



THE IRRIGATOR

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ICDC Board Report

11th Annual Irrigation Conference and "Round 2" Research and Development

11th Annual Irrigation Conference

This year's conference will be held at the Heritage Inn, Moose Jaw on Dec. 5 and 6. Please note that the conference is on a TUESDAY and WEDNESDAY this year.

Biofuels are a hot item right now. What advantages does irrigation offer to the production of biofuels? The Gardiner Dam Terminal, Lucky Lake and Riverhurst each have development plans for biofuel value-added industries around Lake Diefenbaker. The Tuesday evening session will be devoted to this topic. Please see the centre spread in this edition of *The Irrigator* for more details.

The Prairie Farm Rehabilitation Administration (PFRA) is making changes to its irrigation operations in South-West Saskatchewan which will impact irrigators.



The ICDC Board. Back row, left to right: Scott Wright, Paul Heglund, Kevin Plummer, Francis Kinzie, Neil Stranden, Kelvin Bagshaw, and John Linsley. Front row, left to right: Randy Bergstrom, Rob Oldhaver, Rick Swenson (Chair), and Larry Lee.

A session on the Wednesday morning will provide information regarding these changes and the direction to which they point.

Irrigation Districts: Send your delegates!

This 11th Annual Irrigation Conference is hosted by your organizations: Saskatchewan Irrigation Producers Association (SIPA) and the Irrigation Crop Diversification Corporation (ICDC). The conference is an opportunity to rub shoulders with people from other Irrigation Districts to discuss and understand irrigation issues.

SIPA and ICDC speak for irrigators, and here is your chance to listen, to contribute and to set your irrigation agenda. Please support your conference by sending your Irrigation District delegates.

For more information, contact Sandra Bathgate, SIPA, Sec./Treas. at (306) 796-4420 or e-mail sbathgate.sipa@sasktel.net.

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ICDC Board Report: Research and Development (R&D) “Round 2” R&D and its evaluation

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In 1999, Irrigation Districts contributed their research and development priorities to ICDC, and ICDC delivered “value for money” results on each of those priorities, as reported in the June edition of *The Irrigator*.

It is now time to set ICDC’s “Round 2” research and development (R&D) program.

The ICDC board has now completely turned over, and the staff is changing with the retirement of Les Bohrson and with Clint Ringdal going back to the farm last spring.

Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food (SAF) continues to provide services worth \$400,000 annually to ICDC under a 10-year agreement, which is currently being re-negotiated.

In 2004, ICDC developed a new strategic plan with the following vision: *Through innovation, ICDC stimulates and services the development and expansion of sustainable irrigation in Saskatchewan.*

This vision is already being put into practice by:

1. Strengthening the linkages in profitability and risk between production capacity, processing and market opportunities. For example, ICDC prepared a Saskatchewan Irrigated Vegetable Crop Competitive Analysis in 2005 and is funding a Strawberry Crown Commercialization project.

2. Enhancing the production of profitable, sustainable irrigation-based crop and livestock products. For example, ICDC publishes *Irrigation Economics and Agronomics* and *Crop Varieties for Irrigation* annually and developed a management planner for high yields of irrigated corn.

3. Creating public awareness of the economic, social and environmental returns to investment in irrigation. For example, ICDC

and SIPA are developing their website: www.irrigationsaskatchewan.com as a way to increase public awareness and as an investment and immigration attraction tool for irrigation in Saskatchewan. As well, SIPA and ICDC host the Annual Irrigation Conference (Dec. 5 and 6 in Moose Jaw this year).

ICDC is looking to irrigation districts for “Round 2” R&D ideas. Once replacement staff are hired by SAF, your district will be contacted.

ProGrid® Evaluation Solutions

ICDC and its Canada-Saskatchewan Irrigation Diversification Centre (CSIDC) partners (PFRA, SAF and SIPA) have developed an R&D evaluation system using ProGrid® Evaluation Solutions. This method will be implemented for all irrigation R&D under the CSIDC partnership.

Irrigation R&D priorities were thrashed out by the CSIDC partners, including ICDC and SIPA, last winter; the resulting R&D framework is shown in the table on the next page.

Individual irrigation R&D projects will be evaluated under those framework headings as follows:

- **Markets**

The project shows an understanding of Saskatchewan’s competitive advantage, resources and infrastructure and targets import substitution by increased use of local products by the consumer.

