

BRITISH COLUMBIA CANADA



QUALITY

DIVERSITY



**AGRICULTURE, SEAFOOD
AND FOOD PROCESSING**



BritishColumbia.ca



BUSINESSES IN BRITISH COLUMBIA'S AGRICULTURE, SEAFOOD AND FOOD PROCESSING SECTORS ARE SERVING THE GLOBAL MARKETPLACE.

With British Columbia's growing array of products and international reputation for high food safety standards, food importers from around the world are exploring our commodities. Our modern agriculture and transportation infrastructure ensures that customers receive exceptionally fresh and nutritious products quickly and efficiently.

In 2018, British Columbia exported \$4.5 billion worth of agriculture, seafood and food processing products to 149 markets.

At home we are investing \$2 million per year through to 2021 to promote Buy BC, a provincewide marketing program that's helping B.C. farmers and food processors promote their products and support food security in British Columbia.



British Columbia's agriculture, seafood and food processing sectors are one of the most diverse in Canada, with 515 exported agrifood commodities, 180 different seafood products exported, a world-renowned wine industry and a growing array of high-quality, high-value niche products. We are home to hundreds of agriculture, seafood and food processing companies, including primary growers and producers on land and sea, food processors, beverage processors and manufacturers of specialty items such as nutraceuticals, floral products, pet foods and more.

Natural Advantages

DIVERSITY

Thanks to our temperate climate and varied terrain, British Columbia produces and harvests a diversity of products from land and sea. In addition to hundreds of agriculture products, we produce 180 seafood products and are home to a globally recognized wine industry that includes over 350 licensed wineries. Our farms and food processors supply everything from fruits, vegetables and herbal preparations to top-grade meats and beverages.

QUALITY AND FOOD SAFETY

British Columbia's reputation for producing high-quality and great-tasting foods is supported by internationally renowned food traceability, safety and sustainability standards.

SUSTAINABLE PRACTICES

Sustainability principles guide food production in British Columbia. Our greenhouse growers are world leaders in the use of integrated pest management and innovative greenhouse technologies. B.C.'s commercial fishers, fish farmers and seafood processors work together to supply both domestic and international export markets with a vast array of safe, high-quality seafood products. A co-operative approach between industry and government has put the British Columbia seafood industry at the forefront of new conservation initiatives, helping to ensure a sustainable industry for the future.

INNOVATION

Our agriculture, seafood and food processing sectors are flexible and resilient. We rely on modern infrastructure that benefits from the latest research and technologies developed collaboratively across industry, government and academia. The Canada-BC Agri-Innovation Program, for example, funds projects that are advancing the sectors' competitiveness.

TRANSPORTATION

Located on Canada's West Coast, British Columbia lies at the commercial crossroads of the Asia-Pacific region and North America. This means that shipping costs to international markets are lower and shipping times are shorter than from competing suppliers in North America. International trade agreements provide preferential market access, making it easier and more efficient to do business.




Diverse and Delicious Products

LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY PRODUCTS

Our farms and ranches produce beef, dairy, chicken, turkey, eggs, pork, mutton, lamb and other animals and animal products. We exported more than \$364 million worth of animals and animal products in 2018. The top five exports were pork products, animal fats, live beef cattle, dairy products and poultry products.

B.C. Livestock and Poultry Products

2018 Production



Dairy	804.2 million litres of milk
Poultry	210,510 tonnes chicken & turkey
Beef	88,260 tonnes
Eggs	96 million dozen
Pork	25,446 tonnes
Lambs	2,482 tonnes
Honey	1,424 tonnes

FRUITS AND NUTS

Our diverse climate enables the production of a wide variety of berries, grapes, tree fruits and nuts on approximately 25,000 hectares of farmland. Our tree fruits include apples, cherries, peaches, pears, plums/prunes, nectarines and apricots, and nuts, including filberts/hazelnuts, walnuts, chestnuts and pecans. British Columbia has close to 4,000 hectares in grape production and produced more than 29,500 tonnes of grapes in 2018.



VEGETABLES

Thanks to a moderate climate, fertile soils and access to good water, B.C. fields and farms can grow many different types of vegetables, from asparagus to zucchini. In 2018, the top five vegetable exports were mushrooms, peppers, peas, tomatoes and cucumbers. Our greenhouse vegetable sector, which generated \$155 million in exports in 2018, supplies the B.C. marketplace with fresh vegetables for close to 10 months of the year.

GRAINS AND OILSEEDS

B.C. farmers produced 245,400 tonnes of grains and oilseeds in 2018, including wheat, canola, oats and barley.



FLORICULTURE AND NURSERY PRODUCTS

We have a thriving industry in ornamental flowers and shrubs. Our floriculture growers generated close to \$290 million in 2018, with over 74 million cut flowers, and over 49 million indoor and outdoor potted plants. British Columbia's nursery industry produced perennials and annuals, deciduous and coniferous shrubs, shade and ornamental trees, vines, fruit trees and nursery tree seedlings.

