

LAND OF PLENTY

—the annual report of the West Pottawattamie Soil Conservation District—

FOREWORD

Once again the Commissioners and SCS staff of the West Pottawattamie County Conservation District submit for your appraisal, and we hope approval, the accomplishments in your district during the past year.

The figures and reports will speak for themselves. It is to be hoped that you will consider them carefully. They will reveal a substantial number of battles won in the on-going war against that common enemy, erosion and run-off.

Those of us more or less intimately involved in the day-to-day conduct of these battles are, we think justifiably, proud of the results. There have been advances on every front.

Every advance, every accomplishment was made possible through a marked degree of cooperation and effort. For these the commissioners are deeply grateful.

We would be remiss, if, in calling attention to our accomplishments, we did not take cognizance of that which remains to be done. We have indeed won many battles. We have, by no stretch of the imagination, as yet come close to winning the war.

The Commissioners and SCS staff of your district pledge themselves to the goals of winning more battles today and tomorrow and eventually winning this all important war to conserve those basic resources, soil and water.

We sincerely hope that you find this annual report encouraging. We trust that we will continue to merit your approval and, above all, your cooperation and support.

C.W. McManamy
District Chairman

Whose baby is it?

If you will excuse a slang term, "whose baby is soil and water conservation?"

When conservation was formally born more than 40 years ago, there was a general impression that it benefitted farmers and was, therefore, the farmers and landowners "baby".

To a considerable extent, that impression still remains. Over the years though, a more comprehensive and objective view has begun to emerge. To be sure conservation practices on a farm do much to insure that the soil on that farm will remain in place and much of the rain will be retained to nourish that soil.

To that extent then, the farmer and landowner is an immediate beneficiary. There is more to it than that though, much more. To what purpose is that saved soil and retained rainfall devoted? The answer is academic—food production.

It is a short step then to the next question. Food production for whom? That

answer is also academic. Food for, in the first instance, the citizens of the community, the state and the nation. To a lesser degree it might also be added, for the world.

All of the foregoing brings us to the final question. Who are the benefactors of soil and water conservation practices? We have been dealing in academic answers and this appears to be another. The benefactors of conservation are: the farmers who produce the food and the citizens who consume it.

There is little point in attempting to weigh the relative benefit between these two. It must perhaps be noted though, that should our soil and water resources become depleted, the citizen consumer would be the first to suffer and would probably suffer the worst.

Suffice it to suggest that the benefits of conservation accrue in equal parts to farmer and consumer alike.

It would be reasonable to submit then, that the responsibilities of conservation, including the costs associated with it, might well be or at least should be, shared equally by both groups.

Conservation needs to be carried forward at a much faster pace if the ravages of erosion and run-off are to be brought under control before they inflict irreparable damage.

The roadblock to that needed acceleration today is funding. Conservation efforts must have a broader fiscal base. A base in which all benefactors share. Such a base, such sharing, will mean that soil and water conservation can and will move forward rapidly without imposing a burden on anyone.

A penny's worth of support in exchange for a pound of insurance of continued abundance for both present and future generations seems like a tremendously good investment.

C.W. McManamy
District Chairman

No rocks—just good soil

During the summer of 1981, my wife and I were driving to Seattle and stopped off in a little town in southwest Montana to visit some dear friends who were formerly from Council Bluffs. They lived on an acreage right at the mountain's edge and had about 4 acres of pasture for their 3 saddle horses. A rather unusual sight, to me at least, was part of the fence to contain these horses was a free standing wooden rail fence. I asked my friend why he had chosen such an unusual design for a fence and he proceeded to tell me that in these parts, it's almost next to impossible to dig a post hole with a hand tool because of the rocks and boulders hidden from view. Right away I began to count my blessings as my mind traveled back to West Pottawattamie County, where over the years I've dug hundreds of

post holes by hand and never once had to back out because a rock prevented me from completing my mission.

If we've lived in these parts for any length of time, we probably all take for granted this deep wind-lain soil, that when properly managed, is highly productive; and yet this soil is so fragile, that we as stewards of the land must take measures to preserve the soil or we shall surely lose it to erosion.

I was reading in a recent publication that at New Orleans, soil is being carried down the Mississippi River at the rate of 40,000 tons per hour. That was a very sobering revelation to me. We must take measures today to halt this squandering of our most precious resource we have—the land.

In our end of Pottawattamie County, we anticipate a

good response of those participating in the PIK program. This will enable many of us to build those much needed terraces and waterways while the land is idled and we are fortunate to have available funds for cost-sharing.

While I am very new at this business of serving as a soil conservation district commissioner, I look forward to it as one of the greatest and most important challenges of my life. I am also happy to be associated with the other men serving as commissioners in West Pottawattamie County SCD and those employees of the Soil Conservation Service, who seem to me, to be deeply committed to the task before us all—that of conserving our soil that those who follow us will be able to enjoy the blessings we have known.

Charles Angerth, Jr.
District Commissioner

CONSERVATION ACCOMPLISHMENTS

	1982	Cumulative To Date	Total Needs
New Cooperators	28 - 6,059 Ac	1096 - 219,659 Ac	1480 - 293,127 Ac
Cooperators Assisted	343	---	---
Cooperators Apply Conservation Practice	140	---	---
Conservation Plans	5,688 Ac	184,288 Ac	293,127 Ac
Conservation Tillage (NO-TILL)	5,229 Ac	87,810 Ac	198,000 Ac
Contour Farming	3,690 Ac	138,690 Ac	150,000 Ac
Terraces	31 mi	2,563 mi	5,806 mi
Sediment and Water Control Basins	13	127	534
Farmstead Windbreaks	8 - 4 Ac	311 Ac	870 Ac
Wildlife Upland Habitat Management	97 Ac	1,987 Ac	2,770 Ac
Cropland Adequately Protected	3,597 Ac	117,707 Ac	235,789 Ac
Tons Soil Loss Saved	199,856 Ton	---	---

Set-aside: conservation uses

The set-aside program may prove to be beneficial, not only to reduce the surplus grain, but also for the implementation of conservation practices.

In Iowa, the set-aside acres must have natural vegetative cover. The cover can be old crop residue or a seeded crop. Whatever cover there is, the weeds and soil erosion must be controlled.

Steep side slopes are good areas for set-aside acres. Usually these slopes are the lowest yielding and have the highest soil loss. Growing a small grain or meadow will cut the soil loss significantly. These crops also provide excellent

opportunities for no-till. Planting row crops no-till into the meadow or small grain stubble, the soil loss will continue to be reduced. After awhile, the residue from these crops will be worked into the soil as organic material, improving the soil's fertility and tilth. A legume meadow also puts nitrogen back into the soil.

Set-aside on steep slopes also allows for terrace construction throughout the summer. Summer is a good time for building terraces because contractors usually do not have to worry about heavy rains or early frost. Also, everyone involved is not rushed, so a good quality job can be done.

Other conservation prac-

tices that can be done on set-aside acres include grassed waterways, dams, diversions, or tiling. Seeding down end rows with permanent cover will also be beneficial. Most end rows are planted up and down the hills, so grassed headlands will reduce soil erosion considerably, and will provide smooth turning at harvest.

If you would like to apply a conservation measure on to your land this summer, doing so on set-aside acres is a possibility. Contact the ASCS and SCS field offices and we will try to accommodate you.

Paul Miller
Soil Conservationist

Meet the staff . . .



Members of the West Pottawattamie Field Office staff include (front row, from the left) Sally Andersen, Bill Hammitt, Ernest Victoria, (back row) John Bahr, David Breytogle, Calvin Dunblazier and Paul Miller.

Conservation District educates and informs

One of the District's objectives is the development of an information and education program that will help farmers and the general public appreciate the importance of protecting our natural resources. Because the youth of today will be our leaders of tomorrow, the District provides a variety of conservation activities for local students. Much of this work is done by the Environmental Education Council (EEC) which is composed of representatives from the District Commissioners, local teachers, and Soil Conservation Service personnel.

At the Underwood and Tri-Center School systems, the event that the 6th grade students look forward to each year is an Environmental Field Day held in May at Arrowhead Park near Neola. This is an all-day outdoor classroom experience on various topics from fisheries to soils. The 1982 session was enjoyed by 115 students.

Contests are another tool for teaching about conservation. Each winter, the EEC sponsors a poster contest based on a selected theme. The District presents certificates to the best posters in each grade at each school. Students in grades kindergarten through 5 can participate.

Another contest requires students to prepare an essay. This is a fall activity for grades 6-8 (Junior Division) and 9-12 (Senior Division) and involves about 160 students. The District awards certificates to the top entries from each

school. In addition, the District selects one overall winner in each division to advance to regional competition (covers 10 Districts) and the possibility for going on to the state level. Cash prizes at the regional and state contest (up to \$100) are provided by the Grinnell Mutual Reinsurance Company, one of the contest co-sponsors. The West Pottawattamie SCD is fortunate to have a regional winner again this year.

