

A Special

Soil Conservation Supplement

ANNUAL REPORT

of the Dickinson County

Soil Conservation District



Soil erosion control; methods available

by Clarence Call
District Conservationist

There are many methods of controlling soil erosion. Some, such as terraces, are expensive and difficult to apply. Others, such as sowing the land back to grass, are not economically feasible. There is one practice that is relatively easy to apply, is inexpensive and would do an excellent job of controlling erosion on 80 percent of Dickinson County farmland. That practice is conservation tillage.

First of all, let's define conservation tillage. It simply means leaving as much crop residue on the surface as possible.

Leaving crop residue on the surface protects the soil from wind as well as water erosion. Not only the stalks break the face of the raindrops; they form little dams and barriers to keep the water from getting up a head of steam. If water isn't running fast, it doesn't have much erosive power. A half buried cornstalk also forms a good channel for water to enter the soil.

Much of the conservation tillage in Dickinson County is done by chiseling (cornstalks) in the fall, disking a couple of times in the spring and planting. Any method that will leave more than 3,000 pounds per acre of crop residue after planting is doing a good job.

The till-plant method is gaining somewhat in popularity in the area. This method plants in the old row with a sweep running ahead of the planter shoe to clear the old stalks out of the row. Most of the old crop residue is pushed to the center of the row. The slot planter works essentially the same way except that the seed is planted in a slot with no sweep ahead of the

planter shoe. The old crop residue is left intact until the field is cultivated.

Whatever method you use, remember that the important thing is to leave crop residue on the surface. By using conservation tillage methods, you are saving valuable time, fuel and most important - soil.

preserve our land-practice

Soil Conservation



Our most cherished possession is the land that we live on. The fields, forests and parks serve us all with an abundance of natural resources and beauty. Our lives are enriched by the treasures we reap from the land. And so it is for all of us to treat it with care.

Midwest Culvert Operations

WHEELER DIVISION - ST. REGIS PAPER COMPANY

Manufacturers of

CORRUGATED METAL DRAINAGE PIPE

BETTER MADE

LAST LONGER

Box 1349
420 Chambers Street

DICK TOMPKINS
SALES REPRESENTATIVE

Sioux City, Iowa
Telephone 255-3503



Clarence Call

Iowa land gets photographed daily

Iowa land is being photographed from the sky at least once every 18 days. And there is nothing secret about it!

This "high level" photography has been going on since 1973 as a result of the cooperation of several state and federal agencies. The mission: Provide photos to help set priorities for Iowa land use.

Each frame of the satellite photos records the land cover - buildings, forests and crops - over 12,700 square miles. That's an area 112 miles wide and 112 miles long.

These photos, combined with county soil survey reports are programmed into a mini-computer and make it possible to accurately assess land use. Iowa State University extension agronomist Gerald Miller explains that comparing data from different years gives an accurate assessment of land use change over time.

Analysis of the North Branch Watershed, which is located between Des Moines and Winterset, for example, reveals an increase in row crop acreage during 1973 - 78. The data shows potential soil loss from erosion increased as a result, Miller says.

Acres of prime agricultural land

converted to non-agricultural uses are easily determined using this system, the ISU agronomist notes. In addition, the effects of selected soil tillage practices on erosion can be measured.

It's a quick, easy, way to monitor land use changes. You can spread several years of multi-county area photos on a table top to compare them, he says. The floor space of a good sized room might have been needed to look at the same area using airplane photos. "But the real question is whether anyone would have gone to the trouble to do it," he says.

The Iowa program is coordinated by the Remote Sensing Laboratory of the Iowa Geological Survey, Iowa City. Other organizations participating in the program include the College of Agriculture, Iowa State University, Iowa Conservation Commission, and the state departments of agriculture, soil conservation and transportation. The state office of the U.S. Soil Conservation Service also works with these groups.

NASA's Earth Resources Laboratory, NSTL Station, Miss., coordinates training and provides assistance in evaluating the satellite information.

Invest in windbreaks

by Betty Farmer
State Clerk

Tree windbreaks are good investments on farms. Windbreaks protect people, farmsteads, gardens, orchards, soils, field crops, livestock, wildlife and public facilities from the extremes of the climate.

What can tree windbreaks do to moderate the damaging effects of wind? Properly located windbreaks can provide protection in a variety of different ways. On cultivated fields they can improve microclimate conditions and crop production by:

1. Reducing wind velocity and soil erosion.
2. Modifying air and soil temperatures.
3. Reducing evaporation and transpiration.
4. Improving distribution of snow and soil moisture.
5. Improving distribution of water in sprinkler irrigation.
6. Reducing windburn and wilting of crop plants.
7. Protecting newly seeded crops from blow-out.
8. Protecting mature crops from lodging.

On the farmstead, in addition to beautifying surroundings, windbreaks can:

1. Reduce fuel requirements for house heating.
2. Reduce building maintenance costs.
3. Provide personal comfort in working areas.
4. Control snow drifting in work areas and driveways.
5. Protect Poultry.
6. Protect sensitive garden and orchard crops.
7. Screen farmhouses from highway noise.

On livestock range, and pasture

and feeding areas, windbreaks can:

1. Reduce mortality during blizzards.
2. Reduce feed requirements throughout the winter.
3. Maintain productivity and reduce calf losses.
4. Control snow drifting in feeding areas.
5. Improve forage production and quality.
6. Provide shade.

On Public facility areas, such as along highway and railway right-of-way, windbreaks can:

1. Protect roads and fences from drifting snow and soil.
2. Protect vehicles from strong, gusty side winds.
3. Protect camping and recreation areas from wind and dust.

Trees and windbreaks can incidentally provide:

1. Beautification and landscaping.



Betty Farmer

2. Food and cover for wildlife.
3. Small wood products, such as fenceposts and fuel.

Would you wait to save?

If you are willing to wait until after the first of the year, you can **save with big discounts on any Morton Building** that you purchase now! Shown here are just three examples of how you can save. We are making these extra ordinary savings in order to extend the season for our many employees. These include:

The people in our plants who cut, fabricate and load buildings; the truckers who deliver the buildings; and our crews who erect the buildings... all full time employees. We feel it makes good sense to keep our people busy, especially after they are trained and doing excellent work. To qualify for this super savings building offer, we ask for your cooperation as follows:



\$244

on this 24'x9'x36' garage!

