

1957
ANNUAL REPORT
POWESHIEK COUNTY
SOIL CONSERVATION
DISTRICT
MONTEZUMA, IOWA



DISTRICT HIGHLIGHTS OF 1957

1. Soil Conservation Derby Contest held for grade schools of the County.
2. Biennial election-banquet held. Kenneth L. Dieterich elected as new Commissioner.
3. District sponsors Soil Stewardship Sunday with County Ministerial Association.
4. Fred Yount group, first planning group organized in County, featured during Conservation Week in June — group completes 12 years of conservation.
5. Twilight tours held in cooperation with Montezuma Lions club, Grinnell Kiwanis club, Sonora Grange, and Warren Township Farm Bureau.
6. Winners selected in the Conservation Achievement Awards Program. Winner recognized by Kiwanis at luncheon.
7. Calvin Korns, landlord-tenant candidate selected winner in state competition.
8. Queen of the Furrow contest sponsored with 6 candidates.
9. Farm Bureau women use conservation as the topic and tour Lauren W. Wright farm on Rural-Urban Women's Day.
10. One third of a million cubic yards of earth moved in doing conservation work in 1957.

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FORWARD

In these times of our changing Agriculture, more has been done by fewer people than ever before in history.

Between 1914 - 1954 the average size of our Iowa farms increased in size 40%. Since our rural population has decreased to 12% of the total population in the United States, the task of continued improvement in soil and water conservation is being left to a smaller number of people.

Most of our food, clothing and shelter plus more than 60% of the raw materials of Industry come from Agriculture, so it is our duty not only for personal gain but for the welfare of our Nation that we conserve soil and water to the utmost.

It is with pride then that the Poweshiek County Soil Conservation District announces that it has completed it's biggest year in History.

Photo of Commissioners & staff The Poweshiek Soil District Staff



Left to Right: David Anthony, Commissioner; Don Lender, Conservation Aid; Lauren W. Wright, Commissioner; Morton James, Work Unit Conservationist; Lavonne Byers, District Clerk; Archie Casebolt, Conservation Aid; Kenneth L. Dieterich, Commissioner.

CONSERVATION ACCOMPLISHMENTS

FOR 1957

POWESHIEK COUNTY SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT

During 1957, over a third of a million cubic yards of earth was moved in doing conservation work in Poweshiek County.

This is more earth than was moved in building the Montezuma reservoir.

The work includes, ponds, gully control structures, gully filling and shaping for waterways, diversion terraces and standard terracing.

Over 65,000 cubic yards were moved in building 21 farm ponds aggregating a total surface area of 16 acres and total volume of over 25 million gallons — or more than enough to supply the city of Grinnell for an average summer month.

Twenty-six thousand cubic yards were moved in building 6 gully control structures. All of these were equipped with concrete or metal spillways.

Enough gullies were filled and shaped — if laid end to end, to reach 24 miles or from one side of the county to the other. In connection with these waterways 27 miles of tile was laid.

If the 53 thousand cubic yards moved in constructing standard and diversion terraces could have been put into one long terrace, that terrace would have crossed and extended beyond the borders of Poweshiek County.

This report includes only conservation work supervised and certified by the Soil Conservation Service. Farmers received ACP cost sharing payments for most of it.

Thirty farmers were assisted in the development of complete conservation plans, by SCS technicians of the Poweshiek District. Such plans are made on the basis of information supplied by a soil conservation survey map prepared by a soil scientist. They include recommendations for proper land use, field re-alignment, improved rotations, contour

farming, strip cropping, grass waterways, terraces, structures, ponds, drainage, pasture improvement and tree planting, as needed on the particular farm.

In the county an estimated 18,000 acres of row crops were contour farmed. Two thousand five hundred acres of new contouring were staked in 1957.

Approximately 3,000 acres of cropland were strip cropped. Over 1,100 acres of new strip cropping were laid out by SCS technicians.

Wildlife was given a break on 15 farms by the planting of multiflora rose living fences.

Areas on 6 farms were planted to evergreen trees. Norway, Austrian and White pine were the species used. Trees and shrubs were obtained at cost through the State Conservation Commission.

In July and October 50 farmers were furnished "fingerling", fish to stock their farm ponds. Species furnished were black bass, bluegills and channel catfish. These were supplied without cost by the Federal Fish and Wildlife Service and delivered to the county in a special hatchery truck.

