

MADISON COUNTY SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT
ANNUAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1993

During 1993 nearly half of the District's plans were found to be technically inadequate as determined by a computer program devised within the state. Thus in 1993, many District cooperators were once again notified that their plans had to be revised. Once again there was an eminent deadline placed on the staff to have the job done. Once again the mission was accomplished.

At the end of 1993 nearly 670 District cooperators had current, and hopefully technically correct, conservation farm plans on 90,000 acres of Highly Erodible Land. This translates into 5,565 fields, on 1,707 tracts, on 1,290 farms having up-to-date plans that meet or exceed SCS guidelines for acceptable levels of soil loss. In 1993 there were 11,292 acres enrolled in the Conservation Reserve Program. 8,925 acres were used for agricultural set-aside. 13,391 acres were cropped utilizing Reduced Tillage methods. 9,499 acres were farmed along the contour of the land. 26,573 acres were protected over the winter months by winter cover crops while 26,719 acres were protected over the winter months by the residue of the previous year's crop.

In 1993 \$19,000 was divided among 50 cooperators who participated in the District's No-Till Cotton Incentive Program. Funding for the program was provided by a grant from the Tennessee Department of Agriculture (TDA) for the purpose of funding Best Management Practices. The District applied for and was awarded an additional \$15,000 grant from TDA for 1994. The funds will be used once again for the purpose of promoting no-till cotton.

Early in 1993 USDA selected 112 tracts within the District to be reviewed by SCS personnel for plan compliance. To reduce bias, SCS personnel stationed in surrounding Districts were detailed to our District while SCS personnel stationed in our District were detailed to other Districts. The end results of the review found all of the 112 tracts reviewed to be in compliance.

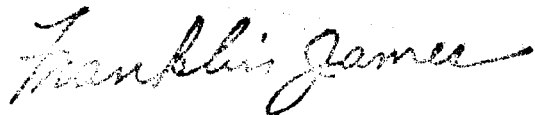
After building over 170,000 feet of terraces in 1992 (a banner year) the District constructed less than 50,000 feet of terraces in 1993. One District cooperator did install a concrete block chute to control an unstable grade. This was the first such structure to be installed in the District and one of only a hand-full in west Tennessee.

An alternate plan to streamline USDA where SCS would be combined with ASCS, verses SCS being left separate from ASCS, inspired a letter writing campaign. District staff, District supervisors and everyone else interested in keeping SCS apart of ASCS wrote letters to there representatives denouncing the alternate plan. Further congressional action on this matter is scheduled this coming year.

SCS assigned a new truck to the office in 1993 and retired one. This left the office with three good trucks. Funds from auditorium and garden rentals at the Ag. Complex were used to wall paper the office. At the end of the year all of the buildings in the AG. Complex were in the process of being re-roofed.

This was the first year in many years that the office finished the year with the same staff that it had at the start of the year. Thanks go out to staff members Brad Denton, Cathey Jones, Julie Swift, Maxine Blankenship, Sharon Williams, and Benton James. The board remained the same in 1993. Waring Hazlehurst was reappointed to another term on the SCD board. Thanks go out to board members Franklin James, Waring Hazlehurst, Jimmy Bond, J.E. Mullis and Terry Moore.

The District board voted to move the District's annual banquet from November to February with hopes more cooperators will be able to attend. The board selected Allen Verell as the District's Conservation Farmer of the Year. The award will be presented to Allen at the banquet. Congratulations go out to Allen.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Franklin James". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned centrally on the page.

Franklin James, Chairman SCD