



ON THE LEVEL

Volume 53 - Issue 1 Winter 1997

LICKING COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

District Welcomes Jim Kiracofe



James R. Kiracofe has been named District Program Administrator for the Licking Soil and Water Conservation District, effective January 6, 1997.

Born and raised in Allen County, Ohio, Jim has been a self-employed farmer since 1972. For five years he farmed in partnership

with his father in Allen County before purchasing a farm in Licking County near Utica. Continuing to work with his father in Allen County, his farming enterprise includes corn, soybeans, hay as well as specialty crops. He also feeds beef cattle. Jim has a Bachelor of Science Degree in Animal Science and a Masters of Science Degree in Farm Management.

Active in community volunteering, Jim has served as Chairman of the Extension Advisory Committee, Committee Chairman of the Utica Boy Scout Troop 28, Farm Credit Advisory Board, Farm Bureau, North Fork School Gifted Committee and Sunday School Treasurer of the Eden Church of Christ. Along with his father, he was among the first in Ohio to practice no-till farming.

The Supervisors and Staff of the Licking SWCD are pleased to welcome Jim to this leadership position in the District.

Crop Day to be Held January 20

Northridge High School, 6066 Johnstown Utica Road, is the site for the Winter Corn and Soybean Conference on Monday, January 20. The program kicks off at 8:30 a.m., with adjournment at 2:30 p.m.

The Agenda:

8:30 Registration/Trade Show opens. Coffee and doughnuts will be available courtesy of the Licking SWCD Auxiliary.

Vendors including seed and chemical companies and agribusinesses will be present.

9:30 Mary Lou Rauch, R.N., Occupational Health Care, Ltd will present a short program on the proper use of chemical protective clothing. (See page 2 for more information.)

9:50 Sclerotinia White Mold in Soybeans - Where we are in terms of managing this disease - suggestions for the 1997 planting season in handling these concerns - Dr. Jim Beurlein, OSU Extension Agronomist

10:35 EQIP-Environmental Quality Incentive Program - What does this program have to offer local farmers in row crop production? - Mark Smith, NRCS

11:20 Weed Control Update - Insecticide control update, new products - Howard J. Siegrist, Extension Agent, Agriculture

12:00 Lunch - \$6.00 with ticket purchased prior to 11:00 a.m. Cost includes a copy of the OSU Weed Control Handbook

1:45 Panel Discussion - What we learned from the 1996 Season that will make us better managers in row crop production in the future - Dave Brandt, Fairfield County and Ed Piar, Knox County

2:00 Trade Show Reopens



In this issue. . . .

- Welcome, Jim Kiracofe
- Wildlife Packets - Order by March 27
- Corn and Soybean Conference, January 20
- 319 Grant Extended
- EQIP

What's Happening?

For the Health of It!

(Crop Day, continued)

Occupational Health Care will provide an \$11.00 Chemzymet blood test which provides information on organ functions and cholesterol levels. Blood pressure checks and tetanus shots will be available as well for a small fee. This is a community effort made available to you from 9:00 - 2:00 the day of the show.

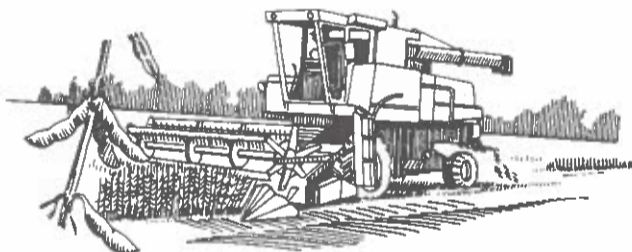
1996 Yield Contest Results

Results from the Licking SWCD's thirteenth annual yield contest were announced at the District's Annual Meeting. This year's contest was changed to include conservation tillage fields, as well as no-till. Conservation tillage fields are defined as having a minimum of 30% residue cover on the surface following planting.

The corn contest results were: Top Overall, Phil Watts, on less than 1% slope, 185.85 bu/ac; Highest on Sloping Land, Sorg Dairy, 8% slope, 172.64; Second Place Sloping Land, Ron Walsh, 7% slope, 133.59; and Second Place Level Land, Jim Kiracofe, 1% slope, 131.33.