- **Value-Added/Adding**

The proposal focuses on the importance of primary, secondary and tertiary processing of Saskatchewan’s irrigated agricultural products, processes or services to Saskatchewan’s agricultural industry.

INDUSTRY NEED	ENABLERS	IMPACT/RESULTS
Markets	Research Project	Economic Impact
Value-Added / Adding	Leverage / Collaboration	On-Farm Profitability
Environmental Sustainability	Alignment	Growth of Irrigation
	Technology Transfer/ Adoption	
	Recognition / Profile	

- **Environmental Sustainability**

The project proposal indicates a comprehensive understanding of the importance of maintaining environmental sustainability for Saskatchewan's agricultural industry.

- **Research Project**

The project is proactive, focused, with targeted outcomes, and will expand and/or add new knowledge to the existing agricultural irrigation technology/knowledge base.

- **Leverage/Collaboration**

The project has strong formal commitments to work in partnership with researchers from other research institutions and industry to share plans, strategies, information and/or equipment in order to facilitate the development and application of the resulting knowledge by the partners.

- **Alignment**

The project objectives are proactive and well aligned with CSIDC, Saskatchewan and national irrigation and agricultural goals, priorities and strategies.

- **Technology Transfer/Adoption**

An industrial adaptor, capable of implementing the technology/knowledge that will be developed, is part of the project, and a SMART implementation plan is included in the project proposal.

- **Recognition/Profile**

The project will contribute clear, concise messages for the public about the value of irrigation to Saskatchewan; will increase the acceptance of irrigation practices by the general public; and will recognize the value and capabilities of CSIDC.

- **Economic Impact**

The project is expected to increase Saskatchewan's rural population by increasing the opportunities for new farms and farmers by developing new, unique products, processes or services that are best done in Saskatchewan.

- **On-Farm Profitability**

The project will result in increasing profitability of Saskatchewan's irrigated farm income by developing new products,

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Les Bohrson retires

The contribution to the irrigation industry made by agrologist Les Bohrson during his 35-year career with Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food (SAF) and the Irrigation Crop Diversification Corporation (ICDC) was recognized during a retirement supper held in Swift Current on July 21.

The event was attended by Les' wife Barb, his mother Gladys, and three of his six sons, as well as representatives of the irrigation industry; ICDC and Saskatchewan Irrigation Project Association (SIPA) boards; federal and provincial government departments; agriculture co-op students; and agri-business. Attendance at the event reflected Les' wide network of contacts established over his long career.

Les was raised on the family farm at Hanley, Sask. He says the years he spent in the Hanley Multiple 4-H Club caused him to realize the importance of technology transfer and working with farmers, and that led him to study agriculture at the University of Saskatchewan.

On graduation in 1971 with a Bachelor of Science Agriculture (BSA), Les joined SAF's Lands Branch in Regina. In 1973, he became an Ag Rep at Outlook; was attached



Les Bohrson, centre, discusses irrigated corn with the media.

to the task force on irrigation in 1977; was seconded to SaskWater in 1987; was returned to SAF in 2003 and retired from SAF's new Irrigation Development Branch created in March 2006.

Les was the first Senior Agrologist responsible for delivery of the ICDC irrigation research and development program.

In 1998, Les received the Saskatchewan Institute of Agrologists' Distinguished Agrologist Award and his name was added to the Wall of Honour at the University of Saskatchewan's College of Agriculture. This award was presented for "integrity, breadth of knowledge, leadership, experience, and recognition by his peers."

In March 2006, Les received the Saskatchewan Centennial Medal, which recognizes the important contributions individuals have made to the development of communities in the province.

He will be missed by ICDC, SAF and the wide network of contacts that he made during his distinguished career.

Thank you, Les.

Research and development

(Continued from page 3.)

processes or services.

• Growth of Irrigation

The project will result in diversification and growth of irrigation opportunities.

This Strategic Framework was developed

by the partners, irrigators (ICDC and SIPA) and researchers, together at CSIDC. It will, therefore, deliver "value for money" R&D from both irrigators' and society's perspectives.

For more information, call ICDC at (306) 867-5527.

Grazing irrigated forages

By John Ippolito
Agri-business Development Specialist
SAF, Outlook

Over the winter of 2005-06, specialists within Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food at Outlook and Swift Current were asked to gather information and provide advice on the concept of grazing irrigated forages.

