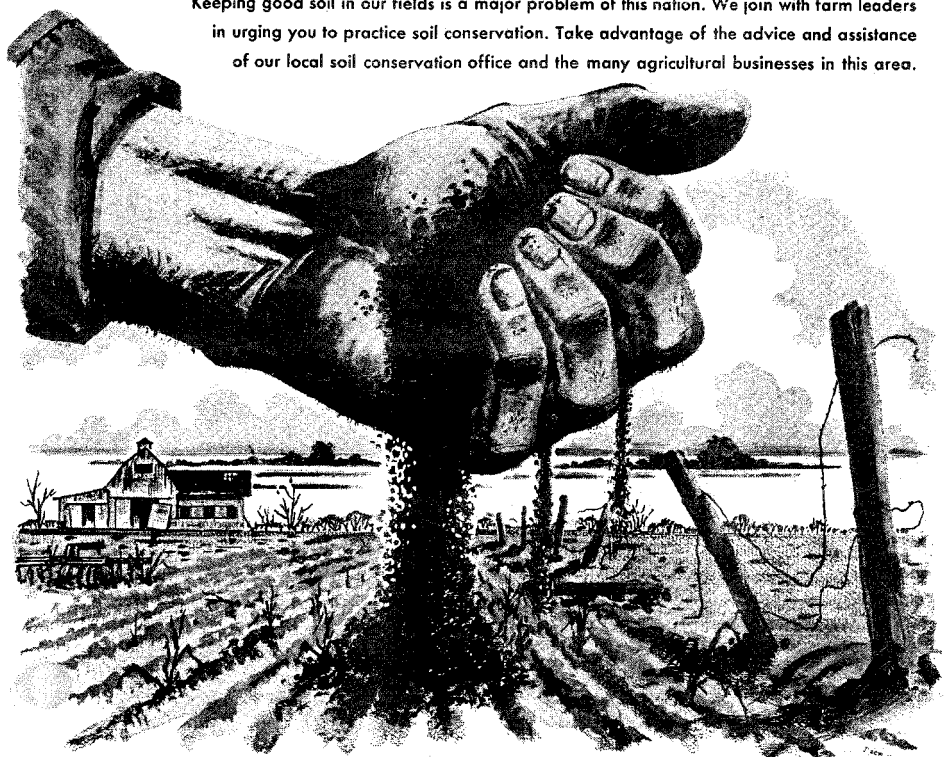


SOIL CONSERVATION

A STRONG ROOT FOR GROWING!

Keeping good soil in our fields is a major problem of this nation. We join with farm leaders in urging you to practice soil conservation. Take advantage of the advice and assistance of our local soil conservation office and the many agricultural businesses in this area.



Twenty-fourth

ANNUAL REPORT

Iowa County

Soil Conservation District

Electric Power like Soil Conservation helps boost Farm Profits



"Your Partner in Progress"

ie instant energy
iowa electric light and power company

An Investor-Owned Utility Helping Keep America POWER-FULL

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There are two ways for you to save money on your order of Pioneer seed this spring . . . a 25-cent per bag "early delivery" discount and the "quantity" discount given on orders for 8 bags or more.

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Carl Maas - Williamsburg - Phone Conroy 662-2261

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C. Gene Root - Blairstown - Phone 454-6965

Jess Wickham - Williamsburg - Phone 668-1632



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BONDS - AUTOMOBILE - BURGLARY - WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION
TOWN DWELLINGS - MERCHANTILE PROPERTY - INLAND MARINE

Marv Doschadis, Secretary

WILLIAMSBURG, IOWA PHONE 668-1774

INTRODUCTION

By Harold Sherman, Chairman

This publication is the 24th Annual Report of the Iowa County Soil and Water Conservation District. Read it over and try to determine what practices you can use to keep the soil and water on your farm so it will be more productive. The Soil Conservation personnel will be glad to help you develop a conservation plan for your farm.

We become so pre-occupied with other problems that we fail to realize how critical our neglect of soil and water conservation is. Did you know there is talk of passing legislation to make soil and water conservation mandatory? There is no work more important now or for the future than conserving and enriching our land. We lose 500,000 acres of land each year by erosion and other preventable damage.

