

Turn Drought Conditions To Advantage

Drought conditions in some parts of Ontario can be turned to advantage by farmers wanting to tile wet low spots and quicksand

areas, says M. Sojak, Engineering Division, Ridgetown College of Agricultural Technology.

"It may be several years before we have another season as dry as this; farmers will find these nuisance spots impassable again unless they do something about it when the opportunity arises," he said.

If the farmer has not budgeted for drainage this year, he might consider installing at least the main tiles and a few laterals to the lowest spots in the areas. Then if the job is fairly large, it can be finished later. Tiling now will almost certainly ensure sufficient drainage for access to land to finish the job next year. If only a small area is involved, it might pay to complete the whole job now.

Mr. Sojak also points out that summer and early autumn are slow periods for drainage contractors, and small jobs can be fitted into their schedules easily.

TILE DRAINAGE LOANS

The Ontario government has decided to grant municipalities some flexibility in the change-over from the old Tile Drainage Act to the new one, passed in July this year.

"The problem was that some farmers found they couldn't get a loan from their local council," Ontario Federation of Agriculture President Gordon Hill said

recently. "The new act required most municipal councils to pass new by-laws, and most of these councils just couldn't get new by-laws processed before the end of the year. Result was no loans for farmers."

But according to a recent statement from the Department of Treasury and

Economics, the department that handles the Tile Drainage Act, municipal councils can continue to consider loans under the terms of their old drainage by-laws until Dec. 1, 1971.

"Now farmers can expect to have their loan applications granted," Hill said, "even though municipalities are presently

rewriting their drainage by-laws. But councils better get cracking now so that new by-laws are available after Dec. 1, 1971."

Hill also suggested the members of the Federation who continue to have difficulties getting tile loans should contact the OFA, 387 Bloor Street East, Toronto.

CHINCHILLA RANCHING

The Chinchilla industry is fast becoming an integral part of the Canadian fur trade. The demand for good chinchilla is far greater than the supply and any sensible chinchilla investment should realize a profitable return. There is plenty of room for the far-sighted business man or woman who is truly interested in animals and in a better than average financial return on the invested dollar. The chinchilla rancher also has the satisfaction of breeding one of the friendliest and most appealing little animals in the Canadian fur industry.

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Farm Management Program

An increased number of Ontario farmers will have the opportunity to participate in the Farm Management Programs of the Ontario Department of Agriculture and Food which are set up to assist individual farmers in analyzing and solving their farm business problems.

Will it pay to purchase this machine? What farm adjustments are required to reach a specific net farm income? What are the market prospects for this farm product? The challenges and questions facing each farmer are different. Farm Management Programs are designed to meet these challenges.

Farm records provide some of the information needed for decision making. Canfarm, a computerized monthly mail-in farm record-keeping system, and the Ontario Farm Record Book are two record-keeping systems available through the Farm Management Program of the Ontario Department of Agriculture and Food.

In 1971, the Ontario Farm Record Book will again be available free of charge to Ontario farmers. Year-end analysis information for 1970 and 1971 Record Books will be available to those who submit their records for analysis.

The Ontario Department of Agriculture and Food, through the Extension Branch, will be able to accommodate most farmers who may want to make use of the Canfarm system in 1971.

Registration of farmers on Canfarm is being handled by the Agricultural Representative and his staff in each County and District of the Province.

Farmers participating in Canfarm receive monthly and year-end income and expense, cash and credit statements for their own farm operation. As with the Ontario Farm Record Book, staff of the Extension Branch are available to assist farmers in using the information obtained from their Canfarm records.

Budgeting, cash flow, financial counselling, transfer agreements, tax management, and estate planning are all important

parts of the Ontario Farm Management Program.

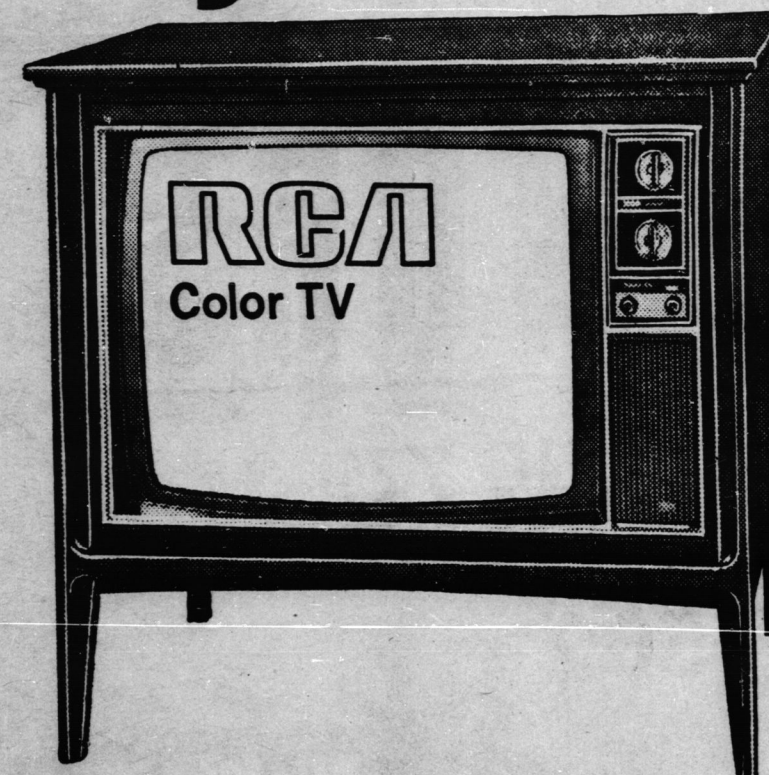
Mr. Bruce McCorquodale, a member of the staff of the Extension Branch, coordinates the Farm Management Information Systems in Ontario on behalf of the Department. His office is located in the Department of Agricultural Economics, University of Guelph.

