

WORK PLAN
of the
DAVIS COUNTY SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT
Bloomfield, Iowa
January 1945

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DAVIS COUNTY SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT

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☒ PURPOSE

The District Program sets forth existing land use, erosion and soil maintenance problems. It also lists long-time objectives of the District.

This Work Plan states rather specifically what the District Governing Body proposes to do in order to gain these objectives. It outlines, in so far as possible, how and by whom this work is to be done. Only those problems with which the District is prepared to deal are being considered at this time. A calendar of work covering a twelve month period is included in the appendix.

Local farm leaders, representatives of state and federal agencies, and others interested in soil conservation, have assisted the Commissioners in the development of this Work Plan. These leaders, and others, will also take an active part in carrying on the various phases of the work outlined.

☒ ADMINISTRATION

The people of this District, acting through their elected representatives, the District Commissioners, will be responsible for the administration of the District. They will determine the broad operating policies, and coordinate the efforts of those who are to assist them. It will be the responsibility of the Commissioners to determine the type of program which is to be followed. All farm conservation plans as well as other conservation plans within the District, will be subject to their approval. Requests for the assistance of the District will be directed to the Commissioners, who will either approve or disapprove these requests, and if approved, establish a priority for granting assistance to the different groups. The Commissioners may delegate certain responsibilities to others as they see fit and they may call upon community leaders to represent areas in the county, or act as Assistant Commissioners.

☒ POLICY RELATIVE TO ASSISTANCE IN ESTABLISHING CONTOURING AND OTHER SIMPLE PRACTICES

Experience shows that most farmers are more interested in a complete farm plan after they have had some experience with contouring or with other simple conservation practices. For

this reason, particular emphasis will be placed upon securing the adoption of practices during the first year of District operation. This policy will serve two purposes: First, a large number of people will become acquainted with one or more of the easily established conservation practices such as contouring, pasture improvement and use of fertilizers; second, such practices will enable prospective cooperators to make progress on their conservation program prior to the time the District personnel are able to give assistance in the development of complete farm plans.

As far as possible this type of work will be carried out by means of a large number of method demonstrations. The District Commissioners will look to the County Extension Director for considerable assistance in this phase of the work. They will also appreciate the assistance of farm leaders and other agencies in carrying out demonstration work.

D INFORMATION AND EDUCATION

I. General Educational Activities

It shall be the policy of the District Commissioners to keep all farmers informed concerning the extent of soil depletion, both by cropping and erosion. They will also provide information relative to the work of the District and of the assistance which may be available to them. A number of methods will be used to provide this information. The methods will include publicity in local newspapers, letters, demonstrations, exhibits, window displays and meetings with farmers, schools and other agencies in the county. During the early development of plans for both "single practices" and "farm plans" it may be desirable to hold a series of community meetings to reach all interested farmers in the county with more information relative to such practices as pasture improvement, contouring, production of legume and grass seed and help available on farm plans. Arrangements for these meetings will be made by the County Extension Director who, according to the Memorandum of Understanding between the District and Extension Service, is responsible for all educational work on Soil Conservation. Demonstrations will be set up in a similar manner on contouring and other practices at appropriate seasons of the year.

E FORMATION OF GROUPS FOR FARM PLANNING

If there are a number of farmers in a community who are interested in the soil conservation program, they may wish to request further information before making an application to the Commis-

107

ioners for assistance with farm plans. It is suggested that those people who are interested, arrange for a meeting at one of the homes or at the local school house and arrange for someone who is familiar with the program to explain the details to them. This person may be the County Extension Director, District Commissioner, SCS Technician, or some cooperator who has a conservation program in operation. Such requests for information may be left either the the Agricultural Adjustment Agency, Farm Bureau, Farm Security Administration, or Soil Conservation District offices. In most instances the Extension Director completes the arrangements for such meetings. If, following this discussion, there are several of those present who wish to proceed with conservation plans for their farms, they should make application to the District Commissioners for conservation surveys and assistance with farm plans.

