

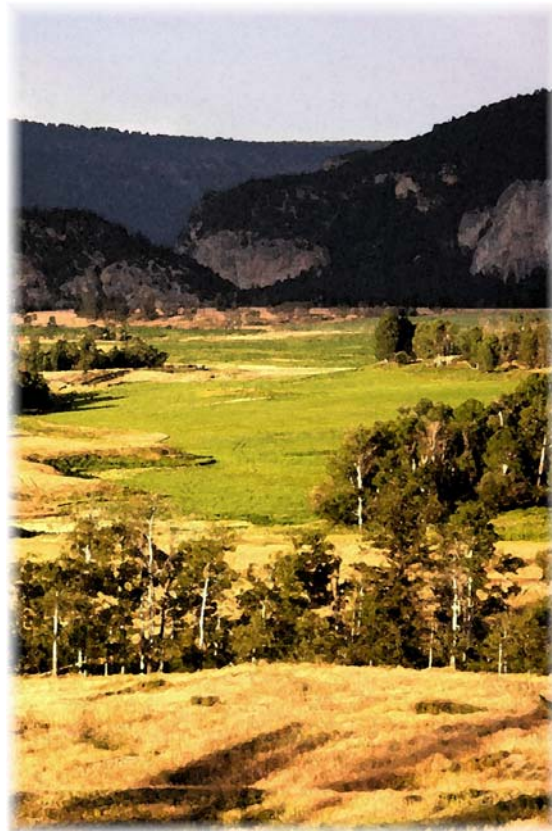
Cariboo Regional District AGRICULTURAL OVERVIEW

Corporate Name Cariboo Regional District
Date of Incorporation July 9, 1968
Postal Address¹ Cariboo Regional District
 Suite D, 180 North 3rd Avenue
 Williams Lake, B.C.
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For additional information visit the Regional District's website.

CONTENTS

General Information	1
Member Municipalities / Electoral Areas	2
Population	3
Jurisdictional Area	3
Agricultural Land Reserve	4
Total Area Farmed	5
Number of Farms Reporting	5
Tenure	6
Hectares of Farmland	7
Crops	8
Field Crops	8
Fruits, Berries & Nuts	9
Vegetables	10
Organic Farms	10
Greenhouse Production	11
Mushrooms	11
Nursery Products / Sod /	
Christmas Trees / Maple Taps	11
Livestock	12
Land Management Practices	12
Total Farm Capital	13
Total Gross Farm Receipts	14
Total Operating Expenses & Cash Wages Paid	15
Total Paid Labour	15
BC Agriculture - A Snap Shot	16
Sources	17

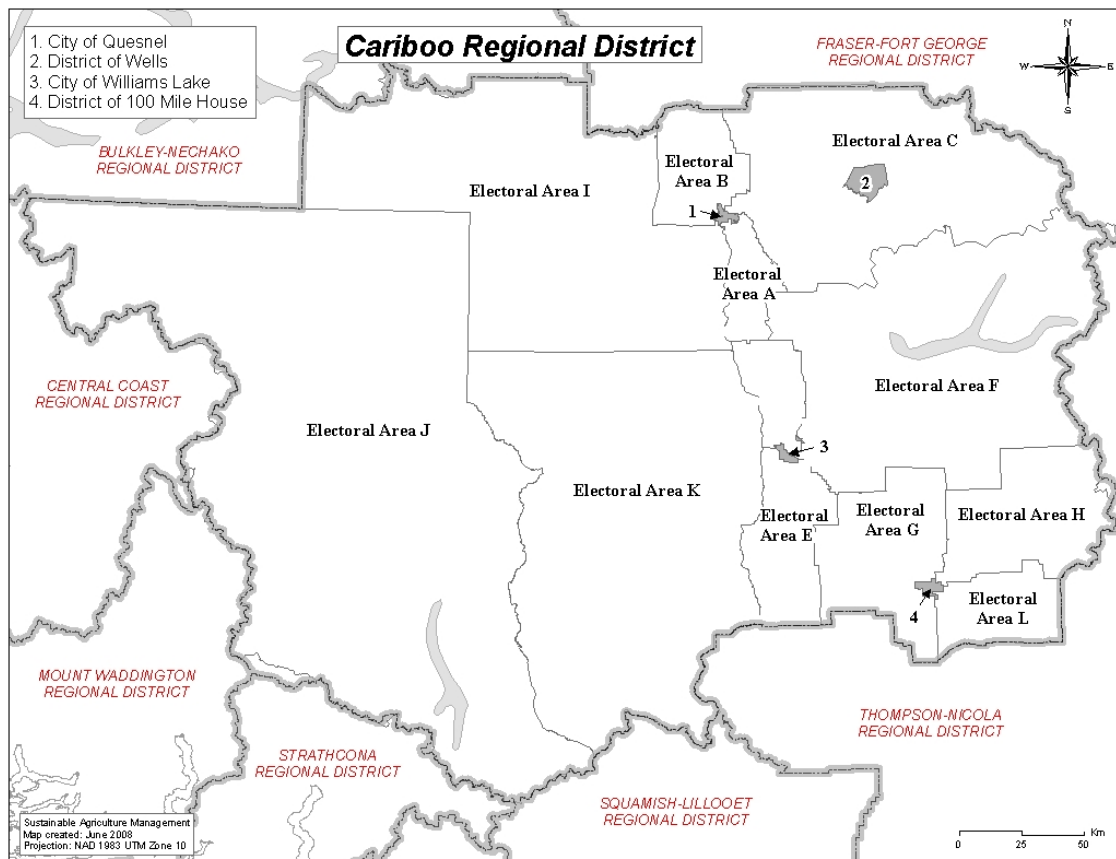


¹ The Cariboo Regional District also has an office serving Northern Cariboo at: 125 Barlow Ave., Quesnel, B.C., V2J 2B8 - (250) 992-7400 and another office serving South Cariboo at: 175 Airport Road, South Cariboo Recreation Centre, 100 Mile House, B.C., V0K 2E0 - (250) 395-3838.

