

A SPECIAL SIX-PAGE PULL-OUT SECTION PUBLISHED BY THE OELWEINDALE REGISTER FOR THE FAYETTE COUNTY SOIL AND WATER DISTRICT —45 YEARS OF RESOURCE MANAGEMENT—

Replenish the Earth And Its Riches Will Be Ours

THE CONSERVATION

SCS Financial Statement

JULY 1, 1989 TO JUNE 30, 1990

1989-1990 Original Allocation		\$2,900.00
Commissioners Expenses		(1,353.51)
Office Supplies and Expenses		(1,447.80)
TOTAL EXPENSES		\$2,701.31
Returned to State		\$ 118.29
1989-1990 BUDGET COST-SHARE PROGRAM		
1989-1990 Original Allocation	\$46,231.00	
Obligated	9,602.40	
Spent	34,976.17	
Unobligated Balance	\$1,654.43	
1989-1990 Original Allocation	\$46,231.00	
Obligated	10,003.75	
Spent	35,430.99	
Unobligated Balance	\$ 796.26	
GLOVERS CREEK WATERSHED - 75%		
1989-1990 Original Allocation	\$60,632.30	
Spent	26,249.40	
Returned to State	\$60,432.70	
REAP PRACTICES - 75%		
1989-1990 Original Allocation	\$13,096.00	
Obligated	9,187.50	
Spent	3,808.99	
Returned to State	\$ 81.51	

CONSERVATION ACCOMPLISHMENTS

NAME	NUMBER	ACRES
Individuals and Groups Assisted	873	
Individuals and Groups Applying Practices	704	8,979
Resource Management Activities	3,022	
Government Agencies Assisted	3	638.75
Operating Units	2	
Tracts/Highly Erodible Land	88	4,790
Tracts/Highly Erodible Land	3	
Farms with Approved Conservation Systems	33	4,107
Tracts with an Approved Conservation Plan	179	20,065
Soil with Wetlands	42	528
Soil with Categorized Wetlands	32	
Negative Wetland Determinations	2	2,307
Conservation Structures	1	135
Contour Stripcropping	2	
Grassed Waterways	18	72,997
Water Management Systems	2	
Water & Sediment Control Basin	9	
Wildwood	3	10,086
Cropland Acres Treated	2	2,320
Wildlife Land Acres Treated	2	21
Other Land	21	

From the commissioner . . .

It is important to use resources wisely

By WILLIAM BENNETT
Chairman, Fayette County
Soil and Water District

What do you think of when you think of conservation? Do you think of sitting or going to a quiet, clear water in a wooded area? Do you think of seeing, your reflection in the water? Do you think of the birds, trees, clouds and the sky looking back at me? I also think how thankful I am that my reflection and that of the wild birds and animals are also in that picture.

ISU offers farm waste tips, pamphlets

The Iowa Legislature recently changed the law concerning disposal of farm waste. Rules and regulations disposal methods became effective May 8, 1990. Farm waste includes machinery, vehicles, equipment, and animal waste, stumps and brush. It does not include agricultural chemicals, fertilizers, manures and feedstuffs.

Farm wastes may be buried on the farm or in a permit in accordance with the following guidelines:

- Animals older than two months are buried in a pit, at least 75 cubic, or 600 bushels disposal on any given acre.
- Soil at the burial site must be

classified as at least moderately well drained or it must be artificially drained.

The burial pit is no more than six feet deep.

Wastes must be immediately covered with at least 18 inches of soil and finally covered with at least 24 inches of soil (36 inches for animals).

The burial pit must be outside of a floodplain, wetland, or shoreline and at least 50 feet from a property line, 100 feet from a stream, lake or pond; 100 feet from a private well; 200 feet from a public well; and 300 feet from a neighboring residence.

More details on these rules are available from the Iowa Department of Natural Resources or the Fayette County Extension Office.

Iowa State University Extension Service has just released a new bulletin on conservation tillage. State and Area Extension Specialists, SGA Engineers, Soil Scientists, and Agronomists have all cooperated in producing the series. Topics range from planning your conservation tillage system to equipment needed for ridge till and no-till.

The Conservation Tillage Bulletin series includes: "Planning: Effects of Soil Erosion, Effects on Water Quality," "No-till Systems: Ridge-till Systems, Fertility Practices and Equipment for No-till and Ridge-till," "Calibration for No-till and Ridge-till," "Planters for No-till," and "Planters for Ridge-till."

The series is available at no charge from any County Extension Office.

By ROGER A. KOSTER
ISU Extension
Big Spring Project

Thanks to our Big Spring Basin Demonstration — Integrated Farm Management cooperating farmers in 12 ISU Soil Conservation Districts in Iowa. The Project, we are able to demonstrate management practices that help farm profitability and improve the environment.

Nitrogen needs for corn can be met equally well by legume based mixtures, manure or purchased N. You can take credit for legume and manure N before you begin adding N.

Optimum Economic Nitrogen (OEN) in 1989 and 1990, good corn years, were in fields with less than 130 lbs/ac.

total N applied for any combination of legume, manure and/or purchased N. It was actually less than 130 lbs/ac in all three years at any site. As an example, the 1989 N rate at Clay City, Burrack's site in Clayton County was 130 lbs/ac. N rate in that field in that range averaged 110 lbs/ac.

Excessively high manure rates can reduce crop and yields.

Much field information for the Late Spring N Soil Test was gathered in our area. Three years of field experience has proven it as a reliable test to determine soil N rates. Additional N needs may be seen in fields receiving preplant N from any source.

