

Ida County Soil Conservation District

ANNUAL REPORT

Fiscal Year 1981-82

July 1, 1981 to June 30, 1982	
FINANCIAL REPORT	
1M BUDGET [STATE APPROPRIATED]	
Commissioners expenses, mileage etc.	\$ 588.41
Office supplies & expenses	885.50
Printing	159.52
Total expended	\$1,633.43
2M BUDGET [STATE APPROPRIATED]	
Clerk's salary	\$14,317.98
Clerk's mileage	5.28
Total expended	\$14,323.26
3M BUDGET [STATE APPROPRIATED]	
1981-82 Allocation	\$39,984.00
Funds obligated for conservation practices	\$39,031.83
Unobligated funds	\$ 952.17
3M BUDGET [STATE APPROPRIATED]	
Total State Allocation (1973-1982)	\$427,007.35
Returned funds to date	\$ 7,004.53
Funds spent on Conservation Practices to date	\$419,050.65

July 1, 1981 to June 30, 1982	
WATERSHED MAINTENANCE FUND	
(Held in Trust by the District for Maintenance of Watershed Structures)	
Cash on hand, July 1, 1981	\$ 117.52
Receipts	\$47,790.08
Interest	\$ 3,924.44
Maintenance payments	750.25
Mature time certificates cashed	36,047.20
From savings	7,068.19
Expenses	\$47,612.76
Watershed repairs	3,939.62
Office expenses	14.00
Office Machine (1/2)	790.35
Ida Co Abstract Company	280.00
Money Market Certificates	39,138.79
Community Investment Certificates	3,450.00
Cash on hand	\$ 294.84
Time certificates	\$18,666.35
Pass Book savings (6/30/82)	\$ 1,254.34
Money Market Certificates	\$21,739.67
Community Investment Certificates	\$ 2,924.71

SOIL CONSERVATION PRACTICES	
ACCOMPLISHMENTS - CALENDAR YEAR 1981	
New Operators - Acres	5226
Conservation Plans & Revisions - Acres	8689
Conservation Tillage - Acres	4350
Contouring - Acres	826
Farmed Windbreaks - Acres	20.8
Grass Waterways - Acres	22.4
Drain tile - Miles	7.2
Terraces - Miles	38.2

DISTRICT ACTIVITIES
July 1, 1981 - June 30, 1982

Regular district meetings are held the fourth Tuesday of each month, except September, which is held the third Tuesday. Meetings are held during the day in November through March, and at 8:00 p.m. the rest of the year.

Commissioners attend regional meetings twice a year at either LeMars or Cherokee.

CONSERVATION EDUCATION

Sponsor Ida County outdoor classroom for 6th grade students at Moorehead Park in May.

Sponsor Conservation Art Contest.

Hold a Stewardship Breakfast for Ida County Ministers prior to Soil Stewardship Week.

Provide all churches in the county with Soil Stewardship materials.

Assist with Soil Judging Contest sponsored by Sac County S.C.D.

WINDBREAK PROGRAM

Helped farmers for windbreak establishment. Assist with local Plant Iowa program - secured trees for local sponsors that are given to all 5th grade students in the county.

WATERSHED ACTIVITIES

Four new watersheds were organized during the past fiscal year. No erosion control structures were built during the year. Landowners in active watershed areas continue to construct terraces to improve the land and treatment in these areas.



Soil conservation district commissioners, left to right, front row: George N. Hartley, Battle Creek, vice chairman; Burdelle Knudsen, Ida Grove, chairman; Lester A. Vohs, Galva. Back row, left to right, Roger Schmidt, Battle Creek; and LeRoy O. Dose, Ida Grove.

