

AGRICULTURAL ENGINEERING, - 1924

PROJECT II - TERRACING DEMONSTRATIONS.

OBJECT: 1. To demonstrate the method of preventing soil erosion by the use of the broad base or mangua terrace.

IMPORTANCE: Soil erosion occurs to some extent in every county in the state, and in some counties it constitutes a very serious problem. Soil erosion results in a tremendous loss of fertility as well as the soil itself. If not checked in time, it will necessitate the ultimate abandonment of the land.

In twelve of the Southern Piedmont counties, erosion occurs extensively on about 10% of the farm land, or on 3,000 acres. The value of terracing improvements can be figured at from \$5.00 to \$50.00 per acre. Figuring conservatively at \$10.00 per acre, the value of the project could be estimated at \$3,000,000.00 in these twelve counties.

PROCEDURE: Promote terracing through demonstrations, meetings, bulletins, and other publicity methods.

The Agricultural Engineering Department will:

1. Furnish county agents with educational publicity material for use in their local papers; supply bulletins and other material on terracing for distribution; furnish agents with complete instructions on methods of handline projects.
2. Send an engineer to the county to assist the agent in making surveys for and laying off terracing systems; construct one model terrace on each farm laid off; instruct interested persons in the use of the level in laying off terraces; give talks at meetings.

The County Agent Will:

1. Promote the project in his county by distributing the publicity material, etc. furnished by the department.
2. Select reliable farmers in different communities who have land in need of terracing who agree to follow instructions.
3. Make all the necessary arrangements for holding the terracing demonstrations such as having terrace drags ready, advertising the demonstrations, and arranging for at least three demonstrations, one each day.
4. Obtain a record of the results gotten in his county due to the work of this project.

RESULTS: Results will be measured by number of feet of terraces laid out and constructed; number of acres terraced; number of farmers attending demonstrations; spread of influence, etc.