The first thing we found was that information and experience on this use was extremely difficult to find. There was one producer in the Lake Diefenbaker area with some experience. Any research results from Western Canada were extremely difficult to find.

Carrying capacity information was one of the information gaps identified. The approach taken to fill this gap was to convert mechanically harvested hay yields to an animal unit basis to provide an estimated carrying capacity per acre. Animal performance was predicted based on using nutrient analysis of the forages that we were able to get from a number of sources and using Cowbytes ration balancing software.

During the summer months, we maintained contact with three producers in an effort to

verify the information provided and identify challenges. Collection of information is not complete at this time, but there is some information that we can share. Based on the experience of two of the co-operators they were able to achieve carrying capacities of 4.5 to five animal-unit months per acre.

These producers used different forages. Their experience would indicate that there is a need for further research into appropriate

forages either as mixtures or as complementary seedings to provide a more stable grazing resource over the entire grazing season.

There will be a more complete report and an opportunity for sharing information based on

this project and others during the upcoming winter months.

Many thanks to the producers for sharing their experiences, and thanks also to Sarah Sommerfeld, Bill Kowalenko, and Korvin Olfert for their contributions in preparing the initial information.

For more information about this project, phone John Ippolito at (306) 867-5577.

*Producers can help ICDC
to gather information
on
grazing irrigated forages.*



Irrigated pasture.

Strawberry crowns: New market opportunity for some irrigators?

By John Linsley, PAg
Irrigation Development Branch, SAF
Outlook

A project aimed at commercializing the production of strawberry crowns under irrigation in Saskatchewan is currently being examined.

ICDC wants to find out if strawberry crown production is a profitable, new market opportunity for irrigators and, if so, to facilitate its commercialization.

This ICDC project involves extensive collaboration in which:

- ICDC has taken on the role of commercialization consultant, developing a prospective grower group, and acting as overall co-ordinator of the project.

- Dr. Jazeem Wahab and Greg Larson of the Canada-Saskatchewan Irrigation Diversification Centre (CSIDC) are providing management and execution of the crown production for export and the collection of field data.

- James Lokken and Dr. Gary Storey of the University of Saskatchewan are the commercial production/marketing consultants providing advice on production and market development in Florida and California. They will also co-ordinate post-harvest handling, packing and shipping of plants to markets.

- Dr. Karen Tanino and Dr. Jill Thomson of the University of Saskatchewan provide advice on agronomics and pest management issues. They also communicate with researchers in target markets.

- The Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) and SAF provide regulatory advice, field and processing facility inspection, laboratory services and certification.

The Provincial Laboratory Supervisor



Strawberry crowns.

Grant Holzgang is certified to test for nematodes, a phyto-sanitary issue with the export of strawberry crowns.

Hail damaged the plots at CSIDC on Aug. 23 and, therefore, no plants were shipped to commercial growers in Florida in 2006. The cost/return analysis done by Lokken and Storey showed that a multiplication rate of approximately 12 to 15 marketable daughter plants per mother plant would be required for profitability. The 2006 plantings indicated a potential multiplication rate of 25 to 30, providing more than sufficient evidence to justify pursuing this commercialization opportunity aggressively. A fall planting has been done at CSIDC.



The market opportunity

This project will place high quality Saskatchewan plants in the hands of some of the best strawberry fruit producers in Florida and California, who will field-test them and provide comparative data in relation to locally produced crowns. The growers have already indicated they will purchase crowns

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from Saskatchewan and pay a premium if they are convinced of their superior quality with Northern Vigor™. Other growers in these areas will follow these industry leaders.



Irrigation.



Fertilizing.



Tilling.

The Florida market

The Florida strawberry fruit production industry is the second-largest U.S. market for crowns, importing up to 180-million crowns per year. Florida currently imports most of its plants from Nova Scotia, Ontario and Quebec but is concerned about introducing disease and pests from these areas. The Florida market, despite its greater distance, is seen as an initial point of entry for an emerging Saskatchewan industry prior to entry into the California market. Plant prices are higher in Florida, meeting regulatory requirements is not as demanding or risky, and Florida growers are actively looking for new sources of plants. Unlike the California variety, Camarosa, which has been tested extensively in Saskatchewan, Florida varieties (Festival and Treasure) have not been tested previously for Northern Vigor™, thus the need for multi-year testing of Florida cultivars, compared to Camarosa. In the future, production of parent stocks using greenhouse tissue culture techniques could be undertaken in Saskatchewan.

