

Hardin Soil Conservation District
Post Office Bldg. Box 108
Eldora, Iowa 50627

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Annual Report Hardin District Activities

- Hardin SCD commissioners held 12 regular and 4 special meetings.
- A Soil Judging Contest was co-sponsored by Hardin SCD.
- Educational booklets were provided to all 6th graders in Hardin County.
- Paul VanderMyde, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Agriculture, toured Hardin SCD.
- Hardin SCD sponsored a photo contest with display of all photos in River Hills Mall at Iowa Falls.
- Kermit Whitehead and Paul Primus visited the Litchfield Farms in Arizona representing the Hardin SCD as winners in the Goodyear Contest.
- All five commissioners attended the SCD Commissioners Shortcourse at ISU in Ames.
- The Hardin SCD cooperated with the Extension Service in presenting three programs. 1) Land Appraisal, 2) Land Use, 3) Conservation Tillage.
- William Moore and David Jensen won the 1976 District Conservation Farmer Achievement Contest in Hardin County.
- Paul Primus was appointed to represent the Hardin SCD on the Iowa-Cedar River Conservancy Advisory Committee.
- Appointed to represent Hardin SCD on the Skunk River Basin Advisory Committee was Vernon Handsaker.
- Soil Stewardship material was given to all churches who responded to the offer. 2,000 litanies and 700 bulletins were provided.
- Hardin SCD cooperated with the Rural Development Committee in the production of a Bicentennial Booklet concerning county USDA agencies.
- Earnest Hoffa attended the SCS Technicians Training School, June '76.
- John Nicholson, ISU student, was an SCS summer trainee in 1976.
- Dean Miller, Soil Conservation Technician, retired July 1976.

CONSERVATION CLUB

We appreciated the fine cooperation and backing of the Conservation Club last year. Become a member of the 1977 Conservation Club by filling out the enclosed membership card and sending it with your contribution to the Hardin SCD office. Your contribution is used to pay expenses which cannot be covered any other way. Two worthy programs the Conservation Club promotes are the distribution of environmental education booklets to all 6th graders in the county and the financial assistance provided to teachers who wish to attend the Conservation Workshop camps. In addition; State and National Conservation District Association dues are paid. Your continued help can add greatly to the conservation effort in Hardin.

CONSERVATION TILLAGE

The summary of accomplishments as shown in this report indicates an increase over last year in nearly all items. However; the figure for conservation (minimum tillage) cannot adequately reflect the overall influence this practice has on Hardin County. The progress with this practice is phenomenal. We see a county which appears to have over 50% of the corn and soybean land prepared without a mouldboard plow. Even some of the plowed land has enough cornstalks showing to have a very significant control of wind erosion. The acreage shown on this report is that portion of cooperator land which has been evaluated as having adequate control; even though we know both cooperators and non-cooperators have made great strides in reducing soil losses by leaving the mouldboard plow in the shed as much as possible.

DEAN MILLER RETIRED

The Hardin SCD lost a good and faithful employee when Dean Miller retired from his SCS Technician position in July of 1976. Dean had worked for the Soil Conservation Service in the Hardin District for over 30 years. He was well acquainted with the drainage and erosion problems of the district as well as the conservation practices adapted to non-cropland.

His services will be greatly missed especially due to the fact that reduction in funds for the Soil Conservation Service makes it impossible to replace him.

PLANNING TIME

Winter is the time to plan to conserve the soil on your farm. The Hardin SCD staff is working on several projects now. If you are interested in a plan for your farm or a project for this summer, contact the office before the construction season starts. This especially is true for ponds or dams which require detailed survey and design.

FOR SALE: ANIMAL GUARDS AND MARKING FLAGS

The Hardin SCD is selling animal guards for tile outlets and flags for tile lines or other uses such as marking rocks. These items are for your convenience - stop at the office anytime you need these items.

