

1962

ANNUAL REPORT

IDA COUNTY SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT

DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS

Wm. Rossow, Chairman	Battle Creek
W. F. Burow	Battle Creek
Henry Brueck	Battle Creek
Arnold Putensen, Secretary	Holstein
Abel E. Peters, Treasurer	Ida Grove

ASSISTED BY:

SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE TECHNICIANS

Kenneth H. Burnett	Work Unit Conservationist
Charles (Pete) Bodholdt	Conservation Aid
Don D. Goodenow	Conservation Aid

OTHER SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE PERSONNEL ASSISTING

George E. Lamp, Area Conservationist	Sioux City
Wayne Ducommun, Area Engineer & Staff	Sioux City
John Worster, Area Soil Scientist & Staff	Sioux City

STATE PERSONNEL

Gladys Thornhill, District Clerk	Ida Grove
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HIGH LIGHTS OF 1962

The work plan for the Pleasant Valley Watershed has been developed. The agreement between the District and the Ida County Board of Supervisors for installation of road structures in this watershed has been executed. Agreements and easements with individual land owners should be completed early in 1963. District cooperators in this watershed have installed 34 miles of level terraces as part of their contribution to the entire project. It is anticipated that a contract will be let and work started before July 1, 1963.

Last year 44 new District cooperators requested assistance on 5,570 acres of land. Twenty-eight basic conservation plans were prepared, covering 4,028 acres. Two old basic plans were completely revised.

Major items of erosion control accomplished during the year included: contour layout 3,285 acres, level terraces 44 miles, grassed waterways 31 acres, tile drains 8 miles and gully control structures 3.

The following problems still confront the District in its program to control the soil and water losses of Ida County: (1) Changes in farm ownership continue to undo soil conservation farm plans that have been in operation for a number of years. (2) The \$500.00 LM Budget allotment for office expense and Commissioners expense has been somewhat limiting. If more money were available, additional worthwhile projects could have been attempted.

On August 29 & 30, that part of the District adjacent to Ida Grove and Arthur experienced a heavy rainstorm. The weather bureau rain gauge at Ida Grove recorded 12.09 inches of rain in 25½ hours. Flooding on the Maple River and Odebolt Creek was extensive. Flood damage in Ida Grove was severe. The Perion and the Kirkholm Watersheds both lay in the center of this storm area. None of the outlet channels from these watersheds overflowed its banks, until it reached the flood plain of the Odebolt or Maple. Little if any erosion damage was apparent in the two watersheds. The watersheds were extremely effective in accomplishing their purpose in the area covered.

During the year the District held 6 information meetings to inform landowners and operators of the possibilities and procedures for flood control watershed assistance. As a result of these meetings, 1 new watershed, the Tri Valley, was organized. This watershed, comprising about 3,500 acres, is situated about 5 miles northwest of Ida Grove. The District plans to continue this information activity at least thru 1963.

The Ida County Extension District has provided much assistance in conducting these watershed meetings. They have also given information to office callers and in some cases referred these callers to the District office. The Extension District provided mimeograph facilities for publishing the Soil Conservation Districts Conservation Needs Report. This report shows the present and expected land use of Ida County together with the kinds and amounts of soil conservation practices needed for adequate erosion control. Copies of this report are available at the SCS and Extension offices.

The Ida County ASCS again in 1962 provided financial assistance to farmers for installing soil conservation practices thru its A C Program of cost-shares. Most of the permanent practices installed in 1962 received cost-share assistance. This has undoubtedly been a major factor in the progress the District has made.

The District entered two contests, the Sioux City Permanent Agriculture Program sponsored by the Sioux City Chamber of Commerce and the Journal Publications and the Iowa Soil Conservation Awards sponsored by the Des Moines Register and Tribune. In the Sioux City contest our enteries were: Harold Irwin, Holstein, H. C. Greenwald Est., Battle Creek and Albert & Harold Schreiber of Battle Creek. In the Register contest the enteries were: Milton Schmidt, Holstein, Harold Godbersen & Marvin Kreisler, Ida Grove and H. C. Greenwald Est. of Battle Creek.

Radio station K A Y L, Storm Lake, has provided a six-minute monthly radio spot which has been used very effectively to present conservation information. This program maintains its continuity by having similar programs presented weekly by other neighboring Districts.

The Districts exhibit at the 1962 Ida County 4-H Fair consisted of a working model of a pipe drop inlet structure. The plastic model permitted observation of what takes place with different kinds of intake devices. Although the application of the exhibited material is somewhat limited in this District, the model provided a conversation piece and got interested individuals to start talking about their conservation problems.

Mr. Don D. Goodenow, joined the District staff as a Conservation Aid, in April of this year. With him on the staff, the District was better able to handle peak loads in layout of conservation practices.

Due to the nonavailability of poison, the Districts gopher control machine was operated only to a limited extent. The machine and poison will be available in 1963 and it is hoped the machine will be used more.

MAINTENANCE FUND

(Held in Trust by the District for the Maintenance of Watershed Structures.)

Cash on Hand, January 1, 1962	\$ 291.18
Receipts - 1962	5,663.25
Expenditures - 1962	2,820.30
Cash on Hand, December 31, 1962	3,134.13
U.S. Government Bonds on Hand	
(Purchase Price) December 31, 1962	7,775.00
U.S. Government Bonds on Hand	
(Surrender Value) December 31, 1962	8,773.60
Time Certificates	\$ 2,800.00

GENERAL FUND

(From Various Sources)

Balance, January 1, 1962	0
Receipts - 1962	0
Expenditures - 1962	0
Balance, December 31, 1962	0

1 - M Budget

(Received From the State of Iowa for Commissioners Expenses.)

Office Supplies	\$ 143.19
Commissioners Expenses	168.36
Office Expenses	60.00
Printing	100.00
Rentals	<u>31.00</u>
TOTAL Expended	\$ 502.55

2 - M Budget

(Received From the State of Iowa for Clerk Salary, Part-Time Technical Assistance and Equipment.)

Equipment	\$ 0
Clerk Salary & Technical Assistance	<u>3,326.01</u>
TOTAL Expended	\$ 3,326.01

ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND GOALS

		<u>In 1962</u>	<u>Since 1945</u>	<u>For 1963</u>
New District				
Cooperators	- Number	44	604	50
	Acres	5,570	107,801	10,000
Basic Conservation				
Plan	- Number	28	473	38
	Acres	4,028	83,880	7,600
Revised Conservation				
Plan	- Number	2	-	10
	Acres	320	-	2,000
Follow-Up Calls	- Number	218	-	200
Contour Layout	- Acres	3,285	47,087	4,000
Contour Strip				
Cropping	- Acres	130	1,755	100
Level Terraces	- Miles	44	501	53
Diversion Terraces	- Miles	0.2	6.2	0.5
Tile Drains	- Miles	8	69	6
Grassed Waterway				
Shaping	- Acres	31	605	45
Gully Control				
Structures	- Number	3	38	7

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

The District, its officers and those working closely with it, sincerely acknowledge the assistance rendered it, in many forms by individuals and groups. This assistance and cooperation permits the District to report another banner year.

Wm. Rossow, Chairman

W. F. Burow

Henry Brueck