

G.R.O.

The Kossuth County Soil Conservation District 1984 Annual Report

Prairie Wind

by Bruce J. Hanson

Wailing, gusty prairie wind
I close my eyes and stand.
Oh, feel the sweeping hand of God
Move timeless on the land.

Swirling dusty bison herds
Sweet swaying virgin flowers.
Native nomads on the plain
And thunderhead cloud towers.

Enduring lusty handsome land
Long grass -- windblown -- caressed.
A team of mules, a breaking plow
The sinless dirt confessed.

Creaking hasty wooden wheels
Canvas slaps the breeze.
A sea of corn and beans and wheat
Tempestuous midwest seas.

Blooming fragrant seasons gone
Wildflowers withered -- died.
And far off in the prairie wind
A mournful eagle cried.

--Dedicated to all who truly love the land.



Foreward

The Commissioners and Staff of the Kossuth Soil Conservation District (SCD) take this opportunity to express their appreciation to all of you who have contributed to the progress of the conservation of our natural resources in Kossuth County.

We are in the midst of the celebration of fifty years of soil conservation in the United States and in Iowa. We are in rapidly

changing times in soil conservation. Equipment, knowledge, and technology are available to control erosion by tillage practices. The moldboard plow is no longer the only tillage tool available. By changing tillage methods we can bring about more wind and water erosion control in one year than has happened in the last 50 years. Terraces, grassed waterways, sediment & water control basins and

drainage still effect and are needed for erosion control. Cost may slow down the application of these permanent type practices, but conservation tillage can go ahead without major investments.

All five of us Kossuth SCD commissioners use a ridge-till or no-till method of conservation tillage in our erosion-control program. From our own experiences we are convinced that these are effective methods to control wind and water erosion and reduce our production costs.

We urge you to closely review the material in this annual report. The use of the conservation tillage methods highlighted cannot only control wind and water erosion but lower your production costs.

Our technical staff Paul Ohland (district conservationist), John Hagenow (soil conservationist), Loren Bishop (engineering technician), and Bruce Logemann (state aide) are trained and have knowledge to assist you with your conservation tillage.

Our clerk/secretary, Carolyn Marshall, will assist you in finding information and making appointments with our technical staff.

The Kossuth SCD commissioners meet on the fourth Tuesday of the month. The public is welcome to attend. Check with our office at 1306 N. Main St. regarding meeting time or call 295-5156.

The Kossuth County Soil Conservation District Annual Report was produced by Agribusiness News, Box 329, Titonka, IA 50480.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

1-M Account

Allocation received for FY 83-84	\$2,048.31
Disbursements	
Commissioners' Expenses	\$746.60
Office Supplies & Expenses	\$1,230.71
Printing Expenses	\$71.00
Total	\$2,048.31

3-M Account

1983-84 allocation received	\$53,486.47
Funds spent - terrace & grade stab. structure	- \$53,486.47
Balance of unobligated funds	\$0.00
1984-85 allocation received	\$71,701.00
Funds spent - terrace/waterway construction	- \$16,178.70
Funds obligated, practice not completed	- \$23,600.00
Balance of unobligated funds	\$31,922.30

Revolving Loan Fund

1983-84 allocation received	\$7,197.00
Funds spent - terrace construction	- \$4,204.75
Balance of unobligated funds	\$2,992.25
1984-85 allocation received	\$5,519.00
Funds spent	\$0.00
Balance of unobligated funds	\$5,519.00

WECIP Funds

1983-84 allocation received	\$75,798.00
Funds spent	- \$75,798.00
Balance of unobligated funds	\$0.00



District Commissioners . . .

[l. to r.] Robert Deal, commissioners; John Simpson, assistant commissioner; Kent Seely, commissioner; James F. Antoine, commissioner; Kenneth Brones, commissioner; John Ley, assistant commissioner; Wendell Christensen, chairman, commissioner.



Adele Holt, Kossuth-Palo Alto County Naturalist



District Staff . . .

Kossuth Soil Conservation District Staff [l. to r.] Loren Bishop, Engineering Aide; Paul J. Ohland, District Conservationist; Carolyn Marshall, Secretary-Clerk; Bruce Logemann, Conservation Aide.

Adele Holt, Kossuth-Palo Alto County Naturalist, discusses the "Seasons of Union Slough" with Greg Cook, daughters Corie and Andrea, and Mr. and Mrs. Dave Smith.



John Hagenow

John Hagenow recently joined the staff of the Kossuth Soil Conservation District as a Soil Conservationist with the Soil Conservation Service. Hagenow, a fall-semester graduate of Iowa State University, is from Readlyn, Iowa. While at Iowa State University, he majored in Agricultural Mechanization. Hagenow will be in a training position with the district staff for the next 1 to 2 years.



About the cover . . .

Pictured is natural virgin prairie grass at the Stinson Prairie location southwest of Algona. Author, Bruce J. Hanson, farms in the Titonka-Wesley area.

Cover sponsored by Case Power & Equipment, Algona, Iowa. Selling and servicing all types of conservation tillage equipment to help Kossuth County farmers save their soil.