

# Don't Under-Rate Commercial Fish Farms - - - Those Trout Aren't THAT Easy to Catch

Many trout fishermen would say that fishing in a hatchery is "easy" where the business is stocks private ponds with thousands of fish to guarantee the availability of good trout. They think it would be like the cliché, "shooting fish in a barrel."

May Get "Stinked"  
But Ivan Cryderman of Milton would be able to prove them wrong. He owns a 100-acre fish and game ranch near Moffat and although he has personally stocked quite a few of his present operation of 15,000 rainbow trout in three of the large ponds on the property, he was even the most skillful fly fisherman he may get "stinked" in those seemingly trout-laden waters.

It's no "fish story" when Ivan tells how his trout get "educated" in a hurry. He has watched the Rainbow Ranch Fish and Game Club's best angler at all day on the banks of a pond, watching the rainbows swim and five flies skimming over the surface, and completely ignoring the most expensive flies and lures at the end of the dejected angler's line.

Watch Them Go By  
It's pretty humiliating to the fly fisherman who prides himself on his angling ability, to watch hundreds of beautiful rainbows swimming and leaping past his swim lure.

But the rainbows at the Moffat farm have a golden rule — "Once Bitten, Twice Shy". You may hook them once and toss them back in hopes something bigger will catch onto your line — but that fish won't make the same mistake twice.

## Good Response To Visitation

The scout mothers' meeting was held in the scout hall Tuesday May 7, with 11 members present. The meeting was opened with the Lord's Prayer led by the president Alice Wilkinson. The secretary and treasurer's reports were read. The commissioner sent in a request for testers qualified to test Guides: A thank you card was read from a past member expressing thanks for her gifts. Reports were given by members on the family visitation being conducted and all are very pleased with the response. A brownie reveal is being planned for June for all brownies and families and they were asked to provide the lunch and ribbons. Ethel Haggott offered to be in charge of the nominating committee for the May meeting. It was decided to have the June outing on June 11. Final plans to be made at the next meeting. The meeting closed with the Alzaph benediction and lunch was served.

Ivan Cryderman was selling cars back in 1950 when he bought the 100-acre tract on the Massachusetts Town Line two miles west of Moffat village. He tapped onto clear springs that dotted the property, built a pond, erected a rearing tank, and purchased some breeding stock, and he was embroiled in the complicated trout business.

## Spilling Five Pins

AT THE ACTON Bowling Lanes  
by Ken Halford

### High School

May 13: The 263 pin lead held by the Blue Bombers from the first three game block along with their second three block of 2064 saw them come home free as champions. The issue was never in doubt as the Bombers added to their lead in the first and second games and although they fell off slightly in the third game they still finished 345 pins ahead of the second place Choo-Choo Puffs. Crowding the second place Choo-Choo were Gutter Flies who finished with 431. Mashing Monsters couldn't get going until the final game and had to settle for a 424 pinfall. The Blue Bombers roll was headed up by the solos of Jackie Bullough 202 and Don Harris 201. Choo-Choo Puff's efforts were paced by Marv Grischow 267 and Frank Morton 220. Gutter Flies had Barry Elliott 203 and John Dunn 208 to their credit while Mashing Monsters would have fared much better if they could have backed up Ted Walthe's 633 triple. So it is "all the champs": Jill Hurst, Terry Churchill, Merl Hurst, Jackie Bullough and Don Harris for a job well done and to the losers, better luck next season.

### Micro Plastic

May 14: You have to hand it to the Spintniks, when they decided to go into orbit for the championship, they didn't foul. Going into the final three game block they trailed the leading Squawkers by 168 pins and the second spot holders, Terribles, by 193 and the railbirds didn't give them much of a chance. In fact everyone figured it to be a battle between Squawkers and Terribles but 'twas not to be. Spintniks with Elsa Schmidt 217, Nino Gito 230, Gino DeBartolo 236 and Herman Bessem 268 to pace 'em crashed out a 116 and with Squawkers and Terribles only coming up with 796 and 728 in that order the panic was on.

The Spintniks slackened off in the second but with Nino Gito rolling a 223 they chalked up a 914 which still topped Squawkers 896 and Terribles 825. Gito was still the Spintniks pacesetter with

It took long, hard hours of sweat, braven and patience, but by the late summer of 1960 he had a pond stocked with medium-sized rainbows and was ready to open it for fishing.

