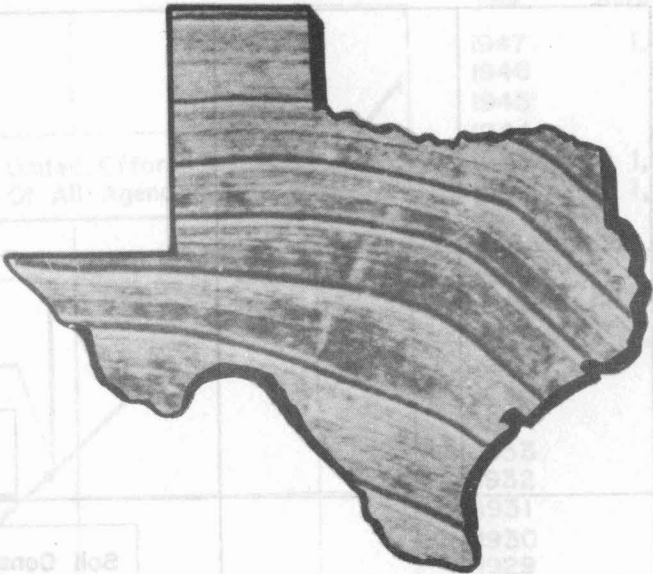


Texas Is A Terracing State

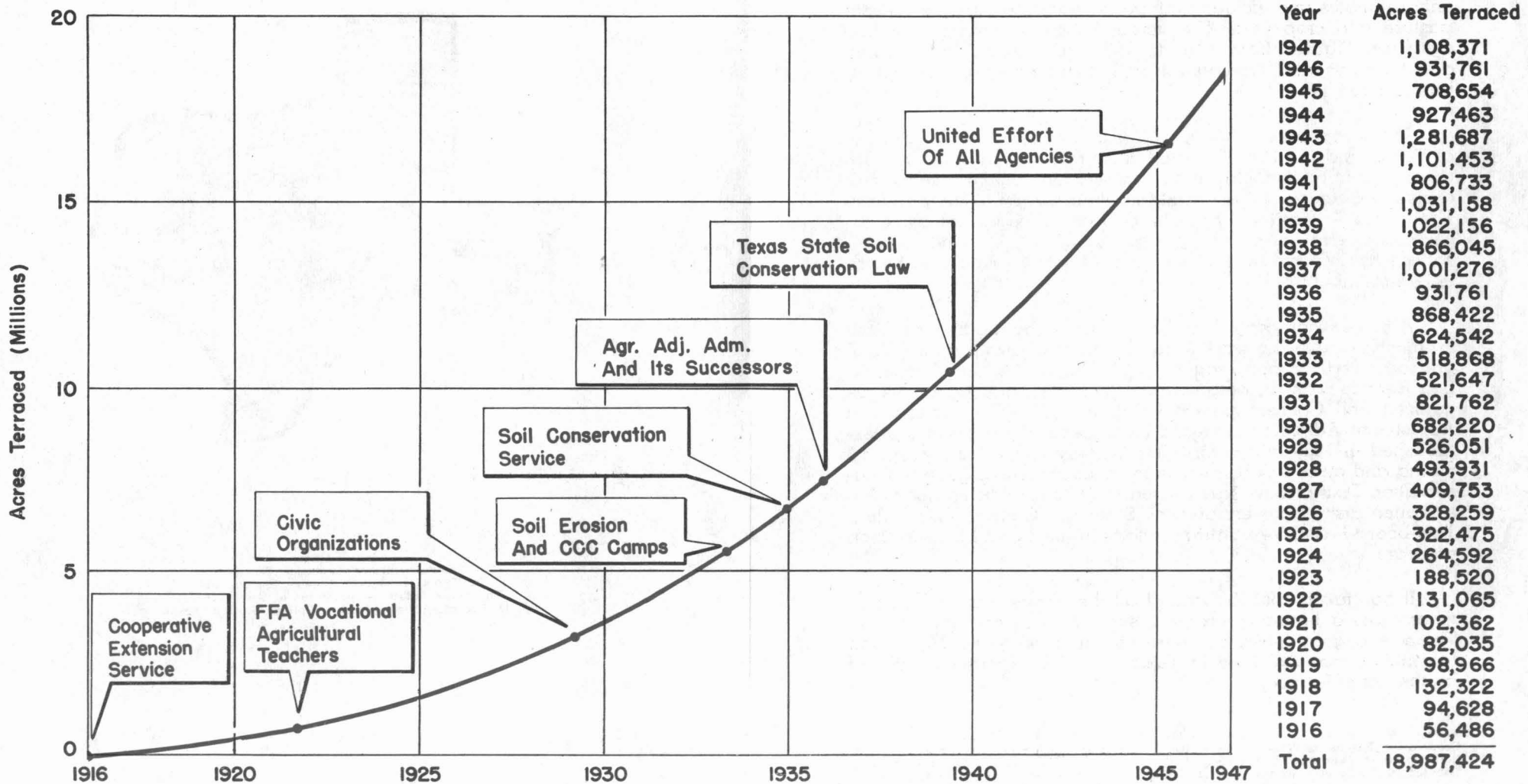


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 J. D. Prewitt, Acting Director, College Station, Texas

TERRACING IN TEXAS

(Estimated Acreage, Cumulative, 1916-1947, Inclusive)

Explanation on Following Page



Cooperative Effort

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The figures shown on the preceding graph are necessarily only estimates and include all types of standard terraces on both pasture and crop land. The acreage includes terracing by all agencies. Figures from 1916 to 1935 were taken from county agent reports and thereafter from estimates by various contributing agencies.

The Cooperative Extension Service of the A. & M. College of Texas and U.S.D.A. initiated a terracing program in 1916 through county agricultural agents. Around 1922, the vocational agricultural teachers began adding their weight to the program. The Texas Agricultural Experiment Station began intensive research on terracing at the Spur substation in 1926. Civic organizations headed by the Federal Land Bank of Houston began lending a hand in 1929.

A soil erosion control unit was initiated by the Federal Government in 1933. The work organization was known as the ECW and operated largely through CCC Camps. The Soil Conservation Service was an outgrowth of this work and began its organized Soil Conservation Program in 1935. The Agricultural Adjustment Administration and its succeeding agencies was established in 1936 and contributed heavily to the support of terracing and other soil conservation practices. The State Soil Conservation District Law was passed in 1939 establishing soil conservation district powers and the State Soil Conservation Board. This board has shown untiring efforts in the overall conservation program.

It has taken contributions of all the above named agencies to promote a terracing program such as is in operation today. There is a great need for more conservation work. More than ten million acres of land in Texas would be greatly benefitted by the use of terraces.