

Soil Conservation District's annual report for 1974

DISTRICT GOVERNING BODY

Leslie Anderson, Castalia	Chairman
Frank Thyer, Randalia	Commissioner
Paul Schuchmann, Jr., Arlington	Commissioner
Cleve Bennett, Elgin	Commissioner
James Stewart, Oelwein	Commissioner

DISTRICT EMPLOYEES

Belva Bauer	Clerk-Typist II
Mark Sauerbrei	Parttime Conservation Aide

U.S.D.A. SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE

Lyle Jackson	District Conservationist
William Baugh	Conservation Technician

AREA PERSONNEL

Harold Boehmer, Mason City	Area Conservationist
Gary Formanek, Elkader	Civil Engineer
Eileen Bliss, Mason City	Area Clerk

DISTRICT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

July 1, 1973 - June 30, 1974

	Number	Acres
District Cooperators	53	16,696
Soil and Water Conservation Plans	32	6,040
Soil and Water Conservation Plans - Revised	8	1,483
Farms Served	381	
Farms Applying One or More Conservation Practices	314	
Units of Government Assisted	4	
Group Conservation Plans	4	
Groups Assisted	33	
Groups Applying Practices	18	

MAJOR PRACTICES APPLIED

Conservation Cropping System (acres)	3,858
Contour Farming (acres)	807
Critical Area Planting (acres)	1.3
Crop Residue Management (acres)	4,283
Pond (number)	2
Field Border (feet)	115,900
Grade Stabilization Structures (number)	10
Grassed Waterways (acres)	59
Holding Ponds-Tanks (number)	3
Minimum Tillage (acres)	5,505
Pasture and Hayland Management (acres)	660
Pasture and Hayland Planting (acres)	26
Strip Cropping (acres)	145
Structures For Water Control (number)	51
Terrace Parallel (feet)	26,525
Subsurface Drain (feet)	1,048,999
Tree Planting (acres)	4
Wildlife Wetland Management (acres)	5
Wildlife Upland Management (acres)	179
Woodland Improvement Harvesting (acres)	10
Woodland Improvement (acres)	3
Land Adequately Treated (acres)	5,709
Other Use to Cropland (acres)	64

HIGHLIGHTS OF DISTRICT ACTIVITIES 1974

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

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

Iowa and National Association of Soil Conservation dues were paid in full.

Lyle Jackson presented a program on conservation planning at an Extension Service meeting for Young Farmers and their wives in January.

Bill Baugh gave a talk to F.F.A. students at North High, West Union and presented a program at Starmont School for an adult education class.

Jackson presented a program with slides to a boy's 4-H club in West Union and gave a presentation at Upper Iowa College to a camping and outdoor recreation class.

Gary Bishop, West Union, was the winner of the Soil Conservation Speech Contest held March 28 at North High School, West Union. Co-sponsors were German Mutual Insurance, West Union, and Farmers Mutual Insurance, Fayette.

Mark Sauerbrei started work for the district April 1 as part-time Conservation Aide.

The biennial Commissioners election and banquet was held April 1 at St. Francis Catholic Church, Fayette. Alfred Stewart retired after 24 years of service. Frank Thyer, incumbent, and James Stewart were elected to six-year terms. Don Muhm, Des Moines, was featured speaker.

Several tapes for KOEL Radio were made by Jackson.

Baugh conducted a tour of conservation practices for 60 Hawkeye Elementary students.

A program for Ecology Week was presented to 125 North Fayette Junior High students by Jackson.

Fifty Soil Stewardship booklets and 2,000 church bulletin inserts were distributed to the churches in the county for Soil Stewardship week.

Assistance was given to West Central School, Maynard in planning for an outdoor classroom.

Jackson attended a Beef Task Force meeting in Ames.

Several recordings with Mel Wangness of KOEL Radio were made by Jackson and Sauerbrei.

Conservation Aide Mark Sauerbrei and Kim Driscoll, West Union, were married August 31.

A tour of conservation practices was held in September with A.S.C.S. as co-sponsors. Approximately 50 persons were in attendance.

Jackson presented a program to the Valley High School Voc-Ag sophomores.

Assistance was given to the Fayette County Fair Board in locating acceptable fill material for the race track.

James Stewart, Commissioner, and Belva Bauer, Clerk, attended the annual conference in Fort Dodge in September.

Artalee Schroyer attended Teachers' Conservation Workshop at Camp Ewalu. She was sponsored by the Arlington State Bank.

Bill Baugh had a hernia operation in December.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

July 1, 1973 - June 30, 1974

IM BUDGET

Commissioners travel expenses to district, regional and state meetings and other travel in the county on district business

Office Supplies	\$ 452.18
Printing	40.63
Prizes For Contest	37.80
Office Expense	22.02
	139.55

IIIM BUDGET

Salaries and Travel for Clerk, Parttime Conservation Aide and Equipment

COMMISSIONERS' REVOLVING FUND	
Balance on Hand July 1, 1973	473.57
Receipts July 1, 1973 - June 30, 1974	1,695.98

Total Funds Available	2,169.55
Miscellaneous Expenses	1,681.20

Balance on Hand June 30, 1974	488.35
-------------------------------	--------

IIIM BUDGET (State Cost Share Funds)

Total Allocation	23,000.00
Amount Approved and Disbursed for Conservation Practices	6,215.28
Amount Approved and Pending Completion	14,592.07

Balance on Hand June 30, 1974	2,192.65
-------------------------------	----------

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 Services, Extension Service and Farmers Home Administration. State organizations assisting the district were the Department of Soil Conservation, Iowa Association of S.C.D. Commissioners, and the State Conservation Commission.

The newspaper and radio and television stations serving this area have made a valuable contribution by giving publicity to activities of the district.

We would also like to thank the firms doing business in the county whose contributions made possible the printing and distribution of this report.

Respectfully submitted, Fayette Soil Conservation District Commissioners, Leslie Anderson, Chairman, Cleve Bennett, Paul Schuchmann, Jr., Frank Thyer, and James Stewart.