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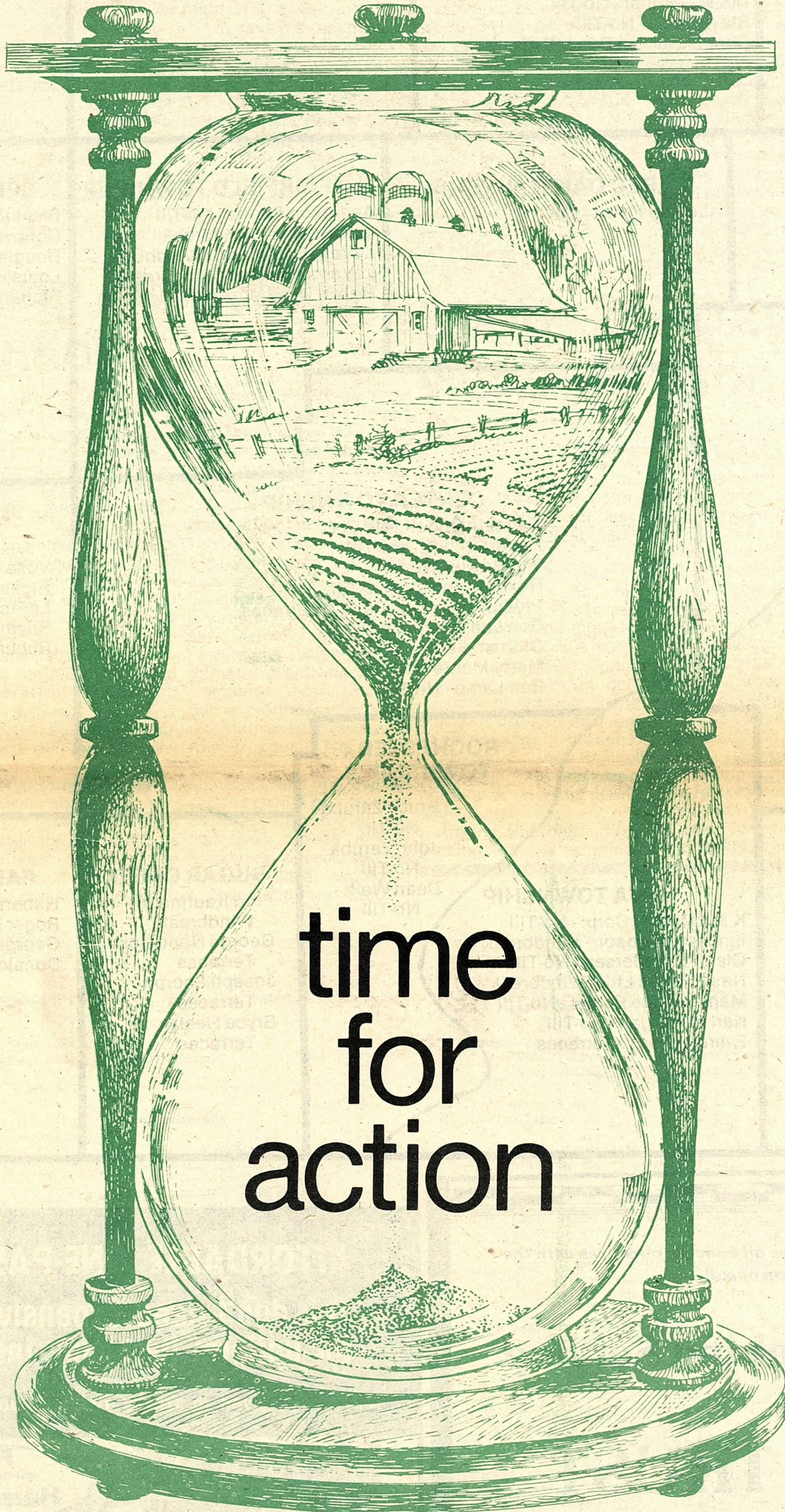
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Soil Conservation Issue

April 25, 1984



SOIL CONSERVATION

Conservation Practices

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CASS TOWNSHIP Eugene Kessler - Windbreak Steve Driscoll - No-Till Roy Ellerhoff - No-Till Mike Walter - Terraces Raymon Ferguson - No-Till	CENTER TOWNSHIP Kenneth Schott - No-Till Robert Schott - No-Till Jim Bowie - No-Till Roxann McNutt - No-Till Phillip Hargrave - Pond & Terraces Don Lamp - No-Till Oldham Farms - No-Till Marty Mente - No-Till Ron Lamp - No-Till		INLAND TOWNSHIP Voss Farms Inc. - Windbreak Richard Kreinbring - No-Till LaFrenz Farms - Windbreak Raymond Gehrls - No-Till Robert K. Schneider - Terraces
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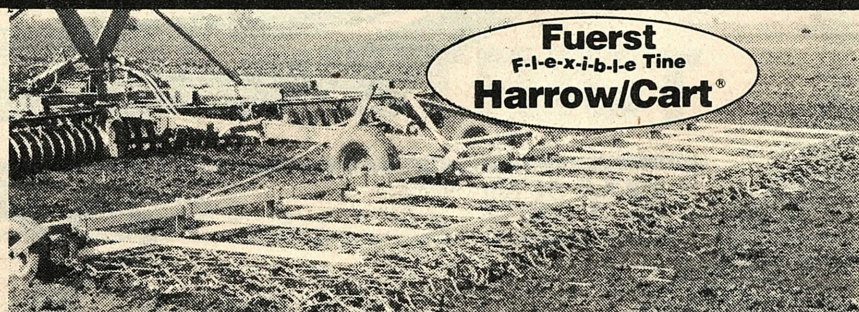
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Hoelt Likes What He Sees Here, Wants More

Kurtis Hoelt knew conservation work was being done in Cedar county when he arrived here last Thanksgiving as the new district conservationist, but he was surprised at the amount, especially the number of acres farmed each year using no-till.

Hoelt, 26, came to Cedar county from Osage, replacing Dave White, who took a district conservationist job in southern Iowa.

The Charles City native said that Cedar county farmers, "as a whole, appear to be more conservation minded, because they realize they have a problem." He noted that the rolling terrain of the county made it necessary for landowners to take conservation steps to save their soil.

While Hoelt was surprised that area farmers had more than 10,000 acres of no-till crops last year, he said there is still a need for a lot more conservation work in the county.

'No-Till Should Triple'

In fact, he says that in the next 4 to 5 years the number of acres of land in no-till use should triple.

"Right now, there are at least 4 or 5 farmers in every township using no-till. The equipment for no-till is out there and new no-till chemicals have been introduced. Some of these farmers have been doing it for 7, 8 or 9 years and have had few problems. I think most can now adapt to it and feel comfortable.

Hoelt even goes a little farther to say that after people have looked at the economics of no-till, there really are no problems, just challenges. "I've always said all the negative aspects can be overcome. When you have a problem, there are no solutions. When you have a challenge, there is a solution."

County Is Way Ahead

Looking around Cedar and the surrounding counties, Hoelt says there is

no doubt that this county is way ahead. One reason for that is county soil commissioners here emphasized no-till as a low cost alternative to other conservation measures, such as terraces.

Hoelt agrees that no-till should be the first consideration of Cedar county farmers, but he says there is a very large need for more terraces and grass waterways. "I was shocked," he said, "at the lack of grass waterways here and I really don't know why there aren't more."

The district conservationist calls terraces "the last alternative" for saving soil. However he thinks many farmers and landowners need to use the 'last alternative' when other measures fail.

He recognizes the fact that some terraces may cost between \$500 to \$600 an acre, but he says they are effective in cutting soil losses and they are definitely needed.

Cedar county farmers put in approximately 20,000 feet of terraces in 1983 and Hoelt says the numbers will probably be the same in 1984. "That is low," he said. "I think we need twice that number."

Wrong Crops, Wrong Land

As always, Hoelt says there are some farmers who are simply not using proper conservation methods or are growing the wrong crops on the wrong land. He has noticed some farmers growing soybeans on hillsides where they simply should not be.

As a conservation official, Hoelt said he recognizes that some fields cannot be adapted well to either contour farming or terraces, especially farms that have what he calls "hump back" hills that roll up and down in a small area.

In his first 4 months in Cedar county, Hoelt has been trying to devote most of his time to conservation planning. He says he likes to meet with individual farmers on a one to one basis to work out individual plans for each farm. "That is my first year priority," he said, "in addition to getting to know people in Cedar county."

Hoelt is very interested in the 'Iowa Soil 2000 Conservation Folder' that is being distributed to farmers in Fremont township. He is working on the district program with the commissioners.

Approximately 25% of the farmers in Fremont township now have the folders, which show soil losses that might be occurring on the land and explain what conservation practices will save soil, such as crop rotation and different types of plowing.

The conservation service hopes that all of the farmers in Fremont township will have received their folders by the end of the summer.

Will Try Workshops

Hoelt says that he really hasn't tried anything new in the county yet, but he would like to set up soil loss workshops with farmers from certain areas of the

county to show them what is happening in their home territory.

