

MILLS COUNTY
SOIL CONSERVATION
DISTRICT
79/80 ANNUAL REPORT

We, the Commissioners of the Mills County Soil Conservation respectfully submit this Annual Report for Fiscal year 80 for the review and consideration of the citizens of Mills County.

We are elected public officials with the responsibility of making conservation work for you. It is a demanding job, but rewarding. Not in dollars and cents, but in the knowledge that we are helping conserve our natural resources, specifically soil and water, for our future generations. An ounce of prevention is still worth a pound of cure.

We would like to say "THANK YOU" to the Department of Soil Conservation, A.S.C.S., Extension Service, Schools, Churches, Banks, Newspapers and all other groups who helped our cause during the past year. A special "THANK YOU" to the more than 100 persons who sent contributions to help defray the costs of our conservation programs. Their generosity is most appreciated.

COMMISSIONERS

Albert Washburn, Chairman
Harold Tackett, Vice-Chairman
Roger Jackson
Paul Hathaway
Richard Biermann

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONERS

Steven Roenfeldt
John Paul
Scott Sayers

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D.C.'S COMMENTS

Our recent severe weather has proven one thing. No single conservation practice can control erosion under severe conditions. Terraces are very helpful, but can't do the whole job where continuous row crop and conventional tillage are used. No-till is also needed.

Using a no-till system to grow crops cuts soil losses by at least one-half. No-till is a relatively low cost per acre practice, but is effective. You get a lot of erosion control for your dollar. Terraces and no-till are a very effective combination. The terraces reduce slope length making the no-till more effective. No-till reduces soil movement between terraces making the terraces last longer and reducing maintenance problems.

There are any number of no-till systems, but all have several points in common. Successful no-till operations all stress the importance of having a good sprayer and using it properly. This is the key to making no-till work for you. Another common point is a planter built or specifically modified for no-till. Perhaps the most important point is the need for good management. You just can't disc out your mistakes and start over.

Weeds and insects were long thought to be special problems with no-till. Time and experience have shown this not to be true. Successful no-till operators say weeds and insect control is possible regardless of tillage systems used.

Management is the key to no-till

Dick Stille, District Conservationist
Soil Conservation Service
Stationed at the Malvern Field Office



FINANCIAL REPORT

I-M BUDGET

Commissioner Mileage	\$757.09
Office Supplies	309.82
Prizes	300.00
Rental	55.00
Office Expenses	474.84
TOTAL EXPENDED	\$1896.75

II-M BUDGET

Salaries - Clerk & Aide	\$23,339.20
St. share FICA	1,430.77
St. share IPERS	1,342.10
Health Ins. Cont.	1,233.14
Life Insurance	143.00
Disability Ins.	158.70
Travel	27.00
Equipment	65.00

TOTAL EXPENDED \$27,738.91

III-M BUDGETS

Cost-share

1973/74	\$29,238.77
1974/75	22,442.04
1975/76	24,737.23
1976/77	86,550.91
1977/78	77,000.00
1978/79	99,189.05
1979/80	65,000.00

DISTRICT REVOLVING FUND

Balance on hand 7-1-79	\$ 555.04
Total deposits from water-sheds, I-M Budget and donations	45,072.90
Total expenses	44,922.12
Balance on hand 7-1-80	705.82

PROGRESS REPORT

21 New Cooperators -- 3685 acres
 211 Individuals assisted
 111 Individuals applied a practice
 375 acres planned
 294 acres revised plans

Minimum tillage -- 2220 acres
 Contouring --- 14026 acres
 1 Grade Stab. Structure
 232 feet Sediment & Water Control basin
 356,060 feet terraces
 3090 acres cropland benefited
 226 acres pastureland benefited

OFFICE STAFF

Richard W. Stille, District Conservationist
 Leo VanFosson, Conservation Technician SCS
 Richard Maaske, State Engineering Aide
 Ruth Stevens, State Clerk - Typist
 Martin Adkins, Student Trainee (79)
 Jerome Mall, Student Trainee (80)
 Mike Winchester, WAE (79)
 Robin Jessen, WAE (80)

GIVE YOUR PLEDGE, AS AN AMERICAN,
 TO CONSERVE OUR SOIL AND WATER.

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 TO CONSERVE OUR SOIL AND WATER.

FORWARD

We, the Commissioners of the Mills County Soil Conservation District, respectfully submit this annual report for Fiscal Year 78/79 to you for review and consideration.

In looking back over the activities and accomplishments for the past 12 months, it is gratifying to see the number of landowners who are staying on top of their problems. With all that has been accomplished, there is still much that remains undone.

We, along with numerous other landowners feel that now is the time to implement those conservation practices that will conserve our natural resources. True, Soil Stewardship is designated as a special week in May, however, it is a duty of us all to practice soil stewardship all year round. If there is to be anything for our future generation to inherit, good soil and good water practices must be started now!! Else all is lost!!!

We would like to thank the following individuals and groups for their excellent cooperation in helping make our commitments to good land use easier:

Soil Conservation Service, Department of Soil Conservation, Corner Conservation Development Community, A.S.C.S., Extension, Cooperator Club Members, and the many others too numerous to mention.