ACCOMPLISHMENT SUMMARY

1. Ponds	21
2. Waterways	100.26 Acres
3. Terraces	8.87 Miles
4. Diversions	18.14 Miles
5. Contour farming	18,000 Acres estimated
6. Strip cropping (additional staked)	1,122 Acres
7. Tile	142.865 L. Ft.
8. Structures	10

NEW COOPERATORS FOR 1957

- | | |
|---|-----------------------------------|
| 1. Hazel M. Clayton | 14. Charles Horrigan |
| 2. J. Dale DeHoet | 15. Milo Ryan |
| 3. J. J. Boatman | 16. Edwin Kasal |
| 4. Elmer Nowotny | 17. Wm. Benseh |
| 5. A. H. Houweling &
Langerak | 18. Clinton Ryan |
| 6. Eldon Petersen | 19. Clinton Ryan |
| 7. Carrol W. Stuart | 20. Major Norman |
| 8. Max Gabriel | 21. Grace Shifflet |
| 9. George Morrison | 22. W. B. Wilcox |
| 10. Maytag Farm | 23. Alvin Schuldt |
| 11. Louis Wauters | 24. Richard Graham |
| 12. Lawrence W. Shirley | 25. Elmer Urfer |
| 13. Edna Cummings - Evan
J. Johnston | 26. Ralph Phillips
(two farms) |
| | 27. Ralph Phillips |

BASIC CONSERVATION PLANS

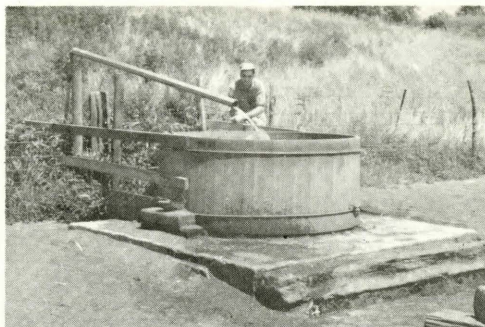
- | | |
|------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Audery McCain | 16. Clinton Ryan |
| 2. J. J. Boatman | (three farms) |
| 3. W. B. Aurand | 17. Clinton Ryan |
| 4. Mrs. V. G. Preston | 18. Clinton Ryan |
| 5. Harold Evans Estate | 19. W. C. Molison |
| (Brooke) | 20. Frank Swatosh |
| 6. Paul DeJong | 21. Don K. Schuldt |
| 7. Albert McKee | 22. Alvin Schuldt |
| 8. L. E. Raffety | 23. Charles Horrigan |
| 9. C. B. Cross | 24. George Stoker |
| 10. Mrs. Harrington | 25. Wm. Benesh |
| (C. B. Cross) | 26. Milo Ryan |
| 11. Raymond McKee | 27. Richard Graham |
| 12. Rolland Doty | 28. Monte Golf & Country |
| 13. A. M. Kuntz | Club |
| 14. Max Gabriel | 29. Grace A. Shifflet |
| 15. Wm. Douglas | 30. Edwin Kasal |
| (Nina Vest Est.) | |



A Diversion terrace in action on the Leo Warnick farm 1 mile north of Victor. Photo taken during a rain May 30, 1957.

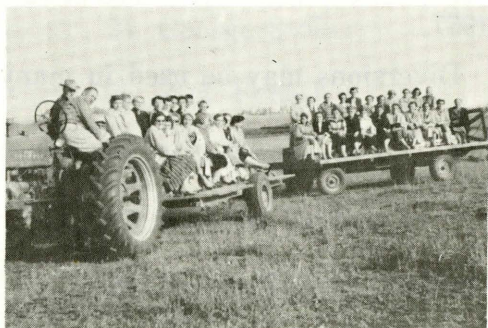
Diversions may be used in many ways to reduce erosion.

A farm pond water supply. Warren Stevenson looks on while water from his pond fills the livestock tank.



Fish to stock 50 Poweshiek County farm ponds were distributed from this hatchery truck in 1957. Species furnished were bass, bluegills and channel catfish. The fish are produced by the Federal Fish and Wildlife Service.

Rural - Urban Women's Day on Lauren Wright farm 3 miles southeast of Montezuma. Conservation tour was sponsored by Women of the Farm Bureau.