Although sewage and industrial wastes are heavy contributors to the pollution problem, sediments from eroding land are the main pollutants in surface waters. Suspended solids from farms, roads, stream banks, urban development and similar sources amount to 700 times the loadings caused by sewage discharge. Besides clogging our streams and reservoirs a large sediment load will detract from recreational uses and reduce fish and shell fish populations.

More than a billion cubic yards of water carried sediment settle into our reservoirs each year, robbing us of space for storing water to satisfy the daily thirst of 5 million people. Pollution is a man-made problem and man will have to solve it. Education is the answer to speeding up the application of soil and water conservation practices on the land. It is more economical to keep the soil on the land where it belongs than it is to dredge it from our streams and lakes.

We thank those who purchased advertising space in this book. Without your support this book could not be printed.

We extend our appreciation to the Patrons Mutual and Grinnell Mutual for their support of our speech context.

Last but not least, we thank the banks of the community for sponsoring a banquet for the winners of the Register and Tribune Contest for farmers who do outstanding conservation work on their farms.

SHEFFIELD BRICK & TILE CO.

**SHEFFIELD, IOWA
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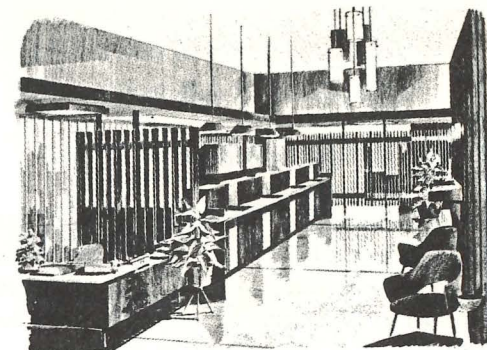
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WELLMAN, IOWA



Our Farm Representative, Herb Huber, can show you that our bank is interested in Iowa County agriculture.

L. C. Guehrn **Soil Conservation Contractor**

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Ditch Filling + Drainage

Terracing (both standard and parallel)

— Dragline-Bulldozer-Scoop-Maintainer —

Ladora, Iowa

Phone 623-3211

2-M BUDGET

Technical	\$1,575.68
Clerical	3,912.04

1-M BUDGET

Commissioners Expenses	\$ 181.59
Office Supplies	135.92
Office Expenses	139.12

STATE PERSONNEL

Eydie Eggert (January to July)	Clerk and Secretary
Judy Carney (July to December)	Clerk and Secretary
Daniel Roberts (April to September)	Soil Conservation Aid
Daniel Mohr (November to December)	Soil Conservation Aid

OTHER SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE PERSONNEL

Charles E. Shirley	District Conservationist
Kenneth D. Christensen	Technician

OTHER SCS PERSONNEL ASSISTING DISTRICT

Dale Shadel	Area Conservationist
John Hanks	Area Clerk
Edward J. Schmerhorn	Soil Scientist
George Fonken	Area Engineer

Wildlife and Biology Specialist available on request.

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HAWK BILT - KOYKER - WINPOWER
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MOTOR SCOOP

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Otis Stangland 668-1251
Williamsburg, Iowa

DISTRICT ACTIVITIES

JANUARY — Commissioners attended the commissioner's Short Course
at Ames.
----- Write-up on annual report was begun.

FEBRUARY - Annual report was published and distributed to every
landowner and operator in Iowa County.

MARCH ----- District Speech Contest was held with Mike Eash as
winner.
----- Commissioners attended contractor's meeting.

MAY ----- 3300 inserts were distributed to surrounding churches
for Soil Stewardship Sunday.

JUNE ----- Soil Conservation week was observed by all news media
in the county and 7500 placemats were distributed to
restaurants for use during this week.
----- District winners were chosen to enter Des Moines Regis-
ter and Tribune and Iowa Farm and Home Register
Contest:

Dean Humphrey -- Division I
Lloyd Montross on the Burdette Lortz
farm -- Division II
Harlan and Arnold Maas - Division III
John LaRoque-Williamsburg Conservation
Teacher

----- District Art Contest was held with Diana Mews as
winner.

JULY ----- Regional Speech Contest was held at Amana.
----- Commissioner's election was held July 28 during the
Iowa County 4-H Fair..a booth was also displayed.

