

1959

Annual Report

Kossuth County Soil Conservation District

As Commissioners of the Kossuth County Soil Conservation District, we are happy to present to you our 12th Annual report to inform you of our activities and accomplishments in promoting soil and water conservation farm plans in our District.

We wish to thank the Soil Conservation Service for their technical assistance to the District, and to the State Soil Conservation Committee for their assistance and guidance. Our thanks also to the County newspapers, and radio station KLGA for their assistance and efforts in informing the people of our activities.

We appreciate the cooperation of the Extension Service, County ASC Committee and office personnel, and all other Federal, State and County agencies, who contributed towards the progress of soil and water conservation.

With the continued efforts of our Work Unit Staff, and the cooperation of the various agencies, we will look forward to more progress in 1960.

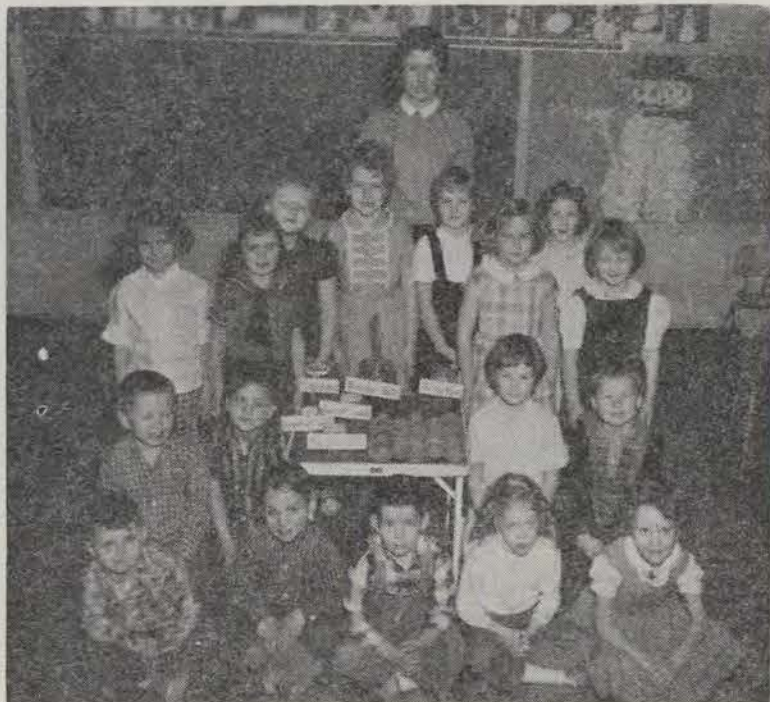
DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS FOR THE KOSSUTH COUNTY SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT



Ernest Heidecker, chairman, Lakota; J. C. Skow, Wesley; and Jack Nyman, Bancroft, Iowa. (Left to right).

SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE

The Soil Conservation Service has the major job of providing technical assistance to farmers in planning their individual soil and water conservation plan. Lyle Riedinger, Work Unit Conservationist and Sidney Johnson, conservation aid have been assigned to furnish the technical assistance to the District. Eugene Arndorfer, part-time conservation aid, was made available to work in the District through the transfer of ACP funds. The SCS staff serviced 106 requests from the ASC office. These requests were for the installation of practices under the cost-sharing program. Farmers wishing to plan a conservation program for their farm are encouraged to contact the District office or one of the Commissioners. There is no charge for this service.



Pictured above are first row: Robert Blake, Gregory Haack, Douglas Block, Diane Patterson, and Cindy Erpelding; second row: Mark Barber, Timmy Bristow, Carrie Raemaker, and Dana Selby; third row: Becky Coyle, Linda Keigher, Jennifer Wilhelm, Jeannie Hjelmeland, Cheyenne Chapman, Charlys Rusher, Carla Hansen, Diane Pergande, and Miss Ullman. Unable to be present for the picture were Randy Will and Gloria Miller.

CONSERVATION CAMP

Miss Geraldine Ullman attended the June 7-28, 1959 session of the Teachers Conservation Camp at Springbrook Park, near Guthrie Center, Iowa. Miss Ullman received a scholarship from the District. She attended Iowa State Teachers College and has taught first grade at LuVerne Community School for two years. The class has 19 pupils. She took her class on field trip last fall and they are planning a nature tour this spring. The class is planning to make a bird feeder.

Miss Donna Hill also attended the same session as Miss Ullman. Miss Hill teaches the third grade at LuVerne Community School. She has 26 in her class. She studied at Eagle Grove Jr. College and Iowa State Teachers College. She was also awarded a scholarship to attend the conservation camp. Each member of her class made an insect net and started making their own collections. They went on two nature field trips last fall. Miss Hill said, "The busiest three weeks I have ever had, was while attending the Teachers Conservation Camp."

