

KOSSUTH
SOIL AND WATER
CONSERVATION DISTRICT
F. Y. 91 ANNUAL REPORT



KOSSUTH SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

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DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS

Wendell Christensen, chairman.....	Wesley
Kenneth Brones, vice-chairman.....	Swea City
James F. Antoine.....	Bancroft
Robert Deal.....	Algona
Kent Seely.....	Algona

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONERS

John Simpson.....	Whittemore
Leon Laird.....	Algona
John Ley.....	Algona
John Sleper, Jr.....	Titonka
Amy Ahrends.....	Bancroft

FIELD OFFICE STAFF

William A. Gast.....	District Conservationist
John E. Skilling.....	Conservation Technician
Carolyn Marshall.....	State Secretary
Connie Zittritsch.....	WAE, district employee
Christie Peper.....	WAE (Feb-Apr)

-- CONSERVATION ACCOMPLISHMENTS --

July 1, 1990 - June 30, 1991

Individuals assisted.....	728
Individuals applying a conservation practice.....	157
Conservation plans prepared.....	4,619 ac.
Determinations completed on tracts with no highly erodible fields.....	143
Determinations completed on tracts with highly erodible fields (number).....	6
Determinations completed on tracts with highly erodible fields (acres).....	39 ac.
HEL tracts with approved conservation systems applied.(no.)	28
HEL tracts with approved conservation systems applied (ac.)	853 ac.
HEL tracts with approved conservation plan (no.).....	5
HEL tracts with approved conservation plan (ac.).....	73 ac.
HEL tracts with revised conservation plan (ac.).....	1,947 ac.
Conservation Cover (CRP).....	131 ac.
Conservation Tillage Systems.....	5,850 ac.
Contour Farming.....	112 ac.
Farmstead and Feedlot Windbreaks.....	16 ac.
Field Windbreaks.....	2,320 ft.
Grassed Waterways.....	7 ac.
Terraces.....	6,850 ft.
Waste Storage Structure.....	1
Water and Sediment Control Basins.....	8
Cropland Acres Treated.....	3,513 ac.

-- FINANCIAL STATEMENT --

STATE FUNDS

1-M ACCOUNT

Allocation received on 7/1/91		\$ 3,700.00
Disbursements		
Commissioners Travel Expenses	\$ 931.18	
Office Supplies and Expenses	2,766.24	
Reverted to DSC	<u>2.58</u>	
Total Disbursements		<u>3,700.00</u>
Balance in account on 6/30/91.....		\$ 0.00

3-M ACCOUNT

89-90 Allocation received		\$28,450.00
Funds Spent		-3,693.07
Funds Recalled by DSC		<u>-24,756.93</u>
Unobligated balance in account on 6/30/91.....		\$ 0.00

90-91 Allocation received		\$34,790.00
Funds obligated, project not completed		<u>-3,750.00</u>
Unobligated balance in account on 6/30/91.....		\$31,040.00

REAP-PRACTICE FUNDS:

89-90 Allocation received		\$13,095.00
Funds spent		-6,713.68
Funds obligated, project not completed		<u>-6,381.32</u>
Unobligated balance in account on 6/30/91.....		\$ 0.00

90-91 Allocation received		\$27,280.00
Funds recalled by DSC		-6,611.00
Funds spent		<u>-1,790.41</u>
Unobligated balance in account on 6/30/91.....		\$18,878.59

REAP-FORESTRY/NATIVE GRASSES FUND:

90-91 Allocation received		\$10,415.00
Funds spent		-6,747.95
Funds obligated, project not completed		<u>- 800.00</u>
Unobligated balance in account on 6/30/91.....		\$ 2,867.05

DISTRICT FUNDS

CERTIFICATES OF DEPOSIT:

Balance in account on 7/1/90	\$29,235.70
Interest earned	2,466.76
Balance in account on 6/30/91.....	\$31,702.46

IDS INVESTMENT:

Balance in account on 7/1/90	\$20,000.00
Interest earned	+1,645.70
Transfer to Savings Account	-1,645.70
Balance in account on 6/30/91.....	\$20,000.00

SAVINGS ACCOUNT

Balance in account on 7/1/90	\$ 467.87
Transfer from IDS Investment (interest)	+1,645.70
Transfer to District Revolving Account	-1,850.00
Interest earned	13.61
Balance in account on 6/30/91.....	\$ 277.18

REVOLVING ACCOUNT

Balance in account on 7/1/90	\$ 626.53
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Deposits

Reimbursement--office supp/exp	\$2,850.00	
Transfer from Savings Account	1,850.00	
Reimbursement--dues	500.00	
Sale of flags and intakes	239.60	
Contributions to district program	155.51	
Total Deposits		5,595.11

Expenses

Dues	1,097.00	
Postage	939.99	
Education materials	766.22	
Annual dinner & comm meeting exp.	656.84	
Office supplies & expenses	571.69	
Telephone	449.76	
Tours/Information meetings	431.20	
Equipment (purchase & maintenance)	270.00	
Trees for 3's Day	217.91	
Plaques, awards, recognitions	160.05	
Flags & lath	114.58	
Subscriptions	78.90	
Sales tax	9.11	
Total Expenses		5,763.25

Balance in account on 6/30/91.....	\$ 458.39
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DISTRICT PAYROLL ACCOUNT:

Balance in account on 7/1/90	\$ 719.12
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Expenses

Wages Paid	\$563.72	
FICA, Fed. & State Withholding	153.23	
Transfer to Revolving Account	2.17	
Total Payroll Expense		719.12

Balance in account on 6/30/91.....	\$ 0.00
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- DISTRICT HIGHLIGHTS -

JULY

Deal, Brones, and Simpson attended a REAP training meeting in Emmetsburg.

