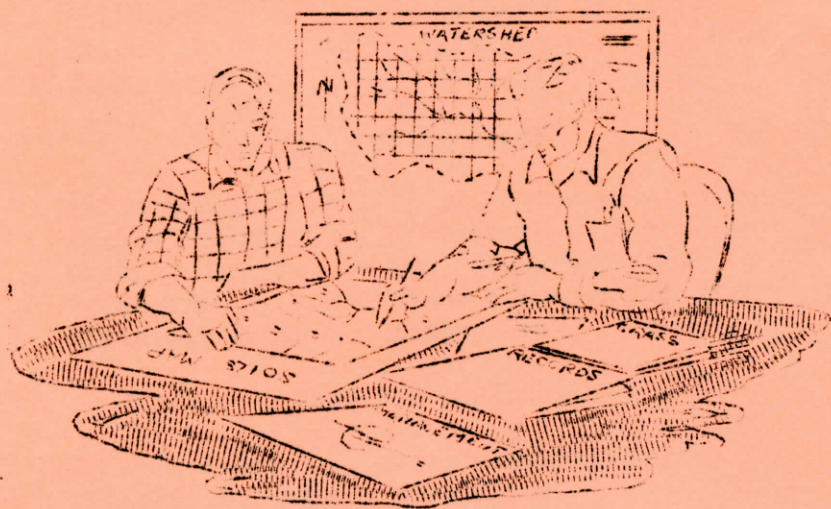


1970
DAVIS COUNTY
SOIL CONSERVATION
DISTRICT



26th ANNUAL REPORT
BLOOMFIELD, IOWA

1970

26th ANNUAL REPORT of

DAVIS SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT

COMMISSIONERS

Iles Heady	Chairman (Jan.-Nov.)
Sam Botts, Jr.	Chairman (December)
Charles Chickering	Member
LaVern Weillbrenner	Member & Secretary
Phillip Melvin	Member & Treasurer
Dwight White	Assistant
Floyd Newell	Assistant

SCS OFFICE STAFF

Verle Arnold	District Conservationist
Eugene Francis	Conservation Technician
Gregory Martin	Soil Conservationist
Roger Fry	State Conservation Aid
Christine Botts	State Clerk

AREA SCS PERSONNEL

John J. Eckes	Area Conservationist
Margaret Dickey	Area Clerk
Pale Lockridge	Soil Scientist
Tom Brown	Area Engineer
Rich Rovang	Agriculture Engineer
Stanley Simmons	Cons.Engineer Tech.
Roderic Howarth	Cons.Engineer Tech.

FOREWARD

As we look over the Progress Report of 1970, which reflects the soil and water conservation practices applied on Davis County farms during the past 26 years, we realize much has been accomplished. 1970 was not a good year to apply conservation practices, since we had the wettest year ever recorded in our county, but this was a year to observe established practices and to notice the fine job of conserving our great natural resource -- the soil -- staying where these practices were well established.

The tile outlet terrace, a relatively new application on Davis County farms, did a fine job of keeping soil in the fields, in spite of the very heavy rains.

We wish to thank those who have helped with the soil conserving programs of the district during 1970 and hope we will continue working together in years to come to further the progress of soil and water conservation in Davis County.

As farmers plan their 1971 crop year, we would suggest they visit with the men in our local SCS Office for advice on how best to obtain a workable soil conservation plan on their farms.

COMMISSIONERS

Iles Heady
Sam Botts, Jr.
Charles Chickering
Lionel Herteen
Phillip Melvin
LaVern Weilbrenner

COMMISSIONER'S ACTIVITIES

Eleven regular meetings and several special meetings (Carter Creek watershed planning) were held during the 1970 calendar year.

Iles Heady, Charles Chickering and Verle Arnold attended the SCD Short Course at Ames in January.

The Iowa Water Pollution Control Commission's policy for livestock feeding operations was discussed at the January meeting, as to how it might effect local farmers.

In February, notification was received from the State Conservation Commission stating they will cooperate with the district in the development of M-1 Site, Carter Creek watershed, if funds are available.

Mr. and Mrs. Iles Heady and Mr. and Mrs. Charles Chickering attended the NACD meeting in San Francisco in February.

Iles Heady, LaVern Weillbrenner and Verle Arnold attended the Region 9 SCD meeting in Ottumwa in March.

At the April meeting, the commissioners agreed to be responsible for one of the soil conservation district booths at the 1970 state fair. Fred Higgenbottom, Assistant Director of the State Department of Soil Conservation, attended the meeting and explained the designing of the state fair booths.

