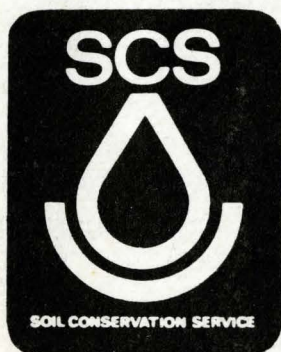


Des Moines County, Iowa Soil Conservation District

Twenty-sixth

ANNUAL REPORT AND DISTRICT PROGRAM



**Iowa Soil
Conservation Districts**



1971

Burlington Iowa Banks

We congratulate the Des Moines County Soil Conservation District and the Soil Conservation Service on the good progress toward putting every acre to its best use and the saving of our soil, our greatest resource.

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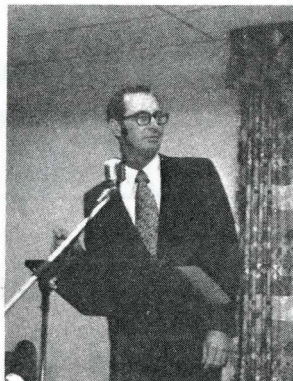
ACTIVITIES 1971

One highlight of any year is the Annual Awards banquet, held this year at Burlington First Congregational Church. Over 100 people gathered to enjoy Dr. Minoru Amemiya, Extension Agronomist tell what lies ahead for conservation.

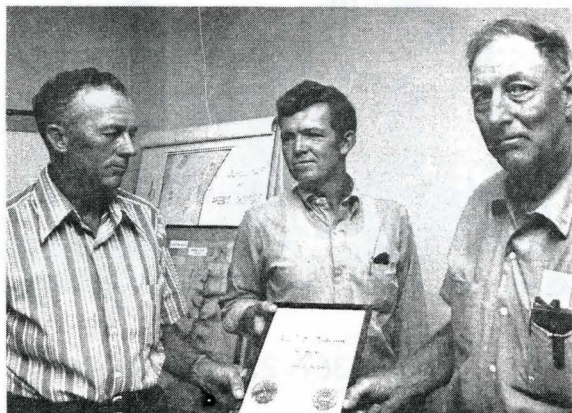
Winners of Conservation Achievement awards are honored at the annual dinner. Teachers Sherman Lundy and Mrs. Ruth Mertens were chosen as outstanding in the Southeast Iowa area as well as locally. Farmer winners include Ken Wehage, Charles Matsch and Carl Shumaker shown here with their wives. Operator of the Matsch farm is Rolland Fritz.



Miss Lois Finke, teacher at Grimes School and Mrs. Laura Kroeger, teaching at Salter School represented the district last fall at the Teachers Conservation Workshop at Luther, Iowa. Their work with youngsters has been outstanding in the district.



Commissioner Bill Vierling aptly takes care of toastmaster chores at the annual meeting.



Rex Troute and S. S. Barton attended the Annual Commissioners Conference at Des Moines in September and were presented with a Twenty-five Year award by the State Soil Conservation Committee. Chairman Henry Dockendorff accepts the 25 year certificate on behalf of the district.

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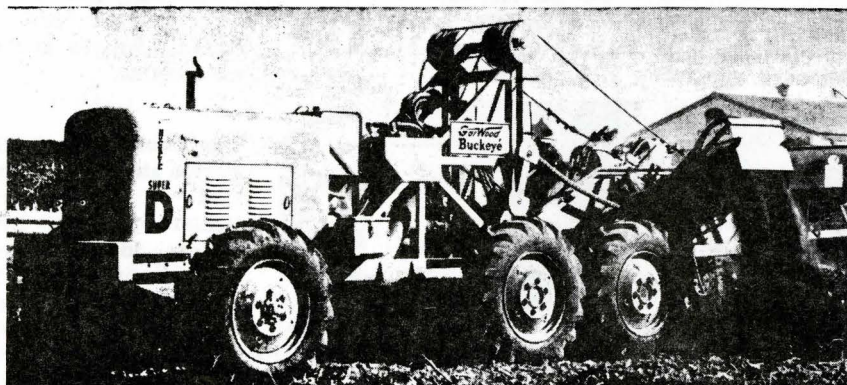
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CONSERVATION EDUCATION in our schools has moved forward rapidly in 1971 under direction of our Environmental Conservation Education Council, composed of representatives of all schools in the county.

