

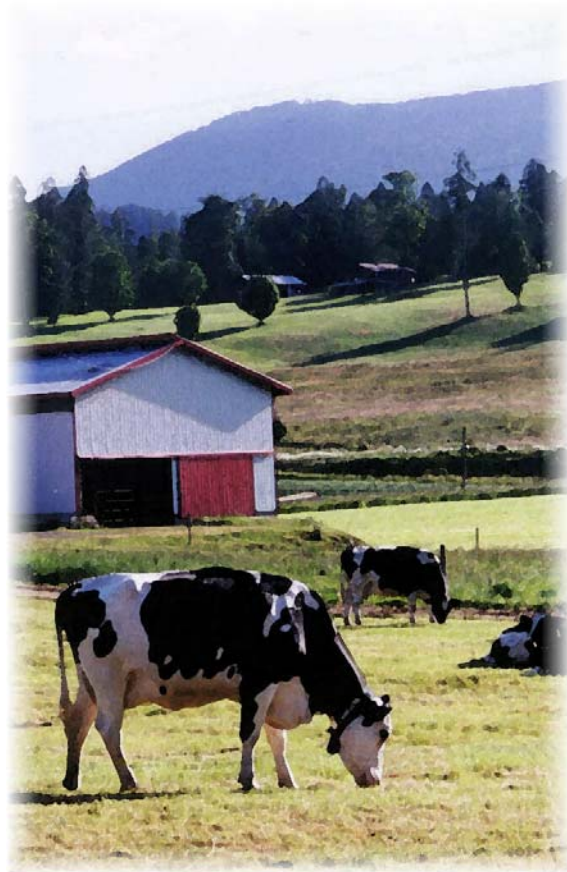
Cowichan Valley Regional District **AGRICULTURAL OVERVIEW**

Corporate Name Cowichan Valley Regional District
Date of Incorporation September 26, 1967
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 Duncan, B.C.
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For additional information visit the Cowichan Valley Regional District's website.

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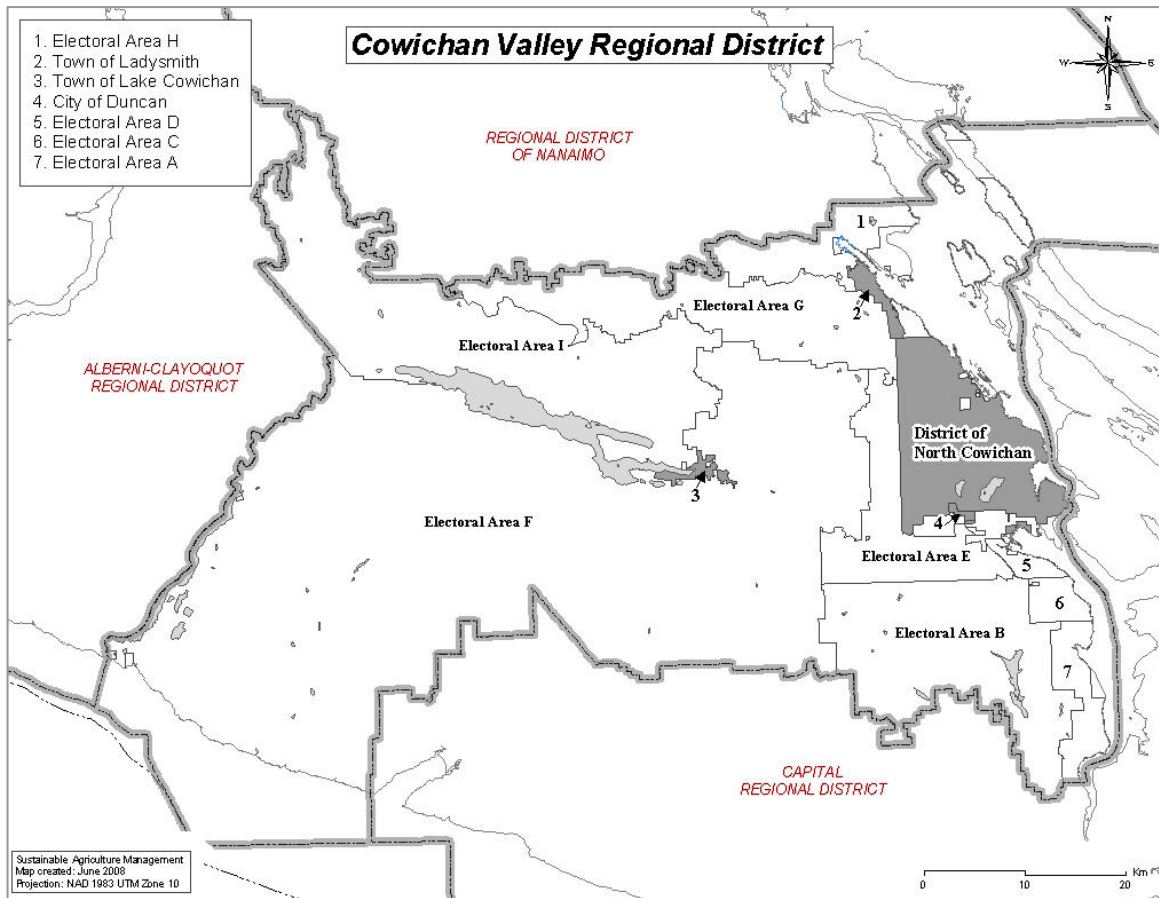
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Cowichan Valley Regional District **AGRICULTURAL OVERVIEW**

- **Member Municipalities**
 - City of Duncan
 - Town of Ladysmith
 - Town of Lake Cowichan
 - District of North Cowichan

- **Electoral Areas**
 - “A” Mill Bay / Malahat
 - “B” Shawnigan Lake
 - “C” Cobble Hill
 - “D” Cowichan Bay
 - “E” Cowichan Station / Sahtlam / Glenora
 - “F” Cowichan Lake South / Skutz Falls
 - “G” Saltair / Gulf Islands
 - “H” North Oyster / Diamond
 - “I” Youbou / Meade Creek

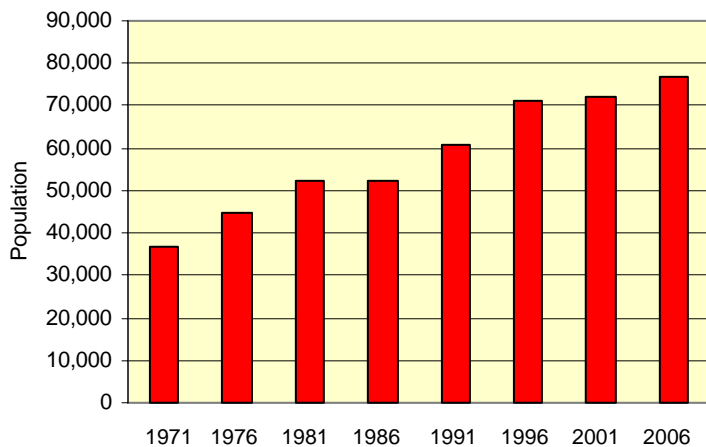


• **Population - 1971 to 2006¹**

1971	=	36,767
1976	=	44,991
1981	=	52,327
1986	=	52,466
1991	=	60,560
1996	=	70,978
2001	=	71,998
2006	=	76,929

The Cowichan Valley Regional District accounted for almost 2% of BC's population in 2006.

