

Canada Agricultural Census 1991 – Main Results

Please refer to the Explanatory Notes given at the end of the document.

NUMBER OF HOLDINGS CLASSIFIED BY SIZE OF TOTAL AREA OF HOLDINGS	
Holding size classes	Number of holdings
Total	280 043
Under 1.2 ha	3 961
1.2 and under 4 ha	9 710
4 and under 28.3 ha	35 216
28.3 and under 52.6 ha	32 682
52.6 and under 72.8 ha	33 401
72.8 and under 97.1 ha	17 161
97.1 and under 161.9 ha	39 100
161.9 and under 226.6 ha	23 144
226.6 and under 307.6 ha	19 983
307.6 and under 453.3 ha	24 406
453.3 and under 647.5 ha	18 396
647.5 ha and over	22 883

TOTAL AREA OF HOLDINGS	
Area (ha)	
	67 753 700

LEGAL STATUS OF THE HOLDER	Number of holdings
Total	280 043
Individuals or households	255 719
Other	24 324

AREA OF HOLDINGS BY TENURE OF LAND OPERATED	Area (ha)
Total	67 753 700
Area owned or in ownerlike possession	42 961 352
Area rented from others	24 792 348

LAND USE	Number of holdings	Area (ha)
Land under crops	248 147	33 507 780
Land temporarily fallow	80 834	7 920 948
Land under temporary meadows	89 980	4 141 221
All other land	248 855	22 183 751

TEMPORARY CROPS (on arable land)	Number of holdings reporting	Area (ha)
Wheat	105 805	14 163 143
Maize	27 819	2 732 235
Barley	82 677	11 180 156
Oats	54 969	1 233 107
Rye	7 878	257 985
Buckwheat	58 430	23 646
Rapeseed	39 437	3 141 325
Linseed	9 883	500 235
Soybeans	16 098	598 454
Sunflower for seed	1 279	83 385
Potatoes	4 692	122 391
Tobacco	1 564	30 000
Mustard seed	1 885	113 018
Sugar beets	650	24 906
Beans, dry edible	3 544	95 302
Peas, dry edible	4 271	200 582

LIVESTOCK	Number of holdings reporting	Total number of head	Male	Female
Cattle	145 747	12 972 038	-	-
Under 1 year of age	127 865	4 089 641	-	-
1 year of age and over	-	8 882 397	1 599 185	7 283 212
Sheep	13 144	935 891	-	-
Pigs	29 592	10 216 083	-	-
Horses	58 509	356 204	-	-
Chickens	42 661	94 872 875	-	-
Turkeys	8 462	8 076 808	-	-

MACHINERY / EQUIPMENT	Number of holdings reporting	Units
Tractors	253 802	734 149
Harvesters-threshers (combines)	126 270	152 114

FERTILIZERS / PESTICIDES	Number of holdings reporting use
Chemical fertilizers	165 670
Pesticides	40 440
Herbicides	138 367

Canada Agricultural Census 1991 – Explanatory Notes

Historical outline: From 1871 to 1951 the census of agriculture in Canada was undertaken every ten years; then, by 1956, to better monitor the country's rapid economic growth, a census of population and a census of agriculture have been simultaneously undertaken at five-year intervals. Canada participated in all decennial World Censuses of Agriculture promoted by FAO, beginning the one carried out in 1931, up to the most recent, undertaken in 1991, to which data presented here refer.

Organization: Periodic censuses of agriculture and population are undertaken by the national statistics agency called Statistics Canada: it collects directly a large amount of data, at the same time making use of all other existing sources of relevant administrative statistics outside its own organization. Statistics Canada is made up of several Divisions, of which the Agriculture Division deals exclusively with the collection and publication of agricultural statistics. Statistics Canada consists of its Headquarters Offices in the Federal Capital of Ottawa, plus eight Regional Offices.

Enumeration period: The 1991 Census of Agriculture was conducted on 4 June 1991.

Reference date: Data on Holder, Holding, Land Use, Livestock and Machinery refer to the day of enumeration, while data on Crops, Employment, Use of Fertilizers and Pesticides, refer to the 12 months preceding the census.

Definitions: Census Farm is defined as a farm or ranch or other agricultural holding, which produces at least one of the following products intended for sale: crops, livestock, poultry, animal products, greenhouse or nursery products, mushrooms, sod, honey, or maple syrup products. Census Farms are also commonly referred to as Farm Operations or Agricultural Holdings.

Coverage: The census covered the entire country except some Indian Reserves and Settlements in Yukon and in the North-West Territories, which in 1991 were incompletely enumerated because enumeration was not permitted or interrupted before its completion; however, the impact of missing data at country level is considered very small.

Frame: The frame used was based on the Administrative Subdivisions, i.e.:

- Provinces/Territories, which are the major subdivisions of Canada;
- Census Agricultural Regions, which are sub-provincial geographic areas consisting of groups of Census Divisions;
- Census Divisions, corresponding to counties, districts, municipalities, etc.;
- Census Consolidated Subdivisions (CCS), which are a grouping of towns, townships, cities, parishes, within a Census Division, with a combined land area greater than 25 square kilometers;
- Census subdivisions with a population greater than 100,000 persons are also considered to be a CCS.

Methods: The Agricultural Census was conducted jointly with the Population Census. The enumerators visited each household and left a Population Census Questionnaire; an Agricultural Census Questionnaire was also dropped off if anyone in the household operated a farm; the respondents were asked to complete and return them by mail, using the pre-addressed envelopes provided for that purpose. After being reviewed by the census representatives, the questionnaires were sent to regional processing sites for initial processing, and then forwarded to Statistics Canada Head Office in Ottawa.

Data source: Statistics Canada - Agricultural Profile of Canada, Part 1 - 1991 Census - Catalogue 93-350.

Mailing address: User Services - Census of Agriculture - Agriculture Division - Statistics Canada, Ottawa, K1A 0T6; Tel. 951-8711, or:
Publication Sales, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6; Tel. 1(613)951-7277; Fax 1(613)951-1584.