

Contouring aid⁷⁻²⁵⁻ offered by SCS⁶⁸

Davis County farmers wishing to contour their cultivated fields, should contact the Soil Conservation Service Office for assistance in laying out contour guide lines, reported Richard Cordes, soil conservationist of the local office.

Cordes said contour tillage is one of the simpler practices for reducing soil and water losses. Contour tillage is most effective on 2 to 8 per cent slopes, not more than 300 feet long. Here the practice reduces soil loss to about half that with tillage up and down the hill. On slopes greater than 8 per cent, the soil loss is reduced 20 to 40 per cent.

Contouring can also increase yields of row crops. Increases of 5 to 10 per cent are common, stated Cordes.

To be able to plow and plant on the contour, a farmer needs one or more key contour lines established on each field. The local soil Conservation office encourages farmers to contact them for technical assistance in laying out contour lines and other conservation practices.