

1993

51ST Annual Report

CASS COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

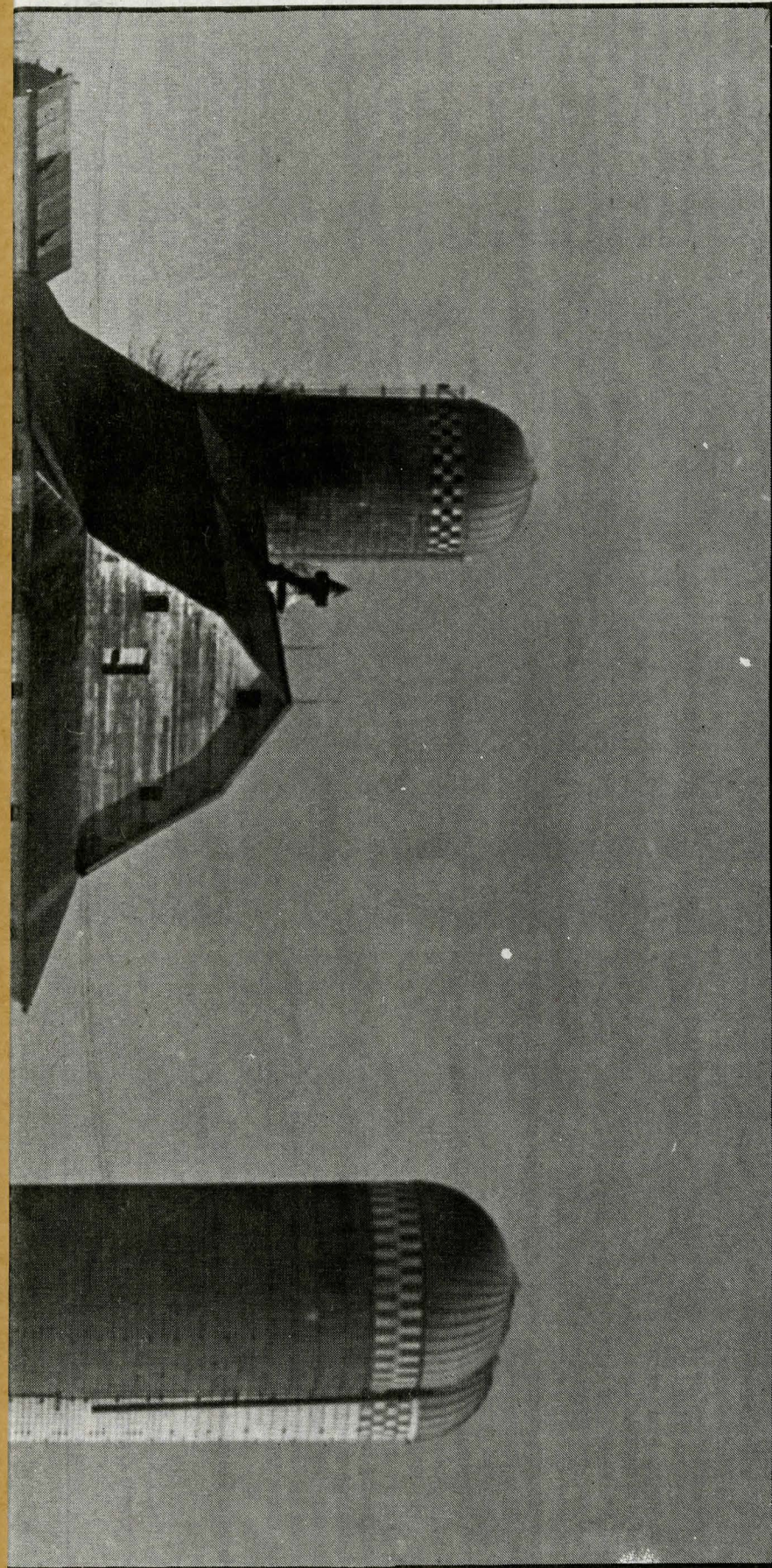
Atlantic, Iowa

1993

Atlantic Farm Monthly

VOL. 32 - NO. 17

Just waiting for the spring thaw



1993 Annual Report

- 1 Office
- 2 James Gulliford (Department of Soil Conservation)
- 3 Ernie Aust (Soil Conservation Service)
- 1 Senator Derryl McLaren; RR 1, Box 220; Farragut, IA 51639
- 1 Senator Charles Grassley, U.S. Senate, 135 Hart Senate Building
Washington, DC 20510
- 1 Senator Tom Harkin, 705 Hart Senate Building, Washington, DC 20510
- 1 Congressman James R. Lightfoot, 1609 Longworth Bldg, Washington DC 20515
- 1 Regional Director; Bernie Bolton, Rt. 2, Box 271, Oakland, IA 51560
- 1 Davis Conservation Library; P.O. Box 776; League City, TX 77573
- 17 SCDs in the following counties: Audubon, Taylor, Carroll, Adams,
Pottawattamie (2), Crawford, Adair, Guthrie, Shelby, Green, Harrison,
Mills, Monona, Montgomery, Page, Fremont

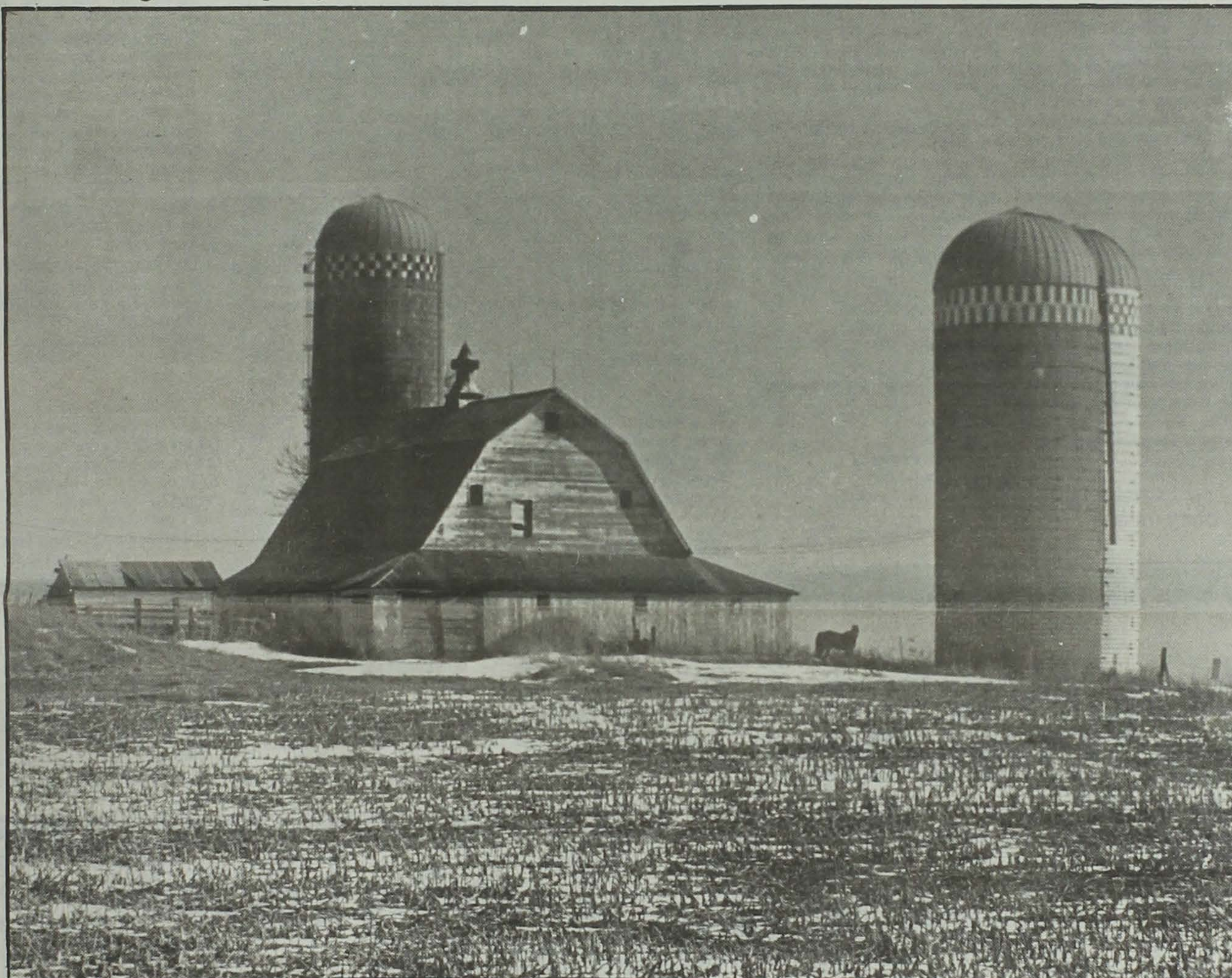
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A lone horse stands silhouetted between an old-style barn and grain silos on a farm northeast of Atlantic. With warmer weather ahead, farmers will soon be seen out in the fields preparing this year's crops. (N-T staff photo by Tom Chaplin)

Company K
prepares for
'D' Day
Page 5

Armstrong
Research
Farm prepares
for first classes
Page 7

Extension
office provides
information
about building
rental
Page 10

Soil
Conservation
Service
directors
honored
Page 8-9

Atlantic Farm Monthly Poet's Corner

A contributed collection of poetry

Our Little Puppy

We had a little puppy.
He brought joy and delight.
He was always so playful
From the morning until night.
He loved to chew anything
He could find around the place.
He was always so active
And he'd kiss you on the face.
As time went on, he began
To learn how to do some tricks.
He would run and catch a ball,
Or would bring back your sticks.
But one day he just forgot
And ran right out to the road.
He didn't see the tractor
That was pulling the heavy load.
Now, if dogs go to heaven,
And I am sure that they do,
We hope to find little puppy
Waiting there for me and you.

Margaret Plagman, Audubon.

Read the Farm Monthly
every month!

Snow Power

One light and frosty flake of
snow
A moment clung to my cold
hand.
Then trillions more fell
everywhere
And clogged each path and
thoroughfare.
Amazing how such fragile things
Could hamper all that I had
planned.

Nora Newman, Atlantic.

A Bird

Morning bird arrives
And works his way
In my sleep.
His voice chirps the darkness
away.

I can imagine
He finds his food,
Then he flies away.
As daylight breaks
He finds himself alone.

Agnes Cleeland, Atlantic.

The Destined Ego

The facade of his
countenance,
benign to the world,
betrayed not the evil
within.

Stirring deep in his
unknowing,
the rut of unreason
plowed deep in low tide
of his self-esteem.

Strung high on conceit,
the faulted anger
venting itself on her bones,
the fisted impact
of self gone awry.

His destined ego
sated in vengeance,
lurks
on the shadows of his guilt
that he will deny.

Goldie Hagedorn, Omaha.

Come Spring, Renew

Spring is around the corner,
But yet it hasn't been sprung.
Billowing clouds and sunshine,
We await your song to be sung.

Rhapsody of the lilies,
Birdsong in the trees,
Oh, how our hearts are longing.
Come, spring, and bring us
these.

We rejoice in the greens of
nature,
In the buds upon the trees,
And the robin's chirp returning.
Yes, Lord, we're gladdened in
these.

Joyce Infantino, Atlantic.

The Easter Flower

I saw an Easter lily shining in
the morning dew,
And I felt the warming rays of
sun, off the mountaintop view.

But as I stood in the air and the
beauty all around,
I saw a tiny little flower just
lying on the ground.

This tiny little flower was so
meek and hardly seen,
Yet it held a special fragrance
and its petals very clean.

And I thought that even tiny
things were what our God had
made.

And how on that certain Easter,
he gave his son away.

How he watched as they nailed
His son to the cross,

And the thought of how he must
have cried, thinking of His loss.

