

Fayette County Soil Conservation District's annual report, 1979

1979 ANNUAL REPORT
FAYETTE COUNTY SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT

DISTRICT GOVERNING UNIT

James Stewart, Delweir Chairman
George Halstead, West Union, Vice-Chairman
Leslie Anderson, Castalia Secretary
Frank Thyer, Randolph, Treasurer
James Burk, Arlington Commissioner

DISTRICT EMPLOYEES

Bela Bauer, Clerk
Randy Tate, resigned April 12, 1979. Part-time Conservation Aide

U.S.D.A. SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE

Light Jackson, resigned October 5, 1979 District Conservationist
J.K. "Bud" Stuber, Conservation Technician
Tate, resigned April 12, 1979 W.A.E.
Dennis Kibbe, started July 27 and worked through November 5, 1979 W.A.E.
Darrell Christensen, started November 13, 1979 W.A.E.

AREA PERSONNEL

Harold B. Boehmer, Mason City Area Conservationist
Barbara Herron, Mason City Area Clerk
Gary Farnsworth, Elkhart Area Civil Engineer
John Wolman, Elkhart Area Civil Engineer Technician

DISTRICT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

October 1, 1978 - September 30, 1979

	Number	Acres
District Cooperators	23	1,363
Soil & Water Conservation Plans	963	1,596
Farms & Groups Served	216	
Farms & Groups Applying One or More Practices	216	

MAJOR PRACTICES APPLIED

Contour Farming (Acres)	827
Farmland & Fertilizer Windbreaks (Acres)	3
Grass Stabilization Structures (Number)	9
Grassed Waterways (Acres)	13
Minimum Tillage (Acres)	67
Sediment & Water Control Basin (Feet)	48
Parallel Terraces (Feet)	27
Wildlife Upland Habitat Management (Acres)	62

HIGHLIGHTS OF DISTRICT ACTIVITIES 1979

The District Commissioners held regular monthly meetings and attended special meetings to conduct the business of the district. This included plans and preparations for the various events that are presented by the district, also reviewing all new cooperators, basic conservation plans, group plans, cost share assistance applications, amendments and completed cost share contracts.

The public was informed of soil conservation progress with news stories and radio reports. The office staff and staff assistants assisted with or conducted conservation tours, talks, demonstrations, presentations and contacts.

At the District Annual Meeting on November 13, 1979, the following were elected: Chairman, James Stewart; Vice-Chairman, George Halstead; Secretary, Leslie Anderson; Treasurer, Frank Thyer; Commissioners, James Burk, James Stewart, George Halstead, Leslie Anderson and James Burk.

A contractors meeting was planned and organized by Bud Stuber, Conservation Technician, to discuss the use of universal design in the construction of new buildings.

Jackie presented a slide show on "Disturbed Habitats" to the public at the annual meeting at the West Union High School.

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The district commissioners wish to thank the many organizations that have assisted the district during the year. Among these are the Soil Conservation Service, Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service, Extension Service, Farm Bureau, Iowa Association of S.C.D. Commissioners and the State Conservation Service. The district also wishes to thank the many individuals who have made a valuable contribution by giving publicity to activities of the district.

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FINANCIAL STATEMENT

July 1, 1978 - June 30, 1979

IM BUDGET	
Commissioners travel expenses in the county on district business	\$ 636.78
Office supplies	25.00
Printing	282.37
Office expense	37.00
Telephone allocation	990.00
Total allocation	\$ 1,921.15

IIM BUDGET	
Salaries, travel, insurance, etc. for Clerk and parttime Conservation Aide	\$14,667.63
Equipment expenses	2,770.37
Telephone allocation	\$773.30
Total allocation	\$18,211.30

COMMISSIONERS REVOLVING FUND	
Balance on hand July 1, 1978	\$ 690.05
Receipts July 1, 1978 - June 30, 1979	29,399.60
Disbursements	1,043.58
Balance on hand June 30, 1979	\$1,147.07

IM BUDGET	
1977-78 Fiscal Year	\$23,822.62
State cost share Funds Allocated	\$6,072.22
Total Amount Expended for Conservation Practices	\$17,750.40
Total Amount Expended for Completion of One Practice	\$3,770.00
Total Amount Expended	\$21,520.40

1978-79 Fiscal Year	
State cost share Funds Allocated	\$14,000.00
Total Amount Expended for Conservation Practices	\$3,347.74
Total Amount Expended for Completion of One Practice	\$1,652.26
Total Amount Expended	\$18,999.00
1979-80 Fiscal Year	
State cost share Funds Allocated	\$23,822.62
Total Amount Expended for Conservation Practices	\$17,750.40
Total Amount Expended for Completion of One Practice	\$3,770.00
Total Amount Expended	\$21,520.40



SCS Commissioners — Members of the Fayette County Soil Conservation District are, left to right: Frank Thyer, Bela Bauer and James Stewart. In the back are George Halstead, Leslie Anderson and James Burk.

County SCS formed in April, '46

By J.K. "Bud" Stuber, Conservation Technician

I looked in the files and found that the Fayette County Soil Conservation District was formed way back in April, 1946. That year terraces were installed on 23 acres and contouring on 209 acres. Soil erosion was then not really the major type of conservation practice being used. There were comments on ditches in the fields, mud on the roads, and a lot of little bit of soil conservation work.

We have come a long way since then. Some of us working in soil conservation today are happy to see that some of our work is still being done.

In past annual reports, some times a homestead type report was presented. Last year we had 16-18 inches of rain. To us, erosion is now about 4 inches less and the present rate is about 1/2 of top soil in about 8 years.

This is all very true but not everything about this soil loss is in the soil. There is very little land in Fayette County where you can't find a little bit of soil loss. The right tillage methods and a little different crop rotation is the immediate answer and a larger cash outlay is required. Now if you want more intense row crop in your rotation, terracing will be more likely to be used.

