

1956
ANNUAL REPORT



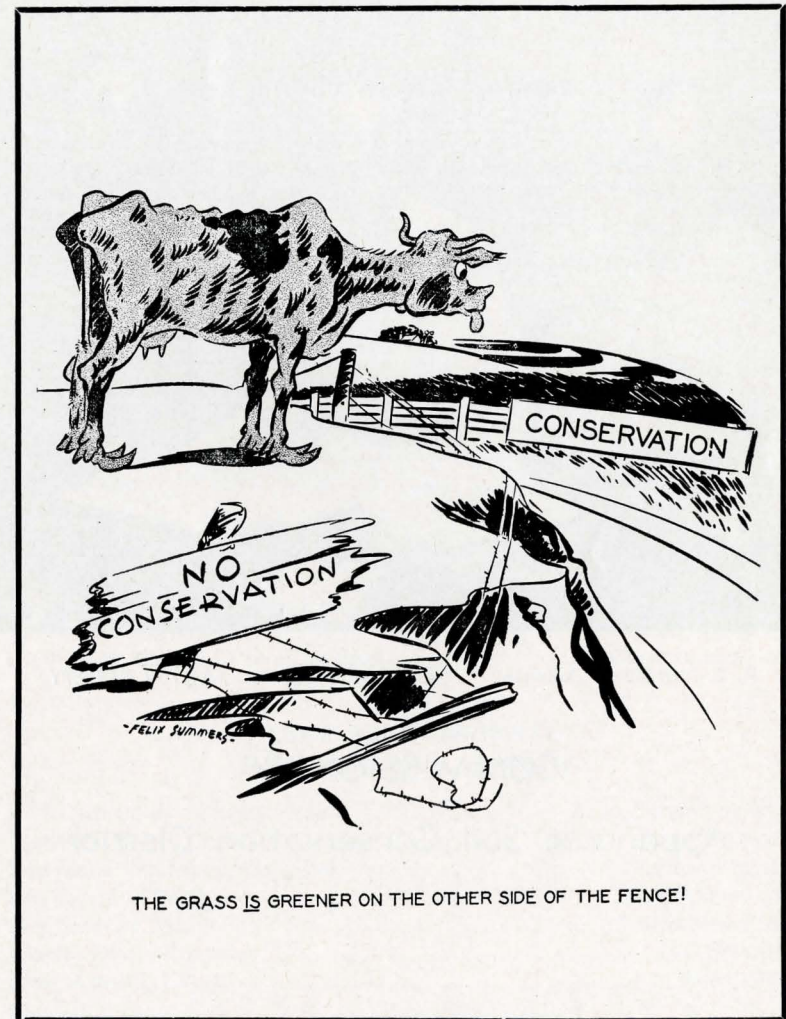
Appanoose
Soil Conservation District



CENTERVILLE, IOWA

Agricultural Building

1956 ANNUAL REPORT
APPANOOSE
SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT
Centerville, Iowa



THE GRASS IS GREENER ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE FENCE!

In the interest of furthering soil and water conservation, please show this report to any of your neighbors who may not have a copy.

1956 Personnel Appanoose Soil Conservation District State of Iowa

DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS

R. C. Wilson Chairman
Frank M. McCabe Commissioner
Arthur M. Streepy Commissioner

SECRETARY OF BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Harold D. Holder County Extension Director

STATE EMPLOYEES

Joe R. Luse State Technical Aid
Leroy E. Thamke State Technical Aid
Joyce Lewis Clerk

SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE

William E. Stark Work Unit Conservationist
LaVern A. Whitaker Conservation Aid
Clayton R. Miller (3 months duty) Conservation Aid

OTHER SCS PERSONNEL

ASSISTING THE DISTRICT

E. E. Smith, Jr., Chariton, Ia. Area Conservationist
Clarence Beem, Chariton Area Engineer
Lawrence Whitaker, Chariton Engineering Aid
Leo Duree, Chariton Engineering Aid
Mel Sinclair, Albia Engineering Aid
Wayne Dietz, Corydon Soil Scientist
Stan Wiksell, Chariton Area Clerk

DISTRICT EMPLOYEES

Bulldozer Operators Wendell Pick, Carl Hiatt
Low-boy Operator Arthur Davis



R. C. WILSON, Chairman FRANK McCABE ARTHUR STREEPY

COMMISSIONERS

Appanoose Soil Conservation District

Two Commissioners, office personnel, and Extension Director, attended a regional meeting held at Chariton, March 8.

