

Grundy County Conservation Connection

Volume 2 Issue 2

<http://www.swcd.mo.gov/grundy>

Merry Christmas
from
District Staff

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1 WIA Conference
- 1 NCM Fair
- 2 Tech Notes
- 3 NCM Fair
- 3 Grundy County SWCD Photo Contest
- 4 Tech Notes
- 4 New Year Open House
- 5 Soil Series by Encarta
- 6 Soil Series by Encarta
- 7 Kids Corner/Recipe
- 8 Comparative of FY09 to FY10 Statistics
- 9 Cost-Share Report
- 9 Farmland Foods Environmental Team hosts World Water Monitoring Day

*"Parades are a
Trenton event"*

Women In Agriculture Conference

By HeatherK

Where do I begin...? This was an amazing conference! The committee did a wonderful job. This was the first time I have attended the Women In Agriculture Conference and I look forward to next year at Branson.

The conference kicked off Monday with vendor displays, silent auction, hospitality room and ended with a Missouri State Women In Agriculture Awards banquet with a professional ventriloquist as the entertainment.

Tuesday was packed full of excitement with a trip to Newark to visit the Heartland Creamery and to Novinger to visit the Oberle Farm (Pure Air Native Seed Company). I would suggest for everyone to visit both of these operations...very exciting and informative. Please visit our website

Please see WIA Conference on page 2

North Central Missouri Fair

By Bob Chenoweth

The Carnival and Grand Stand events attendance was good and well received by everyone. There were a variety of events such as the Colgate Talent Showdown, musical shows, animal shows, Truck & Tractor Pull, Mutton bustin and Bull Riding, ATV and motorcycle races and a Demolition Derby. A good crowd lined the streets for the opening Parade, which in Trenton, *Parades are a Trenton event*, always receiving high attendance and enjoyment by all.

The Bessie Chamber Award was given to Loretta Ray for having the most food-related entries at the Rock Barn, presented by Lucille Fletcher.

Please see NCM Fair on page 3

Tech Notes Fall/Winter 2009

By Kevin Stover

It is always the most fun to start off the conversation with *something new and exciting* and here at the Grundy County SWCD that is what we are doing in the fourth quarter of 2009! We are proud to announce the purchase of a Dura-Bilt 10' Landscaper that is being added to our rental equipment offering. This unit will rent by the day or by the week but rental rates were not available at the time this article went to press. Give us a call or drop by the office for more details. Don't forget that we also have a great number of other conservation tools available to landowners through our rental fleet.

"something new and exciting"

Leading off we have our John Deere 7230 FWD 110 horsepower tractor that is available to pull almost all of our equipment. The tractor rents for \$20 an hour with a \$100 per day minimum.

Our Great Plains 12' No-Till drill is available for small grains, soybeans, and grass seed applications. The drill rents for \$7 per acre. *Note: This unit is not equipped to properly apply warm season grasses.*

Grundy County SWCD's Krause 24' Culti-Packer is just the tool you need for your seedbed preparation. With a pass prior to and a pass after your broadcast seeding you will be giving your seed a good head start. This unit rents for \$6 per acre.

For your mulching needs try our Vermeer Bale Processor. Great for structure mulching to meet specifications or for general seeding coverage this tool allows that precious seed to establish and flourish in the event of rainfall after seeding.

These are just a few of the conservation tools available from the Grundy County SWCD. We also have a 15' 1000rpm Rhino Rotary Batwing Cutter, a 6 yard Toreq forced ejection scraper, a 24' Ogden flex tine harrow, Bush Hog 80" 540 rpm pull-type rotary tiller, 36" Plotmaster seeder, electric ATV broadcast seeder, single shank root plow, survey equipment

Please see Tech Notes on page 4

WIA Conference from page 1

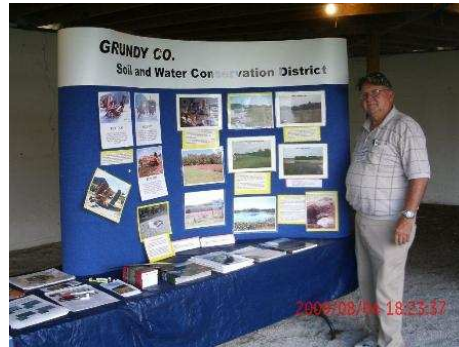
at <http://www.swcd.mo.gov/grundy/projects.htm> to read more about the conference and to see the pictures from the conference and tours.