City of Burlington Schools and Mediapolis have been most active. Burlington is using Salter School as a trial area in upgrading its teachers to be better able to teach environmental studies.

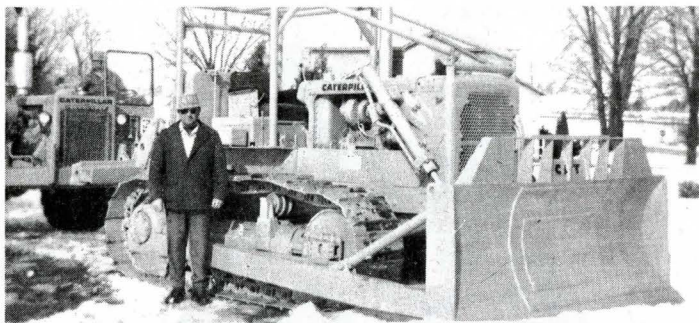


Salter school staff spends a day in training for use of outdoor classrooms. Biology specialist Dr. Robert Moorman and geologist Fred Dorheim took the teachers on a tour of Crapo Park and Hunt's Woods to open their eyes to the many things that can be taught outdoors.



The entire Mediapolis sixth grade toured Hunt Woods where Dr. Moorman, District Forester Stan Tate, SCS Biologist Sylvan Runkel and District Conservationist Ralph Dewey explained the meaning of natural communities of plants and animals.

Following up on the training, teachers have made good use of the outdoor areas of the county for instruction. The Council plans to help schools establish outdoor classrooms in each community, so students can observe without having to travel many miles to a special area.



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ACTIVITIES...

Now that the expertise of our technicians is available to all land users, we have had requests for a wide variety of soil information. Levee District 16, which keeps the Mississippi off about 50,000 acres of cropland, is anxious to find better ways to protect their new sand levees from erosion by wind, wave and water.



A natural growth of wild mulberry seems to provide an ideal protection for the river side of the levee. It is dense enough to protect from current erosion and tall enough to protect from wave action. SCS has helped establish other species that will hopefully do as good a job.

SCS Agronomist John Maddy (far left), biology specialist Sylvan T. Runkel and plant materials specialist Billy Rountree join with Kenneth Oetken, chairman of Levee District 16, to work out a plan to attack erosion.



Workmen rake in seeds of several grass species in a trial plot on the sand levee. It is hoped to find varieties which will help hold down the sand against erosion.

L.M. Whipple



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DES MOINES COUNTY SCD PERSONNEL

Henry Dockendorff, Danville
William Vierling, Mediapolis
Rex H. Troute, Burlington
S. S. Barton, Mediapolis
Albert Schulz, Burlington
Harold Linder, Sperry
Horace Sutton, Burlington
Mrs. Mildred Kleinkopf
Sandy Hedges

Chairman
Commissioner
Vice-Chairman
Commissioner
Commissioner
District Secretary
District Treasurer
District Clerk
Advertising Manager

SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE PERSONNEL

BURLINGTON WORK UNIT STAFF

Ralph E. Dewey
Winston Cooper
Oren Champ
Harry N. Bryant
Dennis Stucker
Richard Brown

District Conservationist
Soil Conservationist
Conservation Technician
Conservation Technician (part time)
Conservation Technician (part time)
Conservation Technician (part time)

AREA EIGHT STAFF

John Eckes
Margaret Dickey
L. Dale Lockridge
Charles Klepe
Tom Brown
Stan Simmons

Area Conservationist
Area Clerk
Area Soil Scientist
Soil Scientist
Area Engineer
Engineer Technician

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DISTRICT ACCOMPLISHMENTS - FISCAL 1971

<u>PRACTICE</u>	<u>UNIT</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
New Cooperators	No.	78
Basic Conservation plans	No.	36
Revised Conservation plans	No.	14
Farms Serviced	No.	488
Farms Applying Practices	No.	230
Group Conservation Jobs	No.	29
APPLICATION OF PRACTICES:		
Conservation Cropping Systems	Acres	3,412
Contour Farming	Acres	566
Crop Residue Management	Acres	392
Diversions	L. F.	7,840
Farm Ponds	No.	20
Erosion Control Dams	No.	23
Waterways	Acres	31
Pasture Planting	Acres	781
Open Drains	L. F.	21,200
Terracing	L. F.	59,275
Tile Inlet Terrace Pipes	No.	152
Drainage Tile	L. F.	223,156
Tree Planting	Acres	10
Wildlife Habitat Management	Acres	306
Land Adequately Treated	Acres	2,029
Office Callers	1,004	Demonstrations 5
Telephone Calls	640	News Items 44
Radio	48	

