

Soil Conservation Annual Report

The SPIRIT LAKE (IA.) BEACON

Thursday, September 22, 1983

Protect your most precious
possession . . . your land.



Soil Conservation Week — September 18-25

Guest Editorial - Soil Commissioners

The SPIRIT LAKE (Ia.) BEACON
Thursday, Sept. 22, 1983 2-C

By
**Andrew Hoffman, Chairman
Dickinson County Soil
Conservation District**

Your land is like your children, in one way. That is, it's changing year by year, if not day by day.

But, since you're so close to it, and the change is gradual, it's difficult to see dramatic differences.

One trip with a disc, harrow or cultivator can smooth the small rills left after a heavy rain, and erase the erosion problem from your mind, for the time being.

But that erosion mounts up after a time, to the tune of an average loss in Iowa of an inch every 15 years, soil conservationists say. On steep land, it can be twice that much and more.

It's easy to see erosion after heavy rainstorms, with evident rills, sediment fans, and buried

crops at the bottom of a slope. But the "hidden" erosion that takes place year after year from lighter rains is just as much a problem.

The answer? A total soil conservation system for your farm — especially the cropland. Practices to use include conservation tillage, crop rotations, stripcropping, contouring, grassed waterways, and terraces. Each of these practices has merits, but one alone isn't enough. Only a combination of soil conservation practices can insure your topsoil's future productivity.

For example, economics have made conservation tillage very attractive, and farmers in the county have adopted some form of reduced tillage. But, one practice isn't usually enough insurance against erosion.

Targeting federal conservation funds to high priority areas is proving to be an excellent way to speed adoption of complete soil conservation systems. We look for more target areas in the state in the future.

Likewise, funding for the "Iowa Soil 2000 Program" is providing more state assistance to Dickinson County soil conservation needs. Beginning this year, the district will start distribution of conservation folders to all landowners in the county.

The Dickinson County Soil Conservation District Commissioners urge farmers to examine their fields for erosion. Please feel free to contact us for any assistance in evaluating your situation and suggesting options to control erosion in problem areas.

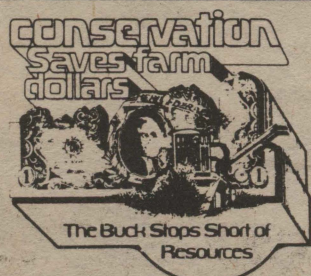


SOIL CONSERVATION Service Commissioners include, left to right, Chris Hoffman, Assistant Commissioner; Andrew Hoffman, Chairman; Chuck Shorey, Commissioner; Ernie Skow, Commis-

sioner; and Orville Berg, Commissioner. Absent from the photo was Commissioner Bob Ingwersen. (Photo by Manny Zempel.)

Good reasons for using conservation tillage ...

Fact — Crop yields in conservation tillage fields are comparable to those in conventionally tilled fields. In dry years, yields on conservation tilled fields may be better because of moisture savings.



Here in our farming community we have a special opportunity to help, through the use of soil conservation practices ... help conserve our land, for a tomorrow bright with prosperity.

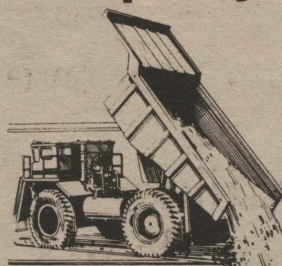
**FARMERS COOP
ASSOCIATION**

Phone 336-2281
Jackson, MN Spirit Lake, IA

Practice Conservation — Let Us Help You Conserve Your Property.

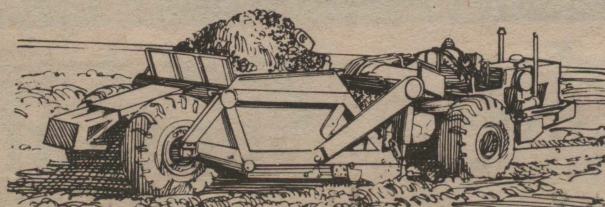


- Site Preparation & Excavation
- Dozers & Scrapers
- End Loader
- Backhoes • Dump Trucks
- Dragline • Ditching
- Road Gravel • Sand
- Black Dirt



**WEDEKING
CONSTRUCTION, INC.**

Spirit Lake, Iowa 336-2981



CONSERVATION Begins With The Land ...

... Choose Equipment Best
Suited To Your Farming Needs

See our new Hiniker Minimum Till
Planter & Cultivator

J.D. WEBB, Inc.



Hwy. 9 East 362-7277 Estherville

A Look At Grassed Waterways

The SPIRIT LAKE (Ia.) BEACON
Thursday, Sept. 22, 1983 3-C

GRASSED WATERWAYS STILL IMPORTANT CONSERVATION TOOLS

Although many crop producers consider grassed waterways a thing of the past, they still are an excellent conservation practice. Siltation and herbicide damage have caused many waterways to fail, but these problems can be solved with good management.

Stewart Melvin, Iowa State University extension agricultural engineer, says even though conservation tillage is being used on more acres of Iowa farmland, waterways are still one of the best techniques for preventing major rill erosion. "Excessive rill erosion occurs where channeled water runs across unprotected land surfaces," Melvin says.

Even no-tilled land is subject to erosion by a concentrated flow of water, he said. And good grassed waterways can provide a stable channel for runoff water without causing erosion, sediment buildup or flooding in a field.

Good waterways must be properly constructed and maintained. Soil Conservation Service technicians can help design a waterway that is of the proper shape, width, depth and alignment for a field.

After design work is done, Melvin says trees and brush should be cleared from the waterway site. Where subsoil is unproductive, topsoil should be removed and stockpiled for spreading after the waterway has been shaped. In very wet areas, subsurface drains should be laid on both sides of the waterway.

As soon as possible after the waterway has been shaped, the producer should establish a quick initial ground cover and a permanent sod-forming grass on it. Stephen Barnhart, Iowa State University extension agronomist, says good soil fertility in the waterway seedbed is important for rapid stand establishment.

Fertilizer should be applied on the basis of soil test recommendations, Barnhart says. "Consider the seeding as a forage or pasture establishment when you request fertilizer rate recommendations. In the absence of a soil test, apply about 50 pounds per acre each of nitrogen, phosphate and potash."

There is no one best seeding choice for grassed waterways. Barnhart says smooth brome grass is a good all-purpose grass, but reed canarygrass may be better suited for waterways that will be wet for long periods. Kentucky bluegrass is a good choice, but it may require more careful management at first because it establishes more slowly than other grasses. Tall fescue forms a weak sod, but it can be used in waterways if seed-

ed at high rates.