6 year term -- Richard Mouchka
4 year term -- Fred White
2 year term -- Vernon Sandersfeld
Assistant Commissioner - David McCartney
Don Eash was elected for unexpired term
ending 6-22-73

AUGUST — Air tour cancelled due to weather. Air strip too soggy
to fly. The heavy rains in June and July provided many
examples of conservation at work as well as areas needing
conservation practices.
----- Mr. and Mrs. Charles Shirley attended the Soil Conserva-
tion Society of America Convention at Ft. Collins,
Colorado.

SEPTEMBER- Annual Conference was attended by Charles Shirley, Fred White, Harold Sherman, and Judy Carney.

OCTOBER --- Mrs. Margaret Birky, Mrs. Inez Patterson, Mr. John LaRoque attended the Iowa Conservation Education Council Fall Conference for their second year. Also attending were Mr. Stacy Howel, Mrs. Pauline Reed, Mr. Robert Van Cleave and Mr. Sylvan Yoder.

Annual Soil Conservation Banquet was held October 15, for county Register and Tribune award winners. Since Iowa County farmers won two of the three regional divisions, we also hosted the regional awards program at this time.

NOVEMBER- Dann Mohr was hired as part time state aid. Group projects were approved by the district.

DECEMBER- Office Staff and Commissioner's Christmas Party was held at Club Ced Rel, December 11. Program planning for 1970 was carried out at the business meeting.

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2 SALES MONDAY: Fat Cattle, Butcher Cows, Bulls.
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DAILY MARKET for fat Hogs.
EACH WEEK COMMISSIONS: \$3 per head on fat Heifers and Steers
2% on other Livestock
1½% on sales of over \$7500

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The Right Machine for Every Job!

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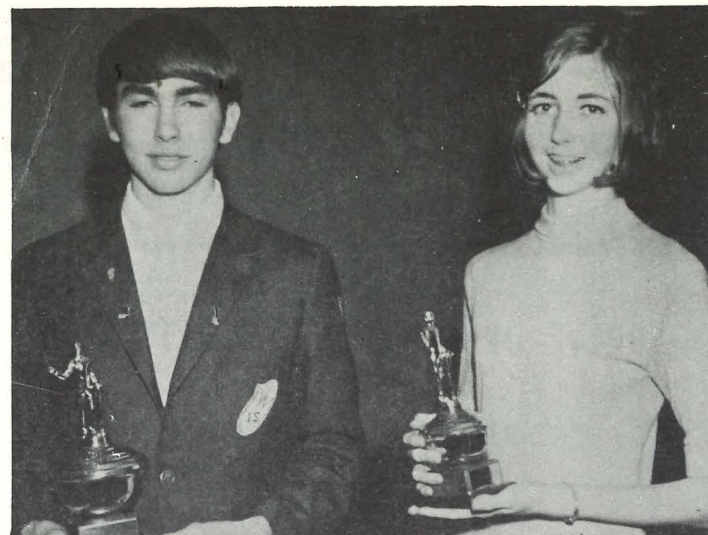
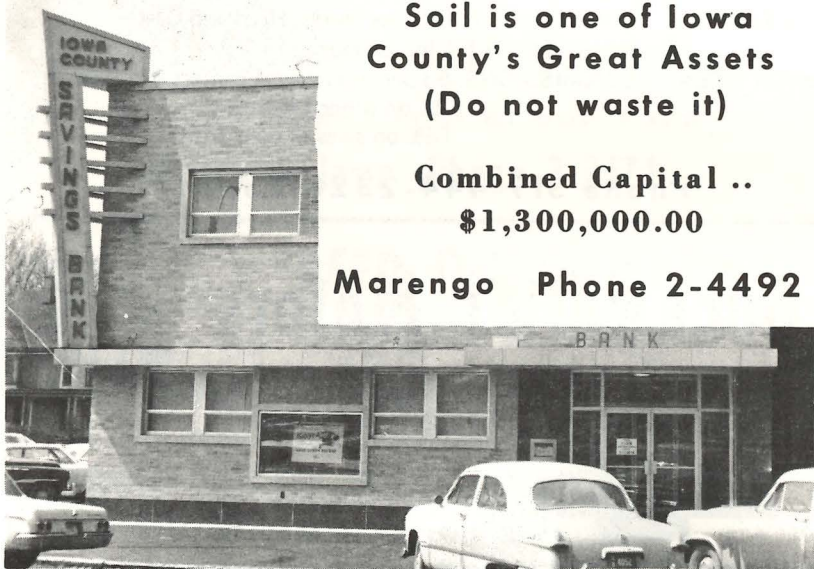
Daniel K. Yoder Phone 646-6784

