

1963

EC63-149 Conservation Practices in the Sandhills

Harold Gilman

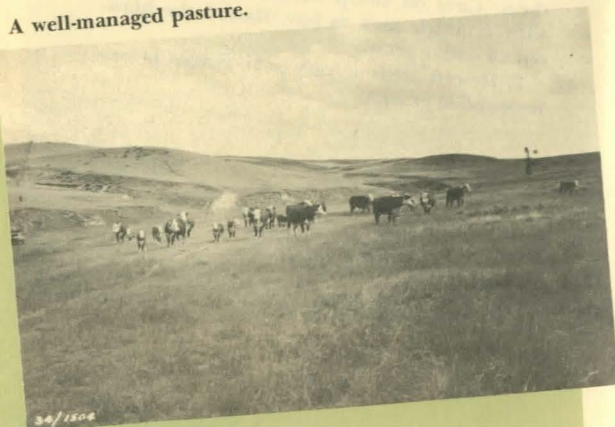
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A well-managed pasture.



The Sandhills of Nebraska

There are about 14 million acres in the Sandhills—or about 29 percent of the total area of Nebraska. Most of the area is in native range and hayland. The major income is from the sale of cattle.

Conservation problems are associated almost entirely with proper stocking of ranges, rotation grazing to permit re-seeding of desirable species of native grass, proper location of water supply, fire prevention, re-seeding of areas that have been farmed, and control of wind erosion. Most of the land is in its best use—the growing of grass.

Some of the common native grasses found in the Sandhills include:

- _____ ● Big bluestem
- _____ ● Sand bluestem
- _____ ● Little bluestem
- _____ ● Indiangrass
- _____ ● Sand lovegrass
- _____ ● Switchgrass
- _____ ● Sand dropseed

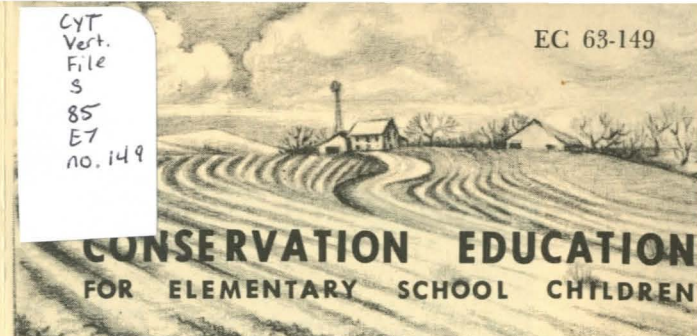
Conservation Education Publications

The following circulars form the conservation education series.

- EC 63-139 What Causes Soil Erosion?
- EC 63-140 Kinds of Erosion
- EC 63-141 What Causes Gullies?
- EC 63-142 Can Gullies Be Controlled?
- EC 63-143 What Is a Terrace?
- EC 63-144 What Is a Grassed Waterway?
- EC 63-145 What Is Wind Strip Cropping?
- EC 63-146 How Should Farm Ponds Be Managed?
- EC 63-147 Conservation Practices in Eastern Nebraska
- EC 63-148 Conservation Practices in Western Nebraska
- EC 63-149 Conservation Practices in the Sandhills
- EC 63-150 Shelterbelts?
- EC 63-151 Who Helps Nebraskans With Soil and Water Conservation?
- EC 63-152 Grass in Soil and Water Conservation
- EC 63-153 Stubble Mulch
- EC 63-154 Conservation Rotation
- EC 63-155 Bench Leveling

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Conservation Practices in the Sandhills

By Harold H. Gilman



Proper stocking

1. Graze the proper number of livestock for the acres and condition of the grass. This is called proper stocking.
2. Divide the range by fencing. This is sometimes called cross fencing.
3. Rotate the cattle from one field to the other.

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1. Locate livestock wells and ponds so as to get more even grazing over the entire range.

2. Cattle need salt. Change the place where they get their salt frequently to get more even distribution of grazing over the range.

3. Control brush and other weeds.



Proper location of wells

1. Fence blowouts so cattle can't get into them. Cave off sharp banks, cover the sand with a mulch such as hay. Reseed the blowout to native grass.

2. Reseed areas of very poor grasses to recommended grasses.



Plant native grasses



Plant livestock windbreaks