A common practice was to test crop yield plus N2 in the highest year, performed or hoped for yield for the

farm. Now must be using N2 on the average yield potential for the soils in that field. This requires there be a big difference in nutrient supply and demand.

Each year since ISU plot work started in 1965 to apply plot work contribution to first year corn (or soybeans) stand of alfalfa (the producer of the N2) was no benefit to yield in the first year corn following alfalfa.

—N contributions to second year corn

the Fayette Soil District was established on April 11, 1946 with Harold Strong of Eagle, chairman, Ben Hensington of Payette, and Herbert Messinger of Arlington as commissioners. Over the years many people have served as staff persons and as commissioners. I do not know all their names so I will not try to list them, but I do want to say "thank you for your service, you have made this a better place here. I hope that we, the

Soil conservation plans: taking it to the next step

By JACK STORKAMP
Soil Conservationist

Many Fayette County farmers now have a soil conservation plan to comply with the 1985 Farm Bill. Now that you have the plan, what is the next step?

All the practices listed in the plan must be applied by Jan. 1 of the date the farmer selected to apply each practice is listed in the plan under a column headed "Planned date."

For example, if the "planned date" for the conservation tillage system is May 1991, this system leveling the field must be completed by or before this date.

When manure was applied to regular basis during alfalfa years in the 1960s, there was no benefit to yield in the first year corn following alfalfa.

—N contributions to second year corn

following a good stand of alfalfa may be more than 150 lbs N credit reduced rates at the time. Yield data at different N rates demonstrate a wheel point: alfalfa fertilizer applied in the fall can reduce the need for alfalfa fertilizer in the spring.

—Hericides applied as a band over the row with cultivation show crop yields equally as well or higher when compared to broadcast applied herbicides with or without cultivation.

—In several fields where weed control was not planned for good soil, cultivation or rotary hoeing plus

present commissioners can keep up the fine tradition they have handed down.

If we are to continue to see our reflection in the streams of Payette County, we all must work together to learn more about the wise use of our resources. We must use that knowledge to keep our soil productive, our water clean, and our air clean. If we do that our children and their children will be able to see their reflection.

Soil conservation plans: taking it to the next step

If practices such as contour stripcropping or terracing which require technical assistance from SCS or conservationists, time and cost share money for the practices may be in short supply.

As with any plan, revisions can be made anytime after the plan is approved. In this case, such practices as contouring for terracing may be substituted for a farmer wants to revise

Anytime a farmer wants to revise the plan, they should contact the SCS office for the planned date. We will be able to show you some alternatives and help you decide which one to use.

Although terracing may not be needed to reduce erosion in required levels, it may be needed to improve fertility with the crop rotation. In addition, it may be needed to improve water runoff and remove it from the field.

SCS staff members will be contacting all farmers who have conservation plans to review their plans. If you have any question, please call the SCS office in West Union at 1310 422-3066.

—Soil erosion is an effective grain soil as a filter or buffer strip and small animal habitat.

Plans are for the ISBSP to continue to establish a number of demonstration farms to refine and demonstrate management practices to improve soil fertility, water quality, protect water quality and our soil resources. Our ISBSP farmers are a big key to this successful project.

Soil conservation residue benefits

By RICHARD JENSEN
SWCD Commissioner

In the corn belt and erosion produced by heavy rain soon after planting causes most of our topsoil loss. How much soil you'll lose depends upon a number of interesting variables: the negative cover, your tillage practices, how you manage the crop residue and the rainfall amounts.

The Soil Conservation Service uses a formula to compute soil loss potential for each crop-soil management combination.

One of the five inputs in the Universal Soil Loss Equation is the "C" factor. This factor represents your management—what crop you grow, the sequence of tillage used and extent of soil covered with residue. The actual computation of the factor is complicated and has been worked out by computer using SCS data.

As used, when the C factor increases the soil erosion hazard also increases. In turn, it is influenced by crop rotation—continuous corn has higher loss potential than rotations with soybean, conventional tillage has more loss potential than conservation tillage systems, and little or no crop residue on the surface has high loss potential compared to heavy residue.

As the amount of row crop residue increases, the hazard of erosion decreases. (Continued on Page 2)

Fayette SWCD commissioners

From top, left to right: Bill Bennett, Larry Bellinger, district secretary; and Earl New, back row, left to right.

October 1989 - September 1990
Fayette County held its soil judging contest. Three schools participated with approximately 100 students.

Moff gave a presentation for the Outstanding Conservation Farmer's Operation at the Annual Farm Bureau Meeting. Ben Hensberger was the recipient.

Moff worked with the University of Iowa to submit a water quality evaluation project as a potential Water Protection Fund Project.

November 1989
Moff met with ten Extension Service personnel including Gerald Miller to discuss proposed Integrated Farm Service in Payette and Alamogordo County. Plans are for the Extension to hire a new person to take leadership of these projects: (1) manure and soil testing; (2) crop seedling service; and (3) manure and feedlot management demonstration project.

District activity highlights

The Annual Conference was held in Des Moines. Matt assisted the Commissioners in preparing and giving a presentation at the SWCD Annual Conference regarding Glovers Creek.

The Payette County Council Association met to plan its Annual Meeting and Economic Yield Event.

Long Term Agreement (LTA) plans and project estimations were completed and approved for the 1989 federal funds. Special Water Quality Project for the Glovers Creek Watershed through ASCE. The entire \$100,000 was allocated.

January 1990
Moff gave a short presentation to a group of local ag business people. This was to update them on the conservation compliance plans and to request their support with the Coniferland Annual Meeting. (Continued on Page 2)