Commissioner Wilson and Bill Stark, WUC, attended a Southern Iowa Experimental Farm meeting at Keosauqua the evening of March 19.

The March meeting of the Commissioners was held March 27. Those attending were Commissioners Streepy, Wilson, and McCabe, and Bill Stark.

APRIL

A special meeting of the Commissioners was held April 16, at which Miss Joyce Lewis was selected from six applicants to fill the vacancy left by the resignation of Mrs. Widmar, SCD Clerk.

Moulton Watershed meeting was held April 11, with State Committee and staff represented by Foster, McMurry, and assistant.

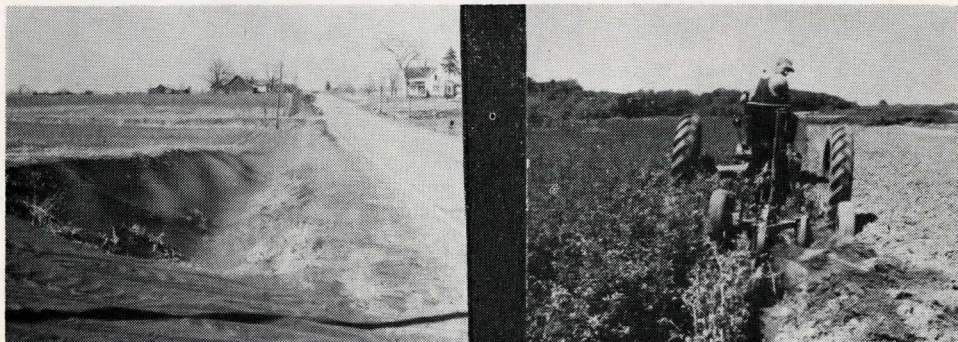
Soil Commissioners election was held April 18 with Art Streepy winning over John Gordon of Plano who was his only opponent.

Regular Commissioners' meeting was held April 24. Mr. R. C. Wilson was elected chairman for the next 2 years. Commissioners Wilson, McCabe, and Streepy, and Bill Stark attended.

MAY

Soil Stewardship Sunday, May 6, started "Soil Stewardship Week", May 6-12. The Commissioners sent information and suggested scriptures to 24 ministers in Appanoose County and received replies from more than half of them. Bill Stark, WUC, went to Seymour and surrounding area with Howard Ballew, Wayne Co. WUC, Rev. Haynes, Methodist Church in Corydon, and WHO Technician Kline. Tape recordings and t.v. news reel movies were taken in Appanoose and Wayne counties which showed conservation activities for a Soil Stewardship broadcast.

The Commissioners' regular meeting was held May 29 with Commissioners Wilson, McCabe, and Streepy, Stark, Holder and Leroy Thamke attending.



The continuing drouth which has brought many additional problems to farming here added another one in a severe dust storm Apr. 5: This scene is south of Moravia 2 miles along Highway 60 looking north.

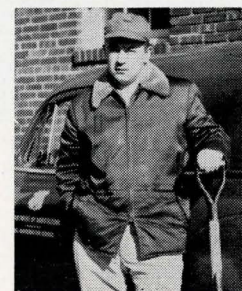
The least that a farmer can do to help improve and maintain soil tilth is to add organic matter through the use of green manure. Shown here is Shorty Harper plowing up sweet clover on his Dad's Soap Creek Farm northeast of Unionville, Iowa.

JUNE

The regular meeting of the Commissioners was held June 26, with the three Commissioners, Bill Stark, John Elliott, and Howard Evans in attendance. The use of the Commissioners' low-boy was offered to haul drouth-relief hay from Camp Dodge if a caravan was formed.

The Commissioners purchased a heavy brush disc for use in Conservation work with their bulldozers.

Clayton R. Miller was employed for the summer months as a Conservation Aid. He started his duties on June 11.