NCM Fair from page 1

Many excellent exhibits of flowers and vegetables were enjoyed by attendees.

Our Merchants exhibits inside the outer Rock Barn area were down in numbers from the past years. Plans are being made to improve the merchant booth participation. Other changes and improvements are also being planned by the Fair Board for other areas of future NCM Fairs. Your NCM Fair Board is planning to recommend changes to enhance fair attendance and participation at the next NCM Fair in 2010.



Grundy County SWCD Display at the NCM Fairgrounds.

Grundy County SWCD Photo Contest

By HeatherK

Entries due by November 19, 2009

This is the first year for Grundy County to sponsor a county photo contest. All [rules and guidelines](#) will follow NACD. This is open to amateur photographers only.

There will be a Youth Division (age 18 and under) and an Adult Division (age 19 and older). There are [four categories](#) for photography: Conservation Practices, Close Up Conservation, Conservation in Action and Ag/Conservation Across America. One winner from each category and age division will receive \$10.00. All photographs will be featured on our website <http://www.swcd.mo.gov/grundy/projects.htm>.

All photographs received will be entered into the [NACD/Auxiliary Photo Contest](#). All photographs must be submitted in electronic format (jpeg or tiff files only) to Heather.Keith@swcd.mo.gov by **November 19, 2009**. Please complete the [2009 Photo Contest Entry, Photo Release & Model Release forms](#) and mail original forms to:

Grundy County SWCD
Attn: Heather/photo contest
3415 Oklahoma Avenue
Trenton, Mo 64683

If you prefer to bypass the county photo contest and submit directly to NACD for the national contest you can follow the rules, guidelines and submission requirements found on our website or the NACD site <http://www.nacdn.net/education/contests/photo/>.

Tech Notes from page 2

and burn equipment are available to you.

For more information on any of these pieces of equipment, simply stop by the office or give us a call.

Weather permitting, cost-share practices are being staked as the fields are cleared. County wide practices for the balance of the 2009/10 fiscal year are those practices that address Sheet/Rill and Gully Erosion. Those practices are as follows:

- DSL-1: Permanent Vegetative Establishment**
- DSL-2: Permanent Vegetative Cover Improvement**
- DSL-4: Terrace Systems***
- DSL-44: Terrace Systems w/Tile***
- N380: Windbreak Shelterbelt Establishment**
- DSL-15: No-Till Systems**
- DSL-11: Permanent Vegetative Cover Critical Areas**
- DWC-1: Water Impoundment Reservoir (Pond)**
- DWP-1: Sediment Retention, Erosion or Water Control Structure (Basin)**
- DWP-3: Sod Waterways**
- DSL-5: Diversions***

To request cost share assistance on any of these projects simply stop by our office and fill out one simple form.

For those landowners that live in the Hickory Creek area of the county, many other cost share practices are available. These special AgNPS SALT projects address water quality issues in your area. Hickory Creek watershed landowners are also eligible to receive cost share for all of the general practices that the balance of the county has available as long as the site for cost share meets the minimum requirements. For more information on these AgNPS SALT practices in your area go to our website at www.swcd.mo.gov/grundy or stop by or give us a call at the office.

SEEDING REMINDER

Seeding cool season grasses on Critical Area Plantings between the dates of October 16th and December 1st is not allowed for meeting cost share guidelines. Seeding of cool season grasses may resume December 1st and continue through the dormant season. The seeding of warm season species may resume on November 16th. If you have any questions about these seeding guidelines just give us a call or stop by the office.

New Year Open House

By HeatherK

Mark your calendars for Thursday, January 7, 2010.

This is the projected date for our Annual New Year Open House.

**Please join us from 9am - 11am at the SWCD office
for great food, good friends and the start of a new year!**

Soil Series by Encarta.msn.com

SOIL CHARACTERISTICS

Color

Soils come in a wide range of colors—shades of brown, red, orange, yellow, gray, and even blue or green. Color alone does not affect a soil, but it is often a reliable indicator of other soil properties. In the surface soil horizons, a dark color usually indicates the presence of organic matter. Soils with significant organic material content appear dark brown or black. The most common soil hues are in the red-to-yellow range, getting their color from iron oxide minerals coating soil particles. Red iron oxides dominate highly weathered soils. Soils frequently saturated by water appear gray, blue, or green because the minerals that give them the red and yellow colors have been leached away.

