Sector Snapshot 2016: B.C. Agriculture

Sector Defined: B.C.’s agriculture sector includes primary production from farmers, growers and ranchers. Agriculture does not include post-farm processing.

➢ In 2016, B.C. producers led the nation in farm sales of blueberries, cherries, raspberries, garlic and apricots.

AGRICULTURE KEY FACTS

➢ Farm Cash Receipts (FCR): $3.0 billion
➢ GDP: $1.3 billion
➢ Share of Provincial Total GDP: 0.6%
➢ Exports: $2.5 billion

➢ Primary agriculture in B.C. generated $3 billion in FCR down 2.5 per cent from 2015.
➢ Over 17,500 farms utilized 2.6 million hectares – less than three per cent of the provincial land base – to produce over 200 agriculture products.
➢ The top 10 commodities in terms of FCR in B.C. in 2016 were: dairy products chickens, greenhouse vegetables, floriculture, beef, nursery products, blueberries, eggs, mushrooms and grapes.
➢ Nationally, B.C. ranked second in FCR for: greenhouse vegetables, floriculture products, nursery products, mushrooms, grapes, cranberries, peaches, field lettuce, pumpkins, pears, Brussels sprouts, ginseng, nectarines, plums and prunes, spinach, and Saskatoon berries.
➢ Total estimated GDP for crop and animal production (excluding aquaculture) plus support activities for crop and animal production amounted to $1.3 billion and accounted for 0.6 per cent of B.C.’s total GDP.

AGRIFOOD PRODUCTS EXPORT PROFILE

➢ Agrifood products include primary production products & post-farm processed products.
➢ B.C. exported $2.5 billion worth of agrifood products to 147 markets in 2016. Total agrifood exports were up five per cent over 2015.
➢ Top Five Agrifood Export Markets: United States $1.9 billion (77 per cent), China $142 million (six per cent), Japan $101 million (four per cent), South Korea $54 million (two per cent) and Hong Kong $31 million (one per cent).
➢ The fastest growing markets of the 10 top export markets were Australia (39 per cent), Philippines (38 per cent), Vietnam (33 per cent), United Kingdom (28 per cent) and Hong Kong (27 per cent).
➢ Top Five Agrifood Exports: $307 million in food preparations for manufacturing and natural health products; $293 million in baked goods and cereal products; $200 million in blueberries; $156 million in mushrooms; and $119 million in chocolate & cocoa preparations.