Iowa County Savings Bank

Soil is one of Iowa
County's Great Assets
(Do not waste it)

Combined Capital ..
\$1,300,000.00

Marengo Phone 2-4492



Mike Eash and Lisa Nace are shown with the large, custom-made trophies they received. They placed 1st and 2nd, respectively, in the 1969 Iowa County Soil Conservation Speech Contest. This annual affair is held each year, the last Friday in March. Students of 7th through 12th grade are eligible. Cash awards were also made.

Reinhart & Gerard Tiling & Ditching

ALL WORK GUARANTEED

CONTACT

Walter (Buck) Reinhart

Ladora, Iowa

Phone Millersburg 655-7043



FARM SERVICES INC.

FEEDS - ANIMAL HEALTH - SEED
FERTILIZER - CHEMICALS - LIVESTOCK EQUIPMENT

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Millersburg Phone 655-7221

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DRIVE-UP BANKING FACILITIES

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of the Square*

Each depositor insured to \$20,000

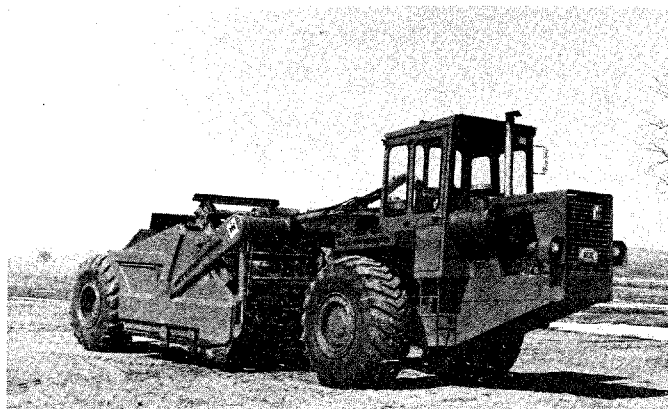


Gahring Construction

Anything in Earth Construction

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Phone 668-1878 Williamsburg, Iowa



HOME GAS CO.

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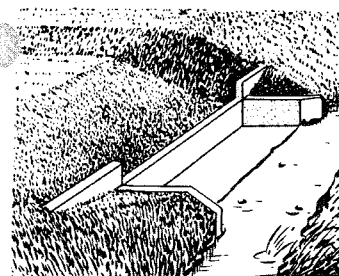


L.P. Gas Service — Bulk and Bottled
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We endeavor by our service to merit your business.

Ronald Ahrens

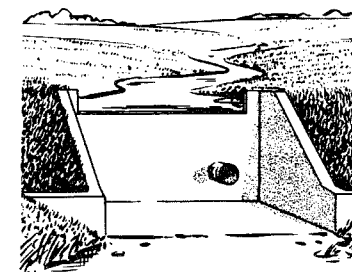
Concrete Contractor



Structures

Floors

Walls



Harper, Iowa
Phone 635-2408

DISTRICT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

MAJOR PRACTICES	UNITS	1969
Contour Farming (Newly established)	Acres	2,191.2
Strip Cropping (Newly established)	Acres	1,042.0
Diversion Terrace	Feet	29,010.0
All other types of Terraces	Feet	51,065.0
Total all types	Feet	80,075.0
Tile intake terrace pipes	Number	31
Pasture and Hayland Management		1,082.0
OTHER PRACTICES		
Waterways	Acres	121.0
Farm Ponds	Number	11
Tile	Feet	234,601.0
Erosion Control Structures	Number	5
Conservation Cropping Systems	Acres	2,145.5
Referrals Serviced	Number	276.0
PLANNING PRACTICES		
New District Cooperators	Number	47
Basic Conservation Plans	Number	33
Revised Conservation Plans	Number	5

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BARGAIN**



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Corning, Iowa 50841

ONE GOAL AND PURPOSE
Meeting the farmer's
problems through
BLOCK BARGAINING
and
SELLING

NEW DISTRICT COOPERATORS FOR 1969

These people have indicated an interest in conservation by signing up their farms with the District and becoming "cooperators". When they are ready, a conservation plan will be worked out with them for their farm.

