


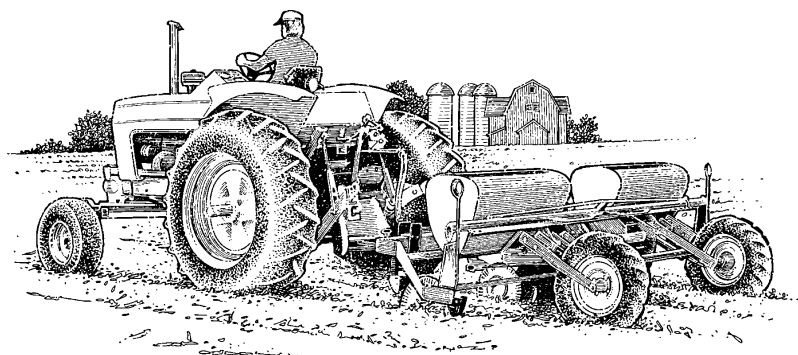
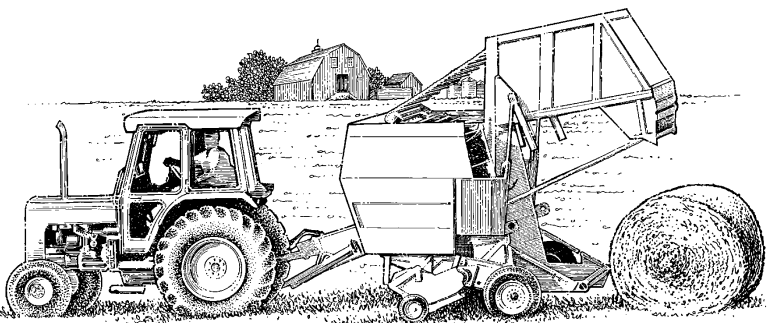
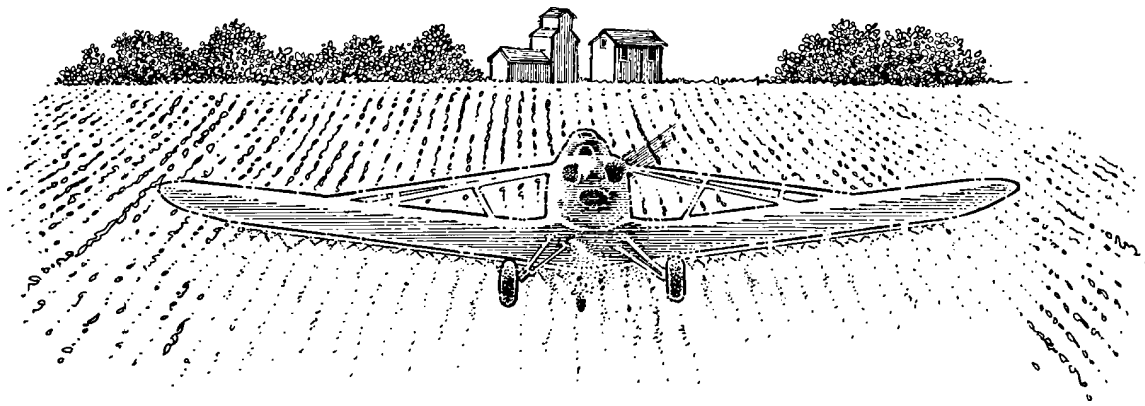
THE OBERLIN HERALD'S *Conservation '00*

Section C

Wednesday, February 9, 2000

AGRICULTURE

AMERICA'S GROWTH  INDUSTRY





THE LABOR PAID OFF when this windbreak matured and now it protects the Juenemann farmstead. Enjoying the benefits are (from left) Dave, Jesse holding Chrissy, Lucas with sheltie pup, Joyce and Chase. —Herald staff photos by Jeanette Krizek

Windbreak wins family award, offers protection

By JEANETTE KRIZEK

A shelterbelt that Dave and Joyce Juenemann planted more than 10 years ago won them the 1999 Windbreak Award.

