

1957 HARDIN COUNTY SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT REPORT

MEET YOUR HARDIN SCO COMMISSIONERS



DEAN KELSEY, CHAIRMAN
IOWA FALLS



KENNETH MEIER
HUBBARD



HAROLD MARSH
UNION

ANNUAL REPORT

HARDIN COUNTY SOIL CONSERVATION
DISTRICT - STATE OF IOWA
JANUARY 1, 1957 TO DECEMBER 31, 1957

The Hardin County Soil Conservation District Commissioners held twelve regular and one special meeting during 1957. Meetings were well attended by Commissioners SCS personnel, and Richard Pulse, County Extension Director. J. Ross Oliver, Area Conservationist was in attendance at different meetings. Also in attendance was Richard Preston, from the State Soil Conservation Committee.

The Hardin County Soil Conservation District held membership in the State Association of Soil Conservation Districts, and the National Association of Soil Conservation Districts.

Harold Marsh was elected commissioner at the annual meeting in March, held at the Youth Building in Eldora. Harold replaced retiring Commissioner Bernard Reece. Bernard was presented a certificate on behalf of the District and the State Committee in appreciation for his services over the past six years. At the regular meeting in June, Leland Reece of Providence Twp. was appointed as assistant Commissioner.

Dale Shadle, Work Unit Conservationist for Hardin County was transferred to Marion, Iowa in October to accept the position of Area Conservationist. Deane Glen, State Aide, was transferred to Greenfield, Iowa in September to accept a position as Agricultural Engineer. The commissioners presented both men with small gifts in appreciation for their services rendered to the District.

Meier attended the Commissioners State Convention and was named to the Education Committee.

Marsh and Kelsey were referees at the State Plowing match held in Hampton, Iowa on September 14.

Hardin County was featured in "Iowa Soil and Water" magazine for the month of September.

It was announced that Soil Stewardship Week would begin Sunday, May 26, 1957 and continue through Sunday June 2, 1957. The District secured from the National Association a supply of illustrated booklets and books of selected sermons for distribution to all the ministers in the County.

Harold Marsh attended the short course for New Commissioners on April 16, in Des Moines. Meier attended the regional meeting at Marshalltown as did Marsh. This was held March 19, for Commissioners and associated agencies.

A successful conservation tour for the Iowa Falls Rotary Club was held on the Donald Utch Farm on June 11.

Two teachers, Betty Albright and Bernice Weld attended the Conservation Camp at Springbrook State Park. Tuition was sponsored by the local Wildlife Club and the District.

On June 4, all SCS and State personnel in Area III were in Eldora for a tour and meeting. They joined with the Eldora Rotary Club for lunch and moon. Mr. Frank Mendell was speaker.

A conservation tour was held on the William Vigars farm on the evening of June 27. About 60 members of the Eldora Kiwanis Club attended and the tour was termed very successful.

The Eldora newspaper carried some good news stories and a full page advertisement in behalf of Soil Conservation Week.

The Queen of the Furrow contest was held in cooperation with the American Fence dealers in the District. Their was two representatives from the District.

The District Auxiliary sent letters to schools in the county writing 5,6,7,8th grades to participate in an essay contest. Mrs. Kenneth Meier presented the three winners of the essay contest at the annual meeting held at the Youth Building in Eldora on March 15. The first place winner was Janet Kielsmeier of Hubbard who read her essay and was presented a book for her school library entitled "THE WORLD WE LIVE IN". Second place went to John Thompson of Radcliffe and third place went to Delores Hendrickson of Hubbard. Each received a gift for the Commissioners.

I. W. Arthur was the main speaker at the Annual Meeting his topic being, water rights.

The District sponsored a conservation contest in the County, with the three outstanding farmers being awarded a copy of Midwest Farmers Handbook. They were J.J. Beach and Glen Ball of Eldora, and A.J. Albers of Steamboat Rock. These awards were presented at the annual meeting for district cooperators.

