

Published by the Irrigation Crop Diversification Corporation (ICDC) and the Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture <a href="https://www.irrigationsaskatchewan.com">www.irrigationsaskatchewan.com</a> March 2009

# ICDC board report

## 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Irrigation Conference held in Swift Current From the ICDC Board of Directors

The 2008 Annual Meeting of the Irrigation Crop Diversification Corporation (ICDC) was held in Swift Current on Dec. 9, 2008.

Staff of the Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture's Irrigation Branch provided reports on all the projects implemented and funded in 2008 by ICDC.

For those unable to attend, a complete ICDC Program Final Report for 2008 is available. Please call the Irrigation Branch offices in Outlook at (306) 867-5500 or Swift Current at (306) 778-5041 to obtain a copy, or visit <a href="https://www.irrigationsaskatchewan.com">www.irrigationsaskatchewan.com</a> to read the report online.

ICDC board elections saw Rob Oldhaver and Neil Stranden return for their second three-year terms as directors. Rob represents the South West Development Area and Neil the Lake Diefenbaker Development Area. Our thanks to both of these individuals for their continued service to ICDC.

The board received approval from the meeting to allocate funds and pursue projects in various categories for the 2009/10 year. The 2009/10 Workplan Budget is provided in detail on page two.

The board is actively involved in trying to meet the needs of ICDC members, and we seek your input into the development of our program.

If you have any ideas for projects or thoughts about the program, please talk to the Irrigation Branch staff listed in this newsletter or to a Board representative from your areas.

- Rick Swenson, Chair, ICDC

In this issue
Current Board / Workplan budget 2-3
Phosphorus fertility4
South West survey8-10
Fusarium Head Blight11
Clubroot awareness
ICDC staff14
New project ideas16

### **Introducing ICDC's board of directors**

ICDC directors are elected at the annual meeting by delegates of the various irrigation districts.

Each irrigation district (ID) is entitled to send one ICDC delegate per 5,000 irrigated acres or part thereof. The majority of the board must, by law, be composed of irrigators.

The four ICDC development areas defined by ICDC's bylaws are represented: Lake Diefenbaker Development Area (LDDA), two directors; South West Development Area (SWDA), two directors; North Development Area (NDA), one director; and South East Development Area (SEDA), one director.

Non-district irrigators elect one director.

The Saskatchewan Irrigation Projects Association (SIPA) and the Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture each appoint two directors.

The current ICDC board is described in the chart below.

Name and position	Irrigation District and Development Area Represented		Year term concludes and Terms Served	
Rick Swenson, Chair	Baildon ID	SEDA	2009	2
Paul Heglund, Vice Chair	Vidora ID	SWDA	2010	2
Neil Stranden, Alternate Vice Chair	SSRID #1	LDDA	2011	2
Keith Forrest, Director	Individual Irrigator	SIPA rep	Appointed	
Kevin Plummer, Director	Moon Lake ID	NDA	2009	2
Randy Bergstrom, Director	Luck Lake ID	LDDA	2010	2
Francis Kinzie, Director	Pike Lake	Non-District	2009	2
Rob Oldhaver, Director	Miry Creek ID	SWDA	2011	2
Jan Konst, Director	SSRID #1	SIPA rep	Appointed	
John Babcock, Director	Saskatchewan Minist	, ,		
Dr. Abdul Jalil, Director	Saskatchewan Minist	ry of Agricultur	e Appointed	



Irrigators view trickle irrigation equipment at the Forest First Agro-forestry Demonstration Site during the Trickle Irrigation Workshop and Tour held June 28, 2008, at Outlook.