Talking about his background, Hoelt says he has learned about soil conservation from the bottom up, "starting at the bottom of the totem pole as a state aid and holding just about every position you could hold."

He grew up on a cash grain farm near Charles City and held his first job with the Soil Conservation Service in 1976 on a part-time basis after he graduated from high school. He attended a community college for a year and a half, and then attended Iowa State University.

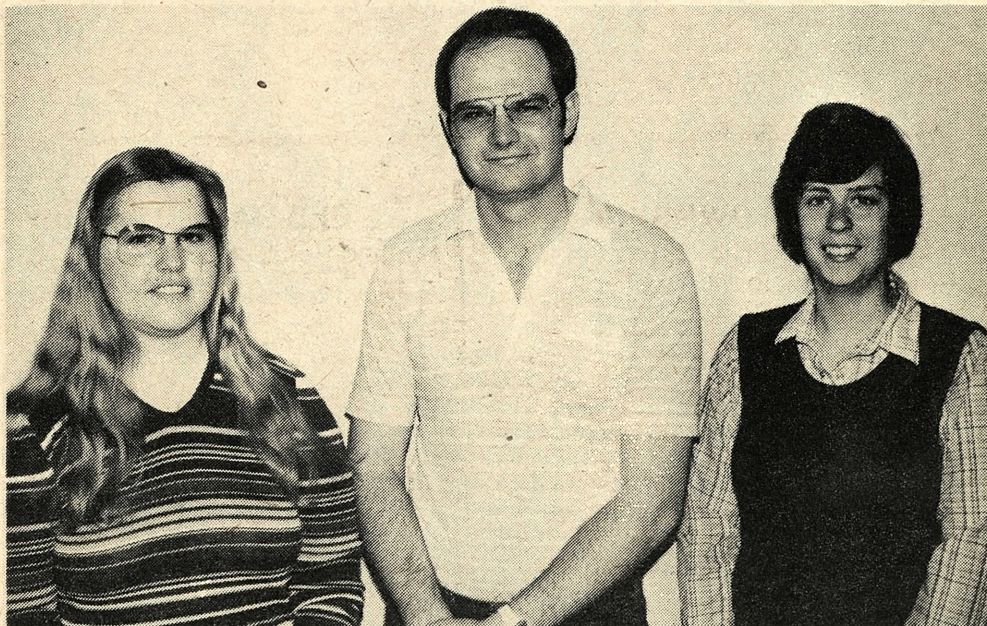
In the summer of 1979 he worked in the Clayton County Soil Conservation office in Elkader in the trainee program. He

April 25, 1984 1984 Soil Conservation Page 3 graduated from ISU in 1980 with a degree in agronomy and then worked for 3 months as a soil scientist in Delaware county during the summer.

He then worked in Waterloo as a soil conservationist from October 1980 to May 1981. After that he joined the conservation service at Osage in Mitchell county as a district conservationist and he managed that office until taking the Cedar county job in November.

Hoelt and his wife, Kathy, live in Tipton, where they recently purchased a home.

In the past 4 months Hoelt says he has really enjoyed working in Tipton and Cedar county. Commenting on conservation practices in this county, he says he is already biased toward the area.



SCS office staff, l-r, Melanie Schott, district clerk; Kurt Hoelt, district conservationist and Judy Hagan Eiselstein, soil conservation technician.

Soil Conservation Works

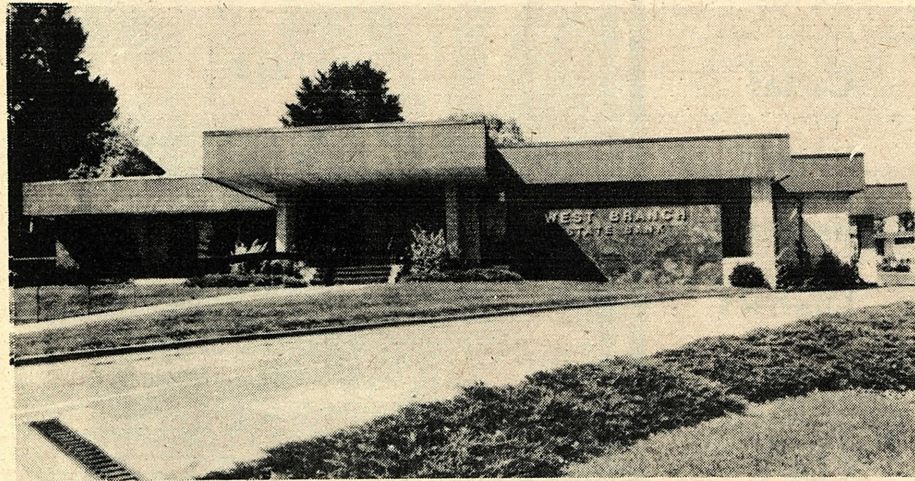
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Kurtis Hoelt

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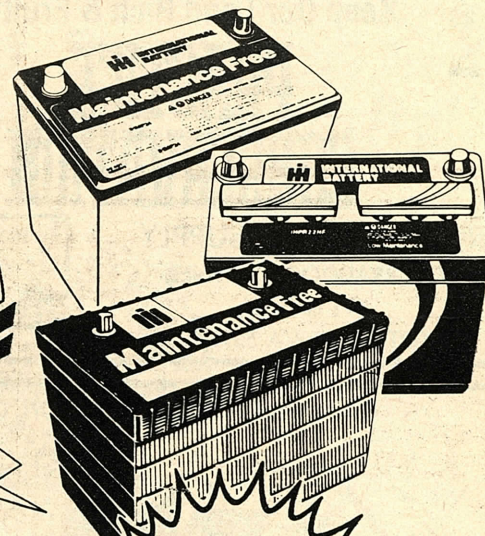
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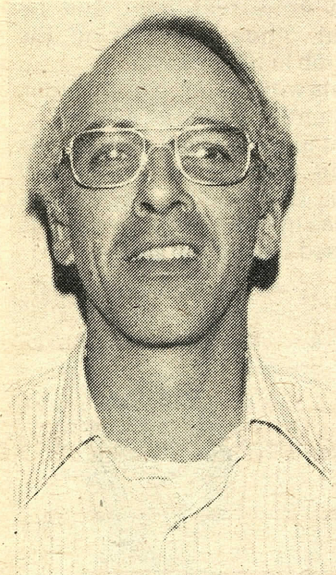
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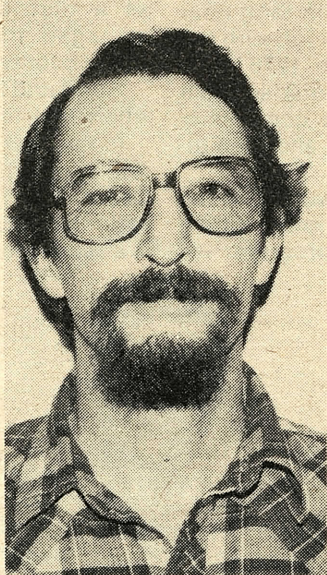
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1984 Cedar County Soil District Commissioners



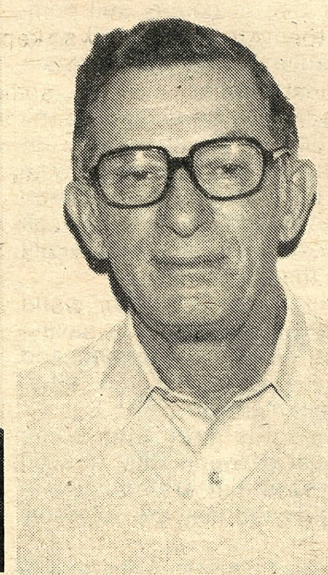
Joel Brown
Chairman
Pioneer Township
Served as commissioner 4 years. Strong promoter of no-till. Has a hog operation and farms with his brother, Dave.



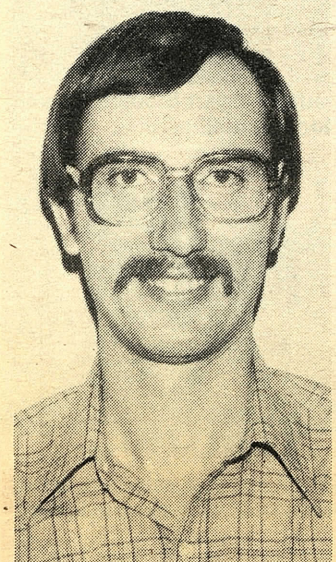
William Davidson II
Fremont Township
Served as commissioner 12 years. Nominated Outstanding Commissioner in 1981. He and his hired man, Jeff Schnipkoweit, practice no-till and contouring.



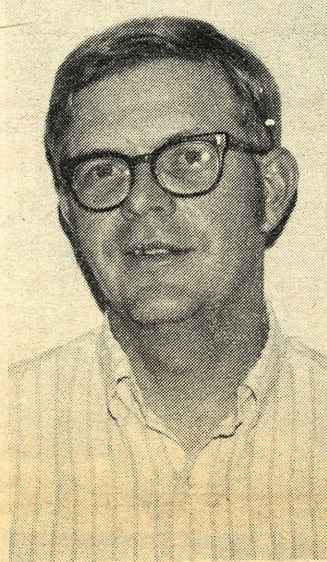
Randall Shaul
Red Oak Township
Served as assistant commissioner one year and commissioner 4 years. Nominated Outstanding Commissioner for 1983. Active member of the Land Use Commission.



