

Conservation Week Proclamation

The observance of Soil and Water Conservation Weeks in Hardin County during the week of June 15 to 21 will coincide with the special recognition being given the 100 Soil Conservation Districts in Iowa. Calvin Moore, local Soil Conservation agent announced this week.

In a proclamation Governor Herschel C. Loveless stated the development of Iowa land and water resources through soil and water conservation, flood prevention, and wise use, is essential to maintain farm income and protect the agricultural economy of the State.

"It is of utmost importance," he continued, "that we continue our cooperative efforts in soil and water conservation work, particularly in small watershed, where opportunities are offered to advance this all important work."

The governor's proclamation follows:

PROCLAMATION SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION WEEK

WHEREAS, the development of Iowa land and water resources through soil and water conservation, flood prevention, and wise use, is essential to maintain farm income and protect the agricultural economy of the State, and

WHEREAS, the State of Iowa as a whole, and within the one hundred Soil Conservation Districts of the State in particular, is coordinating and carrying forward a constructive program of soil and water conservation and related flood prevention work, and

WHEREAS, it is of utmost importance that we continue our cooperative efforts in soil and water conservation work, particularly in small watersheds, where opportunities are offered to advance this all important work,

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Herschel C. Loveless, Governor of the State of Iowa, in order to call attention to the importance of this work, do hereby declare and proclaim the week of June 15 through June 22, 1958, as

SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION WEEK

and respectfully urge organizations and citizens of our State to participate in the programs in order that we may place even greater emphasis on this very important work.

HERSCHEL C. LOVELESS
GOVERNOR

Attest:

MELVIN D. SYNHORST
SECRETARY OF STATE

40 Hardin Farms Are Terracing Crop Land

HAVE 9 NEW APPLICANTS

The need of safeguarding the many acres of farm land subject to erosion is causing many farmers of Hardin County to turn to terraces for protection, according to Calvin Moore, local soil conservation service agent.

The practice of terracing in the county got its start during the days of Civilian Conservation Corp. (CCC) assistance. Nearly 40 farms in Hardin county now have terraces, he said.

The terraces provide a safe way to control runoff from sloping fields, carrying it to a well grassed waterway. Soil losses

are reduced to a minimum with terraces and more moisture is held where it is needed. Terraces are now constructed to allow cultivation and harvesting operations to be done with four row equipment.

Terrace requests have been received for nine farms this year, Moore commented. They are: Bob Finger, Steamboat Rock, Lee Lundy, Harold Mersman, Joe Beach, Gordon Eklund-Eldora FFA, Mrs. Florence McEvoy-Dale Schwarck, Glen Taylor, Kenneth Reisinger, and Cecil Rocks of Eldora.

Knott, Warren Martin and one Rash.

TIPTON

Melvin Boeke, Merlyn Engel-

Local Farmers Practice Soil Conservation

Hooded Pipe Increases Capacity



Ed Clary, Eldora (left) and Dean Miller, Conservation Aid, Eldora look over earthen fill structure and newly designed hooded drain recently

completed on the Clary farm east of Eldora. The new design of the drain pipe gives it greater water carrying capacity.

Soil Conservation Week Proclaimed By Gov. Loveless

Beecher And Clary
Farms Show Soil
Saving Practices

The week of June 15 to June 22 set aside as Soil Conservation Week brings special attention to earlier conservation work done in Hardin County.

One of the first individual farm plans written was that for Loyd Beecher, one mile west of Union. The plan was completed with Beecher in the fall of 1945.

The farm, owned and operated by Beecher, was recognized at the district banquet this past winter for outstanding work in conservation.

Ninety-five acres of strip-cropping were established in 1945 by Beecher on his 120 acre farm and are still doing an effective job of erosion control and maintaining good crop production. There were 5,600 feet of grassed waterways built and seeded to bromegrass.

In 1957, 2300 feet of terraces were constructed on a farm east of Eldora owned by Mrs. Beecher. An additional 93 acres of the 200 acre farm are under contour operations.

Another troublesome and wasteful gully on the Ed Clary farm, east of Eldora is now under control as a result of an earthen fill dam constructed recently.

The gully had been creeping several feet farther into his pasture land each year and would have damaged cropland if left uncontrolled.

