

Diversions, terraces are tools for conservation

HARRISBURG — Diversions consist of a broad, shallow channel and ridge constructed across a slope.

These conservation practices intercept excess runoff and lead it slowly to a safe outlet such as a grass-lined waterway. Additional infiltration of water is achieved during the period when the water is carried in the diversion.

Diversions will usually be used in conjunction with stripcropping. They are generally spaced about 400 feet apart.

Terraces are similar to diversions in several ways. They include a broad base channel and ridge across a slope.

They differ from diversions in that they are spaced closer together and generally are shallower and broader than diversions. They also differ from diversions in that the channel is planted to a crop. Terraces are generally used in conjunction with contour farming.

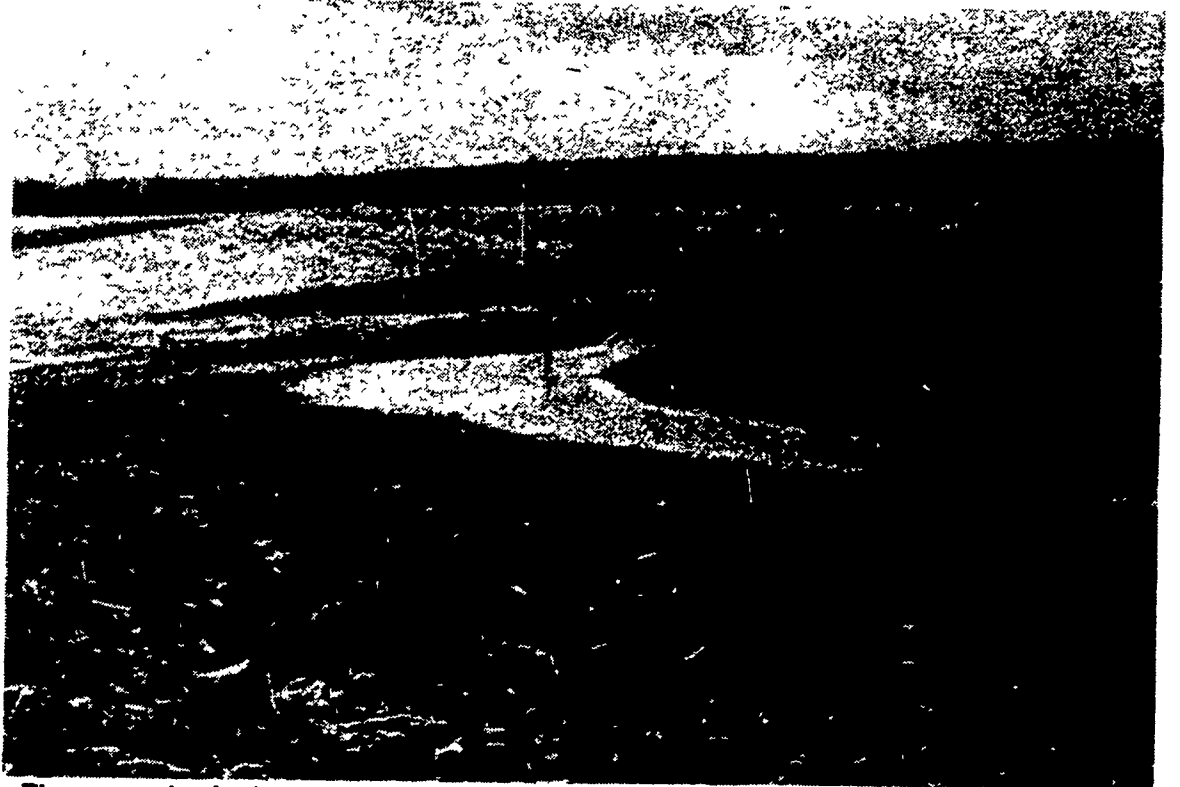
Several types of terraces can be constructed. Gradient terraces

carry water to a suitable outlet, such as a waterway or other stabilized area. Storage terraces are drained by underground pipe thus eliminating the need for grassed waterways or other outlets.

Storage terraces usually are designed to empty within a 48-hour period. During this time, infiltration of the stored water helps to restore moisture to the soil.

Storage terraces are more expensive but can be more easily constructed parallel to one another. This makes the land easier to farm by eliminating short rows. Storage terraces are more effective in obtaining maximum infiltration during and after a rainfall.

Both diversions and cropland terraces are important. By using these practices, moisture is conserved, erosion is reduced, the land is protected against severe intense rain storms, crop yields can be increased and more intense cropping systems can be utilized to increase profits.



These cropland storage terraces on the Dave Coble farm in Elizabethtown are one of the most effective ways to increase infiltration and reduce runoff, especially with intense cropping systems such as corn, soybeans or vegetables.

NEDCO presents dairy overview Wednesday

STOUCHSBURG — An overview of the national dairy situation and the Dairy Price Support Program will be the major topics of discussion by two representatives of the Northeast Dairy Cooperative

Federation, Inc., at a meeting at the Russers Restaurant, here, on Wednesday, May 27, starting at 8 p.m. The session will be open to all dairy farmers in the area.

Speakers at the evening meeting will be Ralph D. Smith, Syracuse, N.Y., NEDCO Director of Education, and James Beaver, Bellefonte, former NEDCO Director. The chairman of the

meeting will be William A. Moore, Myerstown, Secretary-treasurer of the Cleona Milk Producers Cooperative Association who is co-sponsoring the meeting.

This meeting is one of a series of

about 25 scheduled for New York and Pennsylvania to provide an opportunity for all milk producers to become better informed about the changing dairy industry.

Refreshments will be served.



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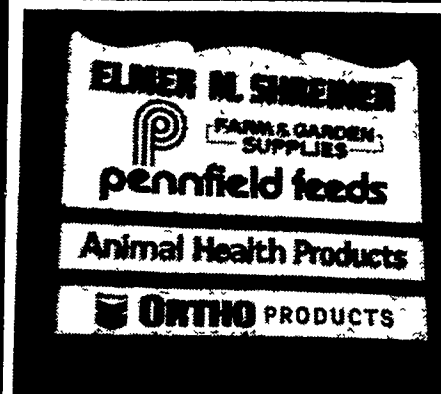
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