



**KNOW
YOUR FOOD**



IRRIGATION



BY THE NUMBERS – 2022

11

irrigation districts

1.5 MILLION

acres of irrigated land

8,043 KM

of water delivery canals and pipelines and 52 reservoirs

\$5.4 BILLION

annually to the provincial economy

DID YOU KNOW?

Almost 70% of Canada's irrigation takes place within Alberta's 11 irrigation districts.



Irrigation increases the quality and yield of crops.

ENVIRONMENT

By implementing important water stewardship activities that use innovative technologies and practices, irrigation districts and their irrigators produce consistent and sustainable agricultural product while safeguarding Alberta water resources.

MEET A PRODUCER

Kyle Gouw, Gouw Quality Onions Ltd.

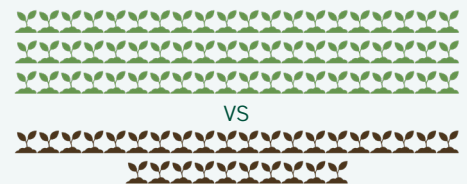
Kyle Gouw was raised on both dryland and irrigation farms, where he “learned at a young age the benefits of irrigating.” The Gouw family has been growing, packaging and shipping yellow onions since 1987. They also produce sugar beets, corn, sorghum, wheat, barley, grass alfalfa and grass pasture while running a beef feedlot and cow/calf operation. For Kyle, protecting and safeguarding water and soil resources is important. The farm employs cover-cropping practices, upgrades to more efficient irrigation systems, works with their irrigation district to manage required water needs, and continually evaluates new technology that can improve sustainability within their operation.



FUN FACTS

Irrigation allows greater crop diversification.

Over 60 crops can be grown under irrigation compared with only 30 grown under dryland conditions.



Irrigated crop and livestock production provides high-quality, high-yielding and consistent product to support Alberta's agri-food processing sector.

Low-pressure drop-tube pivot application systems irrigate 83% of the irrigated area. These systems allow precision irrigation and application efficiencies of over 80%.

Alberta Irrigation

Districts Association

Visit the Know Your Food website at knowyourfoodab.ca