Graph 1 Cowichan Valley Regional District Population - 1971 to 2006 -



- **Population Increase 1971 to 2006** = 40,162
 = 1,148 persons / year on average
- **2006 Population within:**
 - Municipal Jurisdictions = 43,029 (56%)
 - Electoral Areas = 30,309 (39%)
 - Indian Reserves = 3,591 (5%)
- **2006 Urban / Rural Split**
 - Urban = 43,608 (57%)
 - Rural = 33,321 (43%)

The Cowichan Valley Regional District accounts for nearly 11% of Vancouver Island's population.

There were 700 farms reported in the CVRD in 2006. The Regional District's farm population is estimated to be 2,100 persons or 2.7% of the Cowichan Valley Regional District's total 2006 population (based on the BC average of 3 persons per farm). A similar calculation provincially sets the farm population at approximately 1.5% of B.C.'s total 2006 population.

• **Jurisdictional Area** = 350,890 hectares²

¹ Ministry of Municipal Affairs, *Statistics Relating to Regional and Municipal Governments in British Columbia - 1990 & 1998* and Statistics Canada, Ottawa - <http://www.statcan.ca/start.html>

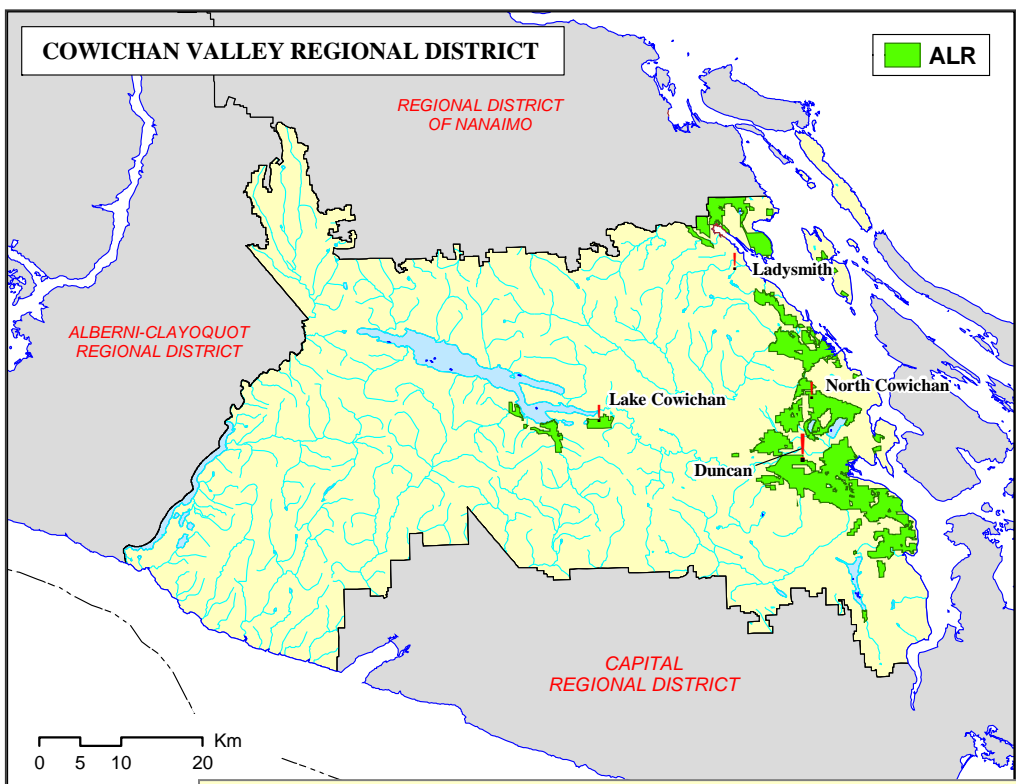
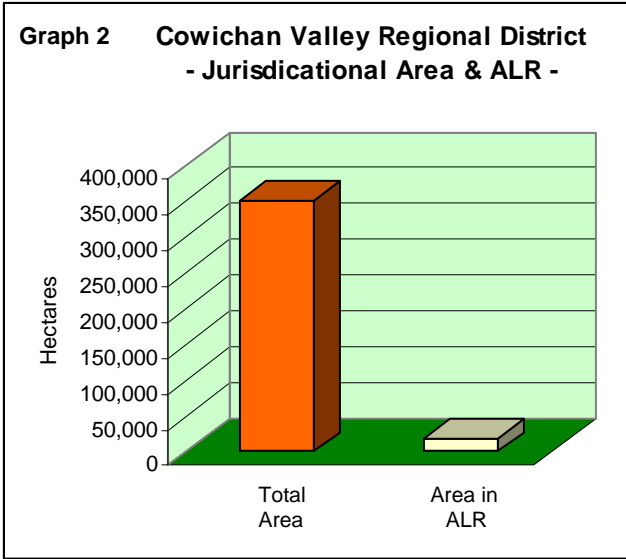
² Ministry of Community Services, *Statistics Relating to Regional & Municipal Governments in B.C. for 2007* at: http://www.cserv.gov.bc.ca/lgd/infra/statistics_index.htm

4 Cowichan Valley Regional District AGRICULTURAL OVERVIEW

• Agricultural Land Reserve

= 19,034 hectares³

The ALR in the Cowichan Valley Regional District was designated on May 21, 1974 and today accounts for almost 18% of all land in the ALR on Vancouver Island.



The ALR in the Cowichan Valley Regional District accounts for 5.4% of the Regional District's jurisdictional area.

³ Source: Agricultural Land Commission - ALR as of January 2008.

