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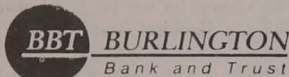


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# SOIL CONSERVATION

## ANNUAL REPORT OF THE DES MOINES COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Fiscal Year July 1, 1993-June 30, 1994 Expenditures of funds provided by State of Iowa for District Commissioners' Expenses, Office Supplies and Expenses, Office Equipment, Financial Incentive Programs and Resource Enhancement and Protection Program (REAP).

| 1M FUNDS - TRAVEL, OFFICE SUPPLIES, EXPENSES & EQUIPMENT |          |
|----------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| Commissioners' travel.....                               | \$658.01 |
| Office Supplies & Expenses.....                          | 384.15   |
| Total Allocation.....                                    | 1,042.16 |

| 1993-94 STATE FINANCIAL INCENTIVE FUNDS |             |
|-----------------------------------------|-------------|
| Terraces, 7,385 feet completed.....     | \$13,473.84 |
| Obligated, Terraces not completed.....  | 2,833.75    |
| No Till, 207.8 acres completed.....     | 2,078.00    |
| Total Allocation.....                   | 18,385.59   |

| 1992-93 STATE FINANCIAL INCENTIVE FUNDS |             |
|-----------------------------------------|-------------|
| Terraces, 8,020 feet completed.....     | \$16,559.20 |
| No Till, 445.9 acres completed.....     | 4,459.00    |
| Total Allocation.....                   | 21,018.20   |

| 1991-92 STATE FINANCIAL INCENTIVE FUNDS |             |
|-----------------------------------------|-------------|
| Terraces, 15,240 feet completed.....    | \$25,078.82 |
| No Till, 309.2 acres completed.....     | 3,092.00    |
| Total Allocation.....                   | 28,170.82   |

| 1993-94 REAP - PRACTICES                            |            |
|-----------------------------------------------------|------------|
| Conservation Cover, 40 acres completed.....         | \$3,000.00 |
| Timber Stand Improvement, 90.0 acres completed..... | 6,817.50   |
| Tree Planting, 10 acres completed.....              | 4,342.16   |
| Total Allocation.....                               | 14,159.66  |

| 1993-94 REAP - FORESTRY PRACTICES                   |            |
|-----------------------------------------------------|------------|
| Timber Stand Improvement, 23.9 acres completed..... | \$1,792.50 |
| Tree Planting, 5.0 acres completed.....             | 1,526.25   |
| Total Allocation.....                               | 3,318.75   |

| 1992-93 REAP - PRACTICES                            |            |
|-----------------------------------------------------|------------|
| Timber Stand Improvement, 80.5 acres completed..... | \$4,559.36 |
| Total Allocation.....                               | 4,559.36   |

| 1992-93 REAP - FORESTRY PRACTICES                   |            |
|-----------------------------------------------------|------------|
| Timber Stand Improvement, 18.0 acres completed..... | \$1,194.75 |
| Total Allocation.....                               | 1,194.75   |

| 1991-92 REAP - PRACTICES                             |            |
|------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| Timber Stand Improvement, 113.9 acres completed..... | \$6,339.93 |
| Total Allocation.....                                | 6,339.93   |

| 1991-92 REAP - FORESTRY PRACTICES                   |            |
|-----------------------------------------------------|------------|
| Timber Stand Improvement, 21.9 acres completed..... | \$1,553.40 |
| Total Allocation.....                               | 1,553.40   |

| 1994 ORGANIC NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT PROGRAM (ONMP) |            |
|-------------------------------------------------|------------|
| 1 Project Completed.....                        | \$4,320.00 |
| 1 Project Obligated, Not Completed.....         | 4,320.00   |
| Total Allocation.....                           | 8,640.00   |

| 1995 ONMP                               |             |
|-----------------------------------------|-------------|
| 1 Project Obligated, Not Completed..... | \$5,193.00  |
| Unobligated funds.....                  | 6,028.00    |
| Total Allocation.....                   | \$11,221.00 |