The couple lives on a farm in the southwest corner of Decatur County with their sons, Lucas, 9; Jesse, 12; and Chase, 14.

The farm has been in the family for almost 100 years. The couple moved there in 1987 after his father became ill and moved to town.

There were no trees around the house and the Juenemanns felt a windbreak would save on heating costs and provide a shelter for their cattle, which are fed behind the home.

"Open pasture surrounded the house," said Mr. Juenemann. "We needed something to protect the house."

In the spring of 1988 Lee Don Scott from the Decatur County Conservation District office helped Mr. Juenemann lay out a plan for a shelterbelt that would protect the en-

tire farm.

Trees were ordered from the conservation district and planted in three rows on the north and west sides of the farmstead.

Red cedars were planted on the outer two rows with Australian Pines on the inside.

A hydraulic post hole digger mounted on a tractor helped dig the many holes for the trees and family and friends helped plant them. A drip irrigation system was laid out along each row to provide water during the dry spells.

Mr. Juenemann said no weed barrier was needed since the trees were planted on the edge of a pasture. By simply mowing around each tree the area was kept clean and weed free.

"Over the years we have had to replace some of the pine trees," Mr. Juenemann said. "They just don't seem as hardy as the cedars."

Besides farming and cattle the Juenemanns raise sheltie dogs. Mrs. Juenemann also works as a cosmetologist at the Washboard in Oberlin.



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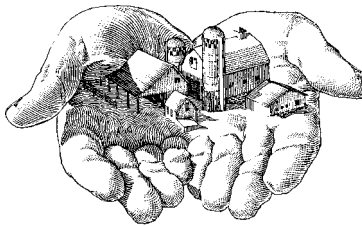
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Farmers get cash by allowing hunting

Area farmers can increase their income by applying for the Walk-In Hunting Area Program through the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks.

The program pays about \$1/acre for allowing hunters to walk in to a farmers land and hunt pheasants and quail.

Crop stubble, weedy draws, CRP and riparian areas all qualify for the program.

Landowners can increase their payment by adding wildlife habitat improvements to their property.

Some examples are windbreaks made up of cedar trees and plum or choke cherry bushes, strip disking and not spraying herbicides on the acreage from September through January 31 when hunting season ends.

Funding for the program comes through hunting license sales and taxes on sporting goods and equipment. No general tax dollars are used.

Conservation Technician Lee Don Scott said the entire county can benefit from this program, not just hunters and farmer.

Hunters spend their weekend or vacation in the local area generating income for merchants and the entire business community.

Surrounding counties have seen the benefits of this program and have thousands of acres signed up already and are looking at add more this year.

Norton County has 22,789 acres in the program, Cheyenne County 17,012, Thomas County 5,380, Sheridan County 6,320 and Decatur County 2,180.

Mr. Scott said with more land enrolled in the




Conservation Technician Lee Don Scott.

Walk-in Hunting Program maybe less trespassing would occur and hunters wouldn't have to bother residents each year to ask permission to hunt.

For more information contact the Natural Resources Conservation Service at (785) 475-3131.