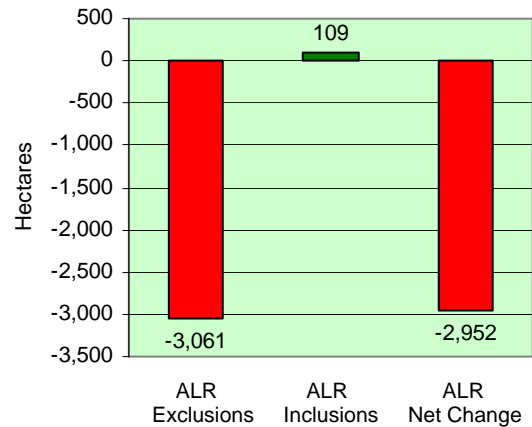
ALR Fine Tuning Program

During the 1980s, the Agricultural Land Commission spearheaded a major review of the Agricultural Land Reserve on Vancouver Island. The program involved four of the six Vancouver Island regional districts, including the Cowichan Valley Regional District. Considerable effort was put into a comprehensive review and updating of the Canada Land Inventory agricultural capability ratings in key areas of the Island. The Commission also worked closely with regional districts and municipalities to ensure the ALR review considered ongoing land use planning initiatives.

With the technical review complete, a series of ALR applications, including public consultation, finalized the process. The result was a fundamental reshaping of the ALR throughout much of Vancouver Island. In total, approximately 8,360 hectares were excluded from the ALR and 3,430 hectares were included, for a net ALR decrease of 4,930 hectares.

The Cowichan Valley Regional District, through four ALR applications in 1984 and 1985, saw 3,061 hectares excluded and 109 hectares included for a net decline of 2,952 hectares from the ALR. Compared to the other three regional districts, the CVRD had the largest net reduction of land from the ALR as a result of the fine tuning program (60% of the total).

**Graph 3 - Summary -
 ALR Fine Tuning Program
 Cowichan Valley Regional District**



6 Cowichan Valley Regional District AGRICULTURAL OVERVIEW

• Total Area Farmed

1986	=	17,261 ha.
1991	=	18,628 ha.
1996	=	13,656 ha.
2001	=	13,996 ha.
2006	=	11,559 ha.

• Number of Farms⁴ Reporting

1986	=	554
1991	=	594
1996	=	772
2001	=	691
2006	=	700

- Average Farm Size

	1986 (Hectares)	1991 (Hectares)	1996 (Hectares)	2001 (Hectares)	2006 (Hectares)
Cowichan Valley Regional District	31.2	31.4	17.7	20.3	16.5
Vancouver Island	23.8	22.8	19.1	21.6	18.1
British Columbia	126.5	124.4	115.8	127.5	142.9

- Farm Size

	1986		1991		1996		2001		2006	
	Farms	Percent	Farms	Percent	Farms	Percent	Farms	Percent	Farms	Percent
<4 ha. (10 acres)	192	35%	208	35%	318	41%	243	35%	262	37%
4 to 52 ha. (10 to 129 acres)	296	53%	318	54%	390	51%	370	54%	380	54%
52 to 161 ha. (130 to 399 acres)	61	11%	60	10%	55	7%	68	10%	82	8%
>161 ha. (400 acres & greater)	5	1%	8	1%	9	1%	10	1%	6	1%
Total	554	100%	594	100%	772	100%	691	100%	700	100%

⁴ Over time, the census definition of “farm” or “farm operation” has changed. An explanation of these changes can be found at: <http://www.statcan.ca/english/freepub/95-629-XIE/2007000/terms.htm#farm>. In 2006, an “agricultural operation” was defined as a farm, ranch or other agricultural operation producing agricultural products for sale or the intention of sale in the past 12 months. For a complete definition of agricultural operation and agricultural products, see: <http://www.statcan.ca/english/agcensus2006/glossary.htm#gt3>

• Tenure⁵

	1986		1991		1996		2001		2006	
	Hectares	% of Total	Hectares	% of Total	Hectares	% of Total	Hectares	% of Total	Hectares	% of Total
Farmland Owned	15,079	87%	15,974	86%	9,741	71%	10,979	78%	9,986	83%
<u>Farmland Leased, etc.</u>	<u>2,182</u>	<u>13%</u>	<u>2,654</u>	<u>14%</u>	<u>3,915</u>	<u>29%</u>	<u>3,017</u>	<u>22%</u>	<u>2,116</u>	<u>17%</u>
<u>Total</u>	17,261	100%	18,628	100%	13,656	100%	13,996	100%	12,102	100%

In 2006, provincially, 55.4% of farmland was owned.

- Farmland Leased/Rented

	1986		1991		1996		2001		2006	
	Hectares	% of Total	Hectares	% of Total	Hectares	% of Total	Hectares	% of Total	Hectares	% of Total
From governments	na ⁶	na	267	10%	426	11%	470	15%	74	3%
From others	na	na	2,387	90%	3,489	89%	2,374	79%	1,803	85%
Crop shared from others	na	na	na	na	na	na	173	6%	99	5%
<u>Through other arrangements</u>	<u>na</u>	<u>na</u>	<u>na</u>	<u>na</u>	<u>na</u>	<u>na</u>	<u>na</u>	<u>na</u>	<u>140</u>	<u>7%</u>
Total	na	na	2,654	100%	3,915	100%	3,017	100%	2,116	100%



Cowichan Valley Regional District / District of North Cowichan



The District of North Cowichan, with a land area of over 20,400 hectares, is the largest municipality in the CVRD. While the District only accounts for about 6% of the Regional District's total area, North Cowichan makes a significant agricultural contribution.



2006

Indicator	District of North Cowichan	% of Regional District
No. of Farms	389	56%
Area of Farms (ha.)	6,898	60%
Gross Farm Receipts	\$28,276,974	60%
Land in ALR (ha.)	6,354	33%

