

34,500 Trees—

February 25, 1964

Tree Plantings Boom

More people planted trees in Davis county during 1963 than in any other year, according to Bruce Plum of Fairfield, district forester serving Davis county.

In the annual report compiled by the local Soil Conservation Service office, Plum reported that eleven plantings were made during the year.

In all, about 34,500 trees were planted—12,000 of them white pine—and the total was greater than every other preceding year

with exception of 1959.

Davis county had more timberland improvement than any other southeast Iowa county, wrote Plum. Forty-one acres were improved to increase the growth rate for high quality trees.

Two tree management plans were drawn up in Davis county, involving 150 acres of timber. Fire breaks were established with a disc to protect 150 acres of timber. The fire breaks would stop the spread of fire that might occur in or near timberland and plantations.

In 1963, the county recorded its first sales of Christmas trees—from the farms of Dr. R. E. Rasmussen and Norman Hansen.

Among those establishing new tree plantings during 1963 were Vernetta Bride, R. C. Hocker-smith, Roy Stookesberry, Raymond Curtis and Teddy Dixon.

A tree-planter constructed by the Bloomfield Future Farmers of America chapter was used first on the Vernetta Bride farm and "stands ready for a big year in 1964," said Plum.