"Whatever kind of grass you decide to use in your waterways, don't skimp on seed," he says. "A thick initial stand is what you want to develop."

Spring or late-summer seedings have the best chance of success. The seed can be drilled or broadcast, but should be seeded one-fourth to three-fourths inches deep.

"Don't disc in grass seed," he says. "Roll or harrow it in to achieve the shallow coverage and good seed-to-soil contact you want."

Early stands can be protected from erosion by a light covering of straw or other mulch. Or, producers can sow a companion crop of oats into waterways during the establishment year.

Once established, waterways still require maintenance, Melvin says. Two problems that have kept many farmers from maintaining their grassed waterways are sediment deposits and herbicide damage. With careful maintenance and the use of some additional conservation practices, Melvin

said these problems can be solved.

"Conservation tillage, strip cropping and using terraces along with grassed waterways will reduce soil losses on the land being drained and protect the waterways from sediment buildup," Melvin says. "And effective shut-off valves and no-drip nozzles on sprayer equipment will prevent

accidental herbicide application to the waterways.

Herbicide selection also is important to consider when planning to spray around waterways.

Because long-lived, highly water soluble grass herbicides are hazardous to use around grassed waterways, Melvin says producers

should try to use chemicals with low water solubility in the watershed above waterways.

Today ...

Progress has been made in soil-saving programs, but only about one-third of the land is protected. As more land is shifted from grass or meadow to row crops, the soil is more susceptible to erosion.

LAKES RADIATOR SHOP

- Radiator Repair
- Sharpening Service

8:30 to 5:30, Mon. - Fri.
8:00 to Noon, Saturday

PHONE

336-2725



D & L Construction

...providing soil conservation services to N.W. Iowa for over 15 years.

- Drainage • Tiling
 - Backhoe & Dozer Work
 - We Repair Tile
- See Us Today

"WE DO IT RIGHT THE 1ST TIME!"

D & L CONSTRUCTION

SPIRIT LAKE, IA

336-1561

LEROY LENZ - OWNER

CONSERVE SOIL
...IT PAYS YOU!

Our Services
will help. Let
us give you
an estimate.

DAVID W. NELSON

Free Job
Estimates on:

- * Earth Moving
 - * Tree
 - Excavation
 - * Soil
- conservation
work of all
kinds.



TERRIL, IOWA

PHONE: 853-6300

Collect after 5:00 p.m.

SORENSEN FARM DRAINAGE, INC.

Serving Area Farmers With:

- Laser Controlled FARM TILING
- Ditch Cleaning
- Sewer and Waterwork
- Underground Boring



Sorensen Farm Drainage, Inc.

Hartley, Iowa • 1-712-728-2415

District Activities - Scholarship Winners

The SPIRIT LAKE (Ia.) BEACON
Thursday, Sept. 22, 1983 4-C

July 1, 1982 to June 30, 1983

July - 24 WECIP practices and 5 no-till practices were checked and approved for payment. Commissioners and families and office personnel and families held their annual picnic at the Orville Berg home on July 12.

September - Outdoor Classroom for 224 sixth graders in Dickinson County was held on September 23 at Hogsback area.

Commissioners Chas. Shorey, Robert C. Ingwersen, Orville J. Berg, Ernest Skow and Maurice Dougal, and District Conservationist Clarence Call, attended regional commissioner's meeting in Pocahontas on September 13.

November - Clarence Call, Robert Ingwersen and Orville Berg attended conservation tillage planning meeting in Primghar on November 9.

December - Commissioners Bob Ingwersen, Andy Hoffman, Orville Berg, and Ernie Skow attended the annual soil conservation conference held in Des Moines on November 29, 30 and December 1. Commissioners' annual Christmas dinner was held at Teeg's on December 4. Clarence Call was in Sioux City on December 8 and 9 to attend area meeting.

January - Bob Ingwersen, Clarence Call and Maurice Dougal attended Short Course held in Ames on January 18 and 19.

February - Dennis Rustman, Soil Conservation Technician, was in Des Moines on February 15, 16 and 17 to attend Soil Conservation Technicians' meeting.

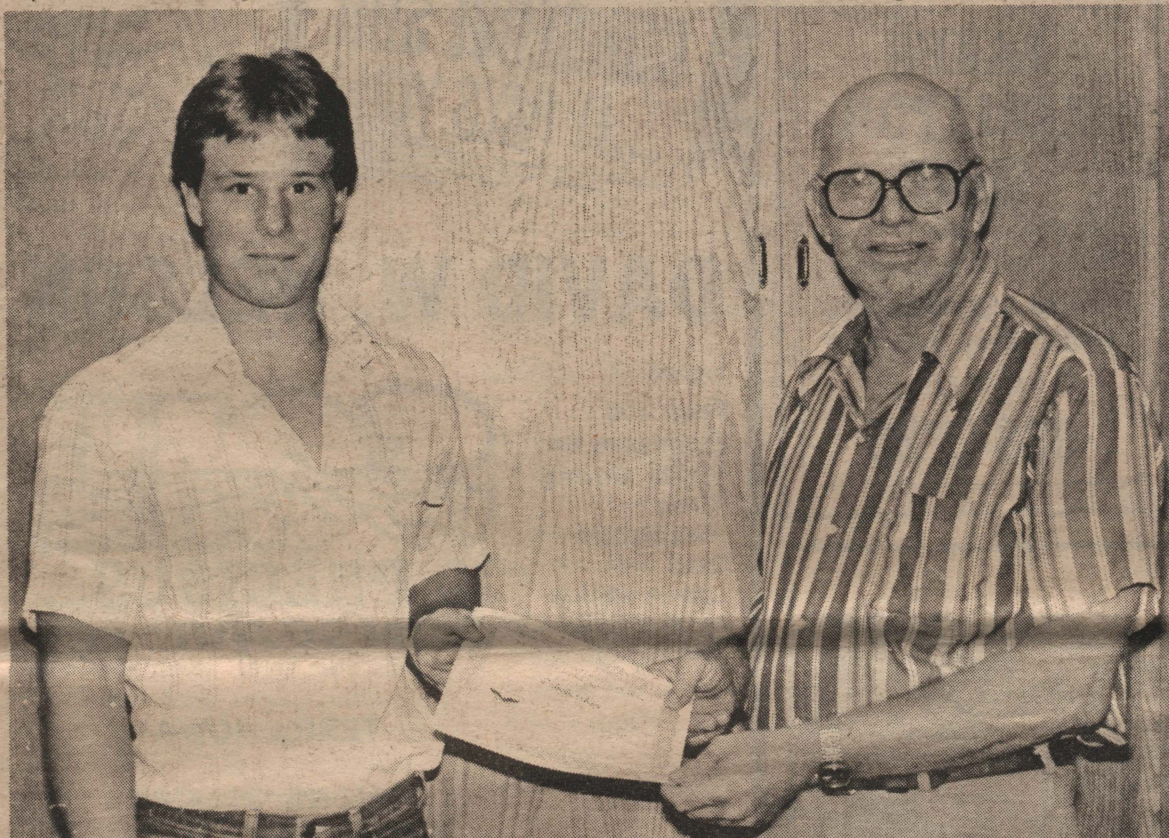
March - Clarence Call, Dennis Rustman, and commissioners attended Northwest Iowa Tillage Expo in Spencer in March. Commissioners assisted in conducting this expo. Call and commissioners Bob Ingwersen and Andy Hoffman attended all-day regional commissioners' meeting in Fort Dodge on March 7. Call and commissioners Chas. Shorey and Orville Berg attended Marc Cox Banquet in Sioux City on March 22.

