

BUSINESS DOCUMENTS

IDA COUNTY

SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT

PROGRAM
of the
IDA COUNTY SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Ida Grove, Iowa

March, 1945

PROGRAM OF IDA COUNTY SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT

The Ida County Soil Conservation District

The Ida County Soil Conservation District, formed under the provisions of the state of Iowa, is a legal organization of all the land owners and farm operators of Ida County. The state certificate of Organization was issued February 19, 1945. The term of one commissioner expires each two years at which time a commissioner is publically elected to fill the position. The three commissioners have complete charge of the district.

The Purpose of the Ida County Soil Conservation District

The purpose of the Ida County Soil Conservation District is to aid the people of Ida County in their problems relating to soil and water conservation. The district was born on the philosophy of helping the people help themselves on water and soil conservation problems. The district will attempt to coordinate all activities relating to soil conservation to present to the people a unified front of all government agencies and interested organizations working on the problem of water and soil conservation.

How to Obtain Assistance From the District

Assistance in soil and water conservation can be requested by anyone in person or letter. Requests should be directed to any official of the District, and inquiries will be answered promptly. All requests for assistance will be handled in the numerical order in which they are received.

District Problems

LOSS

Great quantities of water escape from the land giving force to the Maple and Soldier Rivers. The loss of water from the slopes leads to the most serious of erosion problems. Every inch of rain which escapes from a single square rod of ground amounts to 169 gallons of water. The land needs this water to maintain the normal water table, and to increase livestock and crop production. Water losses must be decreased through conservation measures.

SOIL EROSION

Soil losses have been exceedingly heavy in Ida County in the past years. These soil losses have been caused directly by

three types of soil erosion.

A. Sheet Erosion

Sheet erosion has devastated Ida County farms. Ida County topography is conducive to erosion according to a survey made in 1936 Ida County has 209,280 acres of land laying in the 5-10% slop class, and 65,920 acres of land laying in the 10-15% slop class. It's virgin soils reached to the depth of the 12-16"; however now the soils in the county have been so depleted that the surveys show that 33,920 acres of the county has an average soil depth of 8-12", 192,000 acres with an average soil depth of 4-8" and 49,280 acres with an average soil depth of 4" or less. Soil has been removed from Ida County Farms by all three forms of erosion. Sheet erosion has affected all Ida County farms but more so in the flatter territories of Silver Creek, Blaine, and Galva Townships. This is evidenced by the silted pastures and the filled fence lines, although sheet erosion is not as spectacular to the human eye as gullying, it is still very much in evidence in Ida County.

B. GULLY EROSION

Gully erosion is severe and due to poor cultural practice is becoming a serious problem. 66,560 acres of Ida County farmland has excessive gullying problems on it.

C. WIND EROSION

Wind erosion has affected some parts of Ida County but not to such an extent as the two fore mentioned type of erosion.

1. Conservation practices to control erosion

The biggest problem exists to extend the practices necessary to control erosion to the people. Conservation practices are not wide-spread throughout the county and ways and means must be found to increase greatly the amount of contouring, terracing, diversion dykes, ponding of water, gully control structures in the fields and along the highways, grassed waterways, grassed headlands, grass buffer strips, strip cropping, tree and shrubbery plantings, veg-

etating steep and waste lands, securing better land use, improved rotations, and other erosion controlling methods. The planning, application, construction, and maintenance of the above is the problem to be met.

2. Improper land Use

Too much of the land in the district is subjected to intense cropping which leads to poor fertility, a break down of the soil structure, and increased loss of soil by erosion. Rotations are generally short in length with little or no rotation pasture or hay included. Poor use of sweet clover in this area has led to the loosening of soil on the side hills and consequently to gullying. Land which should be in permanent pasture or hayland or woodland is too often kept in cultivation.

Soil Classification

The soil on each farm needs to be mapped to show type, slope, and degree of erosion in order that the classification of the land can be determined. This classification can then be used as a guide in farm planning and obtaining the proper land use.

Farm Planning and Watershed Planning

The major problem to be met is the planning of farms by land owners in such a way as to provide good land use, control erosion, moisture losses, maintain and improve soil fertility, and provide a sufficient income. Such planning is a problem for individual land owners. It is also a problem to be met by all owners with an entire water sheds to secure best results.

Rearranging of Farms

Farms are at the present too often laid out in fields of such a shape that it makes conservation practices difficult. The problem of farm rearrangement to meet the conservation program plans is difficult and is of major importance.

Fertility Problems

Soil fertility is a problem in as much as a great share of soil fertility is lost by erosion. The short rotations now in practice also rob the soil of it's wealth. Commercial fertilizers and manure are now used for the maintenance of

soil fertility, and some lime is being used in this area. Pastures are badly in need of renovation.

Cultural and Tillage Methods

The problem of improved cultural and tillage methods is one that requires constant study. Present methods need constant improvement.

Farm Management Problems

There is the problem of balancing the amount of livestock to the production of the soil. Unbalanced livestock units are quite common. There are problems to be met in weed, disease, pest, and insect control.--which affect proper land use and soil management. There is the problem of studying, securing and distributing improved livestock and improved crops. There is need for study and experimentation on improved machinery and farm equipment.

Woodland, Windbreaks, Wildlife and Recreational Areas

There is a lack of sufficient woodland, windbreak, and wildlife areas. This problem needs attention. Another problem needing attention is the need for more and improved recreational areas.

Drainage

There are problems in the planning, construction and maintenance of drainage which need to be met for effective crop production. There are areas in need of subsurface drainage. There are areas which need surface drainage to care for surplus surface water.

Flood Control

Flood areas create a problem which calls for holding more rain on the land where it falls to prevent its run-off in the form of floods. This flood control problem affects more than the County District in that the escaping flood waters add to the height of floods further down stream.

General Problems

General problems affecting land use and soil management cover a wide and varied field and need their proportionate attention. These include such problems as farm ownership, tenant and landlord relations, farm leases, farm credits, farm improvements and other general difficulties. Highway drainage and structures, bank and road-channel erosion are problems within the District.

Information

A problem needing continuous attention is the distribution of information on the problems which confront the District, and the methods which can be followed to help solve those problems. The informational problem extends universally throughout the county among both the rural and city population, including school children and adults alike, and absentee land owners.

