

Kossuth County Soil Conservation District

1972 annual report

25th YEAR FOR DISTRICT

TREES TREES TREES

This year is the 25th anniversary since the establishing of the Kossuth County Soil Conservation District.

Formed in January 1947, the District was recognized as a governmental subdivision of the State of Iowa by the office of the Secretary of the State.

On February 7, three commissioners were elected to handle district affairs: George Hagge of Ledyard, J. C. Skow of Wesley, and Frank Droessler of Bancroft.

Commendation must be made to past commissioners for establishing priorities and providing leadership in helping landowners make the steps toward land improvement of their farms.

Today the District has five commissioners and three assistant commissioners. Headed by Claude Seely of Algona, other commissioners are Karen Bierstedt of Fenton, Treasurer; Julius Baas, Algona; James F. Antoine, Bancroft; and, Wendell Christensen, Wesley. Assisting commissioners are Luther Kinne, LuVerne; David Strickler, Algona; and, Neil Wubben, Swea City. Recognition should be given to them for keeping up with today's conservation methods and, in many instances, bringing in new concepts and ideas.

Working with the commissioners in technical assistance are: Lyle R. Riedinger, District Conservationist - Soil Conservation Service; Loren B. Bishop, Cons. Technician-Soil Conservation Service; Ted Oswald, State Aid - Dept. of Soil Conservation; and Carolyn Marshall, District Clerk.

Appreciation is due to John Ley and the County Extension Council for an excellent job of carrying on the conservation education program through the Extension Service. Curtis Haahr and the A.S.C.S. County Committee are to be commended for putting high priority conservation practices in proper order. Vocational Agricultural instructors in the county have incorporated conservation in the classroom. Also, appreciation is expressed to everyone who supported the conservation cause, either financially or by contributing time or services.

1972 was a banner year for trees planted on farms in this county. The Soil Conservation District received over 100 requests for assistance which resulted in the District supplying 44 land owners and operators with trees and shrubs. Over 1,600 potted evergreens and nearly 4,000 honeysuckle were acquired through the District.

Homer Bristow, of Algona, established a windbreak in 1972 which had much benefit to wildlife. Not only were evergreens planted, but also 8 varieties of fruit-bearing shrubs. Virgil Spencer, also of Algona, planted a half mile long field windbreak with 2 rows of evergreens and 2 rows of fruit bearing shrubs.



This year importance is stressed on plantings such as these, where not only is the wind slowed down, which is the main benefit; but, birds and other animals are getting shelter and food.

Again this year, evergreens, deciduous trees, and shrubs will be made available to the rural and urban public by the Kossuth Co. Soil Conservation District. If you are interested in a field windbreak, wildlife planting, or farmstead-feedlot windbreaks, stop in to the District office or see one of your District Commissioners.

OUR PRICE LIST:

Honeysuckle (18"-24") . . . \$.50 each
Potted Evergreens (in 1-gal. container)
Black Hills Spruce (15-18") . . \$4.00
Colorado Spruce (12-15") . . . \$3.50

DISCOUNT ON LARGE ORDERS

...Ask about the other trees and shrubs that can be made available to you from the District.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT
July 1, 1971 through June 30, 1972

1-M BUDGET ACCOUNT

1-M Budget Allocation	\$700.00	
Additional 1-M Budget Allocation	<u>456.00</u>	
Total 1-M Allocation		\$1,156.00
Expenses:		
Commissioners' Expense	\$259.34	
Office Supplies	253.67	
Printing	39.65	
Prizes for Contests	26.50	
Rental for Meeting Halls	7.20	
Material for Demonstration	25.00	
Office Expense	541.22	
Meeting Expenses	<u>2.28</u>	
Total Expenses	1,154.86	
Returned to State Committee	<u>1.14</u>	
Total Expended		\$1,156.00

2-M BUDGET ACCOUNT

2-M Budget Allocation		\$11,527.00
Expenses:		
Salaries	\$8,851.29	
Travel	53.24	
Equipment	408.70	
State Retirement	266.70	
Social Security	460.27	
Health Insurance	156.00	
Life Insurance	<u>10.68</u>	
Total Expenses	\$10,206.88	
Returned to State Committee	<u>1,302.12</u>	
Total Expended		\$11,527.00

+++ THIS REPORT WAS PARTIALLY FINANCED WITH CONTRIBUTIONS MADE BY THESE BUSINESSES +++

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DEAL, HERBST, & LEMKEE WIN CONTEST!