Wayne Dietz,
Soil Scientist

Report of Wayne Dietz, Soil Scientist

Soil Conservation Surveys were made on 4,180 acres in App. Co. during 1956. Total number of acres now mapped are 167,500 of the 311,677 acres.

Assistance was also given to the Voc Ag Classes in App., Wayne, Lucas and Monroe Counties in connection with their soil judging contest.

JULY

The Soil Conservation District displayed an exhibit at the Appanoose Co. Fair which was held July 23-26. Part of the Commissioners' display was in the form of a contest consisting of various pictures and associating descriptions. First prize was won by Bill Cummings, Centerville Voc Ag Instructor. Second prize went to Mrs. Floyd Wood, and Mrs. John Rodgers won third prize.

Commissioners meeting held July 31 with Commissioner Streepy, Bill Stark, Harold Holder, and John Elliott attending.

AUGUST

The three Commissioners, LaVern Whitaker, Art Davis, and John Elliott attended the regular Commissioners' meeting held August 28.



Part of a good, sound conservation plan includes use of commercial fertilizer along with crop rotation and permanent practices. Homer Phillips side-dressing his contour-stripped corn with nitrogen, northeast of Centerville.

Soil treatment should begin with soil testing to see what plant-food elements if any are needed. Here the FFA boys demonstrate the use of soil auger, sample box, and note sheet for soil sampling.

Special Report of Harold D. Holder
County Extension Service

The relationship of the Soil Conservation Service and the Extension Service to promote conservation has been a continuous process.

In March of 1956, the State ASC urged that a selling program be carried out in each county to promote cost sharing practices. This has been done to the extent that App. County was a large user of government funds.



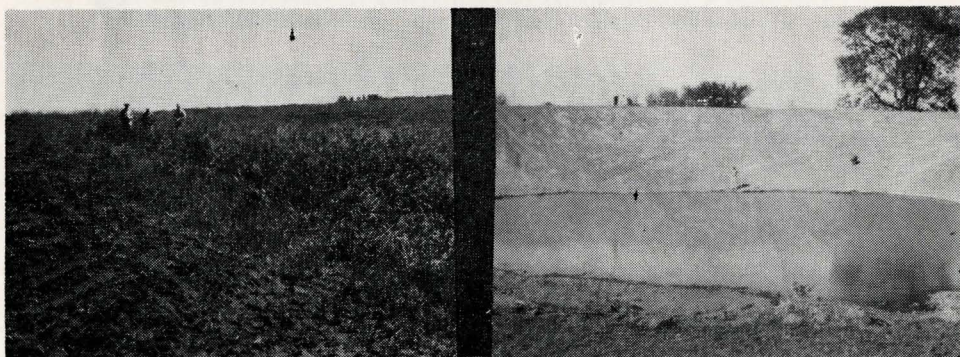
Harold D. Holder, CED

Planning for the 1957 Soils Schools was carried out jointly by the Commissioners, SCS, and the Extension with three schools - one on Geology of App. County, another on Watershed Development, and the final one on Water Penetration and Fertilization Recommendations being set up.

Liming, fertilizing, and seedings comprise 70% of the usage of funds in the county under ACP. In connection with this, 1500 tests were run in the local Extension Office. In addition, 565 samples of soil were sent to the State Soils Laboratory for complete test. Most of these recommendations were made at the State Lab, but starting in November, all recommendations will be made in the county by the Extension director.

The drouth of 1956 presented various problems — First App. Co. was declared a "Drouth Disaster Area" and at the same time, the Soil Bank Act was inaugurated in the county. Everything tied in together, first as an insurance measure, second the land could be used for pasture purposes, and supplemental hay and forage measures were needed to alleviate the pasture and hay shortage.

Conservation has gained momentum faster in the County than has the livestock program.



Here is a reed canary grass waterway on the George Scott farm northwest of Udell. George, an ex-soil commissioner is completing the application of his basic conservation plan. Practically all of known conservation practices can be found here.

The drouth has brought greater attention of the need for larger ponds for stock water. This is one at the Beaty-Starcevic farm east of Centerville will be 1.6 acres in the permanent pool and will provide about 4 acre feet of temporary storage before the twin grass spillways would begin to function during the heavy rain storm.