1971 FINANCIAL REPORT

	1-M Budget	1MA-Budget	2-M Budget
Commissioners Expense	\$335.61		\$
Office Supplies	79.86	\$.75	
Prizes for contest	63.85	9.08	
Office Expense	20.68	87.17	
Meeting Expense		3.00	
Clerical & Technical			\$5042.88
Travel			72.35
Release to State			51.77
	<u>\$500.00</u>	<u>\$100.00</u>	<u>\$5167.00</u>

DISTRICT PROGRAM

"Toward A Better Tomorrow For Everyone"



**Des Moines County, Iowa
Soil Conservation District**

Box 637
Room 218, Federal Bldg.
Burlington, Iowa 52601

To Develop And Preserve A Quality Environment Through Better Land Use

. . . . it is the policy of the Des Moines County Soil Conservation District to provide assistance in land use planning, upon proper application, to any land-user in the district, whether it be an individual, a group or a unit of government having jurisdiction over a parcel of land.

This district is established under laws of the State of Iowa (Chapters 467A, 467B and 467C, Code of Iowa 1971) and operates under policies set up by the State Soil Conservation Committee, the administrators of the Iowa Department of Soil Conservation.

Technical assistance for planning, application of soil and water conservation measures and maintenance of land use plans is provided by the U. S. Soil Conservation Service, a bureau of the U. S. Department of Agriculture. Memoranda of Understanding have been signed between the District and such agencies as may be mutually concerned with District activities.

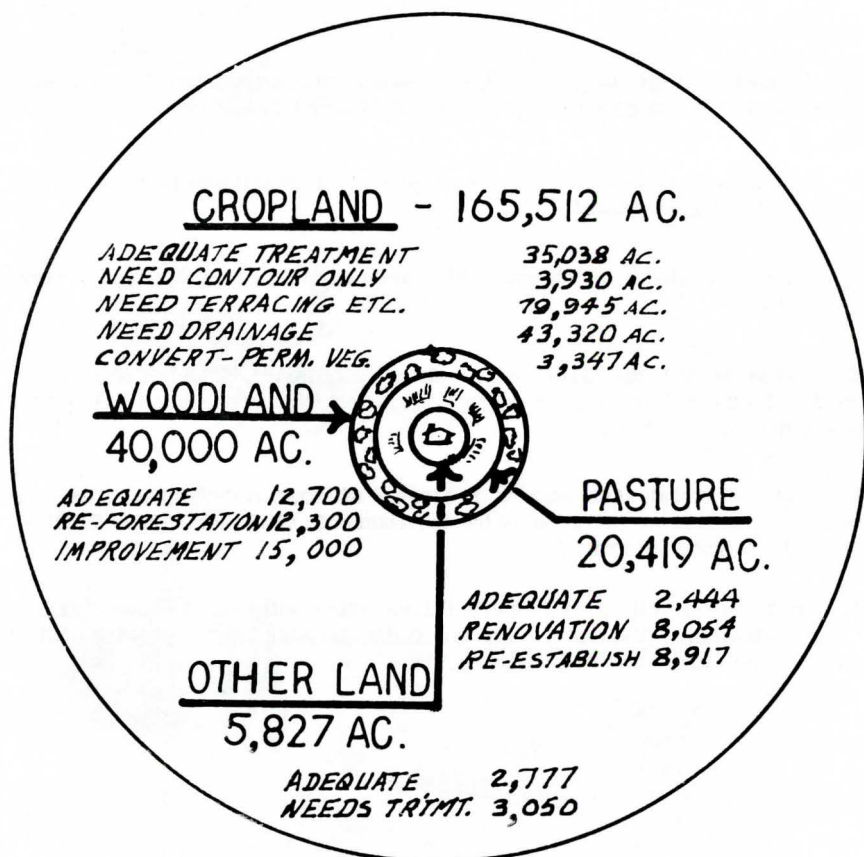
Description Of The District

Des Moines County Soil Conservation District is comprised of lands within Des Moines County, Iowa. It lies South of Louisa County, East of Henry County, North of Skunk River and West of the Mississippi River. Total area is about 231,758 acres according to the 1967 Conservation Needs Inventory.