April - Dickinson County District was one of seven districts in northwest Iowa to purchase a 4-row John Deere 7100 planter, equipped with fluted and ripple colters, liquid fertilizer attachments and trash whippers. This planter was donated to the Iowa State University for research use. Soil Stewardship materials were distributed to fifteen churches in

the county this month. A total of 43 applications for the tax exempt status under the "Slough Bill" were received by the Dickinson SCD by the April 15 deadline. These applications represented a total of 416 acres of wetlands, 59 acres each of forest cover and rivers and streams and 42 acres of open prairie. Commissioners presented each 6th grader in the county with a green ash tree during April. A total of 250 trees were presented. They also donated trees to the Isaac Walton Marathon run in Clay County. They presented Lake Park Cub Scouts, Pack 71, with amur maple trees.

Soil Loss In Iowa ... A recent USDA study of soil erosion in the United States shows that Iowa has the most soil erosion of any state. The 1977 National Erosion Inventory shows the average soil loss on cropland in Iowa is 9.9 tons per acre per year, more than twice the national average of 4.8 tons a year.

Good reasons for using conservation tillage ...
Fact — Conservation tillage saves time. Fewer trips across a field save valuable time and energy for the farmer.



ROD LANGEL, of Milford, son of Mr. and Mrs. Earl Langel, received a \$300 scholarship from the Dickinson County District Commissioners this past week. Langel is attending Iowa State Univer-

sity. Commissioner Ernest Skow, of Lake Park, is shown presenting Langel with the scholarship certificate. (Photo by Cindy Schubert.)

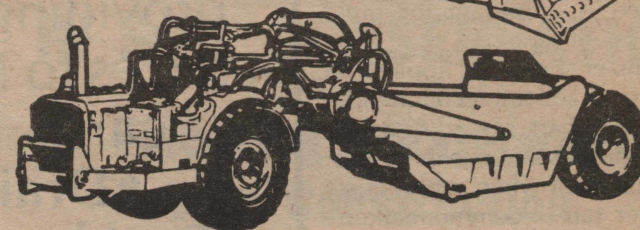
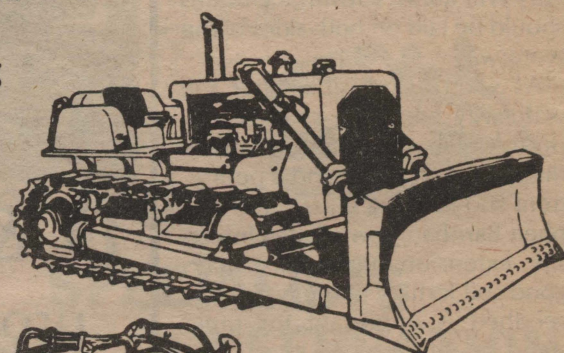


THE DICKINSON COUNTY Soil Conservation District Commissioners presented a \$300 scholarship to Terri Thorn, left, son of Mr. and Mrs. Lynn Thorn, of Arnolds Park. Thorn is attending South

Dakota State at Brookings. Commissioner Ernest Skow, of Lake Park is shown presenting the scholarship. (Photo by Cindy Schubert.)

See Us For The Complete Job

- Open Ditch Cleaning
- Terracing
- Tree Clearing
- Dozer Work



- Land Leveling
 - Feed Lot Construction
 - Building Site Development
- For Your Farm We Stock Culvert Pipe.

Estherville Sand and Gravel, Inc.

Giving You the Best Service for Over 30 Years!
Call for Estimates: 712-362-3506 or 712-362-3613

Guest Editorial - SCS Personnel

The SPIRIT LAKE (Ia.) BEACON
Thursday, Sept. 22, 1983 5-C

Guest Editorial
By

Clarence Call
District Conservationist

WE'RE A BUNCH OF RICH KIDS

Like wealthy brats, we have never really felt the pinch of poverty. We don't know **real** hunger. We are used to a super abundant supply of good food. Being overweight is a national problem. Most of the remainder of the world would give anything to have our problems of overproduction, oversupply and being overweight. These "problems" are brought on primarily by being blessed with productive soils that have no equal anywhere else on this planet.

But, like a bunch of rich kids, we have never had to do without it, so we treat our soil with indifference. It has always been there and it always will be. Won't it? Or will it? Some of the older men in the community will tell you that there is just as much topsoil out there as there ever was. It **does** appear that way because, viewed from the surface, six inches of topsoil looks very much like a foot of topsoil. And there probably isn't all that much difference in crop yields between the two.

There is, however, a vast difference. Wait until there is only three inches instead of the present six inches. Common sense tells us that if erosion continues there will someday be no topsoil left on our sloping land. With no topsoil, the concern about grain embargoes, overproduction and storing the surplus is gone.

We have, been a bunch of rich kids about as long as we can afford to be. Anyone who farms the soil should have a maintenance plan for his land that leaves it as good as he found it. We **do** have answers to these soil loss problems. It is possible to have a soil maintenance system that cuts soil losses to an absolute minimum.

Some farms need a system of soil conservation practices rather than a single practice. It is possible to install terraces which require contour farming and by using conservation tillage, soil losses can be cut to almost nothing.

Remember, there will be many more people before there is any more land to feed them. It is time we consider our topsoil. If you have an erosion problem (and most every farmer has), call on us at the Soil Conservation Service. We **do** have a solution to your problem.



