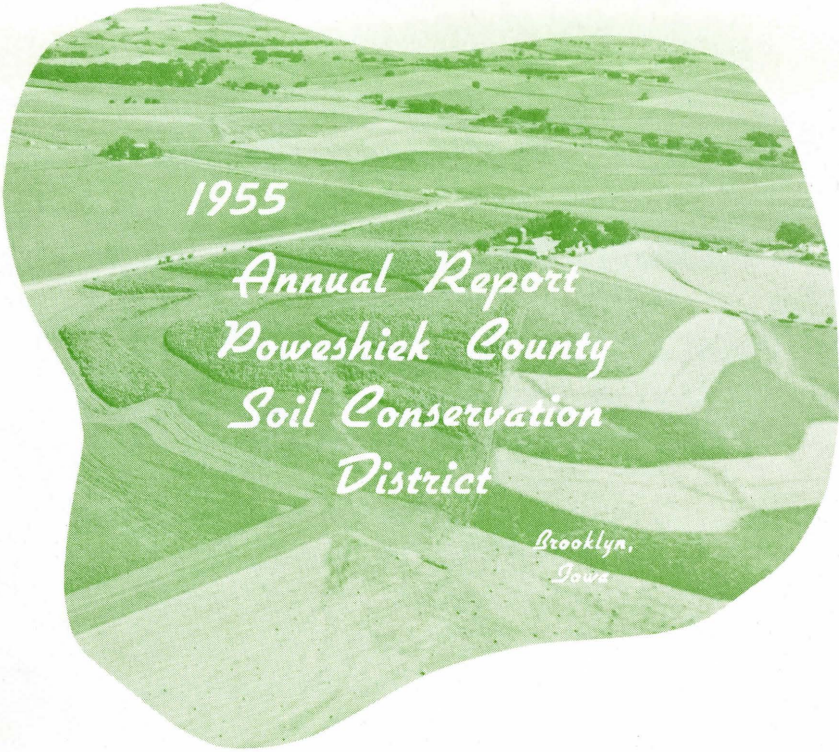




1955

*Annual Report
Poweshiek County
Soil Conservation
District*

*Brooklyn,
Iowa*



1955

***Annual Report
Poweshiek County
Soil Conservation
District***

***Brooklyn,
Iowa***

District Highlights for 1955

1. Announcement of Soil Derby. Sixteen grade schools entered contest.
2. Preliminary contest for Soil Conservation Derby. Six teams qualify for final contest.
3. Biennial election banquet. Retirement of Howard Sears after ten years of service; election of David Anthony to fill vacancy.
4. Final contest of Soil Conservation Derby. Hartwick team selected as champions.
5. A stepped-up tempo of farm pond building noted. Weather very favorable for spring construction.
6. Soil Conservation Week with press of County cooperating with special editions.
7. Grinnell business men's twilight tour on the Earl Fowler farm. One hundred in attendance.
8. Selection of winners in the Conservation Achievement Awards program. Winners listed.

Owner-operator class - Louis Schultz, Gibson, Iowa

Landlord Tenant Class -

Owner - Robert McWilliams, Deep River, Iowa

Tenant - Dean McWilliams, Deep River, Iowa

Most rapid progress - Earl Fowler, Grinnell, Iowa

9. Record accomplishment in pond construction - 55 ponds 60% - above highest previous year.



District Commissioners

Left to right: Lauren W. Wright, J. Basil Brush, David Anthony.

Foreword

As we close another year of progress in Conservation we wish to express our thanks to all who have helped in any way to make the successful year possible.

Looking forward into the new year, after two years of drouth, we are keenly aware of the need not only of soil but water conservation. Good rotations, contouring, terraces and ponds will help keep more water on the farm where it will help crops and not wash soil away.

Basic Conservation Plans

1. Henry Rosburg
2. Dr. C. W. Vest
3. Albert H. Rosburg
4. Maria Williams
5. Leslie Ormiston
6. Earl Fowler
7. Chase & Vogel
8. T. J. Deedrich
9. James Van Arkle
10. Wesley Malcolm
11. John K. Hill
12. Gust Kelm
13. Dr. C. C. Douglas
14. Lester Hendrickson
15. Donald Peterson
16. John Westercamp
17. Louis Newkirk & Otto Steffen
18. Leslie Douglas
19. Ned Hilderbrand
20. Etta Green
21. Ellis Green
22. Max Icenbice
23. Arlo Taylor
24. Dave Krumm
25. Harvey Fisk
26. L. V. Willison
27. McKinley Milligan
28. Wesley Malcolm
(second farm)
29. Richard Osborn
30. Richard Osborn
(two farm units)
31. Paul Latcham
32. V. G. Preston