### Landed With Rainbows

Over the years the work increased and soon he left the car business to devote full time to his growing "ranch" that today



includes four rearing ponds, four rearing tanks, spring ponds, four large fishing ponds, and a 40-foot trough — each loaded with thousands of fighting rainbows ranging in length from two inches to 20 inches weighing over two pounds.

He's still working just as hard, there's still more bush to cut and developing to be done, but for a change there's money coming in to offset heavy expenditures during the first few years of development.

Today Ivan has close to 40 members in his private membership club, with a limit set at 50 members. He's hatching his own eggs and selling fish commercially to owners of private ponds and for restaurant fare. And he's branching out from strictly rainbows, to include speckled trout in his ponds. When this year's eggs hatch after spawning, he'll have close to 50,000 fish on the ranch.

### From Wide Area

In 1961 a group of Oakville anglers attempted forming a club to rent the entire fishing rights on the farm, but membership fell short of the quota and the deal fell through. Many of the same Oakville men are still members, however, and they are joined by fellow anglers from a wide area — including Brampton, Kitchener, Guelph, Hamilton and Toronto.

This fall Ivan plans to introduce some limited pheasant and partridge hunting on the farm, as an added convenience for members.

His \$100 membership fee includes the whole family — for fishing is a family sport in his books and he loves to see dads taking their sons or daughters to the farm for a relaxing day on the banks of the ponds. Camping, picnic and swimming facilities are available, so the whole family can come along for the day and enjoy themselves while father tests his equipment in the sparkling waters.

No live or imitation worms or minnows are allowed, just flies, plugs and spoons. They must be single hooks, with the barbs removed, so a member can catch all he wants and release them, keeping only the biggest of his catch.

Members are allowed to keep

three fish a week, and pay extra for any trout over that limit. This makes the ranch an excellent place for the sport fisherman, who gets his biggest kick out of using his equipment — but it's no place for the man who is strictly interested in loading his creel with as much meat as possible.

The owner guarantees there will be plenty of fish in the ponds, but cannot guarantee they will strike when you toss a fly or plug at them. The trout are raised on a carefully planned diet of prepared pellets, and rely on the pellets for food. If they strike at a lure, they strike only in anger — not for hunger.

### Spawning Process

The spawning process, in which man assists Mother Nature for the most exciting and careful development of top grade rainbows, is an art in itself. Ivan explains it like this:

When the rainbows appear ready to spawn, usually early in April, he nets the males and females and separates them. The "milt" solution — a creamy white substance resembling milk — is extruded from the male into a small pan, then he carefully presses the sides of the female to extract her eggs into the same pan. He always uses two males, and two females for one "batch". In case any of the fish are sterile.

### Fertilizes Egg

The milt and eggs are left in the pan for two minutes only, while the milt fertilizes the egg, then the used milt is removed and the eggs are rinsed. The egg then is "set up" or hardened by cold water for two hours, before

being placed in pans in the hatchery.

The hatchery is a separate building where no strong sunlight can spoil the eggs. The pans of eggs are laid out in troughs of cold, running water, and each day for the next five to eight weeks the "bad" or discolored eggs have to be removed in a tedious operation using a long pair of tweezers. Any unnecessary motion of contact with the good eggs spoils them in this critical stage.

### Remove Bad Eggs

Once an eye of the fish begins to appear on the side of the egg, they have progressed to a stage where they are very rugged. Then it's time for a "shock treatment" — Ivan takes the pans out of the trough, shakes them, and bangs the eggs against the side of the trough.

### On Their Own

After that, they're on their own, for they are stocked into the ponds where fishing is allowed, or shipped off to restaurant or private ponds.

Ivan admits he started on the fish ranch business with the impression it would be easy. If anyone had asked him in 1956 how to go about starting an angler's haven, he probably would have told them to dig a pond, get a few fish of opposite

sexes, and sit back and wait for your farm to be overrun with top quality trout.

It's a little more complex and skillful an art than that, he admits now. The large capital investment, the long hours of manual labor, the patience required in the hatchery work, and the numerous disappointments, all go to make it a fascinating hobby-turned-occupation that he really enjoys.

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Acton public schools will be able to accommodate all pupils of Kindergarten age this year. To enrol they must be five years old by December 31, 1963. (Birth certificate required). To avoid confusion, please complete the form below before May 31 and send or mail it to your district school in care of GABRIEL W. MCKENZIE, Principal, Robert Little School, Box 870 or W. D. ELMER SMITH, Principal, M. Z. Bennett School, Box 840.