Warren Township Farm Bureau group made twilight tour of Arthur Blome farm 1 mile north of Victor. A picnic supper was enjoyed around the farm pond following the tour.

This field "leaked" soil and recently planted corn washed right through the fence into the road ditch from up and down hill rows. See photo below taken 4 months later.

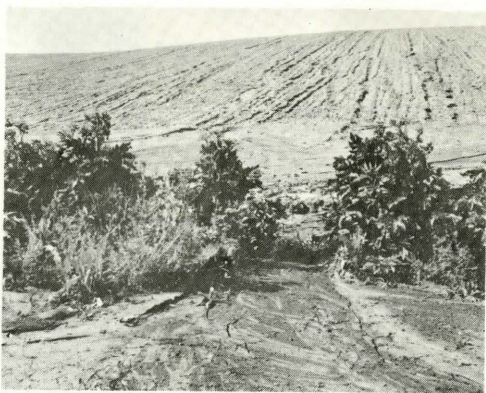
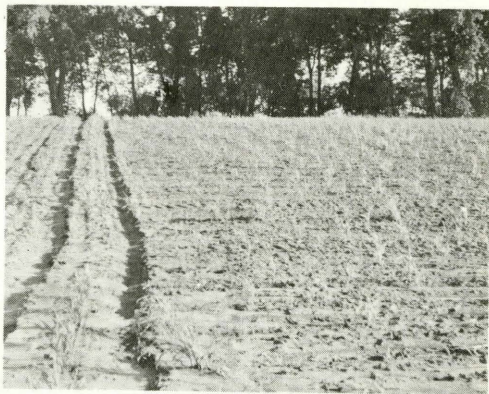
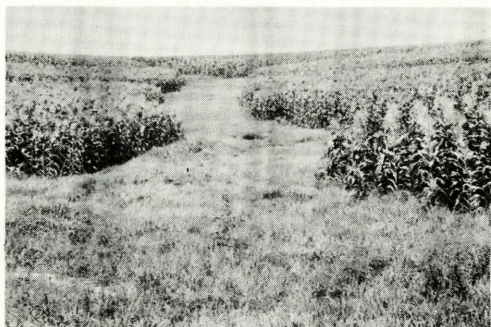


Photo taken 4 months after picture above. Shows silt and corn washed through fence from field above.

A good argument against up and down end rows and for a turning strip of grass.

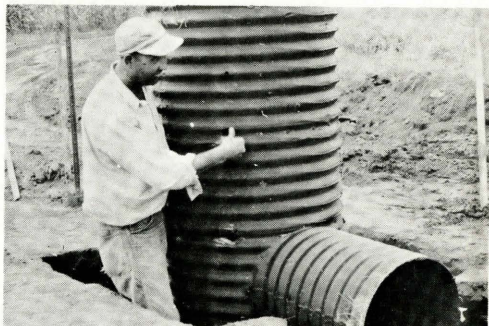


Strip stop soil losses on the Kenneth Dieterich farm 3 miles south of Brooklyn. Cultivated land below brome-alfalfa after a hard 2½ inch rain.



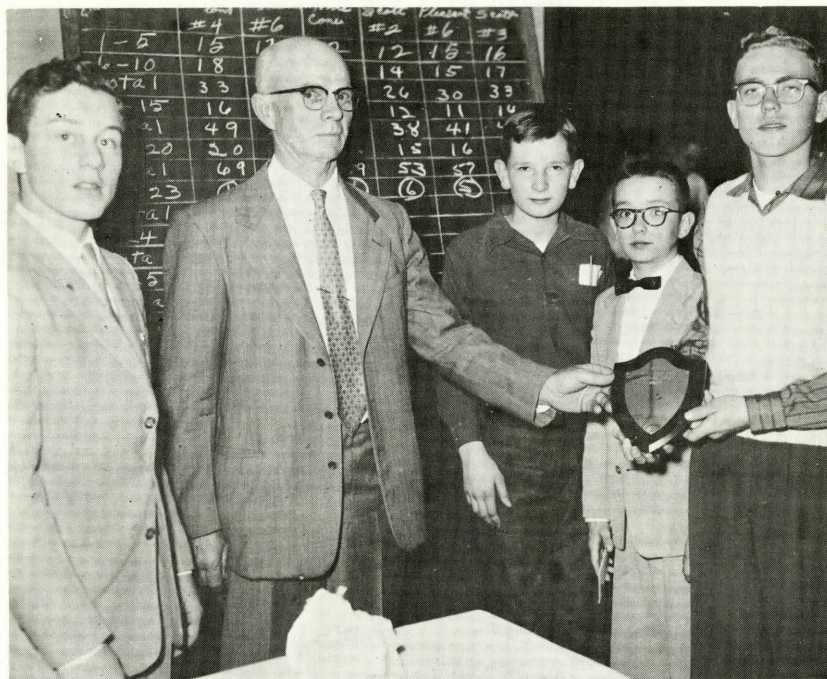
Waterway "paved" with Reed Canary grass on Arthur Blome farm near Victor.