Because trees are valuable for environmental protection, the District presents an Arbor Day program in April to first grade students. In addition to learning about the founding of Arbor Day and the importance of trees, each student receives a tree seedling to take home to plant. Last year the trees were provided by Midwest Walnut Company of Council Bluffs and they were distributed to over 1000 students in 24 schools.

In June of 1982, the District selected Bryce Christensen of Underwood to attend the Youth Leadership Conservation Program. This program for junior or senior high school students stresses leadership and provides instruction by experts on Iowa's resources. The four-day session is held at Springbrook State Park near Guthrie Center, and is co-sponsored by County Conservation Boards, 4-H Extension Service, and Iowa Conservation Commission. College scholarships are awarded to individuals who score highest on an exam given at the end of the session.



The Environmental Field Day at Arrowhead Park included small-group sessions on subjects ranging from archery to plant science.—Gazette photo

BUDGET REPORT

1982 Fiscal Year
July 1, 1981 to June 30, 1982

1M Budget (supplies & expenses)		
Total Allocation		\$ 1,750.00
Commissioner's Expense	\$ 589.49	
Office Supplies & Expense	1,149.51	
Returned to State	11.00	\$ 1,750.00
2M Budget (Salaries & Benefits)		
Total Allocation		\$27,292.00
Salaries (Engineering Aide & State Clerk)	\$18,873.51	
Benefits	3,539.18	
Travel	9.20	
Returned to State	4,870.11	\$27,292.00
3M Budget (State Cost-Share Funds)		
80-81 Allocation		\$95,132.90
Obligated or Spent	\$95,132.90	\$95,132.90
81-82 Allocation		\$82,300.59
Obligated or Spent	\$82,300.59	\$82,300.59
82-83 Allocation		\$66,650.00
Obligated or Spent	\$58,769.16	
Unobligated	7,880.84	\$66,650.00

These funds are provided by the State of Iowa and allocated to the District by the Department of Soil Conservation in Des Moines.

Commissioners govern conservation district

The governing body of the West Pottawattamie Soil Conservation District is a board of 5 people known as commissioners. These individuals are elected locally during the general election to serve staggered six-year terms. Except for actual expenses incurred in the performance of their duties, commissioners receive no compensation for their service.

Commissioners have the task of coordinating the efforts of all agencies and organizations with responsibilities for natural resource conservation and development in the district. They develop an annual work plan for reaching district goals in conservation, establish policies and priorities regarding conservation education work and technical help on the land, and they administer the state financial incentives (cost-share) program on the local level.



Soil conservation district officers were elected January 5, 1983, including (from the left) David Storjohann, Charles Angerth, Clint Goos and John Fischer.

Commissioners to help carry out the activities of the district. They operate much as commissioners with the exception that they may not make motions or vote at board meetings which are held on the last Wednesday of each month. Assistant commissioners serve for a period of one year. Kenneth Hester of Honey Creek was recently appointed to this position.

Through a cooperative agreement, the Soil Conservation District commission-

ers are provided technical assistance from the Soil Conservation Service, an agency of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. SCS personnel help landowners and operators to plan and apply soil conservation practices. In Iowa, the SCS provides office space for the soil conservation district. The District and SCS work together to get conservation on the land.

Ernest Victoria
Soil Conservationist

The conservation essay contest, held last fall, saw three schools participating.

Tri-Center winners included Tara Schroeder, Jayleen Jensen, Tyler Zimmerman, Scott Huebner and John Ferris. **Underwood** winners were Carrie Walker, Julie Knott, Jason Lloyd, Dan Casson and Trent Holmberg. **Woodrow Wilson** winners were Ken Petersen, Deanna Duke, Toni Bates, Kristyn Moore and Peggy Van Soelen, who was the district and regional winner in the junior division.

Tracy Petersen was the district winner in the senior division. District winners receive certificates from the West Pottawattamie Soil Conservation District, and the first place regional winner receives a cash award of \$40.

"Look" signs locate no-till



In the upcoming spring months, look for yellow signs next to freshly planted fields and read them. They are trying to help show one of Iowa's newest farm innovations, no-till farming.

Prominently displayed "Look No-Till" signs were sponsored by the West Pottawattamie Soil Conservation District and manufactured by the Underwood FFA Club. Fifteen no-till signs publicized fields for the first time last year.

In 1983, we hope to find fifteen new no-till farmers and recognize their efforts. After planting, SCS people will measure the percent residue cover, state the percent figure on a sign and hang it next to a well traveled road. Signs are taken down prior to winter in order to avoid weather damage. If interested in a sign, please call for further information.

John Bahr
County Resource Planner

Conservation essay contest held in fall



Tri-Center winners in the conservation essay contest include (from the left) Tara Schroeder, Jayleen Jensen, Tyler Zimmerman, Scott Huebner and John Ferris.



Underwood winners in the essay contest include (from the left) Carrie Walker, Julie Knott, Jason Lloyd, Dan Casson and Trent Holmberg.

conservation bumper sticker.

Another regular news report on conservation can be heard on radio KFAB in Omaha. The station provides one-minute spots for current tips on practices, legislation, or upcoming meetings. These announcements are made by the staff from several soil conservation districts in the listening area, and they are broadcast on Tuesday and Saturday nights between 7:00 and 9:00 p.m.

Another way agricultural producers can keep informed is by reading **Conservation Update**. This is a newsletter published at least twice a year by the Soil Conservation District. It contains articles on conservation economics, availability of cost-share funds, watershed progress, meeting notices, and other District activities. Copies of recent issues are available at the District Office.

Ernest Victoria
Soil Conservationist



Woodrow Wilson winners in the essay contest included (from the left) Ken Petersen, Deanna Duke, Toni Bates, Kristyn Moore and (not pictured) Peggy Van Soelen, who went on to become the district and regional winner in the junior division.

The Tree Planter

"Old man," cried a fellow passing near,
"You are wasting your strength with planting here.
Your journey will end with the ending day
And you never again will pass this way.
You have crossed the chasm deep and wide;
Why plant a tree at eventide?"
And the planter raised his old grey head,
"Good friend, on the path I have come," he said.
"There followeth after me today
A youth whose feet will pass this way.
He has not come to the twilight dim.
Good friend, I'm planting a tree for him."

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	5 Gal	32.85	24.00
	30 Gal	187.53	134.00
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Tri-Center Students Earn Honors in Conservation Poster Contest



Receiving certificates in the 1983 conservation poster contest were Tri-Center kindergarten and first grade members [front row, from the left] Tonia Lee Pope, David Wilson, Jason Foote, Michelle Vincent, [second row] Janet Zimmerman, Heidi Larsen, Melissa Vincent, Jamie Lund, [not shown] Jessica Schuning, Emmy Helm and Jill Wenninghoff.—Gazette photo



Second grade winners were [front row, from the left] April Minahan, Jennifer Christiansen, Gretchen Holstein, Sandy Dargin and Adam Smith. Winners from the third grade were [back row] Angi Leaders, Heather Stafford, Brian Nelson, Jason Pohlman and Aaron Case.—Gazette photo



Fourth grade winners included [front row, from the left] Jay Brooke, Terri Schuett, Melissa Matthews, Cassie Herkenrath and Carol Ledford. Topping the fifth grade competition were [back row] Nick Gambs, Ember Bargaquist, Amey Newcomb, Tammy Jo Bertelsen and Justin Holstein.—Gazette photo

Two cost-share programs offered

Greetings!

My name is David Breyfogle, Engineering Aide at Council Bluffs and I'm one of those who normally does the terrace layout in West Pottawattamie county.

I'd like to review the terrace programs and also touch on some accomplishments for fiscal year 1982.

First of all, the review. In Pottawattamie county, we have two annual cost-share programs for terrace construction, both are set up to help cushion the cost of terrace construction by providing up to 50 percent of the total constructed cost.

The first program, ACP or Agricultural Conservation Program, is administered through the ASCS office and this money is available after October 1st. In fiscal year 1982, they received \$83,900 in cost-share funds. This included \$38,400 in regular annual money and also \$45,500 in special Target Area funds. One thing to keep in mind with this program is that \$3500 per year cost-share is the maximum any farmer can receive.

The second program is the Iowa Financial Incentive Cost-Share Program. This program is administered through the West Pottawattamie Soil Conser-

vation District and the money is available after July 1st each year. In fiscal year 1982, we received \$66,650 total cost-share dollars. A good way to take advantage of this program is to plant oats, wheat, or set-aside acres, and come July 1st; you'll be one of the select ready to build terraces.