Arnold Huedepohl
Donald Gingerich
Kenneth Christensen
Don Michalek
Louise Hinkle
Orlo Buswell
W. A. Fotsch
Leroy Pope
Storyland
David Davies
John Stevenson
Wilbur Litwiller
Dean & Eugene Jacobs
Ruel Wehde
Loanna Bloethe
Robert Moffitt
Lavern Ebel
Harley Stanerson
William Chilcote & Sons
Don A. Lortz
G.B.G. Cattle Company
Virgil Schmidt
Donald R. Coffman
Kenneth Klein

Basil Davis
James Williams
Larry Davis
Albert & Willie Furler
Clarence Davis
Clark Schafbuch
Wilfred D. Sucky
Orlin Hochstetler
Larry Fuller
Russell Pence
Dale Mills
W. Ellis Powell
Herbert Hopp
John R. Tandy
Dale Zuber
Leonard Steel
William Parsons
John Stevenson
Charles L. Hocker
Wayne Kelley
N. Dean Wyant
Keith Erb
Roy S. Miller & Sons

Total Acres 8,462

Soil maps and field photographs have been ordered for these farms. When the maps are received, the farmer and the conservationist work out a "basic farm plan". This plan sets forth the measures and treatments that will protect the land while obtaining the most desirable, sustained, productive use of the soil and water.

HOMESTEAD IMPLEMENT

MASSEY FERGUSON - MINNEAPOLIS MOLINE
NEW HOLLAND - NEW IDEA - GEHL - KRAUSE

HOMESTEAD, IOWA
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GRANT MOTOR COMPANY

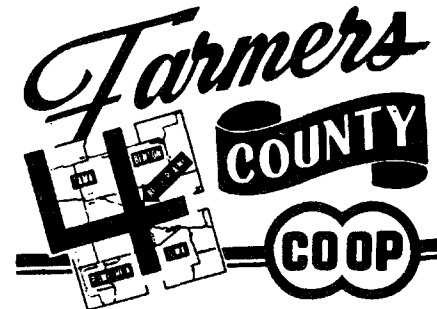
PHONE 668-1910

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WE SERVICE ALL MAKES OF CARS

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AND
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Parnell, Iowa

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Long Term -- Low Payments

Land Bank Loans

FARM EQUIPMENT SALES & SERVICE

MASSEY FERGUSON

NEW IDEA

Alfred E. Shaul

Millersburg, Iowa

Phone 655-7036

33 BASIC CONSERVATION PLANS FOR 1969

Donald Coffman
Russell Pence
Dean and Eugene Jacobs
W. Ellis Powell
Ruel K. Wehde
Tom Wilson
Arnold Carter
William S. Blythe
Storyland
John Stevenson
Kenneth Christensen
Merle R. Smith
Don Gingerich (2)
Tom Brown
G.B.G. Cattle Company
Robert Durr

Harold F. Koehn
Everette Schlesselman
Robert Walker
Floyd R. Smith
James Malloy
Norman Grimm
Ed Shima
Bob Murtha
Harold Lehn
Jerry Thurman
Frank Mertz
Arnold Huedepohl
Orlo Buswell
Leroy Pope
Louise Hinkle
Wilfred Sucky

These 33 farms make up 6,125 acres. The first step in effective control of erosion is a conservation farm plan. A farm plan works as a blue print for the type and locations of conservation practices needed on your farm. Soil and water conservation is an important part of the land management program every farm operator must face.

Contact the SCS Office in Williamsburg for help on your conservation plan.

Howard Beyer Outstanding Commissioner



Howard has served as assistant commissioner and commissioner from 1954 until July 1969. He farms in partnership with his son Larry, in Honey Creek Township. Not only has Howard carried out a fine conservation program on his own farm -- he has provided leadership in developing and carrying out conservation programs effecting the county and the state.

Howard has served as superintendent of the Iowa County Fair's sheep department for many years. He is a Master Swine Producer, a member of Farm Bureau, Iowa County Beef Producers and Swine Producers. He is member of the Christ Methodist Church at Belle Plaine where he and his wife attend regularly.



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Iowa County Farm Service Co.