Sam Betts and Verle Arnold attended the Fox Creek watershed planning meeting in Cantrol the evening of May 4.

Greg Martin, a native of West Union, came to train in our office as a Soil Conservationist May 25th.

Homer Rysdam did some waterway repair and reseeding at Sites 2, 8 and 24 in Big Wyacondah Watershed.

Soil Stewardship material was given to ministers in the district for use during soil stewardship week.

A new district sign was ordered at the June meeting and placed at the North boundary line of Davis County on highway 63.

An ACP planning meeting was held June 4 with our commissioners in attendance.

The Iowa Soil Conservation Awards entries were submitted to the judges in July. Mrs. Jack Boatman was selected conservation teacher of the year. Gerald Forsythe was named winner of the owner-operator division for the district. He was later named the Region 9 winner and also the sweepstakes winner. Awards were presented to these winners at the annual cooperator's banquet in November.

The Queen of Conservation contest was held at the Trakesville Reunion July 30. Jodi Stevenson was named queen and Wanda Stewart was 1st runner-up.

Our State Fair Booth for the district was installed August 20 by Greg Martin, Roger Fry and Christine Botts. Charles Chickering and Iles Heady manned the booth August 29 and 30. Our booth placed fourth.

Mr. and Mrs. Iles Heady, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Chickering and Mrs. Christine Botts attended the commissioners conference at Waterloo, September 13, 14 and 15.

The annual inspection of completed structures and waterway work in Big Wyacondah Watershed was conducted September 30. Because of the extremely wet soil conditions, the soil judging contest was not held.

A meeting at Memphis, Missouri to discuss the current interest in North Wyacondah watershed development was

held October 8. Iles Heady, Sam Botts, Verle Arnold, Greg Martin, Glen Wilkinson, James Padget and Hubert Stockham attended the meeting.

The conservation film "The Choice is Curs" was shown to vocational students of Davis County Community School and at a feed store open house held in October.

The annual banquet meeting and commissioner's election was held November 18 at the Methodist Church. Three new commissioners were elected as follows:

LaVern Weillbrenner - 6 yr. term

Phillip Melvin - 4 yr. term

Lionel Herteen - 2 yr. term

Certificates of recognition for practicing good soil conservation on their individual farms were presented to Ray Tharp, Darrell McClure and Lester Lough. A special recognition certificate was presented to Marion Clark for his work with the construction of Big Wyacondah Watershed prior to his retirement this fall as SCS engineer for our area. Brad Waller, State winner of the Soil Conservation Speech Contest, gave his winning speech "Youth's Role in Soil and Water Conservation". Don Johnson, member of the State Soil Conservation Committee, was our banquet speaker. He did an excellent job of speaking on a moment's notice when Ervin Kocs (who was scheduled to speak) could not be present.

At the December meeting the commissioners reorganized and the following were named to serve until the next commissioner election:

Sam Botts, Chairman

LaVern Weillbrenner, Vice-Chairman & Secretary

Phillip Melvin, Secretary

Iles Heady was asked to serve as an assistant commissioner. He was ineligible to run for re-election as a commissioner since he and Charles Chickering live in the same voting precinct. This was a new law that went into effect along with the electing of 5 com-

missioners per district, and the inclusion of towns and cities in the district.

John Eckes was present at the December meeting to present a Certificate of Merit to the Bloomfield Work Unit for an excellent accomplishment record for the fiscal years 1969-1970. A cash award went with this award for Eugene Francis and Richard Cordes.

TREASURER'S REPORTS

REVOLVING FUND

Balance on hand January 1, 1970 \$899.04

INCOME

Royalties from rock quarry	\$4251.01
State Comptroller for Reimbursement	456.01
Advertising	550.00
Banquet Ticket Sales	152.33
U.S.Treasurer on Big Wyacondah	1735.00
State Fair Premium money	96.00

EXPENSE

Royalties paid on quarry	3542.42
Printing annual report	320.00
Annual state and national SCD dues	210.00
Homer Rysdam (watershed contract)	1735.00
Office supplies & expense	226.69
Commissioners expenses	733.15
106 banquet meals	185.50
Expenses for Brad Waller	20.00
Prizes and awards	161.15
Easements (recording fees)	2.50

Balance on hand December 31, 1970 \$1002.98

The revolving fund is financed by the leasing of a rock quarry and we receive one-cent royalty on each ton of road rock and agricultural limestone sold from the quarry.

