

Agriculture in Brief

Regional District of Okanagan - Similkameen

2016



Jurisdictional Makeup

Member Municipalities: Keremeos, Oliver, Osoyoos, Penticton, Princeton & Summerland.

Population (2016) ¹	#	83,022
Jurisdictional Land Area ²	ha	1,041,168
Agricultural Land Reserve (2017) ³	ha	83,939
Population Increase (2011-2016) ⁴	#	2,280

Census of Agriculture Data		2006	2011	2016	Share of B.C. 2016
Total Farmland Area ⁵	ha	85,241	84,058	81,438	3.1%
Number of Farms	#	1,621	1,506	1,292	7.4%
Average Farm Size	ha	52.6	55.8	63.0	na
Number of Farm Operators	#	2,445	2,265	1,880	7.1%
Total Farm Capital		\$1,909,005,032	\$2,824,940,486	\$2,565,133,189	6.8%
Total Gross Farm Receipts		\$125,501,492	\$132,735,536	\$159,195,593	4.3%
Total Number of Employees	#	na	5,897	6,876	15.4%

Farmland Use	ha	85,241	84,058	81,438	3.1%
Crops ⁶	ha	12,541	11,899	10,071	1.7%
Summerfallow	ha	54	41	92	1.7%
Tame or Seeded Pasture	ha	2,607	4,169	2,248	1.1%
Natural Land for Pasture	ha	58,889	61,065	63,422	4.4%
All Other Land ⁷	ha	11,149	6,884	5,604	1.5%

Crop Area

Hay Crops ⁸	ha	5,930	5,793	4,137	1.2%
Field Crops ⁸	ha	35	124	131	0.1%
Fruits, Berries & Nuts	ha	5,305	5,511	5,484	21.6%
Vegetables	ha	234	259	247	3.8%
Nursery Products	ha	74	63	24	0.7%
Sod Grown for Sale	ha	x	0	0	0.0%
Greenhouse Flower Production	m ²	42,780	16,615	14,386	0.8%
Greenhouse Vegetable Production	m ²	24,067	x	62,111	2.0%
Other Greenhouse Production	m ²	na	x	16,561	3.9%
Mushrooms	m ²	x	0	0	0.0%
Christmas Trees	ha	38	21	4	0.2%

Area Irrigated	ha	9,500	8,859	9,911	8.7%
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Farms Reporting Organic Products for Sale ⁹	#	na	130	111	20.2%
Farms Reporting Certified Products	#	na	123	99	22.0%
Farms Reporting in Transition Products	#	na	8	14	12.7%

Farms With Written Succession Plans ⁹	#	na	na #	119	10.1%
Family Members as Successors	#	na	na #	106	9.7%
Non-family Members as Successors	#	na	na #	13	15.7%

Census of Agriculture Data (continued)	2006		2011		2016		Share of B.C. 2016	
	Farms	Number	Farms	Number	Farms	Number	Farms	Number
Animals on Farms								
Hens & Chickens	190	12,741	137	7,316	167	19,848	3.3%	0.1%
Turkeys	30	x	12	x	10	x	1.9%	na
Total Other Poultry	36	x	24	x	26	255	2.3%	0.0%
Cattle & Calves	206	24,825	144	16,117	121	16,067	2.4%	2.4%
Dairy Cows	8	16	5	53	4	4	0.6%	0.0%
Beef Cows	129	8,487	97	6,516	87	6,903	2.5%	3.2%
Pigs	32	202	9	102	20	75	2.2%	0.1%
Sheep & Lambs	47	1,397	32	1,228	40	1,201	2.4%	2.0%
Horses & Ponies	301	1,899	243	1,568	177	1,130	3.7%	3.4%
Goats	41	402	19	181	20	311	2.1%	2.1%
Mink	1	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%	0.0%
Bison	3	24	4	x	0	0	0.0%	0.0%
Deer	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%	0.0%
Llamas & Alpacas	38	254	32	178	16	80	3.1%	3.2%
Rabbits	13	79	12	80	5	45	1.3%	0.8%
Colonies of Bees for Honey	45	1,430	32	1,028	45	846	4.3%	1.6%

	Farms	Share of B.C. 2016
Farms Selling Direct to Consumers⁹	362	6.4%
Farms Reporting Sales of Unprocessed Agricultural Products	342	6.2%
Farms Reporting Sales of Value-added Products	48	8.1%
Farms Reporting Using Farm Gate, Stands, Kiosks, U-pick	312	6.2%
Farms Reporting Using Farmers' Markets	102	8.2%
Farms Reporting Using Community Supported Agriculture	17	6.8%
Farms Reporting Using Other Methods	10	4.1%

	Farms	Share of B.C. 2016
Farms Reporting Technologies Used on Farms		
Computers/Laptops for Farm Management	724	8.2%
Smartphones/Tablets for Farm Management	532	8.8%
Automated Steering (Auto-steer)	20	4.2%
GPS Technology	43	3.9%
GIS Mapping (e.g., Soil Mapping)	39	11.6%
Greenhouse Automation	13	4.1%
Robotic Milking	0	0.0%
Automated Environmental Controls for Animal Housing	8	1.4%
Automated Animal Feeding	7	1.1%
Other Technology	33	22.6%

	Farms	Share of B.C. 2016
Farms Reporting Renewable Energy Systems Produced For Use on Farm on for Sale⁹	42	5.8%
Farms Reporting Solar Panels	34	5.5%
Farms Reporting Wind Turbines	2	4.1%
Farms Reporting Anaerobic Biodigester (Biogas or Methane)	1	10.0%
Farms Reporting Biodiesel Production Systems	0	0.0%
Farms Reporting Hydro Electric Power Generator	3	5.1%
Farms Reporting Other Renewable Energy Producing Systems	3	5.7%

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

- Source: Statistics Canada. Census of Population.
- Source: Statistics Canada, Geosuite: <http://www12.statcan.gc.ca/census-recensement/2016/geo/index-eng.cfm>
- 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).
- Source: Adapted from Statistics Canada. Censuses of Population.
- Total farmland area includes both workable and non-workable land on farm operations in B.C.
- Crops include hay crops, field crops, field vegetables, fruits and nuts, sod and nursery products.
- 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.
- Does not include those crop areas suppressed to meet the confidentiality requirements of the Statistics Act.
- 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