But Easter comes each year, and
rises from afar.

And our Lord will live forever,
no matter where we are.

Jean Stevens, Grant.

Rain

I stopped to say "hello,"
And maybe sit by you awhile.
It is raining outside again.
I've wanted to leave the
dampness there forever.

My mind wonders why we
have so much rain.

My life seems strange
And has roamed the rainy
Days and has drifted
to hundreds of thoughts.
Some days I'm up and down.
Why can't I see the sun?
I only laugh at the wetness.
I don't want to say good-bye,
So I'll say hello each day.

Agnes Cleeland, Atlantic.

A Hairy Mess

Whisker grown country, the
good old USA.

You once knew who you kissed,
but now its who they say.

Some just smile.
Again you kissed the wrong
guy.

You will hear about it later.
He will be asking you why?

You try explaining.
All he's thinking is another guy.

He has his mind made up.
For you, it's do or die.

You keep trying,
But no good does that do.

That made-up mind won't
budge,

And you've done all you could.
See this razor?

I bet you could, my dear.
Shave them off while he's

asleep. The question will become,
"Where's my beard?"

Jan Fillinger, Atlantic.

70 And Holding

I know I'm slowly aging
For my sight is growing dim,
But I'm not nearly ready
To go up and live with him.
I've got so many chores
That I can't do up above,
So I'd better keep my body busy
Before someone will start to shove.
But if my hands are shaky
And my wobbly legs won't go...
Someone's sure to say to me,
"Are you putting on a show?"
And I'll just tell them
I know I'm weak and
More tired and I'll say,
"It's not that I'm getting old,
I'm just storing youth away."

Dorothy Hughes, Lewis

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Questions and answers listed concerning corn reduction, conservation compliance requirements

When USDA Secretary Mike Espy announced that the 1994 corn acreage reduction program (set-aside) would be lowered to zero percent, there was concern that the zero set-aside would be in direct conflict with conservation compliance requirements and conservation in general.

The concern was that producers would be encouraged to return grassed field borders, contour buffer strips, grassed waterways and other practices in conservation compliance plans to corn production.

Regardless of the 1994 corn ACR percentage, the provisions of the 1985 Food Security Act (FSA) and 1990 Food, Agricultural, Conservation and Trade Act (FACTA) remain in effect.

An analysis of the program guidelines and economics of growing corn in these acres shows that switching them from grass to corn may not be a good option for economic or conservation reasons. See the questions and answers below:

Q: With the zero percent ACR/set-aside for 1994, will producers be held to their conservation plan requirements, for practices such as field borders, critical area seedings, grassed waterways, contour buffer strips, etc.?

A: Yes. Plans were developed to reduce soil erosion, not to meet set-aside requirements. If a person expects to receive USDA benefits in 1994, he or she is only assured of those benefits when all practices on each HEL field are applied and maintained according to SCS standards and specifications. How-

ever, if a person has "overbuilt" a practice to meet set-aside requirements, with more grass than is necessary for conservation requirements, the grass area can be reduced to SCS requirements.

Q: I don't need to be concerned with this if I'm not in the program, right?

A: Wrong. It is very important to remember that USDA benefits affected by conservation compliance are more than just deficiency payments. Other benefits affected include CRP payments, federal crop insurance, FmHA loans, commodity loans and purchases, ECP, equipment loans, ACP, disaster payments, commodity storage payments, watershed cost share payments, and others.

Also remember anyone who was in the 1993 disaster program with crop losses greater than 65 percent must enroll in the Federal Crop Insurance Program in 1994, if crop insurance is available for that crop.

Q: Will my deficiency payment be reduced if I don't plant these grassed set-aside acres to corn?

A: No is the simple answer, unless you plant less than 85 percent of your base acres to corn. Fifteen percent of your base acres are classified as normal flex acres. Normal flex acres are not eligible for deficiency payments whether or not they are planted to the original program crop or "flex" to another crop.

It is important to remember that even if you plant 100 percent of your corn base acres, the most you will receive deficiency payments on

is 85 percent of your corn base acres.

Q: If I do not plant all my base acres to corn, will I lose base acres?

A: Not if you remain in the feed grain program and report the acres currently in permanent cover (grasses and legumes) as Conservation Use (CU). These CU acres will be considered planted to corn for planting history used to calculate future years base acres (total planted history cannot exceed the base acres).

An important point is that you are only allowed to include these CU acres toward your corn base calculation if you are in the feed grain program. If a producer decides not to participate in the program only the acres planted to corn will be counted for future corn base calculations.

Example: A farm with an 80-acre corn base contains:

- * 160 crop acres in two fields, 80 acres each. Field A is HEL and was soybeans in 1993. Field B was corn in 1993.

- * The HEL conservation compliance plan calls for 5 acres of permanent seedings in 2 field borders and 2 waterways in field A. The other practices include a corn/soybean rotation, contour farming and crop residue management.

The producer plans to stay in the program and apply the conservation plan. How will this work in 1994 as the program stands today?

This producer will plant 75 acres of corn on field A with 5 acres

seeded to grass. He will report 75 acres as planted to corn and 5 as CU (conservation uses). A total of 80 acres will be the 1994 planting history and it will be used for future corn base calculations. Deficiency payments will be received on 68 acres.

Another option for the producer in this example would be to plant the other five acres of the corn base on the other field, thus planting the entire corn base to corn.

Q: I thought crop acres would have to be planted to a crop in 1994 to be eligible for possible ACR in 1995. If I leave my 1993 ACR acres in grass in 1994, would these acres be eligible for ACR/set-aside in 1995 if there is some level of corn acreage reduction in 1995?

A: The ASCS history requirement for ACR and/or CU for Payment is land that is either of the following:

- * planted or approved as being prevented from planted to a small grain, row crop, and other annual crop in 1 of the last 5 years.

- * designated for ACR or CU for pay in one of the last five years.

Acres designated as ACR in 1993 will continue to be eligible through 1998 unless regulations are changed in the 1995 Farm Bill.

Q: What restrictions are there on the use of these CU acres?

A: You can graze or hay your conservation use/planted and considered planted (CU/P and CP) acres at any time. Normal haying and grazing restrictions (no haying or grazing between April 1 and Oct. 3), related to ACR (set-aside

acres) or CU for Payment, does not apply to CU/P and CP acres.

Note: CU acres may be designated for base preservation (CU/P and CP), or CU for Pay (acreage receiving deficiency payments in the 0/85 option). The CU for Pay acres are subject to the minimum size, haying and grazing restrictions.

Q: Are there size limitations for an area to be called CU/P or CP?

A: There are no minimum or maximum size or width requirements for areas to be classified as CU/P and CP. (See note above on CU for Pay acres).

Q: What are the economics of farming rows?

A: Most people, including farm managers, crop consultants and farmers do not feel it is a wise economic decision to farm these areas. You must consider how much it will cost to bring these areas into production. Will an insecticide be needed? Will your yield, which is normally significantly lower on end rows, cover your costs? How much will it cost to reseed these acres if you want to be in compliance or if there is a different set-aside level in 1995.

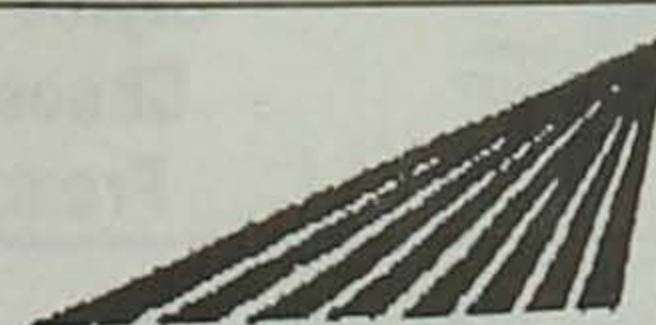
Q: If I decide to stay out of all programs on my farms with HEL (highly erodible land) and not follow my conservation plan by planting my scheduled field borders to corn, will this have any affect on my other farms with no highly erodible land?

A: Yes, if you are determined to be not eligible on one HEL farm, you become ineligible on all your

Continued on page 14

FARMS FOR SALE

- 204 ACRES, M/L: Located 6 miles north of Bridgewater. Currently all in pasture, but some areas would be suited to cropping. Older set of buildings. Could be split. \$588 per acre, cash.
- 39 ACRES, M/L: Located approximately 7 1/2 miles S.E. of Atlantic. Smaller, 1 1/2 story home & pole barn in good condition. 7.7 acres ridge cropland, balance good, open, permanent pasture. Subject to '94 lease. \$1250 per acre, cash.
- 76 ACRES, M/L: Located approximately 7 1/2 miles S.E. of Atlantic. 92% tillable, mostly Marshall soils. No buildings. Subject to '94 lease. \$1025 per acre, cash.
- 120 ACRES, M/L: Located 4 1/2 miles north of Atlantic. Approximately 88% cropland. Small area of fenced permanent pasture. No buildings. \$1100 per acre on contract.



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Large earth moving machines at work



Large earth moving machines are shown as they are used to build grass back terraces on a Cass County farm. (Photo furnished)

Farmers have choice between grass, gullies

Almost every farm has at least one natural drainageway that tends to erode.

Unfortunately they could cause scars inflicted by flowing water leaving deep gullies in their wake.

These gullies can be prevented by establishing grassed waterways in the natural drainageway of the field.

Grassed waterways are created by grading and shaping a natural drainageway into a smooth, bowl-shaped channel.

This area is seeded to sod-forming grasses.

"Runoff water coming through the drainageway flows across the grass rather than tearing away soil and forming a larger gully," says Connie Reichenauer, district conservationist for the Cass County Soil Conservation.

"An outlet is often installed at the base of the drainageway to stabilize the waterway and prevent a new gully from forming."

Reichenauer explains the grass cover protects the drainageway from gully erosion and acts as a filter, absorbing some of the chemicals and nutrients in runoff water. The vegetation also provides cover for small birds and animals.

SCS provides technical assistance to farmers who would like to solve their gully problems. SCS helps farmers plan conservation systems and also prepare designs and specifications.

Some things SCS will look for include a proper outlet for surface runoff at the bottom of the waterway, the possible need for tile drainage to help establish vegetation in the waterway, and whether

other soil conservation measures will be needed to prevent siltation.

In maintaining your waterway, one should lift farm implements out of the ground, shut off spray equipment when crossing them, don't use them as roadways, fertilize them as needed, periodically mow them, and avoid planting end rows along their edges.

Beef industry seeks entries for cook-off

The beef industry is looking for quick and convenient recipes for the 1994 Iowa Beef Cook-Off competition.

Some major rule changes have been made for this year.

These include beef recipes with eight ingredients or less which can be prepared in 60 minutes or less.

Another change involves that one to two pounds of beef may be used in the recipe.

The winner of Iowa's Cook-Off will receive \$500 and a chance to represent Iowa at 1995 National Beef Cook-Off.

Contestants will vie for \$45,000 in prizes, including a \$25,000 grand prize.

Five finalists will first be selected to compete at the Iowa Beef Cook-Off to be held in December at the 1994 Iowa Cattlemen's Convention.

To qualify, entrants must be non-professional cooks at least 18 years old who have original beef entree recipes.

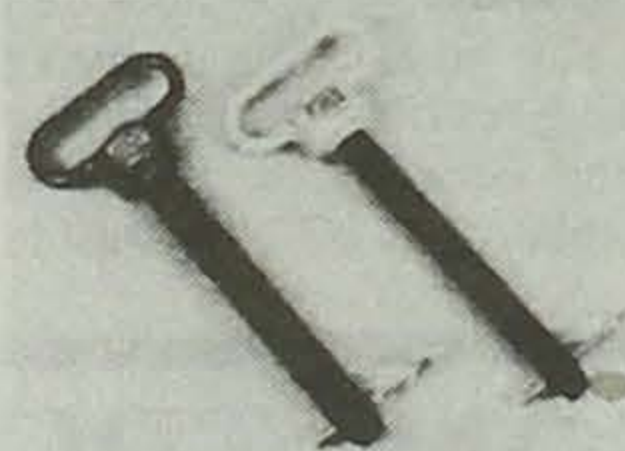
For entry information, contact the Iowa Beef Industry Council, Box 451, Ames, IA 50010.