The California market

The total California market is more than 700-million crowns per year. The demand in Southern California, Saskatchewan's target market, is more than 300-million plants per year. Saskatchewan could potentially penetrate 20 per cent of the market, about 60-million plants, and even more in the rest of California.

The potential for organic production of plants in Saskatchewan also opens market possibilities in the organic industry, since there is virtually no organic plant production anywhere else.

WANTED! Prospective growers

If you are an irrigator with medium to coarse textured soils, if you are interested in a small-acre/high-value/high-management crop, and if you have access to labour and capital, ICDC invites you to participate in its Strawberry Crown Prospective Grower Group.

The ICDC Strawberry Crown Prospective Grower Group will monitor results from this ICDC project and will have the opportunity to get together in the field at CSIDC and to meet in the winter to evaluate the opportunity.

For more information on the ICDC Strawberry Crown Prospective Grower Group, phone ICDC at (306) 867-5527.



Harvesting.



Sorting.

The Saskatchewan Irrigation Projects Association (SIPA)
pres

The 11th Annual Irr

**Tuesday and
December 5
at 1
Heritage Inn.**

Day 1: Tuesday, December 5

3:30 p.m.

Display set up

4:30 p.m.

Registration

5:00 p.m.

Cocktails

6:00 p.m.

Supper

7:15 p.m.

Bearpit Session:

Bio-Fuels and Irrigation: Oil and water, do they mix?

Moderator: Kevin Hursh

Presenters:

Lionel LaBelle

Ethanol Development Council

Judie Dyck

Biodiesel Development Task Force

John Ippolito

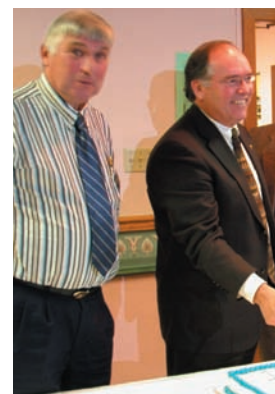
Ag Business Agrologist, SAF

Keith Rueve

Pound-Maker AgVentures Ltd.

9:30 p.m.

Social



and the Irrigation Crop Diversification Corporation (ICDC)
sent

Irrigation Conference

Wednesday
and 6, 2006
the
Moose Jaw



Day 2: Wednesday, December 6

- 7:00 a.m. Breakfast
- 8:00 a.m. ICDC Annual Meeting
- 9:00 a.m. SIPA Annual Meeting
- 10:30 a.m. Coffee Break
- 11:00 a.m. PFRA's Southwest Saskatchewan Water Supply System:
What's coming?
Speaker: Perry Ludwig, PFRA, Maple Creek
- 12:30 p.m. Dinner
Speaker: TBA
- 2:00 p.m. Have a safe trip home!

Conference Registration \$40.
To register, phone SIPA at (306) 796-4420
or e-mail sbathgate.sipa@sasktel.net.
See website www.irrigationsaskatchewan.com.

A block of rooms has been set aside at the Heritage Inn for
the Irrigation Conference; phone (306) 693-7550.



Irrigated corn silage in 2006

By Korvin Olfert,
Irrigation Agrologist, SAF,
Swift Current

Once again, the Irrigation Crop Diversification Corporation (ICDC) surveyed corn fields throughout the province to monitor how well this crop did in 2006.

Eleven fields were sampled from Aug. 2 to Oct. 11 at Maple Creek, Leader, Baildon, Outlook and Osler.

With 2,639 Corn Heat Units (CHU) this summer at the Canada-Saskatchewan Irrigation Diversification Centre (CSIDC) at Outlook, the corn yielded slightly less than in 2003 when CSIDC received 2,644 CHU.

Only the top two samples out of 42 broke the bushel weight of 60 pounds per bushel (lb./bu.) this year, whereas in 2003, we had 14 samples out of 43, over 60 lb./bu. and one at almost 65 lb./bu.

The average grain yield of the 11 fields we sampled was 97 bushels per acre (bu./ac.) compared to 60 bu./ac. in 2005, although it should have been higher this year.