Co. Ext. Director

The Commissioners will review such applications as they are submitted, and determine the priority of assistance to the different groups. This priority will be established after considering interest, location with respect to problem areas, and the size and compactness of each group. A group of eight to twelve is the most desirable. It is also preferred that the group consist of adjacent, or nearly adjacent farms.

F THE DEVELOPMENT AND APPLICATION OF FARM PLANS

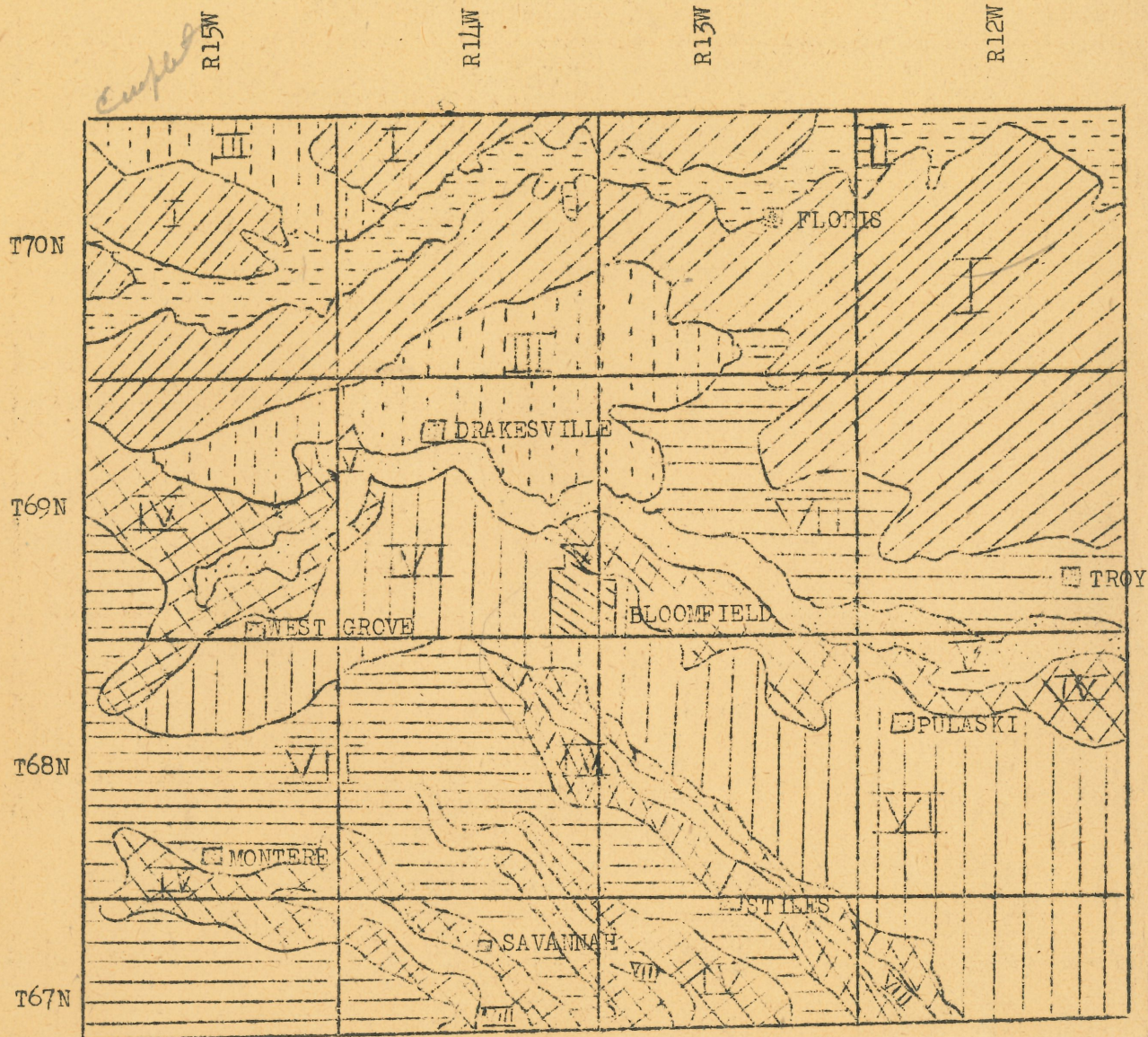
The Commissioners have adopted the policy of granting preference to groups, for farm planning. This policy will be followed unless the Commissioners determine that it is to the best interest of the District to establish single farm demonstrations. Such single farm demonstrations may be used to create interest and stimulate future group development.

