

# Fayette County Soil Conservation District's annual report of activities during 1975

## 1975 ANNUAL REPORT FAYETTE SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT DISTRICT GOVERNING UNIT

|                                   |              |
|-----------------------------------|--------------|
| Leslie Anderson, Castalia         | Chairman     |
| Frank Thyer, Randalia, Treasurer  | Commissioner |
| James Stewart, Oelwein, Secretary | Commissioner |
| Paul Schuchmann Jr., Arlington    | Commissioner |
| Cleve Bennett, Elgin              | Commissioner |

### DISTRICT EMPLOYEES

|                |                            |
|----------------|----------------------------|
| Belva Bauer    | Clerk-Typist II            |
| Mark Sauerbrei | Parttime Conservation Aide |

### U.S.D.A. SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE

|               |                          |
|---------------|--------------------------|
| Lyle Jackson  | District Conservationist |
| William Baugh | Conservation Technician  |
| Marc Hermann  | Student Trainee          |

### AREA PERSONNEL

|                            |                      |
|----------------------------|----------------------|
| Harold Boehmer, Mason City | Area Conservationist |
| Gary Formanek, Elkader     | Civil Engineer       |
| Larry Caldwell, Mason City | Civil Engineer       |
| Eileen Bliss, Mason City   | Area Clerk           |

### DISTRICT ACCOMPLISHMENT

July 1, 1974 - June 30, 1975

|                                                   | Number | Acres  |
|---------------------------------------------------|--------|--------|
| District Cooperators                              | 75     | 16,679 |
| Soil and Water Conservation Plans                 | 32     | 6,285  |
| Soil and Water Conservation Plans Revised         | 15     | 2,974  |
| Farms Serviced                                    | 500    |        |
| Farms applying one or more conservation practices | 328    |        |
| Units of Government Assisted                      | 5      |        |
| Group Conservation Plans                          | 11     |        |
| Groups Assisted                                   | 42     |        |
| Groups Applying Practices                         | 19     |        |

### MAJOR PRACTICES APPLIED

|                                          |           |
|------------------------------------------|-----------|
| Conservation Cropping System (acres)     | 5,282     |
| Contour Farming (acres)                  | 1,683     |
| Critical Area Planting (acres)           | 3         |
| Crop Residue Management (acres)          | 5,056     |
| Diversion (feet)                         | 250       |
| Pond (number)                            | 2         |
| Farmstead and Feedlot Windbreaks (acres) | 2         |
| Field Border (feet)                      | 125,400   |
| Fishpond Management (number)             | 1         |
| Grade Stabilization Structure (number)   | 6         |
| Grassed Waterways (acres)                | 61        |
| Minimum Tillage (acres)                  | 12,956    |
| Pasture and Hayland Management (acres)   | 286       |
| Pasture and Hayland Planting (acres)     | 151       |
| Structure For Water Control (number)     | 122       |
| Terrace, Parallel (feet)                 | 51,300    |
| Subsurface Drain (feet)                  | 1,124,321 |
| Well (number)                            | 4         |
| Wildlife Upland Management (acres)       | 49        |
| Land Adequately Treated (acres)          | 5,554     |
| Crop to Grassland (acres)                | 8         |
| Other Use to Cropland (acres)            | 424       |
| Noncrop to Wildlife-Recreation (acres)   | 13        |

### HIGHLIGHTS OF DISTRICT ACTIVITIES 1975

The District Commissioners held regular monthly meetings to conduct the business of the district. This included plans and preparations for the various events that are sponsored by the district, also reviewing all new cooperators, basic conservation plans, group plans and cost share assistance applications.

The public was informed of soil conservation progress with news stories and radio releases. The office staff and commissioners assisted with or conducted conservation tours, talks, demonstrations, presentations and contests.

Iowa and National Association of Soil Conservation dues were paid in full.

Lyle Jackson assisted with a presentation at Extension Service's "Corn Clinic" held at Wadena.

Bill Baugh gave a talk and slide presentation to North Fayette Elementary 4th grade class.

Baugh and Mark Sauerbrei gave a program on soil conservation practices to a North Fayette High Voc-Ag class.

Gary Formanek, Civil Engineer and Jackson met with Oelwein City Councilmen to assist in Lake Oelwein cleanout and renovation.

Jackson presented a program on the establishment of outdoor conservation classrooms for 160 teachers from 50 schools attending a Junior High School Workshop at Oelwein in March.

Jackson recorded some tapes for KOEL's farm program.

Lisa Hamlett, Starmont High School, Arlington was winner of the Soil Conservation Speech Contest

held in March at North Fayette High School. Co-sponsors were German Mutual Insurance, West Union and Farmers Mutual Insurance, Fayette.

