

2011 CENSUS *of* AGRICULTURE HIGHLIGHTS *for* **CARIBOO: CENSUS REGION 5**

REGIONAL PROFILE

- ▶ Agriculture in this region is concentrated on beef cattle and hay and field crop production.
- ▶ Located in the center of British Columbia, the population of the Cariboo region showed little change.
- ▶ The area includes the Cariboo and the Fraser-Fort George regional districts.
- ▶ The total number of farms declined 6%. The region accounts for 9% of the total farms in B.C.
- ▶ The total farm area declined 17% to 493,612 hectares (1,219,742 acres). The region accounts for 19% of B.C.'s total farmland area.
- ▶ Total gross farm receipts decreased 16% from \$112 million down to \$94 million.
- ▶ The number of farms reporting certified organic products for sale remained constant at 12 farms, while those reporting products in transition increased from 1 to 3 farms.

FARM ENTERPRISES

- ▶ The number of field vegetable farms more than doubled, from 12 to 25 farms. The region had an increase in the number of hay and other crop (+78%), poultry and egg (+50%) and dairy (+22%) farms.
- ▶ There was a decline in the number of hog (-60%), oilseed and grain (-44%), fruit (-42%), beef (-40%), nurseries (-18%), greenhouse vegetable (-18%), other animal production (-11%), floriculture (-8%) and sheep and goat (-2%) farms.

CROPS

- ▶ Close to eight times more area was allocated to nursery products in 2011 increasing to 394 hectares (973 acres). The region's land in berries rose 75% to 21 hectares (52 acres), and the region's land in field vegetables increased 45% to 90 hectares (222 acres).
- ▶ Area in tree fruits fell 29% to 5 hectares (14 acres), the area in greenhouse floriculture production declined 24% to 230,175 square meters, and the area in hay and field crops fell 6% to 74,859 hectares (184,984 acres).

LIVESTOCK

- ▶ The number of dairy cows more than tripled between 2006 and 2011 to 1,304 head on farm, while the number of goats increased 48% to 1,340 head.
- ▶ The number of hens and chickens on farm declined 85%, the number of beef cows fell 30%, pigs fell 25%, sheep and lambs fell 23%, and horse and ponies fell 17%. Despite the decrease in numbers, the region still accounts for 25% of all beef cows in the province, the same as in 2006.

HONEY BEE COLONIES

► The region had a 41% decline in the number of honey bee colonies on farms between 2006 and 2011.

	UNIT	2006	2011		UNIT	2006	2011
Population	#	154,454	154,271	Selected Crops (Planted area)			
Number of Farms	#	1,781	1,681	Hay and Field Crops	ha	79,216	74,859
Total Farm Area	ha	594,059	493,612	Tree Fruits	ha	7	5
Total Gross Farm Receipts	\$	112,290,335	94,320,938	Berries	ha	12	21
				Vegetables	ha	62	90
Farms Classified by Farm Type				Christmas Trees	ha	44	101
Beef Cattle	#	746	451	Nursery	ha	52	394
Dairy Cattle and Milk	#	9	11	Sod	ha	X	28
Hog and Pig	#	15	6	Greenhouse Total Area in Use	m ²	268,413	230,175
Poultry and Egg	#	22	33	Greenhouse Floriculture Products	m ²	39,248	29,487
Sheep and Goat	#	44	43	Greenhouse Vegetable Products	m ²	X	9,415
Other Animals	#	516	458	Other Greenhouse Products	m ²	..	191,272
Oilseed and Grain	#	9	5	Mushrooms	m ²	X	X
Fruit and Tree Nut	#	12	7				
Field Vegetables and Melons	#	12	25	Selected Livestock (Heads)			
Greenhouse	#	11	9	Beef Cows	#	69,066	48,623
Nursery and Tree	#	34	28	Dairy Cows	#	398	1,304
Floriculture	#	25	23	Pigs	#	1,194	895
Mushrooms	#	1	3	Hens and Chickens	#	155,292	22,648
Hay and Other Crops	#	325	579	Turkeys	#	1,848	1,337
				Sheep and Lambs	#	9,149	7,045
Organics Products (Farms Reporting)				Goats	#	901	1,340
Certified Organic Products for Sale	#	12	12	Horses and Ponies	#	8,183	6,770
Transitional Organic Products for Sale	#	1	3	Colonies of Honey Bees			
					#	832	487