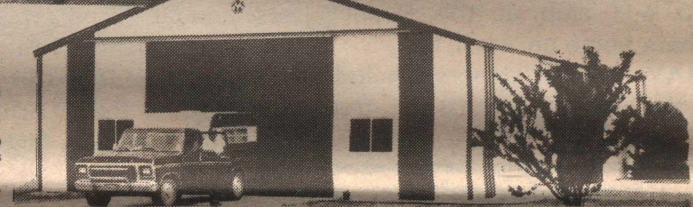
- Regular price \$4,909 • 1 - aluminum walk door with glass • 1 - 4'x3' sliding window without storm • 1 ft. overhang.



\$574

on this 42'x12'6"x72' building!

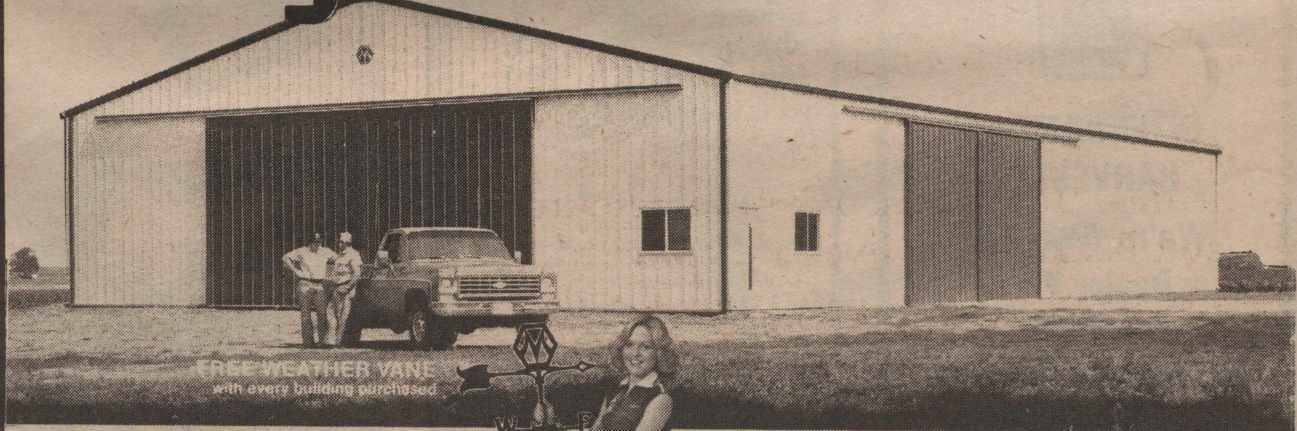
- Regular price \$11,540 • 1 - 18'x14' double end door • 1 - 18' wide double side door • 1 - aluminum walk door with glass • 2 - 4'x3' sliding windows without storms • 4 - skylites.



\$1,472

on this 60'x14'6"x117' building with a 60'x36' shop area!

- Regular price \$29,436 • In the shop area: 1 - insulated aluminum walk door with glass • 2 - 4'x3'6" Perma-shield windows • 1 - 30'x14'6" double end door • completely insulated with 1/2" Thermax including partition wall. • In machine storage area: 1 - 27'x14'6" double side door • 8 - skylites.



MORTON BUILDINGS
NO. 1 CHOICE OF FARMERS

ROGER JONES

Telephone:
Office: 712-262-5876
Home: 712-332-2425

P.O. Box 1063
Spencer, Iowa 51301

- ☐ Send information on MORTON BUILDINGS.
- ☐ Have your salesman phone for an appointment.
- ☐ Garages — Shops
- ☐ Machine Sheds
- ☐ Horse Barns
- ☐ Grain Storage
- ☐ Hog Confinement
- ☐ Cattle Confinement
- ☐ Free Stall Barns & Silo Feed Rooms
- ☐ Livestock Barns

SLB

Name _____
Address _____
Telephone No. _____

Congratulations
To The
Dickinson County
Soil Conservation
for their
outstanding
conservation
practices which
are vital to
the future of
agriculture

EXPECT MORE FROM
Berkley®
Berkley and Company
Spirit Lake, Iowa 51360

Phone 336-1520

1978 SCS Activities

Friday, Sept. 21, 1979 16

JANUARY - The Dickinson County Soil Conservation District Commissioners held twelve regular meetings and five special meetings during 1978. Andrew Hoffman was appointed chairman, Don Schubert, vice chairman; Charles Shorey, secretary; and Betty Farmer, treasurer. Commissioners are Andrew Hoffman, Robert C. Ingwersen, Charles Shorey, Ernest H. Skow and Don Schubert. Assistant commissioners are Maurice Dougal and Orville Berg.

FEBRUARY - Clarence Call, District Conservationist, and Roger Mussetter, DC of Clay County, held bi-weekly radio programs on radio station KICD throughout the year. A conservation tillage display was set up in the Spirit Lake shopping center on February 14 and was moved to Terril on February 17 for the conservation tillage meeting held there. Commissioners donated \$50.00 to Randy Jensen for his trip to the NACD youth convention held in Anaheim, California. Several hundred conservation workbooks were given to the schools in the county this month.

MARCH - Clarence Call, Charles Shorey, Ernest Skow and Betty Farmer attended regional commissioners' meeting in Fort Dodge on March 13.

APRIL - Commissioners provided 1,670 bulletin covers and 2,045 program inserts to 19 churches in the county for Soil Stewardship week. Clarence Call presented a program on soil conservation to the boys' 4-H club at the Rodney Graham home on April 10.

MAY - Commissioners concluded the most successful tree

program they have ever had this month. They sold 17,600 trees and shrubs to 105 customers. Radio station KICD was very instrumental in the success of the tree program.

JUNE - Dennis Rustman, Conservation Technician, attended statewide technicians' meeting in Des Moines on June 5, 6 and 7. He also took the environmental science course for technicians in Lincoln, Nebraska from June 12 through June 23. The Soil Conservation Society of America Association held their annual summer meeting at Crescent Beach Resort on Lake Okoboji June 22 and 23. The commissioners from several districts in this area sponsored a boat ride on the SS Empress on the evening of June 23 for all those attending the meeting. Entered in the Marc Cox contest this year were the farms of Ace Cory, Howard Burnside and Ralph Wyatt; Wildlife, James Cravens; and Short Course, Earl Rose. Commissioners presented David Doudna of Spirit Lake with a \$300 scholarship. Commissioners presented each 6th grader in the county with a green ash tree.