II BUDGET

(Fiscal year July 1, 1969-June 30, 1970)

Total Allocation \$11,525.00

Gross earnings (Clerical & technical)	\$10,358.00
District Share of Retirement	362.56
District share of Social Security tax	497.22
District share insurance	144.00
Typewriter repair	49.80
Adding Machine	86.10

Released to Department of Soil Conservation \$27.32

I-M BUDGET

(Fiscal year July 1, 1969-June 30, 1970)

Total Allocation \$500.00

Commissioners mileage & expenses	\$304.43
Office Supplies	99.02
Office expense	7.00

Remaining at close of fiscal year \$ 89.55

The I-M Budget is made available by the state legislature each year for the purpose of the commissioner's expenses, some office expenses, printing expenses, prizes for contests and meeting expenses. The II-M Budget is made available by the state legislature to enable hiring a full-time clerk and conservation aid.

CAUSE FOR CONCERN

Ecology, pollution, anti-pollution control -- not new words -- but words that are now in common usage by all segments of our population and a concern to many people. These words have different meanings to the various segments of our society. To some, it means poisonous chemicals in their drinking water. To others it means a river or lake that has become unfit for human uses and to still others it may be a loss of wildlife habitat. However, to we farmers, it means primarily erosion and its control.

One of the most effective pollution (erosion) control measures that can be used on many of our farms is the tile outlet terrace practice.

In addition to erosion control benefits, this practice has some other advantages - such as: waterways are eliminated in the terraced part of the field, and the terraces are parallel to eliminate short rows.

If you are concerned, we suggest that you look at some of the tile outlet terraces that have been installed in the district, and to visit with the SCS technicians to see if you have a place on your farm for this practice.

THE COMMISSIONERS

PROGRESS REPORT

PRACTICE	UNIT	APPLIED (7/1/69- 6/30/70)	NOW ON THE LAND
Conservation			
Cropping System	Ac.	1990	99,865
Contour Farming	Ac.	240	44,314
Diversions	L.F.	36,625	900,105
Farm Ponds	No.	40	2027
Structures	No.	38	389
Grass Waterways	Ac.	111	1880
Drainage Ditches	L.F.	1830	225,920
Pasture Renovation	Ac.	2643	34,456
Strip Cropping	Ac.	0	1795
Shallow Surface			
Ditches	L.F.	30,480	496,211
Terraces, Graded	L.F.	6220	2,808,519
Terraces, Tile Outlet	L.F.	4554	14,950
Terraces, Parallel	L.F.	20,065	191,920
Tree Planting	Ac.	0	334
Cropland to			
Grassland	Ac.	2569	11,650
Tile Drains	L.F.	7132	113,914
DISTRICT COOPERATORS	No.	53	1007
	Acres		233,228
BASIC CONSERVATION PLANS	No.	40	735
	Acres		171,171
PLANS REVISED THIS YEAR			19
SOIL MAPPING TO DATE	ACRES		234,767

(Tile outlet type terraces are on the Richard Birchmier, Harry Battin, Dean Amstutz, Millard Mulcahey, Willard Hubbartt, LaVern Weilbrenner, Stanley Baughman and Allen White farms.)

BIG WYACONDAH WATERSHED

Twenty-nine of the proposed structural measures for the watershed have been constructed. Completed structural work is located on the farms of Elmer Weilbrenner, Vaughn York, Kenneth Hull, Donald Altheide, Cleo Rinkenberger, Carl Games, John Orwig, J. E. Amstutz, Mrs. Bessie Eggs, Mrs. Phyllis Fresh, Frank Warren, Dean Grim, Walter Grim, Frank Shively, O. J. Scott, Dale Dixon, Aura Barnett, Mildred Baker, Albert Whisler, L. A. Shelton, DeVerre Penge, Michael Maduff, and Wilson Hartman.

Present plans are to let a contract for 10 structures in 1971.

Total structural measures proposed in the Big Wyacondah watershed includes 2 flood water retarding structures, 57 grade stabilization structures, 3.4 miles of stream channel improvement and 9.4 acres of structural waterways.

CARTER CREEK WATERSHED

Authority to develop a work plan on Carter Creek Watershed was received in May 1966. Some preliminary planning has been done.

The Highway Commission has agreed to cooperate in the project and to use the top of the proposed major detention structure as the roadway for relocated highway 63. The Davis County Conservation Board has agreed to operate and maintain a public recreation area around the proposed pool. The State Conservation Commission will cooperate in the project on land acquisition and development.