DISTRICT ACCOMPLISHMENTS - 1957

New District Cooperators	21	3544 acres
Plans Revised	6	990 acres
New District Plans	10	2770 acres
Cooperators Farms Served	176	
Other Farms Served	198	
Soil Conservation Surveys	1900	acres
Contouring Installed	1371	acres
Contour Strip-Cropping	193	acres
Buffer Stripping	10	acres
Conservation Crop Rotation	2976	acres
Waterway Development	27.0	
Toe Walls Constructed	2	
Tile Drains	120,626	Lin.Ft.
Diversions	1528	Lin.Ft.
Open Drains	3168	Lin.Ft.
Drainage	276	acres
Terracing	32,050	Lin.Ft.



TREE PLANTING ON THE DR. R.R. GRIFFEL FARM SOUTHEAST OF IOWA FALLS. THE FARM OPERATED BY MELVIN OBERHOKAN

What Is A Soil Conservation District?

You still hear people say "Just what is a Soil Conservation District?" or, "What is the Soil Conservation Service?" We hope the explanations that follow will clarify some of these points.

A SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT is an area in which farmers have organized for the purpose of carrying on a soil saving program. It is a legal organization, provided for by State law, and in Iowa has boundaries the same as counties. Each county in the state would then be a separate SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT. The district is governed by three farmers called commissioners. Here in Hardin County they are Dean Kelsey of Iowa Falls, Chairman; Harold Marsh, Union; and Kenneth Meier of Hubbard. Each Commissioner serves a six year term, the terms being staggered so that one expires every two years. The commissioners are selected by the farmers of Hardin County. Commissioners serve without pay, except for expenses while on District business of the SCS. They meet regularly, at least once a month, to conduct the business of the District. They are charged with the responsibility of getting conservation on the land. To help get this job done, we have asked for assistance from SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE.

The SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE, called the SCS, is a branch of the United States Department of Agriculture, whose objective is to give assistance to the local District in getting conservation on the land. The SCS sends in technical personnel to assist the District in getting this job done. This usually consists of a work Unit Conservationist, commonly called the Farm Planner and a helper called the Conservation aid. These are the men who write the Conservation plans and layout the numerous conservation practices on the farms in Hardin County.

We, the Commissioners of the Hardin County Soil Conservation District, want to extend our invitation to the people of Hardin County to work and cooperate with your local District in making Hardin County a better place to live for generations to come.

Your Commissioners

Dean Kelsey, Chairman
Harold Marsh
Kenneth Meier



FLOYD SPEAS FARM POND AT UNION

SOIL DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS

Dean Kelsey, Chairman
Harold Marsh
Kenneth Meier

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONERS

Leland Reece
Harry Hudspeth

SOIL CONSERVATION STAFF

Buss Oliver, Area Conservationist
Cal Moore, Work Unit Conservationist
Dean Miller, Conservation Aid
Keith Reece, State Aid
Mrs. Eileen Hyland, State Clerk



TERRACE SYSTEM ON THE MRS. FLORENCE McELROY FARM AT ELDORA.

The Merchants Listed Below Bring This Report To The Attention Of Readers As A Public Service

Welden Brothers READY MIX PHONE 2578 IOWA FALLS	KRAUSE Construction Company PHONE 192 ALDEN	Alden Co-op Elevator ALDEN, IOWA	Farmers Co-op Elev. IOWA FALLS MACY KEITH M. VOIGT, MANAGER	Truck & Crane Operators SAND & GRAVEL-CONCRETE MIX-WHITE LIMESTONE ROBERT KEARUTH PHONE 3103 IOWA FALLS
WEAVER Construction Co. AG LIME-ROAD STONE-CONCRETE STONE READY-MIX PH. ALDEN 52 OR 46 IOWA FALLS	Concrete Products Co. PHONE 2291 IOWA FALLS	Hardin County Rural Elec. Co-op IOWA FALLS	S & S Sales Co. CADILLAC M - M FOX PONTIAC GMC MERCURY PHONE 2581 IOWA FALLS	Citizens State Bank PHONE 2545 IOWA FALLS