Soybean contest results: (1) Jim Kiracofe, 56.95 bu/ac; (2) Sorg Dairy, 56.60; and (3) Scott Mowrey, 47.29.

The drawing for the grand prize, a \$500 savings bond, was won by Rodney Newell. The savings bond was provided through donations from AgriGeneral, Mt. Vernon Farmer's Exchange, Mike Holmes Trucking and Farm Credit. Thank you to these sponsors for the support they give us for the contest.



New Address:

ODNR Service Forester Rich Cappell has moved his office to the Newark area. To contact him, you may leave a voice mail message at 345-9705. His mailing address is P O Box 751, Newark, Ohio 43058-0751.

You Won't Want to Miss...

Household Hazardous Waste Day for spring '97 is now in the planning stages. Watch for more information in the next District newsletter and your local newspapers.

Ohio Woodland Steward Training Offered

Ohio Woodland Steward Program will be offered on March 12-14. Location will be New Lexington, and includes two field trips.

The program provides 25 hours of intensive training in woodland management. Registration fee is \$60, and includes refreshments and resource materials. Interested landowners are encouraged to register before March 3. Pre-registration is required. Contact the Extension office (349-6900) or Edward Smith at 16714 SR 215, Caldwell, Ohio 43724 (614-732-2381).

Wildlife Packets Available

It's not too early to start thinking about Spring!

The District has revamped its wildlife packets for 1997 to provide a wider variety to local landusers. Along with traditional species, the District offers ornamental and nut tree packets, and Homeowner packets with shrubs such as lilac, forsythia and holly. English Ivy and bluebird boxes are newly available, and the popular Shiitake Mushrooms are back. Also offered for the first time in quantities of 20 each, are favorites Blue Spruce and White Pine.

Ordering deadline is March 27. Use the order form in this newsletter, or contact the District office (349-6920) for additional forms.

Nut Trees	# of trees
Butternut	10
Black Walnut	10

Hardwood Trees	# of trees
Red Oak	10
Sugar Maple	10

Homeowner I	# of trees
Blue Spruce	3
Forsythia	3
Hazelnut	3
Lilac	3

Homeowner II	# of trees
American Holly	3
Thornless Honeyloc.	3
Ohio Buckeye	3
White Dogwood	3

Pine Trees	# of trees
White Pine	10
Austrian Pine	10
Norway Spruce	10
Blue Spruce	10
Scotch Pine	10

Blue Spruce Trees	# of trees
Blue Spruce	20

White Pine Trees	# of trees
White Pine	20

All stock is state and federal inspected necessary for us to make reasonable su based on availability of certain species

See Tree and Shrub Species Descr Reverse Side

1997 Tree Packet Order

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Deadline For Ordering is March 27,

SEND PAYMENT TO: Licking SWCD Aux.
771 East Main Street Suite 10
Newark, OH 43055

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 Licking County Office
 771 East Main St., Suite 102
 Newark, Ohio Ph. 349-6960
 Mon. - Fri. 8-4:30
 Serving All Agriculture Credit Needs

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IN THE
INTEREST OF
CONSERVATION

**WENS
NING**

Farm Credit Services

Licking County Office
771 East Main St., Suite 102
Newark, Ohio Ph. 349-6960
Mon. - Fri. 8-4:30
Serving All Agriculture Credit Needs

1997 Wildlife Packets

<u>Nut Trees</u>	<u># of trees</u>	<u>size</u>
Butternut	10	6"-12"
Black Walnut	10	6"-12"

<u>Hardwood Trees</u>	<u># of trees</u>	<u>size</u>
Red Oak	10	6"-12"
Sugar Maple	10	6"-12"

<u>Homeowner I</u>	<u># of trees</u>	<u>size</u>
Blue Spruce	3	6"-12"
Forsythia	3	6"-12"
Hazelnut	3	6"-12"
Lilac	3	6"-12"

<u>Homeowner II</u>	<u># of trees</u>	<u>size</u>
American Holly	3	6"-12"
Thornless Honeyloc.	3	6"-12"
Ohio Buckeye	3	6"-12"
White Dogwood	3	6"-12"

<u>Pine Trees</u>	<u># of trees</u>	<u>size</u>
White Pine	10	6"-12"
Austrian Pine	10	6"-12"
Norway Spruce	10	6"-12"
Blue Spruce	10	6"-12"
Scotch Pine	10	6"-12"

<u>Blue Spruce Trees</u>	<u># of trees</u>	<u>size</u>
Blue Spruce	20	6"-12"

<u>White Pine Trees</u>	<u># of trees</u>	<u>size</u>
White Pine	20	6"-12"

All stock is state and federal inspected. It may be necessary for us to make **reasonable substitutions** based on availability of certain species.