County winners of the 1972 Iowa Soil Conservation Achievements Awards Contest were recently honored at a luncheon with the District Commissioners. Robert Deal of Algona is the winner of the owner/operated farm division. Joel Herbst, owner, and Eugene Lemkee, operator, both of Algona, were chosen in the tenant/operated division. Winners were determined by the amount of conservation work completed and good farming practices used on their farm.

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By 1980 the United States is estimated to use 650,000,000,000 gallons of water in one day!

* * * * *

Russell Jensen and Paul Bernhard in Seneca Twp. cooperated in building adjoining terraces. The property line fence was built right back on the terraces. Better than one mile of terrace was jointly built by the two farmers in 1972.

Others who have built, or are in the process of building terraces this year:

Earl Angle	Phil Bernhard
Tony Hansen	William Hellman
Gerald Voigt	Kenneth Brones
Hardman & Hoenk	John Scuffham
Joel Herbst	Theodore Wallentine
Howard Platt	Kyle Keith
Marvin Tigges	Harold Illg
Larry Gisch	Merwyn Hurlburt
Roger Jensen	Harold Montag



Records for the 1972 calendar year show that nearly 30,000 feet of parallel terraces were constructed in the District.

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This summer Gerald Frankl of Irvington installed an animal waste lagoon, built to service up to 1800 pigs. The system should be in full operation within the year.

* * * * *

When the soil is gone, men must go, and the process does not take long.

-- Theodore Roosevelt

DISTRICT ACCOMPLISHMENTS July 1, 1971 - June 30, 1972

District Cooperators	52
Those Receiving Assistance	249
Total Services	503
Conservation Plans Prepared	45
Conservation Plans Revised	15
Inventories & Evaluations	3
Units of Gov't Assisted	4
Group Conservation Plans	3
Groups Assisted	8
Groups Applying Practices	5
Cons. Cropping System	8,413 Ac.
Critical Area Planting	4 Ac.
Crop Residue Mgt.	7,066 Ac.
Farmstead & Feedlot Windbreak	49 Ac.
Livestock Exclusion	152 Ac.
Minimum Tillage	301 Ac.
Pasture & Hayland Mgt.	86 Ac.
Parallel Terraces	19,648 Ft.
Tile	130,091 Ft.
Land Adequately Treated	1,216 Ac.

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Soil-blowing may be dangerous to your health. Two Kansas State University researchers have checked rural dust levels throughout middle America. Near cultivated areas--not grazing lands--they say that air-borne particulates have often exceeded the federal standard for "severe air pollution" by as much as 1500% for up to 7 weeks annually.

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YOUTH BOARD IN FIRST YEAR

The first six months for the Kossuth Co. Conservation Youth Board have been good ones. Organized by the District, the main purpose of the Board is to get young adults and even children thinking, doing, and learning about soil and water conservation. Jim Neitzel of Algona is the chairman with Jean Ann Dodds of Algona as secretary. Also serving on the Board are: Susan Patterson, Swea City; Kevin Montag, West Bend; Mike Kettwick, Buffalo Center; Doug Johnson, Armstrong; Mike Coady, Bancroft; Kim Dreyer, Fenton; Douglas Rock, Swea City; and, Les Erickson, Algona. These young people are doing a fine job in obtaining school and classroom participation in the field of conservation.

Activities of the Youth Board include sponsoring a poster contest, speech contest, soil judging contest, conservation youth of the month, conservation farmer of the month, and the fair booth at the Kossuth County Fair.

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STANDARD SOIL SURVEY IN PROGRESS

Three soil scientists with the S.C.S. have started the Standard Soil Survey in Kossuth County which is expected to be completed by 1977. Robert Jones is the party leader with Mike Wiemann and Rod Jensen also working on the survey. The survey will replace one that was published in 1925.

Properly located barriers of trees and shrubs can reduce noise by as much as 50%, according to a continuing study at the University of Nebraska. Noise reduction by trees in combination with grass can be as much as 65%. Tree height is important since sound is diffused and absorbed over a larger area.



KOSSUTH COUNTY SOIL
CONSERVATION DISTRICT
P. O. Box 397
Algona, Ia. 50511



CONSERVATION POSTER WINNER

Sharon Kayser, 4th grader at St. John's in Bancroft, was awarded 1st place and \$10 in prize money for her entry, "Help Save Our Home", in the poster contest sponsored by the District Commissioners and the Conservation Youth Board.

Kim Heidecker, a 4th grader at Lakota, won second place; and, Deborah Dahl, 4th grader from Swea City, placed third.

This is the first year for the Youth Board's poster contest. There were 118 third and fourth grade students who entered the contest. The judging was done by the Winnebago Co. Conservation Youth Board.

If you could bag the oxygen given off by 625 square feet of turf, it would sustain a grown man for a year.

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