



Madison County Soil Conservation District

ANNUAL REPORT

1983

Forty-two years ago the Madison County Soil Conservation District and the Soil Conservation Service began a partnership to promote improved land management and sound conservation methods while controlling soil erosion. A Board of Supervisors was selected from local landowners to direct the county's soil conservation program with assistance of professional employees of the Soil Conservation Service. The objectives of the district have changed very little over the past forty-two years with soil erosion control still being a major problem.

The District Board of Supervisors consists of Franklin James, Chairman; Jimmy Stanford, Vice-Chairman; Jimmy Bond, Secretary-Treasurer; J. E. Mullis and Swanee Lawrence, board members, all local landowners. Maxine Blankenship, district secretary, and Benton James, district technician are employed by the district, in cooperation with Madison County, to run the office and work with farmers.

The Soil Conservation Service provides professional conservationists, help with some special cost-share programs, and help other USDA agencies carry out their conservation related programs. The staff in 1983; Paul Aydelott, district conservationist; Bobby Clifford, Melinda Turner and Marilyn Stowell, soil conservationist.

A district advisory board was named to assist with some decisions, these members were Tom Turner, Bill Wilbur, Homer Jones, Betty Woods and Murry Buntin.

In 1983 over 275 landowners received assistance through the district on over 15,500 acres of land, landowners made plans to use enough conservation practices to reduce erosion to negligible levels. Over 5360 acres of conservation tillage was used last year at least partially as a result of the districts program. In total, the 970 individual services to landowners caused benefits for conservation on 10,000 acres of cropland. Of the 20,000 acres of all farm types benefited, over 6,900 acres were rendered free of erosion problems.

SUPERVISORS

FRANKLIN JAMES
Chairman

JIMMY STANFORD
Vice-Chairman

JIMMY BOND
Secretary-Treasurer

J.E. MULLIS
Member

JOHNNY WOOLFOLK
Member

Through the Chickasaw-Shiloh Resource Conservation and Development Project the district obligated about \$20,000 for critical erosion in Clover Creek near Medon.

Plans and specifications were prepared to assist the Madison County Highway Department sow fescue and sericea on 10 acres of eroding county roadbanks in 1983. The district paid 75 percent of the cost through Chickasaw-Shiloh RC&D funds from the Soil Conservation Service and the same is planned for 1984.

In 1984 the elements of the districts program will be similar to 1983, neither the problems nor solutions have changed significantly; "targeting" of funds and personnel will continue. The Madison-Cypress Creek Land Treatment plan should be completed and approved. Services to other areas of the county should continue at the same or slightly higher levels in 1984.

Both the Soil Conservation Service and the Madison County Soil Conservation District provide service to farmers, homeowners, land renters, or other land users without regard to race, creed, sex or national origin. The Soil Conservation office is located at 313 N. Parkway in Jackson, telephone number 668-8866. Office hours are 7:30-5:00 Monday thru Friday.



Franklin James
Chairman