Cariboo Regional District AGRICULTURAL OVERVIEW

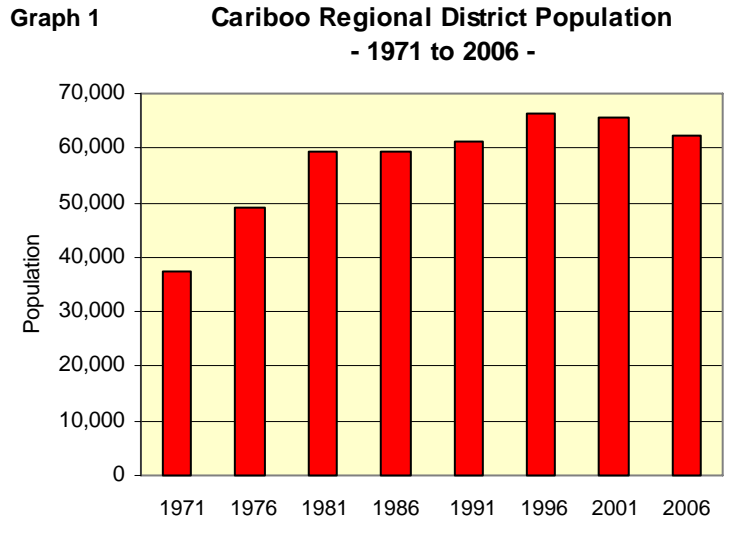
- **Member Municipalities**
 - 100 Mile House, District of
 - Quesnel, City of
 - Wells, District of
 - Williams Lake, City of

- **Electoral Areas**
 - “A” – Red Bluff / Quesnel South
 - “B” – Quesnel West / Bouchie Lake
 - “C” – Barlow / Wells / Barkerville
 - “D” – Commodore Heights / McLeese Lake
 - “E” – South Lakeside / Dog Creek
 - “F” – Horsefly / Likely / 150 Mile House
 - “G” – Lac La Hache / 108 Mile House
 - “H” – Canim Lake / Forest Grove
 - “I” – Narcosli / Nazko
 - “J” – West Chilcotin
 - “K” – East Chilcotin
 - “L” – Lone Butte / Interlakes



• **Population - 1971 to 2006** ²

1971	=	37,433
1976	=	49,264
1981	=	59,445
1986	=	59,495
1991	=	61,059
1996	=	66,475
2001	=	65,659
2006	=	62,190



- **Population Increase 1971 to 2006** = 24,757
- = 707 persons / year on average
- = 66% increase

- **2006 Population within:**

Municipal Jurisdictions	=	22,191	(36%)
Electoral Areas	=	36,729	(59%)
Indian Reserves	=	3,270	(5%)

- **2006 Urban / Rural Split**

Urban	=	26,799	(43%)
Rural	=	35,391	(57%)

There were 1,160 farms reported in the Cariboo Regional District in 2006.

The Cariboo's farm population is estimated to be 3,480 persons or 5.6% of the Regional District's total 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.

With a 2006 population of 10,744, the City of Williams Lake is the largest municipality in the Cariboo Regional District accounting for over 17% of the Regional District's population.

• **Jurisdictional Area** = 8,314,510 hectares³

² 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>

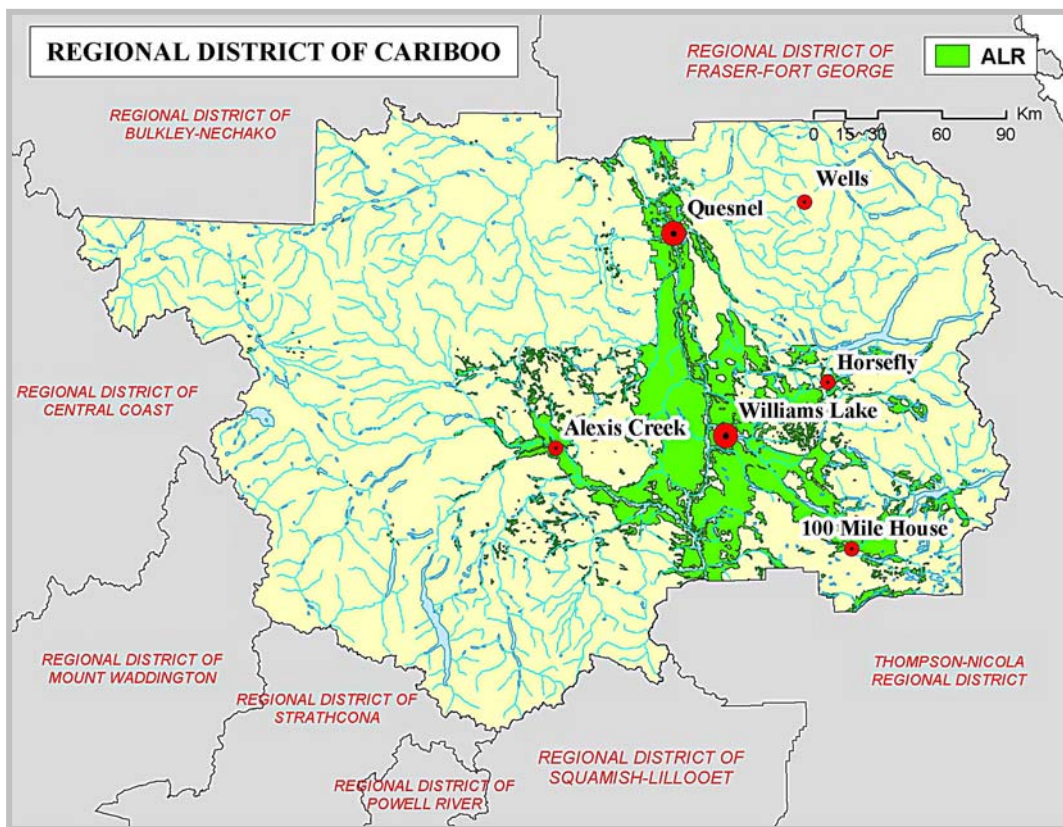
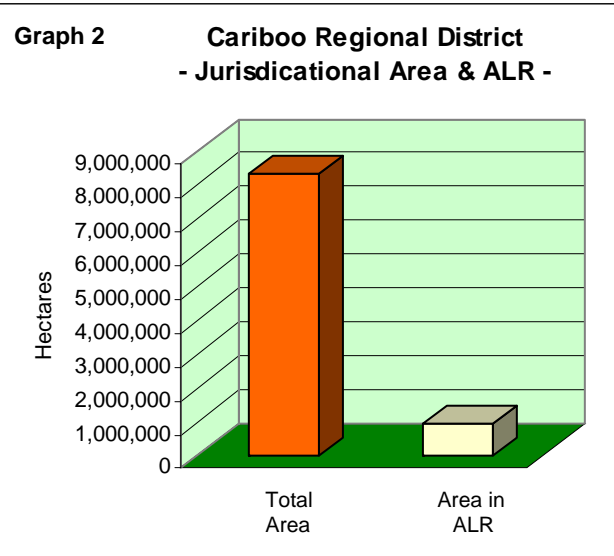
³ Ministry of Community Services, *Statistics Relating to Regional & Municipal Governments in B.C.* for 2007 at: http://www.cserv.gov.bc.ca/lgd/infra/statistics_index.htm