I-M

Total Allocation - - - - -	\$1870.00
Commissioner Mileage - - - - -	558.15
Office supplies - - - - -	514.14
Office expense - - - - -	373.54
Contest Prizes - - - - -	316.00
Rentals - - - - -	5.00
Demonstration Materials - - - - -	8.02

Released to State 6-30-79 - - \$ 95.15

II-M

Total Allocation 7-1-78 - - -	\$24637.53
Clerk Salary - - - - -	\$10743.75
State Eng. Aide Salary - - - -	\$13893.78
Equipment - - - - -	65.00

Balance 6-30-79 - - - - - \$ 00.00

III-M COST-SHARE

1973/74	Total spent	\$29,238.77
1974/75	Total spent	\$22,442.04
1975/76	Total spent	\$24,737.23
1976/77	Total spent	\$79,559.66
1977/78	Total spent	\$77,000.00
1978/79	Total spent	\$85,811.55
	Total obligated	\$ 300.00
	Unobligated balance	\$ 1,388.45

DISTRICT REVOLVING FUND

Balance on hand 7-1-78	\$ 943.84
Total deposits from watershed, I-M reimbursements and donations	\$107,614.80
Total expenses	\$108,003.60

Balance 7-1-79 \$ 555.04

The above financial statement represent all finances from 7-1-78 thru 6-30-79.

TERRACES ANYONE?

Did you know terraces are still one of the best soil-saving measures we have? They can cut your soil and water losses by as much as 80%.

"What soil loss?" you ask. Well, ever noticed silt against the lower fence? Ditches when you cultivate or combine? Or silt fans at the base of your slopes? If you answered "yes", you've got soil losses of 10 to 50 tons per acre per year.

"So what, that's not enough to worry about", you say. Well, do you worry about profits or costs? Every ton of soil loss contains about \$6.00 worth of fertilizer which costs you money. Every inch of rainfall saved gives you a 9 bushel per acre higher corn yield. Erosion and siltation can cut your stand by 30%. Now total up your erosion costs. Are you worried??

You can avoid these costs by controlling soil losses with terraces. Modern grassed-backslope terraces can be designed for any row spacing and most point rows can be avoided or minimized.

So, Save yourself some soil and money. Give our office a call and let us help you get some terraces built on your farm. It's time!!!!

ANOTHER!

Did you know -- that there were over 416,000 feet of terraces built in Mills County in Fiscal Year 79? AND 97% were parallel bench terraces???

COMMISSIONERS:

A. T. Washburn, Chairman
Harold Tackett, Vice-Chairman
Roger Jackson
Richard Bierman
Paul Hathaway

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONERS:

Henry Pein
Scott Sayers
John Paul
Steven Roenfeldt

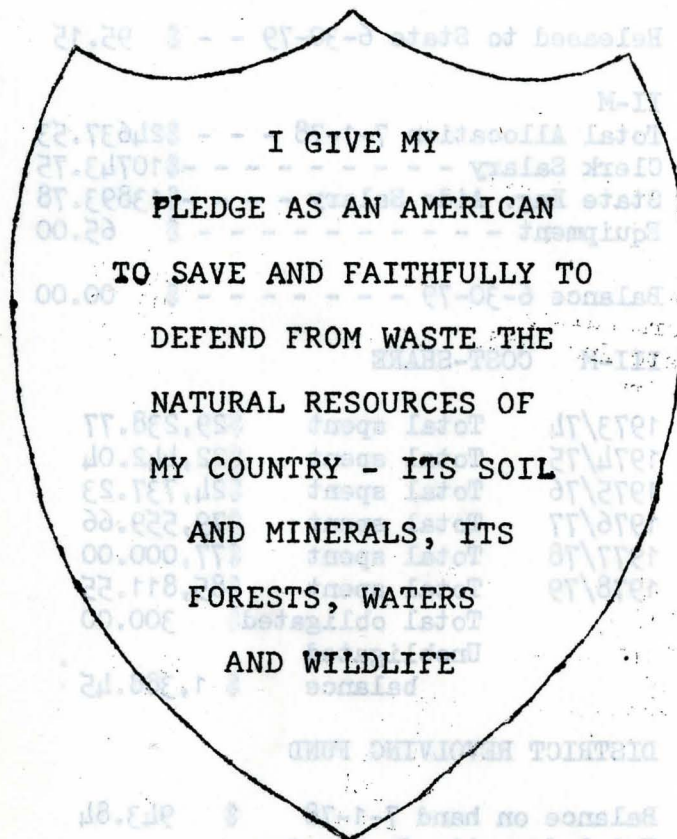
OFFICE STAFF:

Preston Grissom, D.C. (resigned 12-78)
Dave Clyman, D.C. (12-78 to 4-79)
Dick Stille, D.C. (4-79)
Leo VanFosson, SCS Technician
Lisa Tyner, Student Trainee (78)
Richard Maaske, State Eng. Tech.
Ruth Stevens, State Clerk
Edward Marshall, CETA Tech. (78)
Mike Winchester, CETA Clerk & WAE
Martin Adkins, Student Trainee (79)
Robin Jessen, Clerical Aide (CETA 79)

AREA OFFICE PERSONNEL:

E. O. Aust, A.C.
Dick Birchmier, Area Eng.
Marjorie Meyer, Area Clerk

**MILLS COUNTY SOIL
CONSERVATION DISTRICT**



ANNUAL REPORT 78/79

**MILLS COUNTY SOIL
CONSERVATION DISTRICT
BOX # 190
MALVERN, IOWA 51551**

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