Getting the Job Done

A difficult problem which must be met is that of providing ways and means for getting the tasks mentioned above done. There is need for technical assistance, equipment, materials and labor for carrying on timely and effective soil and moisture conservation within the District.

OBJECTIVES OF THE DISTRICT

EDUCATIONAL

Make available to the public educational materials and assistance which will bring about a clear understanding of the soil, water, and related difficulties of the District. Make available information on the better methods of solving the soil, water, and related problems. It is intended that the information furnished will be such as to enable individuals, families, and groups to understand how to plan their land from a conservation standpoint, and how to apply necessary conservation measures.

PLANNING AND REARRANGING FARMS.

Provide assistance to landowners and operators in planning and rearranging farms and other lands for good land use and proper soil management in order to;

- Maintain and build fertility

- Control erosion

- Conserve moisture

- Put each acre of land to the use to which it is best adapted.

- The less productive and steeper land should be used for permanent hay, pasture or woodlands. The moderately productive and rolling lands should be used for rotations which have as high or higher percent in meadow crops than intertilled crops.

SOIL SURVEYS AND SOIL MAPS

Make conservation surveys and maps which show the soil type, slope and degree of erosion. The conservation survey will make possible the classification of the land according to its ability to produce. The soil conservation survey maps and information will be furnished when completed to land owners and operators who are cooperators with the District.

TECHNICAL AND OTHER ASSISTANCE

Furnish technical and other types of assistance such as labor, equipment, and materials as they are needed and available. This assistance will help in furthering the objectives, needs, and accomplishments of the District.

CROP, SOIL AND FARM MANAGEMENT

Give assistance in attaining good crop, soil and farm management practice. These include good crop rotations; lime and fertilizer applications; use of crop residues and green manures; building up the organic content of the soil; pasture improvement; improved tillage practices; weed and pest controls; selection multiplication treatment and distribution of improved seeds, adjustments which lead to improved and balanced livestock units; development of wood lots and windbreaks; and other management activities

SOIL CONSERVATION AND MOISTURE CONTENT

Provide assistance in planning, establishing, and maintaining conservation methods and practices. These include contouring; terracing; strip cropping; grassed waterways; buffer strips; grass headlands; pasture improvements; field rearrangements; tree and shrubbery plantings; water retention ponds and reservoirs; surface and subsurface drainage; large and small gully structures; and developing surplus-water disposal systems for farms and entire watersheds.

WILDLIFE AND RECREATIONAL FACILITIES

Assist in planning and developing wildlife areas. Also in developing recreational facilities within the boundaries of the District.

FLOOD CONTROL

Aid in controlling local floods, thereby helping to control floods along the larger rivers further downstream. This

includes establishing practices which retain all possible rain where it falls, plus the control or retention of the escaping surplus water.

MISCELLANEOUS

Assist in miscellaneous studies and action on problems where soil management, soil fertility, land use, soil and water conservation are involved, including such miscellaneous items as ownership, tenancy, leases, farm credits, farm improvements, farm equipment, crop and livestock improvement, cultural methods, highway erosion control and drainage.

COOPERATION

Cooperate with and urge cooperative action between all organizations, agencies, groups, and individuals handling problems of soil, water, and land-use.

REVISION OF DISTRICT PROGRAM

The Ida County Soil Conservation District Commissioners will revise and amend this District Program from time to time as need arises.

ADOPTION OF DISTRICT PROGRAM

Ida County Soil Conservation District

By _____

Henry Dall

Chairman, District Governing Body

Date _____

The signing of this District's program was authorized by a resolution of the District governing body adopted at a meeting held on _____.

By _____

D. H. Dodge

Secretary, District Governing Body

GENERAL INFORMATION REGARDING THE DISTRICT

BOUNDARIES

The district as organized comprises all of the land within Ida County except within the boundaries of incorporated towns.

AREA

Ida County has 12 townships 275,200 acres, with 1434 farms averaging 190 acres in size.

TOPOGRAPHY

The topograhpy of Ida County is that of a rolling covered plain with a wide branching network of intermittent stream valleys. The northeast and north central sections are nearly level or only gently rolling. The land slopes gently to the south west.

ELEVATION

Elevations of slope are shown by the elevations of the following towns which are located in Ida County.

Ida Grove	1225 Feet
Arthur	1282 Feet
Battle Creek	1247 Feet
Holstein	1443 Feet
Galva	1290 Feet

DRAINAGE

Ida County is drained by four rivers and their tributaries--the Maple River entering the Northeast corner and leaving in the Southwest drains approximately 290 square miles. The Little Sioux River drains approximately 70 square miles. The Soldier River drains approximately the same and a tributary of the Boyer River, namely the Otter Creek drains about 1/5 of Hayes Township in the Southeast corner of the county.

RAINFALL

The average rainfall is 28.73 distributed as follows:

January	.89	August	3.65
February	1.04	September	3.87
March	1.29	October	1.99
April	2.26	November	1.48
May	3.74	December	.89
June	4.17		
July	3.46		

PAST SOIL CONSERVATION ACTIVITIES IN IDA COUNTY

Soil conservation has been a subject of interest to the extension personnel in Ida County for a number of years. However it wasn't until February 25th, 1941, that four demonstrational soil conservation farms were set up in cooperation with the soil conservation service. Those four farms were as follows:

1. Harry Heilman farm located in Battle Township
2. Herbert Stockfleth farm located in Garfield Twp.
3. Roy Stewart farm located in Grant Township
4. Emmert Estate located in Grant Township

Informational meetings on the subject of soil conservation has been held over a period of years stressing the need for soil conservation practices.

Contour schools have been held annually for the past two years and a terrace demonstration was held on the Gus Shirmacher farm in Corwin Township in the fall of 1944.

In October of 1944 movement for a soil conservation district was started at a series of educational meetings held throughout the county by County Extension Director Donald H. Dodge. Petitions were circulated by 21 leaders throughout the county and on January 13 the district was voted in and the following men were elected commissioners.

1. Henry Dall, Battle Creek, chairman
2. Edw. C. Perion, Ida Grove
3. J. B. Scott, Danbury

Donald H. Dodge was appointed secretary of the district. Thus a county organization of land owners and farm operators was established to develop and handle the soil and water problems of the county.