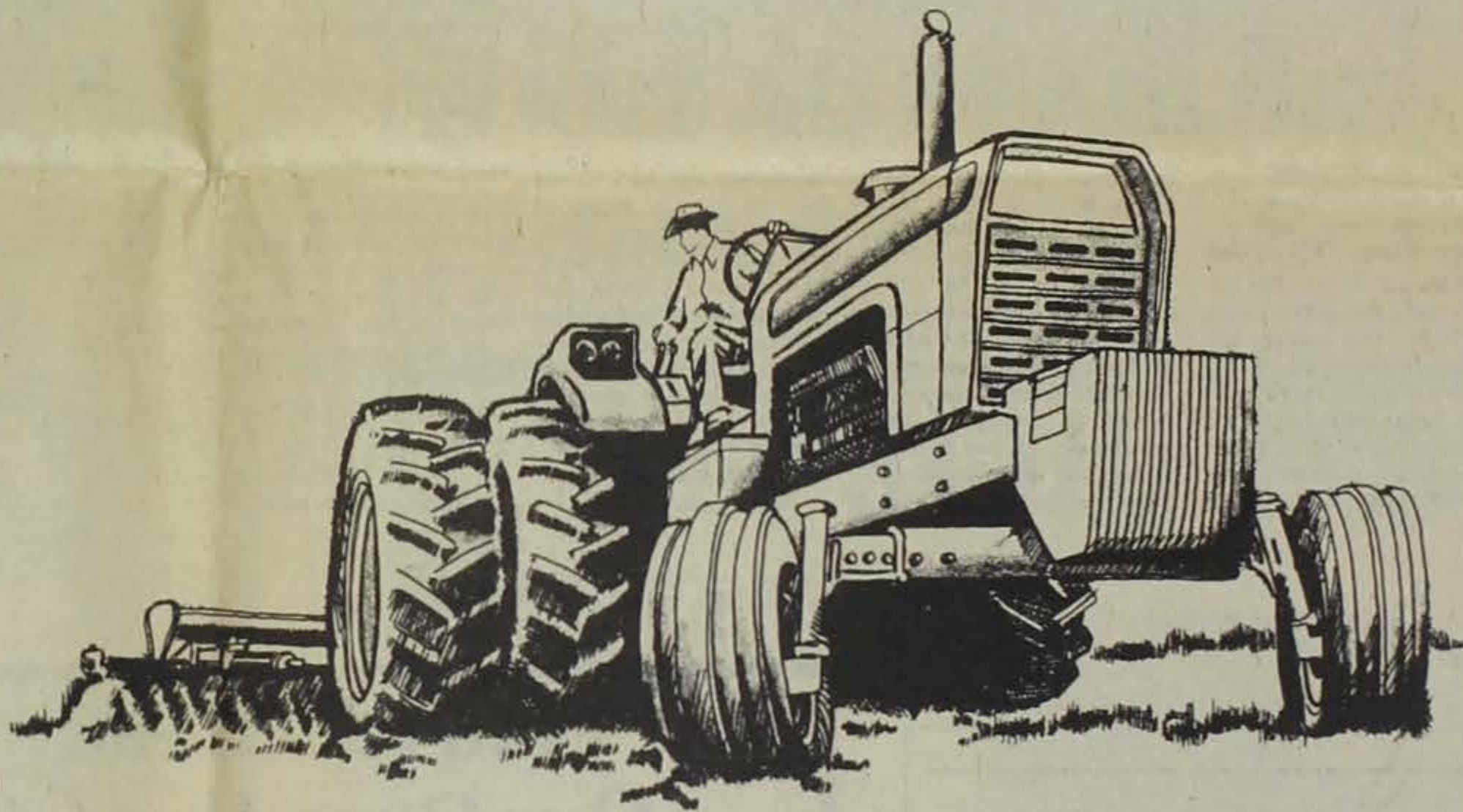
In addition to the two programs above, the ASCS also has a limited amount of money available for LTA's or Long-Term Agreements. This program is designed to treat whole farms or fields all under one contract. The work can be spread out over a number of years, yet once the contract is signed, the money is guaranteed. The cost-share rate is 60 percent under the LTA program. One thing to keep in mind with this program is you may have to change your tillage operations to comply with the terms of the contract because when the project is complete, your soil loss must be 5 tons/acre or less.

51 miles of terraces were installed with these three main programs in 1982. I hope I've been of some help to your understanding them. I look forward to working with you in the coming year.

David Breyfogle
State Engineering Aide II

CLASSIFIED AD RATES	Consecutive	Cost per
	issues:	word:
Deadline 5 p.m. Monday	1	13 cents
	2	10 cents
	3	9 cents
	4 or more	8 cents

Food For Thought



The Promise of Spring. The Promise of Agriculture.

It's a sure thing. We count on it every year and it's still a surprise. Spring! And with its arrival comes a renewed belief in the eternal power of the land to renew itself and us along with it.

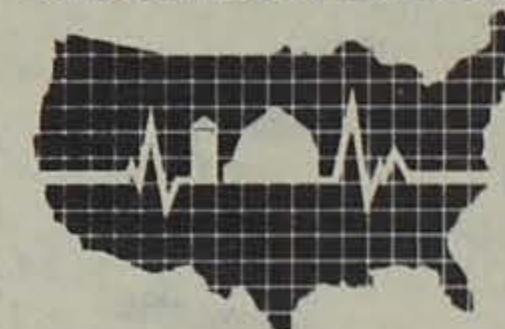
We believe in spring because we want to believe in it. We believe in agriculture for the same reason . . . and because we must. Never before have so many relied on so few for so much. And never before have the people of agriculture performed their work with greater efficiency or productivity.

Each spring, the Council Bluffs Savings Bank takes this opportunity to say "Thanks" to the people of agriculture in southwest Iowa. We do this because we're

proud to have played an important part in the constant development of this area's agriculture for more than 125 years. And we intend to continue to play an active role in the years ahead.

After a long, cold winter, it's nice to know we can count on spring. And agriculture.

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Agriculture Day • March 21, 1983

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CAN COUNT ON.



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Now you can put big Ford tractor power to work on your farm...and get a tough new Ranger pickup at no extra cost.

Come in and make your best deal on a new 110-PTO hp Ford TW-10, 135-PTO hp TW-20 or 163-PTO hp TW-30. Buy and take delivery of any one of these units before June 30, 1983.

OR...MAKE NO PRINCIPAL OR INTEREST PAYMENTS UNTIL 1984! NONE! THEN GET 10% ANNUAL PERCENTAGE RATE FIXED-RATE FINANCING FOR UP TO 48 MONTHS!

Nearly 5 years of financing for the price of 4! That's right! Qualified buyers can get up to 10 months' waiver of finance charges, followed by 10% ANNUAL PERCENTAGE RATE financing through Ford Motor Credit Company or other participating financial institutions. New related implements are also eligible when purchased and financed with your new Ford tractor.

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That means finance charges will not begin to accrue and you'll make no additional payments until January 2, 1984. And the balance of your contract has a very attractive percentage rate.

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No-till tours held



Stanley Danker's no-till soybean field was one of those viewed by tour participants.

Last summer nearly sixty people participated in three twilight no-till tours sponsored by the West Pottawattamie Soil Conservation District. The tours provided farmers with an opportunity to get a first-hand look at how well no-till performed locally.

The first tour was held June 29th at the Charles Angerth, Jr. farm. Charles planted no-till corn on beans, corn on corn, corn on oats and sweet-clover, and corn on alfalfa. The people on the tour were surprised at how well the corn was doing, especially

on the sod.

On July 1st, there was a tour at the Stanley Danker farm. Those on the tour saw no-till corn on beans, corn on oats and red clover, corn on orchard grass sod, and beans on corn. Many were amazed at how well the beans were growing. The corn on orchard grass also raised some eyebrows.

The last tour was at John Fischer's on July 7th. John also planted no-till corn on beans, corn on corn, corn on oats, and beans on corn. John did a good job with his no-till and was very pleased with the results.

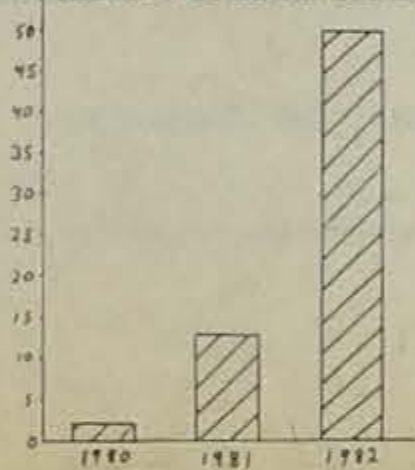
Farmers on the tours saw good crop emergence and stands. Weed control was also very good on the fields. After the heavy spring rains, the positive effect no-till had on soil erosion was also evident. After observing how successful no-till was, some farmers remarked that they would try no-till next year. If you did not make it to the tours last year, please join us this summer as we tour more no-till in the district.

