

Sector Snapshot: B.C. Agriculture - 2011

Sector Defined: B.C.'s agriculture sector is comprised of primary production from farmers, growers and ranchers. Agriculture does not include commercial fishing, aquaculture or post-farm processing.

- B.C. producers led the nation in sales of blueberries, sweet cherries, raspberries, apricots, Brussels sprouts and rhubarb.

AGRICULTURE KEY FACTS

- ❖ **Sales: \$2.6 billion**
 - ❖ **GDP \$1.2 Billion**
 - ❖ **Share of Provincial Total GDP: 0.8%**
 - ❖ **Exports: \$1.53 billion**
- Primary Agriculture in B.C. generated \$2.6 billion in farm cash receipts, up 4.4 per cent over 2010.
 - Approximately 20,000 farms utilize 2.6 million hectares - less than three per cent of the provincial land base – to produce more than 200 agriculture products.
 - At the end of 2011, there were 540,000 cattle and calves, 89,000 hogs, 45,000 sheep and lambs, 6,257 bison and 796 fallow deer on B.C. farms.
 - Top 10 commodities in terms of farm sales in B.C. in 2011: dairy, chicken, floriculture products, beef, nursery products, greenhouse tomatoes, blueberries, greenhouse peppers, eggs and mushrooms.
 - Ranked second across the country in floriculture products, nursery products, greenhouse tomatoes, greenhouse peppers, mushrooms, cranberries, grapes, greenhouse cucumbers, peaches, pears, nectarines, plums and prunes, garlic, lettuce, and pumpkins.
 - Ranked third among the provinces in dairy, chicken, eggs, turkeys, apples, farm forest products, sheep and lamb, strawberries and most of the remaining field vegetables.
 - Total estimated GDP for crop and animal production plus support activities for crop and animal production amounted to \$1.2 billion and accounted for 0.8 per cent of B.C.'s total GDP.

AGRICULTURE PRODUCTS EXPORT PROFILE

- Agriculture products include primary production products & post-farm processed products.
- B.C. exported \$1.53 billion worth of agriculture products to over 140 markets in 2011, an increase of 6.9 per cent over 2010.
- Top 5 Markets: United States (74 per cent), Japan (5 per cent), South Korea (3 per cent), China (3 per cent), and Taiwan (2 per cent).
- Fastest growing markets: South Korea (+6 per cent) and Taiwan (+20 per cent).
- Top 5 Exports: \$268 in million fruit & nut products, \$232.6 million in vegetable products, \$209.1 million in live animals, meat and animal products, \$78.9 million in alfalfa fodder & animal feeds and \$58.2 million in floriculture & nursery.