The right tillage will give you all time it takes to get the needed terraces on the land without excess soil loss. The cost of terracing, like everything else, has greatly increased in cost. If you want more row crop on your sloping land and you have an excess of future crop production, terracing and conservation tillage are a must.

Some good news this year of Oct. 1, 1978, landowners receiving federal or state cost share assistance will be able to exclude such monies from their gross income so that federal and state tax returns according to Sec. 140 of the Federal Revenue Act of 1978. This is a tax break for landowners installing conservation practices. Last year the ACP cost share limit from ASCS was raised from \$2,000 to \$2,500 per farm.

This is a step in the right direction, but with higher costs, \$3.50 does not seem to be a lot of money for a conservation project. You, the land owner, are going to have to pay for your conservation project. You, the land owner, are going to have to pay for your conservation project.

If federal and state funds could be increased, acreage payments could be increased, and acreage payments could be increased.

The Delweir Daily Register

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 1980

PER COPY 2¢ DELWEIR, IOWA 52402

Conservation tillage becomes growing trend

By Gerald Muff, District Conservationist

Conservation tillage is one of the most effective and current practices we can use to reduce soil loss or cropland. It is one of the few that can be used in agriculture to place which will actually reduce soil loss. The majority of farmers have reduced erosion significantly.

Reduced tillage results in leaving some crop residue on the soil surface to protect the soil which is usually done by disking, chiseling, etc. This is opposed to moldboard plowing which turns all crop residue over.

Reduced tillage has come on strong recently, but many farmers are still overworking the ground with these implements in some cases, practically all the residue ends up getting buried, just as the show would have.

We are now urging farmers to go one step further. We are now urging farmers to go one step further. We are now urging farmers to go one step further.

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I was encouraged to find that local efforts have been made, with conservation tillage. The County Extension Service, Dan Burkhardt and Ken Hall, Extension Crop Specialist, have worked on tillage plots this last year in Fayette County.

I also found that there are many interested and progressive farmers in the County, when I found that the extension meeting held in the County, when I found that the extension meeting held in the County.

The following is an article on the tillage plots by Dan Burkhardt. The reports that no-till section of the Fayette County conservation tillage plot resulted in the highest yield. The 16-18 bushels per acre yield topped all fields at the experimental field plot located in an alfalfa sod field owned by John Christen farm near Wadena.

The top yield compared to 17.0 bushels per acre on the strip-till plot, 16.14 bushels per acre on the double disk plot and 14.88 bushels per acre on the chisel disk plot. A Buffalo T-11 planter with and without sweeps was used on the no-till and strip-till plots.

Yield checks were two rows wide and 30-foot long, were hand-harrowed from several locations in each plot and were adjusted to be 15 percent moisture to obtain shelled crop yield.

Weed control was excellent in all plots. On 2-24-Barrel spray, one week before planting was used to kill alfalfa. Paraquat was used to burn down grass on the no-till and strip-till plots, after planting. An Atrix-Bled combination was used for long term weed control on the annual and perennial weeds present in the plots. Iowa State University weed specialists do not feel it is necessary to apply extra herbicides at above label rates for weed control in conservation tillage plots.

On balance, the no-till conditions at planting affected the yield. The no-till plot was very clearly a no-till plot. The no-till plot was very clearly a no-till plot.

GERALD MUFF, is the new district conservationist with the Fayette County Soil Conservation District, which has headquarters in West Union.

(Continued on page 2)

Aide discovers Fayette county

by Darrell Christensen
Soil Conservation Aid
S.C.S., U.S.D.A.

Since I am on the staff in the Fayette, Soil Conservation District, I have been asked to make my contribution to the annual report. Since my period of employment consists of about two months with Soil Conservation Service, this article will be somewhat similar — short. However, during these months I've seen a lot of Fayette County, and also learned a lot about erosion control while working with Soil Conservation Service technicians.

It wasn't long before I discovered that the south western part of the Fayette County is very different from northeastern regions. The southwestern part, which I would call flat, contrasts with the hilly region in the eastern area where hills and timber are common. The glacial drifts have formed a variety of terraces here in the county

where the boundary line between the hills and timber of the Mississippi valley and the Iowa prairie.

With this range of terrain there are many avenues for application of soil conservation practices, ranging from a wide choice of crop rotation to conservation tillage to the most permanent practice of terracing. Through the use of one or more of these practices, agricultural erosion can be kept where it belongs.

The Volga Lake watershed, located in Union and Westfield Townships, will be a good example of how erosion control can prevent soil loss, and also prevent the newly formed lake from filling with sediment. Surface area of the lake will cover about 135 acres, while the drainage area covers nine square miles. Each landowner in the drainage area will be contacted this winter to discuss alternative erosion control practices. The glacial drifts have formed a variety of terraces here in the county



DARRELL CHRISTENSEN is a conservation aide with the Fayette County Soil Conservation Service in West Union.



BELVA BAUER is district clerk with the Fayette County Soil Conservation Service.

conservation saves farm dollars

Thus, interest costs rise faster than overall production. In 1979, farmers paid \$6.6 billion in interest on short-term debts and \$4.3 billion on real estate debt. The total interest cost of \$11.9 billion is about 25 percent higher than 1978's \$9.5 billion in interest costs.

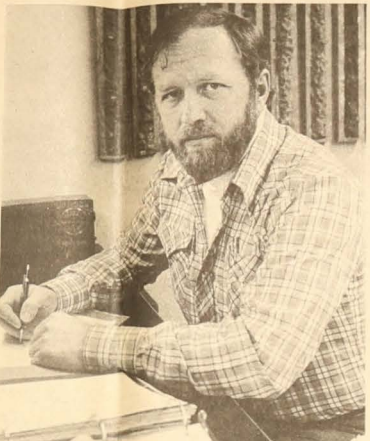
While higher interest rates have caused farmers to increase interest costs, the major source of interest cost increases has been the increasing use of debt financing.