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Sporting Goods

Marengo, Iowa

The Citizens State Bank



at Belle Plaine

Phone 444-2842

Each depositor insured to \$20,000



CONSERVATION COST SHARING

1969 Conservation Practices	No. Farms	Acres	Cost-Share
Four year seeding	88	2,298	14,281
Lime	182	3,631	16,377
Stripcropping	16	1,089	4,274
Tree Planting	1	1	53
Improvement of Permanent Pasture	5	78	736
Springs or seeps for livestock	3	61	208
Livestock Ponds	7	259	4,249
Pipelines for Livestock Atering	5	205	1,314
Permanent Sod Waterways	75	2,783	29,441
Permanent Cover on Dams and other problem areas	9	130	294
Terraces	10	110	4,050
Diversion Terraces	18	197	2,884
Erosion Control Dams	4	48	3,430
Contour Farming	20	837	1,795
Conservation practices to enhance natural beauty H-practices	12	18	1,209

In addition to the regular ACP cost-sharing, \$25,500 emergency cost-sharing was used in your district. These funds helped repair practices damaged by flood waters in the spring of 1969 on 52 farms serving 803 acres. \$2050 was transferred to SCS to help provide technical services necessary for this.

Farmers Co-op Grain & Lumber Co.



Verne Folkmann, Manager

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I will be glad to help plan, design and lay out your drainage
systems.

Roger Platt - Drainage Technician
RR 2 Chelsea, Iowa Phone 515-489-2030

DES MOINES REGISTER AND TRIBUNE CONTEST

On October 15, Iowa County hosted the Regional Awards Banquet for this contest. At the same time, County Winners were honored. Judging on the county level is done each year in May and June. In July or August the regional winners are selected from the group of county winners. Then after the regional winners are selected, a sweepstakes award winner is picked from that group.

Iowa County is proud of the record made in this contest. In the past three years we have had four regional winners, proving that Iowa County farmers are doing some excellent conservation.

Shown below are the 1969 Iowa County Register & Tribune Contest Winners. They are left to right:

John LaRoque, Williamsburg Outstanding Conservation Teacher.
Dean Humphrey, Dayton Twp., Owner-operated Division.
Burdette Lortz and Lloyd Montross, Pilot Twp., Tenant Operated Division.
Arnold Maas and Harlan Maas, Iowa Twp., new Cooperator Division.



Front row: Mrs. Lloyd Montross; Mrs. Dean Humphrey; Miss Margaret DeSotel; and Mrs. Dean Vint. Back row: Burdette Lortz; Lloyd Montross; Dean Humphrey; George Elwell; and Dean Vint.

AWARD WINNERS IN REGION 7

Sweepstakes Winner -- Dean Humphrey

REGIONAL WINNERS

Division I - (Complete Conservation Operation) -- Dean Humphrey

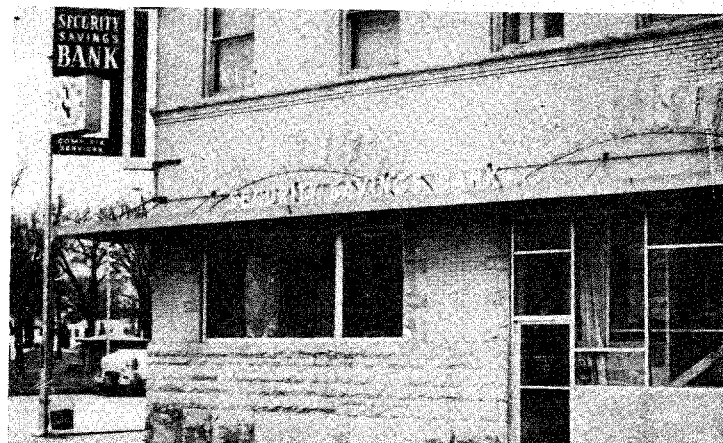
Division II - (Tenant-Operated) E. Burdette Lortz - Owner

Lloyd Montross - Operator

Division III - (Rapid Conservation Work Application) -- Dean Vint, Toledo, is operator; George Elwell is farm manager, and Clara and Martha Bartley of Pennsylvania are the owners.

Outstanding Conservation Teacher - Margaret M. Desotel of Scott County

We feel that the Register and Tribune Company is doing an excellent job of recognizing conservation work, and commend them for it.



