

23rd
ANNUAL REPORT
For the Year 1967
to the
Farmers of Davis County

COMMISSIONERS

Sam Botts, Jr.
C. Iles Heady
Charles Chickering
Dale Blackwell
Lionel Herteen
Stanley Baughman

Chairman
Commissioner
Commissioner
Treasurer
Secretary
Assistant Commissioner

SCS PERSONNEL

Verle M. Arnold
D. Eugene Francis
Richard J. Cordes

Work Unit Conservationist
Conservation Technician
Soil Conservationist

STATE PERSONNEL

Roger L. Fry
Christine H. Botts

Planner Aid
State Clerk

FOREWARD

As we close the 1967 year, we are pleased with the amount of soil conservation practices that have been installed on Davis County farms, in spite of very unfavorable weather and crop conditions much of the year. Still more conservation work needs to be done on many Davis County farms and as we begin another year we hope to attain more of the needed soil conservation practices within our district. As good soil stewards it is our duty to properly use our land so it will provide abundantly for future generations.

We recognize, with deep appreciation, the help given the local district by interested individuals, organizations, agencies, churches, schools, the local newspapers and earth-moving contractors.

If you have a soil or water problem on your farm, we suggest you stop in at the local SCS Office and discuss the problem with one of the boys -- Verle, Gene, Dick or Roger. They will be glad to help determine the best solution for the problem. May 1968 bring greater conservation achievements to our community as we strive to be better stewards of the soil on our farms in Davis County.

COMMISSIONERS

Sam Botts, Jr.
C. Iles Heady
Charles Chickering

COMMISSIONERS ACTIVITIES - 1967

During the 1967 calendar year 12 regular meetings and 4 special meetings were held to carry out the District Program and watershed progress.

At the January meeting, the 1967 Plan of Operations for the district was discussed and accepted. We voted to pay the State and National Soil Conservation District Dues.

A special meeting was held January 26 at the ASCS meeting room to discuss progress made to date in the development of the Carter Creek Watershed work plan. Leonard Larson and Joe Ausson of the State SCS Watershed Planning Party were present to explain what has been planned and to answer local questions. Bad weather conditions prevented many interested persons from attending. A 280-acre lake could be a part of developing this watershed.

At the February meeting our Goodyear Soil Conservation contest entry was completed with Dale Blackwell named the outstanding conservation farmer in the entry. It was decided to have our 1966 annual report published in the local paper this year. Contributions from dirt-moving contractors financed the publication. Mr. and Mrs. Iles Heady and Mr. and Mrs. Charles Chickering attended the National Commissioner meeting in Cincinnati, Ohio February 5-9.

Our March meeting was a dinner meeting at the Sam Botts, Jr. home as a farewell party for Harold Baughman, who served as a commissioner for the past fifteen years. He was presented with a desk pen set from the commissioners. A group enterprise agreement between Glen McClure and K. P. Donnelly was approved. Sam Botts, Jr., Charles Chickering and Verle Arnold attended the Region 9 commissioner meeting in Ottumwa, March 16.

The April meeting was held in the new SCS Office at 106 North Dodge Street. The office moved to the new location April first. Lyall Mitchell, Area Conservationist, was present and reported on watershed activity in this and surrounding districts. In our own district, representatives of the U.S. Wildlife Service and State Conservation Commission made a review of Carter Creek Watershed area and will make their recommendations to the State SCS Watershed Planning Party.

On May 21 Open House was held in the new office building which houses the ASCS, FHA, SCS and Extension Service. Soil Stewardship materials were given to the Davis County ministers for their use during Soil Stewardship Week.

Because of adverse weather conditions this spring, we decided not to have a conservation tour in June. Too many farmers were still planting crops late in June and early July. Again this year the commissioners furnished lunch for the twilight tour of the Southeast Iowa Experimental farm held June 29th. The commissioners wives and the girls 4-H County Officers served the food.