New District Cooperators for 1955

1. William Carron & Fred A. Smith
2. Ida Terbell
3. Etta Green
4. Ellys Green
5. Clem DeMeulenaere
6. R. M. Cavanaugh
7. Richard B. Osborn
8. Delight Tims Svacina
9. Delight Tims Svacina
10. Delight Tims Svacina
three farms
11. Max Icenbice
12. Arlo Taylor
13. Harold F. Macy
14. Raymond W. Gregory
15. George Ingram
16. Emmett Douglas
17. Marvin Montgomery
18. Rolland Doty
19. William Kriegel
20. Kenneth Haworth
21. Delmar Hanssen
22. Mrs. V. G. Preston
23. Mrs. F. R. Graham
24. W. C. Molison
25. C. E. Griffin
26. Leo J. Schott
27. W. Craig Stanley
28. J. S. Carpenter
29. David Krumm

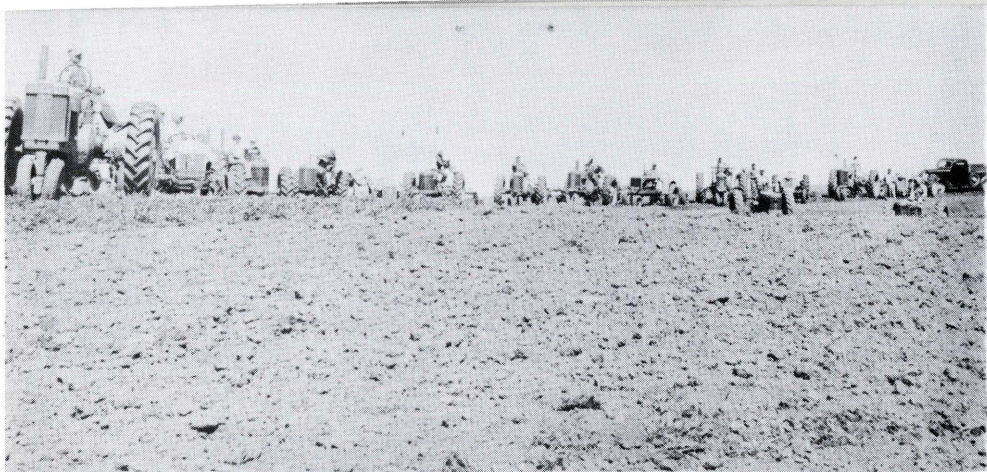


Group of neighbors met in the home of Henry Rosburg 3 miles northeast of Deep River to discuss soil and water conservation on their farms.

Three meetings are usually held to form a background for developing conservation farming plans. February 1955.



Farmers from around Montezuma meet in the basement of the Montezuma public library to study the principles of soil and water conservation before developing conservation plans on their farms. This is one of three meetings. Conservation aid Archie Casebolt is shown at the table. February 1955.



Tractors and plows lined up after plowing a field rented by the Hartwick Congregational church, May 1955. All operations were done on the contour. The project was undertaken to raise funds for the church. A technician from the Soil Conservation Service assisted in layout of the contour lands.



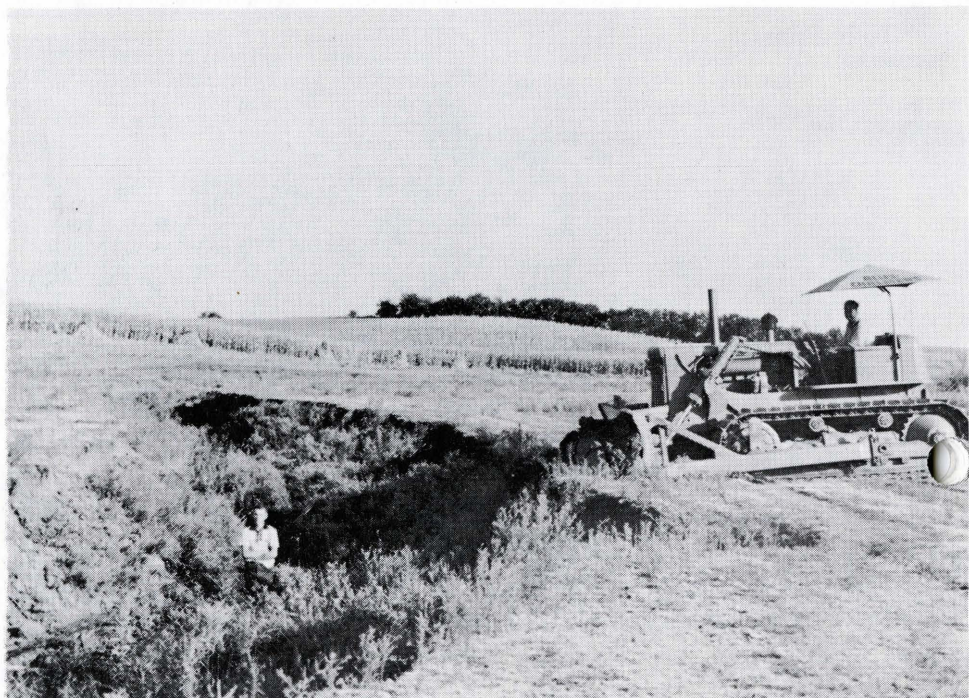
Paul DeJong, Taintor, Ia., shown cultivating corn next to one of the strips. A member of the Bandstra Watershed group.

