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Ames, Iowa
July 1, 1949

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Art Streepy, Chairman
District Governing Body
Appanoose Soil Conservation District
Cincinnati, Iowa

Dear Mr. Streepy:

I have just had the opportunity to read the accounts of your Soil Conservation District activities contained in your Annual Report for 1948. Your report gave a very concise picture of the accomplishments made in the Appanoose County Soil Conservation District during the past year.

I want to take this opportunity to compliment you and the district commissioners on the fine job you are doing in directing the activities for your district. You indicated in the report that you are short-handed as far as assistance was concerned. Nearly all the districts in the state are in the same position; in other words, there appears to be a greater demand for assistance than the districts are able to provide. I believe this is a good indication that the public in general is beginning to be very conscious of the fact that the soil conservation job is a must. At the present time then it will be necessary, or desirable, to continue to improve the efficiency of the soil conservation district operations and provide as much additional assistance in that way as possible.

I was very glad to note that you are securing the finest type of assistance from all agencies in your district who are in a position to help with the soil conservation job. The job will only be accomplished by everyone working together.

Allow me to compliment you again upon the job you are doing as district commissioners, and I want to assure you of continued assistance from the Soil Conservation Service. As you feel that we may be of additional assistance to your district, please keep Mr. S. T. Runkel, District Conservationist at Ottumwa, informed of your needs.

Yours very truly,

FHM
Frank H. Mendell,
State Conservationist

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E. L. L.

Centerville, Iowa
January 1, 1950.

APPANOOSE COUNTY SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT
COMMISSIONERS ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1949.

TO: The Honorable Charles Brannan, U.S. Sec. of Agriculture

The Commissioners of the Appanoose County Soil Conservation District respectfully submit the following report covering the operations of the district during the calendar year of 1949.

In the year of 1949 soil conservation advanced to a great degree. This is shown by an increase in farms planned, also in the interest taken by the farmers in this district.

Being an off year for election of district offices, there was no election held.

The District is still operating the bulldozer which was loaned them by the government and it has been put to extensive use. The financial statement will be sent apart at a later date. Suffice to say here it has not been a paying proposition because of the heavy expenses incurred through labor and repairs.

John L. Stark
As a result of the \$250,000 appropriated by the State of Iowa to be used by the districts, this district was enabled to hire both a technical assistant and a clerical assistant to help in the Soil Conservation Service office. The State has also approved requests for equipment for this district, listed as follows:
A whirlwind terracer, scoop, florescent ceiling light, two florescent desk lamps, filing cabinet, secretarial chair, 8 folding chairs, camera, and folders. This totals approximately \$2,000. *Betty McDonald*

The District entered into the following demonstrations: contour schools, Soil Conservation Field Day, and the Contour Plowing Match. Also, 280 pounds of Fischer Bromegrass was distributed to cooperators for the purpose of increasing the supply of seed in this district. This seed was obtained from a cooperator who had been distributed seed for the same purpose.

The District got very good cooperation from other agencies including the Extension Service, P.M.A., F.H.A., County Board of Supervisors, Centerville Association of Commerce and the State Conservation Committee.

The Farm Planner, Wm.E. Stark, planned 51 farms in 1949, compared with 25 farms planned in 1948, this now making a total of 177 plans completed at the close of 1949. This increase, we believe, was made through a change of personnel in the Soil Conservation Service office, and additional personnel from the State Soil Conservation committee.

Supp to Appanoose Report
Centerville, Iowa

TO: THE HONORABLE Charles Brannen, U.S. Sec. of Agriculture

Supplement to the Appanoose County Soil Conservation
Annual Report for 1949.

The following is the report on the financial status of the
government loaned caterpillar of the Appanoose County Soil Conservation
District.

Balance on hand 1-1-49	\$177.39
Amount taken in	<u>7131.40</u>
Total	<u>\$7308.79</u>

(Paid out in salaries & mileage	\$3244.55
(Paid out on tractor repairs	1224.76
(Paid out on gas, oil and antifreeze	884.95
(Maintenance & Misc. Expenditures	<u>1071.21</u>

Total Paid Out	<u>\$6425.47</u>
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Cash balance on hand 1-1-50	\$883.32
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Assets consisting of 54 shares of stock in the Southern Iowa Experimental Farm at Bloomfield, Iowa	<u>540.00</u>
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Total Assets	<u>\$1423.32</u>
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/s/ R.C. Wilson, Treasurer,
Appanoose Co. Tractor Fund.

APPANOOSE COUNTY SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT'S ANNUAL REPORT
(Con't)

We believe that the District program is becoming well known and accepted throughout the district. This is shown by the list of 120 applications for farm plans now needing to be planned.

This district entered into an organization with six other counties to further soil conservation on the land to determine the direct results on flood control. A small water shed of approximately 2,000 acres has been selected to carry out experimental work towards this end.

The following is the work accomplished during the year 1949:

51 plans	totalling	10,018 acres
Contour		2,015 acres
Strip Crop		179 acres
Pasture Improvement		678 acres
Seed Pasture		202 acres
Farm Ponds		40
Terraces		11.43 Miles
Diversions		2.88 Miles
Farm Drainage		91 Acres with 1.34 Mi. (of ditch.
Structures		1
Waterways		65, 950 lineal ft.

The Commissioners, with the aid of the farm planner, set up the following goals for the year of 1950:

Farm Plans	60
Follow-ups	52
Replanning plans	3
Contouring	1200 Acres
Contour Strip crop	96 Acres
Terraces	7 Miles
Diversions	1.25 Miles
Waterways	1.5 Miles
Improved Pastures	800 Acres
Seed Pasture	160 Acres
Wildlife Improvement	4 Acres
Ponds	8
Open Drains	1 Mile
Fence Row Management	.19 Miles
Structures	1
Farm Drainage	8 Acres
Soil Surveys	16,200 Acres

APPANOOSE COUNTY SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT'S
ANNUAL REPORT (Con't)

Due to the increased demand of soil conservation in the District, we look to find the Appanoose County Soil Conservation District advancing in agricultural income in future years. This, we believe, will be brought about by an increase in forage crops, thereby increasing the amount of dairy and beef cattle in the district.

/s/ _____
Arthur M. Streepy, Chairman

/s/ _____
George A. Scott, Commissioner

/s/ _____
Richard C. Wilson, Commissioner

Centerville, Iowa

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R.C. Wilson, Treasurer,
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