Texture

Climate directly affects soil formation. Water, ice, wind, heat, and cold cause physical weathering by loosening and breaking up rocks. Water in rock crevices expands when it freezes, causing the rocks to crack. Rocks are worn down by water and wind and ground to bits by the slow movement of glaciers. Climate also determines the speed at which parent materials undergo chemical weathering, a process in which existing minerals are broken down into new mineral components. Chemical weathering is fastest in hot, moist climates and slowest in cold, dry climates.

Climate also influences the developing soil by determining the types of plant growth that occur. Low rainfall or recurring drought often discourage the growth of trees but allow the growth of grass. Soils that develop in cool rainy areas suited to pines and other needle-leaf trees are low in humus.

Aggregation

Individual soil particles tend to be bound together into larger units referred to as aggregates or soil peds. Aggregation occurs as a result of complex chemical forces acting on small soil components or when organisms and organic matter in soil act as glue binding particles together.

Soil aggregates form soil structure, defined by the shape, size, and strength of the aggregates. There are three main soil shapes: platelike, in which the aggregates are flat and mostly horizontal; prislake, meaning greater in vertical than in horizontal dimension; and blocklike, roughly equal in horizontal and vertical dimensions and either angular or rounded. Soil peds range in size from very fine—less than 1 mm (0.04 in)—to very coarse—greater than 10 mm (0.4 in). The measure of strength or grade refers to the stability of the structural unit and is ranked as weak, moderate, or strong. Very young or sandy soils may have no discernible structure.

Porosity

The part of the soil that is not solid is made up of pores of various sizes and shapes—sometimes small and separate, sometimes consisting of continuous tubes. Soil scientists refer to the size, number, and arrangement of these pores as the soil's porosity. Porosity greatly affects water movement and gas exchange. Well-aggregated soils have numerous pores, which are important for organisms that live in the soil and require water and oxygen to survive. The transport of nutrients and contaminants will also be affected by soil structure and porosity.

Ion Content

Soils also have key chemical characteristics. The surfaces of certain soil particles, particularly the clays, hold groupings of atoms known as ions. These ions carry a negative charge. Like magnets, these negative ions (called anions) attract positive ions (called cations). Cations, including those from calcium, magnesium, and potassium, then become attached to the soil particles, in a process known as cation exchange. The chemical reactions in cation exchange make it possible for calcium and the other elements to be changed into water-soluble forms that plants can use for food. Therefore, a soil's cation exchange capacity is an important measure of its fertility.

pH

Another important chemical measure is soil [pH](#), which refers to the soil's acidity or alkalinity. This property hinges on the concentration of hydrogen ions in solution. A greater concentration of hydrogen results in a lower pH, meaning greater acidity. Scientists consider pure water, with a pH of 7, neutral. The pH of a soil will often determine whether certain plants can be grown successfully. Blueberry plants, for example, require acidic soils with a pH of roughly 4 to 4.5. Alfalfa and many grasses, on the other hand, require a neutral or slightly alkaline soil. In agriculture, farmers add [limestone](#) to acid soils to neutralize them.

Next Newsletter the Soil Series

finishes with

Soil Classification

Soil Use

Erosion

Soil Management

Kid's Corner – Fun Food Facts

Hawaii is the only state that grows pineapples. You can grow your own by cutting (or screwing) the top off a fruit and planting it in a pot in a warm place. In 3 to 4 years fruits develop from tiny, lavender flowers that grow from the center of the leaves.

The first olive trees were planted in California at the San Diego Mission by Franciscan monks in 1769. Today, over 1,200 growers grow olives on 35,000 acres in the warm inland valleys of California.

Raisins are made from grapes that have dried in the sun for two to three weeks. Most of the raisins eaten in the United States come from California - and about three quarters of all raisins are eaten with breakfast.

This excerpt was found at: http://content.fsa.usda.gov/fsakids/food_facts.htm

Kid's Corner – Recipe

Gingerbread Cupcakes

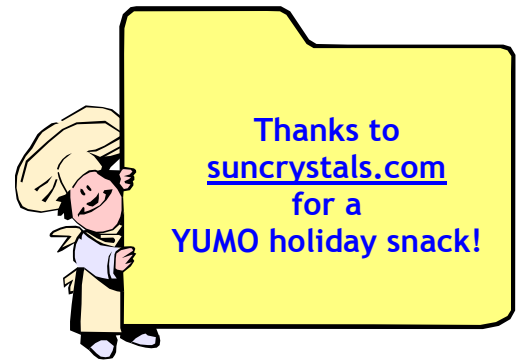
Fall in love with the authentic flavor of the season.