4 Cariboo Regional District AGRICULTURAL OVERVIEW

- Agricultural Land Reserve**

= 935,629 hectares⁴

The ALR in the Cariboo Regional District was designated on November 29, 1974 and today accounts for 11.3% of the Regional District's overall area.



⁴ Source: Agricultural Land Commission - ALR as of January 2008.

• **Total Area Farmed**

1986 = 319,977 ha.
 1991 = 347,551 ha.
 1996 = 423,491 ha.
 2001 = 400,177 ha.
 2006 = 486,079 ha.



• **Number of Farms⁵ Reporting**

1986 = 1,062
 1991 = 954
 1996 = 1,149
 2001 = 1,188
 2006 = 1,160

- **Average Farm Size (Hectares)**

	<u>1986</u>	<u>1991</u>	<u>1996</u>	<u>2001</u>	<u>2006</u>
Cariboo Regional District	301.3	364.3	368.6	336.8	419.1
British Columbia	126.5	124.4	115.8	127.5	142.9

- **Farm Size**

	<u>1986</u>		<u>1991</u>		<u>1996</u>		<u>2001</u>		<u>2006</u>	
	<u>Farms</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Farms</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Farms</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Farms</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Farms</u>	<u>Percent</u>
<4 ha. (10 acres)	30	3%	38	4%	62	5%	63	5%	56	5%
4 to 52 ha. (10 to 129 acres)	269	25%	235	24%	315	27%	355	30%	352	30%
52 to 161 ha. (130 to 399 acres)	370	35%	312	33%	373	33%	378	32%	350	30%
>161 ha. (400 acres & greater)	<u>393</u>	<u>37%</u>	<u>369</u>	<u>39%</u>	<u>399</u>	<u>35%</u>	<u>392</u>	<u>33%</u>	<u>402</u>	<u>35%</u>
Total	1,062	100%	954	100%	1,149	100%	1,188	100%	1,160	100%

⁵ 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>

6 Cariboo Regional District AGRICULTURAL OVERVIEW

• Tenure⁶

	<u>1986</u>		<u>1991</u>		<u>1996</u>		<u>2001</u>		<u>2006</u>	
	<u>Hectares</u>	<u>% of Total</u>	<u>Hectares</u>	<u>% of Total</u>	<u>Hectares</u>	<u>% of Total</u>	<u>Hectares</u>	<u>% of Total</u>	<u>Hectares</u>	<u>% of Total</u>
Farmland Owned	222,271	69%	214,466	62%	249,555	59%	232,582	58%	235,278	48%
Farmland Leased, etc.	<u>97,705</u>	<u>31%</u>	<u>133,085</u>	<u>38%</u>	<u>173,936</u>	<u>41%</u>	<u>167,595</u>	<u>42%</u>	<u>256,481</u>	<u>52%</u>
<u>Total</u>	319,976	100%	347,551	100%	423,491	100%	400,177	100%	491,759	100%

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

- Farmland Leased/Rented

	<u>1986</u>		<u>1991</u>		<u>1996</u>		<u>2001</u>		<u>2006</u>	
	<u>Hectares</u>	<u>% of Total</u>	<u>Hectares</u>	<u>% of Total</u>	<u>Hectares</u>	<u>% of Total</u>	<u>Hectares</u>	<u>% of Total</u>	<u>Hectares</u>	<u>% of Total</u>
From governments	na ⁷	na	105,929	80%	151,056	87%	131,524	79%	201,599	79%
From others	na	na	27,156	20%	22,880	13%	33,974	20%	46,377	18%
Crop shared from others	na	na	na	na	na	na	2,097	1%	3,373	1%
<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>5,132</u>	<u>2%</u>
Total	na	na	133,085	100%	173,936	100%	167,595	100%	256,481	100%

