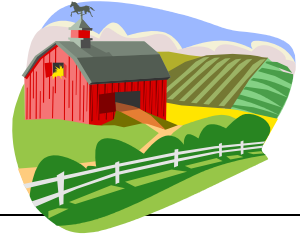


# Canada's Agricultural Resource

## Farming Background Information

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Canadian agriculture is an essential part of the economic, political and social fabric of Canada. It is the backbone of many rural communities and contributes significantly to the well being of Canadians in both rural and urban Canada. The future of these communities is tightly intertwined with the future of the Canadian agricultural sector.

Primary agriculture is a major generator of jobs in both rural and urban Canada through employment on farms, in the production of agricultural inputs, in the processing of farm products and in the service sector.

Primary agriculture is not just another industrial sector. Unlike other primary industries carried out by large corporations, agricultural production is carried out by a large number of individual farms. Canadian agriculture occupies a significant portion of Canada's land resource and must carry the responsibilities of the stewardship of this resource.

There are five major agricultural production sectors in Canada. They are.....

1. grains & oilseeds (wheat, oats, rye, flax seed, canola, soybeans and corn ) 34%
2. red meats (beef, hog, veal, lamb) 27%
3. dairy 12 %
4. horticulture 9%
5. poultry and eggs 8%

\*\*horticulture, poultry & eggs, and dairy are all produced with a domestic orientation – they stay in Canada!!

\*\* grain and oilseeds & red meat both have a domestic and export orientation – sometimes they stay and sometimes they go!!

# Farming Fast Facts

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- 101 \_\_\_\_\_ is the largest agricultural sector in Canada.
- 102 There are two main areas producing grains & oilseeds, they are the \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
- 103 The \_\_\_\_\_ accounted for \_\_\_\_\_% of the total farm cash receipts in this sector in 2004.
- 104 \_\_\_\_\_ is the number one crop produced in Canada and accounted for over \_\_\_\_\_% of the total production in 2004.
- 105 \_\_\_\_\_ is the fifth largest crop grown in Canada. However, in 2004 the growth of canola grossed \$\_\_\_\_\_ billion.
- 106 Approximately \_\_\_\_\_ of Canada's cereal production is exported to other countries.
- 107 Globally, Canada produces \_\_\_\_\_% of the world's rapeseed (used in vegetable oil), \_\_\_\_\_% of the world's wheat, \_\_\_\_\_% of the world's barley, \_\_\_\_\_% of the world's oats and \_\_\_\_\_% of the world's corn.
- 108 Canada's red meat production generated more than \$\_\_\_\_\_ billion at the farm level in 1996.
- 109 Alberta, \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ accounted for \_\_\_\_\_% of the total farm receipts in this red meat sector in 1996. Alberta \_\_\_\_\_% alone!!
- 110 Globally, Canadian beef, veal and pork production account for about \_\_\_\_\_% of the world's production.
- 111 \_\_\_\_\_ is the largest generator of revenue in this sector, representing \$\_\_\_\_\_ billion in 2004.
- 112 The \_\_\_\_\_ sector boasts \$\_\_\_\_\_ billion in farm cash receipts in 2004.
- 113 In 2004, \_\_\_\_\_ Canadian \_\_\_\_\_ farmers generated \$\_\_\_\_\_ billion.
- 114 The main dairy producing areas in Canada are the central and eastern regions particularly \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ which generate \_\_\_\_\_% of the total farm cash receipts for this sector.
- 115 \_\_\_\_\_ is the fourth largest agricultural sector and generated \_\_\_\_\_% of the total farm receipts in 1996. Horticultural crops include \_\_\_\_\_, berries, \_\_\_\_\_, vegetables, \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ products.

- ❶ \_\_\_\_\_% of all horticultural production occurs in Ontario, Quebec and \_\_\_\_\_.
- ❷ In 1996, the sale of apples brought in \$\_\_\_\_\_ million into the Canadian economy.
- ❸ In 2001, approximately \_\_\_\_\_ people were employed as actual farmers!! Only \_\_\_\_\_% were under the age of 35!
- ❹ In 2001, the census reported that there were \_\_\_\_\_ farms in Canada. The number of farms in Canada has decreased by over \_\_\_\_% since 1996. However, the farms are getting larger!!

*The trend towards larger farms in Canada means that fewer farmers produce more food than ever before!!*

- ❺ In 2001 there were \_\_\_\_\_ farms counted in the territories, excluding Nunavut, averaging 150 acres each. They are commercially harvesting \_\_\_\_\_ (ie \_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_) and \_\_\_\_\_.
- ❻ In 2001, over \_\_\_\_% of the farms in Canada were \_\_\_\_\_ operated, and that number is decreasing as farmers find it more difficult to own the land they grow the food on.
- ❼ In 2000, the average farm family's annual income was \$\_\_\_\_\_. In comparison the average non-farm family annual income was \$\_\_\_\_\_. Not much of a difference??!!
- ❽ The average value of farmland varies significantly from province to province, ranging from \$\_\_\_\_\_ to \$\_\_\_\_\_ per acre. Price of land closest to urban centers will deliver a higher market price!

*The average size of an Ontario farm is 1100 acres – do the math!  
No wonder the land is disappearing!!*

*Agriculture is an important resource to the Canadian economy and to Canadians at large.  
What will happen as the agricultural lands around Durham Region keep disappearing at the current rate? Where will we get our food?*

NEXT: The Disappearing Farmland Simulation