Paul Miller
Soil Conservationist

No-till trends in West Pottawattamie

GRAPH NO. 1

Number of no-till farmers

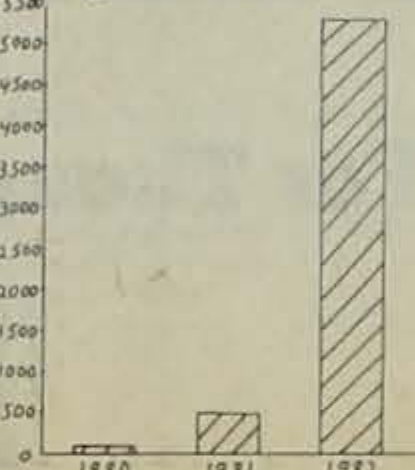


The use of no-till has increased significantly throughout Iowa and the United States. This is also evident in West Pottawattamie. As shown on graph #1, the number of no-till farmers in West Pottawattamie increased from 2 in 1980 to 13 in 1981, and up to 50 in 1982. The amount of no-till acres planted in the district also

increased the last two years. From 1980 to 1981 there was an increase from 100 acres to 500 acres, as seen on graph #2. The no-till acres then increased to approximately 5300 acres in 1982. It is obvious that more and more farmers are becoming aware of the advantages of no-till such as soil and water conservation. The decrease in fuel,

GRAPH NO. 2

Approximate no-till acres



machinery, and labor costs are definitely a plus for no-till. Last year's no-till grew and yielded very well. As a result, I think the amount of no-till will continue to increase this year. No one knows how much it will increase but one thing is definite, no-till is here to stay.

Paul Miller
Soil Conservationist

No-till club is organized

The Underwood Adult Vo-Ag Department and the West Pottawattamie Soil Conservation District have organized a No-Till Club. The club is restricted to no-till farmers only. The purpose is to give no-till farmers a chance to get together and share problems and new ideas and gather new information.

The club has planned to meet every other Thursday at 7:00 p.m. at Underwood High School. The club has arranged to have outside speakers related to the no-till field at each meeting. The following schedule of club meetings was established:

January 20 - Organizational Meeting

February 3 - Bob Cerven, no-till farmer Montgomery County (postponed to March 10)

February 17 - Rod Beeler, no-till farmer Madison County

March 3 - Ciba-Geigy

March 10 - Bob Cerven

March 17 - Open

Bill Hammitt
District Conservationist

No-till yield contest planned

No-till farmers in West Pottawattamie will have a chance to participate in a local no-till yield contest this year. The contest is being sponsored by the Extension Council, Rotary Club, and the West Pottawattamie Soil Conservation District.

Anyone entering will be required to also enter the Iowa Master Corn Grower's Contest and the same rules will apply to both contests. There will be both a no-till corn and soybean division. Trophies will be awarded for the local winners in each division. More details will be announced later but keep this in mind if you plan to try some no-till.

Bill Hammitt
District Conservationist

Conservation awards presented

Each year, the West Pottawattamie Soil Conservation District has the privilege of honoring those people who are doing outstanding work in the field of soil and water conservation. This is done by participating in various contests for conservation awards.

One of these contests is the Iowa Soil Conservation Awards Program. It is co-sponsored by the Iowa Association of Soil Conservation District Commissioners, the State Soil Conservation Committee, the Iowa Farm Bureau Federation, the Iowa Conservation Education Council, and the Des Moines Register.

The District selects farmers in three categories. Division I of the contest is for family-operated or owner-operated farms. Division II is for tenant-operated farms. Division III is for any farmer who became a new district cooperator during the year 1981 or later.

The respective winners in each division were the Witt family of Minden (Herbert and his sons Bill and John); St. Patrick's Church of Neola and Clarence Ring; and Joseph Grote of Neola. The three categories compete for the district sweepstakes award, which is then entered in regional competition. This year, that honor went to Joseph Grote. Judging in this contest was completed by the SCD Commissioners and the District Conservationist.

In 1981, the District



Among those recognized in the soil conservation awards program held February 9th in Underwood were [front row] John Witt, Herb Witt, Bill Witt, Robert Jensen and Jay Crist. The Witts received the owner-operator award, Jensen received the Eldon Ravlin Award as outstanding conservation farmer, and Crist received the Izaak Walton League windbreak award. Not present but also recognized were Joseph Grote, Jr., who received both the new cooperator and the sweepstakes awards, and St. Patrick's Church of Neola and Clarence Ring, who received the landlord-tenant award.—Gazette photo

established a special award for Outstanding Conservation Farmer. It not only recognizes the annual recipient, but also serves as a memorial to Eldon Ravlin who was a former District Commissioner. Mr. Ravlin was a faithful believer and dedicated worker in the soil conservation movement for many years.

This award consists of a large plaque with 12 small plates on which the name of the annual winner will be engraved, as well as a

smaller plaque that is given to the individual. The multiple plate plaque is displayed in the West Pottawattamie SCD office. This year's recipient of the Eldon Ravlin Award is Robert S. Jensen of Neola.

Another contest that the District participates in is given in recognition of an exemplary windbreak planting program. Started in 1977, this award is sponsored by the Iowa Division of the Izaak Walton League in America. Farmstead and

field windbreaks are eligible for this contest. This year's winner is Jay Crist of Silver City.

All of the conservation award winners were honored at a banquet held Feb. 9th at the Underwood Lutheran Church. Part of the program included the showing of slides of the conservation practices on the winning farms. They all serve as excellent examples of how to be good stewards of our natural resources.

Ernest Victoria
Soil Conservationist



Several area implement dealers provided no-till equipment on display at Awards Day, held February 9 at the Underwood Lutheran Church.

XL-73

- Excellent for cash grain or high energy silage
- High yield with good management
- Holds up under heat and drought stress
- High quality grain

Talk corn with your DEKALB-PFIZER GENETICS dealer today.

Ken Christensen
R.R. 2, Council Bluffs
712-566-2174
Bill Pogge
R.R. 2, Neola
712-485-2550
Merlin Dau
Minden, Iowa
712-483-2311
Tom Eitmann
Box C, Treynor
712-487-3792
Robert Soloth
R.R. 1, McClelland
712-566-2608
Wayne Buresh
Rt. 3, Council Bluffs
712-322-5042
Don Anderson
R.R. 2, Council Bluffs
712-328-9471

Plan to Attend Our Open House on Tuesday March 15, 1983 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

At the McClelland Town Hall

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Serving Ham Sandwiches, Baked Beans, and all the extras

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Register for Free Door Prizes

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Special Premiums with Feed Purchases to be picked up or delivered within 2 weeks.

We'll be looking for you...

McClelland Feed & Grain

McClelland, Iowa

We make it right.

Caring for the land

... is an investment in the future.

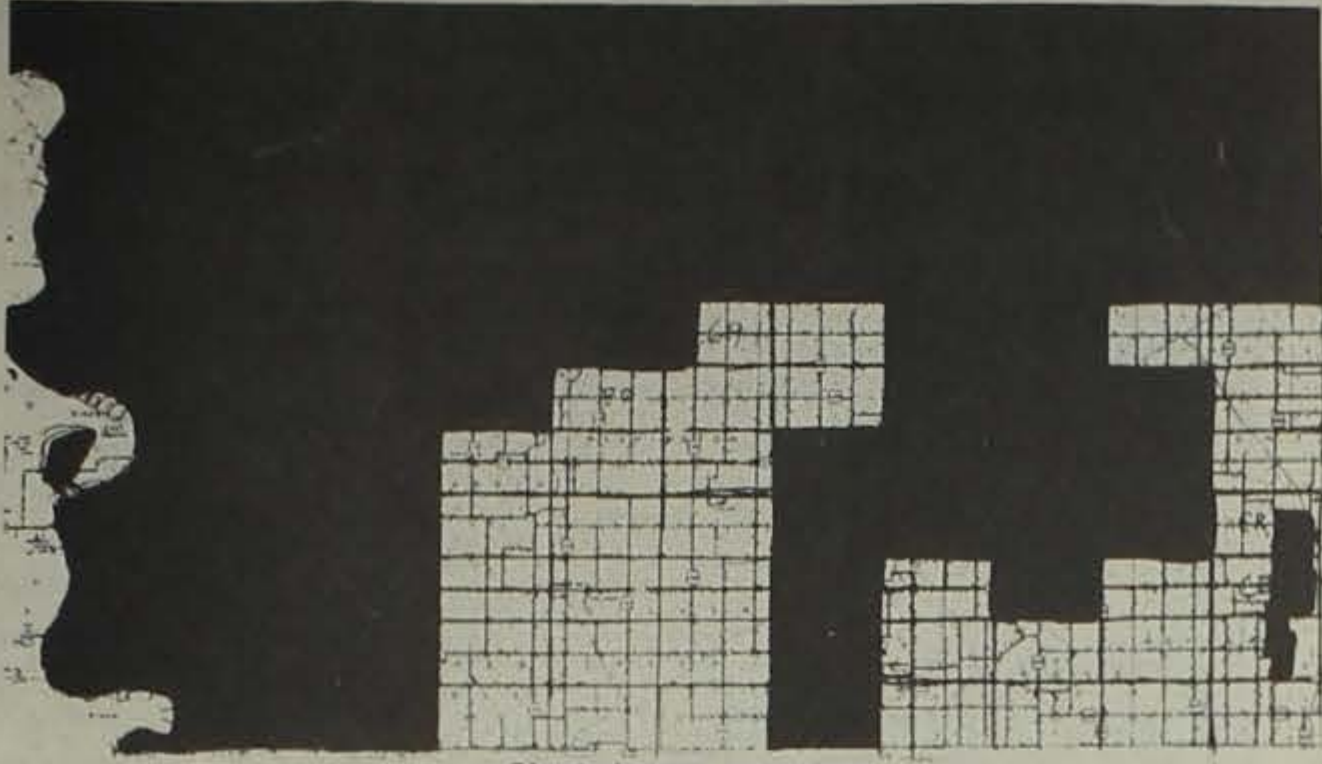
We understand the needs of the land and the farmer who cares for it.

