

Agriculture in Brief

VANCOUVER ISLAND - COAST

2016



Jurisdictional Makeup

Includes Regional Districts: Capital, Cowichan Valley, Nanaimo, Alberni-Clayoquot, Comox Valley, Strathcona and Mount Waddington, Powell River & Central Coast.

Population (2016) ¹	#	799,400
Jurisdictional Land Area ²	ha	8,423,161
Agricultural Land Reserve (2016) ³	ha	120,082
Population Increase (2011-2016) ⁴	#	40,034

Census of Agriculture Data		2016	Share of B.C. 2016
Total Farmland Area ⁵	ha	51,829	2.0%
Number of Farms	#	2,786	15.9%
Average Farm Size	ha	18.6	na
Total Farm Operators	#	4,220	16.0%
Total Farm Capital		\$3,533,727,605	9.4%
Total Gross Farm Receipts		\$200,522,977	5.4%
Total Number of Employees	#	3,513	7.9%
Farmland Use	ha	51,829	2.0%
Crops ⁶	ha	18,489	3.2%
Summerfallow	ha	174	3.3%
Tame or Seeded Pasture	ha	4,259	2.1%
Natural Land for Pasture	ha	8,734	0.6%
All Other Land ⁷	ha	20,173	5.5%
Crop Area			
Hay Crop ⁸	ha	13,289	3.8%
Field Crops ⁸	ha	2,725	1.4%
Fruits, Berries & Nuts	ha	1,072	4.2%
Vegetables	ha	762	11.8%
Nursery Products	ha	436	11.9%
Sod Grown for Sale	ha	49	6.0%
Greenhouse Flower Area	m ²	84,483	4.6%
Greenhouse Vegetable Area	m ²	97,079	3.2%
Other Greenhouse Production Area	m ²	77,126	18.2%
Mushroom Growing Area	m ²	4,127	1.9%
Christmas Tree Growing Area	ha	329	16.3%
Area Irrigated	ha	6,209	5.4%
Farms Reporting Organic Products for Sale⁹	#	89	16.2%
Farms Reporting Certified Products	#	60	13.4%
Farms Reporting in Transition Products	#	30	27.3%
Farms With Written Succession Plans⁹	#	115	9.8%
Family Members as Successors	#	106	9.7%
Non-family Members as Successors	#	9	10.8%

Census of Agriculture Data (continued)	2016		Share of B.C. 2016	
	Farms	Number	Farms	Number
Animals on Farms				
Hens & Chickens	1,286	587,261	25.6%	2.8%
Turkeys	125	23,098	23.6%	2.7%
Total Other Poultry	367	6,116	31.9%	1.1%
Cattle & Calves	529	22,767	10.3%	3.5%
Dairy Cows	83	5,776	12.1%	7.6%
Beef Cows	332	3,889	9.5%	1.8%
Pigs	217	3,161	24.0%	3.6%
Sheep & Lambs	500	13,266	29.5%	22.4%
Horses & Ponies	515	2,535	10.8%	7.6%
Goats	222	1,914	22.8%	13.2%
Mink	0	0	0.0%	0.0%
Bison	2	x	3.6%	na
Deer	4	405	33.3%	77.9%
Llamas & Alpacas	91	596	17.5%	23.5%
Rabbits	77	780	19.6%	14.6%
Colonies of Bees for Honey	241	4,350	23.1%	8.1%

	Farms	Share of B.C. 2016
Farms Selling Direct to Consumers⁹	1,593	28.1%
Farms Reporting Sales of Unprocessed Agricultural Products	1,559	28.2%
Farms Reporting Sales of Value-added Products	222	37.5%
Farms Reporting Using Farm Gate, Stands, Kiosks, U-pick	1,458	28.9%
Farms Reporting Using Farmers' Markets	371	29.8%
Farms Reporting Using Community Supported Agriculture	82	32.9%
Farms Reporting Using Other Methods	47	19.3%

Farms Reporting Technologies Used on Farms	Farms	Share of B.C. 2016
Computers/Laptops for Farm Management	1,406	15.9%
Smartphones/Tablets for Farm Management	852	14.2%
Automated Steering (Auto-steer)	21	4.4%
GPS Technology	84	7.7%
GIS Mapping (e.g., Soil Mapping)	42	12.5%
Greenhouse Automation	75	23.6%
Robotic Milking	7	9.7%
Automated Environmental Controls for Animal Housing	63	10.7%
Automated Animal Feeding	70	10.8%
Other Technology	23	15.8%

Farms Reporting Renewable Energy Systems Produced For Use on Farm on for Sale⁹	Farms	Share of B.C. 2016
Farms Reporting Solar Panels	143	19.9%
Farms Reporting Solar Panels	131	21.3%
Farms Reporting Wind Turbines	4	8.2%
Farms Reporting Anaerobic Biodigester (Biogas or Methane)	2	20.0%
Farms Reporting Biodiesel Production Systems	0	0.0%
Farms Reporting Hydro Electric Power Generator	6	10.2%
Farms Reporting Other Renewable Energy Producing Systems	9	17.0%

Source: Statistics Canada and Adapted from Statistics Canada. Census of Agriculture 2016, unless otherwise specified.
Prepared by the 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, 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