A special meeting to discuss the Carter Creek Watershed proposed plan with local people was held July 18th.

At the August meeting the commissioners decided to request that Roger Fry be placed on the regular payroll, effective September 1, 1967. The annual inspection of all completed watershed structures in Big Wyacondah Watershed was held August 28, 1967.

On September 6 a group of Van Buren County farmers toured some of the completed Big Wyacondah Watershed structures. Mr. and Mrs. Sam Botts, Jr.,

Mr. and Mrs. C. Iles Heady, and Mr. and Mrs. Charles Chickering attended the annual SCD conference in Des Moines September 17, 18, and 19.

In October plans were made for the annual cooperator's banquet, to be held in November. Assistant Commissioners who will serve 1-year terms for our district were chosen. They are Dale Blackwell, Lionel Herten and Stanley Baughman. The revised Memorandum of Understanding between the Soil Conservation Service and the district was approved by the commissioners and signed by the chairman, Sam Botts, Jr., and the secretary, Christine Botts.

Our annual cooperator's banquet meeting was held Wednesday evening, November 15 with 132 present to hear Rev. Laurence Nelson of Bellevue give a conservation and wildlife talk. Harry Battin, Vernon Wheeldon and William Wuthrich were given certificates of recognition for applying good conservation practices on their own farms. Richard J. Cordes of Rolfe, Iowa started work November 20 as a Soil Conservationist in our local office. Lyall Mitchell, Area Conservationist, was present at the November commissioner's meeting. He stated a retirement party is being planned for Frank Mendell, State Conservationist who will retire in February 1968. The party will be held February 24 in Des Moines. We extend our sincere thanks to Frank for his help in furthering the progress of Soil and Water Conservation.

At our December meeting Verle Arnold reported on the tile outlet terrace job completed on the Harry Battin farm. This is the second farmer in Davis County who has installed this type of terrace.

SPECIAL AWARDS CONSERVATION SPEECH CONTEST

On May 12, 1967 the Davis County Soil Conservation Speech Contest was held at the Davis County Community High School Ag room with three contestants. They were Steve Van Horn, son of Mr. and Mrs. Bob Van Horn; Linda Blackwell, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Grant Blackwell; Gregory Shumaker, son of Mr. and Mrs. Earl Shumaker. They placed in the order given and were awarded prizes of \$10, 5, and 7.50 by the local soil district. Judges for the contest were Mrs. Ina Thompson, English teacher; Mrs. Verle Arnold, 7th grade teacher; and Olin Veatch, English teacher trainee. Steve Van Horn represented the district in the Region 9 contest July 27 in Ottumwa and placed 3rd in that contest, winning a prize of \$10.

SAFETY SPEECH CONTEST

Virginia Humphrey, represented our district in the Region 9 Safety Speech contest held in Ottumwa, November 13th. She was presented with \$10 as our winner and placed third in the Region 9 contest where she received \$10 for her speech.

IOWA CONSERVATION ACHIEVEMENTS AWARDS

The dairy farm of Robert Evans and son, Steve was district winner in Division I (family-operated) farm. There were no entries in Division II and III, the tenant-operated farms and new district cooperator farms. The Evans families received a placque from the Bloomfield Newspapers which was presented to them at our annual cooperator's banquet.

QUEEN OF CONSERVATION

The Davis County Soil Conservation District sponsored the 1967 Queen of Conservation contest at the Drakesville Old Soldiers and Settlers Reunion Thursday evening, August 3rd. There were 7 contestants: Lois Horn, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Russel Horn; Janet Lough, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lester Lough; Diana Thomas, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Thomas; Janice Giles, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Don Giles; JoEllen Morlan, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Morlan; Carol Rinkenberger, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Cleo Rinkenberger; Joan Hunter, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Hunter. Judges were Mr. and Mrs. Max Johnson of Stockport and Mrs. Barbara Craig of Keosauqua. The district provided crowns and \$25 U. S. Savings Bonds for each of the 2 queens and flowers for each contestant. Lois Horn and Janet Lough were chosen District Queens.