Of the 11 fields we sampled, one had a seeding problem, one had a fertilizer problem and three were significantly hailed. Removing those five fields, the average for the remaining six was 103 bu./ac., which translates into more than 20 tonnes per acre (t./ac.) of silage at 65 per cent moisture.

We had the opportunity to sample two of the Dekalb Fact Plots, thanks to Rob Ripley and Trevor



Irrigated corn for silage.

Hertzog of Monsanto. These plots were located in the Baildon Irrigation District near Moose Jaw (Rick Swenson's farm), which received around 2,409 CHU, and just north of Saskatoon (Phil Ens' farm) which received about 2,436 CHU.

Table 1 shows the estimated grain yields and bushel weights of these Dekalb varieties.

(Continued on page 11)

Table 1. Estimated Grain Yields and Bushel Weights of Two Dekalb Fact Plots.

Name	Variety	Bu/ac		Bu Wt	
Rick Swenson	DKC 27-44	111	1	54.3	3
Rick Swenson	DKC 26-78	106	2	51.9	5
Rick Swenson	NC 2701NRR1	104	3	52.8	4
Rick Swenson	DKC 27-15	99	4	55.1	2
Rick Swenson	DKC 27-12	92	5	56.9	1
Rick Swenson	PH 39T67	91	6	50.0	6
Rick Swenson	DKC 30-02	85	7	49.3	7
Phil Ens	DKC 26-78	87	1	46.3	3
Phil Ens	DKC 27-44	74	2	50.5	1
Phil Ens	PH 39T67	72	3	39.6	4
Phil Ens	NC 2701NRR1	70	4	39.2	5
Phil Ens	DKC 30-02	66	5	37.6	6
Phil Ens	DKC 27-12	59	6	50.1	2



Keg - Corn plots at Keg Agro Ltd., Outlook

(Continued from page 10)

We were also able to sample a Pioneer variety comparison near Outlook, thanks to Grant Carlson from Keg Agro.

These plots received 2,639 CHU. Table 2 shows the estimated grain yields and bushel weights of these Pioneer varieties.

These two tables should not be compared directly, since each of the different plots received different Corn Heat Units.

In 2006, corn silage yields ranged from 11 t./ac. to 22 t./ac. The lower yields were in fields that received hail.

In spite of significant damage, which removed virtually all of the leaves, the yields still were around 11 t./ac., which is an average barley yield. If barley had received the same amount of hail, it would have been pounded flat.

The corn this year certainly beat barley both in quality and yield. Even with significant hail damage, enough to flatten barley, yields were comparable to barley.

For more information on irrigated corn production, call Korvin Olfert at (306) 778-5041.

Table 2. Estimated Grain Yields and Bushel Weights of the Plots at Keg Agro.

Name	Variety	Bu/ac		Bu Wt	
Grant Carlson	X4V217T	127	1	52.2	6
Grant Carlson	PH 39H83	118	2	45.4	13
Grant Carlson	PH 39F45	111	3	57.8	1
Grant Carlson	PH 39J26	111	4	52.6	5
Grant Carlson	X4T962	104	5	47.1	12
Grant Carlson	PH 39B93	86	6	47.2	11
Grant Carlson	PH 39M26	84	7	55.2	3
Grant Carlson	PH 39M27	84	8	56.8	2
Grant Carlson	PH 39P78	83	9	53.4	4
Grant Carlson	PH 39T66	82		50.3	9
Grant Carlson	PH 39F59	75	11	50.3	8
Grant Carlson	PH 39T67	70		48.6	10
Grant Carlson	PH 39T71	63		52.0	7

Thank you, from Les Bohrson

My sincere appreciation and gratitude is extended to all my well wishers at my "Retirement Festivities." Special thanks to Emcee John Linsley, Korvin Olfert, ye'Olde Dry Ag. Rep. Bill Hurd, and our Irrigation and Agriculture staff. Also, Roger Pederson and his Saskatchewan Irrigation Project Association Board, and Rick Swenson and his Irrigation Crop Diversification Corporation Board, plus the Canada-Saskatchewan Irrigation Diversification Centre, along with all PFRA and Research Branch staff. The highlight of my 35-year career was the goodwill, innovation and progress shared with irrigation farmers and Agrologists across the prairies. Respectfully, Les Bohrson, PAg, 306-773-1647, Swift Current, SK.

Small potatoes?

By Karen Morrison
of The Western Producer

Reprinted by permission. Copyright © The Western Producer.