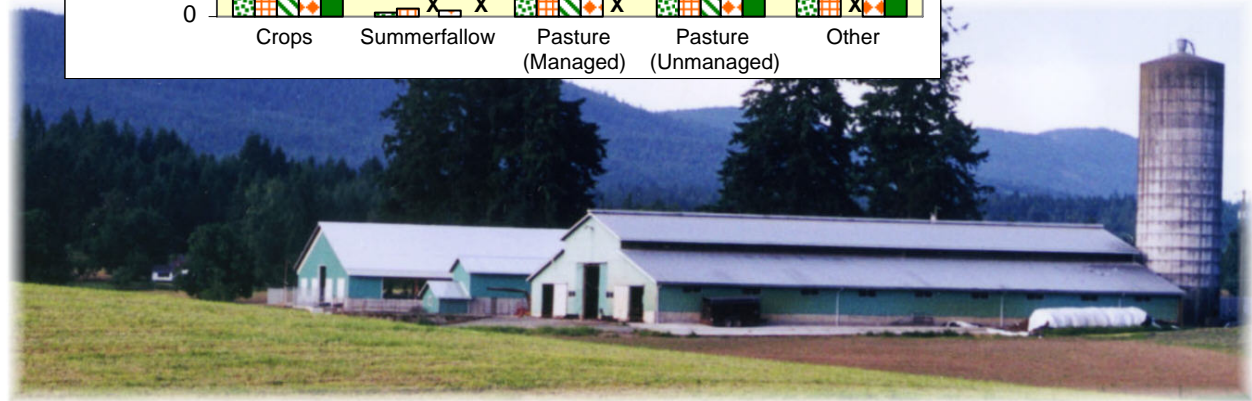
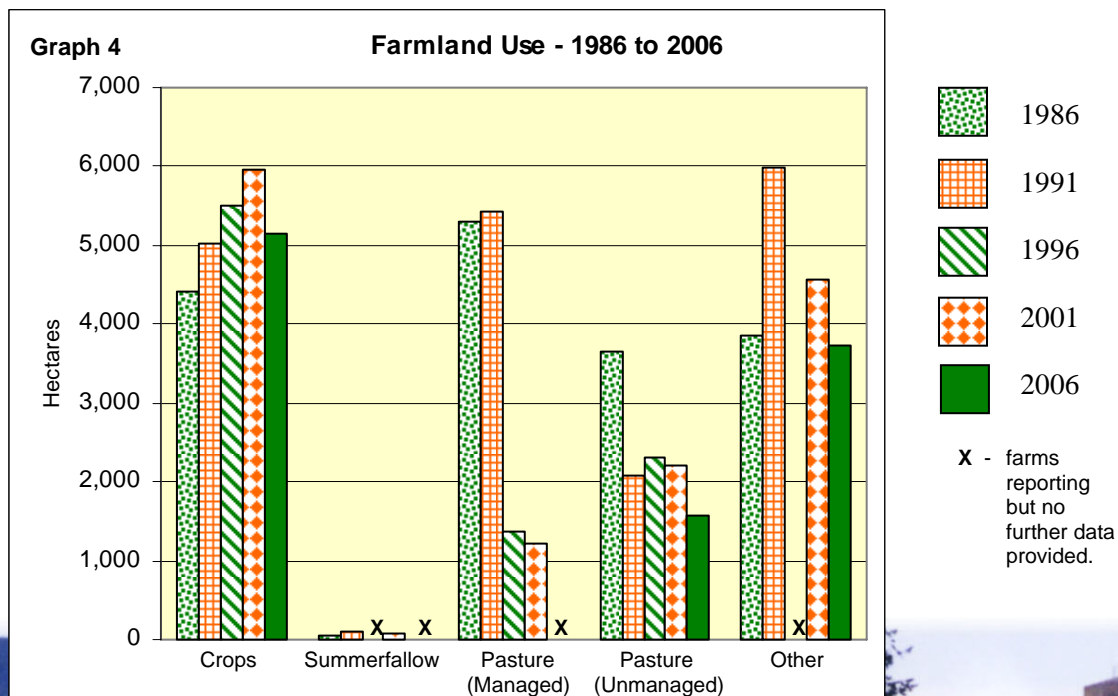
⁵ Note: Figures related to tenure for 2006 are not comparable to previous Census data due to a significant revision to the questionnaire and reformatting of the data by Statistics Canada. For this reason, the total area farmed in 2006 (p. 6) is not the same as the total in the Tenure table.

⁶ "na" indicates that data was not available for the year or category in question.

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• Hectares of Farmland in:

	1986		1991		1996		2001		2006	
	Farms	Hectares	Farms	Hectares	Farms	Hectares	Farms	Hectares	Farms	Hectares
Crops	356	4,403	366	5,030	470	5,497	469	5,954	474	5,159
Summerfallow	19	53	20	92	18	x ⁷	26	66	9	x
Pasture (managed)	226	5,303	261	5,420	227	1,369	195	1,213	171	x
Pasture (unmanaged)	249	3,652	274	2,091	374	2,297	347	2,198	328	1,560
Other ⁸	na	3,850	519	5,995	671	x	565	4,565	589	3,723
Total ⁹	na	17,261	na	18,628	na	13,656	na	13,996	na	11,559



⁷ Throughout the report, 'x' indicates that farms are reporting but further information is not provided for reasons of confidentiality.

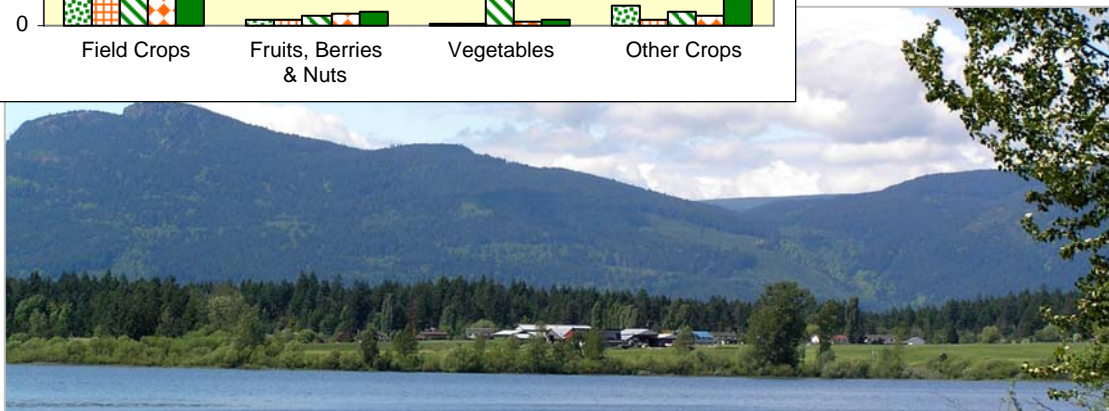
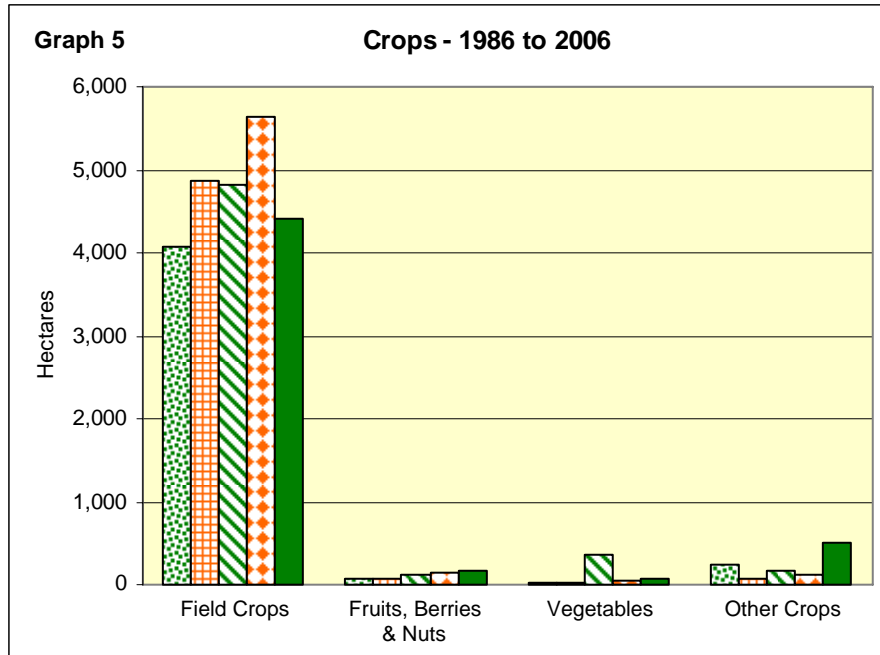
⁸ "Other" includes 'Other Unimproved Land', 'Other Improved Land' and 'Woodland'.