Although now mainly used for agriculture, future land use planning must consider such legitimate uses as RECREATION, WILDLIFE PRESERVATION, URBAN AND INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND PUBLIC WATER SUPPLY.

LAND USE AND CONSERVATION NEEDS

DES MOINES COUNTY



TOTAL LAND IN INVENTORY 1967

231,758 ACRES

Land Use Objectives

CROPLAND 165,512 Acres

1. Planned land use to provide for less than three tons of soil loss per acre per year, to maintain productivity for long time future use.
2. Apply soil conserving practices needed to maximize productivity and maintain soil in good condition.
3. Support programs which will tend to keep our best croppable land in agricultural use.
4. Cooperate with the State Conservation Commission, County Conservation Board and others in efforts to control silt runoff from cropland on watersheds above public water areas.
5. Lend technical assistance to programs of other agencies concerned with control of erosion or pollution of the environment. (Example: Rural Environmental Assistance Program.)
6. Encourage practices of reduced tillage which will tend to reduce hazards of wind erosion. (Examples: Stubble mulch farming, spring plowing of light soils, non-plowing of soybean stubble.)



PASTURE 20,419 Acres



BRUSH --- TO LUSH

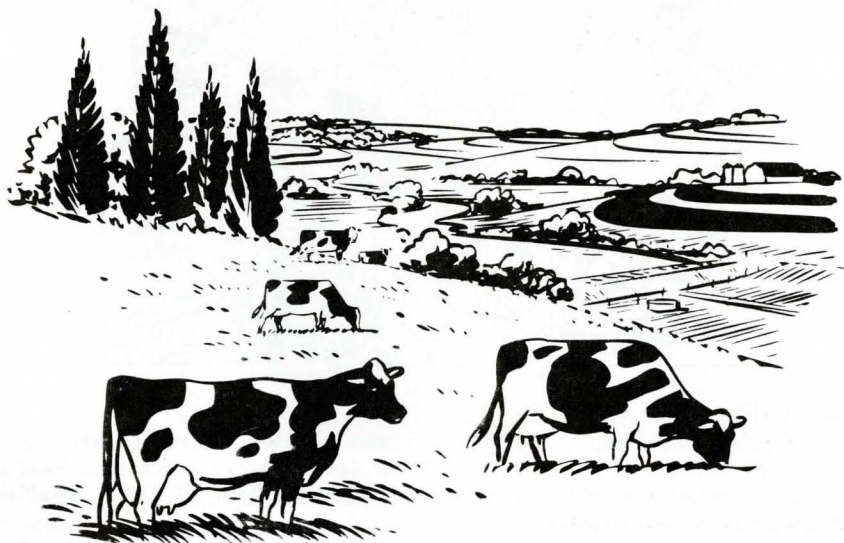


1. Encourage better use of grassland through planting improved species, fertility management and rotation grazing.

2. Establish warm season grasses in substantial pasture areas to provide sustained pasture yields throughout the grazing season.

3. Improve pastures by brush control where feasible, but discourage indiscriminate 'clearing' of woodland areas which will provide only mediocre pasture values.

4. Develop an inventory of available grasslands and a plan to make best use of this type land.



WOODLAND . . . 40,000 Acres

1. Develop an inventory and evaluation of woodland conditions in the district, showing best potential timber production areas, growing sites and potential marketing possibilities.

2. Cooperate with State Conservation Commission foresters to provide woodland management plans and information to land users.

3. Urge individuals, industries and government units to maintain and improve existing woodland areas best suited to timber production.

4. Encourage wood consuming industries to help develop woodland capabilities in the area.

5. Cooperate with other districts in area and regional woodland management plans.



WILDLIFE

1. Cooperate with state, county and private wildlife interests toward better habitat for wildlife in the district. (Examples: County Conservation Board, Area game biologist of State Conservation Commission, Iowa Wildlife Federation and Long Creek Conservation Club.)

2. Emphasize conservation of wildlife and its importance in all planning activities.

RECREATION

1. Develop resource inventory of recreation potential on lands of the district. Help interested groups and agencies in preparing an overall recreation plan and in implementing the plan.
2. Assist land users to develop reasonable plans for use and protection of land, air and water for both public and private recreation.