Darrell Brown
assistant
Center Township
Served as commissioner 10 years and assistant the last 4 years. Chairman of Conservation Education Committee. Nominated Outstanding Commissioner in 1982. Involved with "Kill The Rose" campaign.



Robert Niermeyer
vice-chairman
Fairfield Township
Served as commissioner 4 years. A credited no-tiller. Owner of Niermeyer Insurance in Clarence.



Jim Bowie
Center Township
Served as commissioner 7 years. Practices and promotes no-till. Proprietor of Bowie Equipment.



Richard Kreinbring
assistant
Inland Township
Served as assistant commissioner for one year. Works at the Bennett Machine Shop and farms. Practices no-till. Is on the Registration Committee at the Eastern Iowa Conservation Tillage show in Cedar Rapids.



Steve Driscoll
assistant
Cass Township
Started as assistant commissioner in March of 1984. Custom no-tills and farms. Involved with Cedar County No-Till Club.

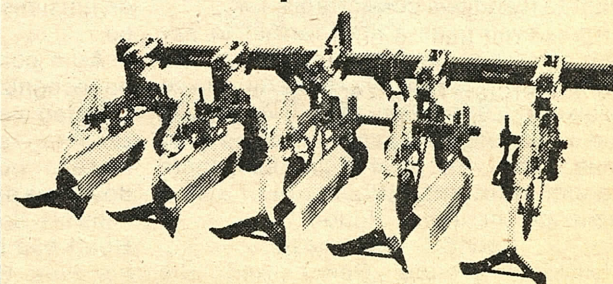
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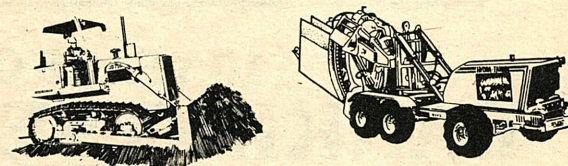
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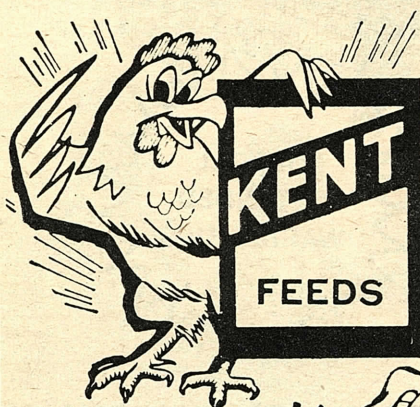
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George Bowie Asks: Have We Come Full Circle?

Editors note: George Bowie is a no-till club member and farmer, residing in Iowa township.

By George Bowie

Have we completed a full circle in corn production?

When the white man arrived in America, how were the Native Americans raising corn? Scratching around with a stick, poking a hole in the soil, dropping in the seed, covering it and letting Mother Nature take her course. Somewhere along the line, they learned that by placing a fish next to the seed, more corn was the result.

The white man saw enough potential for corn that he experimented with production techniques. As he moved west into the heavy prairie sod, the ultimate in tillage was needed and developed—the moldboard plow. The sod was plowed and crops produced—for awhile.

When the natural fertility of the soil gave out, the "progressive" farmer and his plow went to find new natural fertility. The others stayed put and did the best they could with what they had. It didn't take long to discover what Mother Nature's best would do for a crop when spread in the right places. Then somebody found out what legumes would do for the following crop-crop rotation. Not to be outdone, some enterprising soul figured out how to get all these benefits while raising continuous corn—commercial fertilizer. As with most benefits, problems often follow—soil erosion.

A few farsighted individuals saw what the future held, but the soil was deep and these "alarmists" were ignored. The plows kept plowing. Slow progress was begun with contouring, strip cropping, and those terribly expensive terraces, which were built to strict standards resulting in some being destroyed because of frustrations caused to the

land operator. And the plows kept plowing.

As with most situations in life, some radicals came along and questioned the need for a clean surface. A new term came to the Corn Belt—minimum tillage. We soon discovered that corn would grow just as well in soil that was prepared for plowing as with soil that was plowed and fully processed.

What about the benefits for working less? Greatly reduced production costs and a fantastic reduction in soil erosion, without those costly terraces in many instances. In a relatively short period of time, chisel plowing with a single discing became "conventional tillage"—and the moldboard plow quit plowing.

As usual there is always someone that isn't satisfied with leaving well enough alone. How about planting without any tillage except for a narrow strip in the row? Another new term came into being—no till. As we all know (most of us anyway), no-till does work. Minimum or mulch tillage was a giant step forward in lowering production costs and reducing soil erosion. Now no-till offers another big stride forward in these two areas. What are big tractors needed for besides pulling tillage tools? A medium-sized tractor will pull large loads of corn up and down the Cedar Valley hills.

How can a crop be produced with less soil erosion than with today's no-till methods? At the Farm Progress show last fall, Iowa State University had prototype models of a punch-type planter and fertilizer applicator. Instead of a continuous slice through the soil, making an opening for the water to run through, poking individual holes will require less power and better erosion control.

How was the first corn planted? In individual holes. According to corn planter salesmen, there has been a marked increase in the sale of starter fertilizer at-

tachments on new planters. Will they replace the fish?

A closing note: I had a "radical" little brother in high school who wanted to experiment with some reduced tillage on three acres of corn. I had my thoughts, but only half of a crop on three acres wouldn't be the end of the world. Despite a visit by the neighbor's cows and calves, the corn produced a good crop. The next year we tried minimum tillage on half of the field, with results equal to the half

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where the soil was fully processed. The real value of having a good mulch on the surface was demonstrated by the 12-inch rain during the summer of 1967. This "radical" little brother developed into a successful no-tiller and is serving a second term as a Cedar County Soil Commissioner.

This is how I got started on my way to today's no-till corn production. Are you satisfied with your progress in soil conserving crop production?

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1983 Soil District Activities-Conservation Projects

JANUARY

Commissioners held their regular meeting Jan. 3 and elected officers and appointed assistants as listed: Joel Brown, chairman; Robert Niermeyer, vice-chairman; Ken Muller, secretary; Melanie Schott, treasurer and assistants Darrell Brown and Ray Crock, Jr.

Commissioner Robert Niermeyer and D. C. White attended a planning meeting for the Farm Progress Show Jan. 6.

All commissioners, D. C. White and Melanie Schott, clerk, attended a training session in Davenport Jan. 11.

Commissioners Jim Bowie, Randall Shaul and Joel Brown and D. C. White attended the annual short course held in Ames Jan. 18 and 19.

The Eastern Iowa Conservation Tillage Show was held Jan. 25 and 26 at the Five Seasons Center in Cedar Rapids.

FEBRUARY

The Conservation Education Committee met Feb. 10. Commissioner Joel Brown arranged and hosted a group meeting for nearly 30 farmers, which included a panel of no-tillers discussing their systems.

The regular commissioners meeting was held Feb. 14.

MARCH

A neighborhood meeting was held at Assistant Commissioner Ray Crock's residence March 7.

Commissioners Joel Brown and William Davidson II, and D. C. White attended the spring regional meeting in Iowa City March 8.

The annual awards banquet was held in conjunction with the Master Corn Growers banquet March 10.

The regular commissioners meeting was held March 14. Another assistant commissioner was appointed - Richard Kreinbring.

Ken Muller, Assistant Commissioner Darrell Brown and D. C. White spoke to all teachers at the Tipton school for in-service day in the morning March 23.

Also on the 23rd, Stan Simmons (Area Office), Assistant Commissioner Darrell Brown, Judy Eiselstein and D. C. White held a watershed planning meeting for 6 landowners in a 235 acre watershed.

A no-till meeting was held in the evening March 23 at the courthouse. Lynn Schultz, a no-tiller from Clinton County, was the guest speaker.

APRIL

Commissioners Joel Brown and William Davidson, and D. C. White spoke with a cooperator in regard to a soil loss complaint April 11.

The district and Cedar County Sportsmans Club sponsored a project and purchased 10 wildlife packets to be given away to local landowners to be planted and maintained for wildlife purposes.

The district sold 1,225 trees and shrubs to county landowners.

The Conservation Education Committee met April 21. The regular commissioners meeting was held April 11.

MAY

The second year of publication of the District Newsletter began in May.

The regular commissioners meeting was held May 12. Outstanding cooperator awards were picked: New Cooperator - Kelly Cedar Farms by Bert Kelly, Owner - Operator award - John Powell, and Landlord-Tenant award - George Nopoulos and Lloyd Becker. The Outstanding Teacher nominated was Margaret Sadeghpour from Lincoln elementary.

JUNE

The District held a no-till twilight tour at the Steve Scott, George Driscoll and Glenn Kurth farms June 6.