JULY - Commissioners Robert Ingwersen, Maurice Dougal, Orville Berg and Chas. Shorey attended a hearing on the 208 section of the Clean Water Act (Culver Amendment) in Des Moines on July 7.

AUGUST - Clarence Call presented a conservation program to 6th graders at the Methodist Camp on August 10. Commissioners annual picnic was held at Horseshoe Bend on August 13.

SEPTEMBER - Clarence Call took part in the O'Brien County Outdoor Classroom on September 22. Clarence Call, Dennis Rustman, Wayne Dankert and Betty Farmer attended training

session on September 26.

OCTOBER - The Dickinson County Outdoor Classroom was conducted on October 10 at the Hogsback Kettle area. Approximately 240 6th grade students and teachers attended this year's event. The district commissioners provided donuts and milk for the students at 9:30 in the morning. Classes began at 10:00 a.m. The following classes were conducted: Erosion and Pollution with instructor Jim Yungclas, County Extension Director; Nature Trail with Mark VandeHaar of the Clay County Conservation Board; Upland Wildlife with Tom Neal, Wildlife Biologist with the Iowa Conservation Commission; Soils with Wayne Dankert, Soil Scientist in Dickinson County; Agronomy and Conservation Practices with Clarence Call, Dickinson County District Conservationist; Wild Goose Pens with Doug Harr, Wildlife Biologist with the Iowa Conservation Commission; Forestry with Steve Schmidt, a local businessman and a college graduate in forestry; and Dennis Rustman, official timekeeper. All teachers expressed their appreciation and felt it was a very worthwhile experience and were looking forward to next year's outdoor classroom. Gordon Leader, a senior from the Milford High School, was the winner of the 1978 Speech Contest conducted by the commissioners. Gordon advanced to the regional contest which was held in Fort Dodge on November 15. Gordon placed third in the regional contest. Gregg Bohl, an Arnolds Park schoolteacher, attended the Iowa Conservation Education Council fall workshop at

Springbrook State Park in Guthrie Center on October 6 and 7.

NOVEMBER - Commissioners Ernest Skow, Charles Shorey, Robert Ingwersen and Orville Berg attended the regional meeting in Fort Dodge on November 15. Commissioners Charles Shorey, Orville Berg, Wayne Dankert, Soil Scientist; Clarence Call, District Conservationist; and Howard Burnside, award winner, attended the annual Marc Cox banquet in Sioux City on November 16.

DECEMBER - Mr. and Mrs. Maurice Dougal, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Ingwersen, Orville Berg and Betty Farmer, clerk, attended the commissioners' annual conference in Fort Dodge on December 5, 6 and 7. Commissioners and wives held their annual Christmas dinner at Michael's of Okoboji on December 11. Clarence Call and commissioners met with ASCS County Committee on December 15 to develop the 1979 ACP program.

AUGUST - Commissioners conducted a public meeting on 208 and RCA in Milford on August 3.

SOIL SURVEY - Mapping progress was slow in starting this year because of frozen soil and wet weather. Our annual plan meeting was held May 2 and 3 with Gilbert Landtiser, State Soil Scientist; Wallis Tonsfeldt, Area Conservationist; Ron Reckner and Wayne Dankert, soil scientists, participating. The comprehensive soil survey review was held August 29, 30 and 31 and September 1. Ron Reckner was transferred to Dubuque on October 10. 72,804 acres were mapped in the county during 1978.

**A Strong Agriculture
Is Built With
Conservation Farmers**



**INTERNATIONAL
HARVESTER**

**We're Also Your
Dealer For:**

• Gehl
• Kewanee • Stan-Hoist
• Mity-Mac

**JAYCOX
IMPLEMENT,
INC.**

**Lake Park
Phone 832-3151**

AERMOTOR

**Because no
one likes to
take a
shower a
few drops
at a time.**

Aermotor makes pumps that provide enough water for entire towns. So you can be sure that there's an Aermotor pump that will give your shower - your whole house - water to spare. Your dealer is an expert. He can tell exactly what power and pumping capacity will fit your needs - now and for the future. After all, if he weren't the best, he wouldn't be an Aermotor Dealer.

**Cliff's Well
Service, Inc.**

[Soon to be
Jerry's Well Service, Inc.]

PH. 864-3489

24 Hrs. a Day

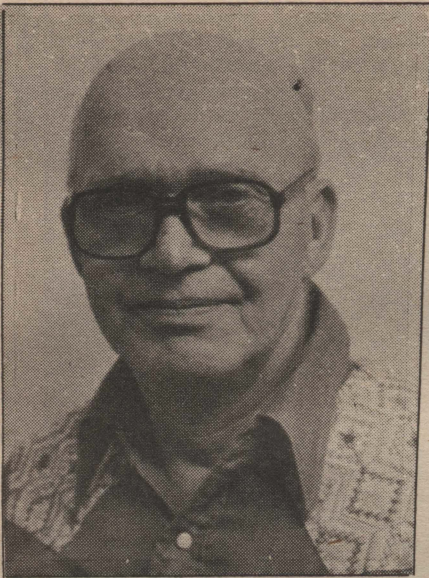
**7 Days A Week Pump Service
Armstrong, Iowa**

AERMOTOR
CONWAY ARKANSAS 72032



1978 DISTRICT SPEECH CONTEST WINNER - Gordon Leader, a senior from the Milford High School, was the winner of the 1978 Speech Contest conducted by the commissioners in October. Gordon went on to place third in the regional contest held in Fort Dodge on Nov. 15.