### ICDC Board Report:

## 2009/2010 workplan budget

Research and Demonstration Projects Variety Testing

variety resting		
- Grain Crops	\$ 44,000	
- Annual Forages	4,000	
- Alfalfa	5,000	
Agronomic Trials	2,000	
Forage Crop Demonstrations	4,000	
Fruit Crop Demonstrations and		
Industry Development	1,500	
Vegetable Crop Demonstrations and		
Industry Development	1,500	
New Crop Demonstrations	1,500	
Scheduling Demonstrations	1,000	
Other (Extension events)	500	
Contract Research	<u>20,000</u>	
		\$85,000
unications	8,000	
nsurance/Legal	5,000	

Commu Audit/In Website 1,500

14,500 **TOTAL** \$99,500



Irrigation Agrologist Sarah Sommerfeld (left) of Saskatchewan Agriculture discusses the basics of irrigation scheduling during the Treasure Valley Field Day near Cadillac, July 8, 2008.



Irrigators (I-r) Roger Pederson and Roy King checked available soil moisture using a Clements Backsaver soil probe, while Irrigation Agrologist Sarah Sommerfeld demonstrated use of a soil auger at the Irrigated Canola Field Day in July 2008. (See page 13.)

#### Current industry issues . . .

### Phosphorus fertility

By Kelly Farden, PAg Irrigation Agrologist, Outlook

Phosphorus (P) has been described as a complicated beast.

This analogy refers to the complex nature of phosphorus in the soil. However, with the price volatility of phosphate  $(P_2O_5)$  fertilizers and with different phosphorus technologies now available, this description seems to be increasingly more appropriate.

Research has shown that as much as 85 per cent of Saskatchewan cropland would benefit from phosphorus fertilization. Research also shows that, after nitrogen, phosphorus is the second most limiting nutrient in crop production on the Canadian Prairies.

Good phosphorus fertility promotes rapid plant growth, increased root development and earlier maturity. Phosphorus deficiencies not only decrease yield potentials, they also delay crop maturity. Delayed maturity can be problematic for crops located in frost-sensitive areas and under irrigation, where growing season requirements may be extended by 10 days to two weeks.

Phosphorus occurs in the soil in three different pools: soluble phosphorus, labile phosphorus, and non-labile phosphorus.

Soluble phosphorus refers to the phosphorus that is available for plant use. This pool is very small and needs to be replenished many times over the growing season.

Labile phosphorus is the pool that rapidly



This wheat crop in the early growth stage illustrates the "pop up" effect, which results from seed-placed phosphorus fertilizer.

converts to soluble phosphorus and replenishes the soil solution as the plants utilize the nutrient. Phosphate fertilizer applications help to build up and recharge the labile pool.

Non-labile phosphorus is the largest pool of phosphorus in the soil and is essentially unavailable for plant uptake.

It is commonly accepted that phosphorus fertility is best managed agronomically over the long term (more than five years) as opposed to the short term (annually). This can be accomplished by attempting to maintain soil test levels above a critical amount or by applying phosphate fertilizer at rates that are close to crop removal. For every bushel of wheat, canola or ton of alfalfa produced, there are approximately 0.6, 1.0 and 13 pounds of phosphate removed, respectively. That being said, producers

Crop yields

will drop off

phosphorus

by the crop

that has been

exported from

the field annually

is not replaced.

if the

are aware of the financial health of their operations and will manage a fertility program to provide the best economic returns.

As the 2009 crop season approaches, some producers may consider cutting back on phosphorus fertilizer rates or not applying any phosphorus fertilizer at all. In fields which have had adequate to good phosphorus fertility management in the past, a yield decrease may not be drastic. However, not replacing the phosphorus that is being

exported from the field will gradually deplete the labile pool of phosphorus. Over time the capability of the labile pool to convert to available phosphorus will be severely diminished.

Another option available to producers to manage phosphorus fertility is to use other phosphorus technologies or specialty products.

For example, Alpine Plant Foods is marketing a liquid starter phosphorus product which the company suggests, when applied in the seed row, has at least 20 per cent greater fertilizer use efficiency than dry granular monoammonium phosphate (12-51-0) in the year of application. It should be noted that the suggested rate of three gallons per acre is the equivalent of 8.5 pounds per acre of phsophate fertilizer ( $P_2O_5$ ), which is about one third the amount of phosphate that would be removed from the field by a 40-bushel wheat crop.