OUTLOOK, Sask. — The walnut-sized potatoes that are usually thrown into the compost pile in home gardens are offering commercial growers new markets and better prices.

Driven by trends in Europe and fuelled by increasingly health conscious Canadian consumers moving away from french fries, Saskatchewan growers are considering small potato varieties in their field rotations.

For Broderick, Sask., grower Jacob Vanderscaaf, business is booming. In seven years, his Edmonton-based Little Potato Co. has gone to \$12 million in annual sales from \$10,000.

Vanderscaaf, who grew up producing potatoes in Holland, launched his Canadian company and set up a packing plant before moving to the Outlook area and acquiring a large potato shed at Broderick.

For potential potato growers, Vanderscaaf advised choosing appropriate soils for each potato variety. Heavy soils tend to get lumpy, he said.

Planting close together helps with weed control and chemical application and can also improve yields and preserve moisture.

“The quicker the row closure (grows), the higher the yields,” he said. “Your sun is basically your solar energy for the potatoes, so you want to have the canopy as quick as possible.”

He puts potatoes into a three or four

year rotation on a field, with canola, wheat and barley. He is working on a pilot project with alfalfa fields to create a line of certified organic potatoes.

Vanderscaaf said the smaller potatoes require specialized growing expertise and equipment, noting his farm uses machinery from Europe. He uses foliar fertilizers and also applies fertilizer through the irrigation pivot, but is careful not to apply too much nitrogen. Saskatchewan’s cold winters help keep the potatoes disease free.

He keeps close tabs on potato research produced by the Canada Saskatchewan Irrigation Diversification Centre at Outlook. It is examining varieties like Picolo and Baby Boomer that can produce up to 50 potatoes per plant.

“They look like grapes,” he said.

The centre was the site of a potato field day this summer to showcase research efforts.

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*... mini potatoes
feed consumers’
endless appetite
for new products
but also
represent
a healthy,
convenient food
choice.*



Irrigated potatoes growing in the Lake Diefenbaker area.



CSIDC's Potato Day at Outlook this summer attracted a crowd.

Small potatoes?

(Continued from page 12)

Vanderscaaf hopes to increase the amount of plantings as markets grow for his company's products. Spudwyk Farms at Outlook and Bartco at North Battleford, Sask., grow little potatoes under contract for him.

Little Potato Co. sells to restaurants and retailers like Loblaws in Western Canada and is looking to the Pacific Northwest for the future, said Christa Winsnes, sales and marketing manager.

She said the mini potatoes feed consumers' endless appetite for new products but also represent a healthy, convenient food choice.

"They're small, they're healthy, they're nutritious and they're quick to cook," said Winsnes, citing their appeal to busy consumers and those looking to downsize their portion sizes for dietary reasons.

Small and uniform in size, they retail for up to \$4.99 for a two pound bag.

Producers grow these potatoes under contract to LPC, which owns the North American rights to the varieties grown, she said. The company's future focuses on branding its products with

unique names and packaging and a new website.

"The idea is to differentiate ourselves from the competition," said Winsnes. "We want to focus on these (little) varieties and give them a personality."

Jazeem Wahab, the Outlook research centre's horticultural crops agronomist, is looking to find optimal agronomy and varieties for prairie fields.

Wahab said the smaller potatoes offer irrigated producers the opportunity to diversify their farm operation and add income.

The early harvest means a shorter growing season and potentially lower costs of production. That leaves time to plant a fall crop to prevent soil erosion.

"It takes a lot of organic matter off the ground and does not leave much behind like a cereal," he said.

The centre is trying to determine how to maintain soil stability, when to do pre-harvest top kill and what fertilizers are most effective on little potato varieties.

"They are little, but we hope they become bigger," Wahab said.

... the smaller potatoes offer irrigated producers the opportunity to diversify their farm operation and add income.

You're invited!

Saskatchewan Fruit Growers Association Conference

Jan. 12-13, 2007, Heritage Inn, Saskatoon

For details, see website www.saskfruit.com, phone (306) 743-5333, or e-mail cas.lyn@sasktel.net.

The Early Bird registration deadline is Dec. 11.

SIPA and ICDC website:

Farmer-friendly gateway to irrigation information

SIPA and ICDC continue to develop the website, www.irrigationsaskatchewan.com, as a farmer-friendly gateway to irrigation information.

