

Farm Stewardship Program

Irrigation Equipment Modification BMP

Intent of BMP: To improve water efficiency and reduce contamination through the adoption of irrigation equipment modifications.

Funding Level: 30 per cent of eligible costs to a maximum rebate of \$50,000.

Application Type: **Pre-Approval.** Applicants must submit a pre-approval application prior to commencing their project.
After receiving your application a pre-site inspection will be arranged with a Ministry of Agriculture Irrigation Specialist. Inspections may also be required once the project is complete.

Technical Resource: For technical assistance with your project contact the Crop and Irrigation Branch at 306-867-5500.

Eligibility:

- Must have an EFP.
- **Basic Eligibility Criteria** plus:
- Irrigate a minimum of 10 acres.*
- Have a Water Rights file number with the Water Security Agency or a Water Service Agreement with an Irrigation District.*
- Modifications to pump sites may require approvals from the Federal Government (e.g. Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada) and/or the Ministry of Environment and/or the Water Security Agency.

Vegetable, greenhouse and fruit operation applications will be reviewed on a case by case basis in regards to eligible costs and the eligibility requirements indicated with an asterisk () above.*

Project Costs: Eligible Costs:

- Materials and installation for low pressure sprinkler systems including low pressure sprinkler nozzles, pressure regulators, pipe/hose extension/carts to provide low clearance, booms for low pressure application, delivery hose/pipe, filters and emitters for trickle or drip systems.
- Conversion from combustion engine to electric powered pumps (including installation of power).
- Conversion from electric; or combustion engine, to wind or solar powered pumps.
- End gun booster pumps and low pressure main pump replacement (when it has been demonstrated to the Ministry's satisfaction that existing high pressure pumps cannot be converted to low pressure).

Project Costs
continued:

- Purchase, modification and installation of fertigation equipment such as injector pumps, associated installation materials and liquid fertilizer storage tanks dedicated to the fertigation system.
- Improving irrigation pump intake systems with new screens or shoreline modifications to protect the water source including backflow prevention/check valves, repair of existing pump intake system, and erosion control measures including the cost of earthwork for shoreline modification.
- Remote communications technologies (e.g. telemetry that communicates with the center pivot panel).

Ineligible Costs:

- Applicant or employee labour.
- New irrigation systems or development of new water sources.
- Costs associated with modifications, equipment and software to enable variable rate irrigation.
- Drip irrigation systems for orchards and u-pick operations, unless converting from a sprinkler or flood system.
- Costs associated with irrigation expansion - pumps, pipe infrastructure (e.g. center pivot, wheel move structures, traveling reels, mainline pipe) and water-source expansion costs.
- Electric motors to replace existing electric motors to drive pumps.
- Combustion engines to replace existing combustion engines to drive pumps.
- Items considered to be regular repair or maintenance.
- Modification of irrigation works not owned by the applicant (e.g. irrigation district works, city effluent works).
- Used and leased items or equipment. To be eligible, new items or equipment **MUST** be purchased from a recognized dealer.