HARDIN SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT
July 1975 - July 1976 ANNUAL REPORT
Financial Statement

I-M Budget

Commissioners Expense	\$ 613.00	
Office Supplies	266.11	
Office Expense	333.82	
Meeting Expense	27.69	
Prizes for Contests	87.50	
Rental for Meeting Halls	44.50	
	<u>1,372.62</u>	TOTAL EXPENDED

II-M Budget

Clerical and Technical Assistance	\$14,557.08
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III-M Budget

Allocation (73-74)		\$15,317.83
Approved for Cost-Share	\$16,098.75	
Applications Paid	<u>15,317.83</u>	
Balance		.00

Allocation (74-75)		\$11,523.91
LTA (Long Term Agreement)		4,076.09
Approved for Cost-Share	\$15,237.82	
Applications Paid	<u>11,521.44</u>	
LTA Approved for Cost-Share	5,363.00	
LTA Applications Paid	<u>4,076.09</u>	
Unobligated Balance Reverted Back to		
State December 31, 1976		2.47

Allocation (75-76)		\$14,591.97
LTA (Long Term Agreement)		2,408.03
Approved for Cost-Share	\$17,337.67	
Applications Paid	<u>14,161.73</u>	
LTA Approved for Cost-Share	2,408.03	
LTA Applications Paid	<u>541.08</u>	
Amount Obligated (Completion: 6-1-77)	<u>1,794.00</u>	
Unobligated Balance Reverted Back to		
State December 31, 1976		73.95

Revolving Account

July 1975 Balance	\$ 401.40
July 1976 Balance	<u>\$ 484.78</u>

Conservation Club Account

July 1975 Balance	\$ 999.16
Income (Cons. Club Donations)	<u>733.35</u>
	\$ 1,732.51

Expense

Educational Materials	\$ 169.80	
Equipment Maintenance	476.22	
State, National Dues	300.00	
Animal Guards	99.34	
Miscellaneous	<u>83.83</u>	
	\$ 1,129.19	TOTAL EXPENDED
July 1976 Balance	<u>603.32</u>	
	\$ 1,732.51	

SUMMARY OF WORK

186

New Cooperators	33	30
Recipients of Technical Assistance	359	216
Cooperator Contacts	981	970
Conservation Plans	31	153
Conservation Plans Revised	30	30
Group Resource Plans	6	2
Groups Assisted	16	
REAP Referrals Serviced	149	137
Parallel Terraces	23,955'	42,553
Tile	494,000'	310,323
Windbreaks	7ac	6
Land Adequately Treated	5,204ac	2317
Grassed Waterways	48ac	13
Critical Area Planting	12ac	
Grade Stabilization Structure	4	
Conservation Tillage	1,694ac	8253
Drainage Main/Lateral	19,900'	
Pasture and Hayland Management	305ac	
Wildlife Upland Management	175ac	
Ponds	2	
Tree Planting	20	20

TILE SURVEY RECORDS AVAILABLE

Several landowners have picked up their tile plans and survey records. The office has many others which will be provided to you. Just stop and request these records in the Hardin SCD office.

SOIL SURVEY

Soil survey of Hardin County made good progress in 1976. Kermit Voy, Norman Johnson and Tom O'Connor are working out of Hampton and have completed almost all of the northwest quarter of the county. It will be several years before the publication is available. Soil survey information can be obtained now on individual farms which are completed. Request soil information at the Hardin SCD office located in the basement of the Post Office Building, Eldora, Iowa. Office hours are M-F, 8-12 and 1-5.

DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS

Carroll Hobson, Chairman	Joe Knight, Assistant
Kermit Whitehead, Treasurer	Paul Primus, Assistant
Caleb Knutson	
Martin Broer	
Gary Walters, Vice Chairman	

OFFICE PERSONNEL

Thaine Hogue, District Conservationist
 Dean Miller, Conservation Technician, July 1976
 Earnest Hoffa, Conservation Aide
 Nanci Galloway, Clerk-Typist