WHO ARE B.C.'S NEW FARMERS?

- 69% of new entrant respondents leased land and over half of these leases were with acquaintances or family
- 90% of new entrants are first generation farmers
- 48% are women
- 78% are older than 35
- 49% started farming as a second career

WHAT ARE COMMON SUPPORTS ACCESSED BY NEW FARMERS?

- 68% accessed informal mentorship by another farmer
- 64% reported using online educational resources
- 53% attended farm workshops, field days, and farm tours

WHAT ARE THE MOST COMMON TYPES OF FARMING OPERATIONS?

- 20% Vegetables
- 18% Poultry and Eggs
- 14% Fruit and tree nuts

WHO ARE B.C.'S NEW FARMERS SELLING TO?

- 90% of nearly all respondents sold directly to consumers
- 20% sold to restaurants or food service providers
- 18% sold to retail stores
- 14% sold to co-ops or markets

Survey Fast Facts

- BARRIER #1: Access to Land
  - KEY FINDING: 76% of new entrant respondents leased land and over half of these leases were with acquaintances or family
  - CHALLENGE: 64% viewed affordability of land as a major barrier
  - NEED: 74% viewed incentives for landowners to sell or rent as an important support

- BARRIER #2: Access to Knowledge
  - KEY FINDING: 85% of respondents had completed at least some post-secondary education
  - CHALLENGE: 17% of respondents completed university or college training in agriculture
  - NEED: 80% viewed informal mentorship by another farmer as an important support

- BARRIER #3: Access to Capital
  - KEY FINDING: 70% of respondents reported that less than one quarter of their annual household income came from farming. Those under the age of 35 were more likely to report the majority of their income was from farming.
  - CHALLENGE: 51% considered access to capital, credit, or other sources of financing a significant barrier
  - NEED: 74% viewed government funding as an important support