Our congratulations go to Miss Hill and Miss Ullman and the other teachers that are teaching conservation in the classrooms.

CONSERVATION STAMP



Last summer we announced the issuance of the new soil conservation stamp in a news-letter. The news-letter was contained in an envelope which was stamped and cancelled on the first day of issue at Rapid City, South Dakota, on August 26, 1959. It was sent to 462 District cooperators and 89 business places in Kossuth County. The stamp was a tribute of the efforts made toward soil conservation. This first-day cancellation stamp is considered a collectors item. From all indications, there was a demand by patrons of the Post Office to purchase this stamp for their personal and business use.

ORGANIZATION OF THE DISTRICT

The Kossuth County Soil Conservation District was organized by the land owners and operators of this County in March 1947. It is a subdivision of the State of Iowa.

It is directed by the three District Commissioners, with general direction by the State Soil Conservation Committee.

We hope that each cooperating farmer will use each acre of his land according to its capability.



Pictured above are first row: Donald Bristow (holding insect collection), Daniel Raemaker, Billy Keigher, Ferris Fett, Ronald Wolf, Kr's Meyer, Michael Coyle, JoAnne Stebritz. Second row: Dennis Blumar, Russell Bristow, Julie Hungate, Joan Stebritz, Connie Hefty, Teresa Gilligan, Nancy Thompson, and Mary Hanselman. Third row: Barry Selby, Phillip Morris, Jack Stampka, Paul Ernst, Dennis Barber, Erna Hinz and Miss Hill.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THE DISTRICT

	unit	1959	to date
District			
Cooperators	-- each	47	530
Basic Conservation			
Plans	----- each	40	380
Farms Serviced	---- each	500	
Contouring	----- acres	408	2534
Terraces	----- miles	2.2	2.2
Waterways	----- acres	2.7	511
Surface Drains	-- miles	1.2	30
Tile Drains	----- feet	79,428	75 million
Soil Conservation			
Survey	----- acres	7,723	

ASSISTANCE TO THE DISTRICT

To carry out the District program, financial assistance was received from the State of Iowa, with appropriations by the State Soil Conservation Committee to the District.

1-A Fund	Expended fiscal yr. 1959
Commissioners Expense	----- \$ 357.54
Office Expense	----- 96.44
Office Supplies	----- 132.36
Materials for Demonstrations	---- 4.54
Printing	----- 16.25
Prizes for Contests	----- 16.78
Meeting Expense	----- 11.50
	----- 635.41
2-A Fund	
State Aids	----- \$3,566.50
Federal and State Retirement	---- 200.32
	----- 3,766.82



Julius Baas, who farms northeast of Algona, is shown looking at his copy of his farm plan. Julie says, "I like it now, and wouldn't farm any other way." In visiting with Julie recently, he mentioned there is more reserve moisture in the spring since contouring, and it has increased his yields. At the same time, soil loss has been reduced by contouring, rather than the practice of farming up and down the slope of the hill. He used an electric fence to enclose his pasture. He reports that he has no trouble with hogs and cattle getting out. Julie Baas was one of the District winners in the Iowa Soil Conservation Achievement Contest.



Seated left to right are Dean Barnes, County Extension Director; and Lyle Riedinger, Work Unit Conservationist. Standing are Eugene Arndorfer, Conservation aid (part-time); Paul Haverly, Clerk-aid; and Sidney Johnson, Conservation aid.

COMMISSIONER ACTIVITIES

Twelve regular Commissioners meetings were held during the year.

Jack Nyman, Bancroft, was elected to a six year term as Commissioner, at the election held on February 24, 1959, at the Swea City High School. After the polls closed the annual meeting and banquet was held with an attendance of 96.

We attended meetings held by the County ASC to formulate the Agricultural Conservation Program.

The Commissioners Short Course was held at Ames on January 13 and 14, 1959. Two regional meetings were held at Garner this year, to assist us in working out our District Activities.

We attended the Commissioners Annual Conference held at Mason City, September 20-22, 1959.

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONERS

Julie Baas, Algona, and Harold Montag, West Bend, were selected as assistant commissioners. They serve as advisors to the District Commissioners and help plan and carry out the special activities of the District. Both farmers have conservation plans on their farms and have been contouring the row crops on their farms.

CONTESTS

Kossuth County District winners in the Iowa Soil Conservation Achievement Contest were: Raymond Otis, Wesley, Iowa; Julius Baas, Algona, Iowa and Alice Kain, Dekalb, Ill.; and Harold and Fred Montag, West Bend, Iowa.

In Acknowledgement

In the interest of promoting Soil and Water Conservation within the Kossuth County Soil Conservation District, this annual report is sponsored by the following:

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