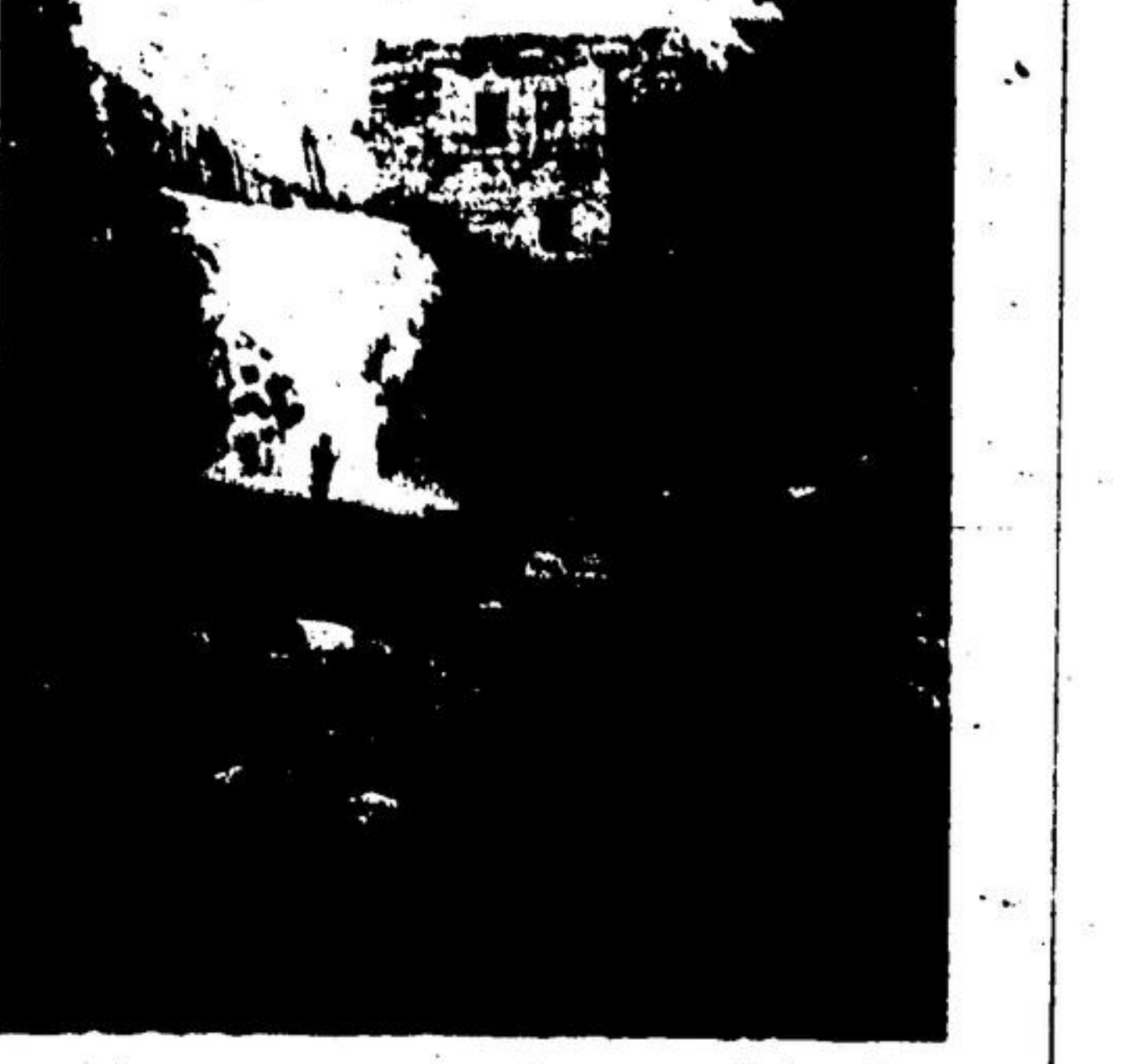
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Notice is hereby given to all persons in possession of land, in accordance with the Weed Control Act 1960, Sections 8, 18 and 19 — That unless noxious weeds growing on their lands, within the Municipality of Esquesing are destroyed by date of June 15, 1963 and throughout the season, the municipality may enter upon said lands and have the weeds destroyed, charging the costs against the land in taxes, as set out in the Act. The co-operation of all citizens is earnestly solicited.  
V. E. McARTHUR,  
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