Entries must be postmarked by June 1, 1994, for consideration.

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Atlantic Farm Monthly

▲ COMPANY K -- 50 YEARS AGO

By Gene Mallette, Atlantic

Italy! What would that mean for the men who had left Atlantic in the National Guard 2-1/2 years earlier?

Many of them had already been casualties of the war thus far. Some 40 of them were in POW (prisoner of war) camps in Germany or Italy.

Others had been wounded and possibly not able to go back into action on the front. With still others who had given their lives for the cause.

Some of the original men had joined other units or had been transferred to different units and were scattered in all directions.

For those who were left to carry on, it would mean another year and a half or almost two years of war left for them in the rugged rough country where there were more mountains than there were valleys.

The men from Company K had an immediate concern, however, and that was the invasion of southern Italy.

The plans for this mission had been in the making for some months previous. The time had come to put that into action.

This invasion was one that involved about 450 ships that were loaded with men, supplies and all of the rest of the hardware that war calls for. The start of this invasion would be "D" Day, the 9th of September, 1943.

There seemed to be a problem getting the ships carrying troops in as close to the beach as possible because the Germans had laid many mines in close to the shore in the coastal water.

Because of this, the initial landing troops went over the sides of their ships into the small landing craft (which would hold about 30 men) and had to travel about 12 miles to the beaches.

Because of this distance, if the sea was rough, some of the men would be seasick by the time they reached land going that far in the bobbing landing craft.

The Navy minesweepers had gone ahead to clear a path for them to go through.

Then as the troops came onto the beaches to land, there would be other barriers placed in their way and then mines and barbed wire to slow them down as much as possible.

The 34th Division was kept back in its "reserve" to be used later or used if the Germans proved to be too strong at some point in the front lines and more troops were needed to stabilize the situation.

Of course, this would include the men from Co. K. Needless to say, they were not unhappy to have been in the "reserve" at this time.

They were sure that their time would come when they would be meeting the Germans again.

The last time they had faced them in combat was in North Africa, but in North Africa the German supply lines were cut and they were not able to get all of the material, food and ammunition that they needed as well as fresh troops.

The place of landing for the U.S. and British troops was in the vicinity of Salerno, which is about 25 or 30 miles south of Naples, which was one of the major cities in Italy.

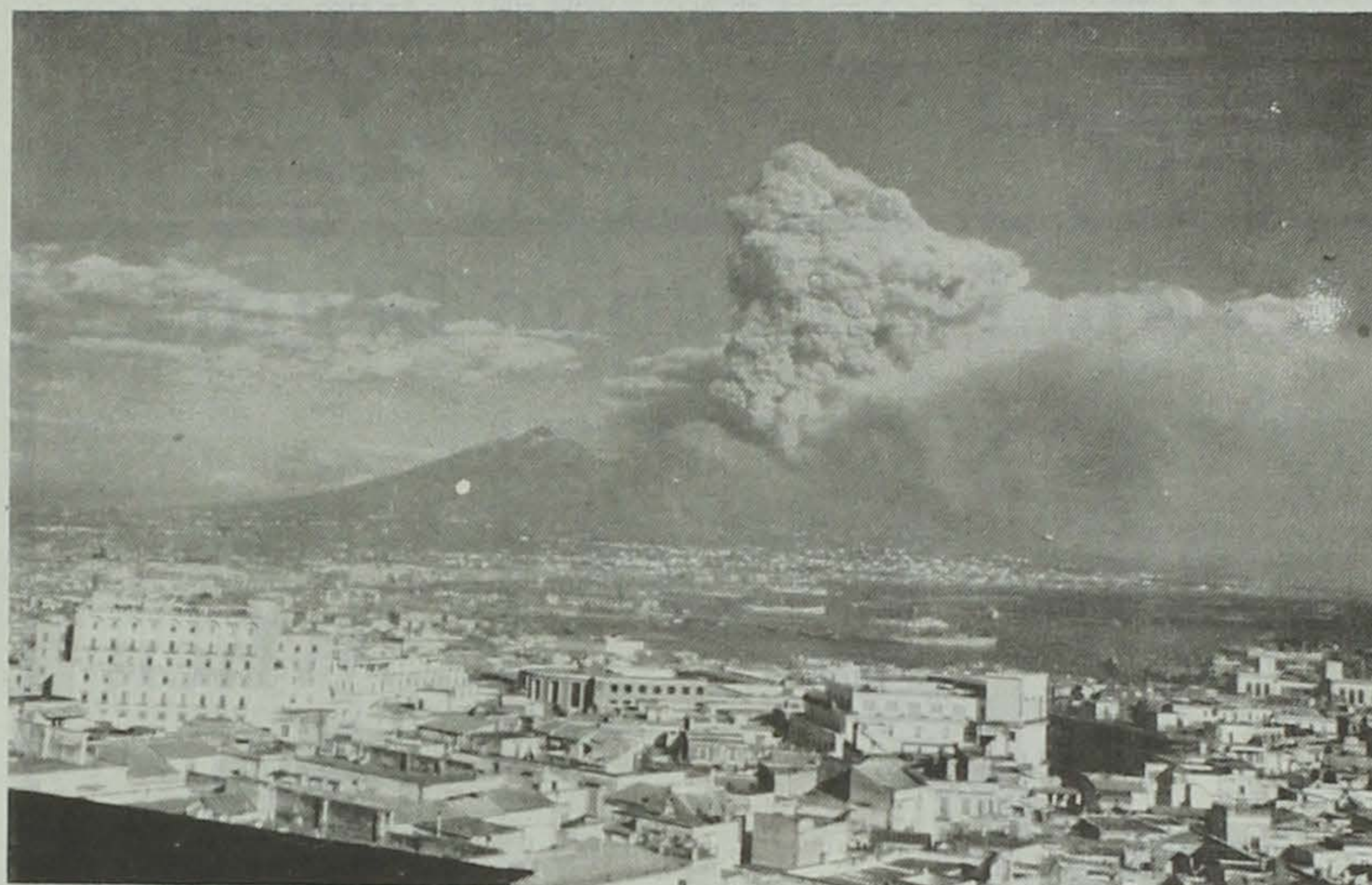
Naples would also have a large port which would be essential in supplying and invasion force with their tremendous needs of everything.

The "beach head" was established, but not without times of trouble and doubt.

Many times the Germans sent tank forces against the invaders as well as their planes and many well-trained troops.

And, as is the case many times in an invasion, things did not go as planned.

Some troops never arrived at the appointed place, others were unloaded at the wrong place, and others just did not arrive at all after their landing crafts had been hit and destroyed by gunfire.



This is a scene of Mount Vesuvius and the harbor at Naples, Italy. When the volcano erupted about 2,000 years ago it covered the city of Pompeii which would have been at the extreme right of the picture. Barrage balloons were set up from ships in the harbor to discourage airplanes from getting too close to the ships. (Photo furnished)

There is much confusion at first until some communication is established between different units and one unit knows where other units are located. All of these seemed to make this a normal landing.

The Navy warships that gave support to the troops that were landing were doing a great job.

If the landing troops were getting heavy gun fire from enemy guns in a certain location, they would just let the ships know where that spot was and they would silence them in good order.

As the first troops land on the beaches, they have no artillery with them, so the Navy destroyers and other gun ships help to make up for that lack of fire power.

Of course, soon the artillery and the tanks start to come ashore after the first troops have moved in

Continued on page 12

Malone Seed Co. Grass Seed Prices

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Per Ryegrass	85¢	\$ 42.00
Timothy	64¢	\$ 31.00
K-31 Fescue	56¢	\$ 28.00

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	\$1.05		\$52.50	
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Extension officials advise area farmers to check grain bins for spoilage

Already this winter, several bins of corn have been lost because owners failed to check them regularly, reports Shawn Shouse, Iowa State University Extension agriculture engineer.

"Lower grain quality last fall means bins across Iowa are at

greater than normal risk of mold growth this winter.

"Checking the grain is quick and easy," he advises. "It's the only way to ensure that your bin isn't the next one to spoil."

According to Shouse, stored grain should be checked every other

week in a normal winter, and weekly would be better this winter.

Checking the grain is as simple as watching for changes in temperature or odor.

The first step is to smell the stagnant air that has been trapped between the kernels of corn. If any

mold growth is taking place, you will smell the result, he said.

"The only tricky part," cautions the engineer, "is catching that first flush of air. You have to be standing where the air is leaving the grain. If you have a small aeration fan, the first flush of air may take up to five minutes.

"But if you have a large drying fan, the first flush may take as little as 25 seconds.

"If you notice any musty odor in that first flush of air, you have mold growth somewhere in the bin.

"If it smells sour, you've got a serious problem.

"In either case, you need to cool the grain immediately and work on further diagnosing the problem and possible courses of action.

Another indicator of mold

growth is heat. If you monitor grain temperature, as little as a three or four degree rise of temperature can indicate a mold problem.

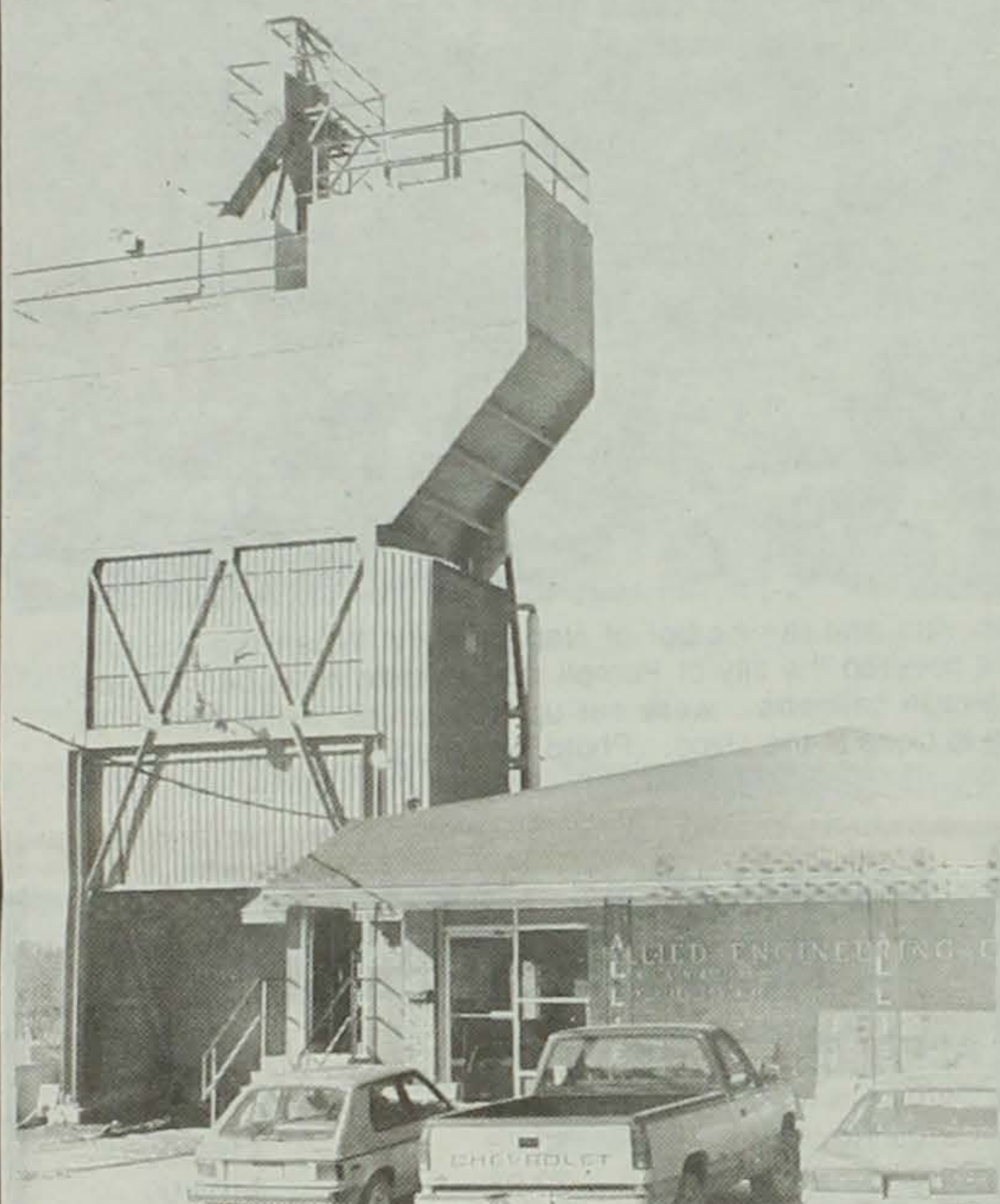
"Using your arm or a grain thermometer to probe the grain surface is a good way to locate problem spots."