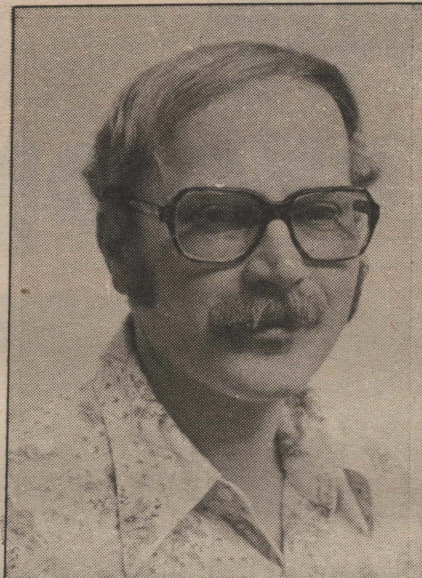
Five serve as district commissioners



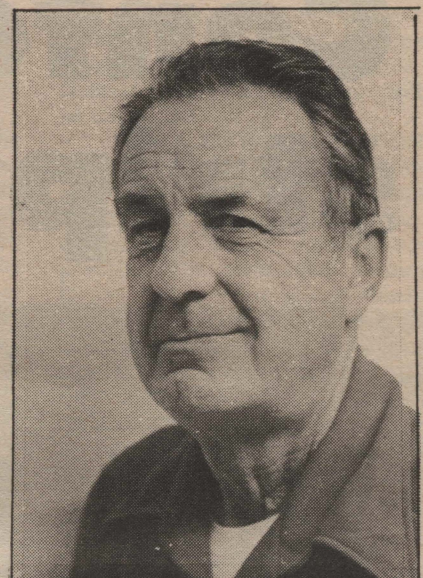
Ernest H. Skow
Commissioner



Charles Shorey
Commissioner



Orville Berg
Assistant Commissioner



Don Schubert
Commissioner

Not Pictured:
Merlin Stover
Assistant
Commissioner

ASCS County Committee

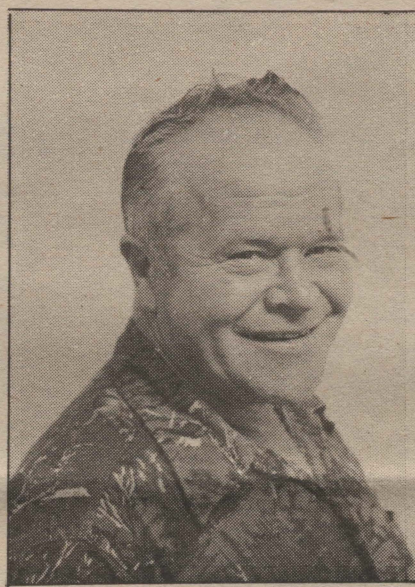
The Dickinson County ASC Committee includes: Neal J. Delaney, Chairman; Donald P. Gruhn, Vice Chairman; Duane G. Gunderson, Regular Member.

These representatives are the policy and decision making body of the ACP program in Dickinson County.

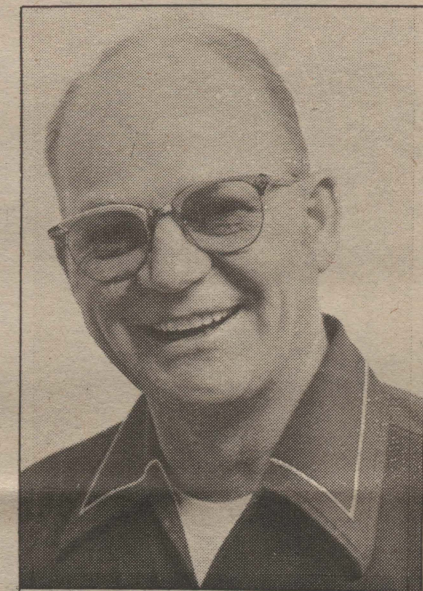
The County office staff includes: Larry D. Lago, County Executive Director; Ruby L. Caskey, Program Assistant; Patricia L. Achenbach, Program Assistant; Cynthia L. Lienthal, Program Assistant.



Maurice Dougal
Assistant Commissioner



Andy Hoffman
Chairman



Robert C. Ingwerson
Commissioner

'Society generates waste'

Improving our land while using environmentally sound methods to handle society's wastes is the challenge of the 1980's, according to an Iowa State University extension agricultural engineer. Stewart Melvin says the key to most land disposal projects is to utilize disposal materials as a resource, rather than as a waste.

"Our society generates wastes which need to be disposed of safely and economically," he notes. "We have three ways to get rid of our wastes ... dumping them, burning them or applying them to the land."

Dumping into surface or groundwater creates water pollution problems and is generally against the law.

Burning may create air pollution problems through release of particle matter and toxic gases.

"Using land to receive waste has become the most economical and environmentally safe alternative for disposal of most solid and liquid waste materials," he says. "But precautions are needed for such systems."

Three types of wastes are disposed of using land: solid wastes - trash and garbage, treated municipal wastes - wastewater and sludge, and animal wastes.

Iowans "produce" three to five pounds of trash daily per person.

Currently most of this garbage is disposed of in sanitary landfills. Large cities use huge pieces of land for disposing of garbage. Size of the area required varies according to the depth and density of compacted waste material, waste recovery and resource recycling prior to dumping and the size of the community.

Melvin says successful landfill operations use compaction, daily covering, avoidance of groundwater tables and a final covering of productive soil which is planted with a cover crop.

Municipal sewage treatment results in treated liquid effluents and sludge. Land application of municipal sludge is becoming more common. The Department of Environmental Quality has restrictions on land application of sludges in Iowa. In general, most communities can apply sludge to cropland (not used for human food production) at a rate of two dry tons per acre per year. Heavy metals from some industrial wastewaters may limit sludge application to land from some municipalities.

There is also some interest in using land for treatment and disposal of wastewater effluents. Land application may be an alternative to more advanced waste treatment for removal of

nutrients and toxic materials. Problems with land disposal include land availability, system scheduling and control, and cold weather operation. Crop response will vary with climatic condition and soil types.

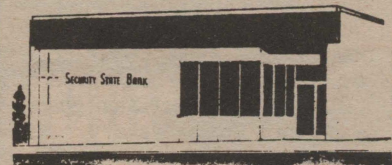
Animal waste has long been used as an organic fertilizer and soil conditioner on agricultural lands. During the past decade, development of large-scale confined animal feeding systems led to more interest in high rate disposal practices to minimize land and labor requirements for disposal. But as commercial fertilizer prices increase, the use of animal manure as a resource is again gaining popular acceptance with most midwest livestock producers.

Iowa generates more recoverable animal manure than any other state, according to Melvin. Wise use of this resource can benefit landowners by reducing commercial fertilizer needs, while adding organic matter and minor nutrients needed for top crop production.

"The Key to most land disposal projects is to use disposal materials as a resource rather than as a waste - to improve the land resource while maintaining an environmentally sound method to handle various wastes generated by our society," the engineer says.

CONSERVATION
DOESN'T COST,
IT PAYS - AND MAKES
GOOD SENSE!