One rain caused this gully to form in a plowed out waterway. The silt from this ditch covered the corn crop in this field at upper right. Waterways such as this should be maintained in Brome and reed canary grass.

Maintaining grass waterways even while the field is under cultivation is a sign of a good conservationist. Waterways are the cheapest and most effective gully control practices we have. Cecil Morlan farm south of Unionville, Ia.

SEPTEMBER

The regular Commissioners' meeting was held September 25 with Commissioners Wilson and Streepy, and Bill Stark attending.

The Commissioners purchased a new tractor for their lowboy.

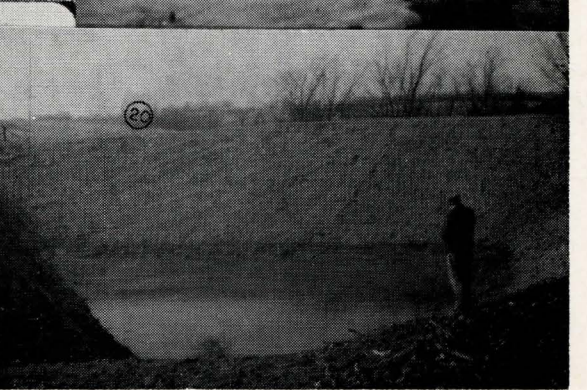
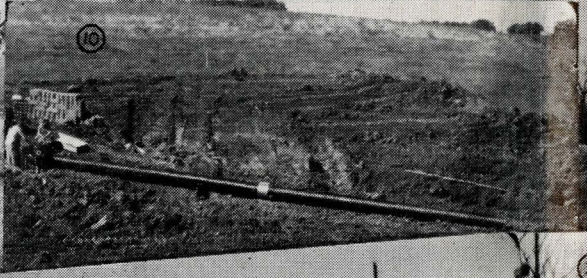
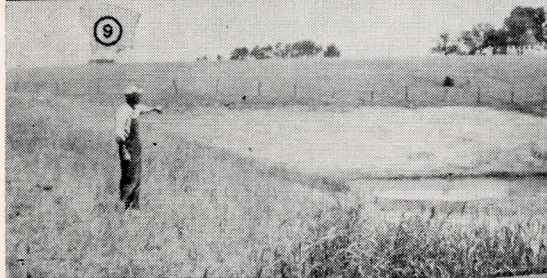
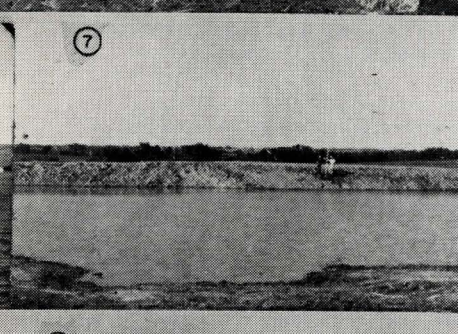
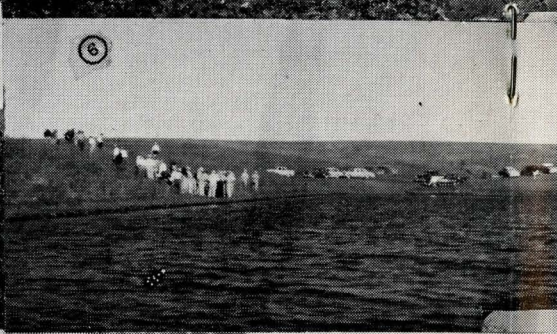
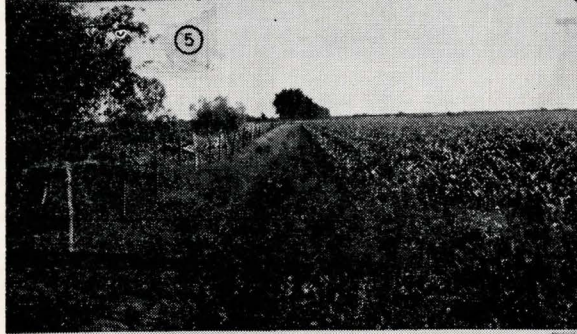
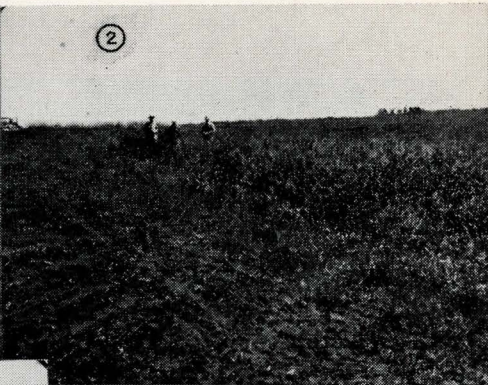
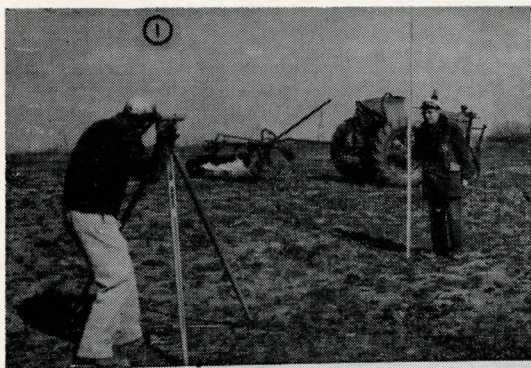
Commissioners Streepy and Wilson attended National Soil Conservation District Field Days and Plowing Match Sept. 20, 21, and 23, in Jasper County.