SOIL OF THE COUNTY

The soil of Ida County are grouped as follows:

	Acres	Percent
Marshall S. L.	179,992	62.8
Wabash Silt Loam	26,608	10.3
Marshall(Lgt. Colored)	32,832	11.9
Wabash Judson Silt Loam	24,960	9.0
Clarion Silt Loam	2,176	1.0
Waulusha Silt Loam	8,832	3.1

TEMPERATURE

Average	January	16.0	Maximum	114
Average	July	74.0	Minimum	35

Frost Dates

Average last killing frost-----May 5
Average First killing frost-----October 5

AVERAGE GROWING SEASON ----- 154

PREVAILING WINDS----- From Northwest except; in
summer from South and southwest.

Tenancy and Leases

In 1943, 35.8 per cent of the land was farmed by owners and 64.2 per cent by tenants. Leases are mainly crop, share or cash with some livestock leases.

TYPE of FARMING

The main type of agriculture is general farming--hogs, cattle, sheep, poultry, corn, ~~cots~~ soybeans, hay and pasture.

WORK PLAN
of the
IDA COUNTY SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Ida Grove, Iowa

March, 1945

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IDA COUNTY SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT WORK PLAN

This Work Plan of the Ida County Soil Conservation District presents ways and methods that will be used to meet the problems and objectives of the District.

The problems and objectives of the District previously set-out in the District Program dated March 1945 have to do with maintaining, conserving, and improving the natural resources of Ida County--especially the resources of soil and water.

By following the procedure outlined in this Work Plan, it is the aim of the District to:

Help the Ida District meet its war food production goals with a minimum wastage of soil and water.

Secure better land-use and improved soil practices in order that a permanent type of agriculture may be maintained within the Ida District.

REQUESTS FOR ASSISTANCE

Anyone wishing assistance from the District will make their application to the District in writing. The written requests will be kept on record. The requests for assistance can be made on any letter or card - or an official request card can be secured and used.

The District Commissioners are:

Henry Dall, Battle Creek, Iowa
Edw. C. Perion, Ida Grove, Iowa
J. B. Scott, Danbury, Iowa

PRIORITY OF ASSISTANCE

The priorities in giving assistance will be determined by the District Commissioners.

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM

The District will furnish educational information and assistance to farm and city people, adults and youths.

The information will aim to make clear:

1. The soil and water conservation problems existing within the District.

2. The causes creating those problems.
3. The best methods of control
4. Experiences and results obtained by farmers in the District.

The educational assistance will include:

The presentation of information at various kinds of general meetings.

Demonstrations to show ways of actually performing control and improvement measures.

Tours to show results secured.

Exhibits, posters, and charts will be prepared and used.

Information will be furnished to papers and radio-stations on problems and solutions.

Bulletins and other circular information will be distributed.

Movies, slides, and photographs will be used.

The District will aim to provide information on farm planning which will help individual land owners or operators to make their own farm plans.

The District Commissioners will cooperate with others in educational work and soil and water problems and in turn will request assistance in educational work from all possible sources, especially from the Agricultural Extension Service.

FARM PLANNING

A major activity of the District will be to assist land owners and operators in developing suitable conservation plans for their farms and other lands. The object will be to help develop land-use plans which will maintain and improve fertility, conserve moisture, prevent erosion, and which will use each field or acre in a manner permanently suitable to that field or acre.

Farm planning will take into consideration for each individual farm a variety of agricultural ways and means, methods and practices. These will include: proper use of each class of land on the farm, soil types, degree of slope, present fertility, proper crop rotations, field rearrangements, pasture improvement, soil building treatments, drainage, contouring, terracing, diversion dikes, grassed waterways, grass headlands, grass buffers, strip cropping, vegetating of steep and waste lands, plantings of trees and shrubbery, windbreaks, woodlands, wildlife areas, water retention ponds, gully control, livestock pasturage, present and future livestock (number and kinds), livestock equipment, fencing, farm management and other

factors which can help to make the farm plan flexible, practical, economical, and profitable.

Each individual land owner or operator who cooperates with the District naturally will plan his own farm to meet his own situation and soil needs. However, upon request from the farmer the District will provide technical assistance, if such is available, to help develop phases of the plan where technical consultation or aid will be helpful.

Assistance in farm planning will be provided preferably to neighborhood groups for the reason that erosion problems often require community action in that the same problem extends beyond the boundaries of any one farm; and because each individual within a group can discuss problems to advantage with each other member of the group; and because technical assistance can be used most efficiently in groups. However, individual assistance in farm planning may be given in locations where little conservation work has been done.

PUTTING THE FARM CONSERVATION PLAN INTO EFFECT

Each individual owner and operator will assume the responsibility of putting into effect the conservation plan for his farm lands. He will put into effect through his own resources much of the plan. However, on farm plans approved by the District Commissioners, assistance will be provided when essential and available to help put the more difficult parts of the plan into effect. This assistance may be technical, or it may be equipment, material, labor, or whatever other assistance is available from the District.

As an example, the technical assistance provided by the District may be for laying out and checking terraces, diversion dikes, drainage systems, gully control structures, water retention ponds, complete water disposal systems for entire farms. It may be technical help for such things as establishing new field divisions, grass waterways, grass buffers, strip cropping, tree and shrubbery plantings. Or it may be assistance in the form of equipment, machinery or material for putting into effect the more difficult parts of the farm plan, providing such assistance is obtainable by the District officials.

Three or more years may be required for a landowner or operator to get his farm conservation plan entirely into effect. A good farm conservation plan when in full operation will have several of the following features: good land-use that fits the productive ability of the land; crop rotations that will maintain or build soil fertility; use of lime and fertilizers; utilization of crop residues (no burning of corn stalks, sweet clover, straw or other vegetation); pasture improvement methods; contour tillage of all sloping land; terraces on sloping cropland; diversion dikes to guide excess water; grass waterways; grass buffer strips; grassed headlands; water retention ponds or dams; windbreaks; plantings of trees and shrubbery on steep and waste lands for woodland and wildlife; gully structures; tile drainage; open ditch drainage; field divisions and fences rearranged for convenience in contour farming.

