

1952

ANNUAL REPORT



Air tour photo of John Rodger's farm, southwest of Centerville, upper city reservoir looking south.

APPANOOSE
SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT

AGRICULTURAL BUILDING

CENTERVILLE, IOWA

SOIL CONSERVATION OBJECTIVE

"The basic physical
objective of soil conservation
activities in Appanoose County
Shall be

The use of each acre of agricultural land in Appanoose
County within its capabilities and the treatment of each
acre of agricultural land in accordance with its needs
for protection and improvement."



The new Agricultural Building for Appanoose County, leased to all Agricultural agencies by the Appanoose Soil Conservation District in 1951.

1952 ANNUAL REPORT APPANOOSE SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT Centerville, Iowa

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PERSONNEL APPANOOSE, STATE OF IOWA SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT

DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS

George A. Scott ----- Chairman
Arthur M. Streepy ----- Commissioner
R. C. Wilson ----- Commissioner
Fred G. Lasley ----- County Extension Director
----- Secretary of Board of Commissioners

SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE

S. T. Runkel ----- District Conservationist
William E. Stark ----- Work Unit Conservationist
LaVern A. Whitaker ----- Conservation Aid

STATE EMPLOYEES

Joe R. Luse ----- State Technical Aid
Cora Lee Brown ----- Clerk

DISTRICT EMPLOYEES

Bulldozer Operators ----- Arthur Davis
----- Arthur Streepy
Terracer Operator ----- Wendell F. Pick



From left to right: Arthur M. Streepy, George A. Scott, Chairman, and R. C. Wilson. These three farmers serve without pay in administering the Soil Conservation program in Appanoose District.

PREFACE

The Appanoose Soil Conservation District was organized in the year 1944 by farmers and other interested people. An annual report is prepared every year showing the accomplishments within the Soil District and the financial status of the various accounts. This year's report is the first in which we have endeavored to show by pictures the activities that are a part of this soil conservation job.

All of the pictures in this report were taken locally. Most of them are enlargements of Kodachrome transparency slides taken with the State owned 35 MM camera.

The 1952 report is available to all cooperating farmers and local people, as well as the State Conservation Committee, the Iowa Extension Service, the Soil Conservation Service, and the U. S. Dept. of Agriculture.

The District Commissioners are continually studying, planning, and working at the soil conservation job. We would appreciate any constructive criticisms or assistance of any kind which will hasten our reaching the objective. We believe this Objective, as shown on page 2, is a worthy goal for all land owners and tenants.

CALENDAR EVENTS

JANUARY

On January 24 and 30, the first two of the 4th annual farmer conservationist schools were held with approximately 60 farmers in attendance each meeting. On the 24th, the Assistant Director of the Experiment Station of Iowa State College reviewed experimental results from outlying experimental farms which are supervised throughout the State. In the afternoon a discussion was led by John McCaughey and Bill Stark on local forage problems. At the school held on January 31, Chuck Greenlee, Farm Management Specialist, led a discussion on farm management and conservation farming. Coffee and donuts were served at both sessions, furnished by local equipment dealers.

The Appanoose County Agricultural Resources Conservation Program, in which all local Agricultural agencies participated, was completed and delivered.



Glenn McNair and some of his grass silage put up in 1951. Spoilage line shown at the end of the fork.



"Shorty" Harper inspecting pine trees and multiflora rose received through the local Soil District.

FEBRUARY

On February 7 and 14, the final farmer conservationist schools for 1953 were held with approximately 65 farmers in attendance each meeting. On February 7, Mr. Joe Stritzel, Associate Agronomist, from Iowa State College, discussed soil testing, soil capabilities, and the use of commercial fertilizers. Dale Woolsoncroft, Agricultural Engineer, discussed how they used grass silage. A question session with the audience was held following the panel. At the school on February 14, Mr. Walter Weiss, of the Soil Conservation Service, gave a talk on the topic of long grass silage. Coffee and donuts were served at both of these sessions, furnished by local equipment dealers.

MARCH

An election for a District Commissioner was held March 21, at the Agricultural Building. Mr. R. C. Wilson was re-elected as a District Commissioner for a term of 6 years. The entertainment consisted of slides, movies, and refreshments.