You can buy and sell through the classifieds, check out coming events such as the upcoming Irrigation Conference in December, or use the posted reference material.

Both SIPA and ICDC want to see this site used for investment attraction and immigration to Saskatchewan's irrigation industry.

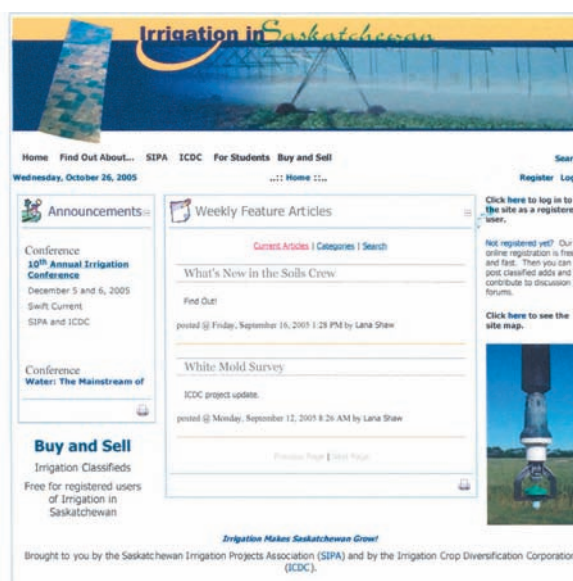
A website is always a work in progress and it's you, the user, who ultimately makes it useful. So, SIPA and ICDC would like you to assist with the development of the website.

How?

Please register on the site or call ICDC at (306) 867-5527.



Above, ICDC staff add new material to the SIPA/ICDC website. Below, the website's main page.



You are invited to attend

The Saskatchewan Seed Potato Growers Association (SSPGA) Annual Conference and Trade Show November 29 and 30, 2006 Travelodge Hotel, 106 Circle Drive West Saskatoon

Presenters include:

- Dr. Hubert Zandstra, former Director General of the International Potato Centre in Lima, Peru;
- Lukie Pieterse, Webmaster of Global Potato News and owner of Global Potato Focus Inc.; and
- Angela Santiago, Managing Director of The Little Potato Company.

For more information about the conference, phone (306) 867-2078 or e-mail sspga@sasktel.net.

To make a reservation at the Travelodge Hotel, phone (306) 242-8881 or 1-888-278-4209, and indicate that you are with the Saskatchewan Seed Potato Growers' Association Conference.

Hay market reports

The Saskatchewan Hay Report is published by the Saskatchewan Forage Council and is available online at www.saskforage.ca.

“The Saskatchewan Hay Report provides a summary of forage conditions across Western Canada,” says Janice Bruynooghe, Executive Director, Saskatchewan Forage Council.

If you wish to be placed on an electronic mailing list for *The Saskatchewan Hay Report*, or if you have articles or suggestions for upcoming issues, please send them to:

Janice Bruynooghe, M.Sc., PAg
Executive Director
Saskatchewan Forage Council
P.O. Box 1715
Outlook, SK, S0L 2N0
Phone: (306) 966-2148
E-mail: jbruynooghe@saskforage.ca

For more information about hay markets, see the following websites or publications:

Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food
www.agr.gov.sk.ca/feedforage

USDA Market News Service Hay Reports
For October 5, 2006
Dennis Widga and Justin Lumpkin, OIC
www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/to_gr310.txt

Weekly Montana Hay Report
Source: USDA NE Department of Agriculture
Market News, Kearney, NE, (308) 237-7579
www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/sc_gr310.txt





See the redesigned
ICDC / SIPA website at www.irrigationsaskatchewan.com

11th Annual Irrigation Conference Tuesday and Wednesday, December 5 and 6, 2006, Moose Jaw

Irrigation contacts in Saskatchewan

Websites

ICDC/SIPA www.irrigationsaskatchewan.com
SAF www.agr.gov.sk.ca; go to Crops/Irrigation
CSIDC www.agr.gc.ca/pfra/csfdc/csfdc.htm

ICDC

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jlinsley@agr.gov.sk.ca

ICDC Board of Directors

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NDA Kevin Plummer (Moon Lake ID),
 382-2098
LDDA Neil Stranden (SSRID), 867-1851
 Randy Bergstrom (Luck Lake ID),
 573-4625
NON-DISTRICT Francis Kinzie, 668-4589
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