Shouse cautions farmers of the dangers when entering grain bins.

"Watch for crusted grain or grain bridges that may be concealing an empty space below. "Never enter a bin when unloading equipment is operating," he said.

For more information on checking and managing stored grain, ask for Extension bulletins AE-3009 "Checking Stored Grain" and AED-20 "Managing Dry Grain in Storage" at a county Extension Office.

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Proper pruning of trees requires knowledge

The destructive pruning practice known as topping has been done so often that it appears to be the correct thing to do, according to Dr. Eldon Everhart of the Iowa State University Extension Service.

It is a pruning method used to reduce tree size.

"The reasons for such pruning are based on the fear that during storms, trees will fall on houses or other property," claims Everhart.

He says topping is also called stubbing, dehorning, heading, or lopping.

It completely disfigures a tree, causing a branch decay and sun scalding of the bark.

Large stub cuts seldom heal completely. Regrowth is dense,

vigorous, and upright. New shoots are held only by surface layers which are not attached securely. Branches formed from the rapid regrowth can be hazardous throughout their lives.

A tree should not be pruned without good reason, he said. The reasons include removal of broken, damaged, diseased or dead limbs; clearance for safety; or correction of a structural deformity.

Although topping may be justified under a few conditions, it would be unnecessary if the tree had received early and proper pruning.

For more information, refer to the Iowa State University Extension

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Armstrong Research Farm near Lewis prepares to hold first classes

By **CHRISTY STINGER**
Atlantic News-Telegraph
Staff Writer

The Armstrong Research Farm near Lewis is preparing to hold their first official classes this spring.

Officials at the farm said that the Agriculture Transfer Program is a cooperative effort between Iowa State University and Iowa Western Community College.

"The Agriculture Transfer Program provides students at Iowa Western with the first two years of an Iowa State University baccalaureate degree in agriculture," officials said.

"Students acquire 64 semester credits including five courses in agronomy and animal science provided by Iowa State and credited toward the Associate of Science degree awarded by Iowa Western Community College," they said.

"The entire 64 credits may then be transferred to ISU for a bachelor's degree."

Classes will be held at IWCC, the Armstrong Research Farm, and in fiber-optics classrooms throughout southwest Iowa, they said.

"The Wallace Foundation for Rural Research and Development hub farm is in Lewis, in Pottawattamie County," according to college officials.

"Courses in crops, soils, animal science, feeds and feeding will be offered there."

A temporary classroom is scheduled to open this spring, while a permanent structure is planned for the future.

The farm, which contains about 400 acres, is the newest of about 13 research farms of its kind in Iowa, Bernie Havlovic, Armstrong Farm superintendent.

"We've never really had a research farm in the southwest part of the state," he said. "The dream of a research farm finally became

a reality about a year ago."

Havlovic said he and the others working at the farm are busy lining up equipment and supplies for the spring, as well as remodeling a building for

classrooms and offices.

Several field days will be set for the farm, for public tours of the land, he said. Interested people are encouraged to stop by any time for a look at the farm.

Wallace Foundation plans third annual meeting in Atlantic

The Wallace Foundation for Rural Research and Development will be holding its third annual meeting on March 21.

The meeting is set for 1:30 to 3:20 p.m. at the Atlantic Meeting Center.

Registration will begin at 1 p.m. with the meeting promptly starting at 1:30 p.m., officials said.

Keynote speaker for the meeting will be Elwynn Taylor, Iowa State University climatologist.

Dr. Taylor has his Ph.D. from Washington University in St. Louis and has been a professor and Extension climatologist in the Department of Agronomy at Iowa State University since 1983.

He is responsible for statewide leadership in the development and implementation of Extension education and information programs in agricultural climatology and the climatic component of the Iowa Integrated Pest Management Program.

The annual meeting is open to all persons with an interest in the Foundation. All members of the Foundation will be seated as voting delegates from their

respective counties.

The meeting schedule is as follows:

- 1 p.m. Registration
- 1:30 p.m. Call to order--Dave Williams, president--Welcome and Introduction of Directors
- 1:35 p.m. Comments, Mark Honeyman, ISU
- 1:40 p.m. Reports, Committee Chairman
- 2 p.m. The Weather Forecast for 1994, Elwynn Taylor, ISU Extension Climatologist
- 2:30 p.m. Recognition of Patron Members, Kevin Barker
- 2:45 p.m. Election of Directors and Other Business
- 3:15 p.m. Closing Remarks
- 3:20 p.m. Adjournment

Prior to the meeting, the WFRRD will sponsor a Rural Issues Workshop from 9 a.m. to noon.

The workshop will focus on two of the critical issues facing agriculture, "Who Will Farm the Land?" and "Who Will Own the Hogs?" officials said.

Several speakers are scheduled to be in attendance.

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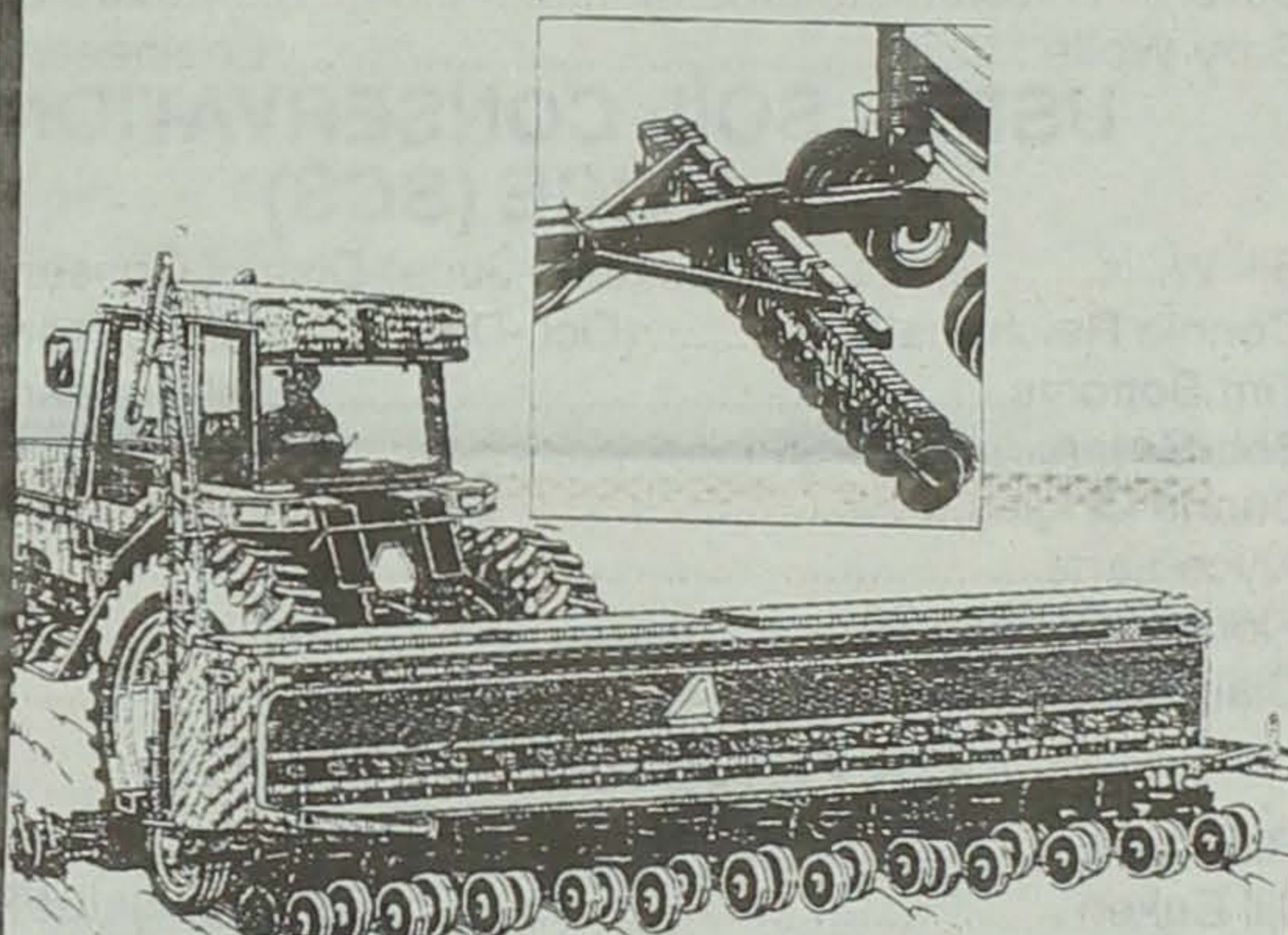
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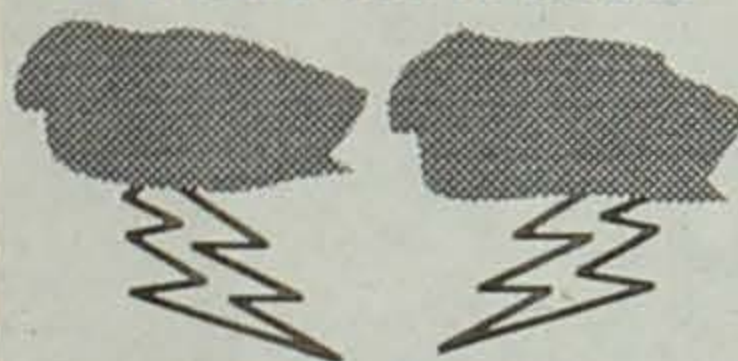
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Gary Wolfe..... Engineering Aide II

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Connie Reichenauer..... (Oct.-Dec.) District Conservationist
Tim Bottoms..... Soil Conservationist
Bob Green..... Soil Conservationist
Duane Ortgies..... Soil Conservation Technician
Alyce Lane..... WAE
Florence Campbell..... WAE
Clair Acker..... WAE

EXTENSION SERVICE

Rich Hall..... County Extension Education Director
Jill Euker..... Field Specialist/Families
Mary E. Ottmar..... Field Specialist/4-H Youth Development
Bev Gunderson..... Office Assistant

AGRICULTURAL STABILIZATION AND CONSERVATION SERVICE (ASCS)

Elaine Martens..... County Executive Director
OFFICE PERSONNEL: Sharon Boken, Jamie Newbury, Diane Carspecken, Jackie Pelzer, Marcella Waltz, Jeanine Christensen, Mona Ballinger, Sharon Crane
FIELD MEN: Forrest Winston, Elimar Sudmann
ASCS COUNTY COMMITTEE: Lawrence Wohlenhaus, Roger Euker, David Knop

FARMERS HOME ADMINISTRATION (FmHA)

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Diane King..... Assistant County Supervisor
Madonna Nisson..... County Program Technician
Julie Aupperle..... County Office Clerk
Gary W. Ludington..... District Director
Paul Frederiksen..... Asst. District Director
Shirley A. Winston..... District Loan Specialist
Merlyn Rees..... District Loan Specialist
Marvin Eblen..... Construction Inspector
Diane Larson..... District Loan Technician
Julie An. Hansen..... District Loan Clerk
Tammy Littleton..... District Loan Clerk

'93 Annu

of Cass County Soil



Wendell Pellett

Assistant Commissioner and State Representative; District Commissioner for 22 years and Assistant Commissioner for the past 20 years; Past Director of the Iowa Association of Soil Conservation District Commissioners (3 years); Member of the State Soil Conservation Committee (9 years); Outstanding ISU Alumni; State Soil Conservation Committee Award.