## REVOLVING FUND ACCOUNT

July 1, 1993-June 30, 1994

Balance on hand, July 1, 1993.....\$2,534.24

| Receipts:                 |          |
|---------------------------|----------|
| Flags & Scales Sales..... | \$36.50  |
| Dues reimbursement.....   | 800.00   |
| State reimbursement.....  | 89.00    |
| Interest.....             | 73.94    |
|                           | \$859.54 |

| Disbursements:                                       |            |
|------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| Supplies & Postage.....                              | \$145.59   |
| Debt Reduction (H. Sutton).....                      | 5,065.00   |
| Subscription.....                                    | 30.00      |
| Bank Charges.....                                    | 12.00      |
| IASWCD Dues.....                                     | 500.00     |
| NACD Dues.....                                       | 200.00     |
| Safety Deposit Box.....                              | 10.00      |
| Sales Tax.....                                       | 3.11       |
| Flags.....                                           | 95.50      |
| IA SWCD Donation.....                                | 15.00      |
| Des Moines Co. Conservation Foundation Donation..... | 200.00     |
| Tri-State Education Scholarship.....                 | 500.00     |
|                                                      | \$6,776.20 |

Balance on hand, June 30, 1994.....\$3,617.58

## DISTRICT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

October 1, 1993-September 30, 1994

|        |                                              |
|--------|----------------------------------------------|
| 14     | New District Cooperators on 1577 acres       |
| 379    | Individuals or Groups Assisted               |
| 142    | Individuals and Groups Applying Practices    |
| 774    | Acres of Resource Management Systems Planned |
| 1      | Land Use and Treatment Site Plan Review      |
| 5      | Governmental Agencies Assisted               |
| 223    | Acres of Conservation Cover Established      |
| 216    | Acres of Conservation Tillage                |
| 24     | Acres of Contouring                          |
| 23,200 | Acres of Grassed Waterways Established       |
| 37     | Feet of Terraces Constructed                 |
| 3      | Acres of Trees Planted                       |
| 1      | Water and Sediment Control Basin Constructed |
| 2,344  | Acres of Wildlife Upland Habitat Management  |
| 511    | Cropland Acres Treated                       |
|        | Wildlife Land Acres treated                  |

## Natural Resources Conservation Service NRCS CREATED

On October 20, 1994, the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), formerly known as the Soil Conservation Service (SCS), was created as part of US Department of Agriculture reorganization.

Our name change more accurately reflects what we do, working hand in hand with the American people to conserve all natural resources on private lands. It reflects a streamlined agency that provides quality service more efficiently.

While the name has changed, some things will not. The Natural Resources Conservation Service will continue to build on 60 years of experience, our scientific and technical expertise, and our partnerships with conservation districts and others.

The Natural Resources Conservation Service is committed to conserving the nation's resources, not just for this generation but for generations to come. Join with us as we move forward with the new Natural Resources Conservation Service.

## MANURE MANAGEMENT BOOK AVAILABLE

The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) recently released a book that may help to decide what type of manure management system can work for you. "Manure Management for Open Lot Livestock Production" is a 16-page, color publication that shows different components of manure management systems.

The book covers topics, such as storing manure, treating runoff, releasing liquids, settling solids, applying nutrients to the land, and more.

Color photos of different options are featured with explanations, advantages and disadvantages. The book also includes three examples of livestock systems already installed.

The publication was a cooperative project of NRCS, ISU Extension, the Iowa Department of Natural Resources, and Region 7 of the Environmental Protection Agency.

## THANKS FOR THE ASSISTANCE

The Des Moines County Soil & Water Conservation District Commissioners and Assistants would like to thank those who assisted the office during the transition period between District Conservationists and State Secretaries. Mark Fehseke and Doug Ensminger each spent a couple of months as Acting District Conservationist. Mark is the District Conservationist in Tipton and Doug is the DC in Mount Pleasant. Janet Williams, State Secretary in the Louisa County Field Office, spent approximately four months, one day a week, as Acting Secretary. Thank you, Mark, Doug and Janet, for your months of greatly appreciated help.