—Howard W. Rjort, director of agricultural economics, policy and budget, USDA

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J. K. RUD SIERBRECHT is a conservation technician with the Fayette County Soil Conservation Service.



SIFTING GOLD?—Iowa's topsoil is worth more than oil, gold or platinum, but erosion is carrying away a little bit more of it each year. Some of the precious topsoil the wind

Conservation elects File

DUNDEE (Special)—Clarence File of rural St. Charles was elected chairman of the Delaware County Conservation Board for 1980 at their recent regular meeting.

Other officers elected were Gerald Schuster of Ryan, vice chairman and Gene White, as secretary. Also serving on the board are Rodney Baumgartner, Dundee and Howard Sampson. Garyn Glum will serve as executive director of the board.

Productivity paragon

U.S. agriculture has come a long way since the days when the average farm worker produced only enough food, fiber and timber for a family of four.

The average U.S. farm worker (farm operator, family member or hired laborer) supplied an estimated 100 bushels of grain and other products at home and abroad and that record of productivity is increasing nearly every year.

In the years from 1900 to 1980, the number of people supplied by the average U.S. farm worker had increased by about four thousand.

—USDA Agricultural Situation

conservation saves farm dollars

The Buck Stops Short of Resources

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'Alarming' rate for scabies

WASHINGTON (AP)—Cattle scabies, a skin disease of cattle that is caused by tiny mites and which has long been a problem in some areas of the southwest, now "is appearing at an alarming rate" in many midwestern and south central states, says the Agriculture Department.

The department's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service said on Thursday that the disease—properly called, "scabies"—has been confirmed in 19 outbreaks last month, the same as in a year earlier.

Mulhern, administrator of the agency, and the disease is a move into "new" areas in recent years is cause for concern among cattle producers and animal health authorities.

The only way producers can keep scabies down and prevent its spread is to check their herds regularly and "refrain from mixing newly acquired cattle" with established herds, he said.

Last month's scabies outbreaks were reported in Arizona, Idaho, Iowa, Illinois, Kansas, Minnesota, Nebraska, New Mexico, Oklahoma, South Dakota and Texas, officials said.

The disease is caused by tiny mites burrowing into the skin of cattle and then feeding on the animals' body fluids. The mites can be killed by dipping cattle in pesticides. Infested and exposed herds are placed under quarantine until the animals are treated and freed of the disease.

Although the disease does not affect humans, it can cause economic losses to cattle producers.

Iowa Crop Value

The value of Iowa's 1979 farm crops, including fruits, seeds and commercial vegetables, totaled \$6,169 million, 11 percent more than the 1978 value of \$5,540 million. Higher season average prices for most major crops offset lower soybean prices. A record corn and soybean crop helped to contribute most of the increase in the 1979 value of production.

Corn value accounted for 62 percent of the total value, soybeans, 30, and hay, six. These three crops made up 96 percent of Iowa's 1979 crop value.

Iowa ranked third in the nation in crop value, exceeded by California, which was the leading state with a crop value of \$10.1 billion, and Minnesota, which ranked second with a value of \$9.1 billion.

Iowa's crop value is 21 percent of the nation's crop value.

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Presession orders help John Deere plan production of most needed models and sizes. So from February 1 through May 31, 1980, John Deere is offering impressive bonuses for presession orders. This bonus is above and beyond our best deal to you on this equipment.

Your early order qualifies you for \$20 to \$600 in John Deere money for certain models of disks, chisel plows, balers, mower-conditioners, and pulv-type forage harvesters. Promptly after delivery, you'll be mailed your bonus John Deere money to spend for products or services at our store.

There's more. You'll get price protection from John Deere.

BUYER BONUS IN JOHN DEERE MONEY FOR NEW EQUIPMENT ORDERS SIGNED DURING:

EQUIPMENT	FEB. MAR. 30 APR. MAY 30
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111 and 115	\$ 75 \$ 50
210, 215, 310, 315, 340, 360	\$150 \$100
220, 230, 235, 360, 440	\$225 \$150
465, 560	\$375 \$250
337 and 360	\$375 \$250
370	\$500 \$350
CHISEL PLOWS	
1610 Integral Plow, 1610 Drawn Plow (11 thru 17-foot)	\$ 75 \$ 50

BALENS

44 Square and Round Bales	\$225 \$150
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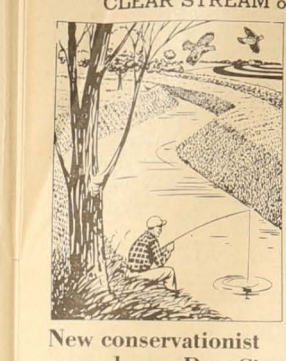
MOWER-CONDITIONERS

1207, 1208 and 1209	\$300 \$200
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FORAGE HARVESTERS

Pulv-Type 3940	\$300 \$200
Pulv-Type 3960	\$400 \$275

These offers are subject to equipment availability.



New conservationist reared near Dow City

by Gerald Muff
District Conservationist
S.C.S., U.S.D.A.

As the new S.C.S. District Conservationist assigned to the Fayette County Conservation District, I will be bringing to you my background. I was raised on a farm in West Union near Dow City. We were primarily grain farmers, but also raised some livestock.

After a summer training period with S.C.S. in Des Moines, I graduated from Iowa State University with a B.S. in Agronomy in 1961. I trained for a year in Manhattan, Kansas, for a year in Ames, Iowa, and then transferred to Adel, just west of Dow City, in 1962. From Adel, I was transferred here to West Union. Well, enough of the hard old facts.

My wife and I are very optimistic about our future here in West Union. We are surprised at the friendly people here in Fayette County. I have found that the people here in Fayette County are very friendly and are not being used to the hospitality of the people here in Fayette County. I am very optimistic about our future here in West Union. We are surprised at the friendly people here in Fayette County. I have found that the people here in Fayette County are very friendly and are not being used to the hospitality of the people here in Fayette County.