⁹ Note: A total for the number of farms in each year is not provided to avoid double counting of mixed farms.

• **Crops** (hectares)

	<u>1986</u>	<u>1991</u>	<u>1996</u>	<u>2001</u>	<u>2006</u>
Field Crops ¹⁰	4,076	4,860	4,820	5,635	4,413
Tree Fruits	38	38	84	na	na
Berries & Grapes	27	42	48	na	na
Fruits, Berries & Nuts ¹¹	na	na	na	143	172
Vegetables	30	29	368	55	63
<u>Other</u> ¹²	<u>232</u>	<u>61</u>	<u>177</u>	<u>121</u>	<u>511</u>
Total	4,403	5,030	5,497	5,954	5,159

Between 1986 and 2006, the combined area in tree fruits, berries, grapes and nut production in the Cowichan Valley has increased from 65 to 172 hectares - over 164%.



¹⁰ Note: In the case of hectares in Field Crops, a total was not provided. In some cases, individual field crop area figures were not provided for reasons of confidentiality. As a result, the figures provided equal only the sum of those individual field crops in which Statistics Canada provides an area figure.

¹¹ In 1986, 1991 and 1996, data was split between 'Tree Fruits' and 'Berries & Grapes'. In 2001 and 2006, this data was grouped as Fruits, Berries & Nuts resulting in no data being available (na) in this category in 1986, 1991 and 1996.

¹² "Other" Crops also account for area figures not provided due to confidentiality.

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	1986		1991		1996		2001		2006	
	Farms	Hectares	Farms	Hectares	Farms	Hectares	Farms	Hectares	Farms	Hectares
• Field Crops¹³	na	4,076	na	4,860	na	4,820	na	5,635	na	4,413
Wheat	3	5	5	8	5	x	6	14	4	x
Oats	3	x	17	49	8	38	11	55	7	38
Barley	0	0	6	x	3	x	3	16	1	x
Mixed Grains	1	x	2	x	1	x	2	x	1	x
Corn for Grain	0	0	0	0	1	x	3	25	1	x
Buckwheat	0	0	1	x	0	0	1	x	0	0
Rye	3	x	3	8	4	5	7	x	5	4
Corn for Silage	15	226	10	164	19	248	20	352	22	x
Alfalfa	na	na	17	93	19	391	25	437	35	487
All other Tame Hay & Fodder Crops	289	3,769	279	4,449	300	4,031	306	4,676	276	3,853
Canary Seed	0	0	0	0	1	x	0	0	0	0
Potatoes	12	76	15	87	14	107	16	60	10	31
Dry Field Peas	0	0	0	0	1	x	0	0	0	0
Dry Field Beans	1	x	0	0	1	x	0	0	0	0
Sunflowers	0	0	0	0	1	x	1	x	2	x
Ginseng	na	na	na	na	na	na	1	x	0	0
Flaxseed	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	x	1	x
Forage seed for seed	0	0	0	0	1	x	1	x	2	x
Other field crops	2	x	6	2	2	x	1	x	0	0



¹³ Note: A total for the number of farms is not provided to avoid double counting in the case of mixed farms.



• **Fruits, Berries & Nuts**

	<u>1986</u>		<u>1991</u>		<u>1996</u>		<u>2001</u>		<u>2006</u>	
	<u>Farms</u>	<u>Hectares</u>	<u>Farms</u>	<u>Hectares</u>	<u>Farms</u>	<u>Hectares</u>	<u>Farms</u>	<u>Hectares</u>	<u>Farms</u>	<u>Hectares</u>
Total	97	65	111	80	194	132	118	143	130	172
Apples	63	22	63	27	122	43	63	22	60	28
Pears	46	3	38	3	74	5	22	2	23	3
Plums & Prunes	42	2	36	3	78	6	20	2	18	2
Sweet Cherries	38	4	31	3	60	5	20	3	19	3
Sour Cherries	9	0.4	9	0.4	17	0.8	5	0.8	2	x
Peaches	22	1	17	1	36	2	9	x	7	1
Apricots	6	x	6	0.4	6	x	1	x	0	0
Other tree fruits	17	4	11	1	44	21	na	na	na	na
Grapes	7	1	13	14	28	35	29	52	35	75
Strawberries	16	12	18	11	22	28	19	10	15	4
Raspberries	17	9	24	5	24	10	33	11	31	6
Cranberries	0	0	0	0	1	x	0	0	2	x
Blueberries	4	3	12	11	12	11	21	13	23	15
Saskatoons	na	na	na	na	na	na	1	x	2	x
Other berries	4	0.4	8	1	11	x	na	na	na	na
Other fruits, berries & nuts	na	na	na	na	na	na	33	25	32	25



Since 1986, the Cowichan Valley Regional District has steadily increased the amount of land and farms in grape production. As a result the growing wine industry has become an increasingly prominent part of Valley agriculture.