URBAN DEVELOPMENT

1. Provide assistance to individuals in urban areas who have problems of pollution or erosion control.
2. Provide information and advice to developers of land resources through inventories and evaluations of areas under consideration for development.
3. Assist cities, towns, county and federal government units in solving land use problems for which the district has applicable information.



INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT

1. Provide information about soils and conservation practices to reduce erosion and pollution hazards to concerned industries, to help improve their environment.
 2. Emphasize need for erosion control during and following construction.
-

Other Conservation Objectives

Education

1. Sponsor and support an Environmental Conservation Education Council to encourage the teaching of conservation in all schools of the district.
2. Promote the training of teachers to provide better instruction in conservation and environmental subjects.
3. Encourage the use of, and help establish outdoor classrooms for schools.
4. Provide teaching materials and technical help in training as available.

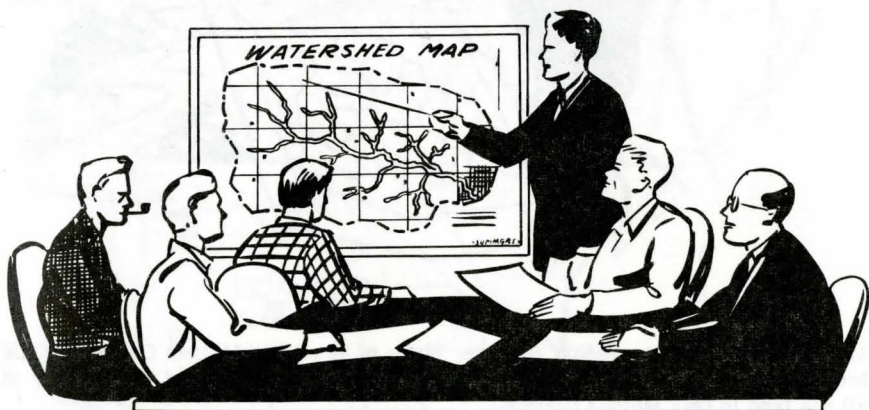


Publicity & Public Relations

1. Maintain relations with all media: newspapers, radio, TV and others - who may be able to benefit the district program through their promotional efforts.
2. Develop an annual plan to assure adequate publicizing of district activities and accomplishments.
3. Prepare an annual report for distribution to cooperating individuals and groups having an input into the program.
4. Maintain a continuing program of explanation of the district activities such as: Planning, Watersheds, Resource Inventories, etc.

Watershed Development

1. Prepare and review regularly an inventory and evaluation of Watershed treatment possibilities in the district.
2. Develop a plan of action, involving all groups and agencies possible, for a continuing program of watershed activity on the basis of Public Law 566 - Small Watersheds Act.
3. Coordinate watershed activities with neighboring Districts.
4. Implement district action under the Iowa Conservancy District Law of 1971.



Finances

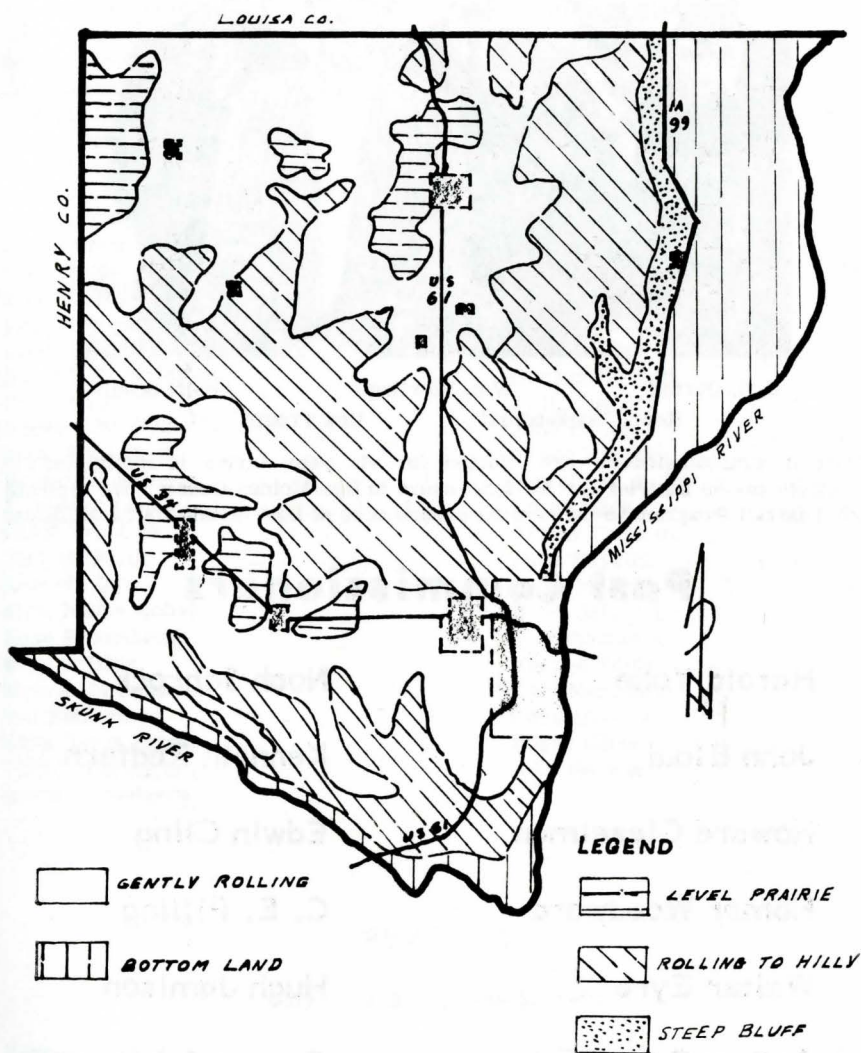
1. Develop and maintain a sound fiscal system to most effectively carry out the functions of the district.
2. Constantly investigate and adapt pertinent methods of fund raising.
3. Utilize funds made available by local, state or federal governments to the district and maintain adequate records of their disbursement.

