



CIDA Photos

Fishermen in St. Lucia will have an outlet for a larger catch of fish with the new fish plant.

and a 90 900-litre back-up water supply. The new fisheries complex will be operated by a company, the St. Lucia Fish Marketing Corporation Limited, set up under the National Development Corporation. A Canadian from Newfoundland will manage the plant for the first two years of operation.

"The fish landing terminal and processing plant are the centrepiece of a fisheries development plan undertaken by the government of St. Lucia and CIDA," said Mrs. Vézina.

"In its continuing commitment to St. Lucia's fisheries sector, CIDA last year engaged North-South Intermedium Limited of Nepean, Ontario, to undertake a new 1984-91 Fisheries Development Plan," she added. The new study, which will cost \$98 000, will look at the long-term development of the fisheries industry for St. Lucia and provide recommendations for improved marketing procedures.

Canola market to expand into the United States

Agriculture Minister John Wise and Minister for the Canadian Wheat Board Charles Mayer have announced that the United States government has declared Canadian canola oil officially safe for human consumption in the United States.



Bright yellow canola blossoms in Alberta field. Canada is a world leader in the production and technology of canola from rapeseed.

Notice of the decision by the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) was published in the US Federal Register on January 28. The register notice designates Canadian canola oil as "Generally Recognized as Safe" (GRAS) which is the FDA certification of the safety and quality of the oil for food use.

"This is a major economic development for the Canadian canola industry," said Mr. Wise.

Mr. Mayer added that "Canola is the major producer and international trader of this rapeseed variant and access to the

US market should give the industry a considerable boost".

He also noted that the safety and high quality of canola oil have long been recognized. "It is the most widely used vegetable oil in Canada and is popular in many areas of the world including Japan and some European countries," he said.

Important industry

Virtually all Canadian rapeseed production now is canola. The industry has grown from virtual non-existence to one of the most economically significant agri-food industries in Canada over the past three decades.

Sales of Canadian-produced canola seed and processed products surpass one billion dollars annually.

Canola was originally developed by federal scientists from rapeseed. Using selective breeding techniques, they removed the impurities and produced a product that now comprises 52 per cent of all margarine, salad oils and shortening sold in Canada.

Canola is now the third-largest crop in the country, after wheat and barley. It accounted for \$753 million in exports in the first ten months of 1984.

(For a more complete description of the Canola industry in Canada, see *Canada Weekly*, April 25, 1984.)



Canola oil is a very versatile product that can be substituted for any of the other vegetable oils.