Another example is Jumpstart®, a seed

inoculant that contains naturally occurring phosphorus solubilizing fungi, which can be applied with a number of different crops. Jumpstart® can help to increase the availability of both existing soil phosphorus and applied fertilizer phosphorus to the crop. Jumpstart® applications tend to be most beneficial in neutral to basic pH soils that have large amounts of calcium-bound phosphorus.

A third example is Avail®, a phosphorus fertilizer additive which has been found to

improve the efficiency of phosphorus fertilizer use in some areas of the United States. The product works by slowing down the processes that lead to phosphorus fertilizer being fixed by the soil, therefore, leaving more phosphorus in the soluble form. Avail® can be used with both granular and liquid phosphorus. Research

is currently being undertaken in Western Canada to study the efficacy of this product.

Although these products may help to provide sufficient phosphous fertility in the short term, they should not be considered as long-term solutions. Crop yields will drop off if the phosphorus that has been exported from the field annually by the crop is not replaced. It is important to remember that, although recovery rates for granular 12-51-0 are usually quite low in the year of application, ranging between 10 to 25 per cent, the remaining fertilizer will continue to be recovered by following crops in subsequent years.

(Continued on page 15.)

## Gopher Field Day



About 100 people attended a Gopher Field Day June 16, 2008, on the farm of Andy Perrault in the Ponteix Irrigation District. The field day was requested by south west irrigators in the 2008 irrigation survey.

Companies and individuals marketing various methods of dealing with gophers were invited to present their products to the producers who attended the field day.



Irrigation Agrologist Korvin Olfert of Saskatchewan Agriculture's Irrigation Branch introduced the speakers.







Scott Hartley, (right) Provincial Specialist, Insect/Pest Management, with Saskatchewan Agriculture's Crops Branch, discussed gopher biology. Saskatchewan Agriculture's Provincial Pesticide Specialist Cameron Wilk (not pictured), described the various poisons available and safety information pertaining to those products.

## Changes to the Irrigation website

#### By Lana Shaw, PAg Irrigation Agrologist, Outlook

The website sponsored by the Irrigation Crop Diversification Corporation (ICDC) has been revamped.

The website has a new look and a new way of functioning.

The first page of the website now shows three sections: ICDC, the Saskatchewan Ministry of

The website www.irrigationsaskatchewan.com has a new look.

irrigation.

The Saskatchewan Agriculture section includes irrigation materials located on the

Agriculture, and the Saskatchewan Irrigation Projects Association (SIPA). Users can click on any one of the three sections, which lead to specific irrigation information relevant to each organization.

The ICDC pages provide ICDC's final program reports for the past two years, the *Irrigation Economics and Agronomics* publication, and a link to the Canada-Saskatchewan Irrigation Diversification Centre (CSIDC) publication *Crop Varieties for Irrigation*.

Saskatchewan Agriculture website.

The SIPA pages include information about the association, news releases, membership, and events.

Sections of the ICDC website are designated

A copy of the *Irrigation Scheduling Manual* is available. There are several other website links related to the various crops grown under

for crops, soil fertility and irrigation scheduling.

If there are any questions or suggestions about the ICDC website, phone Lana Shaw, PAg, at Outlook, (306) 867-5512.



The front page of the revamped Irrigation Saskatchewan website allows producers access to irrigation materials prepared by the Irrigation Crop Diversification Corporation (ICDC), Saskatchewan Agriculture and the Saskatchewan Irrigation Projects Association (SIPA). Visit the restructured website at <a href="https://www.irrigationsaskatchewan.com">www.irrigationsaskatchewan.com</a>.

## **South West Survey**

By Korvin Olfert, PAg Irrigation Agrologist, Swift Current

The two main objectives of the survey were:

1. to determine the crop distribution
over the irrigated acreage; and
2. to determine the priorities
that ICDC should focus on in the future.

Ten years ago, a survey was completed of the irrigation districts in southwestern Saskatchewan to determine ICDC's priorities.

It was useful to hear the kinds of projects irrigators thought should be undertaken. Those suggestions have directed ICDC's activities in the southwest over the last 10 years.