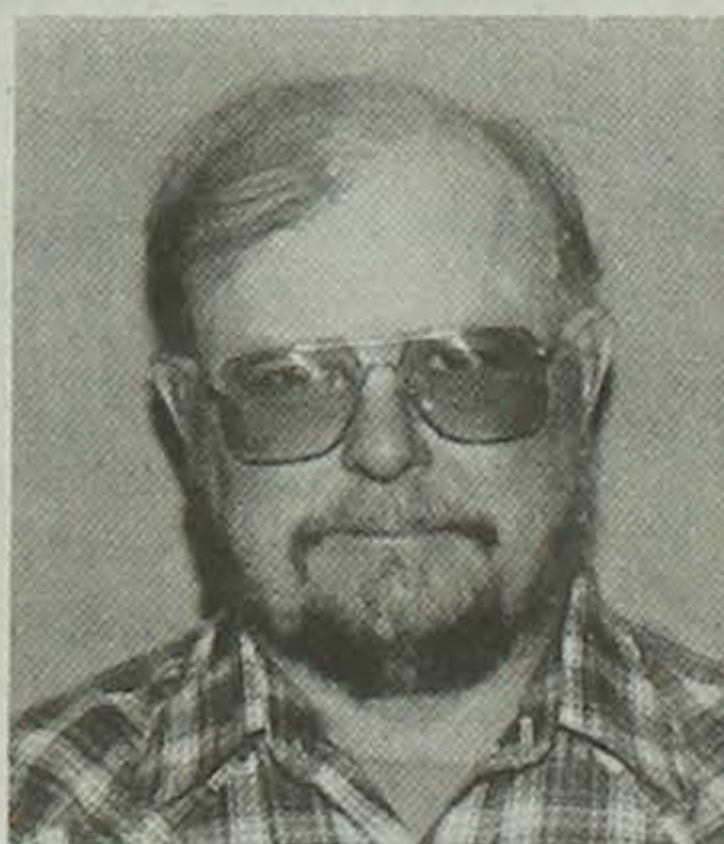
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Has been a commissioner for 5 years and farmed since 1976. Graduated from Rolfe Community High School and attended Iowa and Iowa State. Member of the Pork Producers. Has 3 children, ages 13, 12, and 9. Wife Gini is an elementary school teacher in Atlantic.



Bill Fudge

District Commissioner since 1980; Assistant Commissioner, 1974-1980; Goodyear Award, 1970; Iowa Conservation Award, 1960; Omaha World Herald Certificate of Merit, 1978; Outstanding Commissioner Award, 1984; Watershed Achievement Award, 1986.



Greg Zellmer

Elected to the board of commissioners 11/92, also serves on Cass Ag. and Education Association Danish Mutual board, member of Cass Co. Cattlemen's Association.

Annual Report

Soil Conservation District



George Hosfelt

District Commissioner; Commissioner since 1952; Outstanding Commissioner Award, 1958; Outstanding Commissioner Award, 1976; Honorary Member of Iowa Association of Soil Conservation District Commissioners, 1977; Omaha World Herald Certificate of Merit, 1979.



Fred Kay

Elected to the board of commissioners 11/92, also serves on Rural Development Committee, FACT Foundation, IA Poultry Association, Cass Co. Cattlemen's Association, Pork Producers, Farm Bureau speaker's board, Corn Growers Association.



Max Miller

District Commissioner since 1962; Assistant Commissioner for six years; Region 5 Outstanding Commissioner Award, 1981; Member Cass County RC&D Committee; Cass County delegate to Land Preservation Policy Committee.

SCS Office Staff

Carolyn Wilson, Bob Green, Alyce Lane,
Duane Ortgies, Bill Willis, Gary Wolfe.

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New Cooperators.....	No. 7
Landowners Requesting Assistance.....	No. 1182
Landowners Applying A Practice.....	No. 163
New Conservation Plans.....	Act. 1529
Terraces.....	Ft. 200, 206
Tile Drainage.....	Ft. 102, 750
Grassed Waterway.....	Ac. 64
Contouring.....	AC. 5918
Conservation Tillage.....	Ac. 5648
Farmstead and Feedlot Windbreak.....	Ac. 3
Wildlife Habitat.....	Ac. 6

EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS

I-M BUDGET

92-93 Allocation.....	\$2,435.00
Commissioner Mileage & Expenses.....	1,055.71
Office Supplies And Expenses.....	879.29
State And National Dues.....	500.00
Total.....	\$2,435.00

III-M BUDGET

92-93 Allocation.....	\$79,946.85
Cost-share Warrants Paid.....	\$79,946.85

92-93 Allocation.....	\$87,450.33
Cost-share Warrants Paid.....	78,455.33
Obligated, But Not Paid.....	7,981.00
Unobligated Balance.....	1,014.00
Total.....	\$87,450.33

93-94 Allocation.....	\$88,963.00
Cost-share Warrants Paid.....	14,503.00
Obligated, But Not Paid.....	37,047.00
Unobligated Balance.....	37,413.00
Total.....	\$88,963.00

1994 Organic Nutrient Management Program	
Allocation.....	\$8,640.00
Obligated But Not Paid.....	\$8,640.00

1994 REAP Forestry/Native Grass	
Allocation.....	\$5,586.00
Obligated, But Not Paid.....	3,500.00
Unobligated Balance.....	2,086.00
Total.....	\$5,586.00

1994 REAP Practice Fund	
Allocation.....	\$22,935.00
Unobligated Balance.....	\$22,935.00

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'93 Annual Report

of Cass County Soil Conservation District



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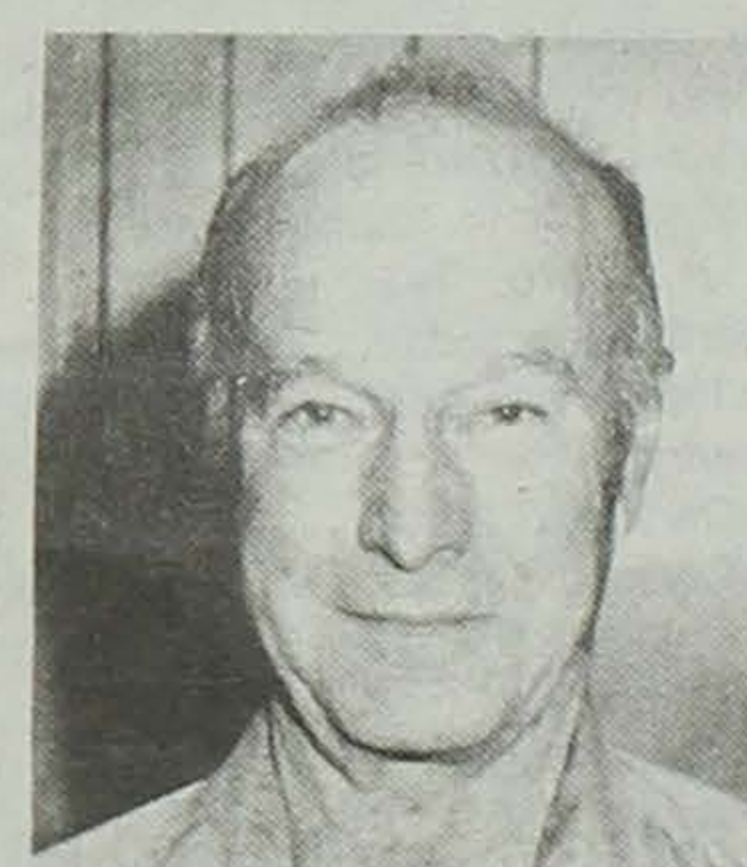
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Information is available from Extension Office on setting farm building rents

There are some farmers who want to expand livestock production levels, but are reluctant to invest in remodeling older buildings or constructing new facilities.

Other farmers have livestock facilities and other farm buildings that are setting idle.

Renting farm buildings could be advantageous to both groups of farmers.

Establishing a "fair" rent is not easy. Facilities differ in size, age and condition. Usually, there is no widespread rental market for specialized buildings.

The fixed location of existing buildings often limits prospective tenants to neighboring farmers.

The economic costs associated with buildings are repairs, insurance, taxes, depreciation and interest on investment.

The latter cost reflects an opportunity cost of the money tied up in

the building. If the money had been invested elsewhere, it could be earning a return.

Cash costs are similar to economic costs. The only difference is that actual interest and principal payments replace depreciation and interest on investment.

At a minimum, building owners want to cover all cash costs. This may not be possible with newer facilities carrying a large debt.

The Extension Service has three publications which may be helpful in setting cash rental rates.

FM 1838, "Iowa Farm Building Rental Rate Survey," contains the results of a statewide survey conducted in 1990.

For different types of buildings, the average rent and a range of rents are shown.

The other publication, "Farm Building Rental," contains information that can be used to set a

rent for a specific building.

Both of these publications are available free of charge at a county Extension office.

NCR 214, "Rental Agreements for Farm Machinery, Equipment and Buildings," is a cost publication. There is a lease (NCR 215) that corresponds to this publication which is available for a fee.

Trees add extra value to homes

Healthy, well managed trees add value to an entire neighborhood, according to Dr. Eldon Everhart, commercial horticulture field specialist with Iowa State University Extension.

Realtors estimate that 95 percent of home shoppers won't even get out of their car if the house lacks "curb appeal."

Trees make a good impression. They add value to a landscape. And, a quality landscape adds 15 percent to the value or selling price of real estate.

New food labels requires more nutritional facts

"Just the facts, ma'am," is a short answer to the question of what's on the new food labels.

"Even the title of 'Nutrition Facts' is designed to remind consumers that new rules and regulations apply to how foods are labeled," says Rich Hall, Cass County Extension education director.

Congress passed the Nutrition Labeling and Education Act in 1990. In January 1993 the Food and Drug Administration and the U.S. Department of Agriculture published the final labeling regulations and gave manufacturers until this year to make the changes.

The lawmakers and regulators worked with various health agencies to design a label that would be more easily understood by consumers. "Their goal was to make it easier for people to make healthful food choices," Hall says.

"The new labels provide standardized information so that various products can be compared. Also, health related product claims are limited to those supported by research."

For example, every label tells the serving size, calories per serving, calories from fat, plus the amount of total fat, saturated fat, cholesterol, sodium, total carbohydrates, dietary fiber, sugars, protein, vitamin A, vitamin C, calcium and iron.

The labeling law applies only to how nutrition information is provided on the label.

Previous regulations requiring the label to list ingredients in descending order and to state the product weight or volume and manufacturer still apply.

One measurement persons will not see on the new label is the Recommended Daily Allowance (RDA). A new comparison tool called "Percent Daily Value" is used instead.

"The Percent Daily Value numbers offer a quick way to compare how foods fit into a 2,000 calorie daily diet," Hall says.

