

### SOIL CONSERVATION NEWS

By JAMES H. GRIFFIN, Soil Conservationist

This is a busy time of the year for all farmers. As one farmer stated it, "There are a thousand and one things to do every day." He is almost right about farming the year around. Good farmers always are busy and if every job that needed to be done was done a farmer would work many more than 10 hours per day, six days a week.

Conservation farming is the major job of almost all farmers. It is necessary because conservation farming means, "to use every acre of land within its capability and treat it according to its needs."

Conservation plans were prepared on four farms last month. They were the farms of T. C. Roberts and Clarence Holley of Greenhall and R. T. Harrell of Valhalla. Planned on these farms were drainage systems, conservation crop rotations, woodland practices, pastures and wildlife conservation practices. In planning a farm all factors are considered such as the need for the practice, the economics, feasibility, and the personal preference of the landowner. The conservation plan is what the farmer or district cooperator decides for his farm. These plans are really plans of operations for the district cooperator to follow in operating his farm at maximum efficiency.

Others who have conservation plans prepared on their farms this year are Gilliam Wood of Edenton, Ralph Van Matre of Greenfield, Clarence Lupton and A. C. Griffin of Edenton, Lynn Perry and T. S. Leary of Valhalla, Jimmy and Yates Parrish of Edenton, J. B. Hollowell of Crossroads.

Soil survey maps have been prepared on a number of farms, among them are: T. E. Ward, J. D. Ward, G. S. Goodwin, Harry A. Davenport, John E. Cope and T. R. Harrell, Gilliam Wood, Leary Bros., T. L. Evans, Charlie Roberts, C. Edna Asbell, O. C. Coffield, E. D. Byrum, J. H. Bunch, J. B. Bunch, W. L. Peele, Dr. H. E. Nixon and many others. Conservation plans will be prepared on these farms as soon as time permits.

T. O. Asbell has carried out part of his conservation plan even before the plan is completed. He has installed most of his open ditch drainage system and prepared a sod waterway. This sod waterway is the first such practice in Chowan County. A sod waterway is a sod stripe seeded where surface water accumulates and runs off the field. These are the spots in the field where rows break during heavy rains. The sod protects the field by preventing erosions or washing. Many other farmers in Chowan County could use these sod strips. Mr. Asbell's sod strips is 0.3 acres in size. He fertilized it heavy using 500 pounds of 5-10-10 fertilizer.

For sod he used Kobe lespedeza, Sericea lespedeza and Pensacola Bahia grass. This should provide a dense sod quick.

Thomas Wood of Mulberry Hill is having an irrigation pond dug on his farm. This pond will provide 2.8 acre-feet of water. With a good re-charge rate, as expected, 8-1 acres can be irrigated from this pond. Mr. Wood is going to build a diversion to keep surface water from running over the sides of the pond and filling the pond with silt.

A grass border will be seeded around the pond. Ponds and ditches will quickly fill with washed-in soil if water is allowed to flow from the field into the pond or ditch. Many farmers are finding this to be true.

Good planning pays . . . so let's do some planning of the conservation practices needed on your farm.

#### Four Students Given Varsity Club Trophies

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Henry Overton, reportedly having only a slight lead over Bruce White and David Fletcher, was awarded the trophy for being the most outstanding football player during the year. The trophy was presented by Nick George.

Billy Cook Griffin won the basketball trophy for his performance on the court, with the presentation made by Alton Brooks.

Claude Barnett was voted the most outstanding in baseball and the trophy was presented by Coach Bill Billings.

Rosa Hollowell won the girl's basketball trophy, which was presented by William Cozart of the Varsity Club.

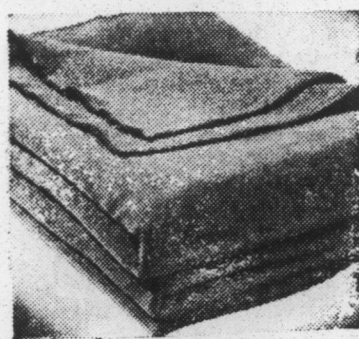
During the program certificates of participation were awarded athletes by Coaches Billings, Brooks and Miss Colleen Ward, and the championship football team received a gold football.

Mrs. Wood Privott, regent of the Edenton Tea Party Chapter of the DAR, presented the junior high citizenship award to Jeanette Ashley and an award to Neta Lowe of the seventh grade for excelling in American history. Attendance certificates were also presented by Principal Gerald James.

Jack Bunch, student government president, presided and the invocation was by John Mitchener.

**TOWN COUNCIL MEETING**  
Town Council will hold its June meeting Tuesday night, June 10, at 8 o'clock in the Municipal Building. The Councilmen met in special session Wednesday night of this week to consider the 1958-59 budget.

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