

Kossuth County Soil Conservation District

1974 ANNUAL REPORT

ALGONA, IOWA 50511

PHONE: 295-5156

STATE COST-SHARE FUNDS NEARLY EXHAUSTED

COMMISSIONER BIERSTEDT LEAVES DISTRICT

Mrs. George (Karen) Bierstedt, Fenton, has resigned as Commissioner after seven years of service to the Kossuth District. The Bierstedts have moved out of the District to a farm they purchased in Palo Alto County.

Karen joined the Soil Conservation staff in 1968 when she was employed as district clerk; she was elected treasurer of the district, a position she has held for the past six years.

In 1971 Karen was elected for a two-year term as a District Commissioner, the first woman to hold such a position. She was re-elected to a six-year term in 1973 and is currently serving as chairman of the district.

This fall Karen was presented the Ken Wagner Award which is given to the Outstanding Young Commissioner in the State of Iowa.

She assisted in the organization of the Kossuth Conservation Youth Board and has served as an advisor to the Board for the past three years.

SEELY NAMED OUTSTANDING REGION-2 COMMISSIONER

This fall Claude Seely, Algona, was named Outstanding District Commissioner for Region 2 (a 13-county area). He is a past chairman of the District and has served as a Commissioner since 1963. In addition to his work in the local program, Claude has been actively engaged in obtaining legislative support for the conservation program.

Each spring Seely transports the trees and shrubs ordered through the District from the nursery to his farmstead where he distributes them to the cooperators.

Ninety-six percent of the \$28,600 cost share funds allocated to the Kossuth District for the 74-75 biennium have been either spent or promised. The funds are provided to share the cost of installing erosion and sediment control practices with farmers in Iowa.

The majority of the state funds was used in conjunction with the 1974 federal cost share program, RECP. The RECP provided funds at a 50% rate (\$2500 maximum per individual) for the construction of terraces and other erosion control practices; the State provided an additional 25% bringing the total amount of cost share possible to 75%.

Twenty-six district cooperators have received assistance under the state program.

For more information on the program and the availability of funds, stop in to the District Office and talk to one of the staff members.

KINNE IS NEW COMMISSIONER

Luther Kinne, Luverne Township, has been named as a commissioner to fill the position vacated by Karen Bierstedt. Kinne will serve until the next regular election.

FOR SALE: TREES & SHRUBS

Various kinds of shrubs, deciduous trees, and evergreens will again be available through the District.

For more information concerning a price list and the stock that is available, contact our office.

BECKER & KLINSIEK SIGN LTA's

- THANKS -

Vincent Becker, Bancroft, became the first farmer in Kossuth County to sign a long-term agreement, a new long range conservation program that was introduced this year. He was followed by Keith Klinsiek who is also cooperating in the program.

This program is designed for a farmer to sign a 3- to 10-year contract for federal funds at a 50% cost share rate to install all the needed erosion control practices on his farm. The long-term agreement guarantees federal funds each year for the duration of the contract, thus enabling the farmer to plan his farming operations and secure contractors to do the needed work.

The contract for LTA cost sharing funds is with the ASCS; the SCS develops the conservation plan of operations; and, the State cooperates by supplying an additional 25% of the cost of the erosion control work.

KATHY LARSON attended the Fall Conservation Workshop for Teachers at Luther 4-H Camp near Ames; she is a 5th grade teacher at Lakota.

DISTRICT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

July 1, 1973 - June 30, 1974

District Cooperators	56
Those Receiving Assistance	168
Total Services/Single Units	642
Recipients Applying Practice	68
Conservation Plans Prepared	55
Conservation Plans Revised	10
Inventories and Evaluations	4
Units of Gov't Assisted	2
Group Conservation Plans	1
Group Inv. and Eval.	2
Groups Assisted	4
Contour Farming	41 Ac.
Crop Residue Mgt.	9,628 Ac.
Pond	1
Minimum Tillage	1,437 Ac.
Pasture & Hayland Mgt.	133 Ac.
Pasture & Hayland Planting	161 Ac.
Recreation Area Improvement	45 Ac.
Structure for Water Control	11
Parallel Terraces	4,991 Ft.
Tile	38,744 Ft.
Tree Planting	5 Ac.
Land Adequately Treated	7,802 Ac.

