

1960

ANNUAL REPORT

KOSSUTH COUNTY SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT

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We, the Commissioners of the Kossuth County Soil Conservation District, are happy to present our 13th Annual Report. This report contains the activities and accomplishment of soil and water conservation plans in the District.

We wish to thank the Soil Conservation Service for their technical assistance to the District, the Extension Service for their work in the educational field and the State Soil Conservation Committee for their assistance and guidance.

We appreciate the cooperation of the County ASC, U S Fish and Wildlife Service, State Conservation Commission, County Board of Supervisors and other Federal, State and County offices that contributed to the conservation program this year.

District Commissioners: Ernest Heidecker, chairman, Lakota; J. C. Skow, Wesley; and Jack Nyman, treasurer, Bancroft.

SOIL JUDGING CONTEST

The Kossuth and Humboldt County Soil Conservation Districts jointly sponsored a soil judging contest this year. Vocational Agriculture Departments from Algona, Swea City and Titonka participated in the event along with several departments from the adjoining Districts.

The major purpose of the event was to assist the Vocational Agriculture Instructors with a tool for the teaching of soils and land use.

Each student using a multiple choice score card identified the principle properties of the soil and then selected the proper use of the given soil.

District Cooperator Harold Sabin made his farm available for the use of the students. Reding Bros. dug the holes for the judging.

SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE

The Soil Conservation Service provided two full-time employees, one part-time employee plus the area engineer, soil scientist, and administrative staff. Lyle R. Biedinger, Work Unit Conservationist, Loren Bishop, Conservation Aid, and Eugene Arndorfer, Conservation Aid, made up the local staff in the District. Assistance was provided for the planning and applying of soil and water conservation plans and the servicing of District cooperators and ACP participants.

DISTRICT ACTIVITIES

Twelve regular meetings were held during the year.

The District had a fair booth at the Iowa State Fair this year. The booth was constructed by Joe Funk, State Aid and the booth was manned at the Fair by Joe and District Commissioners Jack Nynan and Ernest Heidecker. The booth was judged second out of four entries.

A public speaking contest was held in the District this year for Jr. and Sr. High School students. Ronnie Linde, Swea City placed first; Lynn Kueck, Algona, placed second; and Michaleen O'Brien and Lewis Elbert of Whittamore tied for third. Ronnie represented the District at the state meet which was held in connection with the Iowa Association of District Commissioners annual meeting.

Miss Virginia Swan, Kindergarden teacher at Bertha Godfrey, attended the Iowa State Teachers Conservation Camp on a scholarship provided by the District. She reported to the District Commissioners at their October meeting.

A Kossuth County District sign was erected on the south County line on U S 169.

The District had a field brome grass, field trial on the Claude Johnson farm near Seneca this year. The seed was furnished by the Soil Conservation Service and favorable results were obtained and it appears to have merit for a winter cover crop.

ASSISTANCE TO THE DISTRICT

To carry out the District program, financial assistance was received from the State of Iowa through the State Conservation Committee.

EXPENDED FISCAL YEAR 1960

1-A Fund

Commissioners Expense	\$241.48
Office Supplies	167.23
Printing	19.00
Material for Demonstrations	1.29
Total Expended	<u>\$429.00</u>

2-A Fund

State Aids Salary	\$3854.00
State Aids Federal Retirement	226.35
Equipment	211.50
Total Expended	<u>\$4293.85</u>

ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THE DISTRICT

	Unit	1960	To Date
District Cooperators	each	60	584
Basic Conservation Plans	each	41	416
Farms Serviced	each	389	
Contouring	acres	229	2,763
Terraces	miles		2.2
Waterways	acres		511
Surface Drains	miles	2.6	33
Tile Drains	miles	38.2	14,205
Soil Conservation Survey	acres	7,439	130,024
Follow-up contacts	number	97	

The Kossuth County ASC Committee transferred 5% of the county allocation to the SCS for the servicing of conservation practices in which cost-sharing was allowed. There were 205 farmers serviced under this program.

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