PERSONNEL at the ASCS office, in Spirit Lake, includes left to right, seated, Pat Achenbach and Ruby Caskey. Standing, left to right, Cindy Lilienthal, Valerie Shaver, and Bette Vetter. (Photo by Susan Reiser.)

Tree plantings make farm more pleasant, comfortable also reduces soil erosion

Tree plantings will make your farm home and its surroundings a more pleasant and comfortable place to live. Tests have shown that a good windbreak can cut your fuel bill 32%. Snowdrifts can be kept out of your farm yard and driveways by planting trees in the right places. Livestock make better gains on less feed when protected from cold winter winds. Your garden and orchard will be much more successful protected from wind.

Windbreaks slow down the speed of the wind for a distance of about 20 times the height of the windbreak. In other words, a windbreak 30 ft. high will cut down wind speed for a distance of 600 ft. from the windbreak.

By reducing wind speed, you can prevent or reduce soil blowing. Damage to crops — such as blowing of seeds or seedlings out

of the ground, cutting off seedlings, or blowing down mature crops — often can be prevented by windbreaks. Snow piles up to greater depths on fields protected by windbreaks. This added moisture is one of the reasons why crop yields are usually higher in fields protected by windbreaks.

Windbreaks containing fruit bearing trees and shrubs furnish

food and cover for wildlife. For help in planning your farm windbreak, contact the Soil Conservation Office in Spirit Lake for technical help.

NATIONAL FARM SAFETY WEEK September 18-24, 1983

Safeguard the Future

PROTECT
EDUCATE



Representing GRINELL
MUTUAL REINSURANCE CO.

GRINELL MUTUAL



DICKINSON COUNTY MUTUAL INSURANCE

1817 Hill
Spirit Lake
336-1262

Shafer Bldg.
Lake Park
832-3210

923 Okoboji Ave.
Milford
338-4826

FROM THE NATIONAL SAFETY COUNCIL

FS Serving A Changing Dynamic Agriculture

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

C-D Farm Service

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

Complete Farm Supply

Service for **FS**
Clay, Dickinson,
O'Brien, and
Osceola
Counties.

Let Us Help You With our Soil Conservation Tillage Equipment

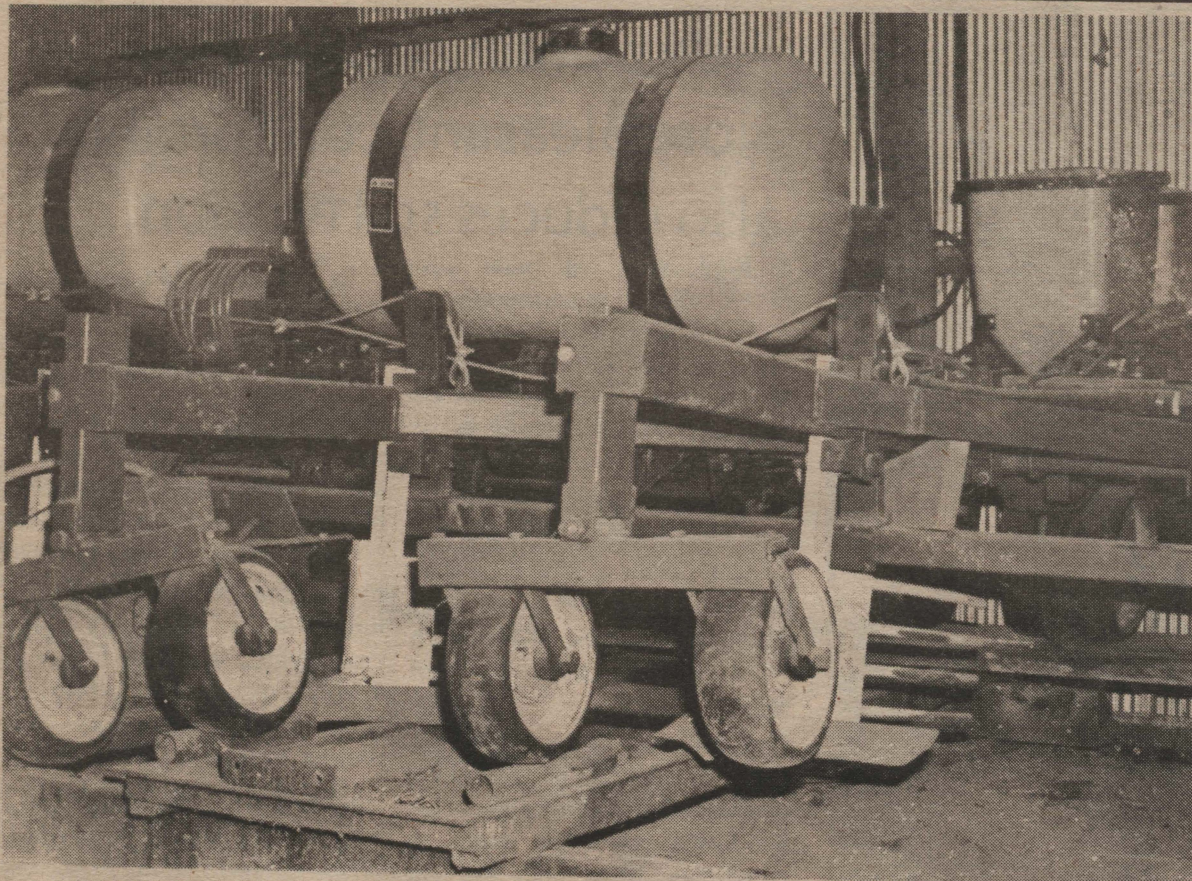
6500 IH Conser-Till
5500 IH Chisel Plows
#14 IH Subsoilers
Series 200 Kewanee
Plow Disc

Jaycox Implement Inc.

Lake Park, Iowa
712-832-3151
or 712-832-3395

1983 Marc Cox Program Winners

The SPIRIT LAKE (Ia.) BEACON
Thursday, Sept. 22, 1983 6-C



HEIKENS made a few modifications on his John Deere 7,000 planter to meet his specifications. Heikens recently devised a piece of equipment to

knife in phosphate and potash. Read the accompanying details for more information. (Photo by Susan Reiser.)

Through Nebraska...

Contest winners

**By Susan Reiser
Editor**

Three Dickinson County residents, interested in the conservation of soil, were named area winners in the 1983 Marc Cox Conservation Program. This is the first time in at least 10 years Dickinson County has won the program which involves 14 counties in northwest Iowa.

