November-December, 1987
Volume 42, Number 6
To advance the science and art of good land use

Features

382 Viewpoint: Political forces shaping range management
Gerald W. Thomas
questions USAID priorities on range resources in third-world countries

384 Removing impediments to water markets
B. Delworth Gardner says it's time to eliminate what constraints remain to the purchase and sale of water

389 Interbasin water diversion: A Canadian perspective
Frank Quinn relates current Canadian thinking on the impacts and implications of moving water from one river basin to another.

394 Soil conservation down under
E. G. Hallsworth outlines soil and water conservation problems and their solutions in Australia

401 Worms and water
W. D. Kemper, T. J. Trout, Antone Segeren, and Murray Bullock explain how earthworms can enhance soil water management

405 Rodero Creek: Rising water on the high desert
Sherman Swanson, Dave Franzen, and Mary Manning discuss the successful reclamation of a wet meadow in Nevada

408 Interdisciplinary workshops: A hands-on approach to teacher education
Timothy F. McKay tells how one SWCS chapter organized a successful conservation education program

Commentary

410 Coping with ungrowth: Lessons from the other Colorado
Charles E. Little offers reasons for hope to rural communities

412 Reduced-input agriculture reduces nonpoint pollution
Eugene P. Odum says nonpoint pollution can only be controlled by properly managing agricultural inputs

414 Soil and water conservation: From here to where?
Congressman Jim Jeffords calls for more corporate support of soil and water conservation programs

Research reports

427 An economic analysis of agricultural nonpoint pollution control alternatives
Parveen Setia and Richard Magleby

431 Conservation tillage: Perceived and actual use
Elbert C. Dickey, Paul J. Jasa, Bryn J. Dolesh, Lisa A. Brown, and S. Kay Rockwell

435 Consideration of risk in soil conservation analysis
Parveen P. Setia

438 Grass and forb species for revegetation of mixed soil-lignite overburden in East Central Texas
J.G. Skousen and C. A. Call

442 Soil water regimes of loamy sands and sandy loams on arid rangelands in southern New Mexico
Carlton H. Herbel and Robert P. Gibbens

447 Infiltration into a seasonally frozen agricultural soil
John F. Zuzel and J. L. Pikul, Jr.

450 Relationship of vegetation type and slope gradient to trail erosion in interior Alaska
Alan Jubenville and Kevin O'Sullivan

Departments

378 The SWCS View

380 Pen points

416 In the news

423 Professional services & classifieds

424 Upcoming

425 Books, etc.

453 Index to Volume 42

Cover: Sunset over Carlyle Lake in Illinois. Photo by Wayne Michael Lottinville.
Spreading the gospel of conservation is important.

People must also convince others that managing natural resources is important.

The range problems facing society is the general attitude concerning the importance of public’s ignorance about natural resource management and their people’s apathetic attitude toward managing natural resources.

Overgrazed rangeland, polluted groundwater, or fire-ravaged forest and their own well-being. People are no longer closely associated with the natural resources that provide for food they eat and fertile agricultural land.

Over the past decades, in the early years of the conservation movement, starting with Theodore Roosevelt, Gifford Pinchot, Aldo Leopold, and several others, a major concern was to ensure a resource base for our grandchildren and great-grandchildren that was as good or better than what we inherited.

We hope to be heard. The first is technical communication and economic points of view. Part of the view be included when major decisions pose, measures that manage resources for the resource manager.

There is now and will continue to be a need for resource managers to believe that resource wealth that benefits us today, appear to be food surpluses! How, then, can the natural resource manager affect natural resource use be managed toward managing natural resources?

If the public won't believe us or listen to what we have to say. The second is the “right” answers if the public won't be impressed with our work and think it important, they are likely to “catch” that dull, boring, unenthusiastic advocator. Is good advice. Few people get excited about what we are saying and believe that what we are saying is important, they are likely to “catch” that dull, boring, unenthusiastic advocator. Is good advice. Few people get excited about what we are saying and believe that what we are saying is important, they are likely to “catch” that dull, boring, unenthusiastic advocator.

Without a genuine interest in their work and go about performing it with enthusiasm. We should adopt a constructive attitude and be optimistic in the approach we take to our profession. People in North America have always been told their agricultural and animal life. To this end, SWCS seeks to promote the science and art of conservation of soil, water, air, and related natural resources, including all forms of beneficial plant and animal life. To this end, SWCS seeks through the Journal of Soil and Water Conservation and other programs to educate people so that mankind can use and enjoy natural resources forever.

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Must have been first-rate!