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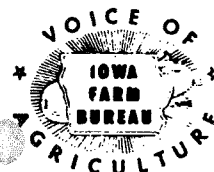
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OUR SOIL - A POLLUTANT

What, you say, our soil is causing pollution? Yes, unfortunately, surface runoff from cropland transports varying amounts of eroded soil, pesticides, plant nutrients, organic matter and other materials into our streams and lakes.

Because much of this material is carried in suspension, it will settle out as the runoff becomes slower and as it reaches slower flowing streams or lakes. Because of the quantity of this material, it has been predicted that Iowa's larger artificial lakes will become half filled with sediment in about 150 years. And that the smaller County Conservation Board-constructed reservoirs and privately-owned ponds will lose half that's right...one-half or more of their original storage to sediment in 15 to 50 years unless soil erosion is more affectively controlled in the future.

How do we stop this problem? We have the methods to minimize this problem. The most logical approach to solving the sediment problem is to control soil erosion.

We all know there are many methods of controlling soil erosion. Such as dissipating raindrop impact forces with crop ground covers; or reducing the quantity of run-off with conservation practices such as strip cropping; slowing run-off velocity with contouring and terraces and managing soils to enhance their resistance to erosion.

Pollution is a concern to all of us, and one of our biggest pollutants is our wonderful soil that is not being managed properly. Are you doing your utmost to preserve your soil and at the same time stop pollution?

Donald H. Goering
County Extension Director

Available to everyone in the county is the modern soil survey of Iowa County. Copies are on file in all the libraries in the county, and in the school libraries. Also, any land owner or operator in the county may obtain a copy of this report for their own library.

This soil survey report gives information on how soils are developed, the acres of each soil in the county, yield data, data on conservation practices and rotations for each soil, permeability of the soils and other information.

Of course, there are soil maps of all the county, so that any area you might be interested in can be studied.

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"FORESTS FOR THE FUTURE"

Each year in Iowa, over 74 million board feet of saw timber is harvested from Iowa's 2½ million acres of commercial forest lands. Another 30 million board feet are lost through insect, disease, and fire. In addition to these losses, several million board feet are removed through land clearing and land development. In order to maintain a continuous supply of forest products in Iowa, these forest lands need to be reforested either by nature or artificially by man.

Nature is the most prolific tree planter, but in areas where seed sources are destroyed by land clearing, strip mining or fire, man has to help nature reforest these areas. Trees are planted either by hand or machine. Since records have been kept, over 63,000 acres in Iowa have been planted to forest cover. Another 29,000 acres have been planted to windbreaks and field shelterbelts. Of these 92,000 acres, 79,000 acres were planted by private land owners, many who are farmers. In 1969, 3,000 trees and wildlife shrubs were planted in Iowa County for forest and wildlife cover.

The Iowa Conservation Commission maintains a State Forest Nursery at Ames, which raises 2 million seedlings each year, both trees and wildlife shrubs. These are planted for forest cover, erosion control, and wildlife cover. Several kinds of evergreens are raised including white, red, and jack pine; many hardwood trees such as black walnut, green ash, and red and white oak; wildlife shrubs like ninebark, honeysuckle, dogwood, and autumn olive, to mention only a few of the many varieties.

Landowners are planting trees and shrubs around farm ponds, recreation areas, along stream banks, eroding ditches, and on odd areas that are non-productive. To aid the farmer financially in doing this planting, the ASCS has a federal cost-share program through the ACP program which helps up to 80%.

The Iowa Conservation Commission employs a professional forester to supply the technical knowledge required for the tree planting program. His services are free for the asking. The forester for Iowa County is Roy G. Hatcher of Marshalltown. He can be contacted directly by writing Box 681 or through the local offices of the Soil Conservation Service, ASCS or Extension Service. He can also give technical advice on timber management and marketing.

In order to maintain a proper balance between the removal of timber and the continued growth of timber we must manage and take care of the woodlands that we have. We must plan now for "future forests".

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FARMERS HOME ADMINISTRATION

The Iowa County Committee of the Farmers Home Administration, consisting of Harry Heitman, Chairman, Delmar Wetjen, member, and Edward F. Reitzler, member, joined the County Supervisor, Vernon W. Nelson, and Assistant County Supervisor, Keith J. Westercamp, in congratulating the Iowa County Soil Conservation District Commissioners and Charles Shirley, District Conservationist, and his staff, for the accomplishments they have made in reducing soil erosion and improving conservation practices in Iowa County.