Stop in and see us ... or call 325-2623.

Dennis Ochsner
Vern Knop

FIRST NATIONAL BANK
OF COUNCIL BLUFFS
MAIN THE MALL MANAWA & WEST ON BROADWAY

County soil map now three-fourths complete



Shaded areas complete.

Soil mapping has been completed on 75 percent of the 616,000 acres in Pottawattamie county. Mapping to date has been concentrated in the western and northern parts of the county, and along the West Nishnabotna River (see accompanying map). Spring field work will start in the eastern part of the county along the East Nishnabotna River and Walnut Creek.

The soil survey provides a comprehensive inventory of soil resources in an area, in this case Pottawattamie county. Forty-eight different soil types have been identified and classified in the county. The soil scientist observes soil characteristics and properties by probing the soil with either a hand probe or truck-mounted power probe. Where he probes in a given tract depends on landscape characteristics, soil complexity, experience and judgement of the soil scientist. A rule of thumb would be that an experien-

ced soil scientist would make 10 to 40 probe observations in a 160-acre tract.

When the soil scientist probes the soil, he observes the properties to a depth of 3-5 feet. He looks at the properties of the topsoil, subsoil, and parent material. In addition, slope, landscape configuration, vegetation and erosion is related to each soil type. Based on these observations, the soils information and soil boundaries are recorded on aerial photographs.

A soil map is useful to farmers and land managers planning management programs and is the basis for conservation planning. A published soil survey explains soil potential not only for agricultural, but also for engineering and other uses, such as septic systems and building sites. A soil map will prove useful to anyone considering a land transaction or development.

Working on the soil

survey are Charles Brannan, soil survey party leader, and soil scientist Craig Busskohl. Both work for USDA's Soil Conservation Service.

A card is sent out to landowners by the Extension Service to let them know a soil scientist will be mapping in their area. If a landowner wants to talk personally to the soil scientist before mapping begins on his or her land, he is encouraged to contact the Soil Conservation Service office.

The agencies cooperating in the survey program are the East and West Pottawattamie County Soil Conservation Districts, the USDA's Soil Conservation Service, the Pottawattamie County Extension Service, the Iowa State Experiment Station, the Pottawattamie County Board of Supervisors, and County Conference Board.

Craig R. Busskohl
Soil Scientist

Upland treatment for Arrowhead Park Lake

The Golden Hills Resource Conservation and Development executive board has approved the planning of an upland treatment measure plan for the 1050-acre drainage area above Arrowhead Park Lake near Neola. The lake is experiencing some water quality problems due to runoff from cropland and pastureland above it.

The local Soil Conservation Service staff is in the process of working with all the landowners in the drainage area to develop a complete conservation treatment system for all their land including terraces with tile outlets,

grassed waterways, livestock ponds, pasture management, basin terraces in pastures, grassed headland, no-till farming, and wildlife areas.

The total conservation needs will be developed into a request for funding through the RC&D program of the Soil Conservation Service. Funds will be available up to 75 percent cost-share on some practices. Initial funding is expected in late summer. Total cost of the project is expected to be around \$125,000.

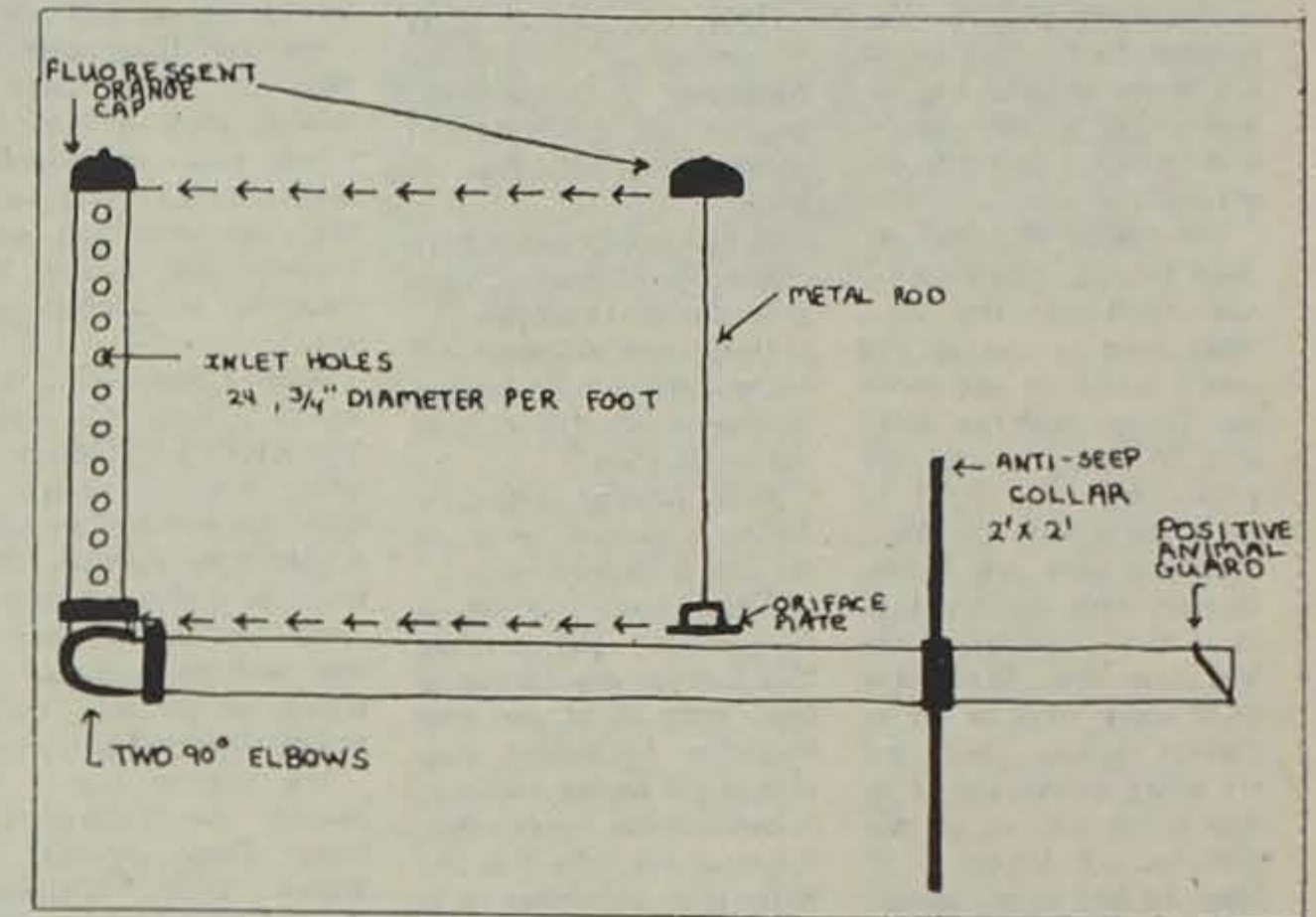
Bill Hammett
District Conservationist

Honor retiring commissioners



Retiring Soil Conservation District Commissioners Floyd Fischer (left) and Derald Blois were honored recently with plaques recognizing their years of service on the commission. Fischer acted as a commissioner from 1970 - 1982 and Blois served from 1966-1982.—Gazette photo

Plastic solutions to drowned crops



This coming year we will be using PVC pipe as an alternative to metal for our terrace outlets.

There appears to be many advantages at first glance. One advantage might be the weight, as PVC seems to be considerably lighter and possibly easier to work with. Another advantage is in the inlet because the plastic allows us to drill the required number and diameter of inlet holes for any given drainage area. One more advantage is that the pipe can be cut to any specified length with a regular handsaw. That's probably enough about the advantages.