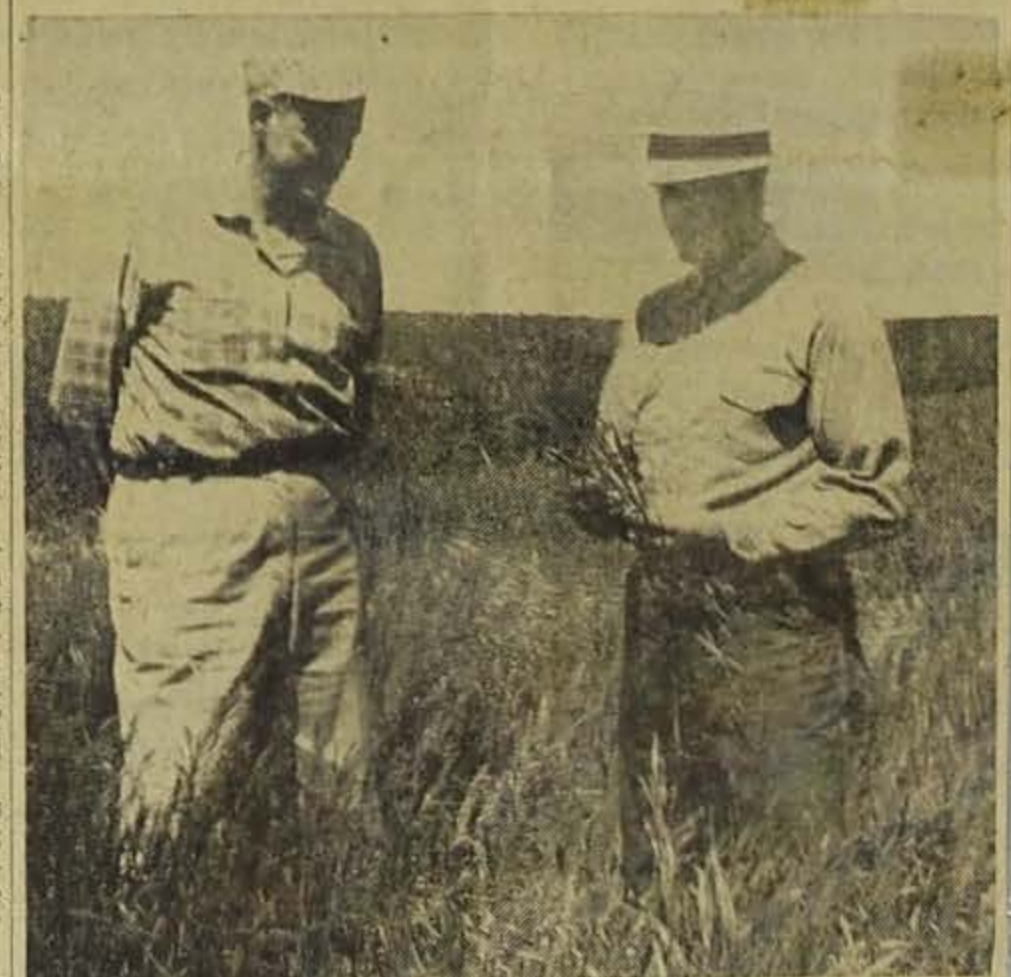
The structure is of earthen fill 14 feet high with 24 inch corrugated steel tube. It is designed

to carry the runoff water from the watershed to where it may be discharged safely below the dam.

The Clary farm located three

LOCAL FARMERS—
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Check Grassed Waterway



Loyd Beecher, Union (right) and Dean Miller, Conservation Aid, Eldora check a water-

way on the edge of a strip-cropped area on the Beecher farm west of Union.

Water — A Friend Or An Enemy

The week of June 15 through 22 has been proclaimed "Soil Conservation Week." This means it is soil conservation week in the U.S. the state of Iowa, Hardin county and in your home.

During this week numerous reasons for adopting soil conservation practices will be pointed out and local projects will be explained.

City folks and other non-farmers need not think that soil conservation has no effect on them—it does. Take just this one term—"Watershed"—for example.

"Watershed" is a new term to many people. The development of soil and water conservation and flood prevention in watersheds is bringing the word into more common use. Its definition is almost as simple as the well-known phrase "water runs downhill."

On the land, water that does not evaporate or soak into the soil usually drains into ditches, streams, marshes, or lakes. The land area from which the water drains to a given point is a watershed.

Small and medium-sized watersheds make up the larger ones. The Mississippi River, for example, drains a watershed of about 1,243,000 square miles. That watershed is made up of thousands of smaller ones.

One which many people of Hardin County are familiar with is the Watershed of Pine Lake.

An area of 9,851 acres drains into the two lakes.

Water may be a friend or it may be an enemy. If it runs off the land too fast, it cuts gullies and carries off topsoil which should be kept on the farm to produce our food and clothing. The soil and debris which the water carries into streams and lakes may spoil fishing. Such sediment carried downstream by runaway water may greatly increase the cost of cleaning and filtering the water for household use.

If too much water runs away too rapidly, it causes a flood which damages farms, crops, homes and highways. Sediment deposited in reservoirs after heavy rains reduces the amount of water that can be stored for use in water-short areas. When water does these things it is an enemy.

But water can be slowed down and used to better advantage when soil and water conservation methods and other flood-prevention measures are put into effect all over a watershed. Terraces, strip-cropping, more grass and legumes in crop rotations, improved pastures, and other practices make more water soak into the soil for use of crops and pastures. Some of it later will go into streams, lakes, or underground storage to be used in other ways. More water is available for the many uses people make of it. Then water is a friend.

LOCAL FARMERS—

(Continued from Page One)

miles northeast of Eldora on the east boundary of Pine Lake State Park, was selected as one of two farms in Hardin County for accomplishments in conservation this last winter.

Clary has been active in a conservation district program since its beginning. Five masonry structures were constructed on the farm by Civilian Conservation Corp. (CCC) during the 1930's and are still doing an effective job of gully control.

The farm, operated by Maurice Schwarck, has 13,000 feet of terraces on 115 acres of land. In 1956 a farm pond was constructed as a gully control measure and recreational area.

- SOIL CONSERVATION WEEK - JUNE 15 THRU 22 -