There were a few issues, such as pocket gophers, that were a bigger problem than first thought. As a result, a series of field days and seminars were developed to address this problem over a number of years.

The two main objectives of the survey were:

1. to determine the crop distribution over the

irrigated acreage; and
2. to determine the priorities that ICDC should focus on in the future

The first objective was accomplished by providing a map of each project at the irrigation district meetings. Patrons identified their plots and the crops being grown.

The second objective involved a copy of the 1999 survey results. For each activity listed in the survey, patrons commented on whether

or not ICDC should continue to be involved. There was also an opportunity to propose new ideas for research and demonstration projects.

An ICDC representative attended each of the following meetings:

- Chesterfield ID (685 acres, flood), Feb. 5;
- Consul-Nashlyn ID (3,485 acres, flood), March 28;
- Eastend ID (2,878 acres, flood), Feb. 7;
- Herbert ID (1,667 acres, sprinkler), March 27;
- Lodge Creek ID (970 acres, flood), April 1;
- Maple Creek (2,039 acres, flood and sprinker), Feb. 8;
- Middle Creek ID (1,087 acres, flood), March 13;
- Miry Creek ID (1,551 acres, sprinkler), April 2;
- North Waldeck ID (1,639 acres, flood), April 23;
- Ponteix ID (1,495 acres, flood and sprinkler), April 8;
- Rush Lake ID (3,394 acres, flood), April 7;
- Val Marie (6,600 acres, flood), May 2;
- Vidora ID (2,436 acres, flood), March 13.

(Continued on page 9.)

### Objective 1: To determine the crop distribution.

# Survey Results Crop Distribution (Figure 1)

The vast majority (89 per cent) of the acres grow a grass alfalfa mix for hay. There was some variance in the species of grasses grown, but the majority of grass species were crested wheat grass and smooth bromegrass. There were very few pure grass stands, although some of the older stands didn't have very much alfalfa left and could almost be considered pure grass. But they were seeded as a grass/alfalfa mix.

Most of the remaining acres (seven per cent) are cereals grown for green feed, but sometimes taken right to grain. Sometimes the greenfeed was a mixture of a few different crops. A few people mentioned a barley/peas mix and one mentioned a mix of all the leftover seed he had. This mix was then baled for green feed.

The other category included rye, sunflowers, winter wheat and oats. There were about twice as many acres of triticale grown, compared to the acreage seeded to oats. This large number of acres seeded to triticale was unexpected.

Overall, one could consider this rotation as growing a grass/alfalfa hay stand for eight to nine years and then rotate into an annual crop before reseeding the hay. This would be true for most of the projects with one notable exception: the Herbert Irrigation

(Continued on page 10.)

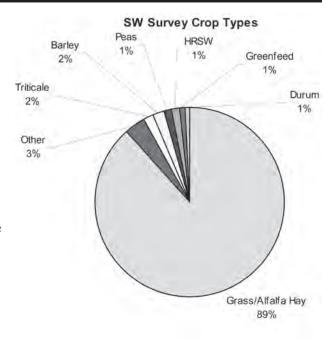


Figure 1. Crop distribution of the irrigation projects in the southwest.

#### Herbert Irrigation District

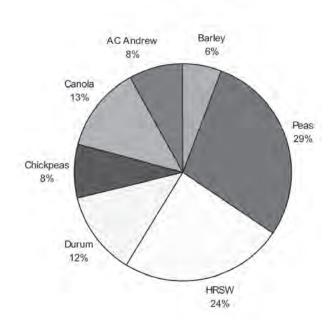


Figure 2. Crop distribution of the Herbert Irrigation District.

#### (Continued from page 9.)

District. This district is comprised of all pivots with one set of wheel moves. This is quite different from the other South West projects, which are flood irrigated with maybe a couple pivots. The crop distribution at Herbert (Figure 2) is similar to that of the Lake Diefenbaker Development Area.



Left: Sideroll irrigation system in the Maple Creek Irrigation District located in the SW Development Area.