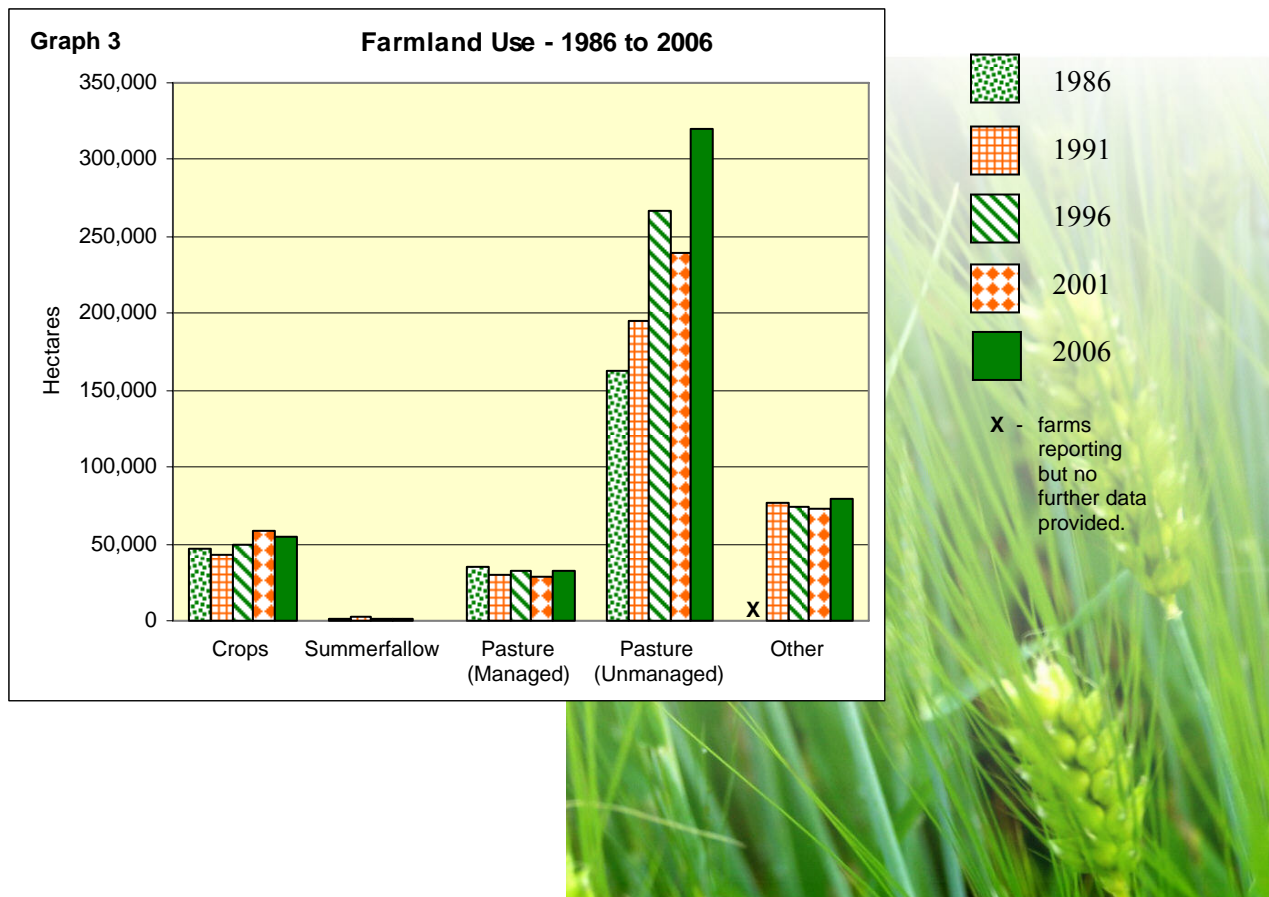


⁶ Note: Figures related to tenure for 2006 are not comparable to previous Census data due to a significant revision to the questionnaire and reformatting of the data by Statistics Canada. For this reason, the total area farmed in 2006 (p. 5) is not the same as the total in the Tenure table.

⁷ “na” indicates that data was not available for the year and category in question.

• **Hectares of Farmland in:**

	1986		1991		1996		2001		2006	
	Farms	Hectares	Farms	Hectares	Farms	Hectares	Farms	Hectares	Farms	Hectares
Crops	861	46,277	764	43,522	835	49,428	892	58,972	851	54,123
Summerfallow	72	1,485	71	2,881	49	1,301	43	709	13	239
Pasture (managed)	530	35,429	515	29,469	438	32,279	484	29,179	478	32,721
Pasture (unmanaged) ⁸	743	162,972	739	195,421	857	266,815	903	238,784	888	319,908
Other ⁹	na	na	759	76,259	954	73,670	900	72,532	930	79,087
Total ¹⁰	na	319,977	na	347,552 ¹¹	na	423,493 ¹⁰	na	400,176 ¹⁰	na	486,078 ¹⁰



⁸ Pasture (unmanaged) is defined as “Natural land for pasture” - Areas used for pasture that have not been cultivated and seeded, or drained, irrigated or fertilized. Includes native pasture/hay (indigenous grass suitable as feed for livestock and game); rangeland (land with natural plant cover, principally native grasses or shrubs valuable for forage); grazeable bush (forest land and bushy areas used for grazing, not land cultivated for crops or with dense forest), etc.

⁹ “Other” includes ‘Other Unimproved Land’, ‘Other Improved Land’ and ‘Woodland’.

¹⁰ Note: A total for the number of farms in each year is not provided to avoid double counting of mixed farms.

¹¹ The minor difference with Total Area Farmed on page 5 is due to rounding or metric conversion.

• Crops (hectares)

	<u>1986</u>	<u>1991</u>	<u>1996</u>	<u>2001</u>	<u>2006</u>
Field Crops ¹²	46,218	43,395	49,111	58,678	53,650
Tree Fruits	7	12	6	na	na
Berries & Grapes	2	3	x ¹³	na	na
Fruits, Berries & Nuts ¹⁴	na	na	na	14	15
Vegetables	22	22	36	47	29
<u>Other¹⁵</u>	<u>28</u>	<u>79</u>	<u>275</u>	<u>233</u>	<u>429</u>
Total	46,277	43,522 ¹⁶	49,428	58,972	54,123

	<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>
• Field Crops¹⁷	na	46,218	na	43,395	na	49,111	na	58,678	na	53,650
Wheat	12	249	9	363	10	281	9	184	5	90
Oats	22	339	115	1,577	98	1,522	68	1,003	71	987
Barley	20	308	57	1,011	52	1,715	38	1,349	36	721
Mixed Grains	1	x	10	282	9	558	13	869	15	1,112
Corn for Grain	0	0	0	0	1	x	2	x	1	x
Buckwheat	1	x	1	x	0	0	1	x	2	x
Rye	10	105	7	96	17	359	8	96	7	27
Corn for Silage	8	273	9	196	4	132	5	x	8	x
Alfalfa	na	na	391	16,161	388	17,769	428	26,395	425	23,778
All other Tame Hay & Fodder Crops	1,100	44,888	472	23,643	509	26,763	516	28,502	491	26,840
Canary Seed	115	x	0	0	2	x	0	0	0	0
Sunflowers	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	x
Potatoes	23	56	19	41	15	12	21	57	21	15
Dry Field Peas	1	x	0	0	0	0	2	x	1	x
Dry Field Beans	1	x	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	x
Ginseng	na	na	na	na	na	na	1	x	1	x
Triticale ¹⁸	1	x	5	25	2	x	0	0	na	na
Forage seed for seed	0	0	1	x	2	x	8	223	4	80
Other field crops	0	0	1	x	1	x	6	x	3	x

¹² 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.

¹³ Throughout the report 'x' indicates that farms are reporting but further information is not provided for reasons of confidentiality.

¹⁴ In 1986, 1991 and 1996, data was split between 'Tree Fruits' and 'Berries & Grapes'. Starting in 2001, this data was grouped as Fruits, Berries & Nuts resulting in no data being available (na) in this category in 1986, 1991 and 1996.

¹⁵ "Other" Crops also account for area figures not provided due to confidentiality.