**SECURITY
STATE
BANK**



*Complete
Banking Service*

"Serving You

Since 1925"

Lake Park, Ia.

FDIC

832-3634

Contour strip cropping

On the Orville Berg Farm, Spirit Lake

Energy Conservation . . .

Bonus from Conservation Tillage

Energy conservation is a bonus from conservation tillage, according to Min Amemiya, extension agronomist at Iowa State University.

Conservation tillage requires fewer trips over the field, which uses less fuel. The agronomist says farmers can save themselves time, money, wear and tear on equipment, and help meet the nation's energy conservation goals by eliminating unnecessary field operations.

He defines conservation tillage as any tillage system that reduces loss of soil or water compared with clean or conventional tillage.

Conservation tillage leaves a soil surface after planting that protects the soil against wind and water erosion. The soil surface has a mulch of all or part of the residues from the previous crop. Such a surface results from less soil manipulation or tillage, and fewer trips over the field.

Conservation tillage systems effectively control erosion on level and gently sloping land, Amemiya explains. "This does not imply that terraces and

other erosion control measures should not be used. But in many instances, adoption of such practices can be costly and short run economic return is low," he added.

On steeper land, conservation tillage can enhance the effectiveness of other conservation practices necessary to control erosion under intensive row cropping.

Some form of conservation tillage is adapted to a wide range of soil types and slopes. "On more than half of Iowa's cropland, properly managed conservation tillage systems could be the single most effective and least costly means of reducing soil erosion and associated water quality problems," the agronomist stated.

Energy requirements are proportional to the amount of soil that is tilled and the number of trips over the field. Fuel requirements can be reduced 35 to 50 percent, for example, by using a chisel plow or an offset disk rather than a moldboard plow.

Further fuel reductions are possible by eliminating secondary tillage operations or by combining several

operations. The specialist notes that many Iowa farmers are already benefiting from changes in tillage practices.

About one gallon of fuel can be saved per acre by substituting a chisel plow or a disk for a moldboard plow. As much as 5 gallons of fuel can be saved with a slot planting or no-till system.

Assuming that 22 million acres of corn and soybeans are planted in Iowa each year, Amemiya says conservation tillage can mean a reduction of from 20 to 100 million gallons of diesel fuel each year.

He lists several ways to reduce energy requirements for tillage:

If the reason for tillage is not evident, don't do it.

Don't till deeper than necessary for the job.

Don't till when soil moisture is beyond field capacity at tillage depth.

Be sure tractor engine and implements are properly adjusted and maintained.

Don't overload your tractor.



**Serving
A
Changing
Dynamic
Agriculture**

• Plant Food • Chemicals
• Feed • Petroleum • LP (Bulk
& Bottle) • Farm Supplies

**C-D Farm
Service**

Spencer, Ia. 262-4205
Spirit Lake, Ia. 336-5050

Complete



Farm Supply Service
for
Clay, Dickinson, O'Brien, and
Osceola Counties

ACP Offers Incentives to Farmers

The Agricultural Conservation Program (ACP) provides a cost-share incentive to farmers and ranchers to carry out measures that:

1. control erosion and sedimentation from agricultural land and conserve the water resources on such land;
2. control pollution from animal wastes;
3. conserve wildlife habitat;
4. facilitate sound resources management systems through soil and water conservation;
5. encourage voluntary compliance by agricultural producers with Federal and State requirements to solve point and nonpoint sources of pollution (sources that originate on the farm or ranch);
6. reflect national priorities in the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 and other congressional and administrative actions;
7. contribute to the national objective of assuring a continuous supply of food and fiber necessary for the maintenance of a strong and healthy people and economy, and that
8. assure the type of conservation measures needed to improve water quality in rural America.

SCOPE OF PROGRAM

The ACP is national in scope, and is available for participation by all farmers and ranchers who, through consultation with others in the environmental field, establish the need for cost-share assistance in solving agricultural pollution and other resource conservation problems, with resulting benefits both long-term and communitywide.

ACP is a joint effort by agricultural producers and the Government to restore, protect, and preserve the environment and our basic land resource.

PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION

The ACP is administered by Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation (ASC) State, county and community farmer committees, working under the general direction of the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service (ASCS) of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. ASCS State and county offices serve as the focal points for the administration of the ACP.

State, county and community Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation (ASC) committees, made up of members who are actively engaged in farming, administer the program and activities of the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service (ASCS), and the field operations of the Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC).

These committees were established under the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act of 1935, as amended. Since 1933, however, farmers had a central role in making conservation program decisions, at first through representation by members and leaders of farm organizations and by State and local agricultural officials.

Local farmers were considered to be the most oriented as to the farms and farming patterns of the community in order to make decisions regarding the administration of conservation programs. In order to insure against any partisan or organizational domination of the programs, provision was made for

the annual election of local committee members by farmers. The early State committees were appointed by the Secretary of Agriculture, as they are today.

Community committees assist the county committee in carrying out program administration. Community committees of three regular and two alternate members each are elected by direct vote of the farmers in each of the local communities within the county. In these multiple community counties, the community committees in each county hold a convention following their election to nominate and elect the county committee members. All regular community committee members (excluding alternates) are delegates to the convention.

To accomplish program objectives, and to assure that the ACP program is tailored to best solve local needs, authority is delegated to the county ASC committee, which consults with the county program development group to discuss and develop practices that will be included in the county program. This group includes Federal and State agencies, and other groups interested in solving environmental and conservation problems. The State program development group will review the county program before it is implemented.

ACP funds authorized annually by Congress are allocated to the State ASC committee. The Secretary of Agriculture determines the amount of funds each State receives, based on the State's soil and water conservation needs. The State

ASC committee, in turn, allocates the funds to the county ASC committees, who use these funds to enable local farmers to solve conservation problems on their land.

PROGRAM PARTICIPATION

To participate, the farmer files his request with the ASC county committee (at the ASCS county office) for ACP cost-sharing, before carrying out the practice. The committee notifies the farmer of the extent of cost-sharing for which the request has been approved. Definite installation specifications which meet technical standards and local needs must be met if the practices are to qualify for ACP cost-sharing. After the practice is completed, the farmer certifies this to the county office. A farmer pays the total cost of establishing the approved practices and is later reimbursed for the Government's share of the cost.

