

# SECTOR PROFILE AT A GLANCE

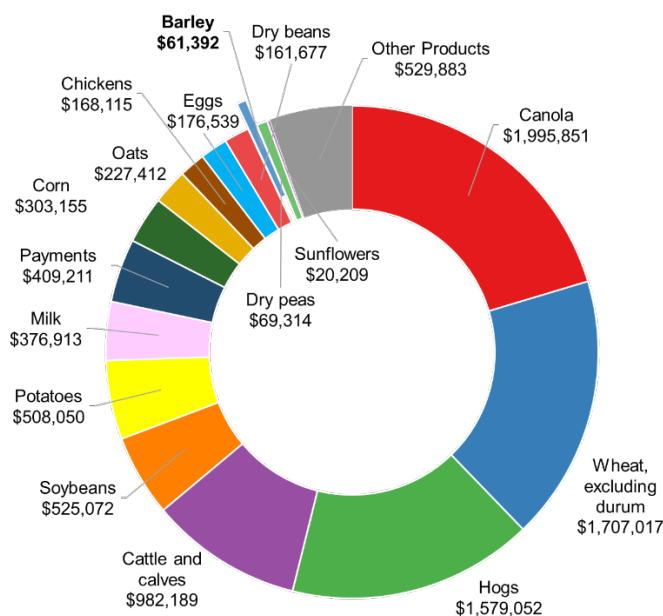
## Barley



### Highlights

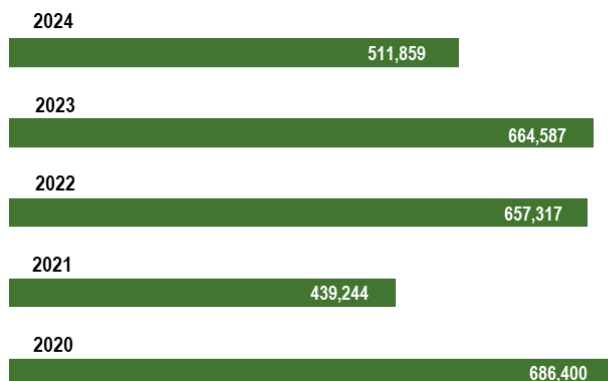
- Manitoba planted 309,400 acres of barley in 2025, positioning it as the sixth-largest crop by seeded area.
- In 2024, Manitoba produced 6.3 per cent of Canada's barley, compared to 51.9 per cent from Alberta and 37.3 per cent from Saskatchewan.
- The Manitoba-wide record for barley yield, 80.4 bushels per acre, was set in 2017.
- Over half of Manitoba's barley is used locally for livestock feed, with the remainder roughly split between malt production within the province and exports for malting overseas.
- In 2024, the U.S. was the largest buyer of Manitoba's barley and malt, followed closely by China.

### Farm Cash Receipts (2024, '000 of dollars)



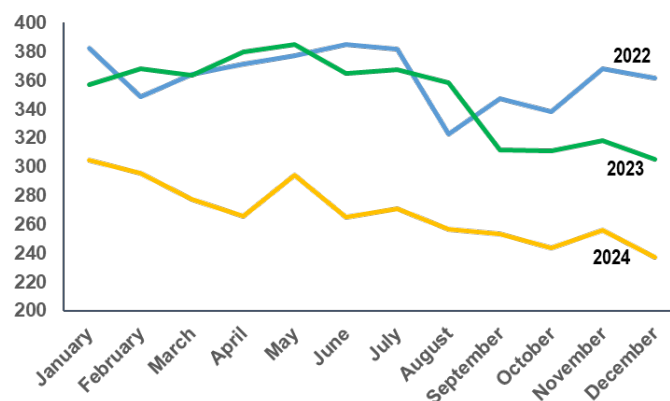
Source: Statistics Canada

### Production (metric tonnes)



Source: Statistics Canada

### Prices (dollars per metric tonne)



Source: Foresight and Analysis

## Processing

- Barley is a highly digestible and nutritious feed option for all livestock species, making Manitoba's livestock sector the primary consumer of locally grown barley.
- Barley is also malted to produce barley malt, a key ingredient in beer production. The malting process can be adjusted to achieve specific flavour profiles.
- Malteurop Canada Ltd. operates a malt house just east of Winnipeg.
- Manitoba is home to over two dozen local craft breweries, producing homegrown beers from Manitoba's own barley and malt.
- The Manitoba Brewers Association is a collaborative group of craft brewers that promote and celebrate Manitoba's local craft beers.
- Barley is also a food ingredient, commonly used in soups in the form of pearled barley. It may be consumed whole or ground into flour for use in baked goods. Barley is rich in vitamins and minerals, along with soluble and insoluble fibre and antioxidants.

## Marketing and Trade

- Barley prices were strong throughout 2022 and into 2023 but have since declined steadily. By the end of 2024, prices were 40 per cent lower than the peak levels seen in 2022.
- In 2024, Manitoba exported \$79 million worth of barley and barley products. Most of these exports went to the United States (46 per cent), followed by China (37 per cent).

## DID YOU KNOW?

- Manitoba's barley is primarily used for two purposes: malting to make beer and as feed for all species of livestock.
- By seeded area, barley ranks as Manitoba's sixth-largest crop in 2025.
- Barley is a traditional crop in Manitoba as it is well-suited to the province's cooler climate and shorter growing season.
- Pearled barley is a popular ingredient in hearty soups.
- Manitoba's barley producers are represented by the Manitoba Crop Alliance and Cereals Canada, both of which focus on profitability, sustainability and market promotion.
- The Canadian Malting Barley Technical Centre (CMBTC) supports the malting sector by providing technical expertise and marketing assistance.
- The Brewing and Malting Barley Research Institute (BMBRI) focuses on research aimed at improved malting barley agronomics and malting characteristics.

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## Contact us

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