See Tree and Shrub Species Descriptions on Reverse Side

CROWNVETCH (25 Crownvetch Crowns)
Crownvetch is a perennial legume with dark green foliage and pinkish lavender to white clusters of flowers. Plants obtain a height of 12 to 18 inches with flowers from June through September. Crownvetch has the unique ability to establish and persist on poor soils. Its best use is for erosion control and slope stabilization. It is also used in landscaping and decorating around industrial sites, as well as individual homes.

SHIITAKE MUSHROOMS
Enjoy fresh gourmet mushrooms year round with our Shiitake Mushroom Growing Kit. The Shiitake has been a prized delicacy for Japan and China for centuries, it has also become very popular in the United States over the past 20 years. Shiitake has a firm texture and "meaty" flavor. It is delicious sliced and sauteed as an appetizer. Kids young and old love to watch them grow! Kit includes spawn plugs, bees wax, tags, dauber and directions.

WILDFLOWER SEEDS (Plants 25 sq. ft.)
The wildflower seed mix, available this year, is composed of annual and perennial species that will produce an extravagant array of color in wet or dry environments. The wildflower mix easily germinates and adapts to a wide variety of climatic and soil conditions. Each wildflower seed packet contains enough seed to plant approximately 25 square feet.

ENGLISH IVY (25 English Ivy Crowns)
A very hardy plant with dark green leaves. Grows 6-8 inches as a ground cover. Easy to plant, does well in any soil condition and in full sun or shade. 25 bareroot crowns to a bundle. One bundle will plant 25 square feet.

BLUE BIRD BOXES
Help re-establish the Bluebird population by installing your own Bluebird boxes. The boxes will provide the Bluebird with a home for many years.

----- ✂ ----- **Clip and Mail** -----

1997 Tree Packet Order Form

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Phone _____

Deadline For Ordering is March 27, 1997

SEND PAYMENT TO: Licking SWCD Aux.
771 East Main Street Suite 100
Newark, OH 43055

Pine Trees	No. _____	\$14.00 _____
Blue Spruce Trees	No. _____	\$ 7.00 _____
White Pine Trees	No. _____	\$ 7.00 _____
Homeowner I	No. _____	\$12.00 _____
Homeowner II	No. _____	\$12.00 _____
Nut Trees	No. _____	\$16.00 _____
Hardwood Trees	No. _____	\$14.00 _____
Crownvetch	No. _____	\$ 7.00 _____
English Ivy	No. _____	\$ 7.00 _____
Wildflower Seeds	No. _____	\$ 1.75 _____
Shiitake Mushrooms	No. _____	\$25.00 _____
Bluebird Box	No. _____	\$ 6.00 _____

Total Amt. Enclosed: _____

Thank You, Don and Leonard

The Licking SWCD Staff and Board of Supervisors extend their thanks to Don Todd and Leonard Wogan, who are both retiring from the Board at the end of 1996. Both Don and Leonard served for three terms (9 years), and chose not to run for reelection.

Thank you both for your valuable leadership in the preservation efforts of Licking County.

Don Todd, left, and Leonard Wogan, right



Welcome, Roger and John

The Board's two newest members are Roger Lees and John W. Slater. Elected at the District's Annual Meeting, Roger and John will begin their three-year terms on January 1.

Congratulations, and welcome aboard to both!

