

# 2011 CENSUS *of* AGRICULTURE HIGHLIGHTS *for* **KOOTENAY: CENSUS REGION 4**

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## **REGIONAL PROFILE**

- ▶ This region accounts for 50% of the provincial total land in Christmas tree production and 10% of B.C.'s land in sweet cherries – the second largest area in the province.
- ▶ The population in the Kootenay region increased 3% since 2006.
- ▶ The area includes the Central Kootenay, East Kootenay and Kootenay Boundary regional districts.
- ▶ The total number of farms in the region declined 6% and total farm area fell 17% to 148,246 hectares (366,323 acres). The region accounts for 6% of the total farms and 6% of the total farmland area in B.C.
- ▶ Total gross farm receipts increased 3% to \$71.1 million.
- ▶ Thirty six farms reported producing certified organic products for sale in 2011 and an additional 8 farms reported producing products in transition to becoming certified organic.

## **FARM ENTERPRISES**

- ▶ The region had an increase in the farm numbers for: hay and other crops (+50%), floriculture (+22%), nurseries (+17%), field vegetables (+12%) and poultry and eggs (+9%). There were fewer hog (-67%), beef (-44%), greenhouse vegetable (-43%), dairy (-32%), sheep and goat (-23%), oilseed and grain (-14%), and fruit (-6%) farms.

## **CROPS**

- ▶ Farmland area allocated to crops declined in every category except berries and greenhouse production. The area allocated to berries rose 17% while the area in greenhouse floriculture production rose 41% and the area in greenhouse vegetable production rose 38%.
- ▶ The region's land in nursery products fell 43% to 217 hectares (535 acres), the area in Christmas trees declined 40% to 1,321 hectares (3,264 acres), tree fruits fell 18% to 296 hectares (730 acres), the area in field vegetables fell 6% to 157 hectares (387 acres), and field crops declined 5% to 25,760 hectares (63,653 acres).

## **LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY**

- ▶ The area had an 11% increase in goats from 2006 to 2011.
- ▶ Declines were reported in the number of turkeys on farms (-26%), pigs (-20%), sheep and lambs (-14%), horses and ponies (-11%), and hens and chickens (-5%).
- ▶ Goats had an 11% increase in animal numbers.

## HONEY BEE COLONIES

► The region experienced a 42% decline in the number of honey bee colonies.

	UNIT	2006	2011		UNIT	2006	2011
<b>Population</b>	#	142,110	146,264	<b>Selected Crops (Planted area)</b>			
<b>Number of Farms</b>	#	1,349	1,273	Hay and Field Crops	ha	27,082	25,760
<b>Total Farm Area</b>	ha	178,260	148,246	Tree Fruits	ha	360	296
<b>Total Gross Farm Receipts</b>	\$	69,017,516	71,099,592	Berries	ha	30	35
				Vegetables	ha	167	157
<b>Farms Classified by Farm Type</b>				Christmas Trees	ha	2,201	1,321
Beef Cattle	#	362	204	Nursery	ha	380	217
Dairy Cattle and Milk	#	19	13	Sod	ha	53	X
Hog and Pig	#	9	3	Greenhouse Total Area in Use	m <sup>2</sup>	39,757	56,733
Poultry and Egg	#	45	49	Greenhouse Floriculture Products	m <sup>2</sup>	26,666	37,638
Sheep and Goat	#	31	24	Greenhouse Vegetable Products	m <sup>2</sup>	8,873	12,224
Other Animals	#	350	328	Other Greenhouse Products	m <sup>2</sup>	..	6,871
Oilseed and Grain	#	14	12	Mushrooms	m <sup>2</sup>	X	X
Fruit and Tree Nut	#	127	120				
Field Vegetables and Melons	#	58	65	<b>Selected Livestock (Heads)</b>			
Greenhouse	#	14	8	Beef Cows	#	X	12,937
Nursery and Tree	#	70	82	Dairy Cows	#	X	1,553
Floriculture	#	32	39	Pigs	#	483	388
Mushrooms	#	1	0	Hens and Chickens	#	23,713	22,622
Hay and Other Crops	#	217	326	Turkeys	#	633	466
				Sheep and Lambs	#	2,497	2,152
<b>Organics Products (Farms Reporting)</b>				Goats	#	665	741
Certified Organic Products for Sale	#	40	36	Horses and Ponies	#	3,833	3,404
Transitional Organic Products for Sale	#	8	8	<b>Colonies of Honey Bees</b>			
					#	1,748	1,021