"Consumers should aim to get about 100 percent of each of the listed nutrients. So, a serving of a canned stew with a Daily Value of 35 percent for saturated fat and 42 percent for sodium provides about one-third of saturated fat recommended in one day plus nearly half of the sodium recommended in one day."

Brochures explaining the food label are available from the Iowa State University Extension Cass County Office, 1205 Sunnyside Lane, Atlantic, Iowa 50022.

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Fruit trees, vines, shrubs need pruned during March

March is the best time to prune many plants, according to Dr. Eldon Everhart, field specialist for Iowa State University Extension Service.

Plants to begin pruning now include fruit trees, grapevines, raspberries, currants, gooseberries and shrubs.

Most shade trees and evergreens, such as arborvitae, junipers and yews, can also be pruned in March.

Everhart urges early training of young trees to maintain a balanced, open shape and strong trunk diameter will increase faster if lower branches are left on as long as possible.

Removing lower limbs may cause the tree to shoot up faster. But, the result may be a weak, spindly trunk.

When removing a limb, make the final pruning cut close to, but slightly beyond, the branch bark ridge or collar.

Recycling a slice of history earns award

History on the Sno-Shoe Ranch in Wyoming is so close you can touch it.

It's in the homestead cabin, the

cow and calf sheds, the machine sheds, the granaries, the corrals and even in the 100-year-old lodgepole snow fence, all still serv-

ing their original purpose. Inside the barns, the wood is worn shiny from years of use.

Some ranchers might view this as reason enough to begin upgrading to more modern facilities, but the descendants of the Grant family, who homesteaded this ranch four years before Wyoming became a state, recognize and appreciate the history immersed in these buildings.

"We admire and respect the dedication, labor and love that went into building the physical structures," says Margaret Grant.

"Everywhere you look there's a reminder of someone," adds her husband, John.

Their commitment to the historic preservation of their ranch has earned them the 1994 Barn Again Farm Heritage Award and a \$500 check.

Barn Again is a team effort kicked off in 1987 by Successful Farming magazine and the National Trust for Historic Preservation to encourage the preservation of historic farm buildings for today's farm needs.

Since then, the program has rec-

ognized 110 farmers and ranchers nationwide, including six this year, for their preservation efforts and has provided advice and assistance to thousands of other barn owners.

"The purpose of the program is to discover how farmers and ranchers have been able to preserve history on their farms and at the same time make practical uses of their buildings and facilities," says John Walter, conservation editor for the magazine.

"The innovation, resourcefulness, and commitment to excellence shown by the Grants and the other winners have been outstanding," says Richard Moe, president of the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

To request an application, write National Trust for Historic Preservation, 910 Sixteenth Street, Suite 1100, Denver CO 30202.

Production of corn, soybeans declines

Corn and soybean production in 1993 was down from the previous year throughout Iowa and Cass County was no exception.

The 1993 Cass County corn yield was listed at 72.1 bushels an acre and the soybean yield at 30 bushels an acre, according to a report from Iowa Agricultural Statistics.

The agency reported that the state's average corn yield was 80 bushels in 1992, a recorded yield.

The total corn production was listed at 880 million bushels, less than half the record in yield in 1992.

Production in southwest Iowa has been around 130 bushels an

acre for corn and 40-45 bushels an acre for soybeans.

The average soybean yield in the state was 30 bushels an acre, a decrease of 32 percent from the previous year.

The total soybean production was reported at 246 million bushels, a decrease of 31 percent from the previous year.

The yields in surrounding counties were:

Corn — Shelby, 85; Audubon, 80.6; Guthrie, 81.6; Adair, 76.8; Adams, 79; Montgomery, 74.6; and Pottawattamie, 81.1.

Soybeans — Shelby, 35.3; Audubon, 33.6; Guthrie, 31.2; Adair, 30.4; Adams, 32; Montgomery, 30.5; and Pottawattamie, 35.3.

Family loan plan aids 390 small farmers

Officials at Iowa Citizens for Community Improvement (Iowa CCI) and Norwest Bank report that a family farm loan program established in January 1989 has helped more than 390 small and mid-sized farmers.

They have been helped to obtain more than \$12,500,000 in credit for operating expenses, livestock and real estate purchases, and other agricultural needs.

These figures represent increases in lending activity with new farm borrowers.

The loan program was started five years ago by Norwest, Iowa CCI, Catholic Rural Life and the American Agriculture Movement of Iowa to help support and promote family farm agriculture in and around the communities of Ottumwa, Atlantic, Denison, Fort Dodge, Des Moines, Sioux City, Mason City, Waterloo/Cedar Falls and Cedar Rapids.

The program places a special

emphasis on meeting the credit needs of smaller farmers and young/beginning farmers with limited resources, according to Iowa CCI.

It also focuses on farmers who are rebuilding their operations.

The loan program is in effect again this year. Farmers in Cass County and nearby areas who want more information or are interested in obtaining loans for operating and crop input expenses, purchases of livestock, machinery or farmland, and other typical farm-related expenses are to contact the Norwest Bank in Atlantic or Iowa CCI in Des Moines.

Farmers Home Administration guaranteed loans, interest assistance loans, and subordinated loans, and Iowa beginning farmer loans are also available through the family farm loan program.

Iowa CCI is a non-profit community organization that has been working with family farmers on credit issues since 1981.

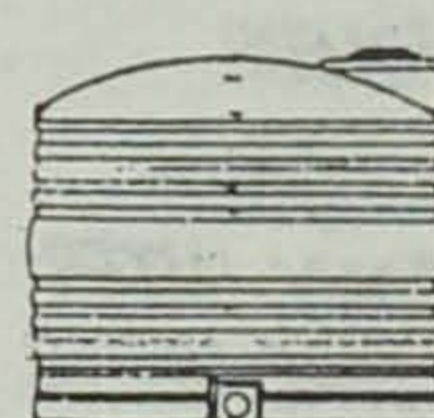
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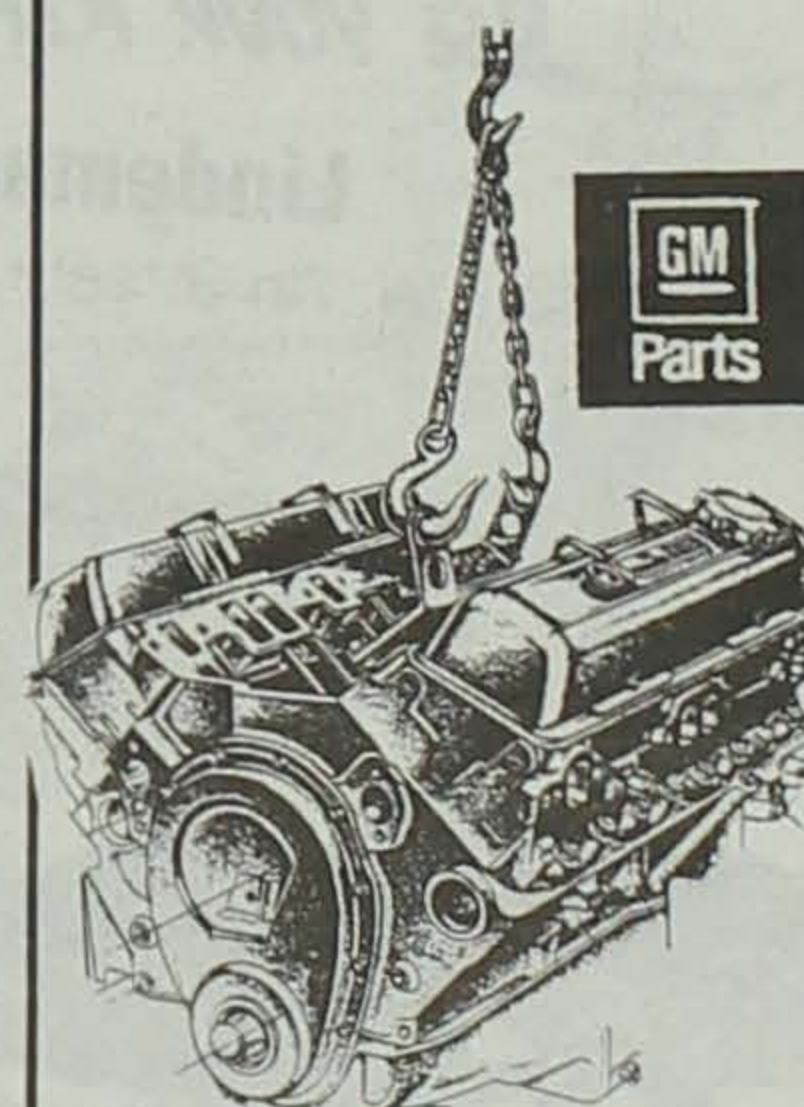
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Atlantic man in attendance as 128 chefs prepare meal for 5,000

How would you like to stuff 5,000 pears or handle the serving of 5,000 dinner guests?

When talk of banquets gets around to Mike Anderson, Atlantic sales representative for Ford New Holland Co., he will always remember the one he recently attended in London, England.

The occasion was a sit-down dinner for the worldwide conference of Ford New Holland dealers and

sales representatives.

Anderson said it was a tremendous affair and everything went like a well-oiled machine. There seemed to be no hitches and it was an elegant affair.

For instance, Anderson said at each of the eight courses, a drum and bugler corps appeared.

After a roll of the drums and sounding of bugles, the five head waiters, who had been holding up

their hands, lowered them.

This was a signal for the servers to appear and they came from every direction to the tables.

When the course was completed, the drums and bugles were again sounded as a signal to clean off the tables.

Then the process started over again with the drums and bugles and the dropping of hands.

Prior to the meal, the outside of the banquet hall was a busy place as the buses carrying the dealers and representatives arrived every 90 seconds to keep the crowd moving to their seats.

Probably the only hitch in the entire plan was the entertainment.

After the meal, Ray Charles was scheduled to give a 45-minute program, but it lasted 90 minutes. It had to be cut off because of the need to get the buses moving back to hotels.

The banquet was the largest for nearly 70 years. It was held at Earl's Court and was the largest since the Masonic Million Aug. 8, 1924, when 8,000 ate at the Olympia to raise funds for a war memorial.

Malcom Emery was the director for the dinner and had a team of 128 chefs preparing it.

Preparations were carried out weeks in advance. The soup was

made in 350-pint boilers and blast-chilled a day or two before the dinner.

The menu included 3,000 canapes, Trio of Salmon and Consomme Pollo d'Oro, Fillet of Beef Forestiere, fresh market winter vegetables, British and Italian cheeses, Pear in Filo Pastry served with Sabayon Sauce and finally coffee with petit fours.

Some of the chefs were assigned to making the 3,000 canapes, each called a culinary torture by one British newspaper editor.

Each required adding 3,000 dots of sun-dried tomato to 3,000 fragments of mozzarella. Others whipped up 3,000 Lilliputian walnut souffles.

The pear treat involving poaching the pears and these were then stuffed and baked in 130 ovens.

Elder said he didn't expect any trouble from his 128 chefs because most of them had worked for him before. He had the chefs divided up into eight kitchens.

Prior to the dinner, he told reporters that he thought there would be two main problems.

One was getting the beef just right to serve and the other, called the biggest problem, was getting all the guests to sit down together.

The menu:

25,000 cocktail canapes
3,000 pints of soup

One ton of Scotch salmon
3,000 pounds Scotch fillet beef
5,000 stuffed pears
10,000 bread rolls
30,000 butter pats
9,000 handmade petit fours
4,000 bottles of Champagne
6,000 bottles wine
3,000 bottles mineral water
3,000 pints of coffee

10,000 pieces of linen
135,000 pieces of tableware
800 on the waiting staff

One writer said the only thing missing were 10,000 Alka Seltzers.