The first step in the development of a farm plan is the preparation of a soil conservation survey. This survey will show the slope, soil type and erosion conditions, on farms included in the planning group. These maps will be prepared on aerial photographs by a trained soils technician. In order to assist in the interpretation of these maps; copies will be prepared in color, to indicate land capability classes. Each cooperating farmer will be furnished with a copy of the conservation survey of his farm. He can use this survey as a guide in developing his conservation program. It will also become a part of his farm plan.

Much of the farm planning work will be accomplished in a series of three or four planning meetings. At these planning meetings the technician will provide information relative to the particular phase of work under consideration. Each farmer will then plan the control measures which are required

Planning Meetings

PROBLEM AREA MAP OF DAVIS COUNTY



LEGEND

PROBLEM AREA NUMBER I		PROBLEM AREA NUMBER V	
PROBLEM AREA NUMBER II		PROBLEM AREA NUMBER VI	
PROBLEM AREA NUMBER III		PROBLEM AREA NUMBER VII	
PROBLEM AREA NUMBER IV		PROBLEM AREA NUMBER VIII	

needs revision
LAND USE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR PROBLEM AREAS

PROBLEM AREA NUMBER	SOIL TYPES	TYPICAL ROTATIONS RECOMMENDED OR LAND USE	SOIL CONSERVATION PRACTICES AND SPECIAL EROSION CONTROL MEASURES WHICH ARE APPLICABLE TO THE AREA	
I	Marion and Weller (ridge tops) Lindley loam (slopes)	Pasture Woodland (very limited cultivation)	Pastureland Pasture Renovation Brush Removal and control Pastures clipped Stock water ponds	Woodland Selective cutting Protection from fire Interplanting Replanting Protection, grazing
II	Wabash and Sharon (bottomland) Calhoun (2nd bottom)	Cultivation C-SB-W-C1 C-SB-W-SwC1	Flood control Drainage Diversion ditches Lime Phosphate fertilizers Maintenance of organic matter	
III	Grundy and Edina (ridgetops) Shelby (slopes)	Cropland Pasture and Meadow C-C-O-M C-O-M C-O-M-M	Cropland Contour practices Limestone & phos. Drainage Grassed Waterways Maintain organic matter	Pastures Lime Phosphate Reseeding Clipping Stock water ponds
IV	Weller silt loam (ridge tops) Lindley loam (lower slopes)	Pasture Limited am't. Cropland C-O-M-M C-O-M-M-M-M	Pastureland Lime Phosphate Reseeding Clipping Stockwater ponds	Cropland Contour practices Lime & phosphate High proportion of grass in rotations Grassed waterways
V	Wabash silt loam and Wabash clay loam (Gumbo)	Cropland C-C-O (SwC1) C-C-O-M C-O-M C-O (SwC1)- C-O-M	Cropland Lime and phosphate Drainage Diversion Ditches Channel maintenance Maintain organic matter	
VI	Edina and Grundy silt loam (broad ridges) Shelby silt l. (gentle slopes)	Cropland C-C-O-M C-SB-O-M C-O-SwC1 C-C-O-SwC1	Cropland Improved drainage Build up organic matter Limestone and phosphate fertilizer Deep rooted legumes (Sweet Clover) Contour practices (on Shelby silt loam)	
VII	Grundy silt l. & Edina s. loam (ridge tops) Shelby s. loam (slopes)	Cropland C-C-O-M C-O-M C-O-M-M Pastureland	Cropland Contour practices Limestone and Phos. Drainage Grassed waterways Maintain organic matter	Pastureland Lime and fertilizer Reseeding, Legumes Clipping Control grazing Stockwater ponds
VIII	Wabash silt loam	Cropland C-C-O-M C-SB-O-SwC1 C-O-SwC1 C-SB-W-C1	Cropland Diversion ditches Flood control (Carter Creek only) Limestone and phosphate fertilizers Maintain organic matter	