Professionally speaking, I believe that we have a tremendous challenge facing us as soil conservationists. First of all, I have some good news. I will be working with you, the farmers and ranchers, and the conservationists who are working with you. I will be working with you, the farmers and ranchers, and the conservationists who are working with you.

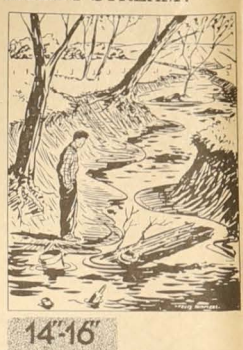
FARMING IS A SAFE INVESTMENT

WE'RE PROUD TO BE A PART OF IT!

The following West Union merchants know the value of Soil Conservation and Agriculture in relation to business growth in their community. That's why they are happy to support the work of Soil Conservation in Fayette County Soil Conservation District.

Crandall's Men's Store 105 N. Hwy 422-3662	Culligan Water Condit. 130 Cedar 422-5683	Beauty Hut 101 N. Hwy 422-5616
Town & Country Cashway 603 S. Hwy 422-3876	Dessell's Furniture Store 611 W. Bedford 422-3362	Union Drug Like Place 422-3773
West Union OK Hardware Hwy. 148 & 150 422-5646	Conservation Pays	German Mutual Ins. Assn. 109 Adams 422-3871
Baumler Implements, Inc. Hwy. 150 South 422-3835	Robinson's Variety Five To A Dollar 111 N. Hwy 422-3772	Fast Break Restaurant Like Place 422-5817
Don's Pharmacy 101 N. Hwy 422-3531	Bostrom's Super Valu Hwy. 148 & 150 422-3565	Daniels Shoes 105 S. Hwy 422-3200

CLEAR STREAM or MUDDY STREAM?



Water conditions of stream were not entirely typical for the area.

14' 16"

6' 8"

TOPSOIL SUBSOIL

100 years ago Today

Topsoil down to only half

Half the original topsoil—4 to 6 inches—has been lost from Iowa's unprotected cropland in the last 100 years. They have been farmed. At an average loss of 12 tons per acre per year, or one-half inch of topsoil per year, the remaining 4 to 6 inches could be gone within 100 years.

Topsoil is being lost much faster than it is being replaced. Nature needs 250 to 300 years to build an inch of topsoil. In Iowa, the erosion more rapid than in any other state, and the loss of topsoil is a major problem. The loss of topsoil is a major problem. The loss of topsoil is a major problem.

MAKING YOUR MOVE TO A HIGHER RATE OF INTEREST!

Pesticide application workshop set

INDEPENDENCE

The training session for commercial pesticide applicators will be held on March 8 in Waterloo. The all-day session will begin with registration at 9 a.m. and end at 5 p.m. at the Waterloo Hotel, located at 112 Kimball.

The morning session will involve training the general public in the use of pesticides on their own property. The afternoon session will be devoted primarily to training for weed, insect and disease control in agricultural crops. There will also be a discussion of the use of side-spray presentation of pesticides on the ground. The right of weed control, an alternative and recent practice.

Commercial pesticide applicators who are not certified do not need to attend the training session. Those who are are willing to be added to the additional category. The training is designed primarily for new commercial pesticide applicators who are not presently certified. Anyone desiring more information about the training session should contact their local county extension office.

Concern over swine fever

WASHINGTON (AP)—Government animal health officials are warning about the possibility of swine fever being introduced into the United States from the Caribbean area.

The Agriculture Department says it is not aware of any swine fever cases in the United States. The disease is a viral infection that affects only swine and is not a health hazard to humans. It is not a health hazard to humans. It is not a health hazard to humans.

Milder winter helps increase farm workers

WASHINGTON (AP)—Mild weather this winter has helped boost the nation's farm labor force sharply in the last year, according to the United States Department of Agriculture.

The survey, made in the week of Jan. 6 to 12, showed that about 900,000 workers were employed on farms. That was a gain of 14 percent from 1978 reported in the same week a year earlier.

Weather conditions, of course, were not entirely responsible for the increase.

The report did indicate that fairly good farm work in much of the country.

The western third of the nation, by its new job systems between Jan. 6 to 12, had a net gain of 14 percent.

The report also showed that fruit trees were being planted in all areas, and that fruit crops were being planted in all areas. Fruit trees were being planted in all areas, and that fruit crops were being planted in all areas.

The report also showed that fruit trees were being planted in all areas, and that fruit crops were being planted in all areas. Fruit trees were being planted in all areas, and that fruit crops were being planted in all areas.

Number of sheep has declined

AMES, Iowa (AP)—A 19-year decline in the number of sheep in the United States has ended, Gert Fretzel, Iowa State University extension economist, says.

The annual sheep and lamb inventory survey taken by the U.S. Department of Agriculture indicates the number of sheep and lambs in the United States as of Jan. 1, 1979, was 12.1 million head, an increase of 2 percent from the 12 million head a year earlier.

Fretzel attributed the turnaround in stronger prices and better profits in the last few years.

He said the industry itself has been encouraging expansion through the marketing of sheep products and the Sheep Producers Council and the "Sheep for the Expansion" program.

The U.S. sheep population peaked at 22 million head in 1960, but it has declined since then. It is now 12.1 million head.

The U.S. sheep population peaked at 22 million head in 1960, but it has declined since then. It is now 12.1 million head.

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PASSBOOK SAVINGS ACCOUNTS

Term	Rate
Three Months Certificates	6%
Six Months Certificates	6%
One Year Certificates	6 1/2%
Two Year Certificates	6 1/2%
Thirty Months Certificates	6 3/4%
Eight Year Certificates	8%
Money Market Certificates	Variable Rate
30-Month Variable Rate Certificate	10.65%

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RELA A. RAUCH, office clerk, distributed literature and answered questions at the Fayette Soil Conservation District booth during the 1979 County Fair. A lighted



MARGARET ADDY is one of the people working on the aerial survey map of Fayette County.