The 1979 ACP Federal Allocation was \$28,490 for conservation practices in Dickinson County in comparison to \$34,900 in 1978 and \$38,000 in 1977. There were 72 farms served with this allocation plus the 1978 uncompleted practices. The funds were obligated for the following practices:

	No. Of Farms	Amount
Constructing Terrace Systems	10	\$21,051
Windbreaks	37	8,505
Conservation Tillage	18	3,436
Establish Permanent Vegetative Cover	2	780
Permanent Wildlife Habitat	3	653
Establishing Sodwaterways	1	429
Critical Area Seeding	1	45

Evergreen Windbreak

On the Martin Hoffman Farm, Lake Park

SPIRIT LAKE
Ready-Mix Co. Inc.
for Quality & Service



Delivered Anywhere
Ready For Use
Radio Dispatched

Parking Curbs
Wire Mesh

Stepping Stones
Sand-Gravel Limestone

Hwy 71

Phone 336-2142

Spirit Lake

Protect your farm investment

Farm Bureau's Country Squire policy can be tailored exactly to you, whether you're an owner, an operator or both. You get only the coverage you need, and no more. Call us for details.



FARM BUREAU INSURANCE
Farm Bureau Mutual Insurance Company/West Des Moines, Iowa

Bill Weiss & Dick Kimmel Career Underwriters
DICKINSON COUNTY FARM BUREAU
Spirit Lake, Iowa **Phone 336-3260**

ASCS & SCS Staff

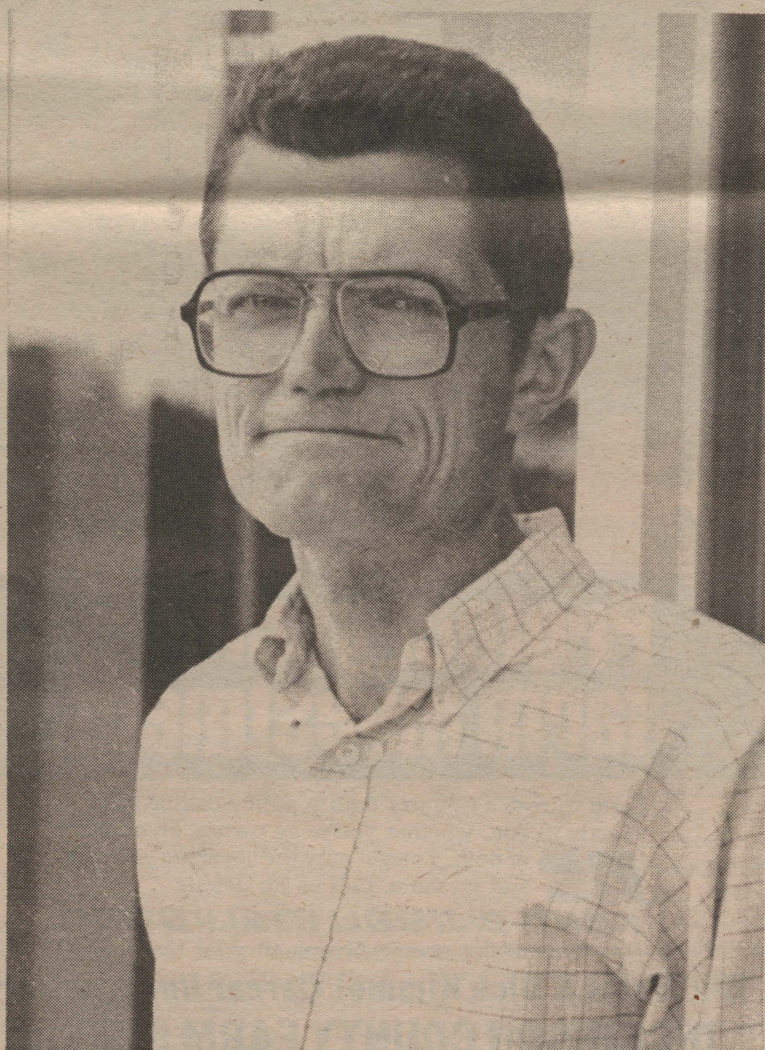
Friday, Sept. 21, 1979 18



Cindy Lillenthal
ASCS Program Assistant



Ruby Caskey
ASCS Program Assistant



Wayne Dankert
Soil Scientist



Larry Lago
ASCS County Executive Director

Terraces

**Parallel, cut and fill,
tile outlet terraces on
the Don Schubert farm,
Spirit Lake.**

**by Dennis Rustman
Soil Conservation Technician**

Terracing continues to be a very much needed erosion control practice in Dickinson County. There are many acres of land in the county subject to erosion that should be protected with conservation practices. Dickinson County farmers who have installed terraces the past year are: Robert Ingwersen, Superior Township; Theodore Helmreich, Excelsior Township; John McCann, Center Grove Township; and Currier Holman, Est., Diamond Lake Township.

The past years have marked a definite change in terrace construction techniques. There are three types of terraces in Dickinson County that are being used: the tile outlet grassed backslope, the tile outlet broad base; and the graded terrace. The tile outlet grassed backslope terrace has become the most

popular. This type of terrace can be built across depressions and waterways giving straighter, easier to farm terrace systems with less point rows. Many times these terraces can be built parallel to existing fence lines or roads. Underground tile carries runoff safely from the field, eliminating the need for grassed waterways.

Another advantage of the tile outlet terrace is the natural topography improvement. The soil that does erode between terraces is trapped in the low areas around intakes. These areas build up gradually and the field becomes more nearly level.

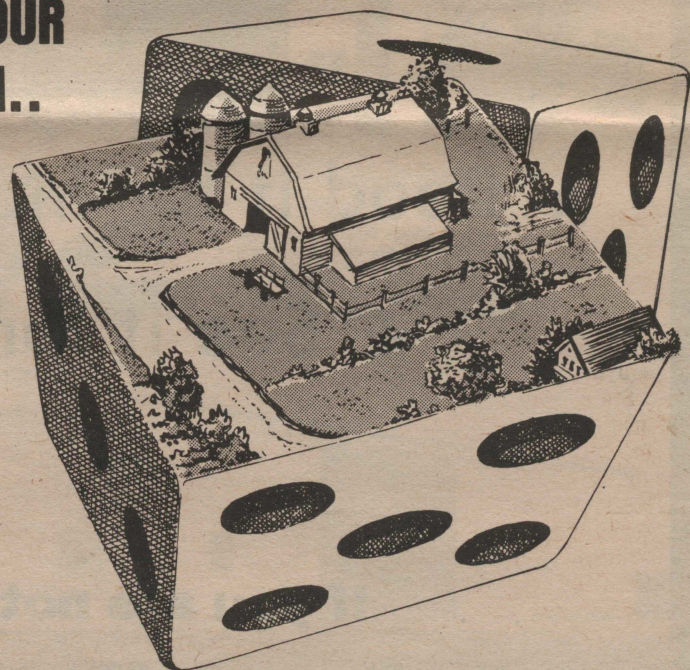
There is cost sharing available for building terraces. Up to 75 percent of the cost can be paid by state and federal funds. If you are interested in having terraces built on your farm or would like more information on them contact the Soil Conservation District Office in Spirit Lake.