Special Report by Arthur M. Streepy

District Commissioner

Having been a Soil District Commissioner for a period of approximately 10 years, I have seen a number of changes take place in the Administration of Soil Conservation District program in the State of Iowa. In the beginning of this period of time, the District had one person in the office, a farm planner, who had trouble getting requests for soil conservation plans. Naturally the time spent in making and keeping records was very small. As time went on and our program became better known, the plan requests piled up and the District's request for an aid to help was granted. This took part of the planners' time to administer and work with the aid, hence more records and reports.

As farmers requests increased, the State of Iowa then entered the picture by furnishing funds to the District whereby we could hire a part-time aid to the planner, now called a Work Unit Conservationist, and a clerk to keep the office open daily and to help keep records and make the reports. This added a greater administrative loan on the conservationist. Then came the order that SCS police the permanent practices of the ACP program. Of course the funds received gave the SCS the necessary money to hire a seasonal aid to help carry on this program. It also added another administrative load on the Conservationist. In 1953, additional SCS responsibilities were shifted from higher up to the work unit until he now spends about 35 per cent of his time



on administration. As a result, we are not gaining in number of plans completed per year and the backlog of requests is increasing.

I am not criticizing anyone, but I do feel that a certain amount of administrative duties might be eliminated. If they can't be, then I feel that this District should have another planner to take care of these increasing requests for plans.

The District is pleased with the present amount of Soil Conservation being applied on the land, but experience has taught us that planning for it is the step that starts the action.

OCTOBER

On October 9, Bill Stark, WUC, spoke at the Adult School of the Centerville Voc Ag Department stressing terracing and watershed formation.

On October 3, an informal meeting of a number of Centerville businessmen met and the group came to an understanding that the watershed was not in conflict with their particular interests and agreed to back any movement by the farmers in the watershed program.

The first 4-county Soil Judging Contest for FFA Chapters, of Corydon, Chariton, Albia, Seymour, Moulton, and Centerville was held Saturday, October 6. Commissioners will present the trophy to the winning Centerville judging team at the Alfalfa Banquet in November.