The District Commissioners wish to express their appreciation to the USDA Soil Conservation Service personnel for their technical assistance, to the Department of Soil Conservation for advice and guidance, to the ASCS staff for co-operation, to the Extension Service for providing conservation education and participation. We want to thank the press & radio, and all other groups, organizations, businessmen, and individuals who have supported the district program and activities. Also, a thank-you to the people who contributed to the production cost of this report.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

July 1, 1973 - June 30, 1974

<u>1-M Budget Account</u>	
1-M Budget Allocation	\$1200.00
Additional Allocation	457.00
Total Allocation.....	\$1657.00
Disbursements:	
Commissioners Expenses	529.05
Office Supplies	604.31
Printing	68.10
Prizes for Contests	17.33
Meeting Hall Rentals	27.20
Returned to State	
Committee	2.68
Office Expense	408.33
Total disbursements.....	\$1657.00

<u>2-M Budget Account</u>	
2-M Budget Allocation.....	\$14,200.00
Disbursements:	
Salaries	\$12,266.00
Travel	88.10
State Retirement	429.35
Social Security	717.58
Health	345.00
Life Insurance	66.00
State Equipment	57.50
Returned to State	
Committee	230.47
Total Disbursements.....	\$14,200.00

<u>3-M Budget Account</u>	
1973-74 Allocation	\$10,100.00
Additional Allocation	4,200.00
Total Allocation.....	\$14,300.00
Disbursements.....-11,829.75	
Terraces	\$11,706.49
Steep land Seed-	
ing	123.26
Funds Obligated, practices	
not completed.....	- 1,612.86
Balance of unobligated funds..	\$ 857.39

YOUTH BOARD SPONSORS CONSERVATION CONTESTS

The Kossuth Conservation Youth Board now in its third year has sponsored various conservation contests during the past year.

In October the Board sponsored a soil judging contest at Vincent Becker's farm near Bancroft. West Bend school took first place team honors and was also awarded the first nine place ribbons for individual scores.

Carol Lynch, Fenton, was named winner in the natural scenery division of the Photo Contest; Lyle Risius of Buffalo Center was awarded first place in the conservation practice division. Both students were presented \$10.00 checks in prize money.

The annual Poster Contest was termed a huge success with more than 100 third and fourth graders submitting entries. Philip Schmidt, Lakota, took first place honors; and, Anita Schiltz, Wesley, placed second. A framed "America, the Beautiful" picture was presented to each classroom that took part in the contest by the school's Youth Board representative.

Lyle Risius of Buffalo Center earned first place recognition and \$10.00 prize money in the Conservation Speech Contest. Lyle also represented Kossuth District in the Regional Speech Contest held in Spencer, Iowa.

Each month the Youth Board recognizes a youth and a farmer for their contributions for conservation.

The Board is currently working to send two members to the annual convention of the National Association of Conservation Districts at Denver, Colorado, in February. Upcoming spring projects include free trees for third graders and a tour for the Board.

Lee Bergum, Sentral, is the president of the Board assisted by secretary Becky Hefty of Luverne.

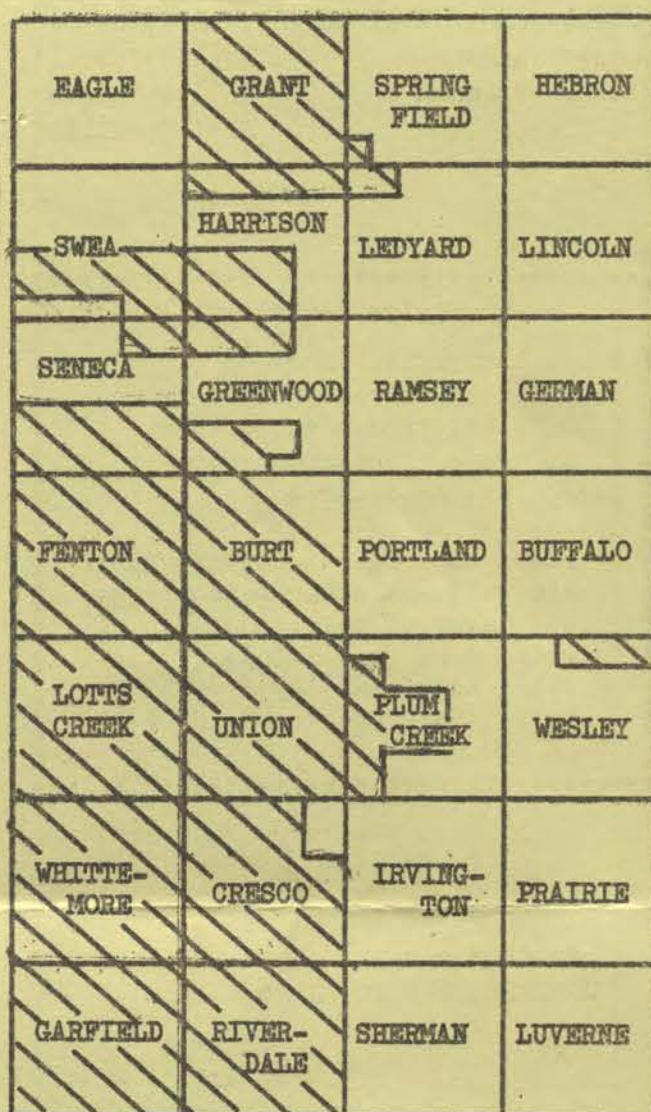
Other members include: Mary Bormann, Garrigan; Terry Devine, Algona; Steven Johnson, Wesley; Tom Lighter, Algona; Dave Gerber, West Bend; Bruce Heetland, Lakota; Dave Inman, Bancroft; Jay Ruby, Lakota; Steve Mertz, Garrigan; Liz Madden, Sentral; Dan Nelson, Titonka; Lyle Risius, Buffalo Center; Paul Rasmussen, Wesley; Rod Norland, Titonka; Dave Rock, Swea City; Allan Voss, Luverne; Linda Welp, St. John's; John Thompson, Swea City; and, Sandy Dudding, Buffalo Center.

