

2011 CENSUS *of* AGRICULTURE HIGHLIGHTS *for* **NORTH COAST: CENSUS REGION 6**

REGIONAL PROFILE

- ▶ The region is known for cattle ranching, horse-breeding and forage crops.
- ▶ The population in the North Coast region fell 3% between Census 2006 and 2011.
- ▶ The area includes the Kitimat-Stikine and Skeena-Queen Charlotte regional districts.
- ▶ The total number of farms in the region declined 6%. The region accounts for 1% of B.C.'s total farms.
- ▶ The total farm area fell 29%, to 8,439 hectares (20,852 acres) in 2011. The total farm area accounts for 0.3% of the total provincial farmland area.
- ▶ Total gross farm receipts decreased 12% to \$2.4 million.
- ▶ A total of 3 farms reported producing certified organic products for sale, and 1 farm reported producing products in transition to becoming certified organic.

FARM ENTERPRISES

- ▶ The region had an increase in the number of poultry and egg farms (120%), sheep and goat farms (33%), hay and other crop farms (123%) and other animal production farms (11%).
- ▶ There was close to a 50% decline in the number of beef farms, as well as fewer nurseries (-44%), field vegetable farms (-38%), fruit farms (33%) and mushroom farms (-100%).

CROPS

- ▶ The region's farmland area in berries remained unchanged between census 2006 and 2011, while land in hay and field crops decreased 24% to 1,502 hectares (3,712 acres) and land in field vegetables decreased 21% to 11 hectares (27 acres).
- ▶ The area planted in greenhouse products (i.e., greenhouse floriculture, greenhouse vegetable, and other greenhouse product production area combined) decreased 45%.

LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY

- ▶ The region had a notable (+358%) increase in the number of turkeys on farms. In addition, the number of goats increased 10%, and the number of horses and ponies rose 5%.
- ▶ Declines in numbers were reported for pigs (-66%), hens and chickens (-17%), and sheep and lambs (-25%).

HONEY BEE COLONIES

- ▶ The number of honey bee colonies in the region more than doubled from 19 colonies in 2006 to 50 colonies in 2011.

	UNIT	2006	2011		UNIT	2006	2011
Population	#	57,663	56,145	Selected Crops (Planted Area)			
Number of Farms	#	134	126	Hay and Field Crops	ha	1,982	1,502
Total Farm Area	ha	11,907	8,439	Tree Fruits	ha	2	0
Total Farm Gross Receipts	\$	2,687,376	2,366,235	Berries	ha	2	2
				Vegetables	ha	14	11
Farms Classified by Farm Type				Christmas Trees	ha	36	x
Beef Cattle	#	25	13	Nursery	ha	3	x
Dairy Cattle and Milk	#	1	1	Sod	ha	x	x
Hog and Pig	#	1	1	Greenhouse Total Area in Use	m ²	5,089	2,814
Poultry and Egg	#	5	11	Greenhouse Floriculture Products	m ²	X	1,538
Sheep and Goat	#	3	4	Greenhouse Vegetable Products	m ²	2,899	X
Other Animals	#	35	39	Other Greenhouse Products	m ²	..	X
Oilseed and Grain	#	1	2	Mushrooms	m ²	x	0
Fruit and Tree Nut	#	6	4				
Field Vegetables and Melons	#	13	8	Selected Livestock (Heads)			
Greenhouse	#	4	2	Beef Cows	#	x	439
Nursery and Tree	#	9	5	Dairy Cows	#	x	9
Floriculture	#	4	4	Pigs	#	147	49
Mushroom	#	1	0	Hens and Chickens	#	3,302	2,751
Hay and Other Crops	#	26	32	Turkeys	#	216	990
				Sheep and lambs	#	406	304
Organics Products (Farms Reporting)				Goats	#	157	173
Certified Organic Products for Sale	#	2	3	Horses and Ponies	#	388	408
Transitional Organic Products for Sale	#	1	1	Colonies of Honey Bees			
					#	19	50