APRIL

Planning meetings for neighborhood group at Boston schoolhouse completed this month. The meetings for the Orleans group and Dale church group held during February and March. 51 farmers attended these meetings.

4,750 trees, 27,000 multiflora roses, and 2 wildlife packets were ordered through the District this month.

The PMA turned over 633 requests for permanent practice assistance, much of which is in addition to the regular District cooperators activities.

MAY

Field work activities took up the greater part of this month.

Preparation was made for news items for a special soil conservation edition published during Soil Conservation Week.



PMA township committeemen receiving instruction on the layout of contours. In background from left to right: Don Carr, Carl Murrell, Geo. Davis, Glenn McNair, Charley Wright, Marvelle McElvain, Shorty Harper, John McCaughey, Randell Wakefield, Ray Phillips, and Lee Neal. In foreground from left to right: Mansell Tarbell, Neal Jones, Joe Sherrard, and LaVern Whitaker.



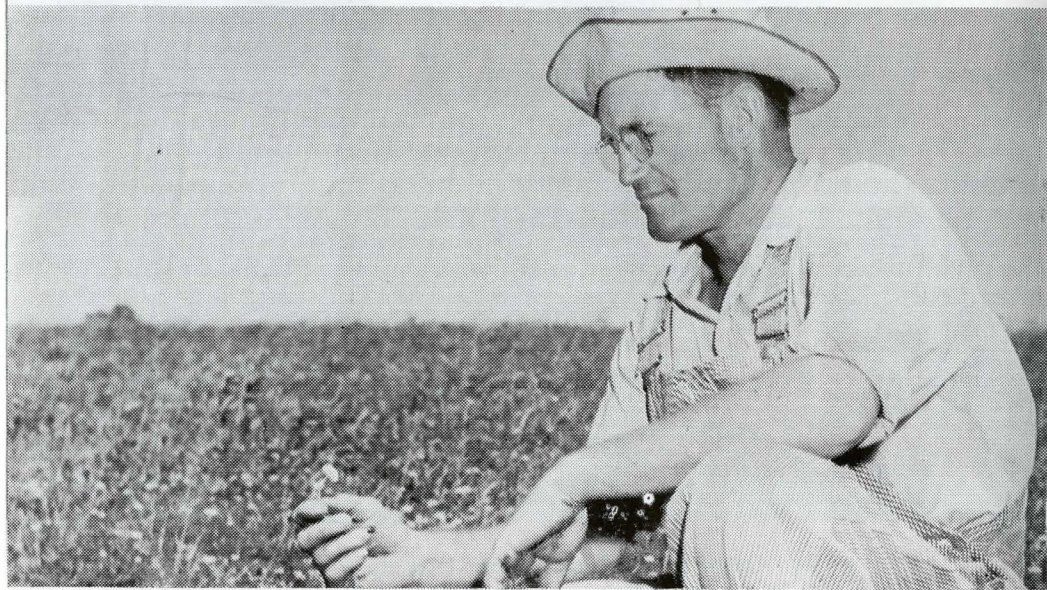
The flat Edina soils require surface drainage ditches to remove run-off quickly to save crops. City Airport, Centerville, Iowa.



Contour strip cropping at Lee Benz. An effective method of controlling soil erosion.



Chopped grass legume silage at the Lee Benz farm, Moravia, Iowa. This makes high quality feed from forage even in rainy weather.



Feature picture of Centerville Iowegian Farm Supplement, Soil Conservation Week, 1952. Amos Siglin, southeast of Seymour, inspecting his birdsfoot trefoil pasture.



One of 2 bulldozers operated by Appanoose Soil District. Clearing brush for pasture improvement at the Wendell Oden farm, Exline.

JUNE

Soil Conservation Week was observed from June 16 to 20th. Art Streepy, Dick Wilson, and George Scott, District Commissioners, talked over radio station KCOG for about 10 minutes at noon one day of the week.

JULY

Art Streepy was selected as the most outstanding District Commissioner in Appanoose County. He was entered in the WMT and Cedar Rapids Gazette recognition program.

