

Agriculture in Toso Area Supported by



Toso Canal



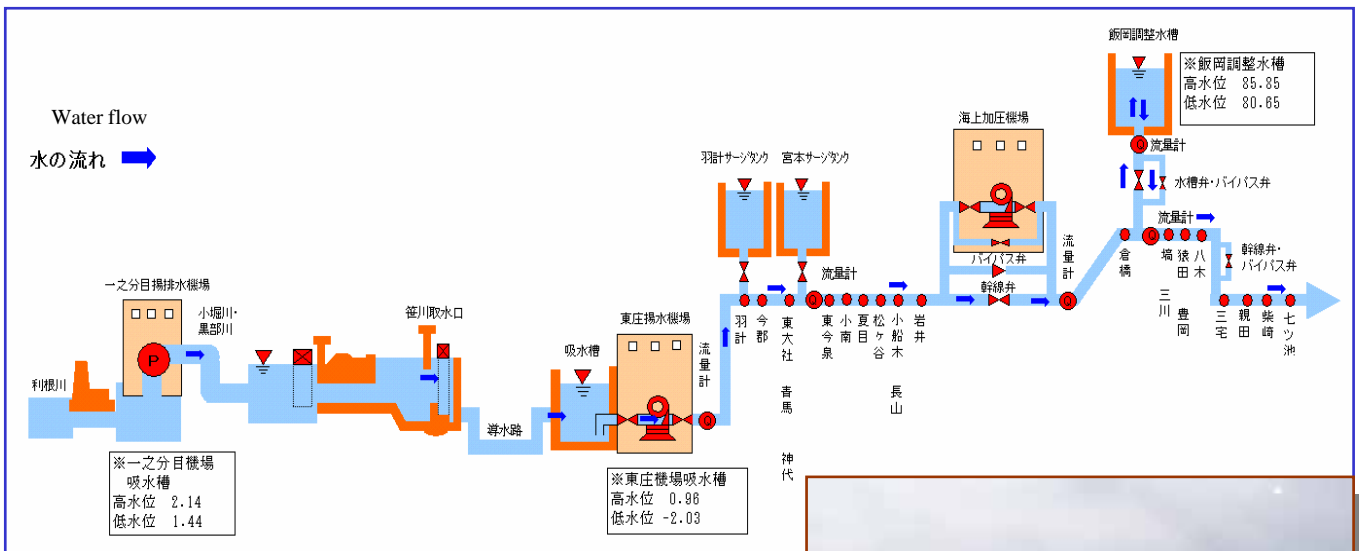
Feature of Toso Area

The feature of the eastern part of Chiba Prefecture or Toso Area was formed by tablelands and paddy fields surrounded by dense green forests. In the ancient time, as upland fields were distributed above the tablelands, farmers had forced to depend on rainwater and well water to cultivate crops, so they had experienced the difficulties for instability of water. For resolving this water instability in cultivating crops, Toso Cana Project was launched so that water could be diverted to upland fields above tablelands from Tone River.



How to Supply Water

By the Toso Canal, water taken up from Tone and *Kurobe river* is distributed to about 2,800 hectares of cultivated lands covering 2 cities and 1 towns (*Choshi City, Asahi City, Toshi Town*) along with supplying domestic water to 2 cities and 1 towns (*Choshi City, Asahi City, Toshi Town*). The water taken up from Tone River at the *Sasakawa Intake Facility* is supplied for domestic water to a water purification plant managed by the Water Supply Authority of *Toshokoiki* via the *Tosho Water Purification Plant* and is stored at **飯岡調整水槽** storage tank to supply irrigation water for paddy fields and upland fields.



- ◆Irrigated areas: paddy fields: 500 hectares upland fields:2,304 hectares
- ◆ The total length of main canal:42km (width :180cm-20cm)
- ◆Pumping Stations: 3 stations.
- ◆Farm ponds: 3 sites where water carried through pipelines is temporary stored
- ◆O&M commenced in 1988



Positive Impact by Canal

Cabbage, radish, turnip and melon are main agriculture products in Toso Area. Thanks to water supply through Toso Canal, stable crop harvests enable to grow lead crops such as parsley, spring onion and lettuce, while cultivating vegetables and fruits in greenhouse including melon, tomatoes, strawberry and outdoor vegetables gardening including cabbage, radish, turnip.



Water Quality Management



▲Shinden farm pond as part of Toso Canal facilities

As water is taken up from the lowest part of Tone River or a tributary of Tone River called *Kurobe River*, water is relatively contaminated compared to the upstream of Tone River. Water quality to supply domestic water has been polluted by wasted water from households and the water quality of irrigation water has been suffering from the breeding water bloom or algae in some farm ponds causing watering problem. For purifying the contaminated, domestic water, some problems such as odors and others occurred as a larger amount of chemical needs to be used to purify the water. To restrain algae emergency in those farm ponds, a measure has been taken and it has been observed that compact visor to protect algae has proven effective at a certain level.



▲Due to the contaminated water from *Kurobe River*, tributary of Tone River, microorganism living in contaminated water was found in the river.



▲Water bloom or algae breeding in a farm pond (regulating pond)

Water Supports A Wealthy Society

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