

MILLS COUNTY IOWA



Conservation Needs Analysis



THIS BOOKLET has been prepared by the the Mills County Conservation Needs Committee to better inform rural and urban people of the Conservation needs in Mills County. The information contained in this booklet shows the amount of conservation work which has been accomplished and the present land use within the county. It also projects land usage and the conservation work which is expected to be done by the year 1975.

These projections are based on the assumption that new developments in farm machinery and farming methods, plus the expansion of highways and cities, will bring about most of these changes.

The estimates presented in this booklet are based on a study made by the following local and United States Department of Agriculture agencies:

United States Soil Conservation Service.

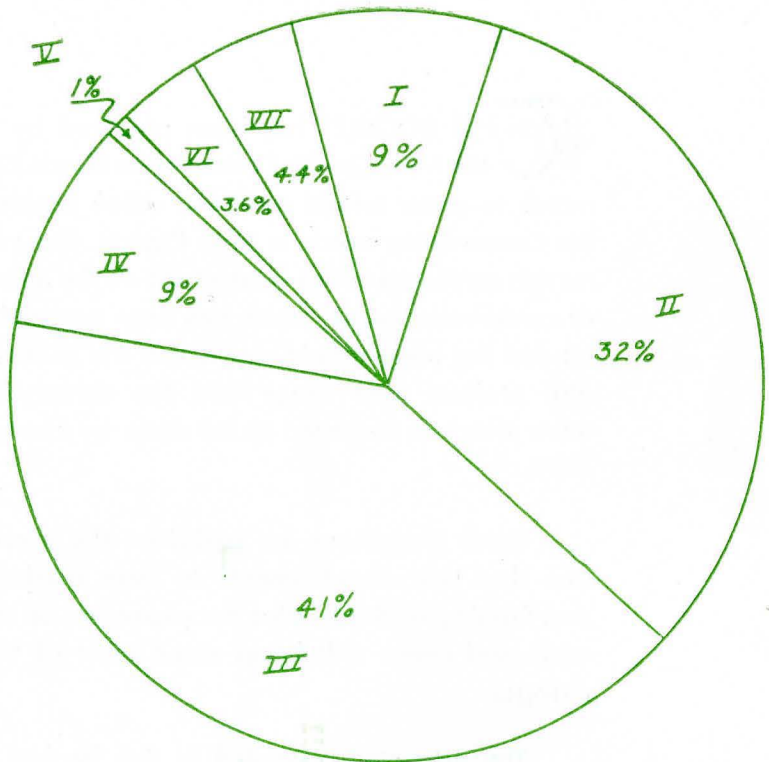
Mills County Soil Conservation District Commissioners.

United States Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service.

Mills County Extension Service.

LAND CLASSES OF MILLS COUNTY

Total agricultural acres 273,151



Land Suitable for Cultivation and Other Uses

- Class I — 23,985 acres — Soils with few limitations that restrict use. They are nearly level, generally well drained, and have no special problems.
- Class II — 87,600 acres — Soils with some limitations, such as wetness, erosion, or droughtiness that require conservation practices. They can be cultivated safely with simple precautions.
- Class III — 110,150 acres — Soils with severe limitations that require conservation practices. They can be cultivated safely with special precautions.
- Class IV — 24,443 acres — Soils with severe limitations that require careful management. Can be used occasionally for cultivated crops.

Land Limited in Use — Generally Not Suited for Cultivation

- Class V — 3,129 acres — Soils suited mainly to pasture due to permanent limitations such as wetness, overflow or stoniness.
- Class VI — 10,970 acres — Soils with limitations that make them generally unsuited for cultivation and limit use to pasture, woodland, or wildlife.
- Class VII — 12,874 acres — Soils with very severe limitations that restrict their use to pasture, woodland or wildlife.

Estimated Land Use Changes

Acreages include land devoted to agricultural use only.



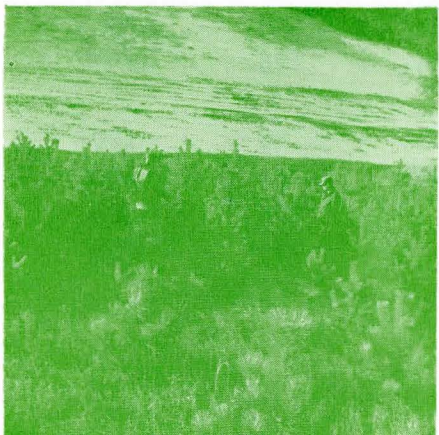
CROPLAND

Present	229,077 ac.
1975	235,273 ac.



PASTURE LAND

Present	22,567 ac.
1975	17,611 ac.



FOREST AND WOODLAND

Present	8,226 ac.
1975	6,493 ac.



OTHER LAND

(farmsteads & wildlife areas)

Present	13,152 ac.
1975	12,634 ac.

The reduction in agricultural acres by 1975 will be due mainly to expansion of roads, cities and industries.

Conservation Practices Needed

Before the estimated land use changes can come about, effective soil conservation practices will need to be applied on cropland, grassland, woodland and other rural areas.

Progress in applying these practices has been very good in the past but there still remains a big job to be done.

	Total Needs Practical to Apply	Now on the Land 1962	Needed on the Land by 1975
Contouring (ac.)	160,455	75,000	147,163
Terraces (mi.)	11,400	3,212	5,139
Diversions (mi.)	100	47	75
Waterways (ac.)	4,300	2,625	3,700
Open Ditches (mi.)	289	125	200
Erosion Control Structures (no.)	770	58	100
Pasture imp. (ac.)	10,598	6,969	10,480
District Cooperators		895	1,000
Basic Conservation Plans.		434	720

WORLD WAR

AND COMRADE

Mills County Soil Conservation District
Malvern, Iowa

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