Corrugated pipe riser and elbow for earth dam on Maynard Raffety farm 4 miles west of Malcom. The pipe will allow water to flow through the earth dam without erosion.



Water spouting from the outlet pipe below the earth dam of the Harley Reimers structure 8 miles N. W. of Brooklyn, May 30, 1957 rain.

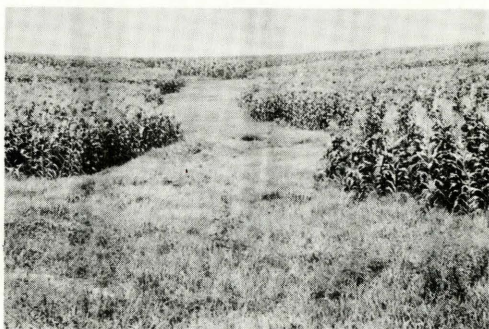
SOIL DERBY WINNERS



First place in the soil derby went to these youngsters from Washington No. 4. They are shown with Basil Brush who presented them with a plaque which was given in addition to a cash prize. From left are: Donald Lincoln, Brush, Larry Deal, Blair Ratcliff and Bruce Ratcliff.

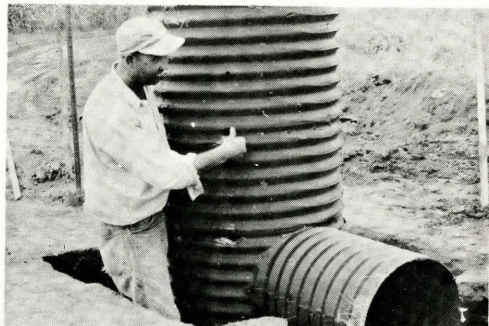
Six teams competed in the final contest held in connection with the biennial election banquet, March 26, at Montezuma.

Strip stop soil losses on the Kenneth Dieterich farm 3 miles south of Brooklyn. Cultivated land below brome-alfalfa after a hard $2\frac{1}{2}$ inch rain.