As winners in the contest, which was sponsored by the Sioux City Chamber of Commerce, Roger and Mary Heikens, John and Shirley McCann and Jared and Mary Herbert received an all-expense paid trip through northeast Nebraska. The two-day tour featured stops at wildlife areas, cattle and hog confinement facilities and farms featuring solar energy and irrigation systems.

HERBERT FARMS

Jared and Mary and Bob and Sally Herbert, of rural Lake Park,

were named county winners in the program for their numerous conservation projects near Lake Park.

A 141-acre farm northwest of Lake Park, purchased and farmed jointly by the Herberts, employs four conservation practices including five waterways, three narrow base tile intake terraces, seeded critical areas and contour farming with no plowing since the farm was purchased in 1979.

When the Herberts acquired the land, the property contained no waterways. The Herberts are currently working with the Soil Conservation Service to construct a fourth narrow base tile intake terrace. This terrace will be more than 1,500 feet in length, more than the other three terraces combined.

"By eliminating the plowing, we've cut down on the amount of work. We make less trips across the fields. Terraces and waterways



HEIKENS opens his cornfields with a field cutter. Notice the ridge that will be used to plant next year's crop in. Heikens said that he controls soil

and wind erosion and saves time and fuel with his no-till operation. (Photo by Susan Reiser.)

If you haven't thought about terraces lately, maybe you should. Terraces can be built in a variety of designs to fit most fields and farming operations. Cost-share programs and loans may be available to help you install terrace systems.

Erosion has stripped half of the original 16 inches of topsoil from Iowa's sloping farmland in the last century. Remaining topsoil will be gone in another hundred years if the present rate of erosion continues. Soil and chemicals applied to it are major pollutants of Iowa lakes and streams.



Roger and Mary Heikens

receive all expense paid trip

eliminate washouts in our fields," Jared Herbert said.

Herbert said that they do not normally do anything with the beanstalks. A heavy disc is used on the cornstalk stubble.

"We use a combination of conservation practices to limit and stop erosion," Herbert said.

The Herberts farm slightly more than 630 row crop acres.

McCANN

John, of Spirit Lake, and Jim McCann, of Hoopeson, Ill., own a 59 acre tract of land in Center Grove Township that uses conservation tillage as a method of eliminating erosion.

The land, located across the road from Camp Foster, is farmed by Dean Stover of Spirit Lake.

The farm currently has four grass backslope terraces, a fifth terrace, to be constructed, will be a narrow tile intake.

District Soil Conservationist Clarence Call said that one or two additional terraces would be needed on the McCann property before erosion would be totally controlled.

John McCann said that Stover doesn't plow the land but uses a disc and chisel. The bean stubble remains over the winter season.

"Conservation is important on this farm because it is in the watershed of East Okoboji. These soil conservation practices help keep the sediment out of the lake," McCann said.

HEIKENS

Roger and Mary Heikens were recognized for their conservation practices of ridge planting, grassed waterways and a wildlife area.

Heikens switched from conventional to no-till farming in 1966 on about 500 crop acres of land. No-till methods basically mean no till-

age of ground before the crops are planted.

Heikens purchased a John Deere 7,000 planter in 1979, modifying it with his own ridge cleaner invention. Heikens started knifing in phosphate and potash in a high alkali area with another piece of equipment built to his specifications.

The one-acre wildlife area was planted in 1977 in a low, inconvenient area of the farm. The triangle shaped area, which includes red cedar and honeysuckle trees, is kept mowed to keep thistles from going to seed.

"The main advantage of no-till is the control of soil and wind erosion. Time and fuel are other advantages," Heikens said.

Three farming terms are often confused and are clarified in the following:

Conservation tillage: Simply means leaving the old crop residue on the surface as opposed to plowing it under.

Till planting: Tilling back in the old residue running a shovel to till right in front of the planting unit usually using a 10 inch sweep.

No-till or slot planting: Planting the seed back in the old row with no tillage or back into the slot using a knife, disc or fluted coulter.



Jerod and Mary Herbert



John and Shirley McCann



JEROD HERBERT, left, and Clarence Call, right, discuss soil conservation practices used on Herbert's 141-acre farm northwest of Lake Park.

Read the accompanying story for more details. (Photo by Susan Reiser.)

MAKE PLANS NOW FOR
SPRING TREE PLANTING

Farm owners and operators who are thinking about planting some trees on their property next spring, will find that now is the best time to start planning.

Paul H. Wray, Iowa State University extension forester, says early fall is an ideal time to make landscaping plans, build fences, and do the initial site preparation for spring tree planting. Fall also may be the best time to order trees from nurseries or tree suppliers.

Landowners should consider a number of details to ensure that their spring planting will be successful. First, Wray says, pick a tree species that is best suited to the planting site.

"Just like any other crop, trees have definite soil, moisture and light requirements for best growth," Wray says. "So you should always note the soil type and present ground cover of the site, and then try to match a tree to the site."

Second, he says landowners should think about the care and maintenance required for the planting project. Because many planting activities are larger than can be adequately cared for, he says people should consider how much time and money can be spent on tree planting and how large the planting site is before they decide to plant.

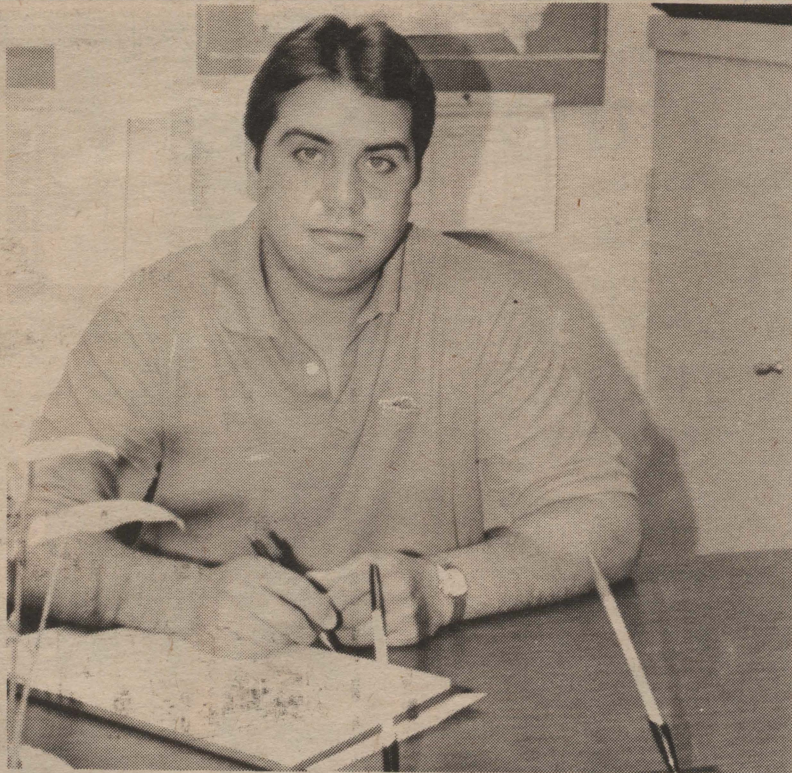
Third, Wray says the method of planting should be determined beforehand. Hand-planting can be done where a small number of trees (2,000 - 3,000) is planted or where planting is done on steep slopes. Otherwise, he says, it may be easier to plant by machine.