## CONSERVATION FARMER APPRECIATION BANQUET

The Des Moines County Soil & Water Conservation District Commissioners held a Conservation Farmer Appreciation Banquet on March 2, 1995. The banquet was in conjunction with the Corn Growers Association and the Soybean Producers annual meetings. Pictured are Michael Lewitke, NRCS District

Conservationist; Jeff Bergman, SWCD Chairman; Dean Brader, Soybean Producers; and Bryan Keitzer, Corn Growers Association. If you received an invitation to this banquet but were unable to attend, please stop in at the NRCS office in Burlington to pick up an ornament.

# ON ANNUAL REPORT



## DOROTHY DAVIS RETIRES

Dorothy Davis, our secretary for more than 22 years, retired in October of 1994 and will be sincerely missed for her great expertise in her profession, among her many other attributes.

Along with being a very efficient, knowledgeable, and dedicated secretary, Dorothy could solve almost any problem. During her 22 years of service, Dorothy solved a lot of them for SCS and the personnel who were very privileged to have worked with her.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank Dorothy sincerely and to wish her a long, healthy, and happy retirement with all her family. You were greatly appreciated.

Hang in there, Dot Dot, and try to keep that Clowie straight.

John Horan, SCS Technician  
Drew DeLang, SCS Aide



## DISTRICT LOSES GARY WAGNER

The Des Moines County Soil and Water Conservation District suffered a tremendous loss in September 1994 when Chairman Gary Wagner was tragically killed in an auto accident.

Gary was appointed an Assistant Commissioner of the Des Moines County SWCD in March 1989. He was officially elected a Commissioner and began serving his term in January 1991. Gary was Chairman of the Board in 1993 and 1994.

Gary was a very dedicated and passionate conservationist. He worked hard to restore wetlands and revive eroded ground into enchanting pictures filled with trees and prairie grass. Gary was honored for his hard work with several awards, including 1992 Iowa Department of Natural Resources Wildlife Farmer of the Year, 1992 DNR Iowa Woodland Owner of the Year, US Fish and Wildlife Department of Interior Citation for Outstanding Contribution, and 1993 Tree Farmer Association's Tree Farmer of the Year.

Gary's devotion to preserving natural resources will be greatly missed by the Des Moines County SWCD Commissioners. His strong beliefs and loyalty to the District were appreciated.

Future generations will silently thank him as they watch geese land on a wetland or walk through a field of brilliant wildflowers.

## DISTRICT ACTIVITIES DURING 1994

### JANUARY

-Election of Officers for 1994 resulted as follows: Chairman- Gary Wagner; Vice Chairman- Charles Nealey; Treasurer- Jeff Bergman; Secretary- Dorothy Davis; Assistant Commissioner- Horace Sutton

-Election of Committees resulted as follows: RC&D Executive Board- Sherm Smith; County RC&D Board- Sherm Smith; Education- Jeff Bergman.

-State and NACD dues were paid.

### FEBRUARY

-Arlyn Musselman was appointed an Assistant Commissioner.

-A joint contractor's meeting with Louisa, Henry, Washington and Des Moines Counties was held on February 24 at the National Guard Armory in Mt. Pleasant.

-The Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) Memo of Understanding was reviewed by the Commissioners.

-Program Appraisal was completed by State SCS personnel and Bill McGill of DSC on February 23.

### MARCH

-Spring regional commissioners' meeting was held on March 7 at Millerton in Wayne County. Wagner attended.

-Smith attended the Iowa League of RC&D's meeting in Carroll on March 22 and 23.

-REAP Assembly meeting for Henry, Lee, Louisa and Des Moines Counties was held March 10 at Pzazz. Wagner attended.

-Larry Jones, DC, was appointed District Secretary pro-tem until further notice.

### APRIL

-Soil and Water Stewardship week was April 24-May 1.

-A resolution was sent to the Alternate Regional Director written by Wagner about IFIP funding for grass buffer strips.

### MAY

-W. Dean Shaw, a JTPA employee, was appointed District Secretary pro-tem.

-The Commissioners donated \$500 for Tri-State Education Scholarship funding.

### JUNE

-Larry Jones, District Conservator, transferred to the Newton Field Office.

-Office staff attended a two-day area meeting near Washington.