AUGUST

Nancy Gormley, Whittemore Twp., was named county winner of the 1990 Izaak Walton League Windbreak award. Members of the local Izaak Walton League chapter assisted the commissioners in making the selection.

The first edition of the "Farming Highly Erodible Land" newsletter was mailed to all landowners and operators of farms with field which have been determined highly erodible.

The district adopted a supplemental memorandum of understanding with USDA ASCS.

The F.Y. 91 District Work Plan was approved.

SEPTEMBER

The district provided conservation education material dealing with water quality issues for grades K-8 in all schools in the county.

Christensen, Brones, and Gast attended the Fall Regional Commissioners' meeting held at Pocahontas.

OCTOBER

The second issue of "Farming Highly Erodible Land" newsletter dealing with fall tillage was mailed to FSA participants.

NOVEMBER

A Tree Planting Clinic held in Burt was well attended by area landowners. Dr. Paul Wray, ISU, was the featured speaker. The district forester and

Kossuth Co. Extension assisted with the meeting.

Christensen attended the annual conference of the Ia. Association of Soil & Water Conservation District Commissioners in Des Moines.

A district newsletter dealing with various conservation issues was mailed to all landowners and operators in the county.

DECEMBER

A Conservation Implementation Team was formed as part of a state wide effort to help farmers apply the conservation practices in their FSA plans. Member of this team include: Joseph Goche, Titonka; Ed Wilcox, Algona; Brad Greiman, Algona; Cliff Van Berkum, Swea City; Robert Thies, Algona; and, Michael Schmit, Algona.

The district's annual appreciation dinner was held at Sarah's Restaurant in Algona.

Twenty-six windbreak and tree planting applications were approved for REAP funding. Due to the unusually wet spring, only twelve projects were completed.

JANUARY

At the organizational meeting on January 2, officers for the district were elected: Wendell Christensen, chairman; Kenneth Brones, vice-chairman. Carolyn Marshall was appointed sec.-treas. John Simpson, John Slepser Jr., John Ley, Leon Laird, and Amy Ahrends were appointed as assistant commissioners.

Memorandums of understanding between the district and various governmental agencies and groups were reviewed by the board.

The district co-sponsored a Tri-County Expo addressing environmental concerns

at Emmetsburg. Dale Cochran, Iowa Sec. of Agriculture, was the keynote speaker. Other sponsors were Palo Alto & Emmet SWCD's and Ia. Lakes Community College.

Brones and Christensen attended commissioners' short course in Ames.

The district held a public meeting to gather data for their Soil & Water Conservation Resource Plan.

The third issue of "Farming Highly Erodible Land" newsletter was mailed to FSA participants.

FEBRUARY

Christensen presented plaques to the winners in the conservation tillage division of the Master Corn and Soybean Growers' contests. Steve Cherland of Lone Rock and Gerald Girres of Bode were the respective winners.

A letter requesting drainage history was mailed to land owners and operators of cropland in the north half of Kossuth Co. containing potential wetlands as determined by the SCS Wetland Inventory Team. In an effort to answer questions and assist producers in completing the drainage system worksheets, three information meetings were held in Ledyard and Bancroft.

Christie Peper began working as a WAE aid to assist with gather data for wetland determinations.

The Algona FFA Chapter presented the Kossuth SWCD its outstanding service award in recognition of the district's financial support of their soil judging program.

MARCH

A program on weed control in reduced tillage was held in Algona.

Six of thirteen bids submitted for the tenth CRP sign-up were accepted.

Brones and Christensen attended the Spring Regional Commissioners meeting at Pocahontas.

Dues in the amount of \$550 were paid to the National Association of Soil Conservation Districts and \$500 to the Ia. Association of Soil & Water Conservation Districts.

APRIL

Naturalist Amy Ahrends conducted conservation programs in all Kossuth Co. schools during Earth Week.

The 11th annual "Trees for 3's" outdoor classroom was held at Smith Lake for 325 Kossuth Co. 3rd graders. Each student received an Amur Maple seedling to plant.

The district awarded certificates and cash prizes to winners in the conservation poster contest. Mark Bonnstetter, Emily Zenter, and Julie Kollasch placed 1st, 2nd, and 3rd in the K-2 grade division. Mya Illg, Alana Davis, and Casey Fett took 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place honors in the 3-5 grade division. Eighty students participated in the contest.

Connie Zittritsch began working as a WAE aid, filling the position vacated by Christie Peper.

The 4th issue of "Farming Highly Erodible Land" newsletter was mailed.

MAY

Church bulletin covers were made available to all churches in observance of Soil Stewardship Week.

Rex Hamilton from the Soil & Water Conservation Society of America spent two days in Kossuth Co. reviewing wetland determinations.

JUNE

The potential wetland mailing was completed for the south half of Kossuth County. Informational meetings were held in Algona to assist landowners & operators in completing drainage system worksheets.

Virginia Seaberg, Wesley, volunteered 35 hours in F.Y. 91 to assist the field office in wetland mailings and update files.