JoAnn RIES is the PA clerk with the ANSC office in Fayette.

Conservation Saves Farm Dollars

The Buck Stops Short of Resources

Conservation makes more than sense...it's our survival. Preserving the land yields our future, in food supplies, economic growth and natural resources. Follow the facts and farm with care for fruitful dividends and plentiful profits. The best investment we can make is saving the land...and it will save us.

NORTHEAST IOWA

West Union 422-5687

FAYETTE SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT

WIND POWER — Early Iowa farmers who did not have electricity to power many of their pieces of machinery, realized the value of wind sweeping over the prairie.

Windmills dotted the land and the wind provided the power needed to pump water from wells. Today, few remain, and even fewer are still used.



TREES AND SHRUBS provide a wind break for many Fayette county farms, as shown in this photo taken east of Oshtemo. Residue left in the fields after harvest also helps

soil conservation by cutting down on wind erosion during the winter months.

Egg production up 3% in 1979

WASHINGTON (AP) — The nation's hens produced 8.4 million eggs in January, a 3 percent increase from a year ago, according to a report from the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

In 1974, Jacob Trautman, a U.S. Department of Agriculture veterinarian, identified the organism associated with brucellosis in cattle. This organism — *Brucella suis* — like other *Brucella* spp., can cause disease in humans and other animals.



NOW MORE THAN EVER SOIL PRESERVATION IS AT STAKE

Our food productivity has always been good. But our future will demand for it to be better. What with pollution invading our lakes and streams, soil preservation is no easy matter. Make the move by maintaining a proper soil control program. Visit your nearest office today.



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FDIC

Arlington Phone 633-3855



SPEECH WINNERS — James Stewart, Chairman of Fayette Soil Conservation District is presenting checks to winners of the Soil Conservation Speech Contest. Kristine Wilbur, Hawkeye, placed first; Brenda Schweinof, second place; and Sharon Kline, Fayette, placed third.



DISTRICT CONSERVATIONIST — Jackson is shown assisting the Area 1 Soil Judging Contest. Students from various area high schools participated in a soil judging contest last September on the Area 1 Technical School

Jackson, near Calmar. One hundred seventy-five Area 1 students participated with Grand Center coming in first; Oshtemo, second; and South Winnow, third.

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RR 1 283-5444 Oshtemo

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- Easy to install, tough, durable
- Delivered anywhere in Iowa
- Backed by 70 years of drainage products experience

Sheffield BRICK & TILE CO.

SHEFFIELD, IOWA 50475

Bergland wants farm programs 'revamped'

By Judy Allen
Washington Bureau
WASHINGTON — When the federal farm program is out of money next year, there'll be no scraps left to be scraped up, Agriculture Secretary Bob Bergland has said.

If President Carter is reelected and Bergland is reappointed to head the U.S. Department of Agriculture, farmers can expect "venerable" farm support, credit and tax programs to be on the list of government programs that will be cut.

Bergland said recently in an exclusive interview that he has no intention of being a "pork-chopper" who cuts programs that are popular with farmers. But he is willing to cut programs that are not popular with farmers, and he is willing to cut programs that are not popular with farmers.

Bergland said that he is willing to cut programs that are not popular with farmers, and he is willing to cut programs that are not popular with farmers.

He is still uncertain about the eventual shape of new federal farm policy, but the USDA secretary remarked, "We'll wind up with land that's worth \$10.00 an acre and food prices sky high."

Area 4-H clubs get grants

AMES — Twenty-four Iowa 4-H clubs will share \$10,000 in grants for improvement projects. The grants are being awarded by the Iowa 4-H Council, a unit of the Iowa Department of Education.

The grants are being awarded to 4-H clubs in the Ames area. The grants are being awarded to 4-H clubs in the Ames area.

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- Every effort made to schedule service when you need it.
- Good supply of all the latest priced equipment.
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GOODYEAR



THIS GRADE stabilization structure was completed during November 1979 and is located one mile south of Wadena, standing on the dam is landowner Jean Savage and District Conservationist Jerry Muff. This structure

controls erosion, provides water for fish, wildlife, and recreation. It fills nicely into the natural surroundings and will add a scenic touch to the area.



FmHA — Members of the Farmers Home Administration committee, which has office in West Union, are, left to right, Paul T. Peters, assistant county supervisor; Don P. Winter, committee member; Jim W. Hartman, committee member; and Jim Rogers, county FmHA supervisor.

Erosion not only farm problem

Who does soil erosion hurt, how much, and who should pay to stop it? Soil erosion is not entirely the farmer's problem, according to an

economic study begun in 1975 by USDA's Economics, Statistics, and Cooperative Service and Soil Conservation Service.

The three-year study focused on soil depletion in 2.1 million acres of cropland in southern Iowa. It concludes that farmers should not be expected to pay all the costs of protecting soil against erosion. The study shows higher fertilizer and energy costs if erosion continues. It concludes that farmers would be hard pressed to finance soil conservation work on their own.

The study projected lower crop yields—even with more

fertilizer—on depleted soils. That points to inefficient agriculture. Public problems associated with soil erosion, such as sediment and other pollutants in streams and lakes, were not included in the study. It didn't look at loss of tax revenue or higher food prices as a result of depleted soil, nor did it consider resale value of worn out land.

If erosion is allowed to continue at present rates, the land will undergo drastic physical changes by the 2020s. Of the 2.1 million acres studied, 26 percent of the land that is now slightly eroded will be moderately or severely eroded. One-third of the land

that is now moderately eroded will be severely eroded. Overall, this means that only 9 percent of the cropland is severely eroded now; the figure will balloon to 40 percent by the year 2020. The study pointed out two soil conservation methods as they most cost effective. They are: 1) leaving crop residues such as cornstalks on the soil surface and 2) planting hillside on the contour rather than up and down the slope. The study showed erosion control costs were cut by as much as two-thirds when these two practices were used in combination with other erosion control methods.