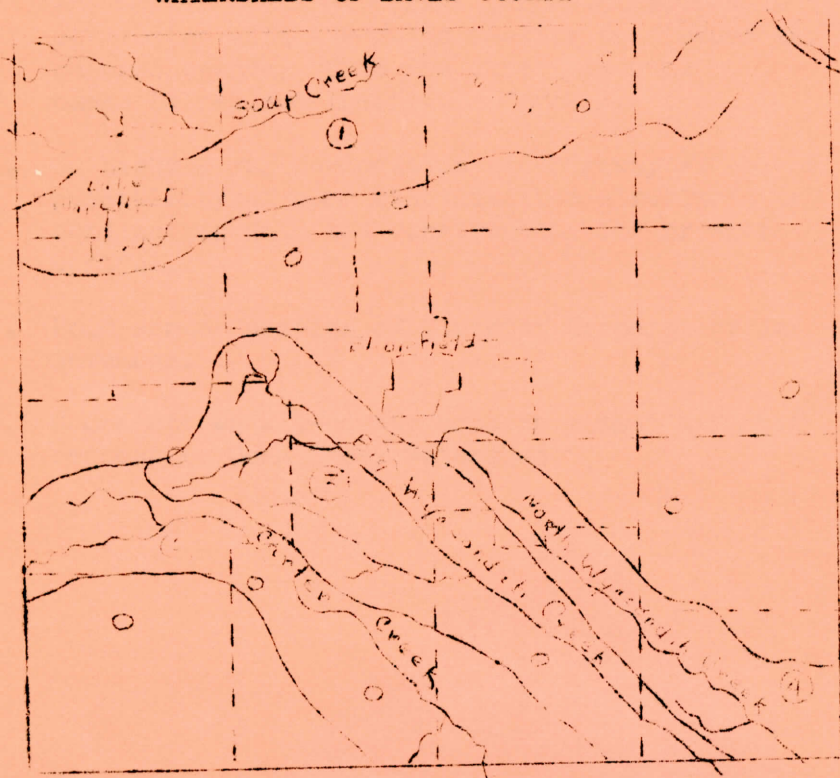
We anticipate that the cooperative arrangements between all of the groups and agencies involved will be completed soon and that the final work plan will be completed and presented to the local people this spring.

1971 PLAN OF OPERATIONS -- DAVIS COUNTY

1. Review the District Work Plan which was updated in 1966.
2. Attend the Commissioner's Short Course, State and National Conventions. At least one commissioner or assistant represented at each of these meetings.
3. Continue to promote the watershed approach to the total soil and water conservation program.
4. Follow-up each monthly regular meeting with more publicity. Also publish conservation items weekly or as often as possible.
5. Enter the Goodyear Contest for 1971 and the Iowa Conservation Awards program with outstanding conservation farmers of the district given special recognition.
6. Meet in January or February with Board of Supervisors, Assessor and our commissioners to discuss a complete Soil Survey for the county and to consider building some structures in connection with county road construction for erosion control.
7. Sponsor Soil Judging contest for FFA and/or 4-H members of this district.
8. Furnish Soil Stewardship material to the ministers of the district for use during Soil Stewardship Week.
9. Hold a Conservation Tour during the Conservation Week in June. Possibly hold an air tour again or perhaps a tour for ministers of the county.
10. Sponsor one teacher (tuition paid) to Springbrook Conservation Camp during June and July. See if the Izaak Walton League will be co-sponsor.
11. Sponsor the Conservation Speech Contest and the Safety Speech contest with help from the local speech and agriculture teachers.
12. Sponsor the local "Queen of Conservation" contest in our district early in August at the Drakesville Reunion.

13. Meet with Big Wyacondah watershed farmer-directors and Carter Creek watershed farmer-directors in connection with a regular meeting to discuss any changes needed. Some new directors need to be named to replace ineligible farmers.
14. On highway #63 re-location and highway #2 -- the possibility of some stabilization structures in conjunction with the construction for erosion control.
15. Hold annual meeting of District Cooperators in November.
16. Cooperate on a 4-county area to submit a PL-566 request on Soap Creek Watershed.

WATERSHEDS OF DAVIS COUNTY



1. Soap Creek Watershed
2. Carter Creek Watershed
3. Big Wyacondah Watershed
4. North Wyacondah Watershed