Commissioner Joel Brown met with the board of supervisors about the soil loss complaint.

The regular commissioners meeting was held June 13.

JULY

Five landowners, commissioners, Dave Egli, Student Trainee, and D. C. White held a group meeting to discuss a group terrace job July 21.

A terrace demonstration day was held by a local contractor on some recently built narrow-base terraces July 22.

A meeting was held for no-tillers to explore the possibility of establishing a no-till club.

The regular commissioners meeting was held July 11.

AUGUST

A no-till field tour was held Aug. 2 at the Wayne Frederick farm as a no-till club meeting.

Commissioner Randall Shaul, Dave Egli, Student Trainee; and D. C. White attended 2 planning meetings for the Farm Progress Show Aug. 18.

The regular commissioners meeting was held Aug. 8.

SEPTEMBER

A going-away party was held for David and Cindy White Sept. 3.

The Education Committee met Sept. 8 and organized for the 1983-84 school year goals.

A meeting to coordinate the Master Corn Growers and No-Till Contest was held Sept. 13.

Commissioner Jim Bowie and D. C. White attended the fall regional meeting in Iowa City Sept. 13.

Commissioners Jim Bowie and Robert Niermeyer volunteered their time to work at the Farm Progress Show near Marion Sept. 27 and 28.

At the regular commissioners meeting Sept. 12, 2 guests attended: Kris Anderson, 5th grade teacher at Tipton, gave a presentation of the teachers' camp she attended; and Stewart Park, Green Thumb representative, explained his program to the group.

OCTOBER

The annual soil judging contest was held Oct. 3. Three schools participated in the event.

The regular commissioners meeting was held Oct. 10.

NOVEMBER

Commissioner Randall Shaul constructed 13 soil boxes to aid the youth in seeing how crop residues can protect soil from erosion. The boxes were delivered to various schools in November.

The education committee met and organized an "Environmental Education Newsletter" to be published seasonally throughout the year.

The regular commissioners meeting was held Nov. 14.

Assistant Commissioner Darrell Brown attended the SCD annual conference in Des Moines. Margaret Sadeghpour, teacher at Lincoln Community School, received the Outstanding Educator Of The Year award from the Iowa Department of Soil Conservation.

The District sponsored a no-till poster contest, put on by the Cedar County No-Till Club. Marie Sides' 7th grade class participated in the contest.

DECEMBER

Commissioners Joel Brown, Randall Shaul and Bill Davidson attended the Iowa Soil 2000 meeting in Iowa City in December.

The district held its annual no-till contest. Gary Ciha,

Lisbon, won the contest for the 2nd straight year.

The regular commissioners meeting was held Dec. 12.

Soil Conservation Works



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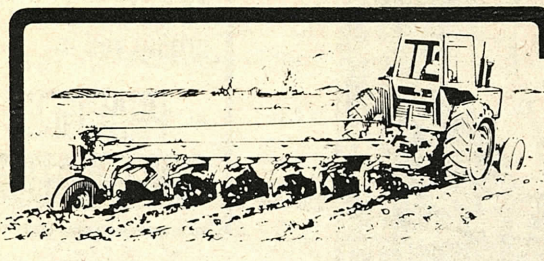
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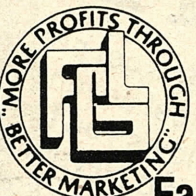
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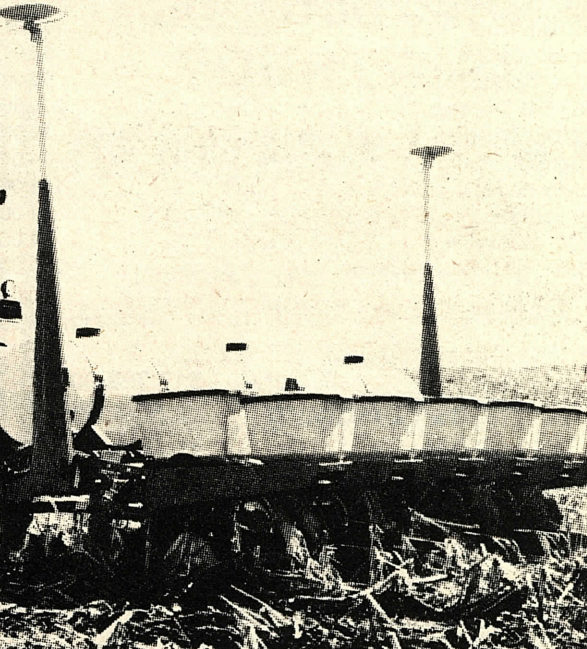
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1983 Soil District Annual Report

SOIL DISTRICT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The following indicates the District's Accomplishments reported for the 1983 Fiscal Year ending September 30, 1983:

Tile Outlet Terraces.....	17,310	FT
Sediment & Water Control Basins.....	7,790	FT
Conservation Tillage & No-Till.....	4,636	AC
Windbreaks.....	24	NO
Ponds.....	2	NO
Cropland Benefited.....	4,848	AC
Other Land Benefited.....	26	AC
Cropland Adequately Protected.....	1,891	AC
Other Land Adequately Protected.....	25	AC
Cropland Adequately Treated.....	221	AC
Other Land Adequately Treated.....	15	AC
Individuals & Groups Assisted.....	383	NO
Individuals & Groups Applying		
Conservation Practices.....	96	NO
Conservation Plans.....	1,128	AC
Conservation Alternatives Given.....	1,567	AC
New Cooperators.....	30	NO
	7,038	AC

NEW DISTRICT COOPERATORS FOR 1983

Philip Urmie, Ralph Billick, Robert Flockhart, Don Pearson, Dennis and Craig Pearson, Julia Hargrave, Edward F. Koutny, Keith Conner, Edward Crock, Hilbert Stoll, J. William Jilovec, David Hubler, E. Ted Pence, Melvin Deerberg, William B. Norton, Raymond Gehrls, Douglas Beuthien, Dennis Jones, Weslie Timmerman, Donohoe Ltd. by John Donohoe, John P. Donohoe, Frank J. Kintzel, Fraseur Equipment Co. by Jack Fraseur, Dean Weih, Robert K. Schneider, Dewell's Livestock Haven, Inc. by Larry Dewell, Gene Eiselstein, Charles Moffit and Elmer Hagge.

1983 DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS

Joel Brown, Chairman Pioneer Township
Robert Niermeyer, Vice-Chairman. Fairfield Township
William Davidson II Fremont Township
Randall Shaull Red Oak Township
Jim Bowie Center Township

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONERS

Darrell Brown Center Township
Richard Kreinbring Inland Township
Ray Crock Jr. Center Township
Wayne Kappeler Farmington Township
Steve Driscoll Cass Township

FIELD OFFICE STAFF

David L. White. District Conservationist
Kurtis F. Hoeft District Conservationist (11/83)
Judy Hagan Eiselstein. Soil Conservation Technician
Melanie B. Schott..... District Clerk
Don H. Miner Soil Conservation Aid

SCS AREA OFFICE PERSONNEL

Eldon C. Weber Area Conservationist
Lyle W. Asell Area Conservationist (05/83)
Dean Pettit..... Resource Conservationist

Tom Brown Civil Engineer
Sue Long Civil Engineer
Kent Rice..... Civil Engineer
Stan Simmons..... Engineering Technician
Ronald Wilson..... Engineering Technician
David Kennedy Engineering Technician
Darlene Lauder..... Area Clerk
Suzette Betts Area Secretary

OTHER AGENCIES

Ken Muller..... County Extension Director
Steve Swinonos District Forester
George Warford..... Assistant District Forester
Bob Middendorf..... Fishery Biologist
Timothy Thomsen ... Wildlife Management Biologist
Jim Troendle County Conservation Board
Donald Conrad.. ASCS County Executive Director
Owen Demo FmHA County Supervisor

EXPENDITURES OF FUNDS PROVIDED BY THE STATE OF IOWA

1982-83 Fiscal Year	
1-M Budget	Allocation \$1,720.69
Commissioners Expenses.....	\$1,034.25
Office Supplies.....	72.42
Prizes for Contests.....	225.74
Office Expenses.....	388.28
TOTAL SPENT	\$1,720.69

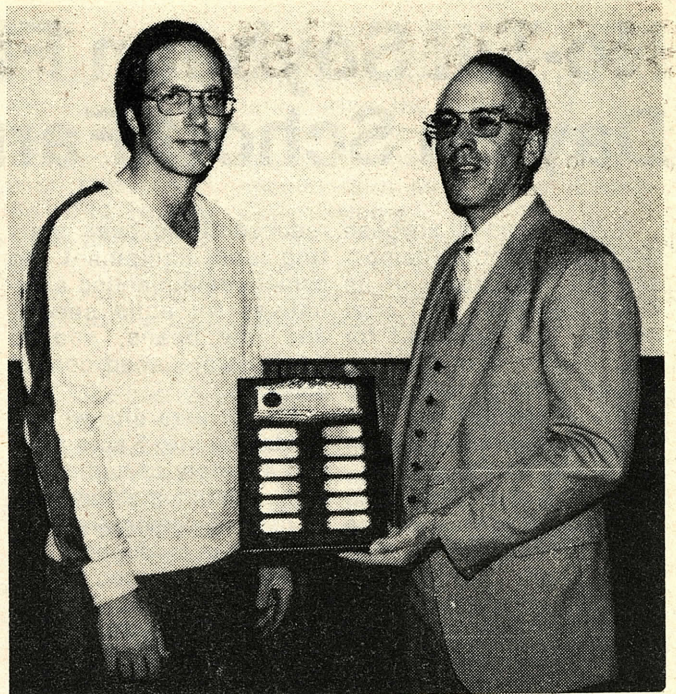
111-M Budget	Allocation \$38,282.00
Amount Spent.....	\$31,458.96
Amount Obligated.....	6,015.07
Released 12/31/84.....	807.97