SEAFOOD

British Columbia's prime fishing grounds, world-famous salmon-rearing rivers and pristine ocean farming areas produce a rich and varied harvest of finfish, groundfish and shellfish. Among the key fish species are farmed and wild salmon, halibut, rockfish, hake, sablefish, herring and tuna. Shellfish include wild and farmed clams, farmed oysters, crab, prawns, geoduck, sea urchins and sea cucumber. We also produce a variety of marine plants. British Columbia has six species approved to display the Marine Stewardship Council label: halibut, hake, albacore tuna, sockeye salmon, chum salmon and pink salmon.

BEVERAGES

Home to over 900 vineyards, British Columbia is recognized globally for award-winning wines. Every year, our wine producers win hundreds of awards in national and international competitions. Over 80 different grape varieties are produced here, with the top 10 varieties being Merlot, Pinot Gris, Chardonnay, Pinot Noir, Cabernet Sauvignon, Gewürztraminer, Cabernet Franc, Riesling, Sauvignon Blanc and Syrah. We also produce celebrated craft-brewed ciders, beers and spirits, including whiskey and vodka and are known as a top-quality producer of fresh glacial spring water and a variety of fruit and vegetable juices. In 2018, we exported more than \$81 million worth of beverages.

PROCESSED FOODS

Our diverse agricultural production supports a varied food processing industry. In fact, food processing is the second-largest of British Columbia's manufacturing industries, generating more than \$10 billion in sales in 2018 and employing 36,500 people. More than 2,900 small and medium-sized firms produce products from domestic and imported agriculture and seafood sources.

Our food processors supply high-quality products, including animal food products, milled grain and oilseed products, sugar and confectionary, fruit and vegetables, dairy products, meat products, seafood products, bakery and tortilla products, beverages and other food processing products including snack foods, coffee and tea, flavouring syrups and concentrates, seasoning and dressings, manufactured pizzas, soup mixes, prepared meals and sandwiches, bakery and tortilla products, baked goods and cereal products, chocolate and cocoa preparations, beverages and pet foods.

Top 5 B.C. Agriculture, Seafood and Food Processing Export Markets

2018 by Market (\$ millions)

United States	3,088
China	533
Japan	224
South Korea	73
Hong Kong	73



B.C. Fruit

2018 Production ('000 Tonnes)

Apples	103.0
Blueberries	69.0
Cranberries	52.2
Grapes	29.6
Sweet Cherries	24.5
Raspberries	7.9
Peaches	5.8
Pears	5.3
Strawberries	1.1
Apricots	0.9



Natural Abundance

British Columbia has one of the most diverse agriculture, seafood and food processing industries in Canada, exporting more than 500 agriculture commodities and 180 different seafood products.

- We are home to more than 2,900 food and beverage manufacturing operations.
- British Columbia's agriculture, seafood and food processing sectors produce over \$14 billion in annual revenues and directly employs thousands of British Columbians.
- In 2018, we exported \$4.5 billion of agriculture, seafood and food processing products to 149 markets.

2018 Seafood Export

Value by Species (\$ millions)

Farmed Atlantic Salmon	541.1
Crab	159.1
Hake	102.7
Wild sockeye salmon	56.1
Geoduck Clams	54.8
Shrimps and Prawns	53.1
Chinook Salmon (wild and farmed)	46.0
Herring	36.2
Halibut	33.4
Sablefish	22.3
Tuna	22.2
Sea Urchin	21.0



Global Distribution

British Columbia's high-quality agriculture, seafood and processed food products are in demand globally, and they are sent around the world through an extensive and efficient network of ship, air, rail and road connections. The United States is British Columbia's largest export market, worth more than \$3.0 billion in 2018. Other important export markets are China at \$532 million, Japan at \$224 million, South Korea at \$73 million and Hong Kong at \$73 million.

AGRIFOOD PRODUCTS

In 2018, British Columbia exported \$3.1 billion of agrifood products to markets around the world. Eighty eight per cent of the export value was generated by five markets: the United States, China, Japan, South Korea and Taiwan.

SEAFOOD PRODUCTS

In 2018, British Columbia exported \$1.4 billion worth of seafood products to 78 different markets. Ninety-one per cent went to our top five markets: the United States, China, Japan, Ukraine and Hong Kong. British Columbia's top seafood exports included farmed Atlantic salmon, crab, hake, wild sockeye salmon, geoduck clams, shrimps and prawns, chinook salmon, herring, halibut, sablefish, tuna and sea urchins.





For more information about British Columbia's agriculture, seafood and food processing producers and their products, contact:

BC Agriculture Council

www.bcac.bc.ca

BC Food Processors Association

www.bcfpa.ca

BC Seafood Alliance

www.bcseafoodalliance.com

BC Seafood.ca

www.bcseafood.ca

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Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this publication at the time of writing; however, the programs referred to, and data cited, are subject to change.

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