Conservation Is Up to You

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We, as businesses that deal with the farmer, recognize and hail the practices of SOIL CONSERVATION.... it is our economic lifeblood. We are proud to be able to support and be a part of this important movement for soil conservation.

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Stan's Standard

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PATTY DILLON is the home economist with the Fayette County Extension Service office in Fayette.



Sheet erosion by water.



Gully erosion by water.



Sheet erosion by wind.

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TRICKLING WATER from spring run-off as the snow cover melts causes problems for the soil. The streams that are quiet all winter often turn into torrents of water in the spring, carrying away valuable topsoil.



In some areas of the Sahara Desert, it rains only during a cyclonic storm which occurs only every ten years or more.

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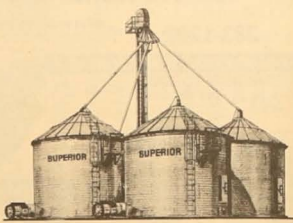
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Chlorophyll utilizes the sun's energy in a process called photosynthesis, which converts green plants to convert carbon dioxide and water into food and energy with oxygen as a by-product. Chlorophyll is essential to almost all life on earth.

By 1990, farmers to be producing power

WASHINGTON (AP) — A new plan to set up low energy centers to help farmers generate their own energy could result in their having a surplus to sell on the side, the Agriculture Department says.

By 1990, farmers and ranchers should be able to produce as much energy as they need to power their own farms and ranches, officials said Thursday in a background paper.

Beyond 1990, they should be able to produce enough to power other parts of the economy, too.

The centers are being established in Tifton, Ga., and Peoria, Ill., where the department is cooperating with state, federal and university research laboratories and research centers.

The projects initially will cost about \$2 million. At least 10 persons will be employed in the work of the two centers but will have access to many other scientists working at the two locations.

Programs at Peoria will focus on the conversion of biomass products from farms and forests into fuel

for three main research units with three energy programs already under way at university sites.

At Tifton, scientists will seek new and better ways to generate energy on the farm, and better ways to put that energy to practical use.

The department's Science and Education Administration will provide \$1.6 million to the Tifton energy center during the first three quarters of 1980, plus \$200,000 for extension activities.

In Peoria, the agency has allocated \$2.4 million, with \$100,000 for extension work and \$2.3 million to be used for university research projects related to agricultural energy.

Regional solar energy research and development centers were specified by Congress in the Food and Agriculture Act of 1977. The law defines solar energy as energy derived from all forms of renewable resources, including direct solar heat, wind and biomass.

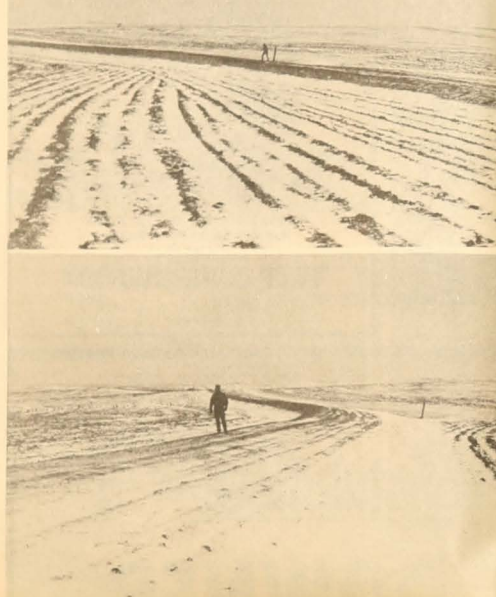
James L. Butler, an agency engineer who will manage the Tifton facility, said plans call

University of Missouri on the production and use of methane gas from hog manure.

Edward B. Bagley, an agency chemical engineer who will be in charge of the center at Peoria, said about half of the center's research will be on basic fermentation and chemical methods for converting biomass into alcohol.

The Peoria scientists also will work on:

- Recovering plant byproducts and their use as replacements for petrochemicals.
- Ways to use low grade alcohol as fuel.
- Stabilizing agents for effective low grade blends of alcohol and gasoline, and of alcohol and diesel fuel.
- Methods to recover byproducts from alcohol and methane gas fermentation and convert them into new food and feed products.



BUD MIERRECHT is shown looking over the terraces constructed on the Glens Jansen farm in northfield Township. Over 12,000 feet of terraces were constructed there. Typical soil loss on this land is about 1 ton per acre per year before terracing with a corn-soybean rotation. After terrace installation the soil loss dropped to less than five tons per acre per year which is the allowable loss for Keweenaw and Chalk soils found on the Jansen land. Terraces are earthen structures designed primarily to reduce slope length, but they also reduce soil erosion, reduce sediment content in runoff water, intercept and cushion surface runoff in a stable outlet through underground flow. They will also prevent gully development here. Reduction of slope length does the most in reducing soil loss since a shorter slope protects soil by preventing

runoff water from reaching a high velocity and a high volume. There are several types of terrace design and from. They are classified according to three main factors: type of soil, type of slope, and type of crop.

In Fayette County, the most common type is strip or grassed backslope with tile inlet and a parallel alignment for better farmability. Backslopes can be "breakdowns" where the entire terrace is farmed, or steep grassed backslopes which isn't farmed. In western Iowa level terraces are common since the soil readily soaks up water. Gradient terraces are not farmed, but rather slope toward an inlet to drain the runoff. Alignment is usually chosen as parallel (as opposed to non-parallel) to eliminate a lot of point rows.

4-H club receives 'seed money'

INDEPENDENCE — The Byron Green Leaven 4-H club has been granted a share of \$1,500 "seed money" awarded in 24 4-H clubs across Iowa. The club grants, ranging from \$25 to \$100, help 4-H club plan, carry out, and evaluate local improvement projects in their communities. The grants are provided by Pioneer Hi-Bred International, Inc. of Des Moines.