¹⁶ Excluding Christmas Tree area

¹⁷ Note: A total for the number of farms is not provided to avoid double counting in the case of mixed farms.

¹⁸ In 2006, 'Triticale' was combined with 'Other field crops'.



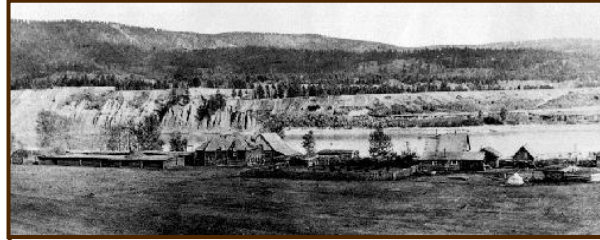
• **Fruits, Berries & Nuts**

	<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	28	9	22	15	31	x	19	14	29	15
Apples	18	4	13	7	15	3	6	4	11	3
Pears	9	1	8	1	3	x	2	x	2	x
Plums & Prunes	12	0.8	10	2	6	x	1	x	3	x
Sweet Cherries	10	0.8	8	1	7	x	2	x	4	3
Sour Cherries	3	x	3	0.4	2	x	0	0	3	0.4
Peaches	2	x	2	x	0	0	0	0	0	0
Apricots	3	x	3	x	2	x	1	x	0	0
Other tree fruits	2	x	2	x	1	x	na	na	na	na
Grapes	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	x	1	x
Strawberries	7	x	7	3	9	11	6	5	11	1
Raspberries	4	0.4	5	x	8	x	8	1	12	2
Cranberries	0	0	1	x	0	0	0	0	0	0
Blueberries	0	0	1	x	2	x	1	x	0	0
Saskatoons	na	na	na	na	na	na	2	x	4	3
Other berries	2	x	0	0	1	x	na	na	na	na
Other fruits, berries & nuts	na	na	na	na	na	na	1	x	6	2



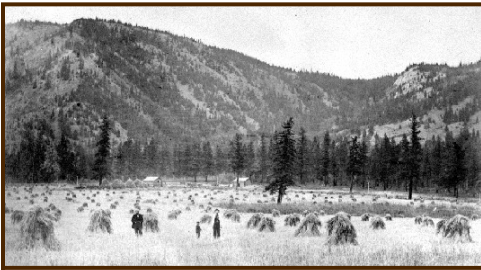
Cariboo-Chilcotin ... a long agricultural history

In the Cariboo-Chilcotin, agriculture was first practiced by settlers at Fort Alexandria, south of Quesnel on the Fraser River. The fort was erected by the North West Company in 1821 and had a grainery, wintered horses, and later was the site of the first flour mill.



Fort Alexandria on the Fraser River (191-)ⁱ

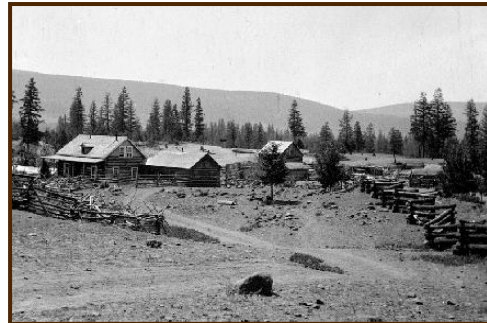
Ranching began in the British Columbia interior in the late 1850's encouraged by markets created by the gold rushes. Livestock from the western United States was first brought into the sheltered Cariboo and Chilcotin areas and the Thompson and Nicola river valleys. The cattle industry developed where physical and climatic features combined to provide sufficient natural grassland for livestock – primarily beef cattle but also sheep - to graze relatively independently year-round.



Dunlevy Farm at Soda Creek (ca. 1868)ⁱⁱ

By the 1860's agriculture became well established as a result of the Cariboo Gold Rush, with agricultural products being produced at the mile houses along the Cariboo Wagon Road to satisfy local demand. Peter Dunlevy began the first commercial farm in the area at Soda Creek, ten miles north of Williams Lake, and terminus of the first sternwheeler steamboat on the upper Fraser River.

Despite the end of the gold rush, ranching continued to expand, eventually moving into the rich grasslands of the Chilcotin. Many of the ranches in the area are still owned and operated by descendants of the original settlers. A settlement at Williams Lake (originally known as Borland) became an agricultural supply point for the Cariboo, and today the City of Williams Lake continues to be an important centre for the local ranching industry.



Ranch at Hanceville (192-)ⁱⁱⁱ

Sources:

- See Page 18

Photos

ⁱ BC Archives, Call No. F-05775, Photographer - Unknown

ⁱⁱ BC Archives, Call No. C-04391, Photographer - F. Dally.

ⁱⁱⁱ BC Archives, Call No. A-05372, Photographer - Unknown

• **Organic Farms**



	Farms <u>2001</u>	Farms <u>2006</u>
Total	5	7
Hay / Field Crops	0	1
Fruits, Veg. or Greenhouse	4	4
Animal	1	2
Other	0	2

• **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	16	22	25	22	41	36	41	47	35	29
Sweet Corn	8	11	14	6	15	9	12	4	13	x
Tomatoes	1	x	5	0.4	12	2	5	x	11	1
Cucumbers	4	0.8	7	1	12	1	10	2	15	2
Green Peas	3	x	7	1	8	1	11	2	12	1
Green / Wax Beans	3	x	8	1	10	0.4	13	5	15	1
Cabbage	5	0.4	10	1	11	1	8	0.8	11	1
Chinese Cabbage	na	na	0	0	1	x	0	0	4	0.4
Cauliflower	2	x	11	1	9	x	6	0.4	12	1
Broccoli	3	x	11	1	1	0.8	9	1	15	1
Brussels Sprouts	2	x	4	x	1	x	4	x	4	0.4
Carrots	7	4	13	3	15	2	14	3	19	2
Rutabagas / Turnips	3	x	4	2	6	x	8	2	5	0.4
Beets	6	0.4	9	1	11	x	9	1	14	1
Radishes	3	x	5	2	6	x	6	0.8	9	0.4
Shallots / Green Onions	1	x	7	0.4	6	x	4	0.4	6	0.4
Dry / Other Onions	3	x	6	0.4	7	0.4	6	0.4	13	1
Celery	1	x	1	x	2	x	2	x	4	0.4
Lettuces	1	x	8	1	9	x	9	0.8	18	1
Spinach	0	0	6	1	7	x	5	0.4	8	1
Peppers	1	x	2	x	4	x	4	x	9	x
Squash, Pumpkins & Zucchini	4	0.4	5	0.4	11	5	8	1	na	na
Pumpkins	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	9	2
Squash / Zucchini	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	17	1
Asparagus	1	x	1	x	1	x	4	x	3	x
Rhubarb	0	0	2	x	4	x	2	x	na	na
Parsnips	2	x	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na
Other Vegetables	3	0.4	4	0.4	19	6	15	14	17	2