Baugh and Sauerbrei presented a program on conservation practices to a Hawkeye Elementary School group.

Sauerbrei attended technicians workshop March 4 and 5 at Mason City.

Work was completed on the West Central School outdoor classroom plan. Included were erosion control structure, wildlife pond, and tree-shrub plantings.

Jackson presented an ecology program to North Fayette 7th grade at Echo Valley Park.

Baugh conducted a tour of conservation practices for Hawkeye Elementary School fifth grade.

For Soil Stewardship Week 50 Soil Stewardship booklets and 3,000 church bulletin inserts were distributed to churches in the district.

Marc Hermann, summer student trainee, reported for duty May 27 and worked through Aug. 15.

Commissioner James Stewart, Oelwein and Clerk Bauer attended the Department of Soil Conservation annual conference in Des Moines in September.

Esther Adams, North Fayette Elementary School teacher attended the Fall Teachers Workshop at Camp Ewalu near Strawberry Point. She was sponsored by First National Bank, West Union.

Fifty F.F.A. students from five schools participated in the Fayette SCD Soil Judging Contest held in October. North Fayette F.F.A. Chapter of West Union won 1st prize with Kevin Lueder, David Meyer and Gary Gibbs as high individual winners. Sumner F.F.A. Chapter won 2nd prize and Valley F.F.A. of Elgin was third place winner.

Baugh attended an advanced structure design course at Lincoln, Neb. training center for two weeks in November.

Mark Sauerbrei resigned Nov. 14.

Jackson and KOEL Farm Director Wangsness made a conservation tillage tape.

Jackson presented a program to the Happy Valley Garden Club at Clermont.

Fayette SCD Commissioners and office staff and their respective spouses attended the annual Christmas dinner and meeting in December in Boot Hill Supper Club, West Union. Guests were Mr. and Mrs. Howard Boyle, Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Cline and Mrs. and Mrs. Mark Sauerbrei.

### FINANCIAL STATEMENT

July 1, 1974 - June 30, 1975

#### IM BUDGET

|                                                                                                                            |               |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|
| Commissioners travel expenses to district, regional and state meetings and other travel in the county on district business | 552.12        |
| Office Supplies                                                                                                            | 68.18         |
| Printing                                                                                                                   | 22.00         |
| Office Expenses                                                                                                            | 176.59        |
| <b>Total</b>                                                                                                               | <b>818.89</b> |

#### IIM BUDGET

|                                                                         |           |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| Salaries and Travel for Clerk, Parttime Conservation Aide and Equipment | 11,730.98 |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|

#### COMMISSIONERS' REVOLVING FUND

|                                     |        |
|-------------------------------------|--------|
| Balance on Hand July 1, 1974        | 488.35 |
| Receipts July 1, 1974-June 30, 1975 | 936.08 |

|                              |                 |
|------------------------------|-----------------|
| <b>Total Funds Available</b> | <b>1,424.43</b> |
| Miscellaneous Expenses       | 885.05          |

|                                      |               |
|--------------------------------------|---------------|
| <b>Balance on Hand June 30, 1975</b> | <b>539.38</b> |
|--------------------------------------|---------------|

#### IIIM BUDGET

|                                              |                  |
|----------------------------------------------|------------------|
| State Cost Share Funds - 1973-74 Fiscal Year |                  |
| <b>Total Allocation</b>                      | <b>23,000.00</b> |

|                                                          |                  |
|----------------------------------------------------------|------------------|
| Amount Approved and Disbursed for Conservation Practices | 19,566.43        |
| Amount approved and Pending Completion                   | 3,268.75         |
| Balance on Hand June 30, 1975                            | 164.82           |
| State Cost Share Funds - 1974-75 Fiscal Year             |                  |
| <b>Total Allocation</b>                                  | <b>23,000.00</b> |
| Long Term Agreements Disbursed                           | 1,588.16         |
| Long Term Agreements - Pending Completion                | 9,668.25         |
| Amount Approved - Pending Completion                     | 10,337.50        |
| Balance on Hand June 30, 1975                            | 1,406.09         |

### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The District Commissioners wish to thank the many organizations that have assisted the district during the year. Among these are the Soil Conservation Service, Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Services, Extension Service and Farmers Home Administration. State organizations assisting the district were the Department of Soil Conservation, Iowa Association of S.C.D. Commissioners, and the State Conservation Commission.

The newspaper 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 Soil Conservation District Commissioners, Leslie Anderson, Chairman, Frank Thyer, Paul Schuchmann Jr., Cleve Bennett, and James Stewart.