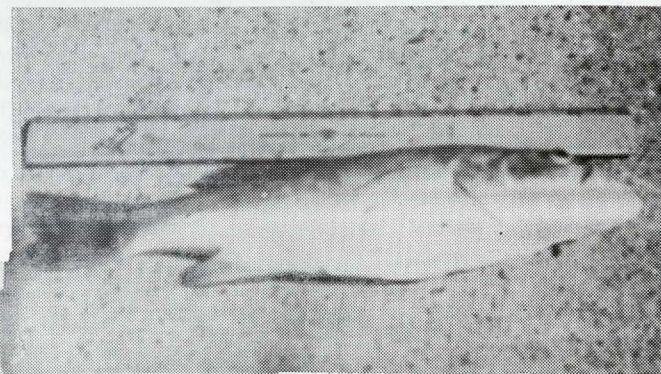


State Fair Exhibit on soil conservation.

A fair exhibit was prepared for the Appanoose County Fair. It consisted of showing pamphlets, charts, and 224 colored slides showing the various degrees of erosion and flood problems of this locality and how individuals and groups of farmers, here, are applying conservation measures to correct them.

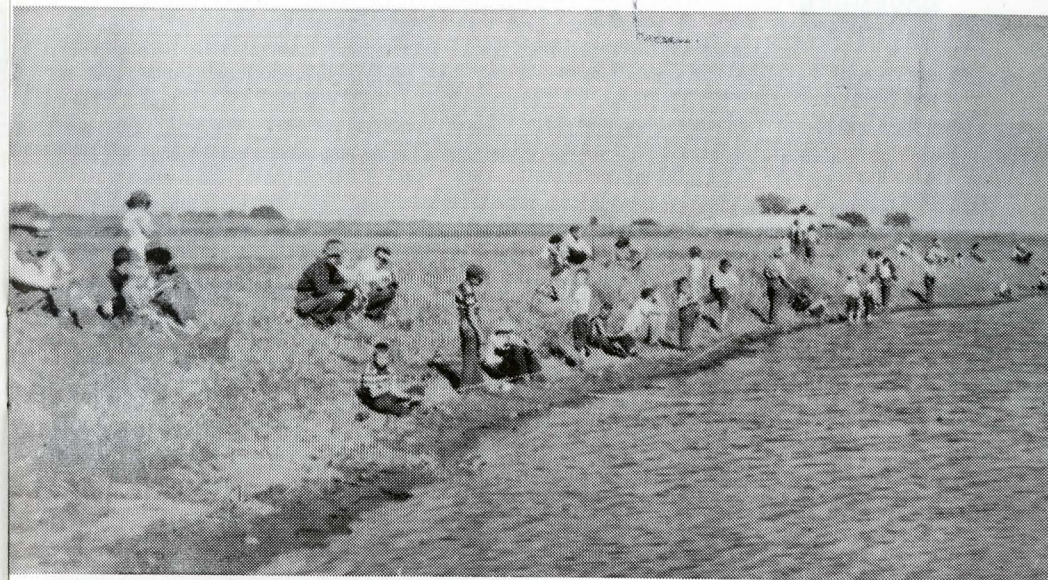
The District Commissioners of Appanoose County cooperated with Davis, Monroe, and Wapello Districts in making an exhibit to be shown at the State Fair. Joe Luse, State Aid, took birdsfoot trefoil, orchard and ladino grass samples to Des Moines for the booth.

One year has passed since we took it upon ourselves to lease the Agricultural Building from A. L. Casady. We in turn subleased it to the following agricultural agencies with no profit for the District: FHA, Extension Service, SCS, Farm Bureau, and the PMA.



Right above: 2 year old large mouth bass provides excellent sport for anglers in properly stocked farm ponds. This bass was taken from John Heimes' pond stocked in September, 1951.

Left below: SCS technicians, Bill Stark and LaVern Whitaker, are available through the Soil District to assist in planning and layout of soil conservation practices.



The second Kids Fish Derby, sponsored by the Soil District and the local Sportsmen's Club at the City airport, Centerville.

SEPTEMBER

A District sponsored air tour was held on Sunday, September 14, which was a huge success. 130 farmers received the free airplane ride over the 30 mile route showing how 56 farmers were practicing soil conservation. Three movies were also shown at the air tour site. Also shown in the hanger at the city airport were the 224 Kodachrome slides in the special light box.

The 2nd annual Fish Day for children was held Sunday, September 28, which had the full cooperation of everyone with the exception of the fish.