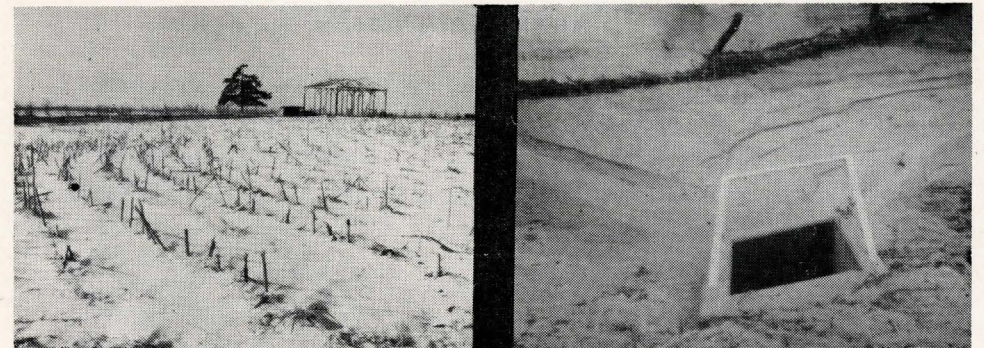
The regular meeting of the Commissioners was held October 30. Those attending were Commissioners Wilson, and McCabe, Bill Stark, and Harold Holder.

NOVEMBER

The annual Alfalfa Banquet was held November 15. Over 350 farmers and businessmen attended. The District Commissioners presented the following with a Soil Conservation Award consisting of a framed scroll and gold pin: Frederick Koehler, J. H. Foster, Jr., Joe Steele, Glen Jacobs, Joe Sherrard, Hallie Doggett, Angelo Micetich, and James McDanolds.



The 1956 farmer conservationists who were given scrolls and gold lapel pins in recognition by the Soil Commissioners for their soil and water conservation activities.



Contouring not only conserves soil and soil moisture during the growing season, but the crop residue on the contour helps to hold and distribute the winter snow supply more effectively.

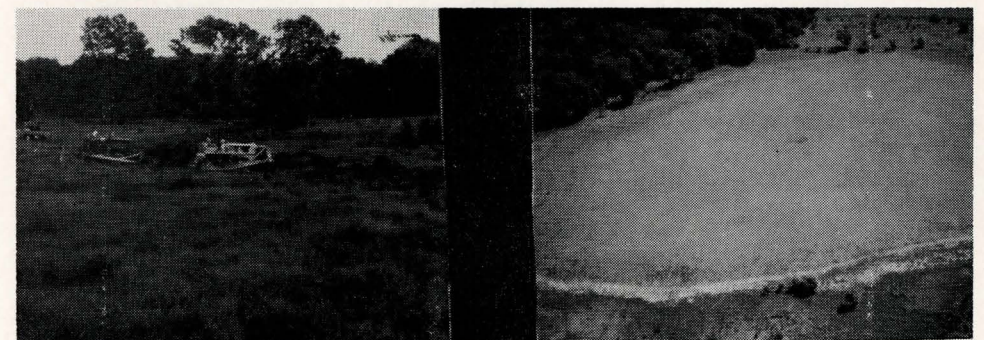
Co-operation between the App. Co. Board of Supervisors and Raymond Powers, southwest of Centerville, resulted in a drop inlet culvert to help halt gully erosion in the road ditch and adjacent farm land.

The District Commissioners also presented the gold loving cup which the Monroe, Lucas, and Appanoose Co. Soil Commissioners are sponsoring for all FFA chapters in these counties' annual Soil Judging Contest.

The W.U.C. spoke at Moulton Voc Ag Adult School, Nov. 29, with the given subject of Pasture Improvement, Utilization, and Maintenance.

DECEMBER

The regular meeting of the Soil District Commissioners was held December 26 with all of the Commissioners attending.



The two District owned bulldozers are shown here building a foot-hill diversion on the Jess Hoover farm sw of Centerville. Farmers of App. Soil Dist. own and control the operation of these and other equipment through the Board of 3 Soil Commissioners.

Chariton River bottomland was the driest it has been for a long time. This is an aerial view of Purjue Lake northeast of Centerville. This natural bottomland depression is normally a wildlife area of great importance.