COMPANY K

Continued from page 5

several hundred yards from the beach.

All of the invading troops are subjected to heavy enemy gun fire since they are all out in the open.

The Germans, for the most part, would be "dug in" and waiting and many times were hard to locate.

Slowly and painfully the front line moved inland from the beaches as more troops and supplies came ashore.

After about two weeks of slowly moving from the beaches, the 5th Army paused for a short time to reorganize.

The front line troops, and it did not make any difference if they were infantry, artillery, engineers, medics, tankers or any other troops, had casualties. Some needed many replacements to fill the ranks again.

After this pause, the 5th Army moved ahead with new vigor and the Germans under this added pressure started to pull back slowly.

They also had suffered many casualties and lost some equipment and they also were in need of more men to fill their ranks.

To be continued.

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Narrow base terrace doing its job



This narrow base terrace is doing its job of preventing melting snow from quickly running off hilly land and causing soil erosion. (Photo furnished)

American soybean farmers have significant influence on economy

WEST DES MOINES, IOWA -- There's more to farming than providing soy sauce for stir fry and feed for farm animals. In fact, U.S. farmers provided approximately 21,000 jobs in the U.S. economy for every \$1 billion of U.S. agricultural exports in 1992, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA).

U.S. agricultural exports totaled about \$42.9 billion in 1992, supporting about 902,000 full-time civilian jobs. Nearly two-thirds of those were in the non-farm sector, including manufacturing, transportation and trade.

At the same time, agricultural exports generated \$104.6 billion in business activity, with almost one-half of that in exports and the rest in supporting activities. Furthermore, each dollar received a multiplier effect of more than two, according to USDA Economist Bill Edmundson.

The food and fiber system, which includes farming and all related industries, accounted for 22.8 million workers in 1992. That's 18 percent of all U.S. workers. The sector also accounted for 15.7 percent of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP).

Soybean production plays a significant role in the U.S. food and fiber sector. The 1993-1994 soybean crop is currently valued by USDA at \$11.8 billion, with Iowa's soybean crop valued at \$1.6 billion. Iowa accounted for about

14 percent of the nation's total soybean production in 1993, despite flood and water damage.

U.S. soybean exports reached a value of \$4.8 billion in the 1992-93 marketing year. That equates to more than 100,000 jobs in the soybean export area alone.

"U.S. soybean exports were up significantly last year from recent levels," says Steve Julius, a farmer from Barnum and chairman of the Iowa Soybean Promotion Board. "Iowa soybean producers have been

working with other U.S. producers for decades to maintain our constant export markets as well as open new ones, and last year's export levels show it's paying off."

Also in 1992-93, the United States accounted for 71 percent of the world's soybean exports, 20 percent of the world's soybean exports and 15 percent of global soy-oil exports. U.S. soybean production in the 1992-93 marketing year represented 51 percent of the world's total soybean production.

CLUES OF ROOTS

By Edna Christensen,
Cass Genealogical Society

If you know of a person who came on the Orphan Train, write to the Orphan Train Heritage Society of America Inc., Box 496, Johnson, AK 97241-0496.

The society is interested in any information you have to share or to help if you want information about the train.

There are many looking for ancestors who were in the military service. There is a book "How to Locate Anyone Who is or has Been in the Military," written by Lt. Col. Richard S. Johnson. It is published by Military Information Enterprises, Box 340081, Fort Sam Houston TX 78234.

I'm told it is an excellent book and covers a large number of areas, past and present.

During the flood last year, a large cemetery near St. Louis, Mo., lost 716 caskets to the Missouri River.

Fortunately, that cemetery had been canvassed and graves recorded just in time.

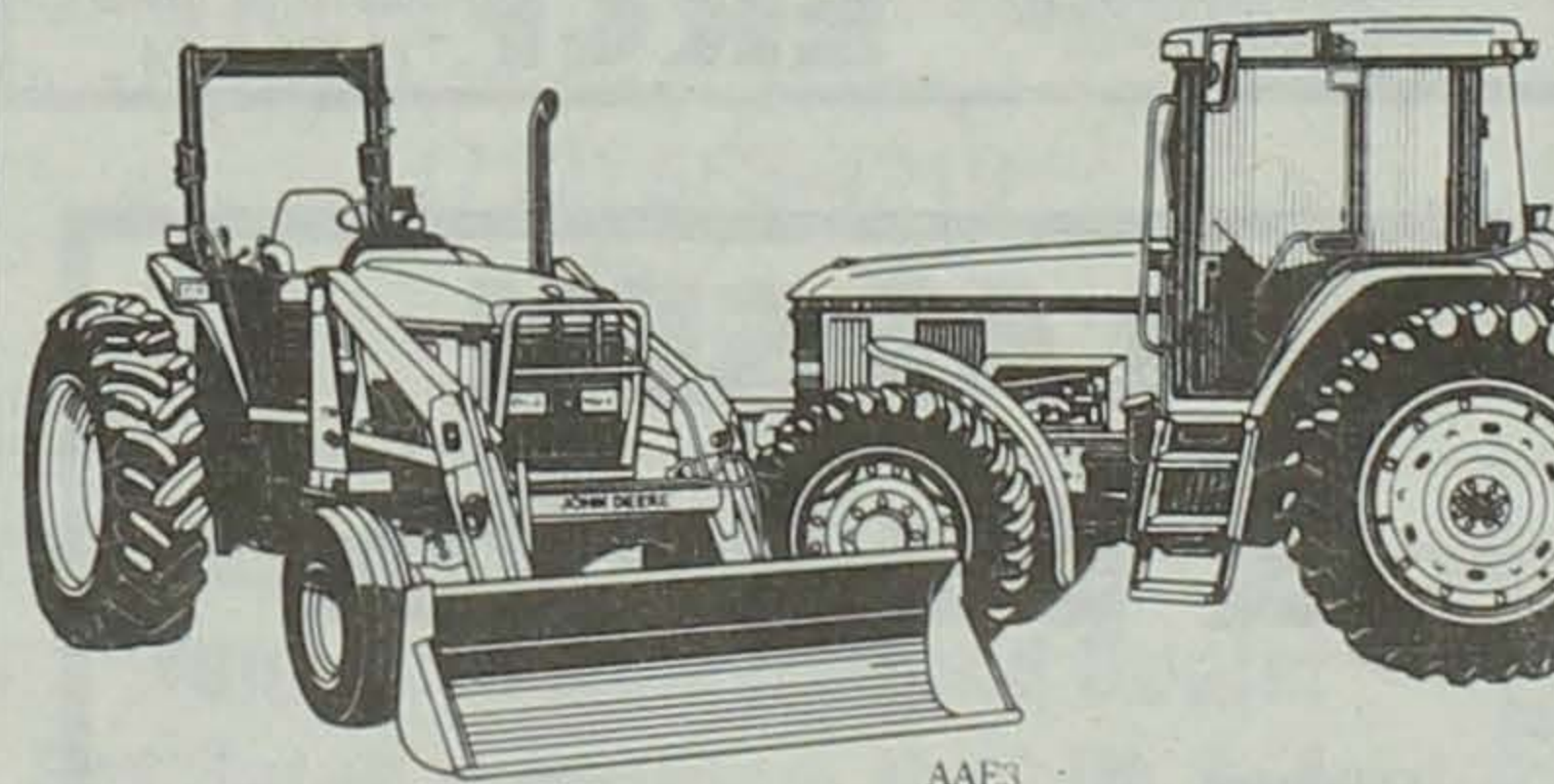
G. A. Troxel, 426 East Broad, Spokane WA 99207-1524, needs information on the McClarens.



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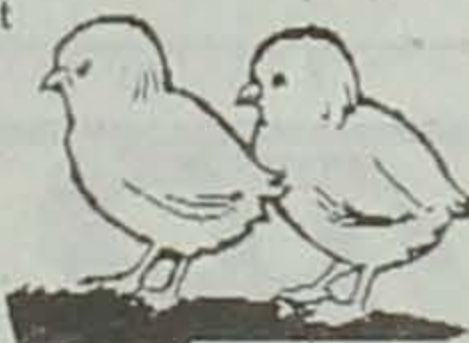
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▲ WAYSIDE COLUMN

By Grace Rasmussen of Manilla

Tucked away in one corner of the spectacular new MGM casino in Las Vegas is a neat little wayside.

Nathan's hot dog stand boasts of 75 years in existence.

The story is like a fairy tale. Back in 1913 in the colorful Coney Island beach resort, two young immigrants, Nathan Handwerker and Ida Waldman met and fell in love as they worked in what was the first frankfurter restaurant.

Soon after they married, in 1916, a couple of singing waiters, Eddie Cantor and Jimmy Durante, urged them to start a frankfurter place of their own.

Ida had her grandmother's secret spice recipe and Nathan used his life's savings to start the enterprise.

Since then, at least nine presidents have eaten at Nathan's and Franklin D. Roosevelt even invited

King George and Queen Elizabeth to have one of Nathan's famous hot dogs in the late 1930s.

Today, 75 years later there are many Nathan's famous places for America's hot dog lovers.

A little surprising wayside, or perhaps aside, turned up in our kitchen this week.

I opened a large can of soup and found the label fascinating. "Stockmeyer Minestrone 794g net."

Maybe that isn't too interesting, but underneath were the words: "Product of the Federal Republic of Germany."

Wait a minute, There is more.

The label says it found its way into my kitchen through "An Australian Importer, Cypress and Sons PTY LTD at 233 Parramatta Rd. from Auburn, Australia...but...prepared by West-

folische Fleischwarenfabrik. Stockmeyer GmbH. and Co. KG 4414 Fuchtarf."

Yes, it was tasty, a bit salty, but satisfying. In the midst of all the talk of fiber optics, I found it an interesting wayside to have soup that contained vegetables grown in Germany.

Grass farming, direct marketing meeting planned

Farmers can learn how to make the grass greener on their side of the fence by attending the "Making Money from Grass" conference to be held March 12 at Southwestern Community College in Creston, according to Rich Hall, Cass County Extension education director.

The conference is from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the college auditorium. A registration fee will cover the cost of the lunch.

Hall says the program will feature people who produce high-quality, safe livestock and poultry products on pasture, and market those products directly to consumers.

Joel Salatin, owner-operator of a pastured poultry operation in Swoope, Va., will describe his family's operation which produces, processes and direct markets 8,000 broilers each summer.

A number of other topics will be covered.

Tip of the Hat to 4-H CLUB MEMBERS

Ryan Todd Kay, 17, of Atlantic is the 4-H Junior Leader of the Month for March.

He is the son of Richard and Kathy Kay and has been a member of the Pymosa Ski-Hi 4-H Club for eight years.

Kay has been a busy member of the club, serving as president, photographer, reporter and treasurer.

He has been involved in a number of projects, including refinishing the Pymosa School sign, taking cookies for the Red Cross Bloodmobile and helping maintain the Lorah Cemetery.

