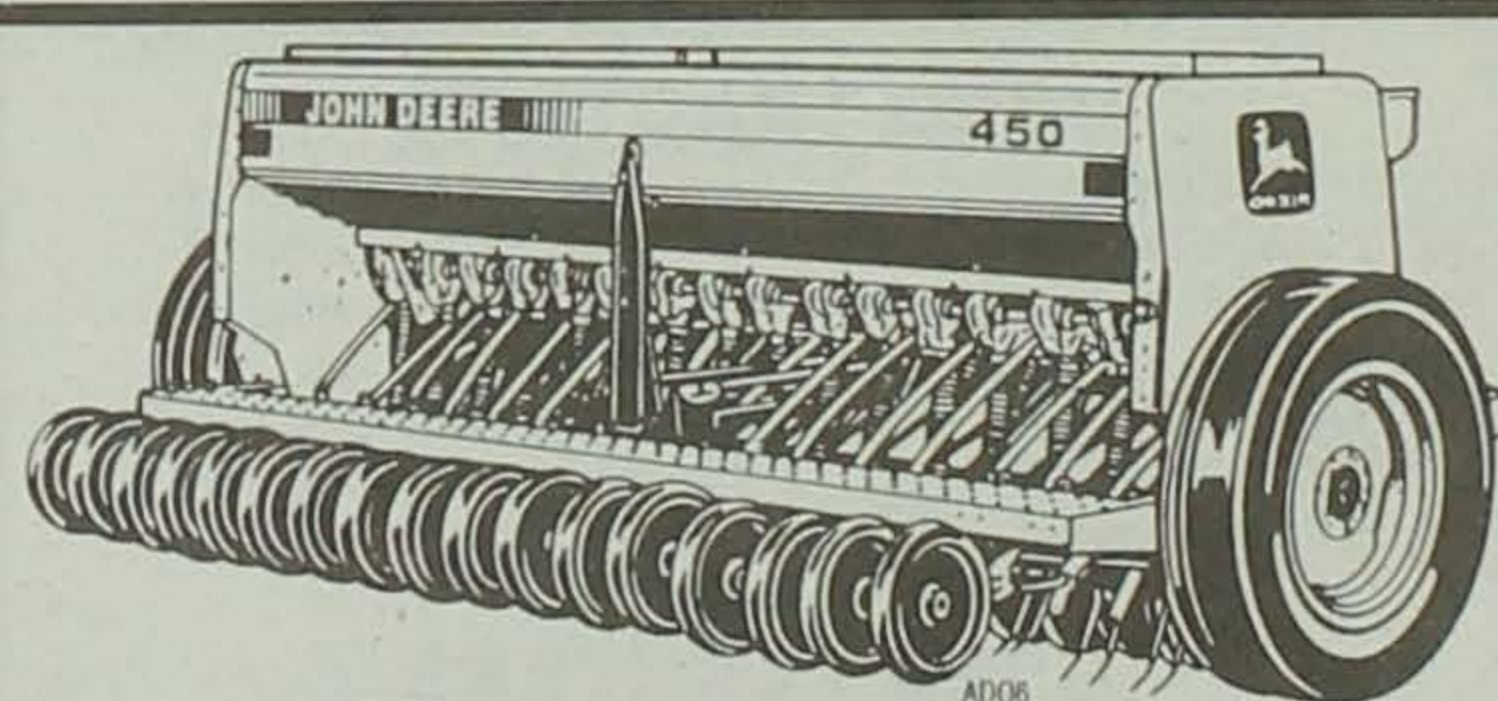
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Another one of their tricks would be to drop some paratroops behind the American front lines dressed in American uniforms.

Sometimes they were able to capture some American vehicles and this would cause confusion until they sorted it out. It would add to some of the confusion when the Germans were able to speak good English.

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Wetlands program offers payments for protection

By **FRED KAY**
Commissioner
Special for Farm Monthly

The Wetland Reserve Program is a voluntary program offering landowners a chance to receive payments for restoring and

protecting wetlands on their property. The restoration and protection of wetlands under the WRP offers many benefits to the landowner. Wetlands have great value because they:

A. Provide agricultural benefit, such as haying or grazing in drought years.

B. Improve water quality by filtering sediment.

C. Reduce Flooding of streams.

D. Recharge underground reserves.

E. Supply wildlife habitat.

F. Furnish educational, scientific, and recreational benefits. Wetlands must be at least 2 acres in size and have been annually planted in at least one of 5 crop years of 1986 through 1990.

To participate in the program, landowners apply for enrollment. Following this, the Natural Resources Conservation Service and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will determine the eligibility of acres presented. Five factors determine priority:

1. habitat for migratory birds and other wildlife.
2. Wetlands function.
3. Location significance.

4. Wetland management requirements

5. Physical conditions of the site.

Through this program, the Department of Agriculture plans to restore and protect 330,000 acres by the end of 1995.

In order to find out what land qualifies and what the landowners responsibilities are, contact your local Conservation Service.

Terraces keep soil loss low on area farms

By **CHARLES PEACOCK**
Soil Conservationist
Special for the Farm Monthly

Maintaining terraces is a necessary chore for a farmer who has invested in them. Soil loss in Iowa ranks in the top ten in annual soil loss. The Food Security Act has made terraces one of the most used practices in your plan. However on 5% spot checks this practice has caused our landowner problems in maintenance.

Maintaining these terraces lengthens the life of the terrace and increase their efficiency. Frequent inspection and correction of problems are just good farming practices. Check inlets and outlets after each rain for any possible clogs or for debris. Clearly mark these for easy viewing. Weeds around an inlet should be controlled with herbicides or kept cut. The weeds could restrict the flow of water and catch silt. Broken or bent inlets should be replaced or repaired promptly.

