

Farm pond

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management. It can be used to drain the pond for various fish management practices, pond repairs, or emergency situations.

The drainpipe can be closed with a valve or plugged with a bell-end clay tile partially filled with cement. Even a glass jug will work. The plug should be sealed in the inlet end of the pipe with asphalt cement or cement mortar.

If a breakable plug is used, the pond can be drained whenever it becomes necessary, but it will be difficult to stop the flow without draining the pond completely.

Cutoff or anti-seep collars should be placed round the drainpipe to prevent water from seeping along the outside of the pipe and cutting a channel through the dam.

When steel pipe is used, the collars should be metal plates welded to the pipe. If other types of pipe are used, the collars must be compatible with the pipe.

The collars should be three to four times the diameter of the pipe. Two or more collars are necessary, and they usually are placed about 10 to 15 feet apart. Prefabricated drains with anti-seep collars and drain

valves may be available where culverts and large corrugated pipes are sold.

Construction procedure

The construction site should be cleared of all large rocks, trees, brush, roots, and other debris. The topsoil should be removed and stockpiled for later use.

Most earth dams should have an anti-seepage core built into the structure. A trench for this core should be dug along the center line of the dam breast and then refilled and packed with the best clay soil available. This trench should extend the full length of the dam breast and be at least 3 feet deep, preferably deeper. The core is to prevent seepage and to establish a good bond with the undisturbed foundation.

The drainpipe with collars attached should be placed in position through the core and perpendicular to the center line of the dam. The trench for the drainpipe should be filled and tamped to prevent seepage.

The earth fill used in the dam should be free of boulders, stumps, roots, tree limbs, and decaying vegetation. Organic material buried in the dam will eventually decay and leave channels through which water can seep and cause the dam to fail.

Earth fill should be spread in 6- to 8-inch layers and compacted with a heavy roller. The top of dam should be built about 10 percent higher than the designed height, to allow for final settling.

Lancaster Farming, Saturday, July 12, 1980—A25

The emergency spillway and exposed faces of the dam should be limed, fertilized, and planted with a grass mixture to make the pond attractive and to prevent erosion. Crown vetch is an excellent cover on the dry-slope side of the dam, but it should not be used on the spillway.

It may be possible to avoid some management problems that occur after the pond is completed, by taking precautionary measures at the time of construction.

Raprap should be applied to the face of the dam to control wave erosion and discourage muskrats.

A fence should be constructed to keep livestock from tramping along the banks and polluting the water. An electric fence or barbed wire, which might injure people using the pond, is not recommended.

Maintenance tips

Inspection and maintenance protects a pond, keeps it attractive, and extends its useful life. It should be inspected frequently.

Remove floating debris that can clog the overflow pipe and emergency spillway. Cut the grass and keep weeds, brush, and trees from growing on the dam. Remove cattails and other aquatic vegetation from shallow water. Check the shoreline for signs of muskrats, and repair the damage these animals cause when they burrow into the banks to form dens.

Be sure that the road provided for fire trucks is maintained for the passage of heavy vehicles and is plowed following a heavy snowfall. If a fire truck cannot get to the water, the pond is worthless for fire protection.

Hampshire picnic scheduled

The Maryland Hampshire Sheep Association will hold its annual picnic meeting at the Price Stock Farm, 339 Lemmon Rd., Westminster, Md. at 1:30 p.m. on Sunday, July 13. Each family is to bring a meat dish, one other dish, place setting and lawn chairs.

Business meeting is at 2:30 p.m.

views on the role and direction of Hampshires for the future. There will be sheep on exhibit to illustrate Mr. Cretcher's comments.



The program will feature Jim Cretcher, secretary, American Hampshire Sheep Association, Ashland, Mo. Mr. Cretcher will discuss present day Hampshire breed type and indicate his

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Controlled Research of Inoculated Silage
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Corn Silage	Inoculated	No Inoculation
Moisture In	72%	74%
pH Ensiled	3.9	4.1
Crude Protein	9.4%	8.3%
Dry Matter Per Ton	560 lbs	520 lbs
Dry Matter		
Retained	465 lbs (83%)	369 lbs (71%)
Shrinkage	95 lbs (17%)	151 lbs (29%)
Difference	96 lbs	
	(D.M./ton)	
Protein Retained	94%	71%
Fiber Retained	83%	82%
N F E Retained	80%	67%
Energy Retained	88%	75%
Digestibility of		
Protein	58%	55%
Dry Matter	70%	68%
Energy	70%	67%
Crude Protein		
Per Ton	52.64 lbs	43.16 lbs
Crude Protein Retained	49.48 lbs	30.64 lbs
Digestible Protein Retained	29.19 lbs	16.85 lbs
Difference Per Ton Preserved by Inoculation		
96.00 lbs Dry Matter Per Ton of Silage		
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