July 1, 1981 to June 30, 1982	
GENERAL FUND	
Cash on hand, July 1, 1981	\$ 881.17
Receipts	\$64,056.57
Tree Sales	\$ 8,280.85
3% Sales Tax Collected	246.82
1M Reimbursements	1,033.36
Interest	1,864.20
Sale of Copier	275.00
Matured Certificates Cash	52,222.59
Donations Received	133.75
Expenditures	\$63,565.48
3% Sales Tax	\$ 359.35
Tree Purchase & Expense	5,789.69
Office Machines (2 1/2)	1,596.40
Office Supplies	461.06
Office Expense	233.07
Donations & Contest Prizes	229.00
Commissioners Expenses	299.25
State Dues	150.00
National Dues	275.00
Outdoor Classroom	18.61
Subscriptions	34.98
Fair Booth Expense	48.20
Soil Stewardship Material	124.39
Annual Report	245.10
Conservation Books	150.00
Money Market Certificates	26,717.88
Community Investment Certificates	26,833.50
Cash on hand, June 30, 1982	\$ 1,372.26
Pass Book Savings	111.73
Time Certificates	2,000.00
Money Market Certificates	14,695.00
Community Investment Certificate	9,285.00

CONSERVATION WINNERS

Farm Units:

Mr. & Mrs. Wm. Volkert
Mr. & Mrs. Glenn Millice
Mr. & Mrs. Carl Ulshafer

These three families made up the entry in the Marc Cox Permanent Agriculture Program. They were selected as Area Winners also.

Donald Miller from Odebolt was selected as the **Progress Winner** on basis of the conservation work done in the past 18 months.

Mr. & Mrs. Robert Grell of Galva were selected as recipients of the Izaak Walton League Windbreak Award.

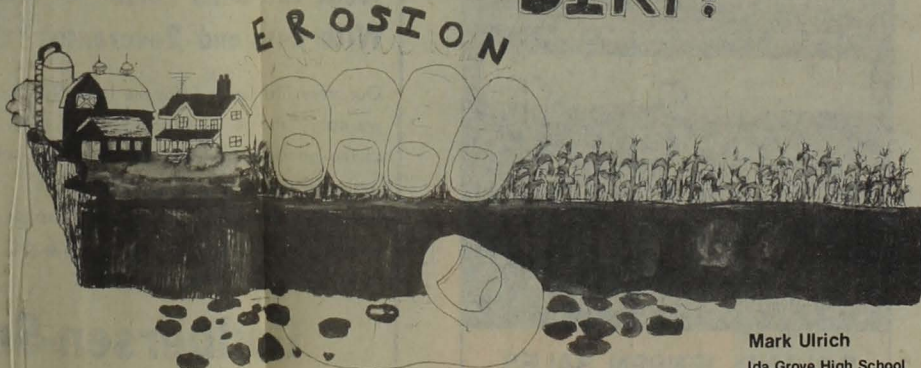
Soil Conservation Service Staff

Don Kauffman, District Conservationist
Clarence "Dutch" Kraft, Conservation Technician
Lou Collins, State Clerk
Randy Sohm, Conservation Technician
Russell Hatz, Soil Conservationist
Keith Kraus, Soil Conservationist

Soil Conservation District Commissioners

Burdelle Knudsen, Chairman
George N. Hartley, Vice Chairman
Lester A. Vohs
Roger Schmidt
LeRoy O. Dose

EROSION GRABS DIRT!



Mark Ulrich
Ida Grove High School

Four Vie For Soil Conservation Spot

Conservation will be an issue in the general election ballot this November when Ida County voters elect new members to the Soil Conservation District Board.

Four individuals filed nomination papers this month for the three vacancies on the board. The candidates include: Norbert Bumann of Galva, F. Croxell of Holstein, Mason Goodenow of Battle Creek and Irwin Rau of Schleswig. They will be competing for two-year terms and one-year term.

Robert K. Schmidt of Battle Creek serves as district chairman. The incumbent George N. Hartley of Battle Creek and Lester Vohs of Galva will expire Dec. 31, and Burdette Knudsen of Ida Grove is resigning with two years of his term remaining.

All our candidates for the board have one thing in common: a real concern for conservation. Norbert Bumann has been farming on the contour since 1956. Grassed waterways with some soil assist. Three years ago Bumann started terracing his farm and now has close to 10,000 feet of terraces. He also uses minimum tillage on his land, and this year he planted 72 acres to no till. We think it's fine; I'll be doing more," Bumann says of the no till experiment.