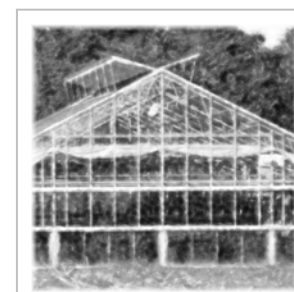


12 Cariboo Regional District AGRICULTURAL OVERVIEW

• Greenhouse Production

	1986			1991			1996		
	<u>Farms</u>	<u>Sq. M.</u>	<u>% of Total</u>	<u>Farms</u>	<u>Sq. M.</u>	<u>% of Total</u>	<u>Farms</u>	<u>Sq. M.</u>	<u>% of Total</u>
Flowers	7	2,755	61%	10	3,253	22%	13	4,981	10%
Vegetables	9	736	16%	14	1,005	7%	14	1,005	2%
Other Greenhouse Products	2	x	na	2	x	na	9	42,399	88%
<u>Not in Use on date of census</u>	<u>na</u>	<u>na</u>	<u>na</u>	<u>na</u>	<u>223</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>na</u>	<u>28</u>	<u>>1%</u>
Total¹⁹	14	4,511	100%	18	14,887	100%	29	48,412	100%

	2001			2006		
	<u>Farms</u>	<u>Sq. M.</u>	<u>% of Total</u>	<u>Farms</u>	<u>Sq. M.</u>	<u>% of Total</u>
Flowers	27	9,016	11%	24	11,951	17%
Vegetables	18	x	na	19	4,986	7%
Other Greenhouse Products	7	x	na	9	x	na
<u>Not in Use on date of census</u>	<u>na</u>	<u>x</u>	<u>na</u>	<u>na</u>	<u>x</u>	<u>na</u>
Total¹⁹	41	79,113	100%	44	71,067	100%



• Growing Area - Mushrooms



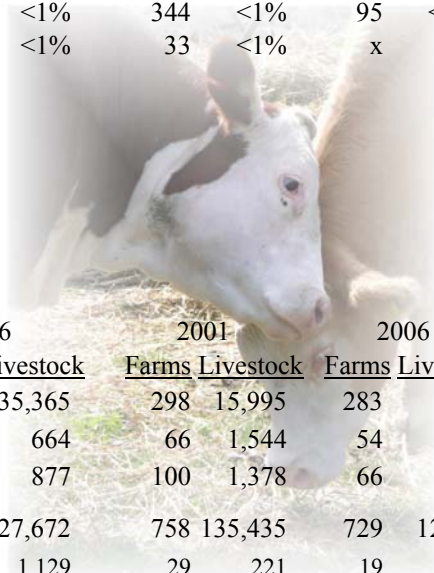
<u>1986</u>		<u>1991</u>		<u>1996</u>		<u>2001</u>		<u>2006</u>	
<u>Farms</u>	<u>Sq. Metres</u>	<u>Farms</u>	<u>Sq. Metres</u>	<u>Farms</u>	<u>Sq. Metres</u>	<u>Farms</u>	<u>Sq. Metres</u>	<u>Farms</u>	<u>Sq. Metres</u>
0	0	0	0	0	0	3	46	0	0

	1986		1991		1996		2001		2006	
	<u>Farms</u>	<u>Ha.</u>	<u>Farms</u>	<u>Ha.</u>	<u>Farms</u>	<u>Ha.</u>	<u>Farms</u>	<u>Ha.</u>	<u>Farms</u>	<u>Ha.</u>
• Nursery Products	3	2	8	29	18	36	19	23	18	21
• Sod Grown for Sale	2	x	0	0	1	x	0	0	0	0
• Christmas Trees	na	na	na	na	10	170	8	20	5	19
• Maple Tree Taps	na	na	na	na	na	na	0	0	1	x

¹⁹ Note: A single greenhouse may be engaged in more than one form of production.

• **Land Management Practices**

	1986		1991		1996		2001		2006	
	Ha.	% of Farmland	Ha.	% of Farmland	Ha.	% of Farmland	Ha.	% of Farmland	Ha.	% of Farmland
• Irrigation	21,490	7%	14,896	4%	18,155	4%	19,420	5%	19,566	4%
• Commercial Fertilizers	30,820	10%	23,420	7%	28,971	7%	26,881	7%	32,333	7%
• Manure²⁰	na	na	4,369	1%	3,923	1%	4,389	1%	8,220	2%
• Herbicides	1,215	<1%	285	<1%	1,212	<1%	1,670	<1%	2,592	<1%
• Insecticides & Fungicides²¹	73	<1%	25	<1%	na	na	na	na	na	na
• Insecticides	na	na	na	na	17	<1%	344	<1%	95	<1%
• Fungicides	na	na	na	na	51	<1%	33	<1%	x	na



• **Livestock**

	1986		1991		1996		2001		2006	
	Farms	Livestock	Farms	Livestock	Farms	Livestock	Farms	Livestock	Farms	Livestock
Hens & Chickens	346	14,199	278	27,897	245	35,365	298	15,995	283	x
Turkeys	48	448	60	845	47	664	66	1,544	54	1,330
Total Other Poultry	75	713	79	1,149	104	877	100	1,378	66	762
Cattle & Calves	760	116,420	684	121,361	777	127,672	758	135,435	729	127,914
- Milk Cows	141	818	136	1,089	85	1,129	29	221	19	184
- Beef Cows	663	48,312	592	50,740	636	55,336	633	57,498	637	57,015
Pigs	99	839	97	682	131	917	112	972	88	819
Sheep & Lambs	105	3,503	119	6,486	115	6,394	126	5,908	124	6,767
Horses & Ponies	730	5,555	599	4,256	725	5,583	733	6,418	726	6,236
Goats	51	427	44	533	59	598	57	585	59	577
Rabbits	68	694	68	828	70	985	16	678	na	na
Wild Boar	na	na	na	na	na	na	3	x	2	x
Fox	1	x	1	x	0	0	1	x	0	0
Bison	na	na	na	na	6	560	5	548	9	405
Llamas & Alpacas	na	na	na	na	12	75	31	271	60	652
Colonies of Bees for Honey	na	na	28	814	29	529	29	778	24	590

²⁰ In the case of some forms of manure application, data was not provided. Figures represent only where data is provided.