In order to assure best results the conservation practices put into effect on any farm will be constructed or established according to recognized standards. Such standards will be available from the District.

COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS

As each individual cooperating with the District completes his farm plan, it will be reviewed by the District Commissioners for approval. Assistance for putting plans approved by the Commissioners into effect will be provided through a mutual cooperative "Agreement". The Agreement will state the understandings which exist between the farmer and the District. The Agreement will bear the signature of a District Commissioner and the person cooperating with the District.

COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS

As each individual cooperating with the District completes his farm plan, it will be reviewed by the District Commissioners for approval. Assistance for putting plans approved by the Commissioners into effect will be provided through a mutual cooperative "Agreement". The agreement will state the understandings which exist between the farmer and the District. The Agreement will bear the signature of a District Commissioner and the person cooperating with the District.

SOIL CONSERVATION SURVEYS AND MAPS

The District expects to furnish technical help to make conservation survey maps of land owned or operated by each person cooperating with the District in land-planning. The map when completed for any farm or other tract of land will show the various soil types on that land, the various degrees of slope and the amount of erosion. These maps will be made on aerial photographs which show waterways, gullies, fields, trees, buildings and other features of the land.

These maps will be for use in farm planning and farm management operations, and in addition will have a variety of other values to the owner and operator.

The District in so far as technical help is available will furnish completed conservation survey maps to those who are cooperators with the District.

CLASSES OF LAND AND THEIR USE

When the conservation survey of the soil is completed on any farm, that survey will be used as a basis for classifying the land on that farm.

Several classes of land will be recognized within the District, ranging from class I to class VI. Class I land will have the least production hazards and Class VI will have the most production hazards. By production hazards is meant such factors as low fertility, steepness, erosion, stone and gravel, droughtiness, lack of drainage, and other soil problems.

The District offers the following suggestions on the use of land of the various classes:

Class I Land: - This productive level or nearly level land can be used for rotations with a heavy per cent of clean tilled crops. An example rotation is: Corn, corn, grain, meadow.

Class II Land: - This productive land needs conservation practices such as contouring, terraces, grassed waterways, drainage - then it can be used for rotations having a heavy per cent of clean tilled crops: such as corn, corn, grain, meadow.

Class III Land - This land is suitable for cultivation if intensive methods are used to build and conserve fertility. It may be rolling land will need a rotation with more years of meadow than Class I or II land. An example rotation is: corn, corn, grain, meadow, meadow, meadow with adaptable practices such as contouring, terraces and grassed waterways.

Class IV Land: - This land is suitable for only occasional or limited cultivation, and then only when the best possible practices are followed for erosion control and soil management. Usually only one crop of corn will be grown followed by grain seeded to grass or legumes.

Class V and VI Land: - This land should not be in crops. It should be in permanent vegetation such as pasture, meadow or woodland.

It is the intention of the District Commissioners to give the subject of land classification and land-use further study in order that more detailed recommendations can be suggested in future annual revisions of this Work Plan.

PRESENT WAR USE OF FARM LAND

During the present war emergency, farmers will be urged to crop their land more extensively than under ordinary situations. Along with this heavy cropping to meet war needs, the commissioners will urge the extensive use of soil conserving methods in order to save the soil, even though the fertility of that soil is being used severely.

POST WAR PROJECTS

During 1945 the commissioners will review the needs of the District to determine what soil and water projects should have prior attention immediately following the close of the present war. These post war determinations will be based upon the severity and extent of the problems existing in the District. Calculations will be made of the amount of equipment, material, and labor needed to handle these problems. Requests for assistance will be made accordingly of individuals, groups, organizations, and governmental agencies, with the thought that a special effort can be made following the war toward meeting these problems.

EXPERIMENTAL ACTIVITIES

Experimental activities connected with soil, water, land-use, and closely related problems will be carried on by the District in cooperation with the Iowa Experiment Station. As individuals or groups make their experimental needs known to the Commissioners, ways and means will be sought for carrying out the requests. Consideration will be given any soil and water activities which may result in value to the people within the District.

At present there is need for experimental attention being given to many subjects such as: soil treatment to maintain and improve fertility; utilization of crop residues; pasture improvement methods; determining varieties of grass suitable for waterways, pastures, rotations, buffers, and other uses; methods of establishing grassed waterways; weed, pest, and disease control; improvement in cultural and tillage practices; and improvement of farm machinery and equipment to facilitate conservation farming operations.

OBSERVATIONS

The District will make observations and studies of results secured from conservation farming experiences. Those experiences will be publicized in order that others may benefit from them.

FLOOD CONTROL

The District will aid in Flood Control. Methods used in controlling floods will include:

Using practices which will increase the absorption of rain where it falls.

Using retention structures to retain surplus water locally.

Controlling or guiding the movement of surplus water.

COOPERATION

The District will cooperate with, and urge cooperative action between all organizations, agencies, groups and individuals handling problems of soil, water and land-use.

REVISION OF WORK PLAN

Because now problems might arise and because new or improved solutions to problems may develop from time to time, the District Commissioners will revise this Work Plan in keeping with progress and developments whenever they deem it advisable.

REPORTS:

PERIODIC:

Annual report of progress and accomplishments will be made.

IDA COUNTY SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT

By _____ Chairman, District
Commissioners

Date: March __, 1945

The signing of the District Work Plan was authorized by a resolution of the District Commissioners adopted at a meeting held on March __, 1945.

SECRETARY, DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS

NOV 05 1979

30 October 1979

Dear Chairman:

A book focusing on the early history of the soil and water conservation movement in Iowa, and its pioneer leaders, is being prepared by myself to be presented to the State Soil Conservation Committee.

We would like to ask your help in paying recognition to some of the dedicated people who have contributed to the conservation movement, and some of the events which shaped the movement as we know it today.

Will you kindly study and complete the attached questionnaire, and return it to:

Department of Soil Conservation
Attn: Elaine Thompson
Wallace State Office Building
Des Moines, IA 50319

Thank you for your help.