Roger Lees, left and John W. Slater, right



1996 Annual Meeting Supporters

Thank you to the following companies and individuals for their donations and support of the Annual Meeting, and throughout the year:

Financed Drainage Systems, AgriGeneral Company L.P., B & B Tractor, Inc., Bowerston Shale, County Savings Bank, DuPont Agricultural Products, Edie Trucking, Englefield Oil Company, Farm Credit Services, Finton Equipment, Granville Milling Co., H. W. Martin & Son Co., Holmes Trucking, Bob Wise (Licking County Recorder), McCoy Petroleum Co., Mt. Vernon Farmer's Exchange, Nationwide Insurance, Park National Bank, Pioneer Hi-Bred International, and Phil Watts (Pioneer Seeds).

Species Descriptions

WHITE PINE

(*Pinus strobus*)

This is a large conifer. Needles are always 5 to a cluster and 2 1/2 - 5 inches long. This fast growing pine is an excellent choice for wind breaks. Our best pine for lumber.

AUSTRIAN PINE

(*Pinus nigra*)

A fast growing two-needle pine with long stiff, dark green needles. Good for windbreaks and screen planting.

COLORADO BLUE SPRUCE

(*Picea pungens*)

Grows to a beautiful tree. Fine for ornamental and Christmas trees. Has short needles typical of the spruces. Green to deep blue in color.

SCOTCH PINE

(*Pinus sylvestris*)

A cone-bearing pine with medium length blue green needles grown primarily for Christmas trees. Will reach Christmas tree size in 5-7 years. Thrives on poorer, sandy soils as well as better loams.

NORWAY SPRUCE

(*Picea abies*)

Grows to a large beautiful tree. Shape is conical. Has large cones. Grows best in fertile soil with ample moisture.

SUGAR MAPLE

(*Acer saccharum*)

A native hardwood of the Eastern United States. Large leaves turn fiery red in the fall. Principal uses are maple syrup, lumber, and firewood.

BLACK WALNUT

(*Juglans nigra*)

Large tree of the Eastern United States. Produces 1 1/2" to 2 1/2" edible nuts usually in pairs. Commercial uses include furniture, veneer, and lumber. The Black Walnut tree is also the most popular wood chosen for gun stocks.

RED OAK

(*Quercus rubra*)

Large tree of Eastern United States. Bark is dark, furrowed, often laced with broad shiny strips. Principal uses are lumber, furniture, cabinet work, veneer, and shade.

OHIO BUCKEYE

(*Aesculus glabra*)

Ohio's state tree, noted for its fruit and yellow bell-shaped flowers. This tree can reach a maximum height of 40 feet. Primary uses include ornamental planting.

THORNLESS HONEYLOCUST

(*Gleditsia triacanthos inermis*)

This fast growing tree has beautiful fernlike foliage 6-8 inches long that turn a pale yellow in the fall. Grows best in well drained soil and can grow to be 35 - 70 feet tall.

WHITE FLOWERING DOGWOOD

(*Cornus florida*)

This tree makes an excellent landscape specimen. Large white blooms in the spring are followed by dark green leaves in the summer. Best suited for full sun or partial shade. Reaches nearly 25 feet.

LILAC

(*Syringa vulgaris*)

Fast growing shrub that blooms with large clusters of very fragrant blue-violet flowers. Grows best in full sun. Can grow as tall as 15 feet.

FORSYTHIA

(*X intermedia spectabilis*)

A vigorous growing shrub with long arching branches that display beautiful yellow blooms in April. This plant thrives in full sun or partial shade. They can grow up to 8 feet tall.

HAZELNUT

(*Corylus americana*)

A strong multi stemmed shrub. Known mostly for its tasty fruits that mature from September to October. Needs more than one plant to produce fruit. Grows best in well drained soil with full sun or shade. Can grow 15 to 18 feet tall with spreads 2/3 of the height.

BUTTERNUT

(*Juglans cinerea*)

Produces edible fruits similar to the Black Walnut. Fruits are somewhat oblong and sticky. The lumber is light in weight and color. Although the lumber is weak, it is easily worked and polished. This tree will grow 15 - 30 feet tall.

Ordering Deadline

Deadline for ordering is March 27, 1997. There is no limit to the number of packets you may order. However, payment must be included with your order, and orders will be processed on a first-come basis. You will receive a notice in April as to when the packets may be picked up.



LICKING COUNTY FARM BUREAU

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319 Programs Available in 1997

The 319 grant costshare program has been extended until June of 1997. Anyone farming 25 or more acres in the drainage area of the South Fork of the Licking River is eligible to apply for costshare funds. To receive costshare, all practices must be completed by June 1, 1997.