The accompanying drawing illustrates a PVC terrace

intake and the major component; starting on the cap and working down to the animal guard. The fluorescent orange cap not only serves as a trash guard to keep out crop residues, but it also serves as a beacon to help locate the pipe when field work is being done.

Inlet holes will be 3/4" holes in most cases, but this could depend on the drainage area. Three-quarter inch holes are still small enough to keep out most crop residue while letting in enough water to get rid of it all in 48 hours.

The use of two 90 degree elbows allow the intake to be adjusted to any angle in relation to the front slope of the terrace.

Orifice plates will be on rods so that they can be removed to be cleaned out.

Anti-seep collars will be used to prevent water from seeping along the outside of the pipe through the fill. Collars are relatively low in cost compared to rebuilding a terrace because of pipe failure.

The last component is the animal guard. We will be using a flap-type fork assembly. The advantage of this type is that trash can pass out of the pipe but rodents are prevented from entering.

These are the components of the terrace outlet pipe and some advantages of PVC versus metal.

David Breyfogle
State Engineering Aide II

Underwood poster contest winners



Soil conservation poster contest winners at Underwood this year include (front row, from the left) Seth Grote, Carrie Jacobsen, Connie Casson, Matt Malnack, Nikki Bach, (second row) Amy Marie Pitt, Wendy Larson, Angela Gochanour, John Hromadka, Jennifer Mandar, (back row) Cullen Choliott, Josh Bracker, Greg Coan, Amy Ross, Eddy Jackson, Heather Leaders and Tina Collins.—Chuck Killion photo

WE LEND MONEY TO FARMERS

... AND WE'RE PROUD TO SUPPORT THE FARMER WHO SUPPORTS THE LAND



Richard W. Sharp, Branch Manager
Hwy. 6 at I-80, Council Bluffs (712) 328-1449



Taking care of the land that takes care of you . . .

SOIL CONSERVATION

We're proud to support the efforts of local farmers who practice soil conservation.



Close to the land and the people who work it

Just north of new Highway 6, east of Interstate 80, COUNCIL BLUFFS

WANT AD DEADLINE 5 p.m. MONDAYS

PIK Program? SOIL TEST

Your Remaining Acres To Know Where You Can Save!

You can stretch your fertilizer dollar and still have balanced fertilization.

We can help you get the Best Crop Response for Your Dollar!



We can formulate to your exact needs. Pay for only what you need.

TFG FERTILIZER & FEED

Minden, Iowa

483-2088

TREYNOR FEED & GRAIN

Treynor, Iowa

487-3223

Essay contest winner:

"The Future of Soil and Water Conservation"

Tracy Peterson
Underwood School
Underwood, Iowa

The future of our soil and water is very important to everyone's future. Since the farmers feed everyone in the world in one way or another, it is very important to everyone for future generations.

Ever since farming has been around, farmers have not cared for the land. They used to use up the land's resources and move on. Today, with no more land to move to and the prices, we must learn to take care of what we have.

In the past few years, farmers have realized that their most important problem is erosion. They have tried many ways to try to prevent erosion. Still we are losing an average of 10 tons of top-soil, so at this rate we are losing it 10 times as fast as we should be losing it. We are losing more soil in the hills because of the force of the

water, although we are using lots of soil on the bottom land because of creeks and rivers.

There are different ways of preventing erosion like terracing. Terracing holds the soil on the hills and slows down the flow of water.

Grass waterways help stop erosion by providing a ground cover in ditches.

No-till and minimum till reduces soil loss by leaving residue on the top to hold the soil in place.

Strip farming helps by having a ground cover on the hills between a crop.

Water conservation is also another big problem that farmers are having to face. With all of the new irrigation equipment running to get higher yields, it is lowering our water table.

We must ask ourselves if the water more important or is the food more important? Without water, we cannot live and we cannot live

without food, so we must find other ways of doing things like cutting back on the amount of water used for that and other things.

Another thing that affects the water table is rainfall; since we have had a wet year, we probably have a higher water table. Since we have had more rainfall, that means less watering is needed this year.

While I was writing this paper, it made me realize how much of a problem we have. We must learn to take care of what we have in order to survive. This made me realize a way that I can help, like not running the water so much and by trying to promote no-till and minimum till practices.

The sources that I received the information from: Farm Journal - March 1980; Wallace Farmer - September 1982; Successful Farming - September 1982

Soil conservation loans available with reduced interest

In 1980, the Iowa Legislature created the Iowa Family Farm Development Authority (IFFDA) to provide loans for the purchase of agricultural land. In 1982, the IFFDA was allowed to implement a Soil Conservation Loan Program for permanent soil and water conservation practices as waterways, terraces, or permanent vegetative cover. Eligible farm equipment are specialized planters used for strip tillage or zero tillage.

The loan program is administered locally by private lenders. The lenders make their own security evaluations on the loans, but the interest rate may

be 2-4% lower because the lenders receive federally tax-exempt interest on these loans. The maximum amount an individual may receive in one year is \$25,000. These funds could be used along with money received through cost-share programs to apply conservation practices. Eligibility requirements include the development of a conservation plan by the USDA Soil Conservation Service. If your financial institution is not already participating in this loan program, they may apply at any time by signing an agreement with the IFFDA.

Ernest Victoria
Soil Conservationist

Essay contest winner: **"How Soil and Water Conservation Affects Our Future"**

Soil conservation plays a big part in everyone's future. We may not be worrying about saving the soil now, but it will certainly be a worry to the generations after us if we don't do something now. Iowa has lost half of its topsoil in the past one hundred years. At the rate we're going now, we could lose the other half in the next century. We must start using methods to save our soil. The biggest problem facing us, if we don't conserve our soil, will be starvation. Of all the earth, there is roughly eleven percent in fields and pastures. With our population rising more and more everyday we need more farmland. Many of our unused acres of land could be put into crop production.

The greatest cause of soil loss is erosion. Erosion is the wearing away of soil. There are different types of erosion. One type of erosion is wind. Soils with sand compositions are more exposed to wind erosion than soil with less sand and higher organic matter content. Another type of erosion is water erosion. Wat-

er erosion is when the water rushes down slopes and carries soil with it. There are many ways to prevent these two types of soil erosion. One way to prevent wind erosion is having more windbreaks. Windbreaks slow the wind down so it won't blow the soil away. One way of preventing water erosion is by terracing. Terraces look like steps going up a hill. Terraces are made to stop the water from washing away the soil.

Another way to prevent water erosion is contouring, which is planting around the slopes instead of up and down. Without contouring, the water can rush between the rows and take lots of soil with it. When contouring is used, it will help block some of the running water and soil. Another method of preventing erosion is rotating crops. Some crops loosen the soil more than others. When the crops are rotated, it helps save the soil. One very good method for saving our soil is no-tillage farming. No-tillage farming is planting crops in unprepared soil by leaving a narrow slot

with enough width and depth for seed coverage. No-tillage farming offers higher yields, reduced production costs, reduced rainfall runoff, less wind and water erosion, and less soil damage from machinery. Water conservation also plays a big part in our lives. We need water for the growth of crop plants. Great effort is being made to store this water which falls as rain or snow. This water will help in the future when we need it. One way our water is being used is for irrigation. Lots of our water is used for irrigation every year. With the rapid growth in population, we need this water for other purposes also. Water is needed for various city needs. People everywhere need water in their homes. We also need water for industrial uses. If our industries don't have sufficient water, they may close. We will not get our supplies if industries shut down. Soil and water conservation is a problem facing all of us. If we don't do something now, what will happen?



Peggy Van Soelen was the first-place winner in both the district and regional competitions in the junior division of the conservation essay contest.

No-Tillage Farming
S.H. Phillips
H.M. Young, Jr.
Milwaukee, Wisconsin
Reiman Associates, Inc.
1973

I received much of my information from my grandfather, Thomas Carritt.

Peggy Van Soelen
2554 Avenue L
Council Bluffs, Iowa
Woodrow Wilson
915 No. 21st Street
8th Grade 14
Delores Kay, Teacher

Pottawattamie County Board of Supervisors

February 24, 1983

MET IN ADJOURNED SESSION:

The Board of Supervisors met in

adjourned session, all members being

present. Chairman Steege presiding.

The Board proceeded to examine and

approve the February 24, 1983 Agenda

and the February 22, 1983 Minutes.

Motion by Houser, second by Geiger,

to approve the following overtime pay

CARE FACILITY: June Brannan,

\$28.40; Karen Bressman, \$29.98;

Krisly Howerton, \$27.30; Mary New-

man, \$31.40; Marilyn Hambree,

\$33.96; Susan Sturm, \$27.48; Susan

Clair, \$15.59; SECONDARY ROADS:

Bob Achenbach, \$108.75; Marilyn Allen,

\$119.13; Jim Boham, \$204.12; Lavern

Butcher, \$148.48; Mark Colman,

\$158.55; Darrell Fender, \$124.97;

\$130.00; Mark Robertson, \$131.83;

Harold Rutledge, \$141.77; Far Rose,

\$139.68; Dave Rounds, \$169.88; Carl

Schorsch, \$119.96; Don Schroder,

\$223.86; Elmer Schroder, \$139.66;

Ransom Schwinderman, \$165.36; Mar-

vin Strong, \$142.40; Lynne Vallier,

\$174.09; TREASURER'S OFFICE:

Rosemary Stokes, \$16.20; Barb Behn,

\$17.30; Kathy Busch, \$15.75; Rhonda

Powell, \$16.58; Lori Collar, \$15.60;

Deb Schull, \$14.50. Unanimous vote.