1978 SCHOLARSHIP WINNER — David Doudna, son of Mr. and Mrs. D.M. Doudna of Spirit Lake, was awarded the first \$300 scholarship presented by the Dickinson County Soil Conservation District Commissioners. David is studying agricultural science at the South Dakota State University at the present time.

DON'T GAMBLE

**PRACTICE CONSERVATION
ON YOUR
FARM..**



Representing GRINNELL MUTUAL
REINSURANCE COMPANY

We Make It Work For YOU
GRINNELL MUTUAL



**DICKINSON COUNTY
MUTUAL INSURANCE**

NORM MEINKING — LOREN HOVLAND — BOYD McFARLAND
Phone 336-1262 Spirit Lake

There Is No Substitute For Proper Soil Conservation

And There Is

**No Substitute
for**



The
Spirit
Lake

Read it for more NEWS — See it for more PICTURES — Use it for more BUSINESS

Beacon

OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER FOR SPIRIT LAKE AND DICKINSON COUNTY, IOWA

★ Read it for more news

★ See it for more pictures

★ Use it for more business

**If you are not already a subscriber, Call
the Beacon office today to start your subscription.**

Don't Miss Another Issue

336-1211

Financial, personnel and accomplishments

PERSONNEL

Wallis R. Tonsfeldt, Area Conservationist
Lee C. White, Area Engineer
Wayne L. Eberly, Civil Engineer Technician
Judy Rathel, Area Clerk
Margaret L. Walker, Clerk-Typist

DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS

Andrew Hoffman, Chairman
Robert C. Ingwersen, Commissioner
Charles Shorey, Commissioner
Ernest H. Skow, Commissioner
Don Schubert, Commissioner
Orville Berg, Assistant Commissioner
Maurice Dougal, Assistant Commissioner

FIELD OFFICE PERSONNEL

Clarence M. Call, District Conservationist
Dennis Rustman, Conservation Technician
Betty Farmer, State Clerk

EXTENSION SERVICE

James Yungclas, County Extension Director
Holle Mechem, County Extension Home Economist
Carol Crocker, County Extension 4-H and Youth Leader
Evelyn Albers, Office Assistant

AGRICULTURAL STABILIZATION AND CONSERVATION SERVICE

Larry Lago, County Executive Director
Ruby Caskey, Program Assistant
Pat Achenbach, Program Assistant
Cindy Lilienthal, Program Assistant

COUNTY ASCS COMMITTEE

Neal Delaney, Chairman
Don Gruhn
Duane Gunderson

SOIL SURVEY

Wayne N. Dankert, Party Leader
Larry Hanson, Soil Scientist

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

FOR FISCAL YEAR 10/1/77 to 9/30/78

Conservation District Cooperators	13
Conservation District Cooperators Canceled	6
Individuals and Groups Assisted	203
Technical Services for Land Unit Conservation Planning and Application	142
Individuals and Groups Applying Practices	79
Conservation Plans	18
Conservation Plans Canceled	4
Conservation Plans Revised	4
Technical Services for Area Planning	9
Governmental Agencies Assisted	5
Referrals Serviced	106
Soil Surveys (Acres)	82,040
Contour Farming (Acres)	56
Ponds	2
Farmstead and Feedlot Windbreaks (Acres)	29
Grassed Waterway or Outlet (acres)	13
Minimum Tillage (acres)	1,660
Field Windbreak (ft.)	6,450
Pasture and Hayland Planting (acres)	85
Terraces (ft.)	2,300
Subsurface Drain (ft.)	4,385
Wildlife Upland Habitat Management (acres)	32
Windbreak Renovation (acres)	7
Cropland Adequately Treated (acres)	556
Pasture and Hayland Adequately Treated (acres)	481
Range and Native Pasture Adequately Treated (acres)	11
Wildlife Land Adequately Treated (acres)	8
Other Land Adequately Treated (acres)	103
Inventory and Evaluations (no.)	29
Inventories and Evaluations for Resource Planning (no.)	5
Technical Services for Land Unit Application (no.)	298

Trees can be profitable

Planting trees in well managed woodlands can be profitable and it helps save soil, according to Iowa's state forester. Gene Hertel encourages land owners to consider planting trees on soils where erosion is a serious problem. Each year Iowa loses 20,000 acres of woodland, according to a recent U.S. Forest Service survey.

"Well-managed woodlands provide a very effective conservation tool," Hertel says. "Landowners managing their steep lands as woodland rather than raising more common agricultural crops give maximum protection to the soil and assure clean water runoff into streams."

Soil loss from well-managed woodlands is usually less than is con-

sidered tolerable for agricultural soils. Research data collected by the U.S. Forest Service in erosion tests on mixed hardwood forests in Fernow, W. VA., shows even clearcut areas lost only one ton of soil per acre per year.

One to five tons of soil loss due to erosion is tolerated for row-cropped soils in Iowa. As little as .05 ton of soil was lost each year from undisturbed woodland in the West Virginia tests.