Finally, Wray says trees and other supplies and chemicals should be ordered early. Because of an increased demand for trees during the past few years, landowners should place their orders in time to make sure they can obtain the desired species and size of planting stock.

After considering these details, Wray says landowners should prepare the site and spray for weeds. He says these two steps are essential for successful tree planting.

"Lack of adequate site preparation and weed control causes more tree planting failures than anything else," he says. "Landowners will want to give careful attention to these things to make sure their trees survive."

In places where trees will have intense competition from weeds and other vegetation, site preparation can be done by several methods. For small-scale plantings, Wray says hand scalping can be done on the planting site in strips or in circles, three to four feet in



ASCS Director Larry Lago

diameter. For larger plantings, he says fall plowing in strips or applying Roundup in strips may be more appropriate.

"Vegetation between the rows of trees is usually left undisturbed for erosion control," he says. "If there is no permanent vegetation between rows, some type of permanent grass should be established to control erosion and unwanted weed growth."

Site preparation may not be

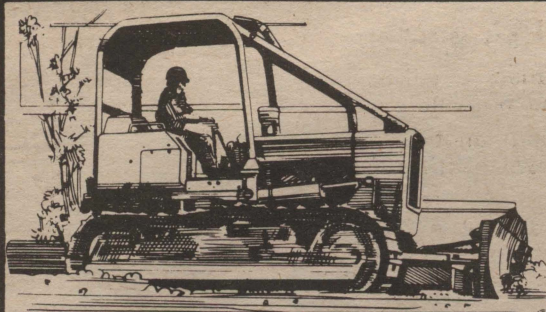
necessary on soils without sod or weed growth. On these sites, weed control can be accomplished by hoeing or shallow cultivating. Pre-emergent herbicides such as simazine, Goal, Surflan and Kerb can be used.

"Simazine can be applied in the fall or spring, either before or after tree planting," Wray says. "The other herbicides should be applied in the early spring, right after tree planting."

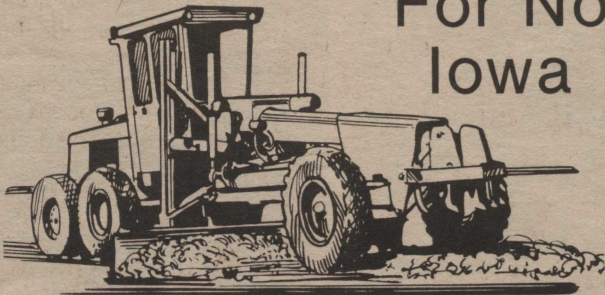
Soil Conservation District
Accomplishments

Fiscal Year July 1, 1982 — August 30, 1983

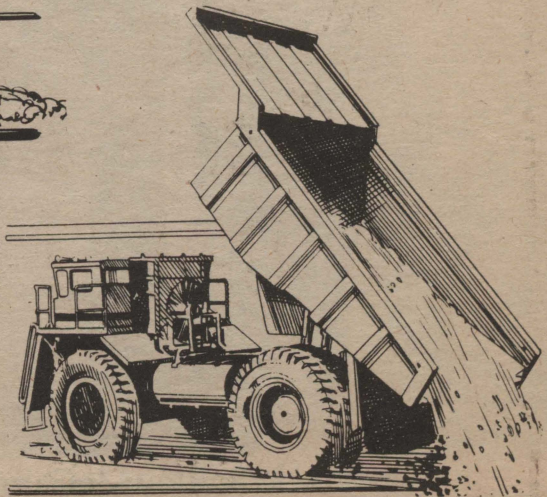
Conservation District Cooperators	
(no. and ac.)	21 - 3,021
Conservation District Cooperators Canceled	
(no. and ac.)	18 - 3,320
Individuals and Groups Assisted (no.)	304
Technical Services for Land Unit	
Conservation Planning and Application	547
Individuals and Groups Apply Practices (no.)	119
Alternatives Provided	405 acres
Conservation Plans (no. and ac.)	21 - 3,376
Old Plans Canceled	79,799 acres
Conservation Tillage Systems	6,366 acres
Governmental Agencies Assisted (no.)	2
Critical Area Planting	10 acres
Farmstead and Feedlot Windbreaks	11.3 acres
Field Windbreaks	1,080 ft.
Grass Waterway or Outlet	2.5 acres
Terraces	8,150 ft.
Subsurface Drain	47,443 ft.
Windbreak Renovation	8.8 acres
Cropland Benefited by Application of Conservation Practice	7,030 acres
Wildlife Land Benefited by Application of Conservation Practice	3 acres
Pasture and Hayland Adequately Protected	22 acres
Range and Native Pasture Adequately Protected	36 acres
Wildlife Land Adequately Protected	15 acres
Cropland Adequately Protected	2,730 acres
Other Land Adequately Protected	35 acres
Cropland Adequately Treated	116 acres



Eldon Harris
349-2138



COHRS GRAVEL
AND EXCAVATION
LAKE PARK
832-3714
SPIRIT LAKE
336-4543



We All Must Work to
Conserve the Land!

•Complete Soil
Conservation Services
For Northwest
Iowa

ASCS Personnel - Erosion Concerns

The SPIRIT LAKE (Ia.) BEACON
Thursday, Sept. 22, 1983 9-C



OFFICE PERSONNEL at the Dickinson County Soil Conservation Service Office includes, left to right, Dennis Rustman, Conservation Technician; Betty Farmer, State Clerk; and Clarence Call, District Conservationist. (Photo by Susan Reiser.)

Good reasons for using conservation tillage ...
Fact — Planting can be done earlier and more quickly with conservation tillage. In wet years, especially, the farmer with a no-till or till planter can be planting while the one with a moldboard plow can't get into the field.

Protect the Land ... Practice Conservation ...

