

Main Route for Water Supply



Hokuso Tobu Canal



—Supports agriculture in Hokuso Area—

Feature of Hokuso Tobu Area

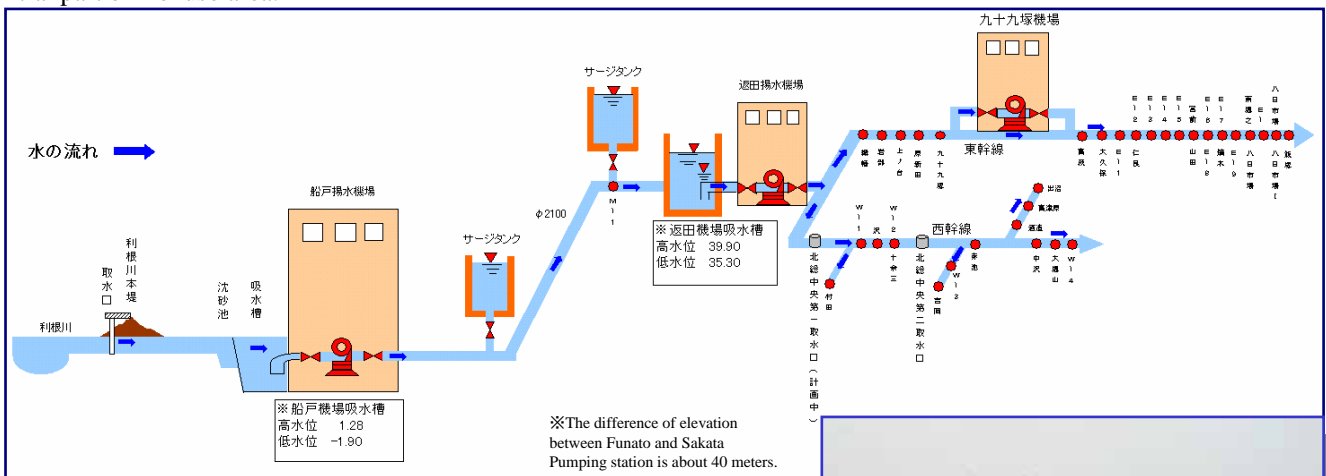
The feature of the Hokuso Tobu area mainly consisted of tablelands and paddy fields surrounded by forests. From Edo Period (1603-1867), settlers started to cultivate rice cropping and upland farming by depending on rainwater and spring water. Without much water supply, farmers cultivated crops such as groundnuts, sweet potatoes which did not require much water. Under the circumstance, the Hokuso Tobu Canal Project was launched with aim of carrying water from abundant Tone River.



How to Supply Water

The Hokuso Tobu Canal carries pumped water from Tone River by pipelines and farm ponds to approximately 4,300 hectares of farmland covering 4 cities (*Katori City, Sosa City, Narita City, Asahi City*) and 3 towns (*Tako Town, Tosho Town, Kozaki Town*) and to approximately 4,100 hectares of farmland in the Central parts of Hokuso Tobu area (5 cities and 1 town).

Pumped water at *Funado* Pumping Station of Tone River is also carried to *Sakata* Pumping Station through a main canal and then distributed paddy fields and upland fields running through main canals, namely, the East, West, North and 田良貝 main canals. Furthermore, at the west main canal, water is diverted to supply to paddy fields and upland fields in the central part of Hokuso area.



- ◆Irrigated areas: paddy fields: 2,732 hectares upland fields:5,672 ha
- ◆ The total length of main canal:42km (width :210cm-60cm)
- ◆Pumping Stations: 3 stations.
- ◆Farm ponds: 24 sites where water carried through pipelines is temporary stored
- ◆O&M commenced in 1981

Positive Impact by Hokuso Tobu Canal

Main agriculture products in Hokuso area are rice crops (famous early crops of rice in Japan called *Koshihikari*, *Akitakomachi* and *Fusaotome*,), sweet potato, variety of Japanese potato, carrot, radish. Since water was carried through Hokuso Tobu Canal, plastic hothouses has been gradually increased to grow crops such as melon, strawberry and tomato which were rarely grown before.



Water Quality Management



▲Akaike Farm Pond built as Hokuso Tobu Canal



▲Hexagon floats used for restraint of algae or water bloom

Due to the breeding of algae or water bloom in farm pond, it causes the bloc of water sprinkling and odor. To prevent algae from breeding in the farm pond, the surface of water covered by compact visor and it is observed that it is effective at certain

Operation and Management of Facilities



▲Flooded local street due to water leakage



▲Degraded part of air valve

After 25 years of operation and management of facilities, the suspension of water supply becomes problem due to aging facilities and leakage of water.

Water Supports A Wealthy Society



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