

Sector Snapshot 2019: B.C. Agriculture

Sector Defined: B.C.'s agriculture sector includes primary production from farmers and ranchers. Primary agriculture production does not include post-farm processing.

AGRICULTURE KEY FACTS

- ❖ **Farm Cash Receipts (FCR): \$3.9 billion**
- ❖ **GDP: \$1.8 billion**
- ❖ **Share of Provincial Total GDP*: 0.7%**
- ❖ **Agriculture Jobs: 26,800**

- Primary agriculture in B.C. generated \$3.9 billion in FCR; this was 13.3 percent higher than in 2018.
- Over 17,500 farms utilized 2.6 million hectares – which is less than three percent of the provincial land base – to produce over 200 agriculture products.
- The top 10 commodities in terms of FCR in B.C. in 2019 were: dairy; chickens; licensed cannabis; greenhouse vegetables; floriculture; beef; mushrooms; nursery products; eggs; and blueberries.
- Total estimated GDP for crop and animal production (excluding aquaculture), plus support activities for crop and animal production, amounted to \$1.8 billion and accounted for 0.7 percent of B.C.'s total GDP*.
*GDP excluding unlicensed cannabis.

B.C. AGRICULTURE AROUND THE PROVINCE AND CANADA

- ❖ Of B.C.'s total 17,528 farms, 30% (5,217 farms) are located in the Lower Mainland-Southwest region of the province, followed by 27% (4,759 farms) in the Thompson-Okanagan region, 16% (2,786 farms) in the Vancouver Island-Coast region, 8.0% (1,411 farms) in the Cariboo, 7.6% (1,353 farms) in the Peace River region, 6.6% (1,157 farms) in the Kootenays, 4.3% (747 farms) in the Nechako region and 0.7% (116 farms) in the North Coast region.
- ❖ B.C. is Canada's largest fruit-producing province, second largest greenhouse vegetable and third largest field vegetable producing province.
- ❖ Within the vegetable category, B.C. accounts for Canada's second largest farm sales in mushrooms.
- ❖ B.C. farmers also account for Canada's second largest floriculture and nursery receipts and accounted for the third largest share of national receipts in licensed cannabis crops and in supply managed products (dairy, chicken, turkey, eggs and hatching eggs) in 2019.