- SERVICES WE OFFER**
- Land Drainage
 - Backhoe
 - 3 Trenches Available
 - Waterways & Terraces

**Don Lair
& Sons**

Rt. 2, Box 65, Estherville
Phone 1-362-7063 or
338-2485

Soil Conservation Week Sept. 18 - 24

COOL WEATHER QUIZ

1. Were you satisfied with last winters heating bills?
2. Can you afford another winter of high heating costs?
3. Can you afford to move to the Bahamas where it's warm in the winter?

If you can honestly answer yes to the three questions above, then there's no need to read any farther, but if your answers were no, it's time you need to do something! And Portable Kerosene room heaters are just the answer. Turn to

YUASA

SIX MODELS TO CHOOSE FROM
FAIL SAFE AND ODORLESS
AUTOMATIC IGNITION
EASY TO READ FUEL GAUGE
STRONG CONSTRUCTION
EFFICIENT/ALMOST 100%

STARTING AS LOW AS:

\$99⁹⁵

PLUS: Receive a free \$10.00 Kerosene can with every purchase.

J. D. WEBB INC.

Phone 332-7909
Hwy. 71 & Airport Rd., Okoboji

We all need
to practice
**Soil
Conservation**
in order
for us to
keep going
and growing!



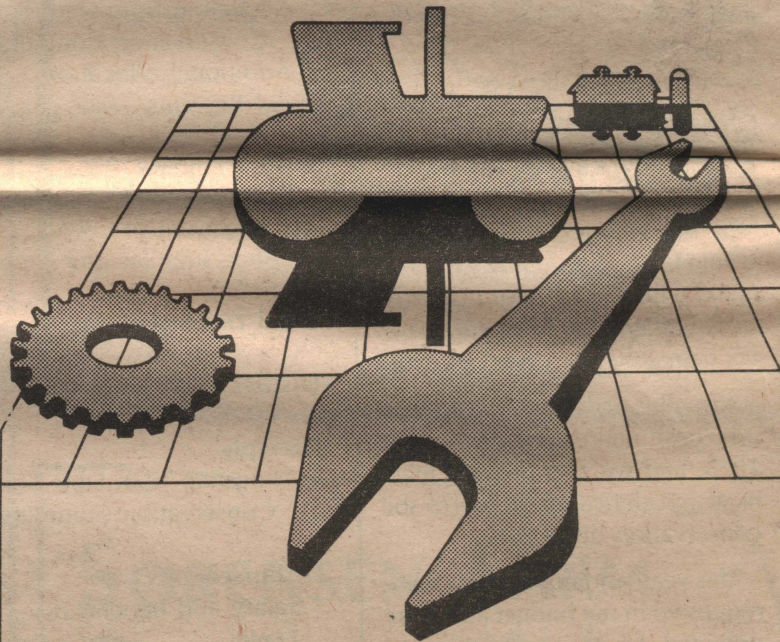
IT MAKES CENTS!



Your FAMILY BANKING CENTER

*The State
Bank*

Member F.D.I.C.



When Machinery Stops ... Farm Production Stops. That's Why You Need Hard Cash to Keep Your Farm Going and Growing!

A farm without sound finances is like a car without fuel. All the operating parts are there and ready to run, but it takes the gasoline to put it in motion. In this farming community, we know the problems you're up against ...

When you're in need of a farm loan, we try our best to provide the financing 'fuel' you'll need to keep your farm in motion, by arranging terms to best suit a specialized farm schedule like yours.



Federal Land Bank Association of Emmetsburg

Eldon Goff, Mgr. — Spencer, Iowa 51301 — 1-262-5760

LOCAL CONTACT POINT

ASCS Office, Spirit Lake — 336-3782

Thursdays: 9 a.m. to 12 Noon

Guest Editorial - Financial Statement

The SPIRIT LAKE (Ia.) BEACON
Thursday, Sept. 22, 1983 10-C

A Guest Editorial

By

Governor Terry Branstad

Having seen first-hand the effects of good soil management, I have always respected the idea of proper soil conservation. The ability of Iowa's conservation farmers to produce an abundant crop while protecting this valuable resource is ample evidence that the idea works.

Still, Iowa's loss of this seemingly inexhaustible supply of topsoil continues to average nearly ten tons per acre per year, double the rate that soil replenishes itself. We have lost over half of our rich topsoil in the past 100 years.

Soil erosion is also a major culprit in the pollution of our rivers, lakes and streams. Sediment continues to be the state's largest single pollutant by volume. Farm chemicals are also carried piggy-back fashion from field to stream atop water transported soil particles.

This is a situation we can ill-afford, and one that state government sought to correct in 1980 with enactment of the "Iowa Soil 2000" Program. We must deal with our serious erosion problems within the next twenty years, or be faced with loss of future productivity and income depletion of our tax base and this natural resource.

Iowa has had its own state-funded, cost share program since 1973, and we also provide technical and clerical personnel to soil conservation districts.

This year, additional funds were requested in my budget and were provided by the Legislature to meet the growing demand for the installation of permanent soil conservation practices.

As of July 1, an additional \$8.494 million became available for this year's program, up \$2.9 million from appropriations levels of a year ago.

We're also initiating this year, a new, no-interest conservation loan program to be used by itself without other types of assistance or cost-share incentives. Loan recipients will be asked to pay back

the loan in equal installments over a ten-year period. One million dollars has been provided for each of the next two years to initiate this program. If it proves to be a successful and worthwhile concept, in time the state could have a self-replenishing loan fund.

Even with these new funding measures, much still remains to be done. Increased demand to do conservation work on idled Payment-in-Kind (PIK) acres this summer and fall will exhaust most of the cost-share assistance offered by state, county, and federal government agencies. In addition to increased state inputs, we must work to maintain and strengthen the federal government's commitment to the protection and preservation of this nationally vital resource.

Farmers can do a lot themselves, and many are, with practices like no-till, conservation tillage, contouring, and strip cropping. Before our hot, dry spell,

heavy, spotted rains this past spring and summer were living proof of the toll taken each year on Iowa's precious soil resource.

In that sense, our Iowa climate — our best partner with our soil in producing the state's crops — is also the soil's worst enemy when laid bare to erosion by tillage.

Please join me in saluting Iowa's conservation farmers for their example to us all, during Soil and Water Conservation Week, September 18 - 24, 1983.