Denise Stiefelmann, Buchanan County 4-H and youth leader, and the local 4-H club plans to build bluebird houses for county parks. The project chairperson is Marie

Hells of Aurora. Club leaders are Mrs. George Gates, Mrs. Juel Richardson, and Mrs. Gene Heltz.

Madame said that 4-Hers wanting to take part in next year's Pioneer community improvement program can pick up details and applications at the Buchanan County extension office, Grant



MEL BUTTERS is working on the aerial maps of Fayette County at the ASCS office in Fayette.

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OFFICES IN MAYNARD AND HAZLETON
MAYNARD 637-2289 HAZLETON 636-2431

GENE BROWNELL is executive director with the Fayette County Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service office in Fayette.

ANNOUNCING CHANGE OF OWNERSHIP OF OELWEIN IMPLEMENT COMPANY, INC.



THANK YOU!

After 47 years of serving the fine people of N.E. Iowa we have decided to sell Oelwein Implement Co. Inc.

We wish to express our sincere appreciation to all of you who have done business with us since we first opened our doors way back in 1933.

We see many changes during those years and have always been proud to be a part of the nation's largest industry, agriculture.

To the new owners, Myron Dirks and Wilbert Steindorff, we offer our best wishes. We've sold them the business but the memories will remain with us.

SINCERELY,
ROYCE KING
BOB KING
MILT ANDREWS

NOTICE!

Effective Saturday, March 1st, 1980, we have purchased Oelwein Implement Company, Inc.

Most of you may already know us. For those who don't, why not stop in soon and let's get acquainted!

We pledge to continue the high standard of service that you've come to expect here at Oelwein Implement, and are proud to be associated with the International Harvester line of farm equipment.

SINCERELY,
DIRKS-STEINDORFF, LTD.
MYRON DIRKS
WILBERT STEINDORFF



MEL BUTTERS is working on the aerial maps of Fayette County at the ASCS office in Fayette.



ASCS COMMITTEE — Members of the ASCS committee are seated, Randolph Reiser (left) and Herbert Ash, vice chairman (right). Standing is J. Lee Lynch, chairman of the committee.



NATHAN — Although Iowa is one of the top states in agriculture production, the millions of acres of land planted to corn and soybeans also makes erosion a serious problem.

4-H delegates for summer trip sought

DUNDUE (Special) — Delaware county senior age 13-years-old and up 4-H members are invited to apply.

By March 15 for selection as delegates for participation in Washington Focus '80. The trip is scheduled for May 31 to June 8, 1980. Costs are paid by individual 4-H members.

Applications are available at the extension office, according to Rod Hamer, county extension director.



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When you combine the Soil Saver and the Soil Finisher in your tillage program, you can be assured of savings in all three of your most important farming needs.

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THANK YOU!

After 47 years of serving the fine people of N.E. Iowa we have decided to sell Oelwein Implement Co. Inc.

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MARCELLA LOUCK is prior support ACP clerk in the county office.



CHARLENE NEREM is county clerk with the Farmer's Home Administration office in West Union.

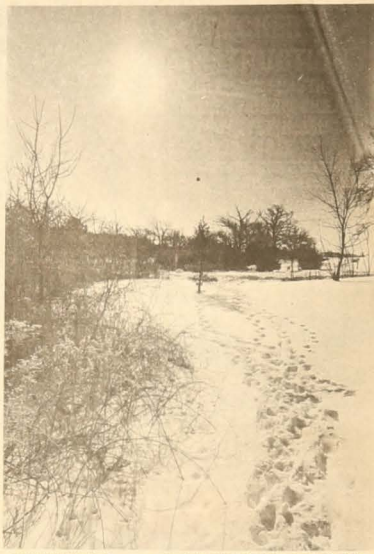
Farming changes over years

In only 100 years, farming in Iowa has moved from cultivation of a few acres with hoes to 26 million acres of crops grown with the most sophisticated technology in the world. In 1980, less than three percent of Iowa's land, about one million acres, was planted to corn. In 1979, the figure was 13 million acres.

In 1940, about one-third of Iowa's fertile soil was plowed for corn production. Along with the rest of the nation, the state was emerging from a great economic depression. Citizens had experienced spectacular dust storms and had seen huge, ugly gullies form. In the 1940s, soil conservation districts were organized county by county throughout Iowa, making the beginning of voluntary efforts to control soil erosion.

By 1960, improved corn genetics and increased use of fertilizers helped to move the state to the top crop yields in 1961. But bigger farm equipment led to more up and down hill farming. Soybeans were catching on as another major row crop, and the stage was set for increased soil erosion.

Today, progress has been made in soil-saving programs, but only about one-third of the land is protected. As more land is shifted from grass or meadow to row crops, the soil is more susceptible to erosion.



EVEN WINTER'S SNOW serves a purpose in the natural plan of conservation of soil. The winter covering holds topsoil down, preventing winter's blistering winds from scraping away the valuable soil.



DAN BURKHART is the Fayette County Extension Service director, working out of the Fayette office.



IOWA'S LANDSCAPE has changed dramatically since the lower farming days of the early 1900s. (below) More land plowed up led to more soil erosion in the 1930s (above). The

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Our commitment to our farm customers was established many years ago and remains the same today. The rates are excellent compared to most on today's money market. The terms are convenient and our service is sincere.

We've increased our staff to four full time loan officers to enable us to provide the personal type of service that our farm customers deserve.

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COLD MORNING — Moving water at Fontana Park sends whips of fog into the air, cold air below the dam.



NORMA KEERE is 4-H program aide with the Fayette County Extension Service office in Fayette.



DORLINE ALLREE is county office assistant with the Farmers Home Administration in West Union.

