

Annual Report

FAYETTE COUNTY SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT 1963 ANNUAL REPORT

DISTRICT GOVERNING BODY

Carl Lueder, Fayette	Chairman
Hildor Gilbertson, Elgin	Commissioner
Alfred Stewart, Oelwein	Commissioner
Melvin Wangsness, Fayette	Secretary
Ervin J. Burrack, Arlington	Assistant Commissioner
Albert Bodensteiner, West Union	Assistant Commissioner
E. W. Maurer, Fayette	Assistant Commissioner

DISTRICT EMPLOYEES

Lois L. Heick	District Clerk
J. L. Cline	State Aid (part time)

U.S.D.A. SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE

Leland A. McCord	Work Unit Conservationist
Earl J. Kerker	Soil Conservationist
Howard K. Boyle	Soil Conservation Technician
J. L. Cline	Conservation Aid (part time)

Administrative, engineering, agronomy, and soils specialists were also available through the Area Office as needed in the district.

DISTRICT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

	This year		Total active (12-31-63)	
	No.	Acres	No.	Acres
District Cooperators	25	3893	800	140,560
Conservation plans	30	6488	460	83,741
Revised plans	5	923		
Farms serviced	664			
Farms applying one or more conservation practices	367			

The District Commissioners held 12 regular meetings and special meetings as necessary during the year to conduct the business of the district.

Following are the highlights of district activities:

A total of 25 new cooperators, 30 conservation plans, and 5 revised plans were reviewed and approved at Commissioners meetings. There were also 22 cancellations during the year, due largely to changes in ownership.

As part of the information program 22 general interest meetings, 3 activities with schools, 4 contests, 1 exhibit, and 1 tour were held. Thirty six news stories and 29 radio items were released to news papers and radio stations.

Paid dues to State and National Associations of Soil Conservation Districts.

About 100 Conservation Source Books were placed in schools throughout the county. These were made available through the district at a reduced cost.

Results of the Conservation Needs Inventory for Fayette County were published as a part of the 1962 Annual Report.

District held a conservation speech contest in May. Larry Pleggenkuhle was the district winner.

Purchased and distributed booklets to clergymen in the county for use during Soil Stewardship Week.

Held a "Queen of Conservation" contest in connection with the Oelwein Dairy Days. Connie Dummermuth, Elgin was selected as the district queen. Miss Dummermuth was also selected as the regional "Queen of Conservation."

Co-sponsored a conservation display booth at the Waterloo Dairy Cattle Congress.

Conducted a tour of conservation practices in the county.

Assisted with the State Field Day and Contour Plowing Contest.

Completed and submitted a revised Memorandum of Understanding between the district and the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

MAJOR PRACTICES APPLIED DURING 1963

Conservation Cropping Systems (Acres)	1,383
Contouring (Acres)	2,033
Crop Residue Use (Acres)	1,459
Diversions (Ft.)	600
Ponds (number)	3
Field Border Planting (Ft.)	4,884
Fish Pond Stocking (No.)	7
Grade Stabilization Structure (No.)	1
Grassed Waterways (Acres)	20
Drainage Mains & Laterals (Ft.)	2,240
Pasture Renovation (Acres)	14
Strip Cropping (Acres)	152
Terraces (Ft.)	16,063
File (Ft.)	1,192,597
Tree planting (acres)	7
Wildlife Area Improvement (acres)	63

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

M BUDGET	
Commissioners' travel expenses to commissioners, regional and state meetings and other travel in the county on district business	\$429.21
Office Supplies	35.44
Material for demonstrations	20.00

Office Expense 28.60

Total \$513.25

2M BUDGET

Salaries for clerk and technician \$4,932.46

REVENUE FUND

Balance on hand, January 1, 1963 \$ 42.53

Contributions 29.02

Total funds Available 71.60

Soil Stewardship Church Material 26.25

Balance on hand, December 31, 1963 \$ 45.35

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The District Commissioners want to thank the many organizations that have assisted the district during the year. Among these are the U. S. Soil Conservation Service, Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service, Extension Service, and Farmers Home Administration. State organizations assisting the district were the State Soil Conservation Committee and the State Conservation Commission. Many schools, civic and church groups have also helped the district.

The newspapers and radio and television stations serving this area have made a valuable contribution by giving publicity to activities of the district.

We would also like to thank the firms doing business in the county whose contributions made possible the printing and distribution of this report.

Respectfully submitted
Fayette County Soil Conservation
District Commissioners
Carl Lueder, Chairman
Hildor Gilbertson
Alfred Stewart

Eden	Auburn	Dover	Clermont
127	128	152	106
17	40	45	72
13%	31%	30%	68%
Bethel	Windsor	Union	Pl. Valley
126	140	130	103
32	45	41	53
25%	32%	32%	51%
Banks	Center	Westfield	Illyria
123	134	133	125
27	43	31	53
22%	32%	23%	42%
Fremont	Harlan	Smithfield	Fairfield
147	137	127	123
42	43	38	47
29%	31%	30%	38%
Oran	Jefferson	Scott	Putnam
134	138	127	135
14	34	27	52
10%	25%	21%	39%

Top Figure: Number of farms in township

Middle Figure: Number of cooperating farms in township

Bottom Figure: Percent of farms cooperating

Flood Prevention

Flood prevention measures in watershed projects include land-stabilization measures to prevent the destruction of land and thereby to reduce the movement of damaging amounts of sediment to stream channels and lower land. Large gullies and severely eroding land may be brought under control with vegetation or structures. Road banks and fills may be protected. Waterways crossing two or more

farms may be improved by shaping and planting. Trees and other vegetation needed to keep the soil tied down may be protected from fire.

Flood prevention also includes waterflow and sediment control to prevent flood damage to groups of landowners, communities, and the general public.

9—Oelwein (Ia.) Daily Register
Friday, January 31, 1964