Accomplishments In 1956

SCS TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

	Practices Not Completed	Practices Completed
Contouring		1885 Ac.
Contour Strip Cropping		45 Ac.
Brush Control		549 Ac.
Pasture Planting (Complete treatment).....		1096 Ac.
Tree Planting		2 Ac.
Woodland Improvement Cutting		16 Ac.
Reforestation Natural		20 Ac.
Pond Improvement (Stocked with bass and bluegill)		15 No.
Hedge Row Planting		345 Rds.
Wildlife Area Improve		37 Ac.
Pond Constructed	30. No.	169 No.
Tile Drainage (Closed)		750 L.F.
Diversion Construction	1.03 Mi.	7.6 Mi.
Open Drainage	1.72 Mi.	5.8 Mi.
Farm Drainage		177 Ac.
Terraces	5.5 Mi.	29.4 Mi.
Structures	3 No.	3 No.
Land Smoothing		14 Ac.
Waterway development		94 Ac.

Co-operators reading this report can see that we do not always know when work is finished. They could help our record keeping by reporting immediately any job that is completed. All co-operators are invited to come in at least annually to check their plans and records with what they have applied on the land. At the same time, they could talk with the technicians on new problems or requests. Technicians can help plan for the practices to request ASC for cost-sharing payment.

ACTIVE AGREEMENTS THIS YEAR

New District Co-operators	33	7,411 Ac.
New Basic Plans	40	9,502 Ac.
Revision of basic plans	4	980 Ac.

ACTIVE AGREEMENTS TO DATE

District Co-operators	649	133,492 Ac.
Co-operators with Basic Plans	453	86,331 Ac.

Goals For 1957

SCS-SCD ASSISTANCE

Initial Agreements	50
Basic Plans	50
Rev. Basic Plans	10
Basic Plans Applied	40
Basic Plans - Followups	100
Farms Serviced	300
Group Drainage Jobs	5
Soil Surveys	5,880 Acres
Contouring	1,800 Acres
Strip Cropping	80 Acres
Terraces	23.0 Miles
Diversions	10.0 Miles
Tile Drainage	2,400 L.F.
Open Drainage	10.0 Miles
Constructed Waterways	110 Acres
Stock Ponds	140 No.
Structures	7 No.

Financial Report for 1956

TRACTOR ACCOUNT

Receipts

Cash on hand January 1, 1956	\$ 1,918.95
Cash Receipts - 1956	25,404.33
Demonstration Farm Receipts	660.50
Bank Loan	781.00
Total Cash Receipts and Bank Loan	\$28,764.78

Expenditures

Repairs and Supplies	\$4,185.67
Gas and Oil	1,538.34
Insurance on Machinery	243.73
Purchase new disc	781.00
Nat. Assoc. of SCD - dues	100.00
Iowa Assoc. of SCD - dues	55.00
Meals for Soil School Speakers	31.69
Coffee and donuts for Soil School	18.00
Multiflora Rose for Water Co.	43.00
Soil Stewardship booklets for Ministers	6.25
Moravia Union - printing Annual Report	54.00
Pancake Day Committee	10.00
Trophy for FFA Chapter	11.36
Chamber of Commerce - Christmas Light	5.00
Arthur Davis - salary	3,107.23
Wendell Pick - salary	2 963.19
Carl Hiatt - salary	3,465.73
Commissioners salary	0.00
Payments on Bank notes	8,761.20
Payments on Demonstration Farm	1,225.00
Farm Payments (seed, labor, taxes, etc.)	830.47
Miscellaneous	505.69

Total expenditures	\$27,941.55
Expenditures deducted	\$27,941.55
Cash on hand January 1, 1957	\$ 823.23
Accounts outstanding (for dozer work)	\$ 1,476.46
Debts outstanding January 1, 1957	\$ 1,834.01
Notes at Bank	\$ 9,045.60

STATE OF IOWA AND DISTRICT FUNDS

Financial Report for 1956

STATE OF IOWA—3-A REVOLVING FUND

(For office supplies, printing, soil conservation prizes, and demonstrations.)

Cash on hand January 1, 1956	\$ 243.37
Fiscal year allocation from Iowa State Soil Conservation Committee	500.00
	743.37

Expenditures:

*Calendar
year*

Commissioners salary	0.00
Commissioners mileage	97.49
Office Supplies	86.90
Printing	100.00
Prizes for Contest	67.80
Material for demonstration	11.56
Office Expense	47.15

Total Expenditures	\$ 410.90
Expenditures deducted	410.90
Cash on hand January 1, 1957	\$ 332.47

STATE OF IOWA — 2-A BUDGET

(For salaries, mileage, and purchase of equipment.)