and applicable to his particular farm by indicating his intentions on the working copy of his farm map. The technician will thus provide information and suggest alternate solutions for their consideration and discussion, and each farmer present will make decisions relative to his own farm and plan the application of the measure which applies to his particular farm.

The farm planner will spend some time with each member of the group out on their respective farms in order to complete the details of the plans and work out a schedule for the application of the control measures which have been planned. After the plans are complete they will be incorporated in cooperative agreements between cooperating farmers and the District Commissioners.

Each farmer is responsible for putting his plan into effect. Technicians assigned to the District will assist cooperators to make the contour surveys which are necessary. This will require considerable individual help during the first and second year of the plan. Ordinarily the cooperator will be sufficiently familiar with his layout and with the use of the hand level to continue after the second year without much help from the technicians. *and group.*

G RECOMMENDATIONS *See*

General recommendations for each of the problem areas are listed in the preceding chart. Additional recommendations are provided below:

Cropland *ample*

The following general practices are recommended for cropland in the district:

- (a) Rotations should be suited to the soil conditions and requirements of the farmer in-so-far as his needs do not exceed the capability of the land. Most rotations will include one or two years of clean-tilled crops and a year of small grain. All rotations should include one or more years of legume or legume-grass mixtures. A chart with recommended rotations is included in the appendix and will serve as a guide. *R.S.*
- (b) Limestone should be applied to correct acidity.
- (c) Barnyard manure and crop residues should be carefully saved and used. In no case should crop residues be burned. Green manure crops should be used frequently.

- (d) Phosphate and other fertilizers should be applied where experience indicates they are needed. Generally, fertilizers will give best results on limed land. The equivalent of 200 pounds of 0-20-0 per acre is recommended once in the rotation and should be applied to oats at the time legume seedings are made.
- (e) Special erosion control practices should be used on ground which has more than three per cent slope. Contouring is adapted to use on slopes from three to twelve per cent. However it is most effective on slopes from three to six per cent. Strip cropping in which alternate strips of meadow are grown between alternate strips of grain or corn, is much more effective than contouring in preventing erosion and should be considered particularly on very long slopes or slopes of more than five per cent. Terracing is adapted to long slopes with a slope range of three to eight per cent.
- (f) Grassed waterways ^(hay strips) are recommended in all fields and they should be of sufficient width to carry the flow of water from the area drained. Waterways are most effective when the bottom is broad and flat, and the sod is left well up on each side of the waterway.

Pastureland

Pastures are particularly important in this district due to the fact that such a large acreage is devoted to pasture production. No attempt will be made to make specific recommendations in this Work Plan to meet the wide variety of pasture conditions which exist. Farm plans will provide for the improvement of existing pastures, for the establishment of good productive pastures (when sound land use indicates conversion of cropland to pasture) and for adequate supplementary pastures to provide continuous grazing over a long season. Recommendations will include the use of limestone and fertilizers in order to build up soil fertility. Legumes will be included in all seeding mixtures. For general pasture seeding on limed pasture a legume seeding of five pounds Sweet Clover, three pounds Red Clover, two pounds Alsike Clover and eight pounds of Lespedeza is suggested. Grass seeding may be added when seeding a new pasture or if there is little or no grass in the pasture which is being renovated.