The water storage volume is re-

duced when the terraces ridge is lowered by farming operation or when sediment height is lowered by farming operation or when sediment deposit accumulates in the terrace channel. Broad-base and Gradient Terraces can be maintained by using a moldboard plow. Terraces should be plowed up each year that they are farmed. Gradient terraces should be plowed up until a foot and one half of height is obtained. Narrow-base should be scraped out once every two years.

Narrow-base terrace seeding should be checked in the spring and fall. If the stand of grass is thin or thin or sparse the terraces should be reseeded. Narrow-base terraces need to be checked for animal dens at least twice a year. Animals should be removed from the terraces.

Terraces and tile, if maintain, will function properly for a lifetime or more. So remember, plow up terraces once a year, keep inlets clean, inspect outlets often and make sure animal guards function properly.

Windbreaks become part of landscape

By **JIM SMITH**
Commissioner
Special for Farm Monthly

A windbreak is a permanent part of the farm landscape. Therefore careful thought and planning should precede the planting of trees.

Many things have to be considered when planning a windbreak. 1. What variety of trees do I want? 2. Are these trees resistant to most diseases that are common to our area? 3. What size of trees do I want to plant? Keeping in mind that the larger the trees the more they cost. Also the larger the trees, the more water they will be needing during dry periods until they get established. 4. How far apart do I plant the trees? 5. Are there any funds to assist me in this endeavor? 6. What's involved in the maintenance of a windbreak?

These and many other questions can be answered by visiting with

your soil conservation service and extension service.

Many times R.E.A.P. funds are available to the cooperator. Along with this, help in planning your windbreak is available from your Soil Conservation office.

Many times windbreaks are planted in a random manner, with little regard to the future. It takes many years to realize a functional

windbreak. So there is very little room for mistakes in planning.

Windbreaks planted too close will smother each other out in future years. Or windbreaks planted too far apart will not function as a windbreak.

Getting a windbreak established takes a lot of work and time, but the results can be breathtaking.

Firestone



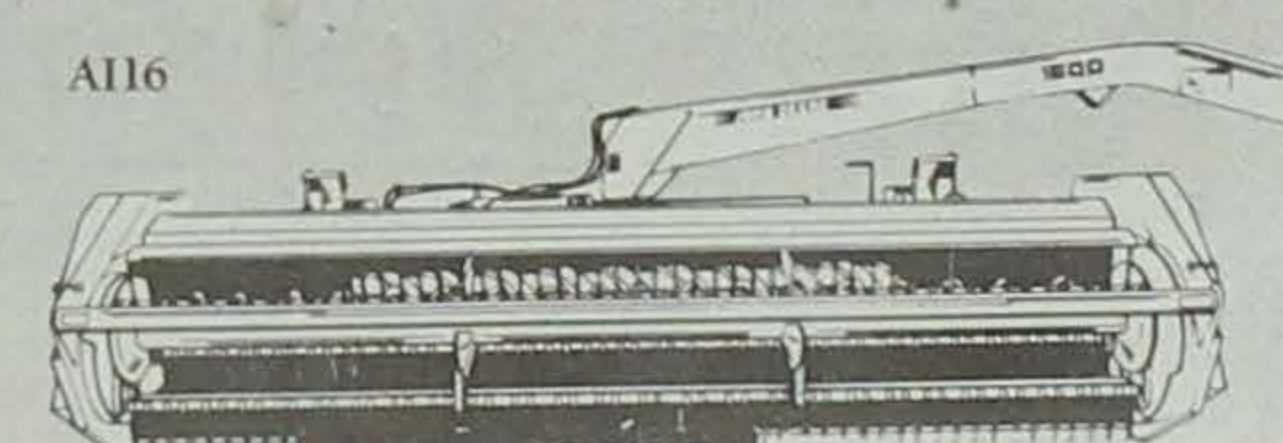
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▲ CLUE TO YOUR ROOTS

By Edna Christensen, Cass Genealogical Society

The State Historical Society has sent more helpful tips on preserving memorabilia.

Photo sleeves to both visually enjoy and protect your photographs and keepsakes; enclose them in archival quality transparent sleeves.

These enclosures are made of polypropylene, polyester or polyethylene materials.

These are chemically stable ma-

terials free of additives and surface coatings.

Do not use polyvinylchloride (called PVC).

The society also suggest to look for Mylar and print file supplies. If your items are fragile, include a piece of acid-free board or acid-free folder stock for support.

Store your important items in the best environment you can find.

Keep documents and prints out of

direct sunlight.

If at all possible, avoid shelving books against outside walls, where condensation may form and harm your books.

Also avoid storing valuable materials in basements or attics where extremes in temperature and humidity may occur. It's best to display a copy of the original and safely store the original.

The rule of thumb in all preser-

vation efforts is this: If it's not reversible (like laminating) it's not a good preservation practice. Any good practice will let you undo what you've done — in case technology changes or you change your mind about storage.

Help Needed

Richard Bishop, Box 721, Aurelia IA 51005, wants a picture or drawing of the Joseph Northgrave's water powered grist mill. It was

built in 1870 and located in Section 29 of Benton Township on Troublesome Creek. It was later sold to Henry Howell and known as Benton Mills.

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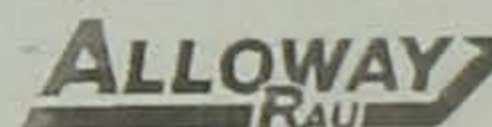
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