PERSONNEL CHANGES

Roger Fry, part-time conservation aid, was changed to a permanent state employee effective September 1, 1967.

Richard J. Cordes, a native of Rolfe, Iowa graduated from Iowa State University at Ames, Iowa in November and started working in our office as Soil Conservationist November 20, 1967.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

During the 1967 calendar year, 1387 office callers visited our SCS office. There were 827 telephone calls during the 1967 year.

Many new farm ponds and erosion control structures were constructed and many were stocked with fish during the summer. 12,480 large mouth bass, 4080 bluegills and 13,927 channel catfish were furnished to Davis County farmers.

TREASURER'S REPORTS REVOLVING FUNDS (Calendar year 1967)

Balance on hand January 1, 1967

\$871.22

INCOME

Royalties from Rock Quarry	4003.11
U. S. Treasurer on Big Wyacondah Contracts	32,996.27
Davis County Road Fund on Big Wyacondah	1035.63
Davis County Dirt Contractors	182.50
Other Income	255.50

EXPENSE

Royalties Paid on Rock Quarry	3334.91
Big Wyacondah Contract Expenses	34,031.90
Other Big Wyacondah Expenses	75.50
Postage and Supplies	283.49
Office Drapes	77.37
State and National SCD dues	175.00
Commissioner Expenses	335.07
Awards and Contests	132.79
Banquet and Speaker	284.62
Balance on hand December 31, 1967	\$613.58

I-M BUDGET

Each year in July the State Soil Conservation Committee allocates \$500 to each soil conservation district in Iowa, for the purpose of commissioner's expenses (on duty), office expense, meeting expense, prizes for contests and printing expenses.

(Fiscal year July 1, 1966 - June 30, 1967)

Commissioner's Expenses and Mileage	\$217.35
Office Supplies	305.43
Prizes for Contests	41.62
Office Expenses	142.12
Meeting Expenses	5.11
Total Expended	\$711.63

II-M BUDGET

The II-M Budget (state funds) is administered by the State Soil Conservation Committee and allocated to the Soil Conservation Districts of Iowa on a need basis. It has enabled us to employ a full-time clerk and part-time conservation aid to help during the heavy lay-out season. During 1967 we were able to employ the conservation aid full-time. We are grateful to the legislators of Iowa for making these funds available to us.

(Fiscal year July 1, 1966 - June 30, 1967)

Gross earnings (Clerical and Technical)	\$5298.20
District's Share of State Retirement	170.56
District's Share of Federal S. S. Tax	229.40
District's Share of Hospital Insurance	36.00
Equipment Expense	50.50
Technicians Travel Expense	6.00
Total Expended	\$6237.66

BIG WYACONDAH WATERSHED

Twenty-five of the proposed structures for the watershed are completed as of this date. An additional four structures are under contract to Wendell Wilson Construction Co. of Crawfordsville, Iowa. Pond surface areas of the structures completed range from 2 to 11.4 acres. Completed structures are located on the farms of Sam Bradford, Wilson Hartman, Robert Brown, Edward Burchette, Richard McClurg, Deverre Benge, Mildred Baker, Albert Whisler, L. A. Shelton, Frank Warren, O. J. Scott, Dale Dixon, Aura Barnett, Frank Shively, Dean Grim, Walter Grim, Mrs. Phyllis Fresh, Mrs. Bessie Beggs, J. E. Amstutz, John Orwig, Carl Games, and Cleo Rinkenberger. Present plans are to let contracts for 7 more structures in 1968.

Total structural measures proposed in the watershed includes 2 flood-water retarding structures, 57 grade stabilization structures, 3.4 miles of stream channel improvement and 9.4 acres of structural waterways.

CARTER CREEK WATERSHED

Authority to develop a work plan on Carter Creek Watershed was received in May 1966. The preliminary report made indicates that in order to get the desired flood protection, one large flood water retarding structure, several smaller flood water retarding structures, several grade stabilization structures and channel improvement work on the main channel of Carter Creek below Highway 63 would be needed.

