

Agriculture in Brief

Comox Valley Regional District

2016



Jurisdictional Makeup

Member Municipalities: Comox, Courtenay & Cumberland.

NOTE: On February 15, 2008, the Comox-Strathcona Regional District (CSRD) was replaced by the Comox Valley Regional District (CVRD) and the Strathcona Regional District (SRD). Therefore the census data prior to 2011 is not provided here.

Population (2016) ¹	#	66,527
Jurisdictional Land Area ²	ha	169,990
Agricultural Land Reserve (2017) ³	ha	23,476
Population Increase (2011-2016) ⁴	#	2,989

Census of Agriculture Data		2011	2016	Share of B.C. 2016
Total Farmland Area ⁵	ha	11,287	9,653	0.4%
Number of Farms	#	432	416	2.4%
Average Farm Size	ha	26.1	23.2	na
Total Farm Operators	#	670	640	2.4%
Total Farm Capital		\$504,319,428	\$530,909,660	1.4%
Total Gross Farm Receipts		\$31,212,798	\$33,662,551	0.9%
Total Number of Employees	#	561	606	1.4%
Farmland Use		11,287	9,653	0.4%
Crops ⁶	ha	4,279	4,312	0.7%
Summerfallow	ha	3	33	0.6%
Tame or Seeded Pasture	ha	1,212	974	0.5%
Natural Land for Pasture	ha	1,889	1,161	0.1%
All Other Land ⁷	ha	3,903	3,173	0.9%
Crop Area				
Hay Crops ⁸	ha	3,137	3,139	0.9%
Field Crops ⁸	ha	697	684	0.3%
Fruits, Berries & Nuts	ha	185	171	0.7%
Vegetables	ha	63	99	1.5%
Nursery Products	ha	48	x	na
Sod Grown for Sale	ha	28	x	na
Greenhouse Flower Production	m ²	x	5,402	0.3%
Greenhouse Vegetable Production	m ²	16,552	8,738	0.3%
Other Greenhouse Production	m ²	x	23,359	5.5%
Mushrooms	m ²	223	x	na
Christmas Trees	ha	114	35	1.7%
Area Irrigated	ha	1,302	915	0.8%
Farms Reporting Organic Products for Sale⁹	#	12	11	2.0%
Farms Reporting Certified Products	#	12	9	2.0%
Farms Reporting in Transition Products	#	0	2	1.8%
Farms With Written Succession Plans⁹	#	na	22	1.9%
Family Members as Successors	#	na	20	1.8%
Non-family Members as Successors	#	na	2	2.4%

Census of Agriculture Data (continued)	2011		2016		Share of B.C. 2016	
	Farms	Number	Farms	Number	Farms	Number
Animals on Farms						
Hens & Chickens	171	19,025	187	22,587	3.7%	0.1%
Turkeys	27	2,068	18	x	3.4%	na
Total Other Poultry	43	2,585	42	765	3.7%	0.1%
Cattle & Calves	122	6,645	97	5,785	1.9%	0.9%
Dairy Cows	23	2,601	16	1,469	2.3%	1.9%
Beef Cows	81	812	68	1,047	2.0%	0.5%
Pigs	31	774	39	1,147	4.3%	1.3%
Sheep & Lambs	58	1,483	58	1,375	3.4%	2.3%
Horses & Ponies	90	348	83	311	1.7%	0.9%
Goats	27	206	27	170	2.8%	1.2%
Mink	0	0	0	0	0.0%	0.0%
Bison	0	0	1	x	1.8%	na
Deer	1	x	1	x	8.3%	na
Llamas & Alpacas	12	x	12	90	2.3%	3.6%
Rabbits	5	x	8	84	2.0%	1.6%
Colonies of Bees for Honey	26	600	38	1,455	3.6%	2.7%

	Farms	Share of B.C. 2016
Farms Selling Direct to Consumers⁹	212	3.7%
Farms Reporting Sales of Unprocessed Agricultural Products	205	3.7%
Farms Reporting Sales of Value-added Products	44	7.4%
Farms Reporting Using Farm Gate, Stands, Kiosks, U-pick	188	3.7%
Farms Reporting Using Farmers' Markets	61	4.9%
Farms Reporting Using Community Supported Agriculture	7	2.8%
Farms Reporting Using Other Methods	4	1.6%

Farms Reporting Technologies Used on Farms	Farms	Share of B.C. 2016
Computers/Laptops for Farm Management	207	2.3%
Smartphones/Tablets for Farm Management	129	2.1%
Automated Steering (Auto-steer)	2	0.4%
GPS Technology	22	2.0%
GIS Mapping (e.g., Soil Mapping)	5	1.5%
Greenhouse Automation	11	3.5%
Robotic Milking	1	1.4%
Automated Environmental Controls for Animal Housing	8	1.4%
Automated Animal Feeding	9	1.4%
Other Technology	3	2.1%

Farms Reporting Renewable Energy Systems Produced For Use on Farm on for Sale⁹	Farms	Share of B.C. 2016
Farms Reporting Solar Panels	23	3.7%
Farms Reporting Wind Turbines	0	0.0%
Farms Reporting Anaerobic Biodigester (Biogas or Methane)	1	10.0%
Farms Reporting Biodiesel Production Systems	0	0.0%
Farms Reporting Hydro Electric Power Generator	0	0.0%
Farms Reporting Other Renewable Energy Producing Systems	1	1.9%

Source: Statistics Canada and Adapted from Statistics Canada. Census of Agriculture, 2006, 2011, 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, Geosuite: <http://www12.statcan.gc.ca/census-recensement/2016/geo/index-eng.cfm>
- 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