### Objective 2: To determine the priorities for ICDC's future projects.

Irrigators selected the following topics as their priorities:

- Alfalfa reseeding techniques;
- Pocket gopher / gopher control;
- Dandelion control in alfalfa;
- Forage production centers tied to livestock feeding;
- Forage mixes for grazing;
- Zero tillage / direct seeding;
- Alfalfa fertilizer economics;
- Deer damage on alfalfa and irrigation;
- Ditches;
- Salinity control; and
- Grass seed varieties for irrigation.

Some other results that ranked highly among irrigators were willow control, saline tolerant forages and moisture content when baling or making silage.

ICDC held a gopher control field day at the Ponteix Irrigation District on June 16, 2008. There were a number of hands-on demonstrations as well as three technical speakers. It was the best-attended field day that ICDC held in 2008, with more than 100 producers showing up.

The other topic that ranked highly in the south west was alfalfa establishment. If irrigators know of anyone in their district who plans to break up and reseed their hay stand this year, ask them to call Korvin Olfert at (306) 778-5041.

Perhaps there could be a demonstration of a couple methods of establishment, or maybe a comparison of different crops.

ICDC is available to help producers with these types of projects. ICDC has also received good support from industry, which has provided inputs and technical support for past projects.

ICDC is always looking for new ideas for projects and welcomes the participation of all co-operators.

### Fusarium Head Blight - prevention and management

By Lana Shaw, PAg Irrigation Agrologist, Outlook

Irrigators in Saskatchewan are learning to manage risk and damage due to Fusarium Head Blight (FHB), a fungal disease of cereals.

This disease affects both yield and quality of harvested grain, often becoming a serious grading problem. Corn in rotation with

small grain cereals like wheat and barley is known to bring FHB into new areas, including irrigation districts. Contaminated seed is the other main mode of establishment.

In 2008, many irrigators took the risk of planting durum in districts with established FHB problems. and it paid off for them with high yields and relatively low fusarium damage. Crop damage by disease was low in 2008 because of environmental conditions. Cereal head infection by fungal spores is favoured by moist, warm conditions during flowering. Spread within heads is encouraged

by humid conditions through grain formation.

Irrigation can be managed on fine- to medium-textured soils by filling up the soil profile prior to flowering then irrigating as required to maintain adequate available moisture through grain formation. On

coarse-textured soils, there is less moisture storage capacity and irrigation management for disease control becomes secondary to maintaining adequate available moisture.

Irrigators who have confronted fusarium in their irrigated cereals for a few years understand the need to reduce exposure to

> disease risk, which is always balanced with the need to get an economic return from their irrigated land. Planting less susceptible varieties helps to reduce damage. The new (HRSW) variety 5602HR has more most other wheat varieties available for commercial production. In like barley, oats and lower FHB risk than

hard red spring wheat tolerance to FHB than Saskatchewan, cereals winter wheat also have durum, soft wheat and Canadian Prairie

Spring (CPS) wheat. Most irrigators take a break of two years between cereal crops, which reduces proliferation of the disease and lowers the risk.



Comparison: Durum kernels in the top row have been infected and damaged by Fusarium Head Blight. Kernels in the second row are healthy and undamaged.

(Continued on page 15.)

## Clubroot update

By Sarah Sommerfeld, PAg Irrigation Agrologist, Outlook

The 2008 *Irrigator* featured an article about the serious disease plaguing the canola industry in Alberta – clubroot. Clubroot is a long-lived, soil-borne plant disease that affects cruciferous crops including canola, mustard, cabbage and other vegetables. In Alberta, clubroot was initially discovered near Edmonton in 2003. It is now found or suspected to be present in 22 counties, including irrigated areas.

In-field symptoms that could indicate clubroot infection are wilting, stunting or yellowing of plants at the late rosette to early podding stage. Areas of a field that exhibit premature ripening or yield lower than other areas of the field (for no obvious reason) may be

showing symptoms of clubroot. To confirm if clubroot is affecting a crop, dig up and examine the plant's roots. Clubroot-affected plant roots become malformed and galls develop. These galls inhibit nutrient and water uptake by the plant resulting in poor plant productivity and loss of yield. Currently, there are no known clubroot-resistant varieties in Canada. There is also no economical fungicide control options registered for use by the canola industry. At this time, prevention of disease establishment in Saskatchewan is the only feasible control option.