Lespedeza is recommended as a temporary seeding in pastures of low productivity until such time as complete renovation can be undertaken; it is also recommended on areas which are too steep to be renovated by the usual methods. Lespedeza may be used in these inaccessible areas because it does not require much seedbed preparation if the covering of grass is thin or has been grazed closely. January or February seedings may be made on top of the ground without preparation of a seedbed. It is important to secure an adapted strain of Korean Lespedeza. The seed should be inoculated. ?

Bromegrass-alfalfa mixtures produce the most productive and palatable pastures of any of the pasture crops grown in this area. For maximum production, such mixtures should be seeded on well drained soil of medium to high fertility. The soil should be well supplied with lime. The production of bromegrass seed has good possibilities in this area and the Commissioners will encourage the enterprise in every way possible. *add
Trefoil -
Bluegrass*

Farm Ponds *and*

Farm ponds provide an excellent source of livestock water if properly planned and constructed. The recommendations for the construction of farm ponds follows:

- (a) The outlet should be adequate to handle the flow of the watershed area involved. A diversion dyke emptying the overflow on a well sodded area is adequate for small drainage areas.
- (b) The entire area draining into the pond should be maintained in grass. In no case should barnlots drain into farm ponds.
- (c) All farm ponds *must* be fenced and livestock excluded. A pipe should be installed before the fill is made and a water tank placed below the dam.
- (d) Adequate freeboard should be provided above the level of the overflow.
- (e) Slopes of the fill should be at least three to one on the upstream side and two to one on the downstream side. The fill and disturbed area should be mulched and seeded as soon as practical after construction is completed.

(f) Ponds meeting the above requirements plus at least one third acre in size and a minimum depth can be stocked with fee of charge upon cooperative request.

Gully Control *copy*

The recommendation for the control of gullies is dependent upon so many variable factors that no attempt will be made to include specific recommendations in this Work Plan. It will be the policy of the District Commissioners to provide assistance with these problems as they arise and first consideration will be given to control measures which may be used on the drainage area contributing to the flow into the gully.

note
Diversion Ditches *copy*

Diversion ~~ditches~~ will be used to protect bottomland from damage by hillwater. The channel capacity and grade in these diversions will be determined by the amount of water which they will carry. ~~In general~~ the grade will be flat enough to avoid erosion in the channel.

Drainage Enterprises *copy*

Consideration will be given to drainage problems encountered on individual farms and to the drainage problems of larger groups; either legally organized drainage districts or unorganized groups. Before consideration will be given to requests for assistance, the interested parties must submit a written request to the District Commissioners, requesting the assistance desired.

The District Commissioners recognize the responsibility of the County Board of Supervisors in the matter of legal drainage enterprises. If assistance is desired by and for such a drainage district, the request should be directed to the Soil District Commissioners and signed and submitted by the County Board of Supervisors. Such work will be covered by appropriate memorandum of understanding and working agreements.

If an organized group or an individual wishes to request assistance, the application should state the assistance desired and should be signed by the individuals concerned.

The Commissioners will give consideration to the following points when passing upon requests for technical assistance in the development of drainage plans.

1. The applicants must be properly organized to carry out the project, after the surveys are completed.

2. The Commissioners will want assurance that the applicants will install the improvements if the survey indicates that the proposal is technically and economically sound.
3. Plans should include provision for maintenance of the improvements.
4. The project should be coordinated with a land use and soil conservation program in order to protect the improvement from impairment by silting. These provisions do not of necessity have to proceed the drainage work, however, they should be given consideration in the development of the long-time plans.

Woodland *copy*

Land to be devoted to woodland will ordinarily be land not suited for cropland or productive pasture. Practices recommended will include protection from fire and grazing, selective and improvement cuttings and new plantings of adapted species. The proper management of the woodland area as well as the usual conservation practices on the other land, contribute to the development of desirable conditions for game production. The District Commissioners desire to cooperate with the State Conservation Commission and local sportsman's clubs in this phase of the work and it is expected that more specific plans for cooperation will be developed as time permits.