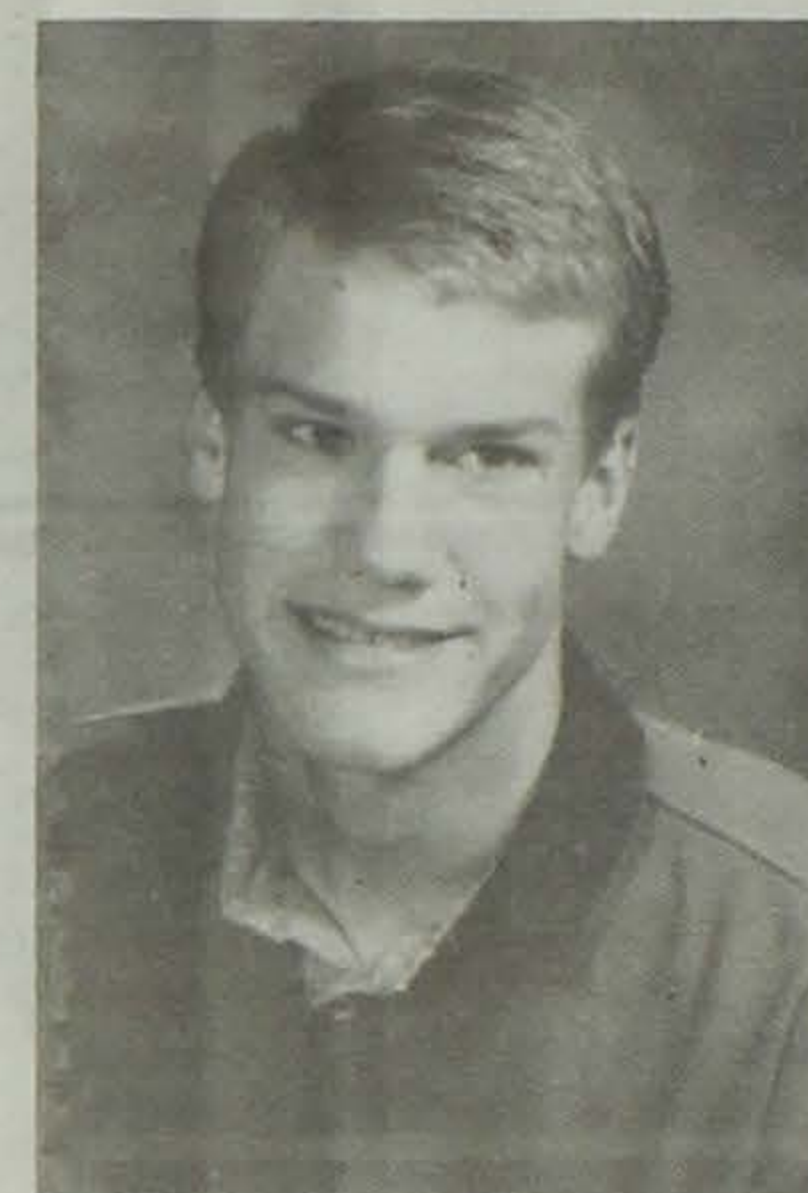
On the county level, Kay has been active 4-H Youth Council member, involved in the livestock judging contest at the Cass County Fair, participated in the 4-H volleyball tournament helped with Mardi Gras, Discovery 4-H workshop and helped with the Oasis program at Washington School.

Two events stand out in his 4-H career. These were being elected to the 4-H Youth Council and being named president of his club.

Kay is enthused about the 4-H program and the junior leader program.

"I like helping other people in participating in 4-H activities," he said.

"I also like meeting new members in 4-H program and



Ryan Kay

meeting their enthusiasm when they learn something new or complete a project successfully."

As for 4-H, "I feel that 4-H helps you to meet new friends and to help other people. 4-H also gets you involved and you have fun and learn responsibility. 4-H is a learning experience that helps you as you go out in the real world."

Kay said he is looking forward to his last year in 4-H and participating in Youth Council. He plans to attend college and major in ag business. He is an Atlantic High School junior and a brother, Phil, and a sister, Kristel.

Questions, answers listed

Continued from page 3

farms.

Recommendation: Considering the loss of conservation practices, risk of loss of some farm benefits, expected narrow profits margins from farming low-producing areas of a field, and the fact that most deficiency payments and crop bases will remain unchanged, it seems to be the better decision to report these 1993 set-aside or flex acres as conservation use acres in 1994 rather than planting them to corn.

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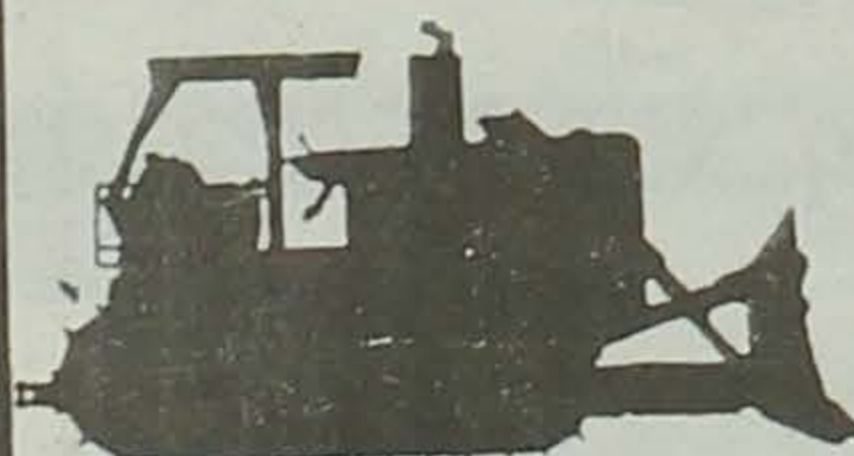
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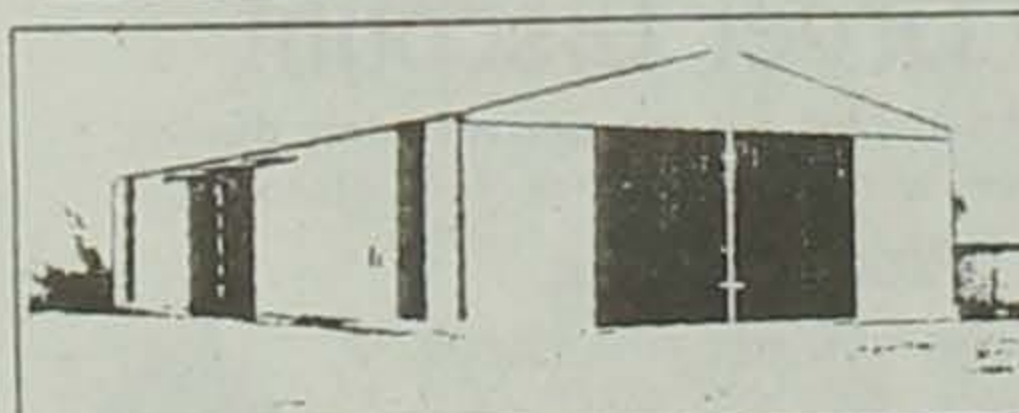
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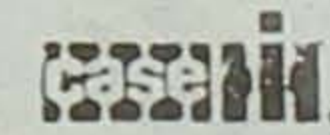
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Water quality is an increasing concern among Iowans

By Fred Kay,
District Commissioner

Over the past decade Iowans have become increasingly concerned about the deterioration of water quality in the state, as a result of agricultural activities -- looking back at changes in the livestock industry with the introduction of commercial fertilizer in the 1950s, livestock production changed from a waste utilization mode to a disposal mode.

Don't think of manure as a

waste product - it's fertilizer - six steps to tap its nutrient value are:

1. Soil test - good way to track what happens to different amounts of manure.

2. Manure test - laboratories available in Iowa for testing.

3. Match manure and soil analyses.

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5. Crop testing - request a corn tissue test at tassle time. This test alone saves \$20-\$30 per acre.

6. Yield test - in most field tests straight manure application beats commercial fertilizer - not in bushels per acre, but dollars per acre.

The casual approach to manure application is ending.

Expect regulations that will force you to have a written manure management plan -- permits from county, state or federal agencies allowing you to apply manure on your land.

This will all be in conjunction with ground water monitoring.

Nutrient management helps all 102,000 Iowa farms concentrate on economic and environmental eval-

uation of nutrient use.

Changes in the laws are not only inevitable, but also hold opportunities for agriculture.

Cass County SCS office gains extra duties

By Jim Jordan,
District Commissioner

The Cass County Soil Conservation Service field office has been given the additional responsibility of enforcing the conservation requirements of the Food Security Act.

A computer generated spot-check list is given to our office and we must do a compliance check on each farmer on that list. Farmers, all of us, must be sure that we are in compliance.

Many farmers have a lot at stake. CRP payments, Federal Crop Insurance, price supports, disaster payments and FmHA

loans are just some of the reasons we all have a vested interest in staying in compliance.

Every farmer in Cass County should take it upon himself or herself to review their farm plan and make any necessary revisions.

The Cass County SCS Office will be glad to help any farmer who has questions about his or her plan.

There is a lot of flexibility in the rules governing compliance.

Farmers have many options available to them to make their own cropping plans fit compliance guidelines.

Make use of that flexibility and stay in compliance.

SIM Health Center receives grant for outreach services

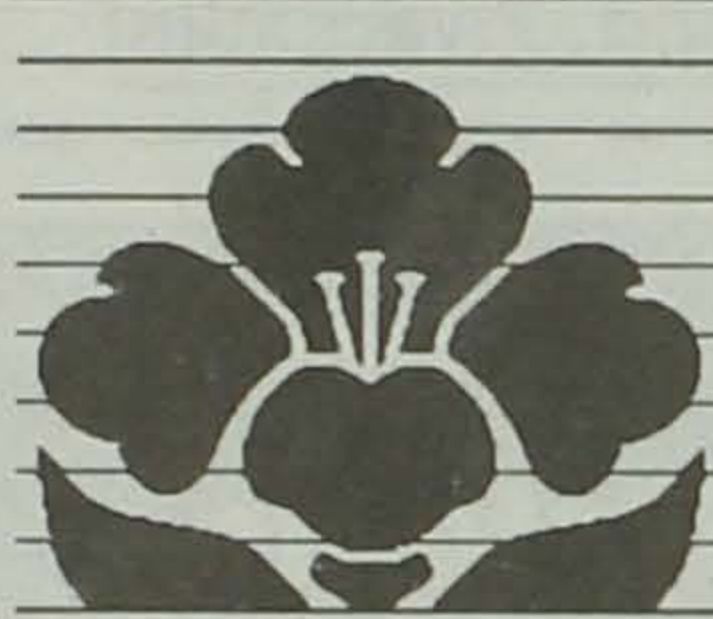
The Southwest Iowa Mental Health Center has received a grant from the Federal Emergency Management Agency to provide outreach services in Cass County to citizens who have been adversely affected by weather conditions of last year.

Kristie Kite, outreach coordinator, will be disseminating informa-

tion throughout Cass communities regarding the outreach program.

Services available include education about normal reactions following disaster and coping techniques including stress management and self-help approaches.

Outreach services will be available to all individuals and families in Cass County.



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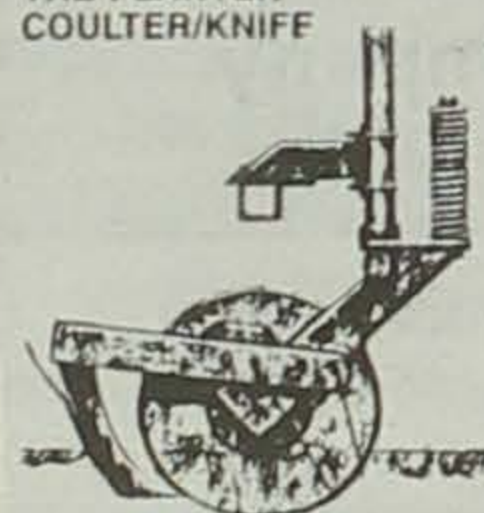
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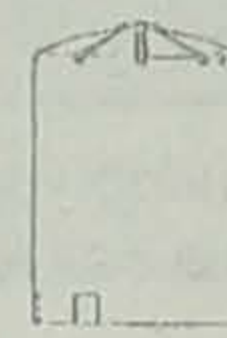
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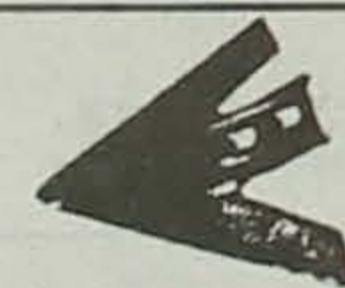
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