

Des Moines-Louisa County

SOIL CONSERVATION FIELD DAY

September 8, 1948



*Demanded all day on 8th
Held on 9th*

What Is Soil Conservation?

SOIL CONSERVATION is a program of wise land use. In it each acre is put to its best use and used to its best advantage. Such practices are established and such things added as are necessary to maintain fertility and hold the soil in place.

TODAY you are seeing only a part of what goes into a sound soil conservation program. These are for the most part, the mechanical things that can be demonstrated in the fall.

PROPER LAND USE includes a good rotation, the use of lime and fertilizer, drainage, erosion control practices and many other things that will maintain the soil in good condition and hold it in place.

SOIL DEPLETION and soil erosion are primarily problems of the man who owns the land, but in a larger sense, they are a community problem. Everyone in the community is affected by the farmer who fails to take care of his soil.

FOR MAXIMUM PRODUCTION over the longest time you need a sound soil conservation program on your farm.

SOIL CONSERVATION DOES NOT COST — IT PAYS.

SOIL DEPLETION AND SOIL EROSION COST.

SOIL IS THE BASIS OF IOWA'S WEALTH —

IT IS WORTH PROTECTING.

Program of Events



KEYNOTE SPEECH.....O. O. Waggener
Asst. Director Dept. of Industry and Agriculture
Burlington Railroad

MASTER OF CEREMONIES.....Dale Williams
Radio Station WOI, Ames, Iowa

- 9:00 A. M. Field events will start with the popping of 25 tractors.
Filling gullies and shaping waterways.
Building diversion terrace.
Plowing in ditches.
Filling gully with manure loaders.
Terracing with two-bottom plows, disc plow and whirl-
wind terracers.
Spraying of brush and trees in pasture.

(The sound truck will tour the various projects and
explain the work in progress.)

- 10:00 A. M. Second tour of sound truck.
11:00 A. M. Contour plowing contest.
12:30 P. M. Pasture improvement demonstration.
1:30 P. M. Presentations and formal program.
2:30 P. M. Announcement of awards.
3:00 P. M. Final tour of projects to see the finished work.



THE FIELD DAY IS SPONSORED BY

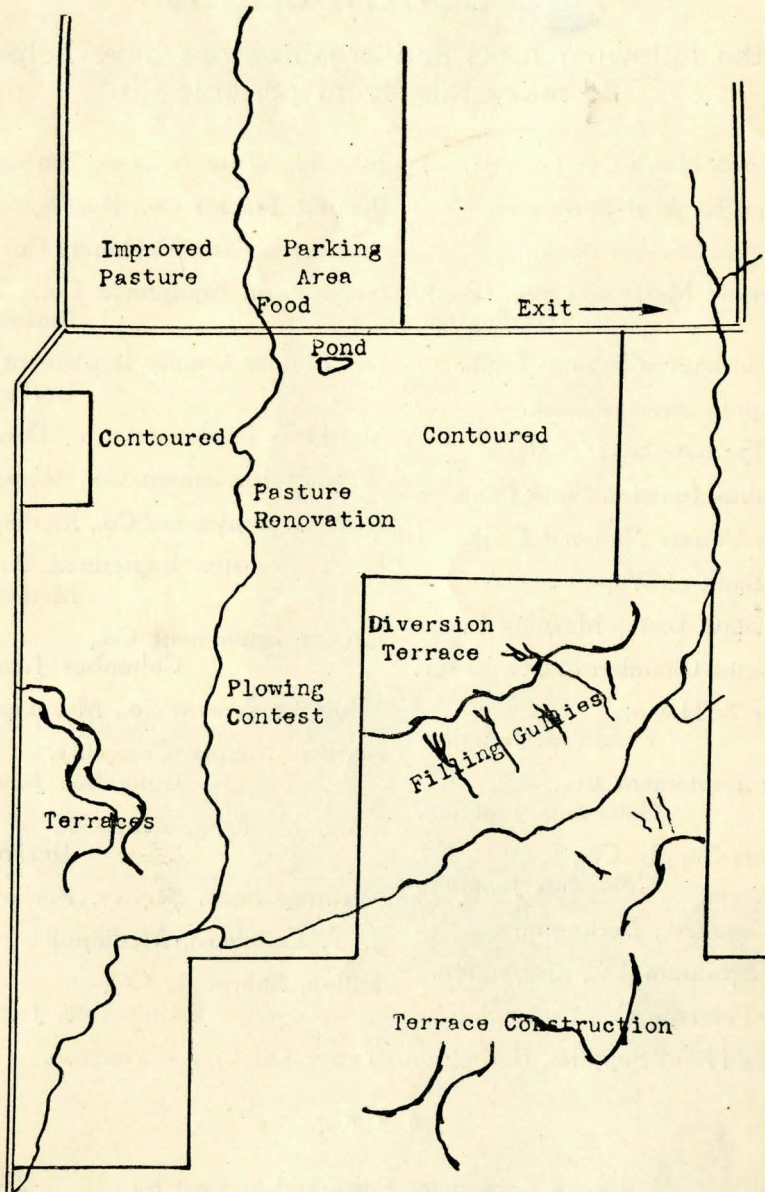
The Des Moines County Soil Conservation District,
The Louisa County Soil Conservation District,
The Burlington Hawk-Eye Gazette.