Planning work on the watershed has currently been halted awaiting decisions from the city council of Bloomfield as to their interest in using the major detention structure as an auxiliary water supply; and from the County Conservation Board as to the possibility of developing the area into a public recreation area. This major structure built as a multi-purpose structure could have a surface area of nearly 300 acres. We encourage the support of all of the people of Davis County on this proposed project.

FORESTRY SECTION

State Conservation Commission

Reported by Bruce Plum, District Forester

Forestry requests in Davis Soil Conservation District in 1967 run about average with 18 requests involving about 316 acres. The requests were for information on timber management, tree planting and marketing assistance.

The district forester marked 160 acres of timber totaling 238,000 board feet. Assistance was given in selling \$2,347.00 in standing timber. The seven sales involved were all conducted by sealed bids. This method of sale usually increases the amount a land owner can obtain for his timber.

Over 15,000 trees were planted in Davis County in 1967. Those planting trees were: C. G. Anderson, Verle Arnold, Robert Lancaster and Norm Hansen. Most of the trees field planted in Davis County are pine trees. Pine trees are well adapted to the poorer sites which they are necessarily relegated to. Another purpose has become evident as the earlier trees are beginning to appear above the weeds and that is the beauty they lend to the countryside. Patches of green splashed here and there over the drab winter countryside has considerable eye appeal.

In the past ten years over one third of a million trees have been planted in Davis County. The credit for the large amount of planting goes to people who are interested in the benefits and derive satisfaction from growing trees. ACP cost-sharing has been a factor in assisting people who found the full cost of planting too high for their budgets. Another factor toward encouraging planting is the availability of the Future Farmers of America tree planter. It takes about five to six years for a planting to begin showing up. Many of the plantings are yet to be seen. Keep a close watch as you drive across the county. From year to year new islands of green will be making their appearance on the brown winter landscape.

NEW DISTRICT COOPERATORS

(Fiscal year July 1, 1966 - June 30, 1967)

<u>COOPERATOR</u>	<u>ACRES</u>	<u>COOPERATOR</u>	<u>ACRES</u>
Carlus Green	60	W. E. Mincks	120
Forrest Lamb	80	Waldo Jannings	250
Dale Blackwell	120	Herman Bridgeman	234
Russell Horn	240	Walter Hancock	108
Myron Fетters	93	Ernest Gobble	81
Donald J. Brown	197	Ray More	314
Rex Blackwell	102	Carl Jennings	230
Aubrey Casteel	387	Dewey Harper	140
Rex Roberts	199	Willis Kratzer	100
Ronald Lawson	240	Gordon Appenzeller	240
Lawrence Smith	212	Verle Arnold	82
Delbert Tarbell	184	James K. Wilcox	180
Roger Fry	82	Guy Walker	100
Ray Martin	260	Hubert Bodkins	220
Carter Creek Grazing Ass.	793	Elvin L. Nuest	200
Clyde Knapp	560	Raymond Veatch	60
Glen McClure	200	Oscar L. Bales	188
Gary Short	100	K. P. Donnelly	90
Duane Bales	180	Archie Durham	100
Orville & Ralph Springer	196	David Hardy	130
Bernard Smith	160	Virgil Pickrell	66
C. O. Harris	260	Joe Dean Wells	386
Richard Ward	280	Hubert Stockham	80
Donald E. Christy	243	Charles E. Brown	120
Bernard Schaer	417	Donald Altheide	185
Lynn Carrier	128	Russell Wuthrich	345
Del Pitman	120	Richard Long	160
Arlo Hewitt	310	Claude Crook	111
Dee Brake	158	E. O. Johnson	118
Lionel Evans	197	Richard Altheide	240
Doyle Schmitter	40	Dean Spilman	360
LaVerne Younkin	193	Carl Boyer	289
Donald Robinson	320	Don Bibby	156