-Spot checks on seven tracts were completed.

### JULY

-Doug Ensminger and Mark Fehske were Acting DC's until a new appointment was made.

-Dorothy Davis resumed District Secretary position.

### AUGUST

-Janet Williams, Louisa County Secretary, became Acting Secretary for the office.

### SEPTEMBER

-Fall Regional meeting was held during Annual conference which was Sept. 7-9 at Embassy Suites in Des Moines.

-Conservation Day was held Sept. 30.

-Dorothy Davis, District Secretary, retired.

### OCTOBER

-Mike Lewitke resumed the role of District Conservator on October 31.

-SCS became Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS).

### NOVEMBER

-Tom Birkenstock was approved to fill the vacancy of Gary Wagner until the next election.

### DECEMBER

-Conservation Farmer Appreciation Week was December 5-11. Des Moines County SWCD will hold a banquet in March.

## COST-SHARE PROGRAMS

Cost-share assistance is available through the State of Iowa for certain conservation tillage practices, temporary, and permanent practices.

The Des Moines County Soil and Water Conservation District Commissioners have established priorities concerning these State Cost-Share Programs.

First priority will be given to temporary and conservation tillage practices. These are no-till, ridge-till, strip-till, contour, and stripcropping. Second priority will be non-structural permanent practices. This includes critical area planting, grass strip, grassed waterway, and pasture and hay land planting. Third priority will be permanent structural practices. This includes grade stabilization structures, terraces, underground outlets, diversions, and water and sediment control basins.

Fifty percent of funds will be reserved for practices listed under priorities one and two. Sign-ups for these priority practices will be taken until April 1. After this date, funds will be used on priority three practices.

Resource Enhancement and Protection (REAP) funds are used for cost-sharing on Water Protection Practices. Priorities for REAP funds are in the following order: conservation cover, timber stand improvement, tree planting, and windbreaks.

The State has also developed a cost-share program for waste management called Organic Nutrient Management Program (ONMP).

Please stop in or call the NRCS office for more details.

## COMMISSIONERS

Gary Wagner

Chairperson (through September)

Charles Nealey

Vice-Chairperson (through September)

Chairperson (October through December)

Jeff Bergman

Treasurer

Sherman A. Smith

Frank C. Hedges

Tom Birkenstock

(Replaced Wagner starting November)

## ASSISTANT COMMISSIONERS

Horace Sutton -- Arlyn Musselman

## OFFICE STAFF

Michael F. Lewitke, District Conservator (started October)

Larry E. Jones, District Conservator (through June)

John J. Horan, Soil Conservation Technician

Drew F. DeLang, Soil Conservation Aide

W. Dean Shaw, JTPA, Soil conservation Aide (through September)

Bernard Carter, JTPA (through April)

Dorothy E. Davis, State & District Secretary (through September)

## AREA OFFICE STAFF

Bruce W. Trautman, Area Conservator

Mark R. LaVan, Area Resource Soil Scientist

Robert O. Didenksen, Soil Scientist

John A. Lucassen, Soil Scientist (Party Leader)

Stephen J. Ernst, Soil Scientist

Douglas D. Morningstar, Civil Engineer

Sue M. Long, Civil Engineer

Tom H. Boos, Civil Engineer Technician

Ron P. Wilson, Civil Engineer Technician

Kerry K. Richards, Computer Specialist

Suzette D. Betts, Area Administrative Coordinator

Darlene G. Lauder, Area Secretary

## NEW STAFF

The Natural Resources Conservation Service office has two new employees to assist the Des Moines County Soil and Water Conservation District.

Mike Lewitke assumed the position of District Conservator in November, 1994. Mike is a native of Chicago. He began his career with Soil Conservation Service in 1982. He has worked in Harlan and Logan in western Iowa, and Clarion in north-central Iowa.

Jamie Fair started in the NRCS office in January 1995 as State/District Secretary. Jamie started working for SCS in 1992 at the Sigourney Field Office. Jamie is a native of Keokuk County.

Mike and Jamie are very excited to be working and living in Des Moines County. Stop in the NRCS office and say hi to them.

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