• **Vegetables**

	<u>1986</u>		<u>1991</u>		<u>1996</u>		<u>2001</u>		<u>2006</u>	
	<u>Farms</u>	<u>Hectares</u>	<u>Farms</u>	<u>Hectares</u>	<u>Farms</u>	<u>Hectares</u>	<u>Farms</u>	<u>Hectares</u>	<u>Farms</u>	<u>Hectares</u>
Total	30	50	41	29	78	368¹⁴	75	55	84	63
Sweet Corn	15	25	20	8	28	98	18	11	21	7
Tomatoes	9	1	22	4	30	x	21	3	26	2
Cucumbers	7	1	11	1	17	x	17	2	16	1
Green Peas	2	x	7	1	14	x	14	2	16	1
Green / Wax Beans	6	0.4	11	1	23	18	21	5	22	1
Cabbage	9	2	4	1	7	x	11	5	12	2
Chinese Cabbage	na	na	2	x	1	x	0	0	3	x
Cauliflower	5	1	5	1	6	x	11	1	6	x
Broccoli	4	0.8	5	1	6	x	14	1	18	2
Brussels Sprouts	0	0	2	x	2	x	5	x	3	0
Carrots	11	2	13	3	19	10	17	2	21	6
Rutabagas / Turnips	2	x	0	0	3	x	4	x	5	3
Beets	7	0.8	7	1	11	x	12	1	19	2
Radishes	2	x	3	x	5	x	6	0.4	6	x
Shallots / Green Onions	1	x	5	x	10	x	7	0.4	9	0.4
Dry / Other Onions	1	x	5	x	8	x	8	x	13	1
Celery	1	x	1	x	1	x	1	x	0	0
Lettuces	3	x	10	1	14	6	20	2	16	2
Spinach	1	x	7	x	4	x	5	0.8	9	1
Peppers	2	x	11	1	7	x	3	0.4	9	0.4
Squash, Pumpkins & Zucchini	8	2.4	12	1	19	4	25	7	na	na
Pumpkins	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	11	2
Squash / Zucchini	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	31	10
Asparagus	2	x	3	x	4	x	3	0.4	2	3
Rhubarb	4	0.4	9	1	15	x	11	0.8	na	na
Parsnips	3	x	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na
Cantaloupes & Melons	1	x	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na
Other Vegetables	7	1.6	12	2	24	6	32	8	52	13



¹⁴ Note: The table above indicates a significant increase in the land planted to vegetables in the CVRD in 1996. The figure of 368 hectares is incorrect and is an error within the 1996 Census data. Upon reviewing the matter with Statistics Canada it was determined that the data can not be corrected at this time, for reasons of confidentiality.

• **Organic Farms**

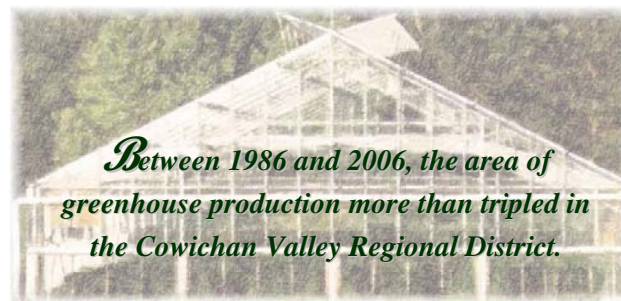


	Farms <u>2001</u>	Farms <u>2006</u>
Total	6	16
Hay / Field Crops	1	4
Fruits, Veg. or Greenhouse	6	12
Animal	1	3
Other	1	3

• **Greenhouse Production**

	<u>1986</u>			<u>1991</u>			<u>1996</u>		
	Farms	Sq. M.	% of Total	Farms	Sq. M.	% of Total	Farms	Sq. M.	% of Total
Flowers	9	1,381	9%	12	3,342	18%	36	7,747	32%
Vegetables	10	12,325	83%	na	na	na	25	11,122	46%
Other Greenhouse Products	3	x	na	5	x	na	20	5,009	21%
<u>Not in Use on date of census</u>	<u>na</u>	<u>na</u>	<u>na</u>	<u>na</u>	<u>266</u>	<u>2%</u>	<u>na</u>	<u>149</u>	<u>1%</u>
Total¹⁵	21	14,874	100%	32	18,030	100%	62	24,027	100%

	<u>2001</u>			<u>2006</u>		
	Farms	Sq. M.	% of Total	Farms	Sq. M.	% of Total
Flowers	21	11,306	32%	33	12,382	26%
Vegetables	23	18,738	52%	23	x	na
Other Greenhouse Products	16	4,940	14%	19	x	na
<u>Not in Use on date of census</u>	<u>na</u>	<u>662</u>	<u>2%</u>	<u>na</u>	<u>x</u>	<u>na</u>
Total¹⁵	52	35,646	100%	57	47,101	100%



Between 1986 and 2006, the area of greenhouse production more than tripled in the Cowichan Valley Regional District.

• **Growing Area - Mushrooms**

<u>1986</u>		<u>1991</u>		<u>1996</u>		<u>2001</u>		<u>2006</u>	
Farms	Sq. Metres	Farms	Sq. Metres	Farms	Sq. Metres	Farms	Sq. Metres	Farms	Sq. Metres
1	x	1	x	3	x	5	1,039	2	x

¹⁵ Note: A single greenhouse may be engaged in more than one form of production.

	1986		1991		1996		2001		2006	
	Farms	Ha.	Farms	Ha.	Farms	Ha.	Farms	Ha.	Farms	Ha.
• Nursery Products	11	9	28	27	51	28	53	69	49	44
• Sod Grown for Sale	4	x	4	23	4	27	4	13	4	16
• Christmas Trees	na	na	na	na	31	221	39	157	40	106
• Maple Tree Taps	na	na	na	na	na	na	0	0	10	319

• Livestock	1986		1991		1996		2001		2006	
	Farms	Livestock	Farms	Livestock	Farms	Livestock	Farms	Livestock	Farms	Livestock
Hens & Chickens	280	394,548	236	231,022	291	414,722	288	377,256	280	281,003
Turkeys	29	x	37	x	30	x	39	9,588	42	18,556
Total Other Poultry	72	1,764	74	1,074	108	1,814	82	1,924	69	5,756
Cattle & Calves	331	11,603	311	13,315	351	12,214	264	11,674	230	10,174
- Milk Cows	109	4,085	86	4,629	74	4,242	57	3,853	44	3,632
- Beef Cows	193	1,325	183	1,579	210	1,705	162	1,468	138	1,146
Pigs	64	4,104	56	5,569	77	x	61	940	46	952
Sheep & Lambs	117	3,002	132	3,464	145	x	126	2,958	112	2,274
Horses & Ponies	127	429	144	512	186	718	148	704	182	876
Goats	43	674	37	757	52	938	47	832	46	1,021
Rabbits	49	1,544	46	893	43	x	9	296	na	na
Mink	3	x	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Bison	na	na	na	na	0	0	1	x	0	0
Llamas & Alpacas	na	na	na	na	7	71	22	314	36	697
Colonies of Bees for Honey	na	na	29	357	39	2,357	32	1,149	33	1,072

Leading the Province

Although Llamas and Alpacas can be found in almost all parts of the Province, the Cowichan Valley Regional District led all other regional districts, accounting for 12.1% of all llamas and alpacas in B.C. in 2006.



In 2006, the Cowichan Valley Regional District accounted for 91% of all Turkeys, 46% of all Dairy Cows and 55% of all Goats on Vancouver Island.



• Land Management Practices

	1986		1991		1996		2001		2006	
	Ha.	% of Farmland	Ha.	% of Farmland	Ha.	% of Farmland	Ha.	% of Farmland	Ha.	% of Farmland
• Irrigation	1,896	11%	1,926	10%	2,553	19%	2,235	16%	2,456	21%
• Commercial Fertilizers	4,038	23%	4,403	24%	4,788	29%	4,783	34%	3,730	32%
• Manure ¹⁶	na	na	3,540	19%	3,880	28%	3,868	28%	3,919	34%
• Herbicides	487	3%	414	2%	757	6%	742	5%	620	5%
• Insecticides & Fungicides ¹⁷	360	2%	120	<1%	na	na	na	na	na	na
• Insecticides	na	na	na	na	560	4%	139	1%	43	<1%
• Fungicides	na	na	na	na	479	3%	56	<1%	101	1%

• Total Farm Capital

1986 = \$156,906,376
 1991 = \$234,885,162
 1996 = \$378,763,753
 2001 = \$381,504,975
 2006 = \$581,768,996

About 96% of the increase in the total farm capital in the Cowichan Valley Regional District between 1991 and 2006 (years of available data) is attributable to increases in the value of land and buildings.



Division of Capital - 2006 (only)

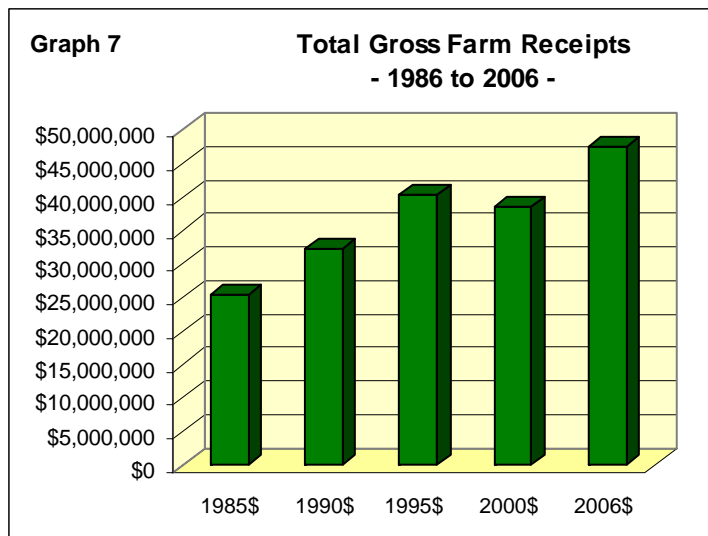
	Value (\$)	% of Total
• Land and Buildings	\$527,834,289	91%
• Farm Machinery & Equipment	\$41,082,824	7%
• Livestock & Poultry	\$12,851,883	2%

¹⁶ In the case of some forms of manure application, data was not provided. Figures represent only where data is provided.

¹⁷ In the 1986 and 1991 Census of Agriculture, insecticides and fungicides were grouped together but split in 1996, 2001 and 2006.

16 Cowichan Valley Regional District AGRICULTURAL OVERVIEW

• Total Gross Farm Receipts



1986	=	\$25,327,919	(1985\$)
1991	=	\$32,439,438	(1990\$)
1996	=	\$40,502,173	(1995\$)
2001	=	\$38,656,691	(2000\$)
2006	=	\$47,554,455	(2005\$)

- Average Gross Farm Receipts per Farm

	<u>1985</u>	<u>1990</u>	<u>1995</u>	<u>2000</u>	<u>2005</u>
Cowichan Valley Reg. Dist.	\$45,718	\$54,612	\$52,464	\$55,943	\$67,935
Vancouver Island	\$37,865	\$47,690	\$50,385	\$51,058	\$58,974
British Columbia	\$55,552	\$68,723	\$84,233	\$113,736	\$133,641

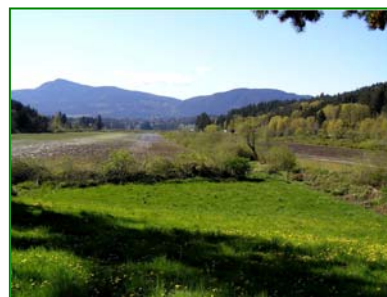
Room to Grow...

As pointed out below by the Cowichan Region Economic Commission, like other parts of Vancouver Island, there remain opportunities in the Cowichan Valley Regional District for agriculture to make an even larger contribution to the Valley's lifestyle and local economy in the future.



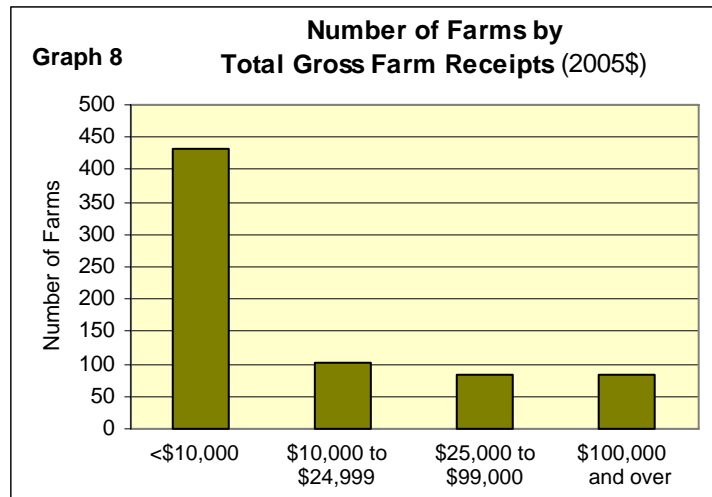
“**Agriculture** is a very large part of the Cowichan Region's economy and environment. The agriculture sector has tremendous opportunities for local growers and food producers. Presently, the majority of food products consumed locally are imported to the region; however, there is the capability of producing a larger percentage of the local food supply. Agriculture has the potential to encourage small business, enhance community self-reliance and provide partnerships between farmers, retailers, restaurateurs and the tourism sector. Agri-tourism, local 'Farmers Markets' and a growing Wine Industry are important components of the region's life-style.”

Source: Cowichan Region Economic Development Commission



- Number of Farms by Total Gross Farm Receipts 2006 (2005\$)

	<u>Cowichan Valley Reg. Dist.</u>		<u>British Columbia</u>	
	<u>Farms</u>	<u>% of RD Total</u>	<u>Farms</u>	<u>% of BC Total</u>
< \$10,000	432	62%	9,466	48%
\$10,000 - \$24,999	101	14%	3,194	16%
\$25,000 - \$99,999	84	12%	3,629	18%
\$100,000 & over	<u>83</u>	<u>12%</u>	<u>3,551</u>	<u>18%</u>
Total	700	100%	19,844	100%



• Total Operating Expenses & Cash Wages Paid

	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>Wages</u>
1985\$ =	\$22,026,810	\$3,710,925
1990\$ =	\$28,377,140	\$5,296,003
1995\$ =	\$39,001,863	\$7,461,400
2000\$ =	\$35,434,487	\$6,749,831
2005\$ =	\$43,503,736	\$9,448,409

• Total Paid Labour (weeks)

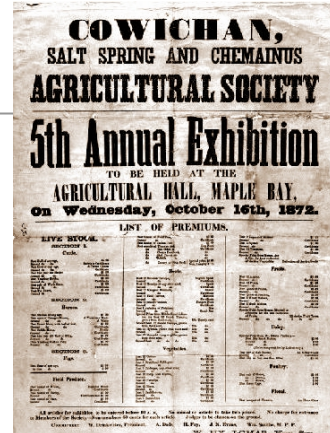
	<u>1985</u>	<u>1990</u>	<u>1995</u>	<u>2000</u>	<u>2005</u>
- Year Round vs. Seasonal Paid Labour					
% Year Round	61%	71%	57%	70%	70%
% Seasonal	39%	29%	43%	30%	30%
<i>% Year Round British Columbia</i>	<i>47%</i>	<i>51%</i>	<i>57%</i>	<i>62%</i>	<i>63%</i>



“Harvest Time - Captain Robert Edward Barkley, Westholme Farm”

- Date: not available
Source: BC Archives
Call No. e-00427





“Cowichan, Salt Spring and Chemainus Agricultural Society - 5th Annual Exhibition - 1872”

Source: BC Archives
 Call No. PDP03751

BC Agriculture - A Snapshot

Agriculture is a significant and expanding industry in British Columbia with more than 290,000 people employed on farms, ranches, orchards, greenhouses, nurseries, as well as warehouses, veterinary offices, hatcheries, grocery stores, and other food-related services in 2006. The primary agriculture sector generates more than \$782 million towards the province’s total Gross Domestic Product. Although the industry is relatively small by itself, it contributes significantly to spinoffs in the food processing, food wholesaling, food retailing and food service sectors. This translates in total gross revenues for this industry of more than \$36 billion a year.

Climatic conditions in the province make it possible for British Columbia farmers to grow a wide variety of crops - approximately 200 different commodities. The top farm commodities in terms of sales in 2006 B.C. were dairy, chicken, floriculture, cattle, nursery, greenhouse tomatoes, mushrooms, calves, and blueberries. Total farm cash receipts reached \$2.3 billion in 2006 and total crop receipts reached over \$1.1 billion in 2006. The livestock sector, which includes cattle, hogs, poultry, eggs, dairy, honey, fur and game-farm animals, reached \$1.2 billion in 2006.

The **Southern Interior** is well-suited for the production of tree fruits and grapes. The **Fraser Valley** and southern **Vancouver Island**, with a cooler, wetter climate, are extremely favourable for the production of berries and vegetables. Most of the province’s grain and oilseed crops are grown in the **Peace River** region.

Beef cattle are concentrated in the **North, Cariboo** and **Thompson-Okanagan** regions. Large dairy herds are found mostly in the **Lower Mainland**, southeastern **Vancouver Island** and the **Okanagan-Shuswap** area. Hog, poultry and egg production are concentrated in the **Lower Mainland**.

B.C. - 2006 - Census of Agriculture

No. of Farms	-	19,844
Total Area of Farms	-	2,835,458 ha



Nationally, in 2006, BC ranked 1st in receipts generated in four commodities

Commodity	BC Share of Canada's Gross Farm Receipts	National Ranking
Sweet Cherries	84.6%	1
Raspberries	58.1%	1
Blueberries	49.3%	1
Cranberries	45.0%	1

Nationally, B.C. ranked 2nd in a further eight agricultural commodities - greenhouse peppers, greenhouse tomatoes, nursery products, apples, grapes, mushrooms, floriculture and greenhouse cucumbers.

From: “Fast Stats - Agriculture, Aquaculture and Food 2007”
 Ministry of Agriculture and Lands

Sources:

- Statistics Canada, British Columbia Agriculture, 1986, Census Catalogue 96-112.
- Statistics Canada, Small Area Data British Columbia, July 1992.
- Statistics Canada, 1996 Census of Agriculture Profile Data - British Columbia.
- Statistics Canada, 2001 Census of Agriculture Profile Data - British Columbia
- Statistics Canada, 2006 Census of Agriculture - Farm data and farm operator data.
- Ministry of Municipal Affairs Recreation and Culture, Statistics Relating to Regional and Municipal Governments in British Columbia, 1990.
- Ministry of Municipal Affairs, Municipal Statistics (including Regional Districts), March , 1998.
- Correspondence: Ministry of Community Services
- Statistical Reports and Files of the Provincial Agricultural Land Commission.

Sources: Photos and Illustrations

All photos and illustrations are from the BC Ministry of Agricultural and Lands with the exception of the following:

- Page 4 - ALR Map produced by the Resource Management Branch. Data provided by Integrated Land Management Bureau, Ministry of Agriculture and Lands.
- Page 5 - B. Smith
- Page 14 - Llamas - B. Smith
- Page 17 - BC Archives - Call # e-00427
- Page 18 - BC Archives - Call # PDP03751

**WANT MORE INFORMATION ABOUT
AGRICULTURE IN B.C.?**

See:

the Ministry of Agriculture and Lands at:

<http://www.al.gov.bc.ca>

the Provincial Agricultural Land Commission at:

<http://www.alc.gov.bc.ca>

Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada at:

<http://www.agr.gc.ca/>



Agriculture and
Agri-Food Canada

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