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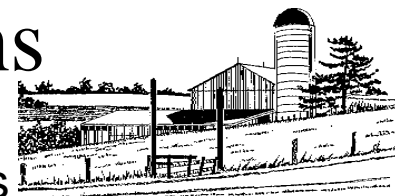
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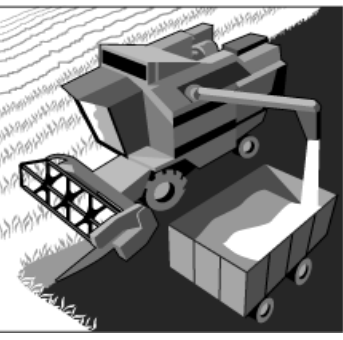
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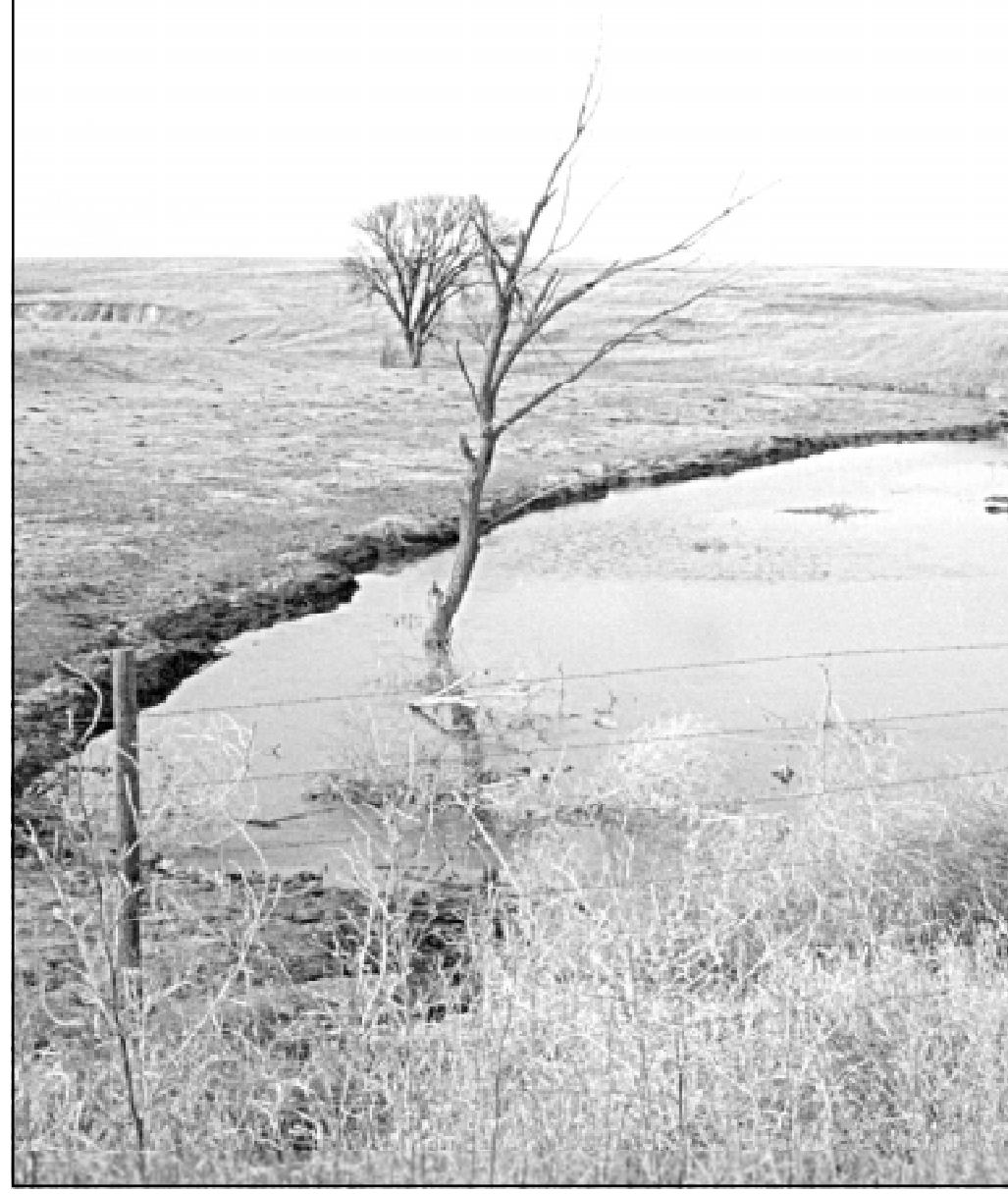
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NATURAL SPRINGS fill this pond on the east side of the pasture giving the Lively cattle a steady supply of water.
— Herald staff photo by Jeanette Krizek

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