RAINDROPS

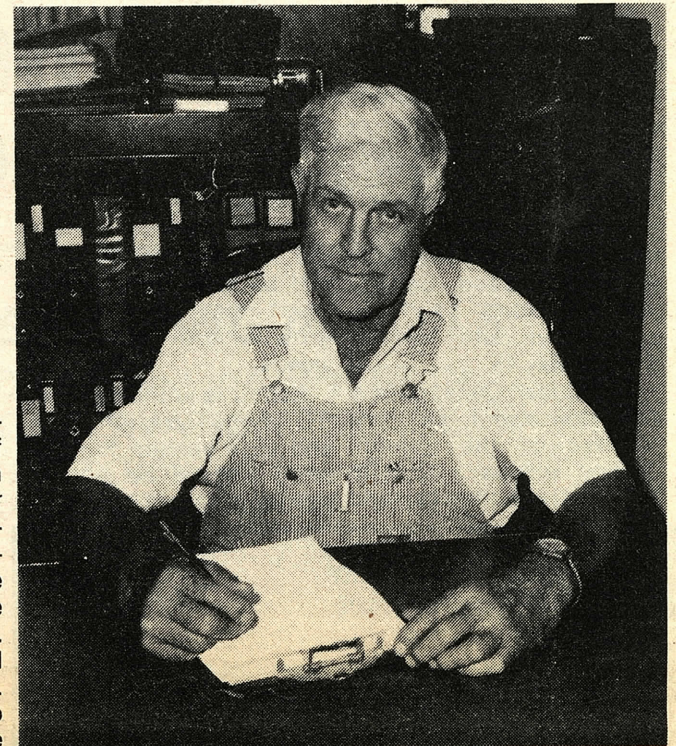
A single rain drop seems harmless until it joins the millions to make an inch of rainfall. Did you know the impact energy of 30 inches of rainfall (Iowa's average) on a square mile of land equals the energy produced by 10,000 tons of TNT? That's only 3,000 tons short of the explosive power of the atomic bomb dropped on Hiroshima!

This happens every year.

Iowa's soil needs protection from that kind of destructive force. On cropland, many Cedar County farmers are protecting their soil with conservation tillage. They leave crop residue on top of the ground instead of plowing. It saves them time and money, as well as soil. These farmers help keep sediment, our number one pollutant by volume, out of our lakes and streams.



Randall Shaull, left, received the 1983 Outstanding Commissioner Award from Cedar SCD Chairman Joel Brown.



Don Miner, Soil Conservation Aide thru the Green Thumb Program.

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No-Till Soybean Field Day on Schott Farm May 8

A 70 acre no-till soybean field day planting demonstration, the largest of its kind ever held in Cedar county, has been set for May 8 at 1 p.m. on the Robert Schott farm. The site is located 3 miles west of Tipton, one mile south on gravel and 3/4 mile west. Those attending the demonstration should take the north fairgrounds road west from Tipton. The blacktop road is county road F-28.

There will be a lot of activity at the Schott farm, with some of the events scheduled to attract a large number of manufacturers and eastern Iowa farmers. Events on the Schott farm will include the use of 6 to 8 no-till and minimum till soybean drills, a demonstration of solid seeding of soybeans, a variety of planters, a herbicide demonstration, 14 herbicide combinations, including early pre-plant, and an Iowa State University weed control demonstration.

The rain date for the event is May 15.

Ken Muller, Cedar county extension agent, said the purpose of the demonstration will be 3 fold: To demonstrate no-till and learn a lot about no-till from

reduced-till soybean planting and equipment, to demonstrate planting alternatives for solid seeded and row beans, and to demonstrate weed control methods.

The 70 acre site will be divided up into 5 acre plots and a variety of herbicides and planting methods will be used to demonstrate no-till soybean production.

The field selected for the demonstration is located to the east of the Schott home and was planted in corn in 1983. The stalks have been untouched since harvest. The weed history of the field includes foxtail, smartweed, dogbane, buttonweed, nightshade, bindweed, jimsonweed and Canadian thistle.

In addition to the May 8 field days, there will also be a mid-season field day and a harvest field day. Dates will be set later.

Muller and Schott said the mid-season field day will be used to check on plant emergence, crop growth and injury, and weeds.

Schott is enthused about the demonstration plans and says eastern Iowa farmers should be able to learn a lot about no-till from

the people who will be on the site during the 3 field days.

Most of the plots will be no-till, but several will not, so that comparisons can be made between the different methods used on the land.

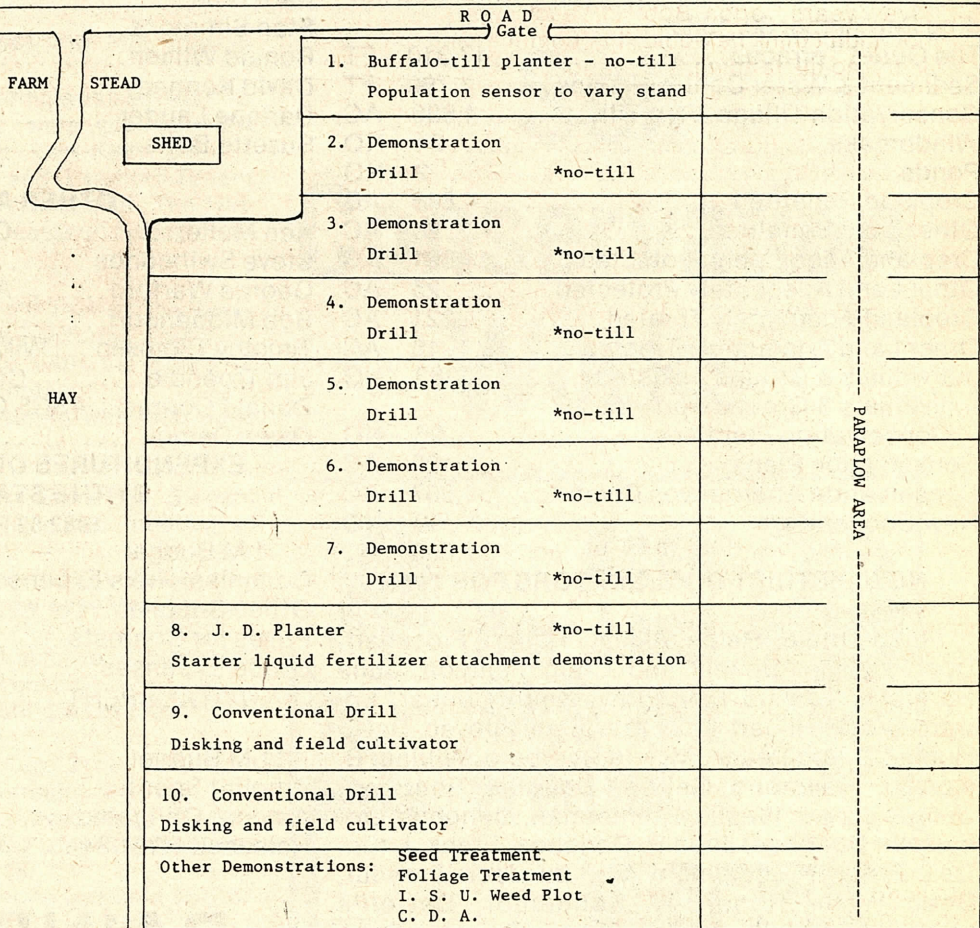
Schott also said the field days will provide a great opportunity for farmers to talk to representatives of equipment, chemical and seed companies.

The Cedar county farmer also plans to include some no-till corn planting and will work on a hay field with a foliage treatment.

If the weather cooperates, Muller and Schott expect to have a large turnout for the May 8 event. It is sponsored by Schott, who is the host; the Cedar County Extension Service and the Cedar County Conservation District.

