



KEIFFER IS SHOWN standing by the central 6-inch tile line just above the lower laterals in the field. Above him on the hillside five laterals had been completed, while the machine was moving in to work in the "wet" lower section of the field. The part of the field below the wagon and truck has been used for pasture and meadow in the six years Kieffer has operated the farm, being too wet to crop. He hopes to start cropping it in 1960 —LG PHOTO

Cooperative Conservation Adds Rich Cropland For This Farmer

The photos on this and the facing page serve to illustrate a project undertaken by a southern Lancaster County farmer who believes, without reservation, in conservation farming as a means of increasing farming profits.

Grant Kieffer, who farms 475 acres—including the Fulton birthplace—just north of the 72 - 222 junction in Goshen community, this week completed the laying of 6,000 feet of porous concrete tile drain in a field just west of the farmstead.

The field had been tiled years ago, but with the main lines too small and clogging cutting down on flow, it was time for another try at drying up the low lands and returning them to profitable crop production.

Kieffer reports that in the six years he has farmed the "home-pace" he has never cropped the lower part of the field—which is blessed with a rich, black, deep top-soil

and too much ground water. Next Spring, after the new tile has done its job and the entire field has been contour stripped, he expects to grow his first row or grain crop on the land.

Up till now, Kieffer has utilized the rich soil of this field by pasturing or harvesting a hay crop.

But as he says, "That's not the best thing with land as rich as this."

Before actual work could start on the drain system, Kieffer contacted the Lancaster County Soil Conservation Service.

SCS Work Unit Conserva-

tionist W. Martin Muth had technicians to help the young county farmer figure costs, project future contours, map chronic wet spots and finally survey in the lines for the system to follow.

They explained requirements and specifications for Kieffer to receive ASC cost-sharing payments for carrying out a permanent conservation practice.

The requirements are set up to give the farmer his best value in permanent structures and insure maximum conservation benefits for the community and the individual farmer.



A CLOSE-UP of one of the fields "old" tile drains shows the 4-inch pipe running nearly half-full, flow being picked up quickly by a newly-laid lateral after the past-several-months' dryness, all severed the old drain system were carrying a heavy flow. The new lines of the old system will be connected to the system where feasible. —LG

Working with the SCS and ASC, Kieffer has managed to receive the top value for his dollar and has at the same time made an active contribution to the county's overall conservation needs.

SCS technicians made regular appearances to check the quality of work, insure that all standards were being followed by the contractor and guarantee approval of the project for ASC cost-sharing.

A total of 6,000-plus feet of drain was installed, with the sizes carefully figured to give adequate flow at all points.

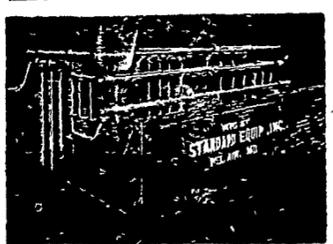
With proven methods of measuring the field's needs,

the SCS men were able to tell Kieffer exactly how to lay the drain down the slope he needed. The six-inch pipe main stem line, being laid on a more expensive 12 inch pipe.

As a result the farmer saves money in installing the system, qualifies for cost-sharing and insures efficient drainage.

To store a roast, the meat and remove it from the cardboard tray. The meat is loosely wrapped with waxed paper and the inner wrap placed with the meat, and the whole placed in the coldest part of the refrigerator.

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