Ingredients:

- 2/3 cup unsweetened applesauce
- ¼ cup molasses
- 2 Tbs vegetable oil
- 1 large egg
- 1 cup of all purpose flour
- 4 packets SUN CRYSTALS All natural sweetener
- ½ tsp baking soda
- ¼ tsp baking powder
- 1/8 tsp salt
- ½ tsp ground ginger
- ½ tsp cinnamon
- 1/8 tsp ground cloves

Directions

Preheat oven to 350°F. Place liners in cupcake pan. Set aside. Mix applesauce, molasses & oil in a large mixing bowl. Stir in egg. Blend remaining dry ingredients in a separate bowl. Add dry ingredients to the applesauce mixture. Stir Well. Pour cupcake batter into prepared pan. Bake 25-30 minutes, or until a toothpick inserted in the center comes out clean. Remove from oven. Cool cupcakes on a wire rack approximately 20 minutes. Serve warm or cool!
Enjoy!



Share your recipes!

e-mail recipes to
Heather.Keith@swcd.mo.gov
please include your name!

This recipe can be found at www.suncrystals.com/kitchen/recipes/gingerbread-cupcakes/

Comparative of FY09 Stats to FY10 Stats

By HeatherK

**Grundy County SWCD
FY2009 Statistics
(last year)**

Tons of Soil Saved – 24,764

Feet of Terrace Installed – 13,150

Cubic Yards of Earthwork – 57,482

Acres Served – 219



**Grundy County SWCD
FY2010 Statistics**

(Current Year 8 more months left in this fiscal year)

Tons of Soil Saved – 12,030

Feet of Terrace Installed – 15,850

Cubic Yards of Earthwork – 19,431

Acres Served – 68.2



Cost-Share Report

By HeatherK

Cost-Share Report as of 10-7-09

REGULAR COST-SHARE ALLOCATIONS/PRACTICES		
PRACTICE TYPE	# OF PRACTICES	\$'S OBLIGATED TO DATE
VEGETATIVE COVER	1	\$ 1,281.74
TERRACE SYSTEMS	5	\$ 57,160.73
GRAZING SYSTEMS		
PONDS	4	\$ 38,483.41
BASINS	4	\$ 17,092.07
SOD WATERWAYS		
USE EXCLUSION		
STREAM PROTECTION		
TOTAL \$'S OBLIGATED TO DATE		\$ 114,017.95
	Report Obligated	\$ 114,017.95
	MoSWIMS Allocation	\$ 280,460.15
	Unobligated Funds	\$ 166,442.20

Farmland Foods Environmental Team Hosts WWMD

By HeatherK



The 3rd Annual World Water Monitoring Day was held at a local county school on Friday, October 9th. This yearly event is hosted by the Farmland Foods Environmental Team in Milan, Mo. The environmental integrity put forth by the Milan environmental team at the Farmland Foods facility is quite evident and was a perfect fit to “lead by example” on water monitoring, quality and recycling. There were approximately 75+ students and teachers present for this event. Students were divided into 6 teams and each team had a station where they each performed Turbidity, Dissolved Oxygen, pH and Temperature testing of local lake waters. During demonstration and testing students took notes and asked many questions, which would prove vital for their lab testing later that day! After testing was complete, students enjoyed pizza, chips and soda. After lunch, Ken Dunlap introduced the “can crush monster” used at their facility. This enabled all students to participate in aluminum recycling as well! Fun was had by all that attended and everyone looks forward to next year! Grundy County SWCD was honored to be a part of water conservation and youth education.

Mission Statement

The purpose of the Grundy County Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) is to construct and carry out a complete soil and water conservation program on all lands within Grundy County, Missouri. The district supervisors will work with all individuals, organizations and agencies interested in saving, maintaining and improving soil and water resources within the district.

Non-Discrimination Statement

"The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, or because all or a part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD). To file a complaint of discrimination write to USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410 or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer."

2009 Upcoming Events

Holiday Closings**October 2009**

12th - Columbus Day

November 2009

11th - Veteran's Day

26th - Thanksgiving Day

December 2009

25th - Christmas Day

SWCD Board Meetings

October 19th - 9:00 am

November 16th - 9:00 am

December 21st - 9:00 am

Board Meetings are held
at the USDA Service Center
3415 Oklahoma Avenue

All meetings are open to the public with the exception of executive sessions. If you wish to be on the agenda please notify the District prior to the meeting.



Happy Holidays to you
from the Staff!



Merry Christmas

**Grundy County SWCD**

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