No-Till Soybean Field Layout

FIELD LAYOUT



SAVE THE SOIL

Bulk P & K spread by host
*Tillage - no-till preferred where designated - light disk and field cultivator available if desired



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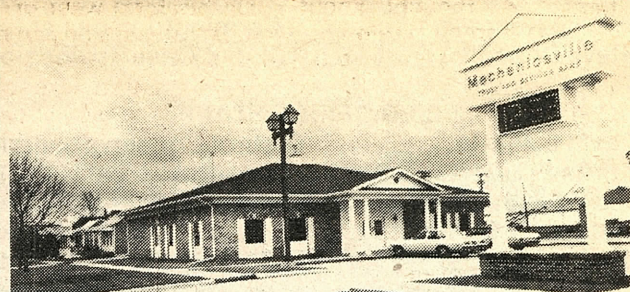
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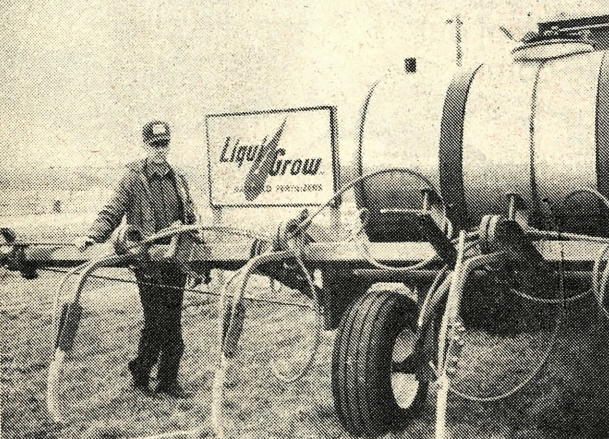
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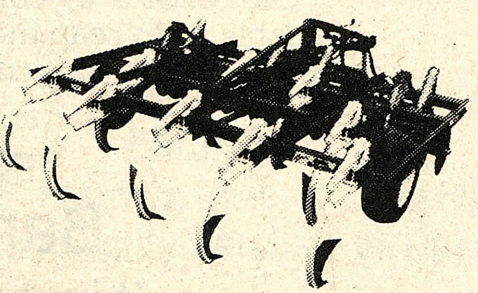
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Bob Schott Believes In, Uses No-Till Farming

Five years ago Bob Schott didn't think he would ever try no-till farming. He had been plowing up his fields "forever" and simply figured that what worked in the past would work in the future.

Today the rural Tipton farmer thinks differently.

Beginning 3 years ago, Bob Schott converted part of his farming operation to no-till and he has increased the number of no-till acres every year since then. This year he will plant 325 acres of no-till corn and another 70 acres of no-till beans.

The corn acres follow soybean stubble and the soybean acres follow corn stubble.

The question Schott is sometimes asked is: "What made you decide to try no-till and do you plan to stay with it?"

Not surprisingly, 2 of Schott's children played a very big part in the changes he has made on the family farm. "I have a daughter, Melanie, who works at the Soil Conservation Service office in Tipton and one of my sons, Tom, is a student at Iowa State University in Ames. They always talked about conservation and they left pamphlets on the table where I drink my coffee."

Pamphlets Sparked Interest

Schott said he started to read the pamphlets, which told about the advantages of no-till and conservation, and they sparked his interest. He thought about trying 20 acres of no-till, went to a no-till show at the Five Seasons Center in Cedar Rapids, talked with farmers already using no-till and continued to read about the subject.

In a short time, he was a believer in the conservation advantages of no-till farming.

He says the use of no-till on his farm has gone very well in the past 3 years and he has had no real problems. He has increased the number of acres in no-

till each year, confirming his commitment to conservation.

Schott says he was cautious at first, as most people are.

"It's harder for older people to change," he said. Working the fields in the spring "is like a disease, you see your neighbors plowing and you want to get out there too."

The Tipton farmer says Melanie and Tom are pleased at the changes that have been made and he is glad they left those pamphlets on the table. Before returning to Iowa State, Tom also worked for the Soil Conservation Service in Waukon, so Bob wasn't really surprised at the efforts his children made to get him to make the switch.

Other Advantages

Schott says there are other advantages to no-till besides saving the soil. He says he also saves time and money.

Although the slump in the farm economy has had a severe effect on many farmers, Schott says it has produced one positive result. Today he knows more farmers are turning to no-till because they really "can't afford" to farm like they have in the past.

"The economy is forcing people to use no-till," Schott said, "and that will preserve soil. We have to, because the good lord isn't making any more."

Eliminates Trips

On his farm west of Tipton, Schott says he can now use less equipment and smaller tractors to get his planting done every spring. He has also drastically reduced the number of trips he must make over a field to get his planting done. In fact, with some of the changes he has made in his operation, he says he will eliminate 3 trips over his fields this spring.

As part of his effort to save soil, time, fuel and money, Schott recently started work on a system

that allows him to apply liquid fertilizer while he is going through his fields with his bean drill and corn planter.

Using yards of white tubing, 2 manifolds and an electric pump, Schott has added the capacity to apply liquid fertilizer to his 30-row bean drill.

Fertilizer With Seed

The system allows Schott to apply the liquid fertilizer, at the rate of about 3 gallons per acre, right in the row with the seed. He notes that the application of fertilizer in the row cannot be heavy, or the seed will not germinate.

Last year, Schott had his fertilizer applied on top of the soil and disced it in. This year he expects the new system to save time and money, while giving him better emergence and better yields.

One problem which farmers who have used the system have had is not knowing when the equipment shaft has stopped turning during planting. Schott says he has solved that problem with the development of a shaft monitor which beeps when there is a problem.

Monitors Equipment

The monitor, which is being marketed as "The Fault Catcher," beeps in the tractor cab 15 seconds after equipment failure. Schott says the alternative to using a monitor, is to try to watch the equipment shaft and he says "There is no way you can see it" at all times.

Schott's interest in no-till farming and in alternative types of equipment prompted him to become involved in a large soybean demonstration plot project this year on his farm.

Seventy acres of demonstration plots will be planted with a variety of equipment, using different chemicals and farming methods. (See related story).

Schott says he is taking part because of his interest in no-till farming and an ever increasing belief that farmers have to save the soil they have or they will lose it forever.

Did You Know?

Iowa has 1,050 areas managed by conservation boards.

The areas contain 79,000 acres.

Cedar county has 466 of those acres.

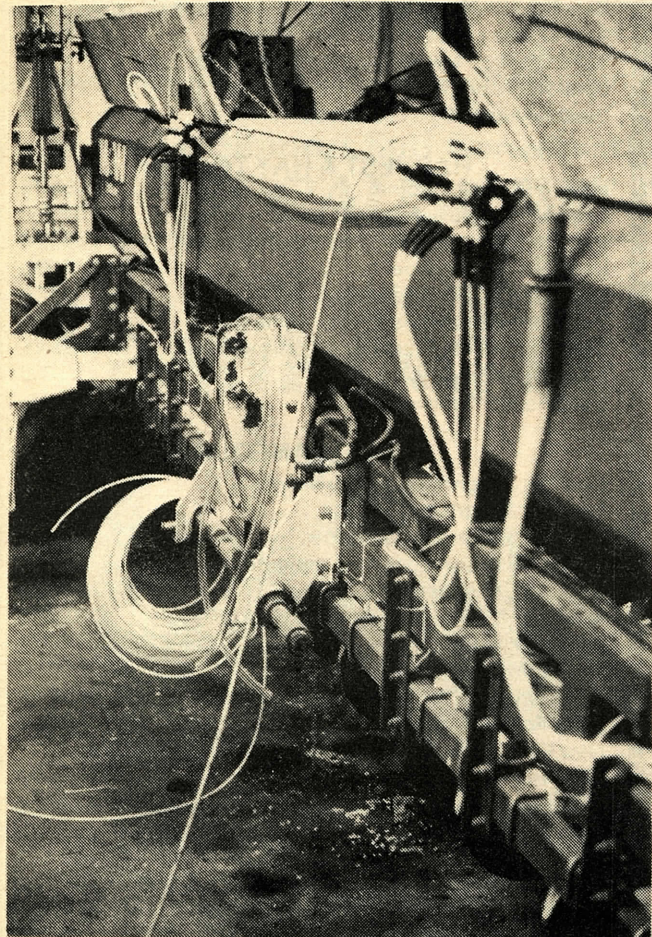
Cedar county has a population of 18,675.

The population to recreation acres ratio is 40 people per acre.

The state average is 36.9 people per acre.

The ideal population to recreation area ratio is 15 to 20 people per acre.

**SAVE
THE
SOIL**



Bob Schott recently completed work on a fertilizer system for his bean drill. Liquid fertilizer is pumped through the white tubes on the drill and is applied with the seed.



Bob Schott looks over the direct drive fertilizer he uses with his bean drill and electric pump that circulates the liquid corn planter.

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Select The Terraces That Fit Your Farm

Several types of terraces are available so farmers can fit terraces to their land and farming operations.

All terraces operate on the principle of cutting long slopes into a series of shorter slopes to reduce erosion. All are designed to hold 2 inches of runoff water from the area above.

A farmer needs to weigh the advantages and disadvantages of the various terrace types and decide which best fits his farm:

Narrow-Based

The narrow-base terrace has become popular recently in Cedar County. They can be constructed on slopes up to 14%. Its side view is a triangle with 2



NARROW BASE

- Safety advantage: steep foreslope and backslope are not farmed
- May be built on slope up to 14 percent
- Intake pipes are not out in cropland
- Lowest cost, least soil moved in construction, maintenance may be more difficult

Grass-Backslope

Grassed - backslope terraces allow the uphill side of the terrace to be farmed. The downhill side is seeded to grass and taken out of production. The

slope below the terrace becomes flat over time. Cost of grass-backslope terraces is between that of narrow-base and broad-base terraces.