Further information concerning Farm Management Programs, including Canfarm, the Ontario Farm Record Book and other Farm Management topics may be obtained by contacting the County and District offices of the Ontario Department of Agriculture and Food or Mr. McCorquodale.

TOO OLD

TORONTO (CP) — Carmen Cornacchia, who has been shining shoes in the barber shop in the Toronto Star building for 41 years, retired recently when the barber shop closed temporarily. The shop is moving to the new Star building Nov. 1 under new management. But Cornacchia, who will soon be 78, feels he's too old to start a new business.

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Selkirk Provincial Park

This 160 acre park is located on Lake Erie, about two miles southwest of the Village of Selkirk which is six miles south of No. 3 Highway west from Cayuga, Ontario.

The southwest corner of the park is split by Sandus Creek which flows into Lake Erie. This area was a natural harbour for commercial fishing boats in days gone by. Other points of interest include an almost pure stand of shagbark

hickory, about 20 acres in size, and a stand of mature oak, both red and white, which covers one of the camping areas.

A 25 acre marsh, with a small spring creek running through it, is a spawning place for pike and other species of fish in the spring as well as a place for park visitors to observe other wonders of nature's ways in a marsh.

Park facilities include 168 campsites, generously serviced with water outlets, 55 trailer campsites with hydro, a good sand beach, a well-shaded picnic area, a boat launching ramp and a trailer dumping station.

This is one of Ontario's Provincial Recreation Parks in which the environment, facilities and services are managed to accommodate camping and day-use activities.

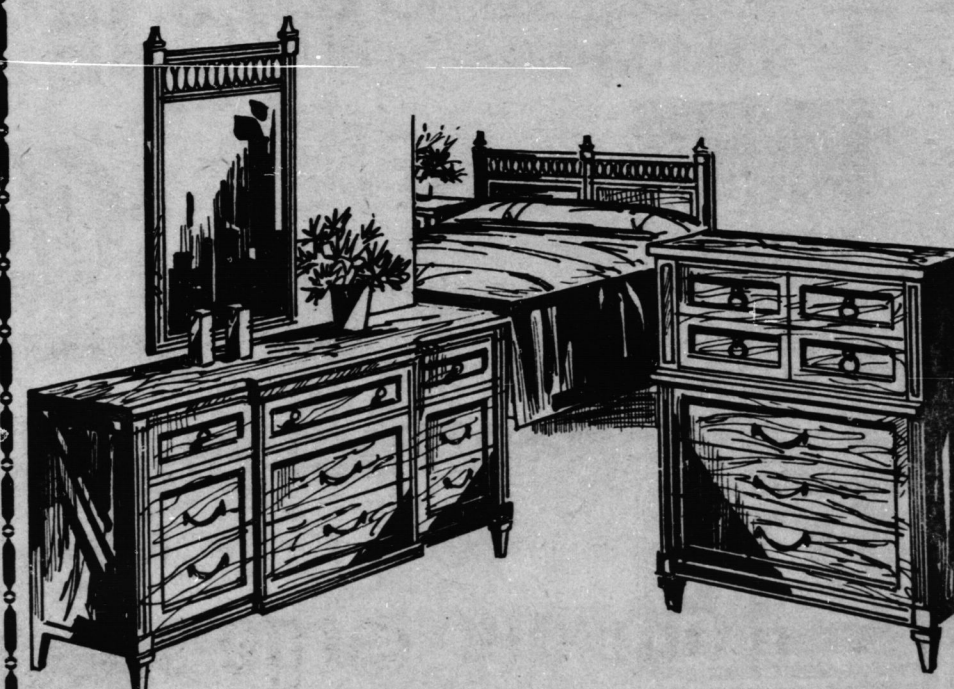
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