



NEWS from U.S. Senator Bob Dole

(R.—Kans.)

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SEN. BOB DOLE ANNOUNCES KANSAS ALLOCATED \$5.921 MILLION FOR 1978 AGRICULTURAL CONSERVATION PROGRAM

WASHINGTON, D.C.--Senator Bob Dole announced today Kansas has been allocated \$5.921 million for the 1978 Agricultural Conservation Program (ACP).

Senator Dole said the national ACP program, administered by the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service (ASC), will be funded at the \$190 million level authorized by Congress.

The Kansas Senator said the 1978 ACP program places increased emphasis on rural pollution abatement as well as soil, water and woodland conservation.

Senator Dole explained under ACP, USDA will provide both technical and financial assistance to farmers whose land is a source of agricultural pollution or affected by wind or water erosion. ACP will emphasize providing enduring solutions to these problems. In a change from past procedure, local committees will develop a priority system for the identification and solution of conservation and pollution problems.

Cost-sharing under these priority systems may range up to 90 percent of the farmers' or ranchers' cost on the most critical problems. Previously, USDA provided between 50 and 75 percent of the cost of performing approved conservation practices. Payments under ACP remain limited to \$2,500 per person.

A set of national practices has been developed that represents a wide range of conservation and pollution problem solutions. State and county ACP programs will be based on these national practices, although additional practices may be developed at the local level to meet specific pollution or conservation problems.

State and county program development groups will meet to establish conservation priorities. Counties will then announce the date they will begin accepting applications for ACP.

Practices under the 1978 ACP fall into these six categories:

1. Prevention of soil loss from water and wind erosion
2. Solutions to water conservation problems
3. Solutions to water quality problems
4. Conservation of soil and water through forestry
5. Conservation of wildlife habitat
6. Solutions for local soil or water conservation problems.