Throughout the 2008 crop season, no clubroot symptoms were reported, observed or confirmed in Saskatchewan. Moving into the 2009 crop season, prevention of clubroot infection is critical. The practice of responsible crop rotations (one canola crop every four or five years) and regular scouting of canola fields will assist in preventing clubroot in Saskatchewan.



A yellow patch in a green field can be an indicator of clubroot.

I would like to acknowledge and thank Faye Dokken, M.Sc., AAg, Provincial Plant Disease Specialist with the Crops Branch of Saskatchewan Agriculture for her assistance in the preparation of this article.



Gall formation on a clubroot affected plant in Alberta.

## Irrigation scheduling assistance

By Sarah Sommerfeld, PAg Irrigation Agrologist, Outlook

The 2008 ICDC program strove to emphasize the need for irrigation scheduling. This emphasis will continue and will expand during the implementation of the 2009 ICDC program.

Irrigation agrologists with the Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture can provide technical assistance related to irrigation scheduling and will be pleased to demonstrate on-farm practices to irrigators.

Irrigation agrologists can work with the irrigator throughout the growing season to ensure that irrigation operations are conducted in a timely manner, according to soil-water content and daily crop-water requirements. At the end of the growing

season, the irrigator will have the technical knowledge and practical skills to continue scheduling in the future.

Also of assistance to an irrigator is the new publication entitled *Irrigation Scheduling Manual*. The manual guides an irrigator through the scheduling process, supplying the relevant data and technical information to assist the irrigator in making scheduling decisions.

Irrigators who would like to work on irrigation scheduling with an irrigation agrologist are invited to contact the Irrigation Branch offices in Outlook, phone (306) 867-5500, or Swift Current, phone (306) 778-5041.

### **Irrigation publications for producers**

Four irrigation publications are available to irrigators: the *ICDC Program Final Report 2008*; the budget book entitled *Irrigation Economics and Agronomics*; *Crop Varieties for Irrigation*, which is provided in partnership with the Canada-Saskatchewan Irrigation Diversification Centre (CSIDC); and the *Irrigation Scheduling Manual* developed by irrigation agrologists from the Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture.

The ICDC Program Final Report 2008 describes each of the 29 projects, field days or workshops led by an irrigation agrologist and funded by the Irrigation Crop Diversification Corporation.

The budget book, *Irrigation Economics and Agronomics*, is an annual ICDC publication prepared by irrigation agrologists, and reviewed by the ICDC Board of Directors. The purpose of this book is to assist irrigators in selecting crops that meet the production and economic targets of their farming operations. This book

allows irrigators to compare their on-farm costs and productivity in relation to current industry prices, costs and yields.

Crop Varieties for Irrigation compiles yield comparison data from irrigated yield trials that are managed by the CSIDC. This book is designed to be used by irrigators as a guide when selecting crop varieties suitable for irrigation.

The *Irrigation Scheduling Manual* provides the technical information required for an irrigator to adequately schedule irrigation operations for crops grown under irrigation in Saskatchewan.

Copies of these publications are available from the Saskatchewan Agriculture's Irrigation Branch offices in Outlook or Swift Current, or from the ICDC website at www.irrigationsaskatchewan.com.

### Introducing staff

Support for ICDC is provided through the Irrigation Branch of the Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture. Ministry staff who assist ICDC are:

John Linsley, PAg Manager, Irrigation Branch, Outlook (306) 867-5527

Gerry Gross, PAg Provincial Senior Irrigation Agrologist Research and Demonstration Unit, Outlook (306) 867-5523 Specialty area: ICDC program and administration.

Janice Bennett Administrative Assistant, Outlook (306) 867-5500

Garth Weiterman, PAg Provincial Senior Irrigation Agrologist Irrigation Environmental Unit, Outlook (306) 867-5528 Specialty areas: soil evaluations, soil fertility.

