

Agriculture in Brief

BRITISH COLUMBIA

2016



Population (2016) ¹	#	4,648,055
Jurisdictional Land Area ²	ha	92,518,600
Agricultural Land Reserve (2017) ³	ha	4,615,909
Population Increase (2011-2016) ⁴	#	248,000

Census of Agriculture Data		2016
Total Farmland Area ⁵	ha	2,590,210
Number of Farms	#	17,528
Average Farm Size	ha	147.8
Total Farm Operators	#	26,430
Total Farm Capital		\$37,518,893,336
Total Gross Farm Receipts		\$3,729,364,086
Total Number of Employees	#	44,556
Farmland Use	ha	2,590,210
Crops ⁶	ha	580,820
Summerfallow	ha	5,337
Tame or Seeded Pasture	ha	205,872
Natural Land for Pasture	ha	1,433,202
All Other Land ⁷	ha	364,979
Crop Area		
Hay Crop ⁸	ha	348,631
Field Crops ⁸	ha	195,676
Fruits, Berries & Nuts	ha	25,365
Vegetables	ha	6,478
Nursery Products	ha	3,654
Sod Grown for Sale	ha	813
Greenhouse Flower Area	m ²	1,855,808
Greenhouse Vegetable Area	m ²	3,070,555
Other Greenhouse Production Area	m ²	423,500
Mushroom Growing Area	m ²	212,175
Christmas Tree Growing Area	ha	2,016
Area Irrigated	ha	114,064
Farms Reporting Organic Products for Sale⁹	#	550
Farms Reporting Certified Products	#	449
Farms Reporting in Transition Products	#	110
Farms With Written Succession Plans⁹	#	1,175
Family Members as Successors	#	1,096
Non-family Members as Successors	#	83

Census of Agriculture Data (continued)	2016	
	Farms	Number
Animals on Farms		
Hens & Chickens	5,031	20,621,863
Turkeys	530	862,303
Total Other Poultry	1,149	563,906
Cattle & Calves	5,126	659,441
Dairy Cows	687	75,853
Beef Cows	3,483	212,989
Pigs	904	88,862
Sheep & Lambs	1,693	59,249
Horses & Ponies	4,767	33,363
Goats	975	14,508
Mink	11	73,456
Bison	55	6,504
Deer	12	520
Llamas & Alpacas	521	2,535
Rabbits	392	5,341
Colonies of Bees for Honey	1,044	53,745

	Farms	
	#	
Farms Selling Direct to Consumers⁹		5,667
Farms Reporting Sales of Unprocessed Agricultural Products	#	5,532
Farms Reporting Sales of Value-added Products	#	592
Farms Reporting Using Farm Gate, Stands, Kiosks, U-pick	#	5,047
Farms Reporting Using Farmers' Markets	#	1,244
Farms Reporting Using Community Supported Agriculture	#	249
Farms Reporting Using Other Methods	#	243

Farms Reporting Technologies Used on Farms		
	#	
Computers/Laptops for Farm Management	#	8,835
Smartphones/Tablets for Farm Management	#	6,014
Automated Steering (Auto-steer)	#	474
GPS Technology	#	1,097
GIS Mapping (e.g., Soil Mapping)	#	335
Greenhouse Automation	#	318
Robotic Milking	#	72
Automated Environmental Controls for Animal Housing	#	588
Automated Animal Feeding	#	650
Other Technology	#	146

	#	
Farms Reporting Renewable Energy Systems Produced For Use on Farm on for Sale⁹		718
Farms Reporting Solar Panels	#	614
Farms Reporting Wind Turbines	#	49
Farms Reporting Anaerobic Biogas (Biogas or Methane)	#	10
Farms Reporting Biodiesel Production Systems	#	2
Farms Reporting Hydro Electric Power Generator	#	59
Farms Reporting Other Renewable Energy Producing Systems	#	53

Source: Statistics Canada and Adapted from Statistics Canada. Census of Agriculture, 2016, unless otherwise specified.
Prepared by Ministry of Agriculture, Corporate Statistics and Research Unit. Summer 2017

End Notes

- 1 Source: Statistics Canada. Census of Population.
- 2 Source: Statistics Canada. Natural Resources Canada GeoAccess Division. <http://www.statcan.gc.ca/tables-tableaux/sum-som/l01/cst01/phys01-eng.htm>.
- 3 Source: Adapted from Agricultural Land Commission. Agricultural Land Reserve as of January 1, 2008 (for 2006) & April 1, 2012 (for 2011) & April 2017 (for 2016).
- 4 Source: Adapted from Statistics Canada. Censuses of Population.
- 5 Total farmland area includes both workable and non-workable land on farm operations in B.C.
- 6 Crops include hay crops, field crops, field vegetables, fruits and nuts, sod and nursery products.
- 7 Other farmland area includes: woodland, wetlands, Christmas tree land, land on which farm buildings, barnyards, lanes, home gardens, greenhouses and mushroom houses are located, and idle land.
- 8 Does not include those crop areas suppressed to meet the confidentiality requirements of the Statistics Act.
- 9 The "number of farms reporting" may not equal the sum of the parts because farms reporting more than one category (or activity) are only counted once.

Notes

Totals may not add up due to rounding
x - indicates farms reporting but information suppressed to meet the confidentiality requirements of the Statistics Act
na - indicates data is not available or applicable