Cooperative Programs



1. With Soil Conservation Service, State of Iowa Des Moines County and the Iowa Army Ammunition Plant, develop a complete Standard Soil Survey of all the land in Des Moines County.
2. Work with Local, State and Federal governmental units to solve conservation problems:
 - a. Methods of wind and water erosion control for sand levees in Levee District 16.
 - b. Finding local areas for trials of plant materials through SCS plant materials unit.
 - c. Others as arranged.
3. Work with industries for solving particular environmental control problems:
 - a. Assist Iowa Southern Utilities and IAAP on problems of disposal of fly ash material.
4. Work with Des Moines County Rural Development Committee as needs are shown.

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Wm. Vierling

Albert Schulz

Henry Dockendorff

Rex Trouté

District Commissioners are elected for six year terms to administer the program of the district for all land users in Des Moines County. We dedicate this District Program to the best use of each acre of land, within its capabilities.

Past Commissioners

Harold Yohe

Noah Schrock

John Blaul

Kenneth Redfern

Howard Gieselman

Edwin Cling

Homer Woodward

C. E. Pilling

Walter Eyre

Hugh Jamison

Arthur Corman

Eugene Schulte

Theodore Berning

NEW COOPERATORS AND REVISIONS

COOPERATORS:

July 1, 1970 thru June 30, 1971

Robert Myers		DeWayne Poggemiller	
Rodman Baird		Mrs. D. L. Reid	
Paul Beckman		Emmett Earnest	
Clifford Hinson		Mrs. Hazel F. Beck	
Martin Zachmeyer	(3)	F. Mildred Blakeway	(2)
Winfred Siems		Tom Nealey	
Wilbur Brown		Mrs. Ressie A. Head	
Sam Beauchamp		Robert J. Thie	
Kenneth Baugher		Messiah Lutheran Church	
Hollis Peterson		Charles E. Tucker	
Dale Pfeiff	(2)	Robert Gabeline	(2)
Adair Spear		Harold Abel	
Cecil Schenk		Gertrude Abel	
Glenn Crow		Eric Gustafson	
Neal Wolfe	(2)	Howard Fritz	(2)
Ray W. Brandt		Claire Fritz	
Leo Thomas		Kenneth Baird	
Louis Aberle		Roy Schmidt	
Ray W. Frownfelter		George Bonnett	
Cecil Lane		J. B. Gingery	
Richard W. Fye		John Brown	(2)
Mrs. Edna Bush		Grace Kubisch	
Robert T. Rehmke		Howard E. Smith	
J. Walter Lane		Lewis Kirk	
IAAP Tract 49		Arthur Corman	
John G. Pfeiff		John Weyrick	
Kenneth Davis		H. F. Meeker	
Mrs. Marie Hoffer		H. B. Schroeder	
Rose Bloomberg		C. Kuhlbeck	(2)
Breder Bros.		Eugene Fouts	
Mrs. Lois Johnson		Earl Mansfield	
Sue Rutherford		Kenneth Groe	
Ezra Gerst Estate		Roger Cling	
Paul Luttenegger		John Hostetter	
Harvey Heiniger			

