The Parshall flume for water conservation
E. Gordon Kruse and Wayne O. Willis recount the development of a device that has proven indispensable to water management.

Soil erosion assessment for conservation policymaking
S. J. Perrens and N. A. Trustrum describe an assessment procedure that can help policymakers determine agricultural development options.

Commentary: On planning and zoning
Frederick Steiner discusses the efficacy of good planning and zoning.

Research reports

Conservation tillage methods and long-run farm income: Implications for soil erosion control policies
Daniel B. Taylor and Douglas L. Young

Crop rotations and manure versus agricultural chemicals in dryland grain production
Warren W. Sahs and Gary Lesoing

Impact of agricultural drainage wells on groundwater quality
J. L. Baker, R. S. Kanwar, and T. A. Austin

Regional targeting of potential soil erosion and nonpoint-source sediment loading
Elizabeth A. Snell

Performance of water and sediment control basins in northeastern Nebraska
L. N. Mielke

Farmland protection as a community development issue: Alabama farmer and landowner perspectives
Joseph J. Molnar

Departments

Viewpoint: Tax reform to achieve soil conservation
Chuck Hassebrook and Devorah Lanner discuss how the federal tax system works at cross purposes with soil conservation efforts.

Recreational access to private land: Beyond the liability hurdle
Ronald A. Kaiser and Brett A. Wright explain the legal questions to be dealt with in opening private land to public use for outdoor recreation.

Dusting off the sodbuster issue
Paul C. Huszar interprets the results of a new survey on why eastern Colorado farmers convert rangeland to cropland.

Protecting agricultural land in the Bluegrass
Robert J. Southerland and Thomas J. Nieman evaluate attempts in Fayette County, Kentucky, to protect the region's horse and tobacco farms.

Cover: Public access to private land for snowmobiling and other outdoor recreational purposes is inhibited by landowner concern about liability questions (see page 478). Soil Conservation Service photo by Erv Cole.