Sincerely,

Don Muhm

Don Muhm

Henry Hall

Ed Peterson - 4 yrs

Henry Brueck

QUESTIONNAIRE FOR IOWA SOIL CONSERVATION BOOK

This form should be used to identify the most important figure in the soil and water conservation movement in your soil conservation district. Each of these questions should be self-explanatory; however, if you have any questions, let us know. Our objective is simply to give recognition to one early Iowa soil conservation leader in each SCD, and events of major importance to the movement in this state.

1. Our most important soil conservation figure has been Henry Dall

2. He/she is our nominee because (list contributions to soil conservation movement) He was instrumental in getting the district organized, along with J. Henry Brueck, Ed Perion and Donald Dodge, Extension Director. Mr. Dall served as the first chairman from the first meeting on February 5, 1945 until February 16, 1949. He continued as a member of the board until his death in July 1952.

3. His/her relationship to the district, if any? Mr. Dall served as Ida County representative on the Little Sioux Flood Prevention Program Works Committee.
He developed the amortization table to be used for the Little Sioux maintenance fund.

4. His/her years of service? seven

5. Additional comments? (Use back side of this questionnaire, please.)

6. What was the most significant soil and water conservation event, project, or development in your district? When did it occur? Why was it so important?
The Little Sioux Flood Prevention Project. Ida county completed their first two watersheds with this program in September 1949. They were the Kirkholm and Perion watersheds. Since then six watersheds have been completed and many other watersheds are in various stages of completion. It was important because of the effect it had on the conservation program of the county.

(Your signature) _____

(Soil Conservation District) Ida

(date) November 28, 1979

5. He was a community leader and helped set up the Production Credit Association in Ida County.

IDA COUNTY SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT

The original work plan for the district was adopted by the District Commissioners at their regular meeting, March 28, 1945. On April 15, 1947, this work plan was supplemented by official action of the District Commissioners to provide for Flood Control assistance. It was further supplemented, July 22, 1949 to align policy and practice. On January 18, 1955 the whole Flood Control procedure was again revised.

As of the present, a review of the District work plan indicates that further revisions should be made. When adopted by the District these changes will become the policy of the District. Where there is conflict between these changes and policies set forth in the original work plan and its supplements and amendments this latest policy shall prevail.

REQUESTS FOR ASSISTANCE: Request for assistance shall be in writing on forms provided by the District. Requests will be signed by the farm operator and the farm owner or his agent if this is different than the operator.

PRIORITIES OF ASSISTANCE: It is the policy of the District to encourage groups of farmers, particularly watershed groups, to work together in planning and applying soil conservation programs. Therefore, the District proposes to commit the use of its facilities to aiding (1) farmers who have submitted group requests on watershed basis for basic farm conservation plans; (2) groups of farmers other than so-called watershed groups who submit requests for basic farm conservation plans; (3) individual land owners who submit requests for assistance with basic farm conservation plans; and (4) individual land owners requesting assistance for planning and applying one or more conservation practices.

Interest and ability to make efficient use of help provided will be considered in determining priorities of assistance. It is the policy of the District to aid all land owners of Ida County in accomplishing soil conservation work, in-so-far as facilities of the District will permit. Other things being equal the earliest request gets priority.

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM: In addition to all of the media and methods set forth in the original work plan, television will be used to the fullest possible extent.

COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS: As each individual or group signs a request for assistance and this request is approved by the District the form involved becomes a cooperative agreement. This agreement is signed before any planning or application is done on the farm. At this stage the applicant will be known as an initial plan. When detailed plans have been made and agreed to by the cooperator and the district, the cooperator will be advanced to a basic plan.

CLASSES OF LAND AND THEIR USE: The basic concept of the District is to treat each acre within the District area according to its needs and to use each acre within its capabilities. Capability of land will be divided into 7 classes as follows:

- CLASS I - This is very good land, level or nearly level with no major hazard to cultivation.
- CLASS II - This is good land subject to moderate erosion or drouthy, gently sloping or level land needing drainage.
- CLASS III - This is moderately or highly productive land subject to severe sheet and gully erosion or gently sloping land which is drouthy or level land badly in need of drainage.
- CLASS IV - This is hilly land subject to severe sheet and gully erosion or rolling land that has drouth hazards.
- CLASS V - This is land, usually level, which has some special hazard such as overflow, rockiness or extreme wetness that prevents cultivation. If the hazards can be removed quite frequently the land will then become Class I.
- CLASS VI - This is steep land subject to severe erosion or hilly land that is drouthy.
- CLASS VII - This is rough and broken land subject to severe erosion.

Classes I, II, III and IV may be used for cropland providing all hazards to cultivation have been overcome. Class V land will normally be used for pasture or wildlife unless the hazards are removed. Classes VI and VII will normally be used for pasture or woodland or wildlife.

POST WAR PROJECTS: World War II has now been over for 11 years. The District feels that major emphasis should be placed on watershed group approach to soil conservation and flood control. As stated above first priority will be given to this type of work. In-as-much-as farm economy indicates that high farm income is connected directly with the highest safe corn acreage the use of terraces will be emphasised. Terraces also produce high benefits in Flood Control.

At an official meeting of the District Commissioners held on April 17, 1956 the District adopted these revisions in its work plan.

April 26, 1956
DATE

W. F. Burrow
W. F. Burrow, Chairman, District Com.

May 2, 1956
DATE

Arnold Futensen
Arnold Futensen, Secretary for District

I-B-1

STATE SOIL CONSERVATION COMMITTEE OF IOWA
OFFICE OF THE STATE SOIL CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

Des Moines, Iowa

IN THE MATTER OF THE ORGANIZATION OF	)	Statement by the State
THE <u>IDA</u> COUNTY SOIL	)	Soil Conservation
CONSERVATION DISTRICT	)	Committee

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME, GREETINGS:

Be it known that on the 30th day of October, 1944, a petition for the organization of the Ida County Soil Conservation District, signed by 25 or more landowners who represent 20% or more of the owners of lands lying within the limits of the territory proposed to be organized into a soil conservation district, was duly filed in the office of the State Soil Conservation Committee.

