

Water use in Canadian agriculture



Of Canada's 64 million hectares of farming operations, only around 11% is irrigated.

Yet, the amount of water used by farmers to irrigate crops in 2018 is already equal to the volume of water that typically flows over Niagara Falls over 2 weeks.

Climate change will create water stress for agricultural crops and risks of droughts and water shortage, like the severe droughts the Prairies experienced in summer 2021.

But irrigation isn't the only solution. As demand for water increases, water conservation and collaborative planning for water management will be critical.

BASED ON DATA FROM:

Bhatti, A. Z., Farooque, A. A., Krouglicof, N., Li, Q., Peters, W., Abbas, F., & Acharya, B. (2021). An overview of climate change induced hydrological variations in Canada for irrigation strategies. *Sustainability*, 13(9), 4833. <https://doi.org/10.3390/su13094833>

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