GRASS BACKSLOPE

- Has a steep backslope which isn't farmed
- May be built on slopes up to 18 percent
- Provides flatter area to farm
- Construction requires less soil than broadbase
- Cost is in between other two terrace types

Broad-Base

The broad-base terrace takes no land out of production and was the fir-



BROAD BASE

- Allows farming over the whole terrace
- May be built on slopes up to 8 percent
- Construction results in steeper land slope
- Highest cost, more soil moved in construction

st type of terrace constructed in Cedar County. This type of terrace should not be used on slopes steeper than 8%. The slopes on the downhill side of the terrace are steeper than before construction. Construction costs for broad-base terraces are high because of the amount of soil needed.

Cost-share funds for building terraces are available from the Cedar Soil Conservation District. Landowners are eligible for 50% cost-share for terrace work.

Terraces are only one part of a conservation system. Other practices such as crop rotation and conservation tillage are usually needed in conjunction with terraces to control soil erosion.

Education Group Active In 1983

Active members on Cedar county's conservation education committee in 1983 were Darrell Brown, assistant SCD commissioner; David White, district conservationist; Ken Muller, extension director; Melanie Schott, Cedar SCD clerk; Marie Sides and Kris Anderson, Tipton middle school; Margaret Sadeghpour, Lincoln elementary; Linda McHard, West Branch; Kathy Beck, Clarence-Lowden; Elaine Behrens, Durant; Steve Koopmann, Bennett; Kurt Hoeft, district conservationist (11/83) and Jim Troendle, executive officer Cedar county conservation board.

These members meet the 2nd Thursday of September, November, February, and April. Some projects the group has worked on include routing around a display board showing conservation practices, using soil boxes to show erosion on different types of residues left in the field (constructed by Randall Shaul, soil commissioner), sharing conservation activities at each meeting, Margaret Sadeghpour (Lincoln) started an "outdoor classroom" with tree seedlings and different types of prairie grasses, the group publishes a "Seasonal Environmental Education Newsletter" which is distributed by members to each school, the group has an objective to send a teacher each year to "Teacher Camp" and a student to "Youth Leadership Camp," and one member is responsible to write an article for each issue of the district's newsletter throughout the year.

Each year nominations are accepted for the "Conservation Education Teacher of The Year" award. This year's candidate was Margaret Sadeghpour from Lincoln Elementary. We are proud to announce once again that Margaret won first place as conservation educator K-7 grade for Iowa and now she is in national competition.

The Conservation Education Committee is sponsored solely by the Cedar Soil Conservation District with money making projects that include tiling flag sales, interseeder rental and tree seedling sales. A "thank-you" goes to everyone participating in these programs.



No-Till Contest Award winners, l-r, Buell Jackson & Sons by Gary Jackson, 2nd place no-till; Ciha Farms by Gary

Ciha, 1st place no-till and Joel Brown, SCD chairman, presenting the awards.



John Powell, left, received the "Owner-Operator" division of the Outstanding Cooperator awards. Others, l-r, are Randall Shaul, 1983 Outstanding Commissioner Award; Kelly Cedar Farms by Bert Kelly, "New Cooperator" division of

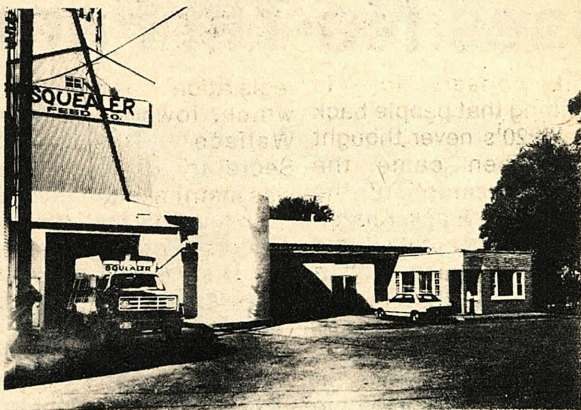
the Outstanding Cooperator awards; Joel Brown, chairman of the Cedar SCD, presented the awards. "Landlord-Tenant" Outstanding Cooperator award was given to George Nopoulos and Lloyd Becker.



Cedar SCD Chairman Joel Brown presented awards to, l-r, Bob Gregory for 1st place soil judging at Tipton; Jon Hillman for 1st place soil judging at Bennett; Brian Wildman for 1st place soil

judging at West Branch and Margaret Sadeghpour from Lincoln Community-Outstanding Conservation Teacher award.

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Used Ford 6600, All Purpose D	14,500
Used Ford 9600, Cozy cab	12,250
Used Ford 8600, less cab	9,750
Used JD 2640 w/Roll bar	11,250
Used Oliver 1600 w/loader	3,950
Used Ford 9000, no cab, nice	9,750
Used Ford 515 Ind. tractor, D, IPTO, 3 pt., HD ldr.	12,950
IH 756, 3 pt., nice	7,250
Used Ford LGT 100	2,175

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NEW Kewanee 1100 disk, 21'2", flex wing	8,250
Used Kewanee 1020 Flex-wing disk 21'	5,750
Used Bush Hog 15 1/2" disk w/harrow	2,875
Used Kewanee 750 Disk 14'6"	3,750
New Glencoe 11'3" stretch frame Soil Saver	6,500
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New Glencoe Soil Saver harrows	975
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New Ford 6rn Danish shank cult. w/coulters	1,575
New Lindsay 4 sect. harrow and cart	1,450
Used Glencoe 4rw HD cultivator w/shields	1,775
Used Noble 6rn vibra shank w/shields	1,475
Used Kewanee 3 pt. rotary hoe	750

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New NH TR85 combine	SAVE
Used NH 962N6 corn head	\$5,750
Used NI 325 narrow row picker w/husk bed	5,250
Used NH 489 haybine	6,750
New NH 855 round baler, hyd. tie	12,500
Used NH 489 haybine 9' floating header	6,750
Used NH 258 hayrake 9 1/2', w/dolly wheel	SAVE
New NH 80 bale mover, 3 pt.	350
Used Ford 515 mower	675

MISCELLANEOUS

New NH 355 grinder, hyd. drive, scale	SAVE
New NH 353 grinder	SAVE
New NH 679 tandem spreader, hyd. endgate	\$7,250
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Cedar County Soil Conservation District Provides Assistance To Area Farmers

Soil conservation is something that people back in the 1920's never thought about. Then came the "Black Blizzards" of the 1930's. The "Black Blizzards," commonly called the Dust Bowl, began with a drought in the Great Plains. Great clouds of dust rolled eastward, as far as 200 miles out to sea. Many farmers suffered in those years and many lost their farms because of a lack of income from their farms.

In 1935, federal legislation established the Soil Conservation Service in the U.S. Department of Agriculture. In 1937, Soil Conservation Districts

legislation was drafted, in which Iowa's Henry A. Wallace (then U.S. Secretary of Agriculture) was instrumental.

The Iowa General Assembly passed the Soil Conservation Districts Law in 1939. The Soil Conservation Districts Laws in 1939. The Soil Conservation Districts Law, Chapter 467A of the Code of Iowa, states that it is the policy of the legislature to "...provide for the restoration and conservation of the soil and soil resources of this state. ... between 1940 and 1952, 100 Iowa Soil Conservation Districts were chartered.

Iowa Soil Conservation

Districts coincide with county boundaries, with the exception of Pottawattamie County, which is divided into an east and west district, forming the 100 Soil Conservation Districts in 99 counties.

Each Soil Conservation District is governed by 5 commissioners, each from a different township within the district. In Cedar County the commissioners are: Bill Davidson, Fremont township; Jim Bowie, Center township; Robert Niemeyer, Fairfield township; Joel Brown, Pioneer township and Randall Shaull, Red Oak township. These commissioners were elected

in the general election on a non-partisan ballot. They serve staggered 6 year terms and are charged by the state with the restoration and conservation of the soil and water and related resources of the county. The commissioners serve without pay in giving direction to the Soil Conservation District.

Your Soil Conservation District, with help from the U.S. Department of Agriculture Soil Conservation Service, provides technical assistance in planning, design, adherence to specifications and maintenance of soil conservation practices. They also provide up-to-date

educational material and programs for classroom use and through the mass media. Each year the district administers state cost-share funds, where the state shares the cost of conservation measures with the landowner.

In 1972, Iowa became the first state in the nation to develop a state funded cost-share program. In Cedar County funds are used mainly for terracing and first-time no-tillers. The cost-share rate is 50% for voluntary cooperation in installing permanent soil conservation measures.

Cost-share for first-time no-tillers is \$10 per acre for a maximum of 20 acres. The Soil Conservation

District also investigates soil loss limit complaints. Landowners receiving sediment damage resulting from excessive soil erosion of another farmer's property may file a complaint in writing with the Soil Conservation District. The complaint is investigated and if soil loss limits are being violated, voluntary abatement by the landowner is sought. If compliance is not gained voluntarily, a procedure can be initiated to require compliance.