Bumann carries the conservation concern all the way to a windbreak, planted in 1968 and containing about 80 Colorado Blue Spruce and 360 horned larks.

Bumann farms 820 acres in Sac and Ida County. This year he has 318 acres in corn, 343 in beans and 45 in diverted acres. The Bumanns raise beef cattle until last November when Norbert sold his cattle.

A native of Quimby graduated from high school there in 1946. He farmed with his father for years before going on his own in farming.

Bumann, 54, and his wife, Donnette, have a son, Douglas, a missionary in Vienna, Austria, working for Campus Crusade for Christ, and two daughters, Janene, of Exoria, Kan., and Vicki of a Grove.

In 1974 the Bumanns built their new farm home, which is protected by the windbreak on the north and west and includes a number of trees in the front yard.

Bumann says he's not one to slack off on conservation. "I do enjoy conservation, and I think we're going to have to be better stewards of the soil or the next generation won't be able to produce." He sees a need for more terraces, more minimum till and an elimination of the plow, "the most destructive" of tools. "We hope some day we can get this area included in a watershed," he says of his farm.

Robert F. Croxell of Holstein is another candidate who has his mind on conserving the soil for future generations. He is manager/operator of the farming operation of Elberbusch Enterprises and farms a total of 460 acres. This year's crop includes 180 in corn, 180 in beans, 20 in hay and 20 in set-aside, with the balance in headlands, terraces and waterways. The land is located in Griggs, Section 34, and Battle, Section One.

Croxell also helps feed out 400 head of cattle a year and 1,200 feeder

pigs. Minimum tillage is the rule for the farm operation, but Croxell, like the other candidates, sees room for improvement. More terraces and more minimum tillage are needed across the county, he says. "I'm concerned. I think we have to get concerned. There's viable land out there we have to protect, and it's not just the land but the pollution of water."

Croxell helped plant a new windbreak of Austrian Pine four years ago at the farm he manages.

The 1944 graduate of Correctionville High School was in the U.S. Navy from 1944 to 1946 in the South Pacific. Croxell, 55, has been on his Holstein farm for 25 years.

He and his wife, Joan, have two sons, Mark of Fort Dodge and Mike of Galva. Mrs. Croxell is employed at Iowa Public Service in Holstein.

Mason Goodenow of Battle Creek views conservation as a natural part of his farming life, for ever since he can remember, it was a part of his family's farm operation. His late grandfather, Russell Goodenow, was an Isaac Walton award-winner for his conservation practices.

Young Goodenow, a 1976 graduate of Battle Creek High School, is a partner in a family operation called Maple View Farms, located in Maple Township, Sections 25 and 26. He is single and farms with his father, Bruce, and brother, Mike.

The operation includes 1,800 acres of corn and hay. The Goodenows feed

out about 1,000 cattle a year, and Mason finishes about 500 feeder pigs a year.

The 24-year-old earned a business degree from Morningside College in 1980. Goodenow says he's interested in running for the District Soil Conservation Board because "there should be someone from this part of the county on the board."

Conservation should be uppermost in the minds of farmers this year, Goodenow says, for it's been a wet year when some type of conservation measure is needed to keep the soil from washing away. On the Goodenow farm farming is on the contour, and

CONSERVATION RACE-- Continued on Page 7



NORBERT BUMANN

Linmans Introduce Wildlife Habitat

Planting trees and shrubs is a hard, time-consuming job. But how would you like to plant 7,500?

That's how many trees Doug Linman planted this last spring for a wildlife area. Doug, his wife, Sina, and their three children farm in Blaine Township four miles southwest of Arthur. Doug says, "We all enjoy wildlife, and we wanted to plant a wildlife area so our kids would be able to enjoy it for years to come."

