News Release Communiqué

Ministry of the Environment Ministère de l'Environnement



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CENTANO FARMS LTD FINED \$10,000 FOR VIOLATION OF THE ONTARIO WATER RESOURCES ACT

SARNIA — Centano Farms Ltd. has been fined \$10,000, plus a victim fine surcharge (VFS), after pleading guilty to violating the Ontario Water Resources Act (OWRA).

Centano Farms Ltd. operates a pig farm located outside of Arkona at Concession SB, Lot 9, in the Municipality of Lambton Shores.

The Court was told that pig manure was applied at the farm to snow-covered frozen ground on March 14 and March 15, 2005. The temperature rose resulting in run off which flowed to a low point in the field, then into two drains. Although the two drains flow to the Ausable River and Lake Huron, evidence revealed that manure was only found in the drains.

On March 17, 2005, Provincial Officers from the Ministry of the Environment responded to a complaint that manure was discovered in one of the drains. The manure spill was traced to Centano Farms, where the owner was cooperative and immediately made efforts to cease any further discharge.

Centano Farms pleaded guilty to causing or permitting the discharge of a material which may impair water quality contrary to Section 107(1) of the OWRA and was fined \$10,000, plus a VFS.

Justice of the Peace Calvin Hurst heard the case in the Ontario Court of Justice in Sarnia on May 12, 2006.

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