That on the 1st day of December, 1944, at the Court House, Ida Grove, Iowa, public hearing was held after due notice of the said hearing had been given as required by law;

That on the 1st day of December, 1944, the State Soil Conservation Committee did duly determine that there is need in the interest of the health, safety and public welfare, for a soil conservation district to function in the proposed territory and did define the boundaries thereof;

That thereafter due notice was given of a referendum on the question of the creation of the said district, and an election of commissioners to be held within the territory so defined by the Committee;

That the said referendum and election of commissioners was held within the said defined boundaries on the 13th day of January, 1945;

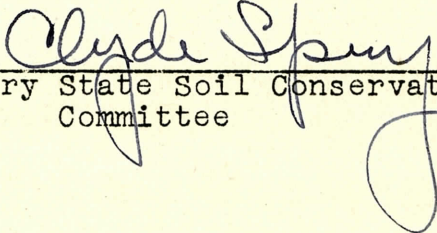
That the result of the said referendum showed that 91.2 % of the votes cast in the said referendum were in favor of the creation of the said district.

That thereafter on the 1st day of February, 1945, the State Soil Conservation Committee did duly determine that the operation of the said district is administratively practicable and feasible;

That the boundaries of the said district were defined by the State Soil Conservation Committee as follows;

All land lying within the boundaries of Ida County, Iowa, exclusive of incorporated cities and towns.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the State Soil Conservation Committee has caused these presents to be executed by its secretary under the seal of the Committee, this 19th day of February, 1945.



Secretary State Soil Conservation
Committee

(Seal)

CHRIS H. JENSEN, CHAIRMAN
AUDUBON

EARL ELIJAH, CLARENCE

CLARK HUNTLEY, CHARITON

HARRY D. LINN, DES MOINES
SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE

R. K. BLISS, AMES
DIRECTOR OF EXTENSION

CLYDE SPRY, SECRETARY
STATE HOUSE, DES MOINES

F. H. MENDELL, AMES
U. S. SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE

Iowa
Soil Conservation Committee

STATE HOUSE
DES MOINES 19, IOWA
February 22, 1945

Mr. Donald H. Dodge, Secretary
Ida County Soil Conservation District
Ida Grove, Iowa

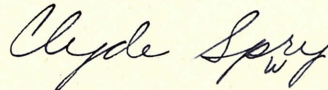
Dear Don:

Enclosed herewith is the certificate of organization of the Ida County Soil Conservation District which should be recorded in the county recorder's office.

A copy of the statement by the State Committee which was submitted to the Secretary of State along with your application is enclosed for your files.

Two forms, the farmer-district cooperative agreement form and the amendment form, are also enclosed. If you will let us know how many of these forms you would like to have, we will be glad to send them to you.

Very truly yours,



Clyde Spry, Secretary
State Soil Conservation Committee

CS:wh
Enc.

5.5
APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATE OF ORGANIZATION OF

Ida

COUNTY SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Hon. Wayne M. Ropes
Secretary of State
Des Moines, Iowa

The undersigned commissioners of the proposed Ida
County Soil Conservation District respectfully represent;

1. That pursuant to the provisions of the Soil Conservation Districts Law, Chapter 125.1, Code of Iowa, 1939, a petition for the creation of the Ida County Soil Conservation District was filed with the State Soil Conservation Committee; that the proceedings specified in the said law were taken pursuant to the said petition as more fully appears in the statement by the State Soil Conservation Committee hereto attached and made a part of this application; that this application is being filed in order to complete the organization of the said district as a governmental subdivision and a public body, corporate and politic, as provided by the said law; and that the State Soil Conservation Committee has recognized the undersigned as the elected commissioners of the said Soil Conservation District.

2. That the names and official residences of the undersigned commissioners are as follows:

Henry Dall
Edw. C. Perion
J. B. Scott

Battle Creek
Ida Grove
Danbury

That certified copies of the notice of election of the said commissioners evidencing their right to office are submitted herewith.

3. That the name which is proposed for the said district is the Ida County Soil Conservation District.

4. That the principal office of the commissioners of the said district is located at Ida Grove, Iowa.

Wherefore, the undersigned commissioners of the said district respectfully request that the Secretary of State make and issue to the undersigned Commissioners a certificate, under the seal of the State, of the due organization of the said _____ Ida _____ County Soil Conservation District.

Henry Dall
Commissioner

James B. Scott
Commissioner
Edw. C. Perion
Commissioner

STATE OF IOWA)
COUNTY OF Ida) SS

Henry Dall, Battle Creek James B. Scott, Danbury; _____, _____;
Edw. C. Perion, Ida Grove _____ whose names are subscribed to the foregoing application state that the matters and things therein contained are true and correct.

Henry Dall
Commissioner
James B. Scott
Commissioner
Edw. C. Perion
Commissioner

Subscribed and sworn to before me this _____ day of _____,
19____.

(Title)

Documents

Frank H. Mendell, State Conservationist,
SCS, Des Moines, Iowa
D. M. Ross, Clerk

Sioux City, Iowa
March 24, 1952

Supplemental Schedule of Assistance

We are attaching two copies of a completed Supplemental Schedule of Assistance, covering 20 lbs. of Birdsfoot trefoil furnished the Ida Soil Conservation District.

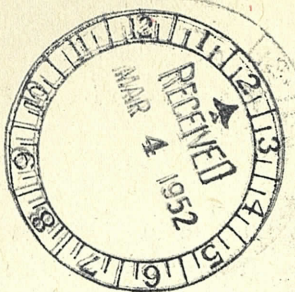
We are retaining the original for the Work Group files, and are mailing a copy today to Mr. Burnett for inclusion in the files of the District Governing Body.

Attachment

D. M. Ross

DMR:eg

cc: Burnett

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Soil Conservation Service

SUPPLEMENTAL SCHEDULE OF ASSISTANCE

To: Ida County Soil Conservation District, State of Iowa
for the period
January 31 / , 19 52 to June 30 19 52

In accordance with the terms of the Supplemental Memorandum of Understanding between the Soil Conservation Service and the above named Soil Conservation District, and in accordance with recent discussions between Service representatives and the District Commissioners the following additional assistance over and above that listed on the original Schedule of Assistance for the period of _____, 19____ to _____, 19____, will be made available to the District during the above mentioned period, subject to the limitations outlined herein.

Species and Quantity

M2-11348-51 Birdsfoot trefoil 20 lbs.