Motion carried.

Motion by Smith, second by Roden-

burg, to approve the following longev-

ity increases in the Secondary Road De-

partment: Bob Achenbach, \$15,080.00

annually, effective February 16, 1983;

Cowell Bias, \$24,419.20 annually;

and Schroder, \$22,172.80 annually, and

Elmer Schroder, \$16,140.80 annually,

all effective March 1, 1983. Unanimous

vote. Motion carried.

Motion by Smith, second by Houser,

to approve the February 14, 1983

1983 Claim Register. Unanimous vote.

Motion carried.

Motion by Houser, second by Smith,

to approve bond for Richard A. L.

Vorlmann, Keg Creek Township

Clerk. Unanimous vote. Motion carried.

Abatement #1848.

Motion by Rodenburg, second by

Smith, to abate the 1981 Assessment

Year taxes on #78-100-0-23669, Han-

cock Town Original Plat, Lot 12, Block

1, \$115.40 due to severe storm damage

7-40-80. Unanimous vote. Motion

carried.

Motion by Houser, second by Geiger,

to set a public hearing on the proposed

Community Development Block Grant

Fund Application and Federal Revenue

Sharing Fund use for a residential care

facility for Pottawattamie County, for

March 14, 1983 at 10:00 A.M. in the

Board of Supervisors' Hearing Room,

Second Floor, County Courthouse,

Council Bluffs, Iowa. Unanimous vote.

Motion carried.

Motion by Rodenburg, second by

Houser, to employ Grace Williams

full-time in the Juvenile Probation

Office at \$3.50 per hour. Ayes: Roden-

burg; Nays: 4. Motion failed.

Motion by Rodenburg, to amend the

previous motion to read as follows:

Grace Williams full-time in the Juvenile

Probation Office at \$3.60 per hour.

Motion failed for lack of a second.

Motion by Houser, second by Geiger,

to employ Grace Williams full-time in

the Juvenile Probation Office at \$3.35

per hour, effective February 28, 1983.

Ayes: 3; Nays: Rodenburg; Smith.

Motion carried.

10:00 A.M. - PLANNING AND ZON-

ING PUBLIC HEARING

1. Case #274-82-005: The request of

the Pottawattamie County Board of

Supervisors, represented by Ronald

D. Hooper, Director of Planning and

Development, for a zoning text

amendment to Section 79 of the

Pottawattamie County, Iowa, Zon-

ing Ordinance, entitled "Plats, Sub-

divisions, Resubdivisions or Dedications

in Unincorporated Areas," by

adding provisions thereto for "Var-

iances," "Country Estates" and

"Planned Residential/Cluster Lot

Subdivisions."

Hooper reviewed the request and

advised of the Commission's recom-

mendation to approve the proposed

text amendment.

Commission Chairman Jim Rounds

and Commission Vice-Chairman

Hummel were present to speak in

favor of the amendment. No objec-

tions were present, nor were any

written objections received by the

Board.

Motion by Geiger, second by Hous-

er, to approve first consideration of

an ordinance to amend Section 79,

paragraph G of the Pottawattamie

County, Iowa, Zoning Ordinance

and to hold the second consideration

of this ordinance for March 3, 1983

at 10:30 A.M. Motion carried. Ayes:

3; Nays: 0. Abstentions: Rodenburg

and Smith, who abstains due to a

possible conflict of interest because

they both have real estate licenses.

2. Case #58-82-003: The request of

Robert and Kathleen Nielsen for

preliminary plat approval of Nielsen

Subdivision, located in Crescent

Township.

Hooper reviewed the request and

advised the Board of the Commis-

sion's recommendation to approve

the preliminary plat.

Certificate of Registration: Kenneth Hum-

mel, representative for the applic-

ant, were present. No objections

were present, nor were any written

objections received by the Board.

Motion by Geiger, second by Smith,

to approve the preliminary plat of

Nielsen Subdivision and to adopt

Planning and Zoning Resolution

#83-1. Unanimous vote. Motion

carried.

Motion by Geiger, second by Smith,

to authorize the Chairman, on behalf

of the Board of Supervisors, to initiate

a request for a zoning map amendment

to reclassify the Hansen Oil facility, a

legal nonconforming use, located in

Section 33 of Norwalk Township from a

Class A-2 (Exclusive Agricultural) Dis-

trict to a Class I-2 (General Industrial)

District. Ayes: 4; Nays: Houser. Motion

carried.

Received and filed the following:

Certificate of Registration: Kenneth Hum-

mel, representative for the applic-

ant, were present. No objections

were present, nor were any written

objections received by the Board.

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trict to a Class I-2 (General Industrial)

Windbreaks offer something for everyone



Farmstead windbreak.

See if you can answer these questions: What reduces wind velocity from 30 mph to 2-6 mph in 50 feet? What protects 10 times the amount of land by its height? What caused a Montana cow herd to gain an average of 35 lbs. more each during a mild winter and lose less than 10 1/2 lbs. in a severe winter? The answers are all the same—windbreaks.

The use of windbreaks increased dramatically in 1982 when a total of eight windbreaks were planted equalling 5525 feet. No windbreaks were planned with our assistance in 1981 so last year was an accomplishment. Windbreaks benefit each farming operation depending if proper planning, planting method, and maintenance are done.

To actually see wind velocity lowered by a windbreak is an impossibility; however, the benefits show in other ways such as reduced wind-blown soil loss, higher grain yields, lower fuel bills, better weight gains in livestock and the attraction of wildlife.

Windbreaks reduce wind velocity anywhere from 35 percent to 75 percent depending on tree density. The protection of land extends a distance of eight to fifteen times the height.

On windbreak protected fields, less soil loss occurs but on large unprotected tracts of land where winds can build, the effects can be devastating. Wind erosion occurs if wind velocity exceeds 13 mph at one foot above the soil. As winds

continue to blow, small particles of soil lift into the air and drop a short distance later. The impact of fallen soil particles in turn dislodge other particles into the air or help them creep across land surfaces. The end effect on young crops can be compared to sand blasting.

Immature plants benefit from windbreaks due to less wind damage, lower transpiration rates, and higher soil moisture. Higher grain yields result if these factors are controlled.

On ranches, cattle and sheep receive adequate protection from windbreaks by reducing blizzard conditions and driving rains. Since winds are modified, livestock gain weight or lose it less often due to the reduction of stored energy into body heat.

Around the home or farmstead, windbreaks lower drafts, dust levels and heating bills. Heat requirements can be cut 15 percent or more while snowdrifting problems could be controlled if planning is done correctly. Windbreaks are naturally enhancing and attract insect-eating birds, game birds, and other wildlife.

The SCS provides assistance in designing, planning and laying out windbreaks while the ASCS offers a cost-share program. The amount shared by ASCS is 50 percent of the cost not to exceed \$7.50 per tree or \$1.00 per shrub. Sign-up should be done prior to planting.

Both deciduous and coniferous trees are allowed.

ASCS cost-shares on a three row windbreak consisting of two rows of conifers and one row of shrubs. If deciduous trees are used, replace each coniferous row with two rows of deciduous trees. A shrub row is also needed in the deciduous windbreak.

Last year, the honeysuckle was the most common plant used in a windbreak. This year we cannot recommend it due to an aphid problem that has been found. Our specifications however, point out other possible shrubs that can replace honeysuckle.

Windbreaks must be maintained and proper care given to them. Livestock have to be kept out so fences are needed around windbreaks. Proper tillage methods, weed and insect control will insure your windbreak off to a good start. Different kinds of trees should also be used per row in case a disease infects one row, it won't harm another. A blight problem has been noticed in Austrian Pines.

Windbreaks are long-term investments and you won't notice the benefits until the shrubs and trees begin to mature. In two years, watch the shrub row catch snow while in five to eight years expect trees to slow winds down. Plant a windbreak now so the benefits arrive sooner and last well into the future.

John Bahr
County Resource Planner

East and West Pottawattamie contractors meet in January

The joint East and West Pottawattamie Soil Conservation District's annual contractor's meeting was held at the Villager Restaurant near Walnut on the 27th of January. A noon meal for the contractors was provided by the District Commissioners. There were 24 contractors and their employees present.

Prior to the meal, a joint commissioners meeting was held to discuss 1983 cost estimates of conservation practices. The program began with welcoming comments by Clint Goos, West Pottawattamie District Commissioner.

