

Facilities



CSIDC's land base includes 72 ha (180 acres) on-site with a range of irrigation methods, including pivot sprinkler, linear sprinkler and drip irrigation. An off-station satellite site provides an additional 52 ha (130 acres) supplied by centre pivot irrigation.

The office facility, constructed in 1994, combines office space, a conference room and laboratory. A state-of-the-art storage / lab facility, completed in 1999, provides storage and processing for potato and vegetable crops. It features a potato-handling and grading area and a complete quality testing laboratory.

A fully functional greenhouse is also available for year-round operation with 95 square metres of growing area.

Partnerships

CSIDC is a federal, provincial and industry partnership operated under a memorandum of understanding (MOU) signed in 1998. The federal government is represented by Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, the provincial government by Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food, and industry by the Irrigation Crop Diversification Corporation (ICDC) and Saskatchewan Irrigation Projects Association (SIPA). The Centre originated in 1949 as the Prairie Farm Rehabilitation Administration (PFRA) Pre-development Farm.

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Canada-
Saskatchewan
Irrigation
Diversification
Centre



Applied Research...Sustainable Irrigation...Sharing Knowledge

Who we are and what we do

Through irrigated agriculture, the Canada-Saskatchewan Irrigation Diversification Centre (CSIDC) strives to foster economic and environmental sustainability. This is accomplished through crop diversification, innovative farming techniques and more efficient water management.



Field Crops

CSIDC staff examine cost-effective agronomic practices and improved crop varieties for irrigation, including:

- Cereals (wheat, barley, oats)
- Oilseeds (canola, flax, soybean)
- Pulses (dry bean and field pea)
- Corn (grain and silage)
- Forage (timothy and alfalfa)

CSIDC agronomists conduct variety evaluation trials with industry, government and university partners to determine superior varieties for irrigated production. This information helps irrigation producers in their variety selection processes.

Horticultural Crops

CSIDC's **horticultural crops** program focuses on the production of high-value

crops using a variety of irrigation systems and production methods. This work translates into diversification opportunities for producers.

Through our **potato** program, we investigate agronomics and variety evaluations for seed, processing and table potatoes. In our **vegetable** studies, which include cabbage, broccoli, pumpkin and peppers, we examine agronomics for the cool Prairie climate. Demonstration of season-extension technologies examine the feasibility of producing warm-season vegetables on the Prairies.



Our **medicinal and aromatic plant** research focuses on developing agronomics for labour-saving mechanized production of several species, such as:

- Echinacea
- Milk thistle
- St. John's Wort
- Feverfew

Field Demonstrations

CSIDC conducts on-site and off-site field demonstrations around the province, in partnership with the

Irrigation Crop Diversification Corporation (ICDC).

Environmental Sustainability

Environmental sustainability is pivotal to all CSIDC programs. Development of beneficial management practices that minimize the impact of agriculture on the environment are examined. Partnering researchers also examine water and irrigation management. Leading-edge technologies in water savings, application efficiency and power consumption are currently in use and on display at the Centre, including:

- Solar pivot
- Low pressure pivots
- Trickle irrigation



Sharing Knowledge

Information developed at CSIDC is available to farmers, private industry and the general public through:

- CSIDC's annual field day
- Commodity-based field days
- Variety guide
- Annual report and fact sheets
- Tours and presentations