Programs available in 1997 are:

**Soil Tests.....Manure Tests.....Tillage Tool Rental (Aerway).....Chisel Points.....Sprayer Monitor
Chaff Spreader.....Row Cleaners.....Pest Management.....Filter Strips**

For more information on these programs, contact Merv Skiles at the Licking SWCD, 771 E. Main Street, Suite 100, Newark, Ohio 43055. Phone: (614) 349-6920.

EQIP - the New Cost Share Program

EQIP! No, that's not an abbreviation for equipment. EQIP is the acronym for the new conservation cost share program, Environmental Quality Incentive Program. Although we do not have all of the details, the focus of the program is to concentrate the limited cost share dollars to solve the most serious problems in a defined area, or Conservation Priority Areas (CPA). From one to ten CPA's will be funded in Ohio. Landowners will compete for cost share dollars within a CPA or statewide in the non-CPA's.

At least 50 percent of the cost share dollars must be spent on animal related practices, such as Waste Holding Facilities, Pasture Improvement, Nutrient Management and other livestock practices.

This is a new way of doing business and we do not have all of the answers, in fact we do not have all of the questions. Landowners that have erosion control or livestock practices will need to bear with us as we work our way through this program. The rumor is that a signup will be held in March. The Farm Services Agency, Natural Resources Conservation Service and the Licking County Soil and Water Conservation District will cooperate in every possible way to make this program work in Licking County.

<p>*Brock *Farm Fans *Sukup *DMI *Hutchinson *Vinyl Decks & Railing *Triple Crown Fencing</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Newell Farms Croton, Ohio 7 - Limers Dealer <i>Sales, Installation, Service</i> 1-893-3513 or 1-893-3820</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">McCOY PETROLEUM CO. 90 South Williams Street Newark, OH 43055 Phone: 344-1184 1-800-686-4328 <i>"THE REAL McCOY"</i></p>			
<p style="margin-left: 20px;">- Field Tile - SB2 Leach Pipe - Animal Waste Storage - 48" HDPE Manholes - 4-48" Storm Sewer Pipe - Geotextiles</p> <p>John McGeorge Sales Representative 56 S. Oak Street London, Ohio 43140 (800) 733-9554</p>	<p style="margin-left: 20px;">FARM REAL ESTATE Buyers and sellers look to CENTURY 21 Our referral systems tie us to 6,000 offices (614) 345-4001 or 1-800-365-1521</p> <p>Russel Bunning (614) 323-1545 <i>Century 21 Frank Frye Real Estate</i></p>			
<table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 33%; border: none;"> <p>District Supervisors Rodney Kissell Lynn Hatfield Charles George Roger Lees John W. Slater</p> </td> <td style="width: 33%; border: none;"> <p>District Personnel Daniel Blatter Trevor Meek Cindy Shy Merv Skiles Jim Kiracofe</p> </td> <td style="width: 33%; border: none;"> <p>NRCS Personnel James McCluskey William Laughlin</p> </td> </tr> </table> <p><small>"ON THE LEVEL" is a quarterly publication of the Licking Soil and Water Conservation District, 771 E. Main St., Suite 100, Newark, Ohio 43055-6971, 614-349-6920</small></p> <p><small>All NRCS programs and services are offered on a nondiscriminatory basis without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, sex, age, marital status, or handicap.</small></p>	<p>District Supervisors Rodney Kissell Lynn Hatfield Charles George Roger Lees John W. Slater</p>	<p>District Personnel Daniel Blatter Trevor Meek Cindy Shy Merv Skiles Jim Kiracofe</p>	<p>NRCS Personnel James McCluskey William Laughlin</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">The Hoover Family <i>Agricultural Equipment</i> Grain Storage Handling & Drying Systems</p> <p>Phone 10221 Lancaster, Newark Rd. 467-2424 Millersport, OH 43046</p>
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Advertising in this newsletter does not constitute an endorsement by the Licking SWCD Supervisors or Staff

ON THE LEVEL

LICKING COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
771 East Main Street
Newark, Ohio 43055-6971

Address Correction Requested

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