

# Communities Must Take Initiative, Responsibilities For Watershed

In an earlier article in the current watershed series we pointed out that small watershed projects carried out under the National Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act are local projects with federal help—not federal projects with local help.

This means that the local sponsors are supposed to be "in the driver's seat" at all times. It's up to them to make all the major decisions on what's to be included: whether or not it is a practical solution for their problems; and whether or not they will be able to get local cooperation and financial help they will need to carry the project through to completion.

Technicians from the U. S. Soil Conservation Service and other government agencies will do considerable work on engineering surveys, economic studies, and other technical aspects in order to provide the facts that the local folks will have to have in order to make decisions.

## Local Responsibilities

Here are some of the things local people are responsible for:

1. They must get all the land, easements, and rights-of-way that will be needed in order to put structures and other watershed improvement measures on privately-owned land. Local costs include re-locating bridges, roads, railroads, pipelines, buildings, fences, and wells.

2. They must acquire any water rights required by the state laws.

3. They have to provide for operation and care of all improvements put on privately-owned land. This means that the local watershed organization must put forth a satisfactory plan for care and

protection of these improvements in the years to come.

4. When projects reach the dirt-moving stage, they will either construct or let contracts for improvements on privately-owned land. The federal government lets and administers contracts on federal land.

5. They must get farmers in the watershed to use soil and water conservation methods. They have to assure federal and state authorities that a lot of conservation rotations, improved pastures, terraces, small structures, and other land treatment measures will get established on the land. (This phase of the work must precede and keep pace with the dams and other construction work).

## Co-operation Imperative

6. They have to see that all state laws governing watershed activities are complied with.

7. They have to make satisfactory credit arrangements when credit is needed and submit a satisfactory plan for repayment of any loan or advancement made under the watershed act. The Farmer's Home Administration is authorized to provide credit for watershed purposes.

8. To get a feasible and practical solution to watershed problems, they will need to cooperate with technicians in collection of all the facts and figures that bear upon these problems.

9. They must agree with the Secretary of Agriculture on a specific work plan before cost-sharing is possible.

10. Last but not least, they will be required to give of their time and talents to initiate the project, and guide it to a successful conclusion. There is usually a long succession of meetings, tours, hearings, and special projects. For watershed leaders, their first duty is to be fully informed themselves.

## Not Minor Project

So we can see that a watershed project is not something to be taken lightly. It is not something to be promoted by an outsider, but must meet a local need that can't be handled satisfactorily in some other way.

The Small Watershed Act is another tool in soil and water conservation. It can solve problems too big for the individual landowner. And it lets farm and city people work together on a community basis.

The Adams county soil conservation district and cooperating federal agencies have a responsibility to inform local people of the opportunities under the watershed law. So do newspapers and radio stations. Through these columns, we hope to give Adams county people a good picture of watershed possibilities here.

Next week: "How to get a project started."

## Moser Guernsey Completes Record

PETERBOROUGH, N. H. — A registered Guernsey cow, Quassina of Nettal Quality owned by Roger Moser and Son, Berne, Indiana, has completed an official HIR production record, according to the American Guernsey Cattle Club here.

This record was for 10,228 pounds of milk and 482 pounds of fat. "Quality" was a junior three year old, and was milked two times daily for 305 days while on test.

This official production record was supervised by Purdue University.

## Of This And That

### Do You Do It?

## Three Ways To Fertilize Corn For Better Profits

CHICAGO — Three profitable ways to fertilize corn were listed by Dr. John Peseck, Iowa State University agronomist, in a statement summarized here by the National Plant Food Institute's Midwest division.

Peseck says these methods can be used as a team to supplement each other where the soil needs extra nutrients to produce the most profitable corn yield increases. These methods include:

### 1. Hill or row applications of starter fertilizer at planting time.

Soils in their normal state are seldom fertile enough to supply adequate quantities of nitrogen, phosphate and potash for young corn plants in the early stages for maximum growth. Hence complete fertilizers usually need to be placed near the seed row at planting time.

This fertilizer should be placed at or slightly below seed level and one to two inches to the side. Depending on soil tests and the soil type concerned, the ratio of nitrogen-to-phosphate-to-potash should be 1-4-4, or 1-4-2.

This placement method puts the fertilizer far enough away from the seed to prevent injury in germination and near enough so the nutrients are available to the seedlings soon after germination.

### 2. Flow-down applications of extra phosphate and potash in addition to hill or row fertilization.

This method is profitable on soils where row fertilizer alone is not sufficient to produce top profit yield.

Plowing under one or both of these nutrients places them in a deeper soil zone which will remain moist longer during the growing season. Absorption of the nutrients by the plant roots for a longer period of time is thus possible.

