

MADISON COUNTY
SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT
ANNUAL REPORT
1990

In 1990 the District continued to direct its efforts toward the provisions of the 1985 Food Security Act (FSA). During the year the District helped farmers develop FSA plans on approximately 100 farms that were not participating in Federal farm programs in 1989. Fifty farm plans had to be altered or replanned due to reconstitutions, i.e., additions of land to, or subtraction of land from, a farm. Information on 150 farm plans had to be re-entered into the computer due to such data being lost when the district changed from the DOS operating system to the UNIX operating system.


Although the re-entering of the lost data took a lot of time, the UNIX system is much more efficient. To further aid in the entry and processing of data the District acquired 4 computer terminals.

In conjunction with FSA planning the District made determination on 1,000 farms as to the existence of wetlands under the definition of the swampbusting provision of FSA. We now have wetland determinations on all farms participating in Federal farm programs.

Jan. 1, 1990 marked the beginning of the 5 year period of FSA plan implementation, and by Dec. 31, 1990 the District had certified 16,500 acres on 200 farms as fully implemented. To assist the farmers with the implementation of their plans the District provided technical assistance in the construction of over 150,000 feet of terraces in addition to other conservation practices.

In 1990 the state provided the District with the part-time services of Doug Taylor to assist with the work in Madison Cypress Creek watershed. The District also obtained Bryan Guinn to help in the field and office during the summer. Shay Williams was hired again this year as a part-time clerical worker. On the down side the District lost the services of Leslie Aycock, who was promoted to District Conservationist and transferred to Union County.

In November the District held its annual awards banquet. Receiving an award in recognition of his cooperation with the District was Mark Smith. The Northside FFA soil judging team was recognized as the top high school soil judging team in the county. Guests and honorees were served a catered meal, and Ray Bryant, of the lower Mississippi Delta Commission, gave a presentation on the Delta Commission findings.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Franklin James". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name and title.

FRANKLIN JAMES
CHAIRMAN

NOTE: Benton James & Maxine Blankenship District Technician & Secretary.