Advisors to the Board are Rod Jensen, Lone Rock; Neil Wubben, Swea City; Karen Bierstedt, Fenton; and Dave Strickler, Algona.

SOIL SURVEY HITS 41% MARK

Forty-one percent of the Kossuth Co. Standard Soil Survey has been completed as the third mapping season draws to a close. 257,545 acres primarily located in the western half of the county have been mapped as indicated on the map below.

Advance copies of the survey and technical assistance are provided at no cost to landowners and operators who indicate their concern for conservation by becoming District Cooperators. If you are interested in obtaining an advance copy for your farm, stop in to the District Office located in the USDA Building in Algona.



BRONES-COMMISSIONER FROM NORTH KOSSUTH

Kenneth Brones has completed two years of his six-year term as a Soil Conservation District Commissioner. He serves as a contact in the Swea, Eagle, and Grant Areas.

PERSONNEL DIRECTORY

District Governing Body:

Karen Bierstedt	Chairman
Wendell Christensen	Vice-Chairman
James Antoine	Commissioner
Kenneth Brones	Commissioner
Claude Seely	Commissioner
Kevin Montag	Ass't Commissioner
John Reding	Ass't Commissioner
David Strickler	Ass't Commissioner
Neil Wubben	Ass't Commissioner
John Ley	Secretary

Dept. of Soil Conservation:

Carolyn Marshall	State Clerk
Keith Harnden	State Technician

Soil Conservation Service:

Lyle Riedinger	District Conservationist
Loren Bishop	Conservation Technician
Robert Jones	Soil Survey, Party Leader
Rodney Jensen	Soil Scientist
Michael Wiemann	Soil Scientist
Ben Clarks	Soil Scientist

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*               QUICK CASSEROLE               *
* 1 lb. hamburger, uncooked                    *
* 1 small box frozen peas                      *
* 1 small box frozen tater tots                *
* 1 can cream of chicken soup                 *
* Seasoning, as desired                       *
*                                               *
* Press hamburger into 9x9" pan.               *
* Add salt and other seasonings.              *
* Add layer of peas; pour can of              *
* cream soup (undiluted) over                  *
* peas. Add final layer of tater              *
* tots. Bake uncovered for 1 hr.              *
* at 350 degrees.                             *
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KOSSUTH COUNTY SOIL
CONSERVATION DISTRICT
P. O. Box 397
Algona, Ia. 50511

ADVERTISING DIRECTORY

THIS REPORT WAS PARTIALLY FINANCED WITH
CONTRIBUTIONS MADE BY THESE BUSINESSES:

Excavating Contractors:

Lee Grading.....	Lone Rock
Reding Gravel & Excavating.....	Algona

Tile Contractors & Companies:

Bill Manske & Sons.....	Algona
The Levine Co., Inc.....	Des Moines
Midwest Culvert Op.....	Des Moines

Banks:

State Bank of Ledyard.....	Ledyard
Iowa State Bank.....	Algona
Titonka Savings Bank.....	Titonka
Swea City State Bank.....	Swea City
The Lone Rock Bank.....	Lone Rock
Security State Bank.....	Algona
Exchange State Bank.....	Wesley

Agriculture-Related Businesses:

Steier Flying Service.....	Whittemore
Farmers Cooperative Elev....	Swea City

COMPUTER DESIGNED TERRACES

Terraces being constructed in Kossuth County are now designed by a computer. The input data based on the field survey made by the SCS staff is forwarded to the computer station where the computer designs the system; a copy of the information is returned to the field office.

During the 1974 calendar year, 32,393 feet of terraces were constructed on 17 farms in the District.

Bulk Rate
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit 154
Algona, Iowa 50511

File Copy: do not remove from files