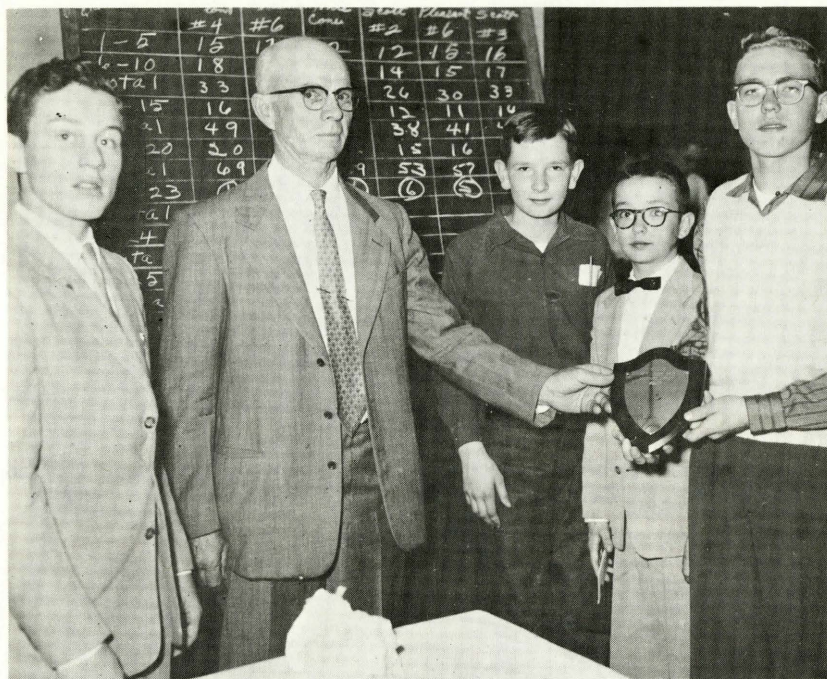
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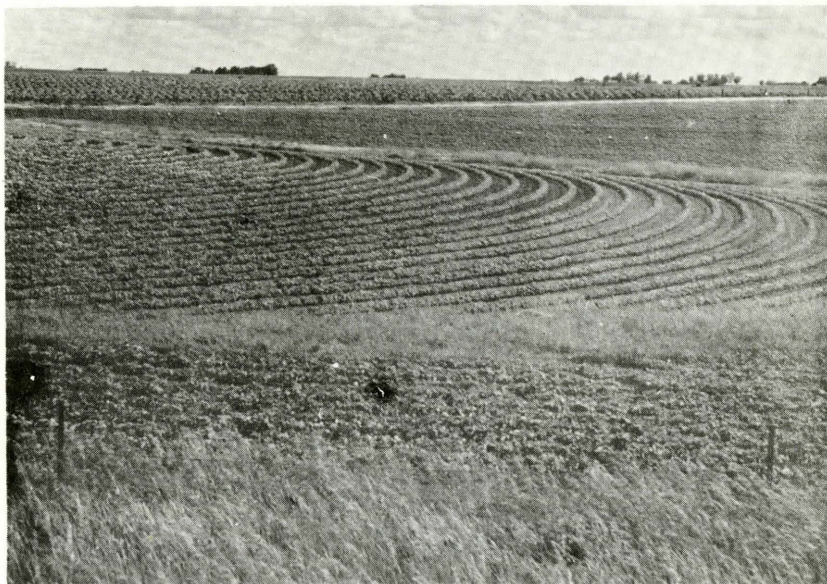
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If Soybeans are to be grown plant them on the contour. Land farmed by Raymond Vogt, Grinnell.



Cultivating corn on a terrace. Terraces will reduce soil losses to a mere fraction as compared to no terraces. Gerald Baustian, Grinnell.

WINNERS IN POWESHIEK COUNTY'S 1957 CONSERVATION AWARDS PROGRAM

Arthur Blome, Victor —

Division I winner, owner - operator, recognizing outstanding work in soil conservation, consistent use of soil conservation practices through the years and completeness of program.



Mr. and Mrs. Calvin Korn, Sharon Ann, and Dennis, Hartwick.

An older son and daughter were not present for the picture. Division II winner for landlord - tenant class. This class recognizes outstanding progress in soil conservation where tenant and landlord achieve results through joint effort.

Mr. and Mrs. Paul DeJong, Monty Ray, Wavern and Norman in order of height, Taintor.

Winner of Division III awarded to the farm who has made the most outstanding progress in soil conservation since 1955.



EXPENDITURES OF FUNDS PROVIDED BY STATE OF IOWA 1956-57 FISCAL YEAR

I-A Budget

Commissioners-Mileage, meals hotel	\$126.33
Office Supplies	182.40
Printing Annual Report	79.00
Prizes for contests	63.00
Office Expense	69.95
TOTAL	\$520.68

II-A Budget

Salary-Clerk	\$2,152.00
Salary-Technicians	865.00
Mileage-Technicians	232.26
State Retirement	101.05
Federal Retirement (Social Security)	64.99
TOTAL	\$3,415.30

OTHERS IN THE COUNTY WHO HELP WITH THE DISTRICT PROGRAM

1. Soil Conservation Service
1. County Extension Service
2. State Soil Conservation Committee
3. State Conservation Commission (Fish & Game Agency)
4. Federal Fish and Wildlife Service
5. County ASC
6. The County Farm Bureau
7. The Farm Grange
8. Public Schools
9. County Supervisors
10. 4-H Clubs
11. Vocational Agriculture & F. F. A.
12. Boy Scouts
13. State & National Association of District Commissioners
14. Kiwanis Club
15. Lions Club
16. Rotary Club
17. Jay-Cees
18. Chamber of Commerce
19. Ministerial Association
20. Implement Dealers
21. Newspapers
22. Radio & TV Stations
23. Professional & Business Men
24. Earth Contractors
- 25.

