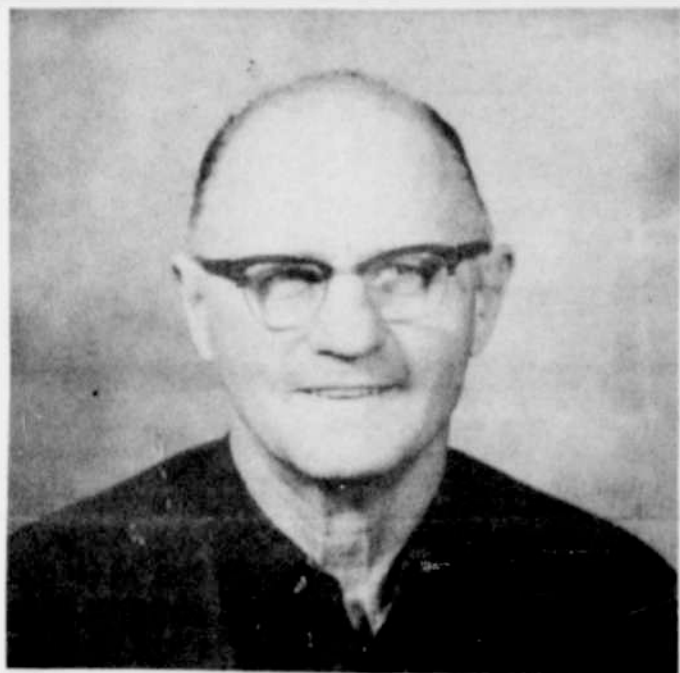


1985 Morrow Soil & Water Conservation District Annual Report

Supplement to the Heppner Gazette-Times and the Boardman Enterprise, October, 1985

Soil & Water Report Dedicated to O.W. Cutsforth



O.W. Cutsforth

A farmer who was dedicated to conserving the soil and used some of the county's conservation measurers has been honored by having this annual soil and water report dedicated in his memory - O.W. Cutsforth.

This year also marks the 50th anniversary of Soil and Water Conservation throughout the United States.

Orville Cutsforth was one of the first landowners to organize a local conservation district. Cutsforth and others had benefited by the Heppner SCS CCC camp between the years of 1935 and 1941.

When the camp disbanded, Cutsforth and others inquired SCS officials on how to start a local district. In 1941, the Heppner Soil Conservation district was formed and Orville was elected vice-chairman.

The Lexington farmer was the first in the county to use the chemical 24D resulting in increase wheat yields. He join other landowners in forming a volunteer blow control association which later became a district. It still exists today and is the oldest of its kind in the state.

Cutsforth's love for the land was shown by his care of saving the soil for future generations to farm. He also loved the mountains, forest, wildlife, and watershed and was dedicated to protecting them for everyone to enjoy.

Education in conservation encouraged

The Morrow Soil and Water Conservation District encourages education in conservation. Each year in May, one week is set aside, known as Soil Stewardship Week. County churches are provided with stewardship materials by the district.

These materials are used at the discretion of each church and are very informative and effectively teach the meaning of soil stewardship. The district will continue this practice as long as there is interest.

The Morrow SWCD also supports the Future Farmers of America. A soil judging contest is held each year in area chapters and the Morrow District contributes to help the winning team go to the state contest.

The lower and middle grades are also included in our effort to educate in the conservation of our natural resources. We will do everything in our power to encourage county schools, churches and organizations to continue the effort, after all, Conservation is our middle name.

Review group recommends changes for ACP handbook

In June the ACP and FIP handbooks went under review, with the following changes recommended for ACP:

Permanent Vegetation Cover Establishment or SLI has had the words "only if the no-till method of planting is used" deleted pending the State Committee's response.

Added to SLI was a cost-share for a mineral at 75 percent of the cost not to exceed COC recommendations. Seedbed preparation and seeding cost not to exceed \$15 per acre at 75 percent cost share.

SL2-Permanent Vegetation Cover Improvement had the cost-share for brush removal changed to 60 percent of the cost.

SL4-Terrace Systems went under the following changes: 60 percent of the cost of moving earth not to

exceed \$36 per linear foot, up to 350' spacing and on 500' to 600' hundred spacing on level terraces only, not to exceed \$54 per linear foot.

SL9-Farmstead and Feedlot Windbreak cost-share reduced to 50 percent of the cost.

SL14-Reduced Tillage System's reads as follows: "Federal cost-share, 50 percent of the cost of chemical and application, not to exceed \$12.50 per acre, farmland treated with an adequate reduced tillage systems."

A new practice was added this year, SP25-Subsoiling with a cost-share of 50 percent of cost not to exceed \$8 per acre.

The County Committee discussed the possibility of designating a certain area of the county that they felt

was critical as far as erosion, and either asking for special funding of setting aside a portion of their allocation to treat the area. Everyone agreed this was a good idea and will be looked into for 1986 FY.

The group also discussed the possibility of using ACP funds for field size trial or test plots for different projects. They feel there is a need for trying different things, such as seedings, herbicides, etc., to get a better knowledge of what may work best in the county. They recommended setting aside \$6,000 for this. The group decided to make this request to the State Committee.

The group recommends that five percent of their funds be transferred to SCS for technical services.

The Morrow County FIP handbook was reviewed and no changes were recommended.

1985

14th Morrow SWCD Annual Meeting

Your Presence is requested at the 14th Morrow SWCD Annual Meeting
Tuesday, November 5, 1985
Lexington, Grange Hall

6:30 P.M. - Potluck dinner
7:30 P.M. - Meeting

The public is cordially invited and urged to attend the dinner and meeting. It promises to be very enjoyable and informative. Main dishes, rolls and beverage will be provided, those attending are asked to bring salad or dessert.

Program

The program includes State Representative Raymond French, and Port of Morrow Manager, Steve Lindstrom who will address the following: 1) Current activities of Port of Morrow; 2) Future opportunities for economic development; 3) Federal activities that will impact waterways as avenues for international trade.