The District Commissioners and many farmers have realized the need of bringing worn out land back into production in Appanoose County. On September 30 they called a meeting concerning this project.

Fish for 56 ponds were ordered through the District this month.

OCTOBER

A second meeting was held, with the District Commissioners in attendance, concerning the possibility of obtaining a worn out farm. The purpose being to acquaint the public with the condition of the farm before soil conservation is established and to show them, during a period of 6 years or more, how the farm can be transformed from one of zero production into one of high yields.

NOVEMBER

The Appanoose District Commissioners met with the Iowa Soil Conservation Committee, November 5, to review the Commissioners' plans for obtaining a worn out farm to demonstrate soil conservation.

The annual Alfalfa banquet was held November 20, attended by approximately 400 farmers and businessmen. Herb Plambeck was the main speaker. At the banquet, R. C. Wilson, District Commissioner, presented the 4th annual soil conservation award pins and scrolls. In addition to the 28 farmers who already have received awards, awards were presented to Amos Siglin, R. Vernon Burger, Jack Miller, John Rodgers, Rex Wells, E. W. Kirby, Bart Zintz, and John Adams.

The Commissioners met with the SCS and PMA at a special meeting, November 26, to review the conservation work load for 1953.



Soil Commissioners, Wilson and Streepy, presenting farmer conservationist awards for 1952.



This picture is shown in memory of the late Bob Bear, who at one time served as Soil Commissioner. Bob, together with Jack Howell, sowed the first field of birdsfoot trefoil in Iowa in 1939. The seed for this 16 acre field came from the original stand, and it now carries over one dairy cow to the acre.

DECEMBER

Two special meetings were held during the month concerning the purchase of a farm by the District to demonstrate soil conservation.

The regional commissioners meeting was held at Albia, December 4, which was attended by the District Commissioners.



Harold Bauman, Exline, examining his birdsfoot trefoil on Class VI Land.

Accomplished in 1952

SCD-SCS Assisted:

Contour	2218 acres
Strip Cropping	120 acres
Pasture Improved	429 acres
Seed Pasture	74 acres
Wildlife Area Imp.	3 acres
Farm Ponds	22
Terrace	5.9 miles
Diversions	2.7 miles
Farm Drainage	215 acres
Open Drainage	6.2 miles
Fence Row Management	11.3 miles
Constructed Waterways	4.9 miles
Closed drains	1150 L.F.

None of the above practices are "repeat" practices.

Active Agreements This Year

Initial Agreements	108—23,980 acres
Advanced Agreements	55—12,358 acres
Basic Plans Prepared and Signed	10—2,272 acres

Active Agreements to Date

Initial Agreements	108—13,980 acres
Advanced Agreements	55—358 acres
Basic Plans Prepared and Signed	310—57,550 acres

GOALS FOR 1953

SCD-SCS Assistance:

Initial Agreement	120
Conservation Farming Guide	60
Basic Plans	50
Basic Plans—Followups	40
Basic Plans—Followup Replans — No change in ownership	20
Conservation Surveys	16,000

Contour	6,267 acres
Strip Cropping	420 acres
Terraces	26.0 miles
Diversions	8.0 miles
Tile Drainage	27,802 L.F.
Open Drainage	15.6 miles
Constructed Waterways	23.0 miles
Stock Ponds	90 No.
Structure	5 No.
Erosion Control Dams	5 No.

FINANCIAL REPORT for 1952

Tractor Account

Cash on Hand 1/1/52 -----	\$ 315.15
Cash Receipts — 1952 -----	22,946.74
Total Cash Receipts -----	23,260.89
Tractor Repairs -----	\$ 1,075.18
Salary—Dozer Operators -----	5,494.19
Insurance -----	120.00
Miscellaneous Expense -----	124.00
Gas and Oil Expense -----	829.81
Payments on New Dozer -----	8,606.66
Payments on Note at Bank -----	6,010.64
Total Expenditures -----	22,261.39
Expenditures Deducted -----	22,261.39
Cash on Hand 1/1/53 -----	999.50
Accounts Outstanding (not including \$658.18 trans. to other Dist. accts.) -----	2,547.30
Debts Outstanding -----	1,093.12
Tractor Payments Outstanding -----	3,105.00
-----	4,198.12
-----	-3,545.80
Total Indebtedness -----	651.32
Inventory statement on the International Tractor and dozer—purchase price -----	14,340.00
Caterpillar Tractor and Dozer—purchase Price -----	12,968.50
-----	27,308.50
Minus Depreciation -----	4,230.00
-----	23,078.50
Indebtedness Deducted -----	651.32
Estimated Net Worth -----	22,427.18