²¹ In the 1986 and 1991 Census of Agriculture, insecticides and fungicides were grouped together but split starting in 1996.

Beef Cattle

For good reason, there is a strong association between the Cariboo and the beef cattle industry. This was confirmed in a major report completed in 2006 by G.W. Powell for the Cariboo-Chilcotin Beetle Action Coalition, entitled *Cariboo-Chilcotin Regional Agricultural Sector Profile*. The report provides numerous insights into local agriculture and highlights the importance of the beef cattle sector in the Cariboo Regional District.

In summary, the report notes that beef cattle are the primary agricultural activity in the region, with cow-calf operations being most prevalent. In 2006, a total of 637 farms had at least some beef cows. This accounted for about 55% of all farms in the Regional District. While Crown and private rangelands are used to pasture herds from spring to early fall, winter feeding extends 4 to 6 months and relies primarily upon hay and silage stores produced in the region or imported from other jurisdictions.

Ranchers in the Cariboo husband over 18% of the provincial beef herd of all classes in 2006, and accounted for over one-fifth of all beef cows in the province. Several other agricultural activities, including forage, fodder, grain and pasture production, provide critical support for beef operations which remain a central focus of agriculture in the Cariboo-Chilcotin.



Table 1: Number of beef cattle by class on Census Day¹ 2006

<u>Class of Beef Cattle</u>	Cariboo Regional District			
	<u># of farms</u>	<u>% of BC</u>	<u># of animals</u>	<u>% of BC</u>
Bulls 1 year and over	558	14.4%	3,457	20.3%
Beef cows	637	12.7%	57,015	20.6%
Heifers 1 year and over	479	13.4%	11,080	15.5%
<i>Heifers for beef herd replacement</i>	389	14.8%	7,801	21.1%
<i>Heifers for slaughter or feeding</i>	160	10.3%	3,279	9.5%
Steers 1 year and over	337	11.9%	5,243	10.0%
<u>Calves under 1 year</u>	<u>640</u>	<u>11.2%</u>	<u>50,621</u>	<u>18.4%</u>
Total	na	na	127,416	18.4%

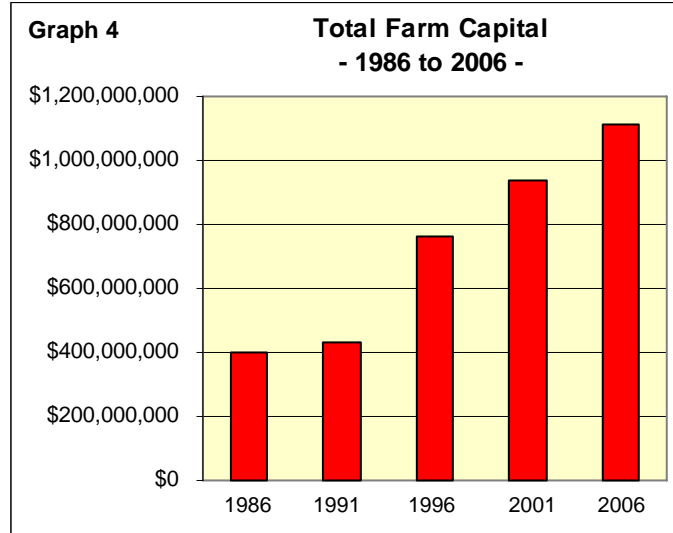
¹ Census Day - May 16, 2006

Source: <http://www.statcan.ca/english/freepub/95-629-XIE/2007000/livestock.htm#cattle>

• **Total Farm Capital**

1986 = \$399,303,218
 1991 = \$431,695,693
 1996 = \$761,119,438
 2001 = \$935,095,059
 2006 = \$1,112,424,814

About 90% of the increase in the total farm capital in the Cariboo Regional District between 1991 and 2006 (years of available data) is attributable to increases in the value of land and buildings.



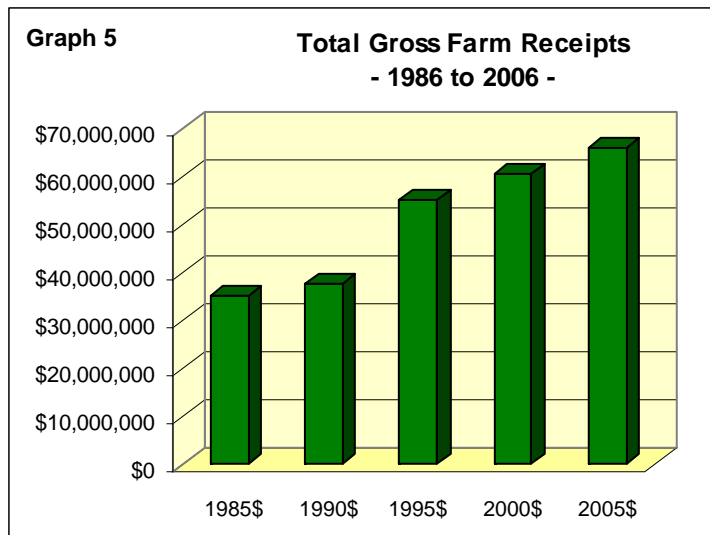
Division of Capital - 2006 (only)

	Value (\$)	% of Total
• Land and Buildings	\$903,991,259	81.3%
• Farm Machinery & Equipment	\$127,251,700	11.4%
• Livestock & Poultry	\$81,181,855	7.3%



16 Cariboo Regional District AGRICULTURAL OVERVIEW

• Total Gross Farm Receipts



1986 =	\$35,267,832	(1985\$)
1991 =	\$37,632,909	(1990\$)
1996 =	\$55,436,923	(1995\$)
2001 =	\$60,788,027	(2000\$)
2006 =	\$66,305,364	(2005\$)