H COOPERATION WITH OTHER AGENCIES *Health*

Agricultural Adjustment Administration *Conservation Stabilization Committee*

The County *ac Program* ~~AAA~~ has encouraged the use of conservation practices for a number of years through conservation practice payments. They have also supported district movement and have given material assistance during the organization of the Soil Conservation District. Members of the ~~AAA~~ staff helped develop the Program and Work Plan of the District. The District expects to cooperate with them in setting up and carrying out various practice programs. In order to secure maximum conservation on the land, every effort will be made to recognize their mutual problems and to coordinate the efforts of ~~AAA~~ and the District.

Farm Security Administration *Home ase*

The FSA has been quite active in promoting soil conservation work in the county. They have assisted a great many

They have the financial facilities to aid co-operators to get the job done sooner and before receive benefits from a higher income. *Quickly*

individuals to lay out conservation practices on their farms and have done much to demonstrate the value of these practices to the community. Farmers who have been cooperating with the FSA have been following many soil conservation practices ~~including erosion control measures.~~ No doubt much of the leadership in development of district cooperators will come from this group. As the work of the district progresses, plans will be made to further work out plans for cooperation with FSA.

County Board of Supervisors

recognize the circumstances
The County Board of Supervisors are ~~interested~~ in the development of drainage enterprises in the District and they have indicated their desire to cooperate with the District in the development of such plans and recommendations. Arrangements for cooperation in this work will be covered by appropriate memorandum of understanding and working agreements.

Vocational Agriculture

There are many possibilities for effective cooperation between the vocational agriculture department and the soils district. They include conservation projects, class exercises in conservation farm planning and demonstrations in survey and layout work. These and other projects will be developed as time permits.

Rural Schools

No plan of cooperation between the District and the County Superintendent of Schools has been prepared at this time. Certainly the rural schools provide an important starting point in the development of a program of such vital importance to the rural people. The Commissioners wish to cooperate in every way possible with the Superintendent of Schools and with rural schools in providing information for the young people relative to the conservation needs of the county.

Farm Bureau

Extension Service
The part the Farm Bureau and Extension Service will have in the district activities has been worked out and is subject of a memorandum of understanding. As time goes on the Commissioners hope to further strengthen this relationship.

Other Groups

There are many other individuals and groups in the District who are in a position to give ~~fine~~ support to the cause of Soil Conservation. The Commissioners hope and expect to cooperate with these groups as problems develop which require joint activity to find appropriate solutions. Details of such cooperation will be worked out as the need arises.

REPORTS

The District Commissioners will furnish cooperating agencies such reports as are requested, in order that these agencies may have a record of the progress of the District. Records will be kept which adequately reflect the progress and accomplishments to date. The Commissioners will expect the technicians who are assigned to the District to assist in collecting progress information for use in these reports. *Yes*

REVISION

This Work Plan of the Davis County Soil Conservation District will be revised from time to time as experience and needs indicate. Suggestions from farmers, landowners, cooperating agencies and other interested individuals are invited at all times. Whenever in the opinion of the District Commissioners these suggestions would result in increased efficiency of operation, they will be incorporated into the Work Plan. The District Commissioners will review this Work Plan at least once a year to determine if revision is needed and to make such changes as are necessary. *Yes*

DAVIS COUNTY SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT

January 13, 1945
(Date)

BY /s/ P. W. Spilman
Chairman, District Governing Body

The signing of this Work Plan was authorized by a resolution of the Davis County Soil Conservation Commissioners adopted at a meeting held on January 13, 1945.
(Date)