3. Extra nitrogen applications when the corn does not follow a good legume sod or green manure crop, and when it is not manured. Sometimes, extra nitrogen is also beneficial to corn following only fair legume sods and green manure crops.

When dry material is used, the extra nitrogen can be broadcast and either plowed down or disked in. If anhydrous ammonia or nitrogen solutions containing free ammonia are used, they should be injected into the soil before or after plowing.

Nitrogen solutions which do not contain free ammonia can be applied directly on the surface. Any of the foregoing nitrogen materials can be used as a side-dressing up until the last cultivation of corn.

Peseck lists this "time schedule" for corn fertilization: Hill or row fertilizer should be added at planting time. Extra phosphate and potash can be applied and plowed under or disked in in the spring or the fall; extra nitrogen can be applied in the spring months before or after corn planting, or in the late fall.

**Tips For You**  
If your cooking with cheese, remember to use low temperatures as high temperature or long cooking makes cheese tough and stringy.

Add cheese to other ingredients in small bits as it will melt evenly and blend quickly into other foods.

Blend cheese into a smooth sauce before adding to other ingredients to prevent curdling. Use cheese to flavor white sauce for casseroles, in scalloped dishes, or on cooked vegetables.

Indiana members of the Future Farmers of America will hold their 31st annual state convention at Purdue University, April 14-16.

Milking machine inflations and other rubber parts should be stored in a 5 percent lye solution, according to Purdue University dairy scientists. To prepare a stock solution, dissolve one can of lye in a gallon of water.

## Spray Will Control Leaf Curl Fungus

By LEO N. SELTENRIGHT

### Dairy Award

Norman Becher and Luther Ya- ger were recognized among five outstanding Indiana dairy farmers yesterday at an awards banquet in Indianapolis. The meeting was held at the Sheraton-Lincoln Hotel and was sponsored by the National Dairy Products Association. Congratulations to Norman Becher and his dairy herdsmanship.

### Beef Tour

Thanks to Jack Schnepp and Dan Lantz for allowing the group on the beef tour to visit their feeding operations. Each was interesting

## Soil Test Is Imperative For Good Fertilizing

### Early Planting Makes Stronger Lawn Grasses

Farmers interested in saving money on fertilizer this spring will

want to take an accurate soil sample and have it tested. Fertilization by prescription is the only method that should be used when trying to get maximum yields from minimum expenditures. Farmers do not want to apply too much fertilizer, but they want to apply enough to do a satisfactory job.

M. G. Baumgardner, head of the soil testing laboratory at Purdue University, says farmers should avoid taking soil samples too close to lanes, fences and areas near the barn where seepage water may enter.

Baumgardner adds that a field should be sampled thoroughly. He suggests equal sized slices or borings from 10 to 15 places, taken from the surface to plow depth, in a particular field.

After the sample has been thoroughly mixed in a clean pail, the mixture should be spread out in a dry place, but should not be heated in an oven or on a stove.

Soil samples are easiest to take when the soil is about ready to work with tillage tools. When the soil is too wet, the small samples won't mix to form a composite especially of maturity.

Crabgrass Prevention is a reality. More than a dozen formulations of crabgrass controls are on the market. For best results, many of these should be applied before crabgrass germinates — which is about time magnolia bushes bloom in Indiana.

Whenever a sheep is lame take her away from the other sheep. Trim away all infection and infected tissue. Soak the foot in a saturated solution of copper sulfate

and stimulate many questions. Also Max Grandineen's feedlot in Wells County was visited. The afternoon session with Russ Brower and Paul Mitchell leading the discussion was quite good. Brower, animal science specialist of Purdue, emphasized that production testing of beef animals is of great help to feedlot operators but more rate-of-gain testing is needed. Also that there is interest in a meat-type steer just as we've had a meat-type hog developed.

Mitchell, marketing economist of Purdue, pointed out that beef in one of the highest on the consumer's shopping list. He also emphasized that cattle producers should keep up-to-date on the cyclic movements of cattle numbers, as it greatly affects supply and prices. The tour was planned by the beef committees of Wells and Adams Counties, headed in Adams by Paul Kohne.

### Calendar

Adams County Artificial Breeders Annual Meeting — Tuesday evening, March 29.

4-H and FFA Poultry and Egg Judging Contest, Wednesday, March 30.

Area Soil Conservation District Supervisors Meeting and Extension Agents District conference, Thursday, March 31.

4-H officers' training school, Friday evening, April 1 at the Lincoln School in Decatur.

4-H Junior Leader's meeting, Monday evening, April 4.

4-H Dairy Banquet, April 7.



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