If you need help with soil and water conservation, please get in touch with your local soil conservation district.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT Fiscal Year 1981 - 1982

District's IM Budget

Receipts

Allocation from State Soil Conservation Committee	\$ 1,700.00
Additional Allocation	357.11
Total Receipts	\$ 2,057.11

Disbursements

Commissioners' mileage, meals and hotel while out of town	\$ 1,649.67
Office supplies and expense	376.44
Printing	31.00
Total Disbursements	\$ 2,057.11

District's IIM Budget

Receipts

Allocation from State Soil Conservation Committee	\$15,120.00
---	-------------

Disbursements

Salary and benefits	\$14,954.49
Travel	106.33
Total Disbursements	\$15,060.82
Returned to State Soil Conservation Committee ..	59.18

IIIM Budget (State Cost-Share)

Receipts

1981-1982 Allocation from State Soil Conservation Committee	\$14,994.00
---	-------------

Disbursements

Total spent	\$ 7,630.00
Total obligated	1,250.00
Transferred to no-till	1,500.00
Released to State Soil Conservation Committee ..	4,427.13
Total unobligated	185.97

Receipts

1982-1983 Allocation from State Soil Conservation Committee	\$17,668.00
---	-------------

Disbursements

Total spent	\$ 4,170.91
Total obligated	12,427.50
Total unobligated	1,069.59

AREA PERSONNEL

Wallis R. Tonsfeldt, Area Conservationist
Dick Hall, Area Engineer
John Vogel, Resource Conservationist
Wayne L. Eberly, Civil Engineer Technician
Judy Rathel, Area Clerk
Margaret L. Walker, Area Clerk

DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS

Andrew Hoffman, Chairman
Ernest H. Skow, Vice Chairman
Charles Shorey, Secretary
Robert C. Ingwersen
Orville J. Berg
Maurice Dougal, Assistant Commissioner
Chris Hoffman, Assistant Commissioner

OFFICE PERSONNEL

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



DAN KENOBBIE CONSTRUCTION

• OVER 20 YEARS EXPERIENCE

Complete Soil Conservation Services...

Quality Dozer,
Scraper,
Motor Grader
Backhoe Work.



SPECIALISTS IN SOIL CONSERVATION

Terracing - Waterways
Dam Construction

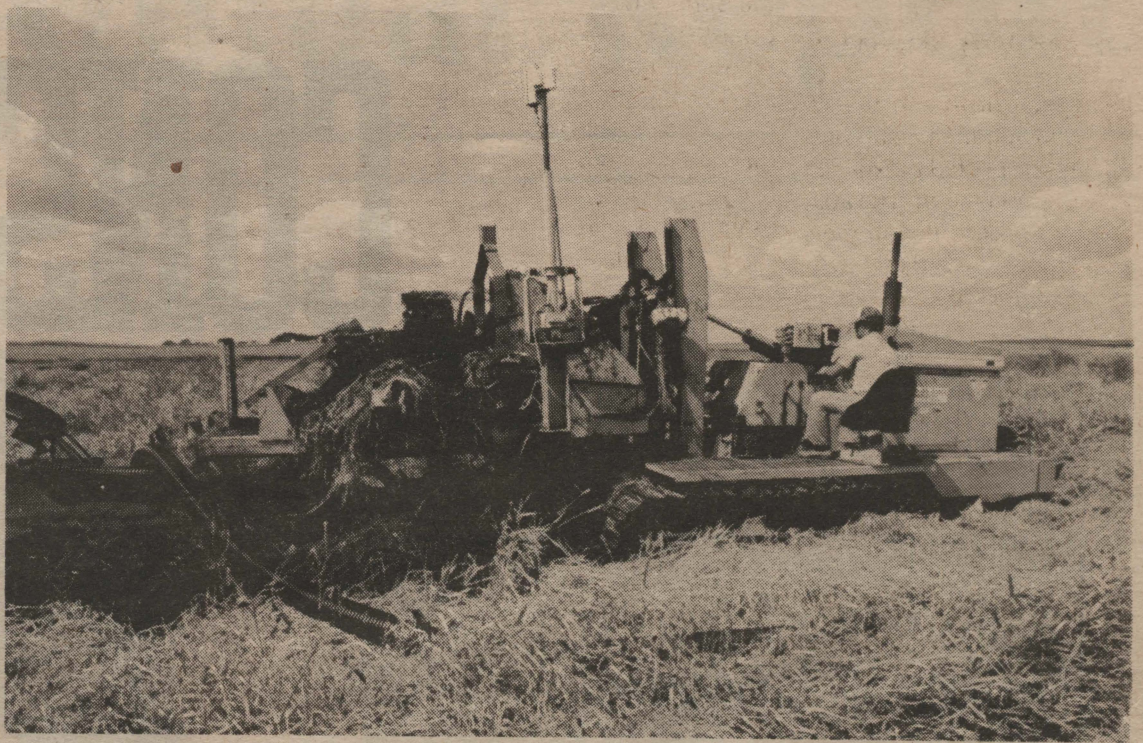


262-1683

Dan Kenobbie Construction
R.R. Greenville, Iowa

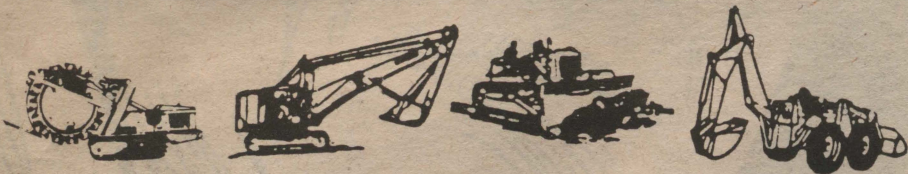
Paulson Farm Drainage

PICTURED HERE is 24,000 feet of plastic tubing on the Bill and Sid Northey farm 2½ miles south of Jct. 9 & 71.



Farm Drainage Doesn't Cost--It Pays

- Improved Land Use and Efficiency
- Better Soil Conservation
- Deeper Root Development
- Increased Crop Yield
- Longer Growing Seasons
- Improved Plant Quality
- Better Livestock Farming



For Quality Farm Drainage Control, Contact:

Paulson Farm Drainage

• Farm Tiling • Surveying & Engineering • Tiling of All Sizes

We Cover The Area

David Paulson

Phone 847-3253

If No Answer, Call 847-4575



Jackson, Mn.

PRACTICE CONSERVATION

The land is our
greatest provider.
What we take from
it, we must put
back with care and
cultivation, in order
to keep it thriving.

Our efforts in con-
servation today will
enable us to reap
the rich rewards of
our abundant lands
for generations to
come.

**Soil Conservation
Is Everyone's Job.**



First

BANK and TRUST

Member F.D.I.C.

Spirit Lake

336-2180