



**POWESHIEK COUNTY SOIL AND WATER
CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

P.O. Box 216

Malcom, Iowa 50157-0216

(515) 528-2065

Assisted by

U.S.D.A. Soil Conservation Service

44th ANNUAL REPORT

1992 FISCAL YEAR

REVIEW CONSERVATION PLANS NOW

Now is a good time for producers to review their compliance plans, according to Dave Kudej, District Conservationist, U.S. Soil Conservation Service (SCS). It is important that those who want to remain eligible for U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) program benefits apply their plans as written or apply approved conservation systems.

Producers who wish to discuss changing their conservation plans should contact the SCS office to see what choices are available to them. This winter is a good time to do that.

All work planned in the plans must be done by January 1, 1995, according to the schedule of each plan. Many have work to be done in 1993 or before. All persons with compliance plans should review them to see what work is yet to be done and when. Work should not be left until the last minute. It is best if work is done ahead of time to spread out work and eliminate the chance of unforeseen weather, etc., from preventing work from being done.

All practices to be applied must meet SCS specifications. SCS has video tapes available to loan out to producers to show them how to do work on their own.

SCS will not have enough staff people to help everyone who wants help. The workload to be done is too great. There are also not enough cost-share funds available to help pay the cost of doing all the work that needs to be done in Poweshiek County. Producers should not wait for cost-share funds to do conservation work.

COMMISSIONERS

Douglas A. Brown, Chairman
Douglas Mikel, Vice-Chairman
H. W. Mathes, Treasurer
Ronald E. Clayton, Commissioner
Russell Winburn, Commissioner

Rita Baustian, Assistant Commissioner
Lois Winegarden, Assistant Commissioner

OFFICE STAFF

David W. Kudej, District Conservationist
Clifford J. Foster, Federal Technician
Regina S. Leer, Federal Technician
Carol L. Brown, District Secretary
Jeanette M. Sebetka, WAE
Richard Swanson, WAE

**EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS PROVIDED BY
STATE OF IOWA**

1992-93 Fiscal Year

1-M Budget	\$2,500.00
Office Supplies:	\$63.00
Printing:	\$139.56
Commissioner's Expense:	\$578.30
Ending Balance:	\$1,719.14
3-M Budget (State Cost-share)	\$80,661.00
Total Spent:	\$36,369.50
Total Obligated:	\$43,329.85
Ending Balance:	\$961.65
REAP Practices	\$5,220.00
Total Spent:	\$1,380.60
Total Obligated:	\$2,801.75
Ending Balance:	\$1,037.65
REAP Forestry	\$1,345.00
Total Spent:	\$1,345.00
Ending Balance:	\$0

TAKE PRIDE IN AMERICA
Plant a Tree

All District programs and services are offered on a nondiscriminatory basis without regard to race, national origin, religion, sex, age, marital status or handicap.

GRASSED WATERWAYS APPLIED IN '93

A large number of grassed waterways are scheduled to be applied in 1993. SCS is encouraging farmers to take a look at their FSA plans to see if they have any waterways scheduled to be applied this year.

SCS will be able to assist landowners with waterway designs, however we won't be able to reach everyone. The amount of cost-share for waterways is also limited, so there will not be cost-share funds available for every waterway.

Many farmers will be able to establish waterways on their own for small areas where the waterway drains 10 acres or less. Drainage areas above 10 acres will need to be applied according to SCS guidelines.

For waterways draining 10 acres or more, there are two different types of waterways that landowners can establish: trapezoidal and parabolical waterways.

If you are ready to begin work on your waterway design and need assistance, contact the SCS Office at 515-528-2065.

CONSERVATION WORK ACCOMPLISHMENTS

October 1991 to September 1992

Cooperator Agreements	2,206 Ac
Landowners Assisted	1,628 No
Individuals & Groups	
Applying Practices	836 No
Conservation Plans	9,090 Ac
HEL Positive Determinations	1,321 Ac
Approved Conservation Plans	107,503 Ac
Conservation Tillage	15,704 Ac
Grassed Waterways	77 Ac
Contour Stripcropping	83 Ac
Terraces	33,785 Ft
Water & Sediment Control	
Basins	145 No
Tons Soil Saved on	
Cropland Acres	54,611 Ac
Wildlife Acres Treated	2,565 Ac

TAX FORMS AVAILABLE

The District has a supply of IRS form #8645 available. This form is needed by taxpayers who desire to claim conservation expenses on their tax return. The Soil Conservation Service can furnish a list of approved conservation practices that can be deducted.



If you have any questions or would like assistance from the Soil Conservation Service or the District on any of our programs, please give us a call or stop by the office.

"HOW TO" MEASURE CROP RESIDUE

Crop residue plays a very important roll in your efforts to prevent soil erosion. Now that the fall harvest season is complete, it is time to think about spring residue cover and following your FSA conservation plan.

Your conservation plan may require that you have a certain percent of residue left after planting. Please check your plan, then you will need to check your fields to see if that is the percentage of residue left on the ground.

You may use a 50 foot rope that is divided into 100 equal parts, or a 50 foot tape measure using each 6 inch and the foot markings.

Stretch the rope or tape diagonally across the crop row. Then count the number of marks, tabs, or knots that have residue under them. It is very important to use the same place under each mark to count. If a piece of residue is smaller than 1/8th of an inch, then don't count it.

You should then walk the 50 foot rope or tape counting the number of marks with residue under them. If you check 10 marks, multiply the number with residue by 10, if you check 20 marks, multiply the number with residue by 5, if you check 25 marks, multiply the number with residue by 4. This count will tell you how much residue is left in your field.

To get a good average of the entire field, repeat the above steps 3 times in different areas of the field. Add the totals together and divide by 3 to find the average percentage.