Cal Dunblazier, West Pottawattamie Conservation Technician, gave a short analysis on cost of the previous fiscal year's terraces. West Pottawattamie District Conservationist Bill Hammitt reviewed the State and Federal cost-share programs and probable funding amounts for fiscal year 1983. Bill also commented on the Golden Hills Resource Conservation & Development program.

Following a film on runoff, Jack McCain of Northern Natural Gas spoke about their policies and procedures concerning construction over or near buried natural gas lines.

Norm Koester, area civil engineer, explained and showed a slide set of the fatal natural gas explosion near Hudson, Iowa in November of 1982.

Jerry Rounders, a representative of J&J Metal briefly discussed availability of pipe materials. David Breyfogle, Engineering

Aide, talked about the requirements of installing intake pipes in terraces.

Updating policy on contractor checkout was Warren Vorthmann, East Pottawattamie Conservation Technician. An open discussion closed the meeting.

Cal Dunblazier
Soil Conservation Technician

TERRACE ANALYSIS

	1982
Total Footage	206,730
Total Yards	556,521.13
Total Cost	\$261,368.87
Jobs Analyzed	65
Footage Per Job	3180.50
Yards Per Job	8561.86
Yards Per Foot	2.69
Cost Per Job	3876.05
Cost Per Foot	\$1.27
Cost Per Yard	\$.481
Increase Per Yard	16.8%
Yards Moved Per Hour	127.24

A terrace question

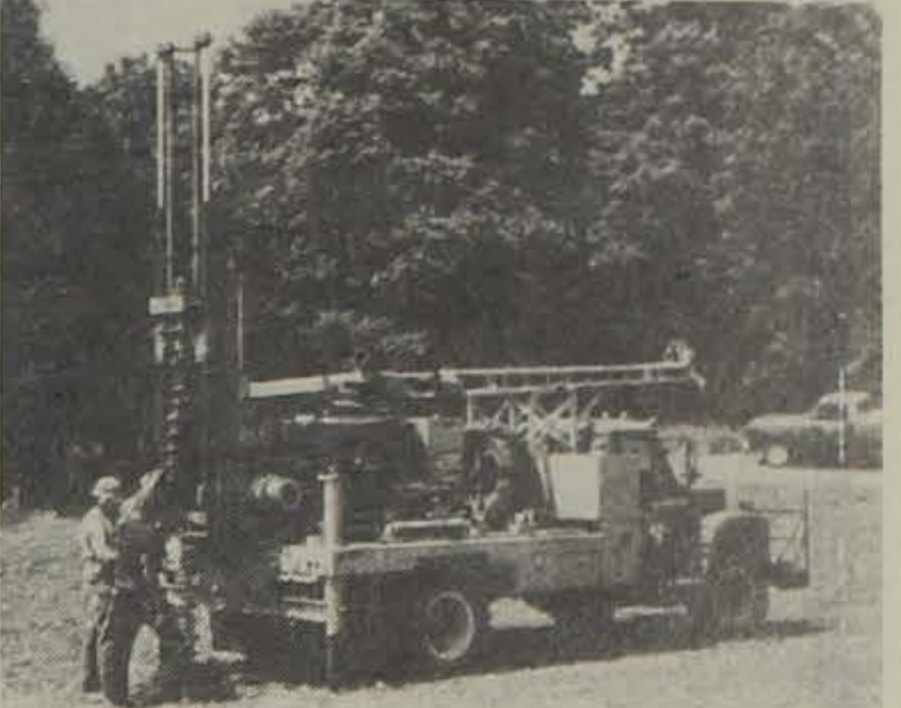
Soil Conserving Question:

If I participate in the 1983 set-aside program, may I also apply for cost-share assistance for terraces applied on my idled acres?

Answer:

If you participate in the set-aside program, you may also apply for cost-share assistance through either the ASCS or the SCS. This is an important consideration to keep in mind when planning your set-aside acres. A minimum of 5 acres must be idled; however, portions of fields are also possible for set-aside. This will enable you to put terraces on several hill-sides, not just one. Proper spacing must be taken into consideration before planting so crops won't be disturbed during construction. For assistance with planning terraces on your set-aside acres, contact the Soil Conservation Service.

Watershed activities



Geological investigations were carried out in the Simon Run watershed.

The watershed treatment and protection projects in West Pottawattamie are still active, although some more than others. We may have reached some stumbling blocks on a few sites but at least we have reached the point where we can begin to see over the last hill toward a construction contract.

We currently have six structures in Simon Run Watershed and one in North Pigeon planned for construction in 1984 (next year). Upland treatment is nearly complete for all these structures due to

excellent concern and co-operation of the landowners involved. Our immediate focus now is on acquiring the remaining easements of these structures in the immediate future.

Our newest watershed project, Twin Pines, is still in the planning stages. The final plan for the remaining structures is now written and being reviewed by the various agencies and levels of government required. The next step will be local review of the final plan sometime this spring.

Bill Hammitt
District Conservationist

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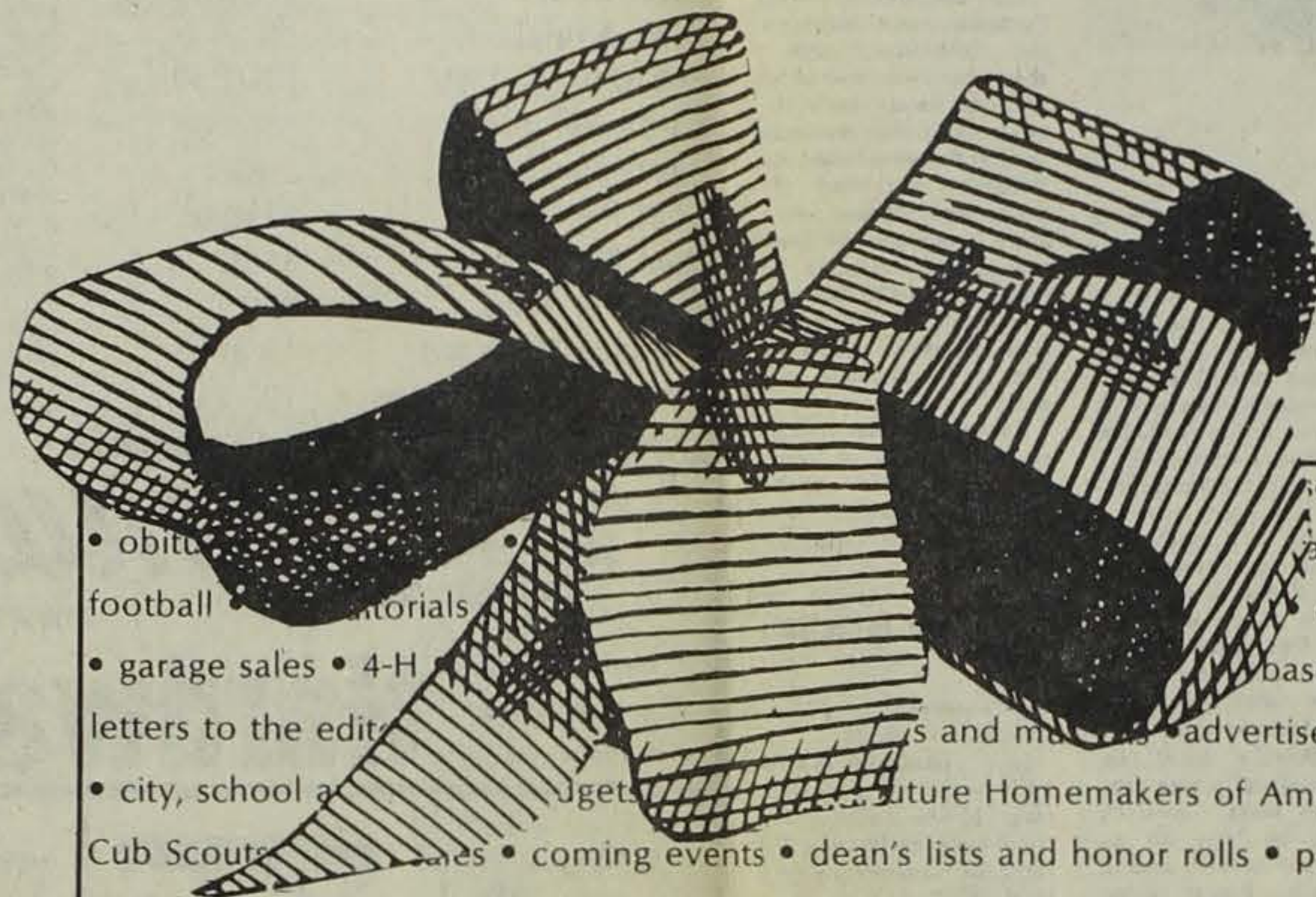
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