1. The materials outlined herein are available for distribution with the concurrence of the Iowa Agricultural Experiment Station as a part of the joint cooperative forage crops program.
2. These seed materials will be used by the District for the production of field seed. To this end acceptance of these materials by the District is contingent upon its agreement to meet the following requirements.
3. In using this seed as a part of the District work plan, the District will select farmer-district cooperators whose fields have suitable soil requirements and are free from noxious weeds, and who will include in or amend their farmer-district agreements in compliance with the terms set forth in this supplemental schedule.

4. Farmer-district cooperators accepting this seed will agree to turn over to the District certain percentages of the total of the first two seed crops on the original acreage as may be determined by the District Commissioners, providing, however, that in no case shall less than 15 or more than 30 percent of the first two seed crops on the original acreage be returned to the District by the Farmer-district cooperators.

5. The maximum quantity of any one strain to be distributed to any one farmer-district cooperator by the District Commissioners shall not exceed ²⁵~~30~~ pounds.

6. The District agrees to redistribute all seed returned by the farmer-district cooperators, and to this end the District agrees that it will distribute such seed in accordance with the same policies as outlined in Paragraphs 2, 3, 4, and 5.

7. In the event the seed returned to the District by farmer-district cooperators is not required in the furtherance of the District work plan, the District shall so advise the State Conservationist of the Soil Conservation Service who may, at his discretion, require the District to turn such seed over to the Soil Conservation Service for distribution in other soil conservation districts which may have need for such materials. In the event that the Soil Conservation Service has no need for these materials, the State Conservationist shall so advise the District, in which case no further returns need be made for the particular strains or species involved, and any such seeds on hand at such time may be disposed of by the District Governing Body for the purposes for which the District was established.

8. In the interests of obtaining a more widespread distribution of this species this procedure will carry in effect for five years unless adequate distribution for the purposes of the District work plan has been obtained in a shorter period of time as outlined in the preceding paragraph.

9. This material is being made available in order to further the regularly approved work plan of the District and it is understood that the District will develop special arrangements with the farmer-district cooperators concerned covering the requirements by which this seed is being made available. A suggested amendment form for use with farmer-district cooperators will be made available.

(over)

APPROVED:

/s/ Frank H. Mendell
(State Conservationist)

Date: 2-1, 19

RECOMMENDED:

[Signature]
(District Conservationist)

Date: 3-24 19 52

Concurred in:

[Signature] County Soil Conservation District

Ross Baumann Chariman, District Board of Commissioners

Date: February 26, 19 52

[Signature]
(County Extension Director
for [Signature] County)

Date: 3-1, 19 52

The procedure as outlined in this Supplemental Schedule of Assistance meets with the concurrence of the Iowa Agricultural Experiment Station, and the Iowa Agricultural Extension Service.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Soil Conservation ServiceSUPPLEMENTAL SCHEDULE OF ASSISTANCE

TO: Iowa Soil Conservation District, State of Iowa
for the period
March 14, 1949 to June 30, 1949

In accordance with the terms of the Supplemental Memorandum of Understanding between the Soil Conservation Service and the above named Soil Conservation District, and in accordance with recent discussions between Service representatives and the District Commissioners the following additional assistance over and above that listed on the original schedule of assistance for the period of March 14, 1949 to June 30, 1949, will be made available to the District during the above mentioned period, as a part of the cooperative forage improvement program of the Soil Conservation Service, and the Iowa Agricultural Experiment Station, subject to the conditions outlined herein.

Species and Quantities:

W2-10815-4.8 Alta fescue 40 lbs
W2-10203-4.7 Fischer broms 60 lbs

1. These materials are being made available by the Nursery Division for trial purposes only, with the concurrence of the Iowa Agricultural Experiment Station, and as such will be distributed to Farmer-District Cooperators selected by the District Commissioners.

2. Farmer-District Cooperators obtaining this material will agree to establish, maintain and manage all fields following specific recommendations which will be set forth and furnished by the Nursery Division of the Soil Conservation Service.

3. When, and if, one of these promising grass or legume species or strains is recognized as making a definite contribution in the soil conservation program, and is generally recommended by the Iowa Agricultural Experiment Station and the Soil Conservation Service for a particular use in an area where adapted, the Farmer-District Cooperators will set the field aside for seed harvest and cooperatively with the District Commissioners make this seed available locally. (The District Commissioners will be advised when such species, or variety, is generally recommended for use in their district).

(over)

APPROVED:

RECOMMENDED:

/s/ Frank H. Mendell
State Conservationist

/s/ Carl E. Fritzsche
District Conservationist

Date: May 24, 1949

Date: May 10, 1949

Concurred in:

Ida

Soil Conservation District

/s/ Ross Baumann

Chairman, District Board of Commissioners

/s/ Bruce W. Marcus

County Extension Director

Date: May 20, 1949

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Soil Conservation Service

SUPPLEMENTAL SCHEDULE OF ASSISTANCE

To: IDA County Soil Conservation District, State of Iowa

for the period

January 14, 19 49 to June 30, 19 49

In accordance with the terms of the Supplemental Memorandum of Understanding between the Soil Conservation Service and the above named Soil Conservation District, and in accordance with recent discussions between Service representatives and the District Commissioners the following additional assistance over and above that listed on the original Schedule of Assistance for the period of January 14, 19 49 to June 30, 19 49, will be made available to the District during the above mentioned period, as a part of the cooperative forage improvement program of the Soil Conservation Service, and the Iowa Agricultural Experiment Station, subject to the conditions outlined herein.

Species and Quantity:

M2-11168-18(R1) Ioreed Canarygrass **10** Lbs.

1. This seed is being made available by the Nursery Division for demonstration and incentive planting purposes only, with the concurrence of the Iowa Agriculture Experiment Station, and as such will be distributed to Farmer-District Cooperators selected by the District Commissioners.

2. Farmer-District Cooperators obtaining this material will agree to establish, maintain and manage all areas or fields following specific recommendations which will be set forth and furnished by the Nursery Division of the Soil Conservation Service.

