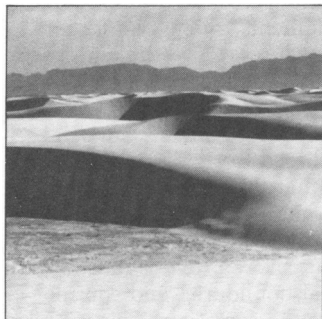


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**Cover:** Technology, such as irrigation, overcomes the vagaries of weather and climate only to a point. See page 350. Photo courtesy Valmont Industries, Inc., Valley, Nebraska.