Farmland Indians
MILWAUKEE (Special) — The Farmland Indians 4-H club met Monday night at the Arlington Extension Center. Twenty-five members at 4-H meetings provided. Many making projects such as a car wash, slave lanterns were discussed. The boys were what they would like to do as members during the year.

Dan Jellings gave the presentation. The Parking House at Ford. William Strider, leader, Mike Smith, and Dan Wagon were judges of his presentation.

The Larry Strider and Floyd Baumgartner families were hosts.

4-H horse project
DUNDEE (Special) — All 4-H horse project members are invited to a training meeting to be held Tuesday, Feb. 26 at the Manchester Community Center, according to Jane Hobbie and Craig Johnson, project leaders.

The purpose of the meeting is to help all members understand the project information on selection, groom, confirmation and equipment.

In 1980, Bernhard Bang, a Danish veterinarian, discovered the causative agent of brucellosis in cattle. This disease-causing organism — known today as *Brucella abortus* — has been eradicated in Denmark but still causes problems for U.S. cattle producers. Bovine brucellosis is sometimes called Bang's Disease.

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soil in the past ten years. ADS tubing exceeds specifications contained in the Soil Conservation Service Engineering Code 606 for tile drain.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL (COLLECT) WRITE OR VISIT

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John Carey, Plant Manager



A FILE OF LOOKS from Iowa timber is visible in the area of the field at the right of the picture.

Topsoil: Most fertile area

Topsoil is the thin, dark, fertile layer on the surface of the soil. It's the most fertile part of the soil, with much more organic matter and more plant roots than any other part of the soil. Before farming began in Iowa, the topsoil layer on most soils was 14 to 16 inches thick.

Now, because of the erosion that the farmer's plow produces to percent of the nation's topsoil. It helps these produce about as percent of the nation's corn crop and 30 percent of its pork. The sale to number 1 oil and most production, and in a personal opinion, the value of the agricultural goods. Plants, like potato require

can be devastating. In northern Africa, land that once was the "granary of the Roman Empire" now can barely support its own people. Likewise, cropland in the southwestern United States that was once fertile now is gone unless grain or trees. The same thing has happened to some deep soils in Iowa. Farmers have been turned to rapid erosion and buy on erosion, using soils that no longer produce a good crop of soybean crop.

Why? Because topsoil is being washed away. It is difficult to grow plants in erosion. Subsoil is harder, heavier, more clayey, and lighter in color than topsoil. Air and water cannot

Trees are mortal—life functions slow

by Gary Weaver
District Forester

Trees are mortal in the sense that they will not live forever. Like people, trees slow down their life functions as they grow older. Every tree has a biological age beyond which it will weaken and succumb to insects, disease, or weather.

The purpose of proper management is to harvest trees before they reach an age when they begin to deteriorate. The products from trees range from lumber to rayon to camera film to plywood. We use these products every day but seldom consider their origin. The proponents of preservation should be prepared to live in log houses, write on slate, and inside all food oil prices.

Harvesting is essential to provide adequate growing space for the next crop. It is difficult to plant a new crop of trees until the first crop is removed. The forest is a previous year's crop. The forest will not grow if the first crop is not removed. Seedlings can wait 10 to 20 years, waiting for enough sunlight to emerge. Then, upward. The plan of our woodlands is to use small trees. Harvesting releases our future crop of seedlings to grow up.

timber is to find out what you have to sell. Whether selling logs, corn, or hams, you must know the quantity and quality of your merchandise. Foresters are available for every county in Iowa to measure and scale your harvest trees. They will measure the trees, figure in board feet.

This information should be sent to several timber buyers or dealers as soon as possible. The only way to have a fair price for your trees is to obtain several bids. The best price should preferably be a lump sum bid for the marked trees. In other words, a total dollar amount for the harvest trees.

It's best to receive cash in advance and enter into a timber contract. The contract should state the location of the timber, the price involved, sale price, cutting period, and average of 10 feet between trees. The contract is meant to protect both the landowner and timber buyer.

The harvest of mature trees is the most common perception of "selling" timber. The current fair prices have elevated firewood as another viable and profitable product. The average lumber mill will give approximately one cord of wood per acre. One cord of hardwood will replace 200-250 pounds of fuel oil in an efficient stove. At a price of 10 cents per gallon for fuel oil, your timber is producing \$100-\$200 per acre annually.

The forest stands with 1,000 to 3,000 trees per acre. Nature will thin this stand to approximately 100 trees per acre at maturity. The goal for survival of the fittest can take up to 10 to 20 years.

Forest management can periodically remove or cut and poorly formed trees, and cut the rotation period in half and double the growth on desirable trees.

The growth capacity of the soil is concentrated in good trees, rather than defective trees that will never produce sawlogs. Trees require approximately two times their diameter in feet for maximum growth. For example, a tree 8 inches in diameter needs an average of 16 feet between trees. Trees require approximately two times their diameter in feet for maximum growth.

For example, a tree 8 inches in diameter needs an average of 16 feet between trees. Trees require approximately two times their diameter in feet for maximum growth. For example, a tree 8 inches in diameter needs an average of 16 feet between trees.

The state average of 127 bushels per acre was 11 percent above the 1975 record yield of 118 bushels per acre. The 12.5 million acres harvested for grain was the second highest on record, being surpassed only by 1974 grain average. Corn silage was estimated at 600,000 acres with an average yield of 27.5 tons per acre.

Some of the other products of the forest that you "sell" yourself are often overlooked. Every time you pick a mushroom, trace corn, or just enjoy the peace and solitude of your woods, you are harvesting a very real product. The price is different. The price is different. The price is different.

One cord of hardwood will replace 200-250 pounds of fuel oil in an efficient stove. At a price of 10 cents per gallon for fuel oil, your timber is producing \$100-\$200 per acre annually.

Forest management can periodically remove or cut and poorly formed trees, and cut the rotation period in half and double the growth on desirable trees.

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