APPROVED:/s/ Frank H. Mandell

(State Conservationist)

Date: May 24, 19 49RECOMMENDED:/s/ Carl R. Fritzsche

(District Conservationist)

Date: May 10, 19 49

Concurred in:

Ida

County Soil Conservation District

/s/ Ross Baumann

Chairman, District Board of Commissioners

/s/ Bruce W. Marcus

County Extension Director

Date: May 20, 19 49

EQUIPMENT USAGE PLAN

For Ida County Soil
Conservation District, State of Iowa.

The following Equipment Usage Plan covers the use and operation of equipment by the _____

Soil Conservation District. Such equipment will be used only on lands under cooperative or working agreement with the district, or on lands owned or leased by the district.

Responsibility

The district governing body, through its delegated representative(s), will have over-all responsibility as set forth below, for all equipment so obtained.

Operation

1. Light Equipment. Since all equipment such as small terracers, scrapers, drills, etc., will be operated by cooperators, they will be responsible for greasing, tightening, adjusting, and similar work to be performed while using the equipment.
2. Heavy Equipment. Only experienced and qualified operators will be employed to operate such equipment. They will be responsible for safe and efficient operation of the machines assigned to them, and for fueling, greasing, and minor repairs.

Priority of Jobs

1. The district governing body will establish a procedure for determining priority of job locations. Seasonal conditions, location of equipment in relation to economy in moving, job requirements, and farmer compliance will all be points of consideration.

Routing of Equipment

The district governing body, or through its authorized district representative(s), will be responsible for routing of all equipment, according to the priority schedule.

1. Light Equipment.

- a. The equipment will be moved from job to job by the farmer who uses it, except as set forth in "b" below. In all cases, the equipment will be moved in a manner which will not cause unnecessary damage or deterioration.
- b. Where the movement is from extreme locations in the district, the district governing body, or through its delegated representative(s), will be responsible for such movement.

2. Heavy Equipment.

- a. Tractors and other heavy equipment, except for short moves under favorable road and weather conditions, will be hauled between jobs by truck or trailer. Such moves will be the responsibility of the equipment operator employed by the district, or the district's delegated representative(s).

Charges and Collections

1. Charges.

Sufficient charges will be made for the use of equipment (either on loan or grant) to cover the cost of operation, normal repairs and transportation. The charges may cover the establishment of a reserve to provide for the purchase of new equipment when the present equipment is no longer serviceable.

2. Collections.

Sufficient money will be on hand or otherwise available to cover unloading and transportation costs from railhead to job site, and to cover all costs of operating equipment from the time it is first received to the time it becomes self-supporting through its earnings. All payments will be made to the district treasurer.

Maintenance and Repairs

It is understood that all equipment which the Soil Conservation Service releases to the district governing body will be in a good state of repair. When not in use, the equipment will be stored in a dry, safe place, and the usual precautions will be taken against vandalism, fire, etc.

Light Equipment. All such equipment loaned or granted to the district governing body by the Soil Conservation Service will be kept in a state of good repair by the governing body. Acceptance of such equipment by the governing body will relieve the Service of all repair responsibilities and obligations until the equipment is returned to the Service.

Heavy Equipment. The recommendations of the manufacturer on fuels, lubricants, and frequency of lubrication will be followed for heavy equipment such as tractors, power shovels, draglines, and ditching machines. Within the reasonable limits of the Equipment Repair Account (defined below) the district agrees to keep the equipment on loan in a state of repair which will promote its safe and efficient operation. A schedule of rates to cover repairs will be mutually agreed to by the Soil Conservation Service and the district governing body. This schedule will be attached as a supplement to this Equipment Usage Plan, and will serve as the basis for charges for the sole purpose of machine repair. These funds will be exclusive of all other charges, and a separate account, hereafter known as the "Equipment Repair Account" will be maintained for each piece of heavy equipment in operation under this Equipment Usage Plan.

The district governing body will submit to the Soil Conservation Service (through the district conservationist) a signed statement of receipts and expenditures of the Equipment Repair Account at the close of each calendar year and at the conclusion of the loan period for each piece of equipment. The Equipment Repair Account will be open at all times for inspection by the Soil Conservation Service. At the time the equipment is returned to the Soil Conservation Service, the balance of funds remaining to the credit of such equipment in the Equipment Repair Account will be converted into repair parts and/or transferred with the equipment to the next assignment.

It is agreed that when the Service determines that any machine on loan to a district is no longer usable, any funds in the Equipment Repair Account will be prorated to all districts which have contributed to such fund in proportion to the amount of repair funds collected by each contributing district.

Any such machine as referred to above will remain the property of the Soil Conservation Service for determination as to its disposal.

Inspections

It is understood that the Soil Conservation Service reserves the right to inspect equipment on loan at any time.

Records

The district governing body will keep a record of all collections, disbursements, and accounts receivable and payable.

The farmers using the equipment will report either through the district-delegated representative(s) or equipment operator, or directly to the district governing body: (1) the amount of time the equipment was used; and (2) the approximate accomplishments.

All records and reports on the use of equipment which may be required by the Soil Conservation Service will be furnished by the district governing body.

SIGNED:

Ida County Soil
Conservation District

By: /s/ Henry Dall
Chairman, District Governing Body

Date: August 20, 1947

APPROVED:

State Conservationist
Soil Conservation Service

Date: _____, 19____

SUPPLEMENT TO EQUIPMENT USAGE PLAN

Supplement No. 1

In accordance with the equipment usage plan dated August 20, 1947, the following schedule of rates for repair of the heavy equipment listed hereunder will be assessed and placed in the Equipment Repair Account:

Sheepsfoot roller, 3 drum, Servis, Ser. #108-JL., Property #902153 \$.15
per hour

It is understood that items of repair (new and used parts, labor for removing and installing such parts, blacksmithing and welding), that when installed or completed become a part of the machine to keep it in an operating condition will be charged to the Equipment Repair Account. The following items are not considered repair items and will not be charged to the Equipment Repair Account:

Fuel
Lubricating oils and greases
Hydraulic fluid
Anti-freeze
Special tools and gages
Repairs and adjustments by operators
or helpers requiring less than two
hours at any one repair operation.

Signed:

Ida County Soil Conservation
District

By /s/ Henry Dall
(Chairman, District Governing Body)

August 20, 1947
(Date)

APPROVED:

State Conservationist

Date