Appanoose County Soil Conservation Field Day And Plowing Match Account (Donations from 100 people, businesses and organizations)

Cash on Hand 1/1/52 -----	\$ 251.87
Cash Receipts — 1952 -----	45.00
Gross Cash -----	296.87
Expenditures (Advertisements)—1952 -----	128.00
Expenditures Deducted -----	128.00
Cash on Hand 1/1/53 -----	168.87

Southern Iowa Experimental Farm (District Owned Shares)

Share value on Hand 1/1/52 (Incl. \$540 trans. from bulldozer account) -----	540.00
Share Value on Hand 1/1/53 -----	540.00

Rent Account (Co. Agricultural Building—District Holds 5 Year Lease)

Cash on Hand 1/1/52 -----	109.50
Cash Receipts—1952 (Incl. \$72.29 trans. from bulldozer ac- count) -----	3,527.68
-----	3,637.18
Expenditures—1952 -----	3,605.25
Cash on Hand 1/1/53 -----	31.93

STATE OF IOWA AND DISTRICT FUNDS

Financial Report for 1952

Whirlwind Terracer, Scoop, and Oliver Tractor Account

Cash on Hand 1/1/52	\$226.36
Cash Receipts—1952	399.75
Total Cash Receipts	626.11
Expenditures—1952	437.35
Cash on Hand 1/1/53	188.76

State of Iowa 1-A Revolving Fund

Cash on Hand 1/1/52	295.70
Appropriation from State Committee	500.00
	795.70
Expenditures	
Commissioners salary	0.00
Commissioners mileage	63.00
Office supplies	75.79
Printing	14.25
Prizes for Contests	22.56
Material for Demonstrations	22.56
Total Expenditures	250.26
Expenditures Deducted	250.56
Cash on Hand 1/1/53	545.44

2-A Budget

Cash on Hand 1/1/52	\$1957.09
Allocated from the State Committee	3476.07
	5433.16
Commissioners salary	0.00
Total Expended on Clerical and Technical Salaries during 1952 ..	3869.39
Cash on Hand 1/1/53	1563.77

CONCLUSION

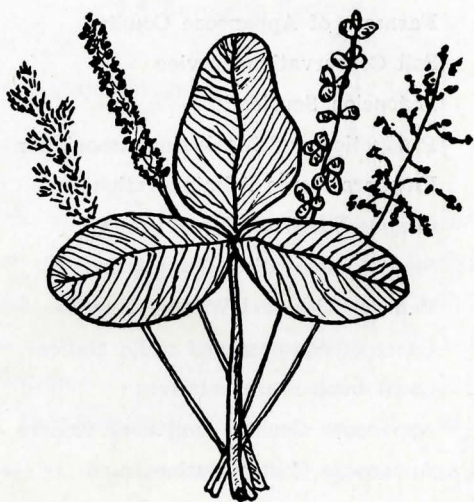
From the foregoing report, everyone interested in soil conservation should be impressed with the amount of work being done and more so with the amount of work needed to be done. They should also have a knowledge of the activities being carried out and the financial status of the Appanoose Soil Conservation District.

We commend the State of Iowa for its interest in soil and water conservation, which they have shown by appropriating funds which enable the District Commissioners to carry on their conservation program.

In closing we wish to express our appreciation to Cora Lee Brown, clerk, and to Bill Stark, farm planner, for their assistance in collecting and assembling the material for this report. We also wish to list the following groups which have assisted us in advancing our goal of good soil conservation in Appanoose County:

Farmers of Appanoose County
Soil Conservation Service
Extension Service
Production and Marketing Association
Farmers Home Administration
County Board of Supervisors
State Conservation Commission
Federal Fish and Wildlife Service
Local newspapers and radio station
Local bank representatives
Appanoose County equipment dealers
Appanoose County businessmen

USE **YOUR** LAND



BUT SAVE **OUR** SOIL