*Reviewed by C. H. Huntley
State Soil Conservation Com.*

/s/ Dale Blackwell
Secretary, District Governing Body

January 27, 1945

DAVIS COUNTY SCD CALENDAR OF WORK

ORGANIZATION AND
ADMINISTRATION

Period Ending December 31, 1945

WHAT	WHERE	HOW	WHO	WHEN
Hearing	Court House		State Committee & interested people of Davis County	August 10, 1944
Referendum	9 polling places	vote of landowners	Landowners	Sept. 9, 1944
Organization of Commissioners	FSA Office	Meeting	Commissioners, AAA Chairman, FSA Supervisor, Dist. Conservationist	Sept. 19, 1944
Program Planning	Court House	Meeting	Commissioners, Farm Leaders, Agency Representatives, and District Conservationist	Sept. 27, 1944
Inspection of Conservation Work in the Van Buren Co. District	Milton and Van Buren Co.	Tour	Commissioners, Farm Leaders, Agency Representatives, Van Buren Co. Farm Planner and District Conservationist	October 12, 1944

WHAT	WHERE	HOW	WHO	WHEN
Program Planning Work Plan	FSA Office	Meeting	Commissioners, AAA Chairman, Ass't. Extension Soil Con- servatationist, Dist- rict Conservation- ist.	December 14, 1944
Work Plan	FSA Office	Meeting	" " " " "	January 9, 1945
<i>Presentation of Work Program to All Agency Groups</i> —Approval of Program Approval of Work Plan— —Sign basic Memorandum of Understanding Sign Supplemental Memorandum of Understanding	FSA Office	Meeting	District Conserva- tionist, District Commissioners AAA Chairman FSA Supervisors <i>Extension Director,</i>	<i>Feb. 13, 1946</i> January 13, 1945
Regular Commissioners Meetings OK	District Office	Meeting	Commissioners Representatives of cooperating agencies. District Conservationist	<i>2 Wednesday</i> Once each month Meeting date to be selected. Spec- ial meetings as required

WHAT	WHERE	HOW MANY	WHO	WHEN
✓ ok. Community Meetings	^{Tw} Each Community	14 20	Extension Director or Specialist, AAA, FSA, SCS, etc.	February
ok News Items	County Papers	50	Ext. Dir. & others	1 each week
ok Exhibits	Store Windows Fair, etc.	3	Ext. Dir., SCS	As opportunity arises
ok. Motion Pictures	Bloomfield Floris Troy Pulaski Stiles Drakesville	6 Locations	Ext. Director SCS Technician	Early March
Terrace Demonstrations out.	Younkens Farm & other farms	6 Locations	Dist. Commissioners Dist. Conservationist	April
ok Contour Layout Demonstrations P. - 8	One in each Township	20 14 Demonstra- tions	Extension Director, District Commission- ers, Extension Specialist, Farm Planner, FSA Super- visor, District Conservationist	April and May
organization & out for 1946 Interest Meetings	Interested Communities	6 Meetings	Extension Direc- tor, Farm Planner	As requests for information are received.

4 Club Meetings
Schools & Community Clubs

17.
20 1/2 members

FARM PLANNING AND APPLICATION

WHAT	WHERE	HOW MANY	WHO	WHEN	GOAL
Contour Layout	District	115 Farms <i>Self from AAA</i>	SCS, AAA, FSA, Ext.	April May <i>June</i>	2500 Acres
Planning Meeting 1st Group	Local Communities	3	Farm Planner	May 20 June 30	6 Farm Plans
Individual Planning			"		
Planning Meeting 2nd Group	Local Communities	3	Farm Planner	July August	8 Farm Plans
Individual Planning			"		
<i>59-110</i> Planning Meeting 3rd Group	Local Communities	3	Farm Planner	September October	8 Farm Plans
Individual Planning			"		
Planning Meeting 4th Group	Local Communities	3	Farm Planner	November December	8 Farm Plans
Individual Planning			"		
Terrace Construction <i>and</i>	District	10 Farms	SCS	August September October	150 Acres