REVISIONS:

July 1, 1970 thru June 30, 1971

Kenneth Oetken	IAAP Tracts	(7)
Wesley Ewinger	Lester Hamilton	
Carl W. Thye	Kenneth Thompson	
C. J. Schulte	Ben Centner	

BASIC PLANS

July 1, 1970 thru June 30, 1971

Marcella Noss
Clifford Dodds
Matsch Bros.
Wayne Kester
Forrest Stewart
Leroy Rauhaus
William Sperow
Jena Williamson
Robert Hoxie
LaVerne Lucas
Leon Marshall
Ethel Lippert
Lawrence Otto
Gary Wagner
Lyman Howe
Conrad Rynell
Kenneth Wehage

Wilbur Brown
George Christie
Ben House
Sam Beauchamp
Howard Waters
Kenneth Davis
Kenneth Groe
IAAP Tract 49
Messiah Lutheran Church
Keith Renner
Sue Rutherford
George Bonnett
R. T. Rehmke
Rose Bloomberg
Lewis Kirk
C. L. Riggins

(4)

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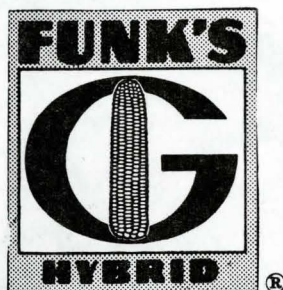
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Funk's
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TERRACING INTEREST PICKS UP

Once in a while even a tile outlet terrace will fail, as the photo indicates. But almost always it is due to faulty construction. In this case, the tile trench was not properly closed and tamped before the terrace fill was started. When the rains came, the loose soil in the trench settled and let the water drain out. Such mistakes are costly to repair.

Note the plastic tubing being used for a riser. Such an intake must always be supported by a post of some sort.



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TRAINEES JOIN SCS STAFF IN 1971

This was the "Year of the Trainee" in Des Moines district. On June 7, Winston Cooper joined the staff upon his graduation from Arkansas AM&N College with a degree in Agronomy. Winston has spent two summers in Iowa while in college, and is now a full time soil conservationist, training to become a district conservationist.

A week later, June 14, Dennis Stucker, New London, came on duty as a summer trainee under a cooperative program with Iowa State University. He is presently at the University studying agricultural engineering.

Late in the year, Richard Brown of Burlington began his duties as a conservation technician trainee.

Although we know these three young men will eventually be leaving us for more permanent positions, we feel our program has been enriched by having their association.

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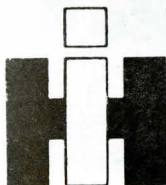
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DISTRICT OFFICE STAFF



Standing, left to right: Richard Brown - Technician, Oren Champ - Conservation Technician. Sitting, left to right: Winston Cooper - Soil Conservationist, Ralph Dewey - District Conservationist, and Mildred Kleinkopf - State Clerk.

CONSERVANCY DISTRICT LAW IS IN EFFECT

The 1971 Iowa Legislature has created a Conservancy district law, which will help to govern future action in soil and water conservation. Some of the publicity about the law has unduly alarmed rural people in explaining the "mandatory" part of the act. In reality, the individual is well protected, and is given several opportunities to conserve his soil and water at very low cost, before he would be "forced" to install erosion control.

Within the next two years, your soil conservation district commissioners will be busy setting up land use criteria for the many soil conditions that exist in the county. Every land user will be given a reasonable time in which to bring his soil losses within the limits of the law. Only when someone is actually abusing the land to the detriment of others will any legal action be taken.

As time goes on, we hope that this law will help the district in developing sound land use plans with all land users in Des Moines County. We are as concerned with the pollution caused by construction of a new industry, or a highway or even your own backyard, as we are in the volume of silt coming from our farmland. The soil conservation district now involves every acre of land in the county, and we stand ready to assist in preventing further land abuse through conservation resource planning.

The district commissioners wish to thank every individual, group or agency who had an input into our success in 1971. We sincerely hope that our next year will be even more highly successful in the battle to control pollution and soil loss.

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