With the assistance of the Soil Conservation Service and District Forester Joe Schwartz, Linman was able to buy the planting stock from the state nursery and use the district forester's tree planter. A variety of trees and shrubs were planted into a disked and sod seeded. "We were able to plant about 1,000 trees per hour with

the tree planter, and it did a real good job," said Linman. Because of all the rainfall, the survival rate has been excellent. If everything continues to grow well, Doug is hoping to have a source of firewood in a few years.

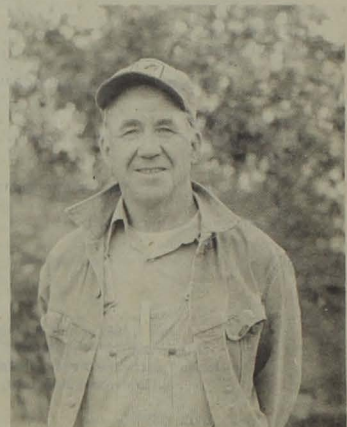
Anyone interested in planting a wildlife area should contact either the Soil Conservation Service, district forester or district wildlife biologist. The sooner the better so planting stock can be reserved for next spring's planting.

As a result of recently passed legislation, Ida County landowners may be eligible for property tax exemption on land that meets conservation requirements. The new law provides tax exemptions for wetlands, recreational lakes, forest covers and reservations, rivers, streams and their banks

and open prairies, according to Larry Wilson, director of the Iowa Conservation Commission.

Only areas of two acres or more that are used for erosion control of wildlife habitat are eligible. Except for forest reservations property cannot be used to provide income during the time the exemption is granted. Areas subject to severe erosion must have a soil erosion control plan that has been approved by the Soil Conservation District filed, along with an exemption application.

This new legislation will provide for some badly needed wildlife habitat. At the same time, it will give landowners a valuable incentive to retain conservation lands and not convert them to other uses.



ROBERT CROXELL

How Much Is Five Tons Of Topsoil?

The Soil Conservation District fair booth this year was designed to help people visualize what five tons of topsoil looks like, according to Russell Hatz, a soil conservationist with the Soil Conservation Service.

Besides the usual posters and pictures, the display included a truck containing five tons of topsoil. The five-ton figure is important because that is about how much topsoil is produced annually on one acre. "Any farm that is losing more than five tons per acre per year is losing productivity," Hatz says.

A poster at the booth stated that the average annual soil loss in Ida County is 20 tons per acre. That is a net loss of 15 tons of topsoil per acre per year.

"There is about \$90 worth of nutrients in that 15 tons," says Hatz. An average of \$90 washed away every year. He adds, "Those fields that experienced even a moderate amount of tilling this spring, and there were plenty, lost in excess of 50 tons of topsoil during the month of May alone."

Five tons of topsoil spread over an acre is only 0.038 of an inch thick. A 20-ton loss (0.15") may not be visible. Any time you can see erosion it is very serious.

TREASURE
the Land
that Loves
You...



**Treat the Good Earth
With Care and Reverence**

Our very life comes from the land. The food we eat... the air we breathe... are gifts of the good green earth. So are things that replenish the spirit: the sounds and the silences... the vistas... the sense of space and the order of nature. The land is good to us. Let's preserve and protect it.

**We Know the value
of practicing soil conservation--**

—How About You—

Godbersen-Smith Const. Co.

IDA GROVE

3 REASONS WHY YOU SHOULD BE USING THE Buffalo TILL PLANT SYSTEM

- 1 SAVE TIME AND LABOR—CUT COSTS**
The Buffalo plants directly in stalks, stubble, even sod. You eliminate plowing, disking and harrowing, so you make fewer trips over the field—you can save up to \$10 per acre in production costs.
- 2 REDUCE RUN-OFF AND EVAPORATION**
The Buffalo leaves crop residues on the surface to break the force of falling rain... disperses raindrops for better absorption into the soil... run-off and erosion are reduced and the ground cover reduces evaporation of soil moisture.
- 3 CONSERVE ENERGY**
The Buffalo has a low horsepower requirement which means less fuel is required to operate. Fewer trips over the field saves even more—and there's less compaction of the soil, as well.



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