

SEVENTEENTH ANNUAL REPORT

of the

DES MOINES COUNTY SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Federal Building - Room 218

Burlington, Iowa

1962

COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

Why Not More Erosion Control Practices ?

Reading the accomplishments for 1962, we find that tile drainage stand way out ahead of anything else. The wet spring of 1960 and the rainy fall of 1961 has made most of us realize that we could use more tile to good advantage. The personnel of the Soil Conservation Service have been glad to assist and advise those wishing to drain out those troublesome wet spots.

There is a striking absence of Soil Conservation Practices such as contouring, pasture renovation, terraces, erosion control dams and the like.

On our rolling and hilly land, much can be done to improve the value of these acres, by applying land improvement and erosion control practices. The soil Technicians at Soil Conservation Service can help develop a plan that will be workable and acceptable. A plan that will make for a balanced farming program, including better use of grass and more livestock. There by, raising the present income and keeping the valuable top soil on the land for future generations.

- Theodore Berning, Chairman

"Importance of Good Conservation Practices"

In looking forward to our new year, we should resolve to do a little more toward Soil Conservation. Even though one is applying all the best practices on his farm, possibly we could persuade a neighbor, who isn't contouring or terracing, to do so, where applicable.

With continuous cropping becoming the rule on much of our land, we cannot over emphasize the importance of good conservation practices. We may have a tendency to subject land with more slope to comparable use and slip backward in our erosion control efforts. Contrary to most predictions, our population in one hundred years could make history of the term "food surplus".

- Eugene Schulte, Commissioner

We sum up the comments with a statement from Arthur Corman, Commissioner:

"Conservation is not something that just happens. It is something you must work at to accomplish".

APPRECIATION TO ALL

We, the Commissioners would like to take this opportunity to express our appreciation to all organizations, groups, agencies, (Federal, State and County) and farmers in their cooperation to help make this year a good year for conservation in Des Moines County.

Theodore Berning, Chairman
District Commissioners
Assistant Commissioners

1962 - HIGHLIGHTS

The Des Moines County Soil Conservation District held 12 monthly meetings in 1962. The District donated \$25 to the Soil Conservation Society of America Building Fund. Miss Lois Samons attended the Teachers Conservation Camp at Springbrook State Park, sponsored by the District. Also, the I. O. P. Wildlife Club sponsored Mrs. Marjorie Gorman and offered half of scholarship to any teacher in any county in Iowa. 60 Stewardship Bulletins were purchased and mailed to Ministers in Des Moines County, to be used for Stewardship Week. Bass, Bluegill and Channel Catfish delivered to 11 Cooperators. \$10 donation to Franklin County Contestant in conjunction with International Plowing Contest. WMT Radio Program discussion taped October 6th, Noah Schrock and Walter Eyre were on the panel. Two road side signs "entering Des Moines County Soil Conservation District", were installed along Hiway 61 and 34. Some activity in Yellow Spring Creek Watershed. Congressman Schwengel held a meeting in Des Moines County with ACP and SCS in regard to the Yellow Spring Creek Watershed status and possibility of creating interest among the farmers. Schwengel also met with local people, area and state representatives at Army Engineers Office in Rock Island, Illinois.

1962 - ACCOMPLISHMENTS

<u>Practice</u>	<u>Units</u>	<u>1962</u>	<u>To date</u>
Brush and Weed Control	Ac	40	416
Conservation Cropping System	Ac	10,308	17,796
Contour Farming	Ac	201	28,431
Diversion	LF	1,400	28,328
Farm Ponds	No	12	411
Erosion Control Dams	No	18	295
Grassed Waterways	Ac	33	410
Land Clearing	Ac	45	420
Open Ditch	LF	3,650	763,034
Pasture & Hayland Renovation	Ac	343	4,786
Pasture Planting	Ac	27	943
Pipeline for Livestock Water	FT	779	35,095
Terrace Gradient	FT	2,906	511,458
Tile Drain	FT	344,851	1,949,681
Tile System Structure	No	4	108
Tree Planting	Ac	18	163
Wildlife Habitat Development	Ac	122	487
Fish Pond Stocking	No	11	381
New Cooperators	29	Revised Plans	26
Basic Plans	18	News Items	28
		Follow-up	103
		Planned Contacts	227

DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS

Theodore Berning	Chairman
Eugene Schulte	Commissioner
Arthur Corman (Art)	Commissioner
Curtis Darbyshire	Assistant
Lloyd Schmeiser	Assistant
Harold Linder	Assistant
James C. Hodges	Secretary
Horace Sutton Jr.	Treasurer

SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE AND STATE PERSONNEL

R. H. Audsley	Work Unit Conservationist
Jack Jacobs	Conservation Technician
Walter Brown (part time)	WAE and State Aid
Mildred Kleinkopf (Mrs.)	State Clerk

AREA ADVISORY PERSONNEL

Lyll Mitchell	Area Conservationist
Marion Clark	Area Agricultural Engineer
Allen Hidelebaugh	Area Soil Scientist
Margaret Dickey	Area Clerk

STATE FUNDS

<u>1M Budget</u>		<u>2M Budget</u>	
Mileage	\$ 87.46	Clerk and State Aid	\$4,151.90
Office Supplies	179.80	Equipment	39.33
Printing	39.75		\$4,191.23
Demonstration	20.00		
Office Expense	64.86		
	\$391.87		

The 1M and 2M Budget was made possible thru the State Conservation Committee, provided by Iowa State Legislature. Our thanks and appreciation for this assistance.

District Revolving Fund

Balance on hand January 1, 1962			\$601.75
Receipts:	Donation	\$5.00	\$606.75
Disbursements:	Office expense	\$ 7.31	
	Donations	45.00	
	Refunds	57.00	
		\$109.31	\$497.44
Balance on hand December 31, 1962			\$497.44