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Title: Land for Sustainable Food Production (SDG-2): Understanding the History of Locked-In Agricultural Policies and Urban Planning in Southern Ontario

Lack of access to land for sustainable farming is an obstacle to achieving SDG2. Landscapes are co-produced by humans and nature, notably for cities and for agriculture. A combined food regime and landscape approach promises to get to the historical root of the many specific institutional blockages preventing access to land for sustainable farmers. We interpret the history of urban planning and agricultural policies in southern Ontario, which is at once the most populous part of the largest province in Canada and also part of the Great Lakes bioregion that stretches north and south of the international border. Southern Ontario has a particular version of a common history of reshaping indigenous forested landscapes with introduced crops, livestock, farmers and farming techniques to create neo-European cities and foodlands. Yet there was no purposeful coordination of the urban planning and agricultural policies that shaped a shared landscape over the course of the 19th and 20th centuries. The institutional legacies of this disconnected policy history reveal a deeper unity to the entrenched barriers faced by those trying to renew landscapes for sustainable food production.