

How you can contact us

DISPLAY ADVERTISING

AUCKLAND/NORTHLAND

Fiona Mackinnon 09 524 1185 or 021 2878094

Sara Gorgees 09 524 1185 / 021 648 709

WAIKATO/BOP/TARANAKI

Dianne Halstead 07 838 6203 or 021 271 4214

LOWER NORTH ISLAND

Tess McLeod 021 287 7479

SOUTH ISLAND

Kim Hanlin 021 2878094

PROPERTY ADVERTISING

Nina Stairmand 09 524 1181 or 021 222 0483

LIVESTOCK ADVERTISING

David Banham 06 765 5199 or 021 247 1266

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

Bernadette Christie 07 838 6201

EDITOR

Jeff Smith 09 524 1177

NORTH ISLAND REPORTERS

AUCKLAND/NORTHLAND

Rachael Breckon 09 524 1188

WAIKATO/BAY OF PLENTY

Rachel McNaughton 07 888 1557 or 021 283 2056

Lisa Potter 07 829 5229 or 021 287 8092

HAWKE'S BAY

Barbara Gillham 06 370 2118

MANAWATU/WAIRARAPA

Denise Gunn 06 323 3304 or 021 280 4356

SOUTH ISLAND REPORTERS

CANTERBURY

Sandra Finnie 03 693 9522 or 021 270 7971

Howard Keene 03 981 4790

OTAGO/SOUTHLAND

Rob Tipa 03 478 0360 or 027 478 0360

FEATURES

Bronwyn Savage 03 980 1976



STRAIGHT FURROW
New Zealand's Rural Weekly

GENERAL MANAGER Rebecca Stuart 021 283 3702

SUBSCRIPTIONS PHONE 0800 651 652

300 Great South Rd, Greenlane
NZ Rural Press, PO Box 4233, Auckland 1140
Phone: 09 523 5056 • Fax 09 524 1170
Email straightfurrow@ruralpress.com

To line or not to line the big ponds?

By HOWARD KEENE

WATER storage reservoirs have become a common feature of the Canterbury Plains in recent years, but the question for farmers is whether to build a lined pond or an unlined pond which uses up big areas of productive land.

South Canterbury arable farmer Murray Turley made the decision to go for a deep, lined pond which will hold 400,000 cubic metres of water. Recently completed, it is one of the biggest lined ponds around.

Mr Turley grows potatoes, specialist small seeds, and cereals on his Turley Farms Ltd operation. Initially, the new pond will store water from his current allowable irrigation take. However, he should eventually get water from the proposed Rangitata South Irrigation Scheme, making use of winter rains and spring snow melt.

The scheme plans to irrigate 12,000ha of farmland in the area, and like other new irrigation schemes the aim is to provide reliable water utilising storage ponds.

Turley Farms plans to irrigate at least 1000ha, which would require 250,000cu m of storage under the scheme. However, to future proof their operation they have opted for 400,000cu m of storage.

Instead of going for the more traditional type pond with a shallow earth dam which would take up a large area of land, they chose to build a 10m deep dam which would take up less productive land and have much a smaller surface area minimising water losses from evaporation.



Above: Turley Farms new water storage reservoir in South Canterbury.
Below: Laying the liner in Turley Farms new water storage reservoir.

To achieve that amount of storage from a traditional earth dam with a depth of 2m, the reservoir would have taken up about 25ha of land. The Turleys' reservoir takes up 5.76ha or the equivalent of about eight rugby fields.

The smaller surface area means less loss to evaporation during the hot, dry summers experienced in the area, and no loss from seepage, which is significant in unlined reservoirs.

For a liner the Turleys selected EPDM membrane manufactured by Firestone Building Products USA and distributed in New Zealand by Cosio

Industries because of its durability.

Vaughan Podbielski product manager of Firestone Liners said it has a 20-year Firestone material warranty, and satisfied engineers and building consent requirements by having a life expectancy of over 50 years.

The excavation and construction was done by Rooney Earthmoving of Ashburton and the lining laid by Young Farmer of the Year Tim O'Sullivan and his Canterbury Environmental Linings business partner Simon Metcalf.

Mr Podbielski said that due to one of the wettest May's on

record the installation of the liner took longer than expected, but now it is completed the reservoir is expected to take about 60 days to fill.

He said the synthetic rubber waterproofing membrane was quick to install because of its wide 15.25m x 61m standard roll size.

Irrigation New Zealand chief executive Andrew Curtis said that while more expensive than community schemes, on-farm storage was important in reducing risk.

"If you haven't got risk then you can optimise irrigation efficiency."



Insist on your Firestone
Warranty Certificate

Dependable performance
in demanding environments

- Elongation over 300 %
- Highly flexible even at -45 °C
- Long-term durability
- Superior pressure resistance
- Environmentally friendly (ISO 14001)
- Large seamless sheets up to 930 m²
- Fully engineered system
- Irrigation reservoirs and canals
- Effluent ponds
- Waste water reservoirs
- Constructed wetlands
- Artificial snow reservoirs
- Aquaculture ponds
- Landfill capping

For further info:

Cosio Industries Ltd
Toll Free 0800 109 093

Firestone
BUILDING PRODUCTS
AUTHORIZED DISTRIBUTOR

Firestone
EPDM
GEOMEMBRANE
Lining in Action™
www.firestonebpe.com

PLANNING IRRIGATION OR EFFLUENT PONDS...

This is the
Pond Lining Solution!

1. Specialising in EPDM Rubber
2. Effluent Storage & Design
3. Viticulture (Frost Protection & Irrigation)

FOR SOUND ADVICE CALL
027 201 4020

www.canterburyenvironmentalliners.co.nz

Backed by a 20 year Guarantee

canterbury
environmental
liners

Firestone
Pond Gard
RUBBER LINERS
Made by Firestone Building Products

ROONEY
EARTHMOVING LTD

Call us for a consultation
specific to your needs.

Specialists in all types of:

- Earthmoving Construction
- Borderdyking (Laser & GPS)
- Dairy Conversions, Underpass & Farm Maintenance
- Irrigation Work, Trenching & Pipe Laying
- Dam Construction
- Tree & Stump Removal
- General Excavation Work
- Subdivisions
- Heavy Haulage, Certified Pilots



Alford Forest Road, PO BOX 403 Ashburton
Ph (03) 308 6011 Fax (03) 308 5108
Mobile 027 249 7306