

ANNUAL REPORT

1972 ACTIVITIES

1. Commissioners hold a monthly meeting to conduct business of District.
2. Watershed meetings have been held along with special meetings when necessary.
3. Elmer Brehmer attended the Livestock Waste Water Disposal Meeting at Storm Lake.
4. Max Mugge attended the Short Course at Ames.
5. Trees and shrubs were ordered and distributed in the spring.
6. Stewardship Week was observed and pamphlets were sent to all County Ministers.
7. Annual report was printed.
8. State and National dues were paid.
9. Election of two commissioners, Vere Corrington and Max Mugge, re-elected for six year terms.
10. District winners in the 1972 Iowa Soil Conservation Achievement Awards Program Contest sponsored by the Des Moines Register and Tribune and the Farm and Home Register were Max and Verdean Bumann, Quimby, Iowa and Catherine Duncan, Owner (and managed by Stalcup Agricultural Service Inc.), and Tenant Chris Kiertzner of Quimby.
11. District winners in the Sioux City Program for Permanent Agriculture Contest sponsored by the Sioux City Journal and the Sioux City Chamber of Commerce were: Ernest Carstens, Quimby, Iowa; Maurice Johnson, Quimby, Iowa and Byrl Elliott of Cherokee, Iowa.
12. Soil Loss Limit Regulations Resolution for Cherokee County passed. Meeting held in November, 1972.
13. District sponsored a booth at the County Fair.
14. School Field Days were held again for 5th and 6th graders in the county.
15. Clerk attended Annual Conference in Des Moines in September.

TERRACING

Terracing in Cherokee County had a dramatic upswing in 1972 and of these terraces, nearly eight miles on eight farms were of the push-up, grassed backslope type of construction.

This type of terrace was constructed not only on the steeper, hard to farm slopes but also on easily farmable slopes rather gradual in nature.

Advantages of grassed backslope terraces include a greater spacing between terraces and a "flattening" of the slope between terraces because of their type of construction. Grassed backslope terraces are built by pushing up a ridge from the bottom side which leaves a flat shelf of land on the bottom side of the terrace. The backslope of the terraces is seeded to brome grass and offers an added side benefit of creating some wildlife nesting cover undisturbed by farming operations. In the more sloping land, the grassed backslope "pushup" type of terrace construction is really the only practical way to terrace.

WATERSHEDS

Seven farms in the Stratton Creek Watershed installed seven miles of terraces in 1972 and another farm owner was caught short by the early hard freeze.

This brings the terracing to a total of nearly twenty-seven miles of terraces constructed in this flood control watershed, first organized in 1970.

Farm owners terracing in 1972 included Fred Harder, Belle DeWitt, Carroll DeWitt, Clara Kissinger, Hilda Kuhrts, Ernie Carstens, and Ernest Grell. All of the terraces constructed were completed in diverted acre land set aside under the Feed Grain Program of 1972.

Clifford Chapman constructed 6,500 feet of terraces in the Railroad Creek Watershed and Levi Lundquist was cut short of terracing by the early hard freeze and the late corn harvest in 1972.

IOWA CONSERVATION COMMISSION

The Iowa Conservation Commission provides assistance in planning wildlife habitat areas on private property throughout the State. The wildlife biologist for this area is Tom Neal; his office is with the Soil Conservation Service in Cherokee.

Mr. Neal provides technical assistance in developing wildlife habitat areas in five counties, including Cherokee. He is also responsible for the management of state-owned hunting and fishing areas in the five counties, advises people on wildlife problems and conducts wildlife surveys.

The Conservation Commission attempts to coordinate its activities with other agencies for maximum benefit to wildlife and other resources.

PERSONNEL

DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS

VERE CORRINGTON, *Chairman*
MAX MUGGE, *Vice-Chairman*
JOE DESSEL, *Treasurer*
DONALD DEWITT, *Little Sioux Representative*
ELMER BREHMER, *Member*

AREA PERSONNEL

WALLIS R. TONSFELDT, *Area Conservationist*
DICK HALL, *Civil Engineer*
WAYNE EBERLY, *Civil Engineer Technician*
FERN DELBRIDGE, *Area Clerk*

OFFICE STAFF

BERNARD BRABAND, *District Conservationist*
MONAS NIXON, *Conservation Technician*
GLADYS N. SCHROEDER, *Clerk and Secretary*
ALVIN W. MELTON, *WAE, (part time)*
DUANE HOLLENBECK, *WAE, (part time)*

IOWA CONSERVATION COMMISSION

TOM NEAL, *Wildlife Biologist, Cherokee, Iowa*
BOB HIBBS, *District Forester, LeMars, Iowa*

FINANCIAL REPORT

July 1, 1971-June 30, 1972

The 1-M and 2-M budgets are provided by the State of Iowa

1-M Budget Allocation.....\$ 700.00

Expenses:

Commissioner's Expenses.....	\$256.41
Office Supplies.....	150.08
Printing.....	28.21
Meeting Hall Rental.....	10.00
Material for Demonstration.....	27.50
Office Expense.....	69.14
Released to Dept. of Soil Conservation.....	158.66
	\$700.00 \$ 700.00

District Watershed Maintenance Fund:

Balance on Hand July 1, 1971.....	\$36,379.10
Watershed Maintenance Payments.....	896.55
Bond Cancellation Refund.....	64.00
Interest.....	1,634.64
Total.....	\$38,974.29
Expenses.....	488.52
Balance on Hand June 30, 1972.....	\$38,485.77

2-M Budget Allocation.....\$5,550.00

Clerical Salary, FICA, IPERS, Travel, Insurance.....

Released to Dept. of Soil Conservation..... 117.88

\$5,550.00 \$5,550.00

District General Fund:

Balance on Hand July 1, 1971.....	\$1,047.80
Income.....	1,502.58
Total.....	\$2,550.38
Expenses.....	1,446.12
Balance on Hand June 30, 1972.....	\$1,104.26

DISTRICT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

	Unit	Fiscal Year	To Date
District Cooperators.....	No.	30	937
Conservation Plans.....	No.	16	766
Terraces.....	Ft.	139,693	3,071,715
Waterways.....	Ac.	86	1,613
Diversions.....	Ft.	2,000	61,609
Structures and Ponds.....	No.	12	236

	Unit	Fiscal Year	To Date
Tile.....	Ft.	127,698	2,356,416
Windbreaks.....	Ac.	9	1,369
Contouring.....	Ac.	785	—
Landowners Assisted.....	No.	293	—
Farms applying one or more practices.....	No.	129	—
Technical Services.....	No.	926	—

IN CONCLUSION

We wish to thank all landowners and tenants, agencies, organizations and individuals whose assistance and help has made our accomplishments possible. The personnel of the Soil Conservation Service, the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service, the Extension Service, the Iowa Conservation Commission, the Department of Soil Conservation Service, Natural Resources Council, Pollution Control Commission, County and City Government, Contractors and News Media have all greatly helped in furthering the soil and water conservation in our county.

Cherokee County Soil Conservation District Commissioners

1972

ANNUAL

REPORT

**CHEROKEE
COUNTY SOIL
CONSERVATION
DISTRICT**