

New Terraces In County ^{3/30/67}

A new type of terrace made its appearance in Davis County last year.

A new tile outlet terrace was constructed on the Richard Birchmier farm, south of Pulaski. It was the first of its kind in Davis County.

The terrace system was built with the help of the Soil Conservation Service in Bloomfield and promises to become a new way to terrace rolling farm land in Davis County.

The new type of terrace will enable Birchmier to farm a larger portion of the terraced land and will also eliminate the problems of farming around the old type of terrace.

The new terraces are constructed parallel to each other and generally parallel to the old ones. Also eliminated has been the grass waterways. Grass can be grown on the back of part of the terraces, but Veryl Arnold, work unit conservationist of the SCS, said grass is necessary only on terraces with steep backslopes.

Birchmier constructed 2,880 feet of terrace and 2,241 feet of tile were laid with five inches of tile.

The terraces are so designed to improve the topography. One of the main objectives, of course, is erosion control.

Another is farmability. Terraces, by being parallel and designed for 4, 6 and 8 row equipment, eliminate point rows. On not too steep slopes, both sides of the terrace can be farmed.

The new terraces also improve topography. Small rills and waterways will gradually be filled and smoothed out as farming takes place. Even after terraces have been built there will be some movement of soil between terraces which will improve the topography of the land.

The terraces are constructed so that outlets are placed in low spots. The water collects in these low places and flows through the outlet into the tile. Because more earth moving is necessary and because of the higher costs, the costs are higher than normal terrace construction. Veryl Arnold points out that the advantages of the new terrace system outweigh the increased costs.

SCS personnel can provide programs and specifications for terracing work. The Agricultural Conservation Program (ACP) has cost-share funds available to assist in terracing.



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Veryl Arnold, work unit conservationist of the Soil Conservation Service, looks over the terracing on the Richard Birchmier farm. The new type

of terracing features outlets (foreground) connected to tile to carry away water.