The September-October 1987 issue of the JSWC reminded me that I was not yet finished with regretting the fact I missed the annual meeting in Billings, Montana. The program committee, as verified by the quality of those general session addresses reproduced in the JSWC, did a mean job of selecting speakers with a high purpose:

Christine Olsenius—the welcome voice of a cosmopolite on that most cosmopolitan molecule of life, H2O.

B. Neil Sampson—scout par excellence in reading the trail signs of change, challenge, and conservation mission.

Charles F. Wilkinson—awesome testimony for the active use of conservation law. The most relevant advice for soil conservation I’ve heard in 20 years—my nominee to the Supreme Court.

Marty Strange—provoked beyond appeasement by agriculture’s false prophets and their false profits.

No platitudes, perhapses, or hide-your-time from these folks.

Also, from a grey-colored sidebar flashed another beacon: “If the stewardship of the land I oversee does not exemplify the land ethic I profess, I have no excuse. If the scholarship of this Society does not express a land ethic in constructive action, neither do you.” When I doubt, and I often do, the power of communication, I must remember Charles McLaughlin out there in Britt, Iowa, obviously never does.

Dale Marsh
Madison, Wisconsin

New tools for training reclamation inspectors

Two new handbooks are now available to help you train reclamation inspectors in hydrology, soils, and revegetation as they relate to surface mining and reclamation.

A Manual for Training Reclamation Inspectors in the Fundamentals of Soils and Revegetation covers subjects ranging from overburden characteristics to revegetating coal surface-mined lands. The chapters suggest ways to handle plant growth media, describe special soil considerations, explain how to revegetate barren lands, and evaluate the reclamation success. $12 per copy, postpaid.

A Manual for Training Reclamation Inspectors in the Fundamentals of Hydrology includes chapters on permit application information, water quality control, inspection procedures, and more. The book describes clues and indicators of potential mining and reclamation problems, suggests ways to prevent or mitigate those problems, and discusses various observations and sampling techniques. $6.00 per copy, postpaid.

States must act

In 1919, I took a vow to work for rural development for as long as I live. This has included everything I thought would be a benefit for mankind. For five years I have written to all of the governors of the United States and its possessions. The governors should be the ones to take charge of the soil and water programs through soil conservation districts and substate planning districts. My reasons for wanting the governors to form the association is because they are closer to the problems in the precincts than the White House or Congress.

I wish to quote Christine Olsenius from the September-October 1987 issue of the JSWC, page 314. “States will be the nerve center for soil and water management. The Water Quality Act of 1987 stresses that states will replace federal agencies in the development and management of nonpoint-source pollution control programs. Water quality is tied to land use, and land use is a state and local issue.”

Lloyd E. Church, D.D.S.
Wilburton, Oklahoma

Hectares vs. tareas

The purpose of this letter is to call your attention to a mistake in one of the articles which appeared in the September-October 1987 issue of the JSWC. The article entitled “Factors related to adoption of soil conservation practices in the Dominican Republic” (pp. 367-369) has errors in tables 1 and 2. The equivalent of the Dominican land unit (tarea) with the hectare is wrong. A tarea is equal to 629 square meters or 1 tarea = 0.062 hectare or 1 hectare = 16 tareas.

We are sure that you want to have accuracy in the scientific data presented in the widely read JSWC. Our interest is to contribute to the accuracy of information generated in the Dominican Republic.

Raymond N. Gallaher and Jose R. Espaillat
Department of Agronomy
University of Florida
Gainesville, Florida
General


Community Involvement Critical for Conservation in Australia: Summary and Recommendations from the National Study of District Soil Conservation Advisory Committees. By S. Chamala and R. C. Maurer. 23 pp., ref., 1986. Department of Agriculture, University of Queensland, St. Lucia, Brisbane, Australia. 4067. $5.00.


The Productive and Erosive Palouse Environment. By Frederick Steiner. 42 pp., illus., 1987. Cooperative Extension, College of Agriculture & Home Economics, Washington State University, Pullman, $3.00.

In Search of Soil Conservation Strategies in Canada. Edited by D. W. Anderson. 214 pp., app., 1987. Department of Soil Science, University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon, SK, S7N 0W0. $25.00.

Correction

The September-October 1987 issue of the JSWC incorrectly listed the publication USDA—Water Erosion Prediction Project (WEPP): User Requirements as a publication of the National Research Council. It is a U.S. Department of Agriculture publication available from the USDA-ARS, National Soil Erosion Research Laboratory, Purdue University, West Lafayette, Indiana 47906.