Your Cedar County Soil Conservation District is at your service. Assistance with any conservation problem is free of charge to residents of the district. If you have any questions please call our office at 886-6214 or stop by for a visit at 1201 North Avenue in Tipton.

Hay Marketing Association Need Is Studied

In mid-February, a meeting was held to investigate the formation of a Hay Marketing Association in east central Iowa. The initial meeting focused on the interest and need for more forage production in Cedar, Clinton, Jackson, Jones and Scott counties. Other items discussed included how a Hay Marketing Association might help increase the productivity and profitability of forages, and how an association might help with marketing of forage crops.

A steering committee consisting of producers, extension directors, representatives of the Soil Conservation Districts and agri-business was formed to determine the need for a Hay Marketing Association. The Hay Growers

Marketing Association progress to date includes:

- Association's primary objective: Developing markets for hay/straw to make forage production a profitable cropping alternative.

- Appointed a representative from each county to draw up an initial constitutional / organizational framework for the association.

- Established a committee to organize the first association sponsored forage meeting.

Cedar county's forage meeting will be held May 24, at 1:30 p.m. at Gordon Collier's farm, located 3 miles west and 3 miles north of Tipton. At these meetings the association's objectives and the organizational framework will be presented. A board

of directors will also be elected. Plans are to elect one producer per county to serve on the board of directors, with one alternate producer per county.

Some activities the association might be involved with include: organizing hay auctions, locating hay buyers, developing and distributing a directory listing hay for sale, establishing a local hay grading system, and informational activities.

Potential exists to make hay a profitable, desirable alternative to continuous row cropping. The profit potentials, the diversification, and the conservation benefits of increased hay production in east central Iowa makes a Hay Marketing Association an attractive idea, according to association organizers.

Short Of Pasture? Try Warm Season Grasses

If you run short of pasture during July and August, warm season grasses may be your answer, according to Kurt Hoeft, district conservationist for the Soil Conservation Service.

Native warm season grasses such as big bluestem, Indiangrass and switchgrass begin growing in May and produce 60 to 70% of their growth during July and August. In contrast, bluegrass and smooth brome grass are "cool season" grasses. They produce their highest yields and have their best nutritional value in spring and autumn.

Anyone who has limited grazing in the summer

should strongly consider planting and managing warm season grasses.

For the average livestock farm in Cedar County, 25% of the pasture land should be in warm season grasses with the rest maintained in cool season grasses and legumes. This combination will provide prime forage production for a 6 month grazing season.

Last summer there were several stands of warm season grasses grazed in Iowa. The carrying capacity and production was good despite the drought and high temperatures. One farm from Muscatine County reported grazing 24 head

of cattle on 14 acres of switchgrass during a 5

week period in July and early August.

If warm season grasses are not in your plans, your present cool season grasses may be as productive as warm season grasses. By including legumes with the cool-season grasses, an ample supply of high-quality forage can be produced during the mid-summer. The best legumes to include with your cool-season grasses are birdsfoot trefoil, crownvetch, alfalfa or red clover.

Cattlemen should consider the possibility of improving their summer grazing with warm season grasses or interseeding legumes.

HAY MEETING

DEMONSTRATIONS AND DISCUSSION ON SELLING AND BUYING HAY AND STRAW

Thursday, May 24, 1984

1:30 P. M.

Gordon Collier Farm
(3 miles west, 3 miles north of Tipton)

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BEAT THE INSECTS - scouting, spraying, cutting, regrowth
Dr. Foster, I. S. U. Entomologist

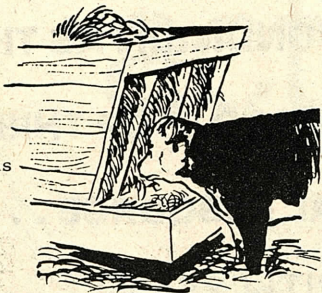
CUTTING MANAGEMENT FOR HIGH QUALITY HAY
Dr. Barnhart, I. S. U. Forage Specialist

DISEASE CONTROL - varieties, stands, fertility
Ken Hall, I. S. U. Forage Specialist

MARKETING HAY AND STRAW -
- Possible hay and straw listing and auctions (bring buyer and seller together)
- New markets for hay
- Hay steering committee proposal

#####

Put this date on your calendar.



HAY AND STRAW SURVEY

Send reply to: Extension Office, c/o Ken Muller
County Extension Director
P. O. Box 230
Tipton, IA 52772

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Clinton, Cedar, Jackson, Jones and Scott counties are initiating a hay and straw producer's marketing activity. Listings of hay and straw will be published and auctions scheduled. Please check appropriate answers:

Yes	No	
☐	☐	Would you raise more forages if there was a better market?
☐	☐	Do you want to know more about the marketing association?
☐	☐	Would you have hay or straw to sell in 1984-1985 and the future?
☐	☐	Would you be interested in obtaining the hay and straw listing and auction dates?
Do you have concerns about any of the following forage problems?		
☐	☐	yields and quality
☐	☐	storage and preservatives
☐	☐	insects and diseases
☐	☐	feeding forages
☐	☐	erosion control
☐	☐	stands
☐	☐	equipment
☐	☐	new forage crops

Any suggestions: _____

Your name _____

SURVEY

Send reply to:
Extension Office, c/o Ken Muller
County Extension Director
P. O. Box 230
Tipton, IA 52772

"KILL THE ROSE" (MULTIFLORA ROSE)

Efforts are being made to eradicate this plant which has become a serious problem in pastures and woodlands. Please help by answering the following questions if you have the weed on land you own or operate:

- Rank severity:
Thick areas _____ Some plants _____ Few _____
& spreading & spreading plants acres
infested _____
- Your success at _____ Nearly _____ Making _____ Losing
controlling: eradicated progress the battle
- Do you feel farmers would work together to eradicate the rose from your township if help was provided? _____ yes _____ no
- Help you need the most (check all those appropriate):
☐ Cost share on chemicals
☐ Cost share on equipment (sprayers, chopping, etc.)
☐ Available labor (person or groups to hire)
☐ Aerial spraying (open areas where spraying could be done)
☐ More information (on chemicals, alternatives, etc.)
☐ Someone to stop at my farm for consultation
- Your suggestions to help guide these efforts: _____



Your name _____

ROAD SPRAYING (WEEDS AND BRUSH)

Keeping weeds and brush out of road right-of-ways is a county and landowner, operator responsibility. The county is planning a new approach based on priority and special spot spraying. More emphasis will be put on eradication vs. suppression. We need your help; check the appropriate responses:

- ☐ There is dense brush in ditches that needs spraying along property I own or operate or travel by.
- ☐ There are thistle patches in ditches along property I own, operate, or travel by.
- ☐ There are multiflora rose bushes in ditches along property I own, operate, or travel by.
- ☐ I need information on stump and brush control for fence row problems.
- ☐ I would like someone to stop or call about road spraying.
- ☐ Spraying in front of farmsteads is the owner's responsibility. Spraying will not be done unless requested. I would like to request spraying in front of my property and understand my liability.
- ☐ Our ditches are clear and spraying is not needed.

Any suggestions: _____

Your name _____

CEDAR COUNTY FARM FOR SALE

**[TOP HALF WASHED AWAY — SOME CAN BE
SEEN AT THE SAND BAR SOUTH OF ROCHESTER.
THE GOODY WENT ON TO THE GULF OF MEXICO.]**

ALL FIELDS SUITABLE TO WASH

This Farm has been handled on a Corn, Corn, Corn, Corn, rotation.
7 Missouri bridges make all fields accessible [by Pack Mule].
17 Medium-to-large Gullies - doing fine - Will be larger by time of sale.
1 Empty House, doors and windows missing, lean-to, 2 rooms and a path.
1 Leaning Barn to be moved on account of lack of storage for manure.
77 Bales of Mixed Grasses, mostly Tickle Grass.
72 Bales of Rag Weed, Sour Dock, Cocklebur Hay. [No Rain]
4 Mineral Deficient Cows. They are gentle, used to being tailed up in the winter.
Guaranteed to have rickets and no calves.
2 Springing Heifers - Would spring over the barn to be fed.
1 ¼ Mile of Fence with plenty of baling wire for repairs.
1 Sow and 2 Pigs; would eat anything.
17 Hens, used to roosting in trees.
Other articles too worthless to mention.

**Reason for selling : Owner going to work for a
CONSERVATION FARMER who has taken care of his soil.**

**WILL YOUR FARM EVER BE IN THE SAME CONDITION AS THE ONE DESCRIBED
ABOVE? WOULD YOU LIKE TO DO SOMETHING TO STOP THIS DESTRUCTIVE WASTE
OF OUR MOST PRECIOUS NATURAL RESOURCE . . . THE SOIL?**

— JOIN HANDS WITH YOUR —

**CEDAR COUNTY
SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT
CONSERVATION DOES NOT COST . . . IT PAYS!**

1ST National Bank of Tipton