Cash on hand January 1, 1956	\$2,179.71
Fiscal year allocation from Iowa State Soil Conservation Committee	3,802.00
Additional allocation from State Committee	39.34
	\$6,021.05
Commissioners salary	0.00
Total expended on state clerical and technical salaries during 1956	3,833.73
Total expended on mileage	144.62
Total expenditures	\$3,978.35
Expenditures deducted	3,978.35
Cash on hand January 1, 1957	\$2,042.70

**APPANOOSE COUNTY SOIL CONSERVATION
FIELD DAY AND PLOWING MATCH ACCOUNT**

Cash on hand, January 1, 1956	\$	.33
Cash Receipts		.00

Gross Cash		.33
Expenditures deducted		.00

Cash on hand, January 1, 1957	\$	.33
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SOUTHERN IOWA EXPERIMENTAL FARM (District Owned Shares)

Share value on hand, January 1, 1956	\$	540.00
(Incl. \$540.00 trans. from bulldozer acct.)		
Share value on hand January 1, 1957	\$	540.00

RENT ACCOUNT

(COUNTY AGRICULTURAL BUILDNG — District held
5-yr. lease which expired August 1, 1956)

Cash on hand January 1, 1956 (incl. \$72.29 trans. from bulldozer acct.)	\$	105.09
Cash Receipts, 1956		2,233.23

		\$2,338.32
Expenditures deducted		2,100.00

Cash on hand, January 1, 1957	\$	238.32
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WHIRLWIND TERRACER, SCOOP, & OLIVER TRACTOR ACCOUNT

Cash on hand, January 1, 1956	\$	29.00
Cash Receipts, 1956		4.00

		33.00
Expenditures, 1956		00.00

Cash on hand, January 1, 1957	\$	33.00
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**APPANOOSE SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT
DEMONSTRATION FARM ACCOUNT**

Indebtedness, January 1, 1957	\$1,407.40
Payments due on farm plus interest	5,675.00
Loaned to demonstration farm from tractor account	3,337.69

Total Indebtedness January 1, 1957	\$10,429.09
Annual payment on farm plus interest	\$ 1,225.00

Operating Expenditures:	
Labor hired	545.10
Crop Expense	75.20
Taxes, 1956	174.42

Total Expenditures	\$2,019.72
Cash Receipts, 1956	\$ 660.50
Cash Receipts deducted	660.50

	\$1,359.22
Payments due on farm plus interest	4,450.00
Loaned to demonstration farm from tractor account	3,337.69
Total Indebtedness carried forward	\$9,146.91

INVENTORY STATEMENT

Purchase price plus interest	\$9,260.00
Conservation Improvements	874.19
Estimated value of farm	\$10,134.19

Conclusion

We are happy to submit the preceding report for your information so that you might know the progress being made in the Appanoose Soil Conservation District. We hope you have enjoyed reading this report and we hope that you are pleased as we are at the progress being made on the farms in this county.

In closing, we wish to acknowledge the cooperation of the following groups and agencies in advancing our goal of good soil conservation in Appanoose County:

Farmers of Appanoose County
and their organizations

Soil Conservation Service

Extension Service

Agriculture, Stabilization, and
Conservation Service

Farmers Home Administration

County Board of Supervisors

State Conservation Commission

Federal Fish and Wildlife Service

Centerville Chamber of Commerce

Local Newspapers and Radio Station

Local Bank Representatives

Appanoose County Equipment Dealers

Appanoose County Businessmen

Most of the pictures used in this report are 35 m.. color transparency slides on file at the District office. They were printed for this report by Paul Turner at his Radio and Recording Shop in Centerville. Any person who wishes to have an enlargement made of these pictures or of any of the 1400 colored slides that we have, are welcome to borrow them and have them developed.

Soil Conservation Objective

"The basic physical objective
of soil conservation activities
in the Appanoose District
shall be:

The use of each acre of agricultural land in the Appanoose District
within its capabilities and the treatment of each acre of agricultural
land in accordance with its' needs for protection and improvement."