BASIC PLANS

(Fiscal Year July 1, 1966 - June 30, 1967)

Max Hubbartt	Gerrit Heembergen	John Kruzich
Rex Blackwell	Albert Wuthrich	Kenneth Swaim
Ronald Bogle	Roscoe Jones	Myron Fетters
Charles Swaim, Jr.	Charles Saner	Dewey Harper
Walter Hancock	Delbert Tarbell	Neal Clyman
Carter Creek Grazing Assn.	D. J. Brown	Don Christy
L. C. Herteen	W. E. Mincks	Garold Eakins
Robert Evans	David Wiegard	Carl Jennings
Rex Roberts	Lowell Renier	R. H. Downing
Keith Johnson	Earl Padget	Dale Blackwell
Lakeview Grazing Assn.	James Bengel	Gary McDaniel
Steve Hull	Roger Fry	Ray Martin
Vaughn-Sullivan	Willis Kratzer	Wilbur Boas
Raymond Veatch		

REVISED PLANS -- FISCAL YEAR 1967

Elmer Wielbrenner
Leland Swindler
Dewey Grim
Kendall Johnson
Mrs. J. A. Baughman
Mildred Baker

Hubert Lister
Dale Blackwell
Chet Mustard
Earl Speer
Arlie Lamb

Floyd Newall
Davis County Farm
LaVerne Weilbrenner
Wayne Bain
Richard Stufflebeam

PROGRESS REPORT

<u>PRACTICE</u>	<u>UNIT</u>	<u>APPLIED</u> (7/1/66-6/30/67)	<u>NOW ON THE LAND</u>
Conservation Crop System	Ac.	3444	91,550
Contour Farming	Ac.	547	45,281
Diversions	L.F.	40,485	788,715
Farm Pond	No.	65	1835
Fish Pond Stocking	No.	182	1296
Structures	No.	48	305
Grass Waterways	Ac.	109	1549
Drainage Ditches	L.F.	13,135	221,890
Pasture Renovation	Ac.	914	21,724
Strip Cropping	Ac.	---	3340
Shallow Surface Ditches	L.F.	5200	423,151
Terraces, Graded	L.F.	21,905	2,795,924
Terraces, Tile Outlet	L.F.	---	2500
Terraces, Parallel	L.F.	12,450	153,853
Tree Planting	Ac.	12	305
Cropland to Grassland	Ac.	565	5966
Tile Drains	L.F.	5715	91,399
DISTRICT COOPERATORS	No.	996	
	Acres	217,505	
BASIC CONSERVATION PLANS	No.	676	
	Acres	153,591	
PLANS REVISED THIS YEAR	No.	16	
SOIL MAPPING TO DATE	Acres	234,767	

DAVIS COUNTY SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT
1968 PLAN OF OPERATIONS

The District plans to carry out the following projects in 1968.

1. Review the District work plan which was updated in 1966.
2. Attend the Commissioner's Short Course, State and National Conventions. At least one commissioner represented at each of these meetings.
3. Hold annual meeting of District Cooperators in November. Hold election of commissioner for 6-year term on the same day.
4. Continue to promote the watershed approach to the total soil and water conservation program.
5. Furnish Soil Stewardship material to the ministers for Soil Stewardship Week (May 19-26).
6. Follow-up each monthly regular District meeting with more publicity.
7. Hold a Conservation tour during Conservation Week in June. May hold an Air tour similar to the tour held in June 1966.
8. Sponsor one teacher (tuition paid) to Springbrook Conservation Camp during June and July.
9. Sponsor the Conservation Speech Contest and the Safety Speech contest with help from the local speech and agriculture teachers.
10. Enter the Goodyear contest for 1968 and the Iowa Conservation Awards program with outstanding conservation farmers of the district given special recognition.
11. Sponsor the "Queen of Conservation" contest in our district early in August if the contest is again held state-wide this year.