Kelly Farden, PAg Provincial Irrigation Agrologist Agro-Environmental Unit, Outlook (306) 867-5507 Specialty areas: soil evaluations, soil fertility.

Korvin Olfert, PAg Provincial Irrigation Agrologist, Swift Current (306) 778-5041 Specialty areas: corn, forages.

Lana Shaw, PAg Provincial Irrigation Agrologist, Outlook (306) 867-5512 Specialty areas: cereals, pulses, fruit.

Sarah Sommerfeld, PAg Provincial Irrigation Agrologist, Outlook (306) 867-5521 Specialty areas: oilseeds, vegetables, forages and grazing.



John Linsley, PAg



**Janice Bennett** 



Kelly Farden, PAg



Lana Shaw, PAg



Gerry Gross, PAg



Garth Weiterman, PAg



Korvin Olfert, PAg



Sarah Sommerfeld, PAg



Dry Bean Plot Tour, July 23, 2008, at CSIDC: Dr. Parthiba Balasubramanian of Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, Lethbridge, Alta., addressed the crowd.

### Phosphorus fertility (Continued from page 5.)

As spring approaches, it will be important for farmers to know their soil-test phosphorus levels. Although yield responses to phosphate fertilizers can be quite variable, soils testing low in available phosphorus, that is less than 15 parts per million or 30 pounds per acre, will still have a high probability of generating an economical yield response.

Also, the benefits of a small amount of seed-placed starter phosphate are widely recognized, particularly in cold, wet springs.



Irrigated canola.

### Fusarium Head Blight – prevention and management (Continued from page 11)

Fungicide application is one of the tools used to manage FHB on irrigation, but is most effective when used in conjunction with cultural management.

Application timing for FHB control is different than the optimum timing for leaf-disease control. Apply the appropriate fungicide during the flowering period to control FHB. The most effective crop stage is when at least 75 per cent main stem heads have emerged from the sheath to when 50 per cent of the main stem heads are flowering.

The flag leaves are also treated, but there may already be some infection of flag leaves occurring when the head is emerging. When leaf disease is the primary target of control, the recommendation is to apply at the first sign of disease on the leaves, up to the end of the flowering period. Usually the most effective timing for leaf disease control will be when the flag leaf emerges.

For more information about FHB or irrigated cereal production, phone Lana Shaw, PAg, Irrigation Agrologist, Outlook, at (306) 867-5512.

# ICDC project ideas for 2009

#### Have you got suggestions or questions? Give us a call!

ICDC is making preparations for the 2009 project year and is inviting irrigators to contribute ideas and thoughts for projects you would like ICDC to pursue.

Saskatchewan Agriculture's irrigation agrologists want to provide information to producers that is pertinent, timely and practical for on-farm application.

If producers have suggestions for projects or questions about specific crops, production practices or industry issues, please bring them to the attention of ICDC. We will make every effort to address your suggestions and questions in an effective and efficient manner.

As well, members of the ICDC Board welcome the opportunity to discuss the ICDC program and potential project ideas with irrigation farmers.

Please call us and get involved in our program. Irrigation agrologists and board members can be reached through the Irrigation Branch offices in Outlook, phone (306) 867-5500, or Swift Current, phone (306) 778-5041.

### **Events**

Thurs., July 16, 2009: CSIDC Field Day, Outlook

December 2009:

**ICDC Annual Meeting** 

Phone the Irrigation Branch at (306) 867-5500 in May 2009 for details about all upcoming events or see the website at www.irrigationsaskatchewan.com.

# RRIGHTOR

Published once a year by the Irrigation Crop Diversification Corporation (ICDC), and the Irrigation Branch of the Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture.

Websites:

www.irrigationsaskatchewan.com www.agriculture.gov.sk.ca

Contact:

Box 609, Outlook, SK, S0L 2N0 Phone: (306) 867-5523 E-mail: gerry.gross@gov.sk.ca



Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture