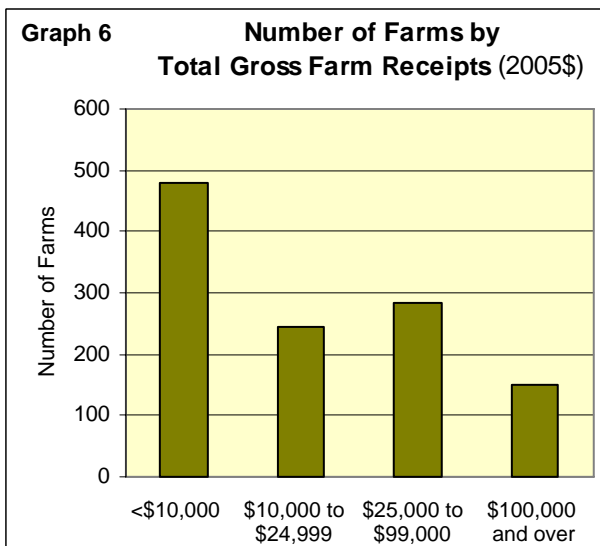
- Average Gross Farm Receipts per Farm

	<u>1985</u>	<u>1990</u>	<u>1995</u>	<u>2000</u>	<u>2005</u>
Cariboo Regional District	\$33,209	\$39,447	\$48,248	\$51,168	\$57,160
British Columbia	\$55,552	\$68,723	\$84,233	\$113,736	\$133,641

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

<u>Cariboo Regional District</u>		
	<u>Farms</u>	<u>% of RD Total</u>
< \$10,000	480	41%
\$10,000 - \$24,999	245	21%
\$25,000 - \$99,999	285	25%
\$100,000 & over	<u>150</u>	<u>13%</u>
Total	1,160	100%

<u>British Columbia</u>		
	<u>Farms</u>	<u>% of BC Total</u>
< \$10,000	9,466	48%
\$10,000 - \$24,999	3,194	16%
\$25,000 - \$99,999	3,629	18%
\$100,000 & over	<u>3,555</u>	<u>18%</u>
Total	19,844	100%



• **Total Operating Expenses & Cash Wages Paid**

	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>Wages</u>
1985\$ =	\$39,044,885	\$4,115,776
1990\$ =	\$42,522,224	\$5,801,596
1995\$ =	\$56,687,669	\$8,567,590
2000\$ =	\$61,808,600	\$8,322,323
2005\$ =	\$67,684,788	\$9,244,919



	<u>1985</u>	<u>1990</u>	<u>1995</u>	<u>2000</u>	<u>2005</u>
• Total Paid Labour (weeks)	15,984	13,713	19,654	19,358	18,324
- Year Round vs. Seasonal Paid Labour					
% Year Round	55%	68%	65%	57%	68%
% Seasonal	45%	32%	35%	43%	32%
<i>% Year Round British Columbia</i>	47%	51%	57%	62%	63%



*First Nations and Agriculture
 in the Cariboo-Chilcotin*

Ranching continues to be a key activity for many First Nations in the Cariboo - Chilcotin, providing a link to the past and a window on the future. A number of beef producers are today involved in a grass-fed beef marketing initiative. During the summer months, rodeos take place in most of the communities in the region, underscoring the long standing relationship between First Nations and the horse and cattle sectors in the region.



Recently, many of the communities in the area have had a renewed interest in community gardens. Some of these gardens operate as market gardens while others solely provide for elders, social programs and for others within the community. Currently one First Nation has Certified Organic production, with their produce being marketed throughout the Cariboo and Thompson regions.

18 | Cariboo Regional District AGRICULTURAL OVERVIEW

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.

B.C. - 2006 - Census of Agriculture		
No. of Farms	-	19,844
Total Area of Farms	-	2,835,458 ha

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 **Peace River, Cariboo, Thompson-Okanagan** and **Bulkley-Nechako** 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**.



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

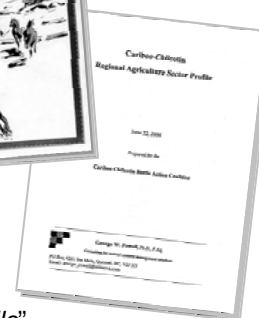
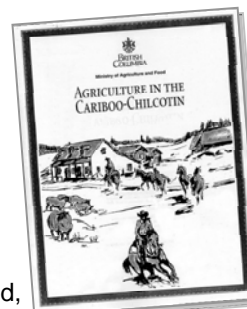
Commodity	BC Share of Canada's Gross Farm Receipts	National Ranking
Sweet Cherries	84.6%	1
Raspberries	58.1%	1
Blueberries	49.3%	1
Cranberries	45.0%	1

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

More Information - Agriculture in the Cariboo-Chilcotin

This Agricultural Overview provides a variety of information about farming and ranching in the Cariboo Regional District. If further information is desired, two reports are recommended that provide a more detailed look at agriculture in the Cariboo-Chilcotin region. One, entitled "*Agriculture in the Cariboo-Chilcotin*" was completed originally in early 1991 by the Cariboo Cattlemen's Association and twice updated, most recently in 1999, by the B.C. Ministry of Agriculture and Food. The second report was completed in 2006 by G.W. Powell, Ph.D., P.Ag. for the Cariboo Chilcotin Beetle Action Coalition and is entitled, "*Cariboo-Chilcotin Regional Agriculture Sector Profile*".



Sources:

- Ministry of Agriculture and Food, Agriculture in the Cariboo-Chilcotin, 1999 (update)
- Powell, George W., Cariboo-Chilcotin Regional Agriculture Sector Profile, 2006
- The Canadian Encyclopedia, History of Agriculture - British Columbia at: <http://www.thecanadianencyclopedia.com/index.cfm?PgNm=TCE&Params=A1SEC895095>
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- 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.
- The Gold Rush Trail / Quesnel and District Museum & Archives at: <http://www.quesnelmuseum.ca/Grtrail/pg24.html>
- Wikipedia at: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alexandria,_British_Columbia

Sources: Photos and Illustrations

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

- Page 2 - Map – Cariboo Regional District at: <http://www.cariboord.bc.ca/AboutUs/ElectoralAreas/tabid/94/Default.aspx>
- Page 4 - ALR Map produced by the Resource Management Branch. Data provided by Integrated Land Management Bureau, Ministry of Agriculture and Lands.
- Page x - BC Archives

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/>



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