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UNDERGROUND WATER AT MR. EASTON'S PROPERTY TEA TREE

This property extends along either side of the Middle Tea Tree Road about a mile and a half from the Tea Tree - Campania Road. Mr. Easton is anxious to obtain sufficient water to irrigate several acres of his land.

GEOLOGY:

Most of the property is underlain by Triassic Sandstones. These have been intruded by dolerite, probably in the form of transgressive bodies, both to the East- West. The actual contact to the West has been obscured by dolerite soil and talus, which covers the surface as far east as the creek bed. It is probable however, that the contact is somewhere in the vicinity of the road. This sandstone is a good aquifer and has been bored with successful results in many places in the Midlands.

UNDERGROUND WATER: QUANTITY AVAILABLE:

Although this rock is a good aquifer it does not yield the volume of water available from more porous formations. The results of many bores put down in the Oatlands area show that the most usual yield (and close to the average) is 300 gallons per hour - the maximum yield from any one bore was 500 gallons per hour. It is not expected that the type of sandstone likely to be encountered here would yield water at more than 300 gallons per hour from a bore hole of 5" diameter. This seems very inadequate for irrigation purposes.

QUALITY OF WATER:

The water obtained from these sandstones is not usually of the highest quality and it does contain certain salts in solution. However, the proportion of these salts should not be large enough to make the water harmful for irrigation.

DEPTH TO WATER TABLE:

The property is said to be about 100 feet above sea level. It is not expected that the water table would be lower than 75 feet from the surface.

SURFACE WATER:

The property lies on either side of a gully contained between hills rising to 1,200 feet. Although much of the rainfall finds its way to the water table a certain proportion not only runs off the surface but seeps through the soil and eventually runs down the gully to the sea. The water normally makes at the surface in the gully near Mr. Easton's house and he appears to have adequate stock supplies from this source.

(Sgd.) Terence D. Hughes

GEOLOGIST.

Dept. of Mines
21st Feb. 1952