Hertel urges landowners interested in more information about profitably managing woodlands while conserving Iowa's natural resources to contact him: Gene Hertel, State Forester, State Conservation Commission, Wallace State Office Building, Des Moines.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT FISCAL YEAR 1977-1978 DISTRICT'S IM BUDGET

RECEIPTS

Allocation from State Soil Conservation Committee \$ 1,300.00

DISBURSEMENTS

Commissioners' mileage, meals and lodging .. \$ 432.20
Office Supplies 181.15
Printing 52.60
Prizes for Contests 20.50
Rental for Meeting Halls 13.00
Office Expense 377.95
Meeting Expense 101.05
Released to State Soil Conservation Committee 121.55

Total Disbursements \$ 1,300.00

DISTRICT'S IIM BUDGET

RECEIPTS

Allocation from State Soil Conservation Committee \$ 9,430.00
Additional Allocation \$ 19.03

DISBURSEMENTS

Clerk's Salary \$8,294.00
Travel 106.01
Employer's Contribution to F.I.C.A. 493.52
Employer's Contribution to I.P.E.R.S. 435.56
Life Insurance 66.00
Disability Contribution 53.94

Total Disbursements \$ 9,449.03

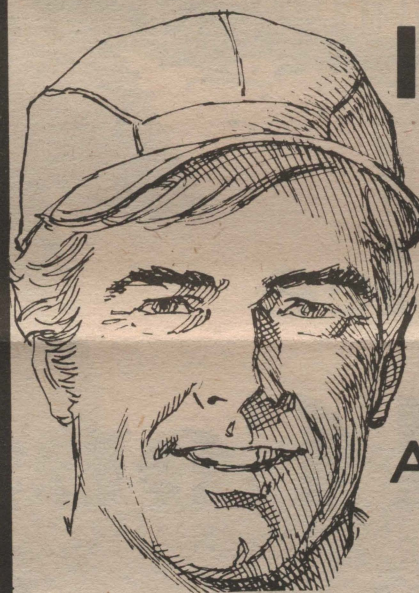
IIM BUDGET [State Cost-Share]

1975-1976 Allocation \$11,500.00
Total Spent 10,893.16
Total Returned to State Soil Conservation Committee 606.84

1976-1977 Allocation \$ 8,000.00
Total Spent 6,835.63
Total Returned to State Soil Conservation Committee 1,164.37

1977-1978 Allocation \$ 8,000.00
Total Spent 6,308.31
Total Returned to State Soil Conservation Committee 1,691.69

1978-1979 Allocation \$12,000.00
Total Unobligated Funds to Date 103.31



IT'S HABIT FORMING

Make Soil
Conservation
A Daily Routine.

The Returns

It Reaps

Means Farm 'Life'

For Future Generations.



1 FIRST FEDERAL
SAVINGS AND LOAN

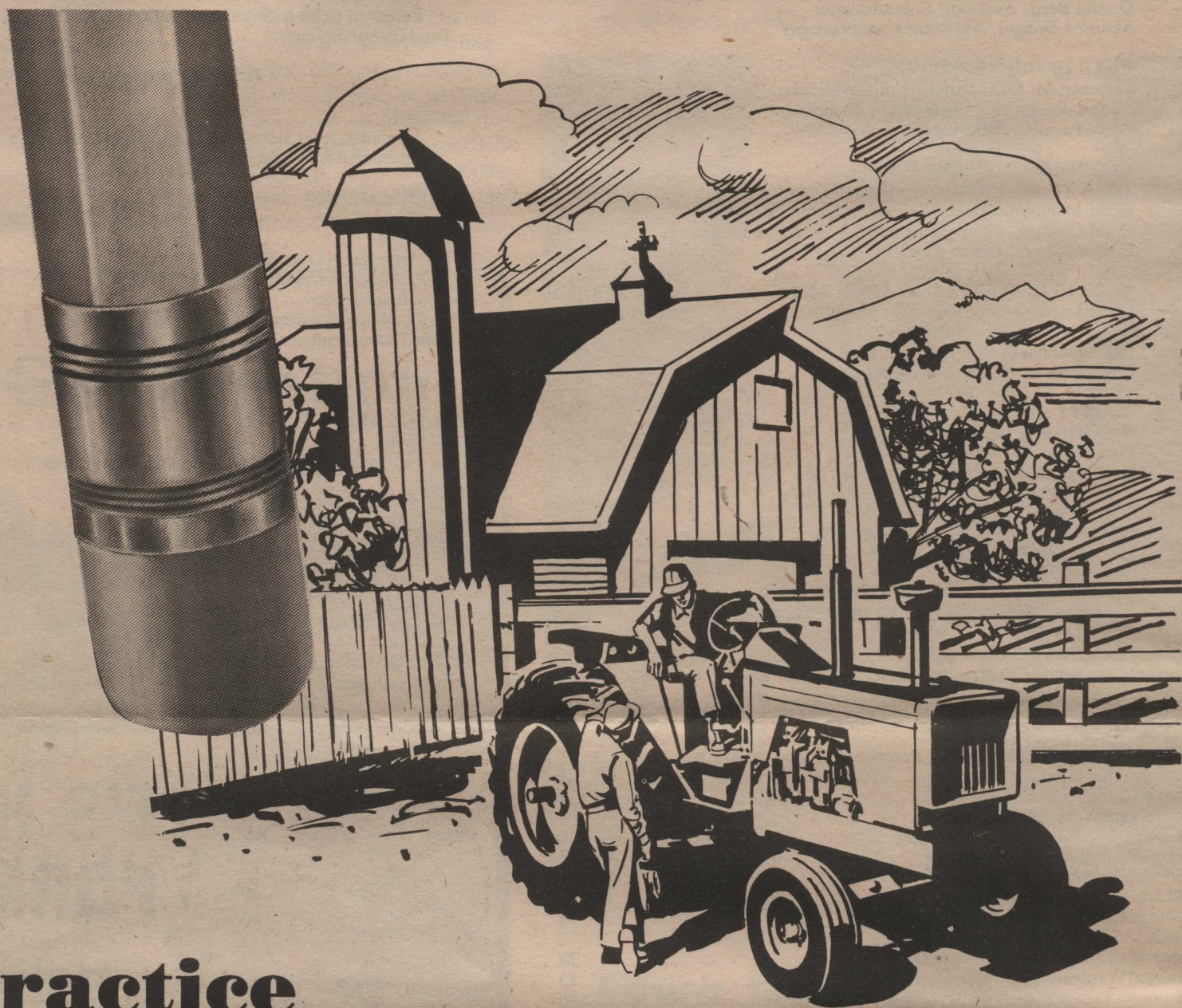
SPIRIT LAKE
613 LAKE STREET
336-1034

MILFORD
814 OKOBOJI AVE.
338-2411



LAKE PARK
[SOON]
832-3658

**Don't erase a good
part of your future**



Practice

Soil Conservation

It's Everybody's Job



First
BANK and TRUST
Spirit Lake

Each depositor insured to \$40,000
FDIC
FEDERAL DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION

IOWA
FULL SERVICE
BANK