Farmers Home Administration is vitally interested in the conservation and preservation of our agricultural soils. We actively encourage borrowers to seek the assistance of the Soil Conservation Service in planning their farming operations and their cropping program. We request an SCS Farm Plan for every farm that we finance and plan for land development on each farm.

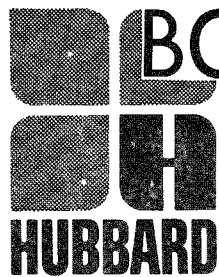
Farmers Home Administration has loans for farm purchase and Soil and Water Loans for the development of conservation practices on farms to people who can not secure credit from conventional lending institutions.

Anyone requesting additional information may contact the FHA Office in the Iowa County Savings Bank Building in Marengo on any Monday from 8:00 A.M. until 5:00 P.M.

*Vernon W. Nelson, County Supervisor
Farms Home Administration*

REVISIONS OF CONSERVATION PLANS

These farms had conservation plans which needed to be modernized to meet today's problems in conserving the soil. New conservation plans were drawn up, replacing old, outdated ones. The farms are owned by Larry Fuller, Martin Plotz, Jake Roemig, Leonard Rensberger, and James Malloy.



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RESOURCE CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

By Charles Shirley, District Conservationist

Soil Conservation Service

Resource conservation and development is a growing movement throughout the country. This movement requires broad planning which includes all factors of the community. Throughout the development process, it requires land use adjustments that will provide desirable environmental factors for rural living, while making adjustments for change in community development patterns.

Resource conservation and development projects take many forms, such as helping bring industry to where the labor supply is, and locating industries that use agricultural products in rural areas, as well as being complementary to a rural setting.

Regional planning is a necessary part to RC&D activity. It is needed to provide adequate facilities for sewer and water needs, housing, locations of various types of developments, and to fully inventory the resources available.

Land use adjustments will prevent building on flood plains and also prevent elimination of flood plains by filling. These areas can be used to provide green belts within and around communities. Outdoor activities such as hiking, picnicing, etc. will make excellent use of the area, and activities can be temporarily suspended if needed. The esthetic values add greatly to the community.

Damages from erosion, flooding, unstable soils, and serious water supply deficiencies can be anticipated. SCS can work with planning groups to develop appropriate measures.

Soil Conservation Districts and SCS are happy to provide as much information as possible in carrying out RC&D goals. Assistance can be given to governmental bodies and private businesses as well as to farmers and landowners. We will be glad to help anyone who wants to solve a land use problem.

Also, planning agencies will find much information available in this office for use in establishing criteria for land use, as well as information on soils, recreation, biology, woodland and farm types. All of this information is needed before a RC&D project is completed.

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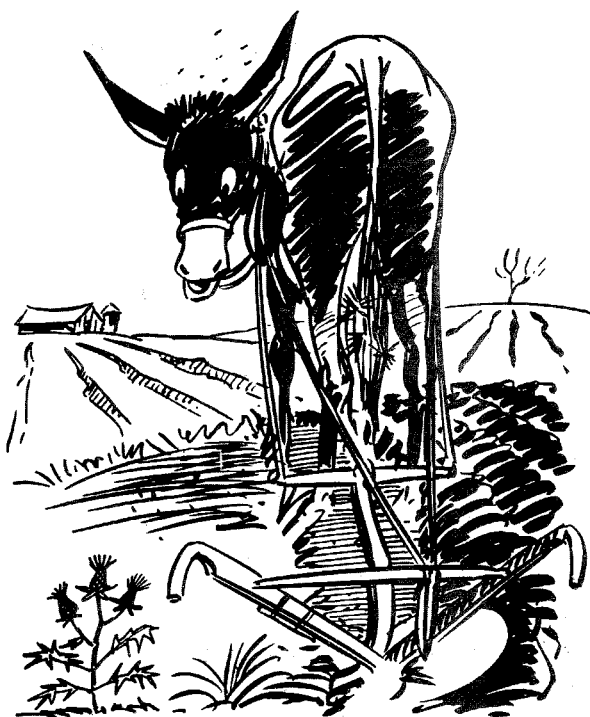
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