With the Assistance of

the Soil Conservation Service, the Extension Service, the Farm Bureaus
of the two counties, Community Clubs of Columbus Junction and Medi-
apolis, Chamber of Commerce of Burlington, implement dealers, banks,
business houses, KBUR, KWPC, newspapers and farm folks of Louisa
and Des Moines Counties

in the Interest of Protecting Our Basic Resource — THE SOIL.

Diagram of Farms and Key to Events



The sponsors, owners and operators of land, owners and operators of equipment, and those assisting will not be responsible for injuries or damages to any person or property as a result of the projects or activities carried on as a part of this field day.

A Proper Land Use Program



1. Select the Proper Rotation —

The crop rotation should be designed to fit the field. A good rotation will build up the productivity of the soil, preserve its mellowness and maintain its fertility. The proper selection of crops in the rotation will help to meet nearly every land use problem.

2. Maintain Organic Matter —

Organic matter gives soil a good structure and improves its tilth. It provides food for plants and for bacteria essential for the production of plant food. It serves as a storehouse for nitrogen, available phosphorous, potash and other plant foods. Grasses and legumes in the rotation and all crop residues plowed under will help to maintain an adequate supply of organic matter.

3. Make Proper Use of Lime and Fertilizers —

A good legume is the foundation of a soil conservation program and a sweet soil is essential to get legumes. Use finely ground limestone to sweeten the soil. Continuous cropping and leaching removes essential food elements. These must be replaced through the use of commercial fertilizers, barn yard and green manures. Have your soil tested to determine its needs.

4. Drain Wet Areas —

Soil through which soil and air can move readily provide the best medium for the growth of crops. Wet areas are a crop hazard.

5. Apply Adequate Erosion Control Practices

If erosion is to be stopped you must establish barriers against it. Sheet erosion is reduced by contouring and by the use of cover crops. Strip cropping and terracing reduce runoff and slow running water to a walk. Gully erosion is prevented by establishing and maintaining good grass sod in watercourses. Contouring, strip cropping, terracing, and good grassed waterways hold the soil on the field where it belongs and prevents it being washed away and lost forever.

6. Establish Good Pastures and Meadows —

The production from low producing pastures can be greatly increased by the wise use of lime, fertilizer and the introduction of legumes. The amount of forage from the meadow acres can be increased by a wise selection of grasses and legumes. Meadows should be left down at least two years to insure good soil structure, increased organic content and high yields of meadow crops and the other crops in the rotation.

The Contributions

Of the following firms and organizations have helped
to make this event possible

Burlington Hawk-Eye Gazette.	John H. Witte & Sons, Burlington.
National Bank of Burlington	Bennett Tractor Co., Burlington.
Burlington Savings Bank.	Burlington Farm Machinery Co.
Farmers & Merchants Svgs. Bank, Burlington.	Siems Farm Equipment Co., Burlington.
West Burlington Savings Bank.	Des Moines County Implement Co., Burlington.
Mediapolis Savings Bank.	Matthews Implement Co., Danville.
Danville State Savings Bank.	Wilson's Implement Co., Wapello.
Columbus Junction State Bank.	K. & G. Implement Co., Mediapolis.
Louisa County National Bank.	E. A. Bergsten Implement Co., Mediapolis.
State Bank of Wapello.	Luckey Implement Co., Columbus Junction.
Iowa State Bank, Morning Sun.	White Implement Co., Morning Sun.
Burlington Chamber of Commerce.	Farmers Supply Company, Columbus Junction.
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J. I. Case Co., Burlington	Dillon, Sharpe & Co., Columbus Junction.
J. S. Schramm Co., Burlington.	Yetter Oil Co., Burlington.
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Bennett Home Supplies, Burlington.	

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Heavy Equipment Furnished at Cost by

McBRIDE ENGINEERING CONSTRUCTION COMPANY, Inc.
JACK OBERMAN CYRUS FULLER



RULES

of Contour Plowing Contest



Entries are limited to Des Moines and Louisa Counties.

Each contestant shall provide his own tractor and plow. These must be standard equipment common to farms in the area and not equipment loaned especially for this contest by a firm or dealer.

Lands are slightly larger than half acre. Assignment of lands is by drawing.

Each contestant is allowed an assistant to remove stakes, and help make adjustments and repairs while equipment is not in motion. Only the contestant shall operate or make adjustments while in motion.

Each plow land will have a referee assigned to police it and keep spectators from hampering the contestant.

Scoring will be based upon the following items:

Opening or closing furrows.....	20 points
Adherence to contour.....	15 points
Waterway and land ends.....	20 points
Conformation of furrows.....	15 points
Trash coverage	10 points
Uniformity and eveness of width and depth.....	20 points

Prizes: \$50.00, \$30.00, \$25.00, \$20.00, \$15.00, \$10.00

The winner of this match or runner-up will be eligible to enter the district contour plowing contest to be held in Clinton County on September 13th, at which time a district representative will be selected to plow in the state contest, September 18th, at Dexter, Iowa.



We are especially indebted to the following farmers who have loaned their farms for this event:

John Blaul, Plon Oberman, Kenneth Redfern, and to Claude Oberman and Harvey Heibner for stand-by parking space.