DISTRICT SOIL CONSERVATION PLAN

The West Broughton Soil Conservation Board is preparing a district soil conservation plan.

The plan will:

- describe the district, including the soil types, land classes and land uses;
- describe the existing and potential soil degradation problems;
- identify the land management options best suited to prevent those problems and to rehabilitate degraded land;
- include a program outlining the board's aims and activities over the next three years.

The board will consult the community while preparing the plan, and will produce a draft district plan for public inspection and comment. The district plan will be completed in 1992 and will be reviewed every three years.



The district plan will highlight the principle that land use must be planned according to the capability of the land.

Some recent examples of the activities of the board are:

- Koolunga West and Narridy Creek catchment projects;
- stubble handling workshop, Jamestown, 1986;
- improving soil structure on red-brown earths seminar, Jamestown, 1989;
- support for landcare projects in the district;
- conservation farming on red-brown earths project.



A conservation farming field day convened by the soil board at Yacka.

Produced by the West Broughton Soil Conservation Board with assistance from the SA Department of Agriculture and funds from the National Soil Conservation Program.

The West Broughton Soil Conservation Board



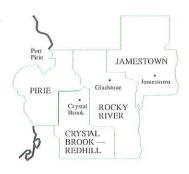
"The hope of the board is to see all land in the district used within its capability."



The West Broughton Soil Conservation Board was formed in 1953. Since then it has provided the focus for soil conservation activities in the district, promoted interest in soil conservation and actively encouraged the adoption of land use and management methods to conserve the soil.

THE BOARD DISTRICT

The board's district includes the District Councils of Pirie, Crystal Brook-Redhill, Rocky River and Jamestown, an area of about 4 100 square kilometres.



W est Broughton Soil Conservation Board Boundary

- District Council Boundary

Soil types, topography and rainfall vary considerably across the district, resulting in a wide range of land types and soil conservation problems. The main problems that can occur are water erosion, wind erosion, soil structure and fertility decline, and dryland salinity.

The key management issues are:

- contour banks and waterways;
- stubble retention;
- minimum tillage;
- rotations that maintain or improve soil structure and fertility.

WHAT IS THE WEST BROUGHTON SOIL CONSERVATION BOARD?

The board consists of a group of seven landusers who are committed to promoting soil conservation and profitable farming. Six members are appointed by the Minister of Agriculture and must have suitable knowledge and experience in land management. The seventh member is appointed by local government councils in the district as their representative.

The members of the West Broughton Soil Conservation Board are:

Doug Henderson, Chairman Phone (086) 36 2249 Caltowie Kevin Kerin Phone (086) 65 5082 Crystal Brook Barry Harvie Phone (086) 63 5038 Appila Murray Heinjus Redhill Phone (086) 36 7072 Robert Staker lamestown Phone (086) 64 1039 Mary Symon Bundaleer North Phone (086) 65 4052 Russell Smart, District Council Representative Phone (086) 36 4008 Narridy



The West Broughton Soil Conservation Board members, *left to right* Murray Heinjus, Robert Staker, Kevin Kerin, Russell Smart, Mary Symon, Doug Henderson (chairman) and Barry Harvie.

THE ROLE OF THE BOARD

The role of the board is one of education and cooperation, and is directed towards preventing land degradation through responsible land management. Another aspect of its role is:

- to develop community awareness and understanding of land conservation issues;
- to promote the principle that land must be used within its capability;
- to develop and support community projects for land conservation and rehabilitation;
- to provide advice and assistance to landholders on land conservation and rehabilitation;
- to seek land-holder cooperation to ensure land is not degraded;
- to implement the provisions of the Soil Conservation and Landcare Act 1989 (SA);
- to prepare district plans and three-year programs, and to approve property plans.



Farmers attending a stubble handling workshop held by the soil board at Jamestown.