

# Odai Land Improvement District

## Details of Odai Land Improvement District

Address	4620 Kokawa, Kinokawa City, Wakayama Prefecture
The year of the establishment	1951
Area Irrigated	567ha
Geographical Coordinates	Latitude:34.28305217;Longitude:135.44828564
Member-ship	2188persons

## The History

Before the Odai Irrigation Canal was developed, irrigation of this area was dependent on creek water and small reservoirs because it is topographically impossible to take the water directly from the Kinokawa River. Therefore, the area always suffered from water shortage.

In 1707, ordered by the feudal lord (ruler at that time), Ohata Saizo (engineer at that time) started the construction of the Odai Irrigation Canal.

The canal was built in parallel with contour lines on the right bank of the Kinokawa River.

As the canal intersected many rivers during the construction, eight toi (aqueduct bridges) and nine fusekoshi (siphons) were built.

In 1710, the canal that took the water at Odai Sluice on the upper stream of the Kinokawa River and stretched 32.5 km was completed.



Tatsuno Toi



Kodumi River Toi



Odai Irrigation

In the early 18<sup>th</sup> century, canals were made of stone and earth, and aqueduct bridges were made of wood. When it rained heavily, they were damaged and repaired repeatedly. Therefore, in the 1910s, toi(aqueduct bridges) and fusekoshi(inverted syphon) were reconstructed with brick and stone pitching to reinforce the structures. In the 1950s, the following renovation works were implemented as a postwar recovery project to increase food production.

- Renovated Oda Headworks with concrete sluices and spillway gates
- Renovated water canals with concrete to conduct water more stably

These facilities have been maintained to date while being repaired and updated repeatedly.