Application of Conservation Practices in 1955

1. Ponds 55
2. Waterway 58.88 acres or 15 miles
3. Terrace 3.6 miles
4. Diversion 18.59 miles
5. Contour 16,000 acres - estimated
6. Strip Crop 714 acres
7. Tile 128,812 ft.



Aerial photo of strip cropping on the Kenneth Fisher farm one mile north Barnes City.



Gully being filled on the Louis Newkirk farm operated by Otto Steffen 3 miles northeast of Barnes City. The best way to fill gullies as big as this is with large tractor and dozer. When filled and shaped properly this waterway will be tiled and seeded to a suitable waterway mixture. Fall 1955.



An example of well established strip cropping on the Harry Edelen farm, Brown. Here corn and alfalfa brome meadow are alternated providing effective control of erosion. Soil which might otherwise be lost from the land is converted into crops.



Stocking a pond with fish on the Lauren Wright farm 3 miles southeast of Montezuma. In addition to conservation of water and soil, farm ponds create a source of food and recreation and benefit wild life in many ways. June 1955.

Agricultural Agencies in Poweshiek District

Because there are several different agricultural agencies in Poweshiek county the public is often confused. This is unfortunate because more progress can be made when the public understands the purpose and objective of each agency.

Therefore, in this summary an effort is being made to clarify understanding by stating the position of and listing a few of the important things each agency does in Poweshiek County.



**Personnel of Soil Conservation Service
and
Governing Body of the Poweshiek County
Soil Conservation District**

Soil Conservation Service personnel left to right, standing: Archie D. Casebolt, Conservation Aid; Morton C. James, Soil Conservationist; Donlad K. Lender, Conservation Aid.

District governing body left to right, seated: Lauren W. Wright, J. Basil Brush, David Anthony.

Soil Conservation Service

- The Soil Conservation technicians work under nonpolitical civil service appointments.
- The Soil Conservation technicians are assigned to the district at no extra cost .
- The Soil Conservation Service technicians are paid and their necessary supplies and equipment are furnished from federal tax funds.
- The Soil Conservation Service technicians have no authority over the district or the farmers in it.
- The Soil Conservation Service directs the work of its own men and develops their technical standards.
- The Soil Conservation Service technicians serve district cooperator without cost to the cooperator.

Soil Conservation District

- The Soil Conservation District is not responsible to any federal agency.
- The Soil Conservation District belongs to all people in Poweshiek County
- The Soil Conservation District is controlled by a farmer elected governing body.
- The Soil Conservation District has authority to ask and receive help from county, state, and federal governments.
- The Soil Conservation District formulates the policies of the soil conservationist assigned to the district.



The County Agricultural Staff
 Left, Extension Director, Roger Sandage; right, Extension Home Economist Carol Pieper.

The Agricultural Extension Service

- The County Extension Service is an arm of the Extension Service Branch of Iowa State College.
- The local cooperating group is the Poweshiek County Extension Council.
- The Extension Service provides Poweshiek County residents with an educational program in Agriculture, Home Economics, 4-H Club work and related subjects.
- The Extension educational program is planned by a committee of local people and attempts to make available the latest experimental findings and technical advice from Iowa State College and the U. S. Department of Agriculture.
- The County Extension Service is supported entirely from County, State, and Federal tax funds.



Champion Poweshiek County Soil Conservation Derby team from Hartwick shown in front of the scoreboard after winning the final contest held in connection with the biennial election-banquet at Grinnell, March 8, 1955. The team was awarded cash prizes and an engraved plaque. Team members are left to right: Clyde Leimberer, Phyllis Ryan and Barbara Benda. Alternate, Karen Henry is not shown. Teacher sponsor—Mrs. Florence E. Faas.



**The Poweshiek County A. S. C.
Committee and Office Manager**

Seated: Office manager, Laurel Dieterich. Standing left to right: Leonard Pederson, Millard Farmer and Lauren Wright.

Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation

- Pays farmers cost share for soil and water conservation practices.
- Pays farmers cost saare for soil and water conservation practices.
- Administers price support programs.
- Processes Commodity loans on corn, oats, soy beans.
- Supervises and maintains reserves of commodities delivered to CCC under price support.
- Administers acreage allotments and other related action programs under the U. S. D. A.
- Administered locally by farmer elected committees.
- Works closely with SCS and Extension in various activities of both services.

*Others in the County who help
with the District Program*

1. Radio & TV Stations
2. 4-H Clubs
3. Vocational Agriculture &
FFA
4. Boy Scouts
5. Chamber of Commerce
6. Jay-Cee's
7. Lions Clubs
8. Rotary Clubs
9. State & National Assn. of
District Commissioners
10. State Soil Conservation Com-
missioners
11. County Supervisors
12. Implement Dealers
13. Farm Bureau Groups
14. Public Schools

