

1955

THIRTEENTH ANNUAL REPORT

CASS COUNTY SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Ia-SCD-27

Atlantic, Iowa.

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DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS: Wendell C. Pellett, Chairman
George W. Hosfelt, Member
Boyd D. Bailey, Member

SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE PERSONNEL: Gilbert Wehrman, Work Unit Conservationist
Stanley Bennett, Conservationist
Wayne Raasch, Conservation aid
Clarence Ford, Conservation aid
Gayle Johnson, Office assistant

OFFICE LOCATION: Farm Credit Building, 17 W. 4th. St., Atlantic, Iowa.
Phone 1374

EXTENSION DIRECTOR: H. E. Codlin Extension Director

As we begin another annual report we want, first of all, to express our appreciation to all those who have contributed to our success thus far. We express our appreciation to all the other agencies, schools and civic organizations for their fine cooperation through the years and hope in the future we may warrant the same fine cooperation.

We also want to thank our own personnel for their interest and faithfulness to the job of conserving our Natural Resource -- the soil.

In this report we will attempt to point out some of the various activities in which the District participates and some of the accomplishments that have been attained during the year 1955.

ANNUAL MEETING

It has become a custom to have, each winter, an Annual Banquet to which all individuals interested in Soil Conservation are invited. The 1955 Annual Banquet was held January 24th. at 6:30 P. M. in the Atlantic Methodist Church, with 202 in attendance. Rector Henry Robbins of Shenandoah was the featured speaker. Mr. Stanley Matzke was prevented from coming by illness. Mr. Chris Jensen, a member of the State Committee discussed activities of the State Committee; and Mr. C. W. McManamy appeared and gave a brief review of his interest in Soil Conservation. Mr. Norman Smith of Cumberland and Messrs. James Winston and Gilbert Wehrman reported on local activities.

ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS PROGRAM

Cass County participated in the Iowa Soil Conservation Achievement Awards Program sponsored by the Iowa Farm and Home Register and the State Soil Conservation Committee. The judging committee, after visiting the farms entered in the contest, selected the following winners for each class.

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Gilbert E. Lacey, Owner-Operator class; James Winston farm with Leo Sorensen as operator, in the Landlord-Tenant class; and Erwin Beschorner in the class of new cooperators. These winners will be honored at the Annual Cooperator meeting and banquet.

The Griswold and Atlantic F.F.A. chapters participated in a Soil Conservation contest within each chapter. Winners were judged on their activities and accomplishments in their projects. Small prizes will be presented to the winners in each chapter at the Annual Cooperators banquet.

LOCAL NEWSPAPERS INFORM THE PUBLIC

During Soil Conservation Week, several County Newspapers used considerable space in stressing Soil Conservation work. Photographs with individual farm stories of various practices applied were used extensively. Thirty or more news items were used through out the year to inform the public of activities of the District.

COMMISSIONERS MEETINGS

COMMISSIONERS MEETINGS have been held regularly on the Second Wednesday of each month. The following individuals have attended Commissioners meetings, as guests, the past year and discussed their particular problems in the field of Soil Conservation. Mr. Lester Nelson, Cass County Farm Bureau Chairman; Mr. Charles Vanderbur, Griswold Vo-Ag. Instructor; Mr. Ed Andor, Chairman of the Massena Chamber of Commerce; Mr. James Winston, Chairman of the ASC Committee; Mr. Ralph Morrow, County Supt. of Schools; Mr. Dewey Bondurant, Area Engineer of the Soil Conservation Service; Mr. Judson Zentmire, Work Unit Conservationist from Audubon; Mr. & Mrs. Chris Jensen, member of the State Soil Conservation Committee; Mr. & Mrs. Clarence Pellett, former Commissioner and Mr. & Mrs. Robert Groves, District Cooperator.

THE REGIONAL COUNCIL chose Mr. George Hosfelt to serve as the Cass District's Representative for the term Sept. 1, 1955 to Sept. 1, 1956.

THE ANNUAL COMMISSIONERS CONFERENCE was held Sept. 11, 12 and 13th. at Hotel Savery in Des Moines and was attended by Wendell Pellett and George Hosfelt.

A REGIONAL MEETING was held in Red Oak, March 17th. 1955. Commissioners and representatives of the Soil Conservation Service, Agricultural Stabilization committee, the Extension Service and the District Clerk attended. Representatives of the various agencies mentioned were present from 7 Southwest Iowa Counties.

THE SECOND IOWA WATERSHEDS CONFERENCE, held Dec. 16th. and 17th. at Hotel Fort Des Moines was attended by representatives of the Cass District. Watershed development in Iowa was the subject discussed by a number of outstanding authorities in the field of Water Conservation. The watershed approach will be given careful consideration in future years as a systematic approach to soil and water conservation

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

The Commissioners wish to express their appreciation of the assistance received from the Soil Conservation Service and its technicians and the assistance given by the State Legislature.

The Soil Conservation Service has, through the years, furnished trained personnel to assist the cooperators of the District in carrying out their planning operations and technical practices. The Soil Conservation Service the past year, has made available to the District the assistance of one Farm Planner, and one Conservation Aid. They also furnished office space, telephone and transportation for technicians.

\$5650.00 allocated to the District by the County ASC made available the part-time assistance of two conservation aids.

An appropriation of \$501.16 allocated to the District by the State Soil Conservation Committee was used for office supplies, commissioners mileage and various other things which were needed.

State 1-A Budget		
Allocation		\$ 501.16
	Office supplies	\$ 168.00
	Commissioner's mileage	113.67
	Office expense	29.47
	Printing	99.25
	Prizes	30.00
	Materials for demonstrations	41.77
	Projector rental	<u>19.00</u>
	Total	\$ 501.16

An appropriation of \$3134.72 allocated to the District by the State Soil Conservation Committee was used to pay a full time office assistant and provide a part-time conservation aid.

State 2-A Budget		
Allocation		\$ 3134.72
	Technician	\$ 739.87
	Office assistant	<u>2394.85</u>
	Total	3134.72

DISTRICT OWNED WHIRLWIND TERRACER

The District-owned terracing machine, due to the dry soil conditions, has had very limited use in 1955. The machine is transported by those wishing to use it and is powered by farm tractors. A maintenance fee is charged each operator on the basis of the amount of time operated on the job.

Income during 1955	\$ 247.00
Maintenance expense - 1955	<u>174.52</u>
Balance	72.48

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

CASS COUNTY SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT

	TERRACES	GRASS	TILE	EROSION	LIVESTOCK		
	Mi.	WATERWAYS	DRAIN	DAMS	DAMS	DIVERSIONS	FARM PLANS
		L. F.	L.F.	No.	No.	Mi.	No.
1943							12
1944	9	20,700					20
1945	16.6	34,450					33
1946	18	108,700		6			69
1947	28	143,300		5		2	70
1948	39	115,900		47		3.3	45
1949	24	190,392	14,000	23		3	47
1950	28	417,120	19,700	63		4	63
1951	32	36,960	27,790	26		7	42
1952	41	21,120	120,826	7		5	25
1953	34	26,538	316,199	29		2.9	64
1954	129	106,250	105,801	65	11	3.1	47
1955	121	128,983	83,521	44	16	1.6	54
TOTAL	519.6	1,350,413	687,837	315	27	31.9	591

