Agriculture

Highlights

- Manitoba’s agriculture and agri-food sector is a significant economic driver for the province. It directly contributes 8.0 per cent of provincial gross domestic product (GDP) and 5.1 per cent of provincial jobs or 36,355 direct jobs in 2022.

- Farm cash receipts (FCR) have risen strongly in recent years, with 2022 showing a 14.8 per cent increase to $9.75 billion.

- The largest sectors in Manitoba agriculture by FCRs are canola, wheat and hogs.

- Total net farm income set a record in 2022 at $2.81 billion. Net cash income was the second highest on record at $2.52 billion, following 2021.

- The food manufacturing sector has grown steadily in recent years. In 2022, total sales reached $8 billion, accounting for 5.9 per cent of Canada’s total food manufacturing sales.

- Manitoba is known worldwide as a consistent and reliable supplier of safe, high-quality grains, oilseeds, livestock and agri-food products. In 2022, Manitoba agriculture and agri-food exports were the largest on record, with total international sales of $8.82 billion. Agricultural exports have increased 72 per cent since 2013, accounting for 43 per cent of total provincial exports in 2022.

- Manitoba’s top five major agri-food exports in 2022 (wheat, pork, canola oil, canola seeds and prepared potatoes) accounted for almost 65 per cent of total agri-food exports. Manitoba also exports a significant amount of soybean; oats and oat products; and live animals.

- The U.S. remained the top export market for Manitoba’s agri-food products in 2022, followed by China, Japan and Mexico.
Crops

- Manitoba’s crop sector generated $6.09 billion in FCR in 2022. This was a new record, topping the 2021 record by 15 per cent and represents 62.5 per cent of total FCR.
- Canola has long been Manitoba’s top FCR crop with a record $2.37 billion in 2022 receipts.
- Wheat is second highest with $1.68 billion FCR for 2022, also a record.
- In addition to canola and wheat, Manitoba's crop mix is very diverse with significant production of soybean, corn, hay, oats, potatoes, barley, rye, dry peas, dry beans and sunflowers. There is also smaller acreage (and greenhouse area) devoted to crops including flax, forage and grass seed, field and greenhouse vegetables, as well as sod, floriculture and nursery products.

Livestock

- Manitoba’s livestock sectors produced a record of $3.03 billion in 2022, up 8.8 per cent from $2.78 billion the previous year.
- The hog sector generates half of all livestock receipts at $1.51 billion in 2022.
- Cattle and calf receipts rose by 9.6 per cent to $688 million in 2022.
- Receipts from supply-managed commodities were $702 million in 2022, up 12.4 per cent compared to 2021. They represented 23.2 per cent of total livestock cash receipts for 2022.
- Livestock remain prominent on Manitoba’s landscape with species including cattle (beef and dairy), hogs, poultry, sheep, horses, donkeys, mules, goats, llamas, alpacas, rabbits, bison, elk, deer and mink.

Processing

- Meat processing is the largest food-manufacturing sector in Manitoba, accounting for one-third of all food manufacturing sales in 2022. Grain and oilseed milling, and dairy processing follow it.
- The food-processing sector employs 15,765 people in Manitoba and creates over 63,000 jobs in the province, including indirect jobs.
- Exports of food products and beverages totaled $4.25 billion in 2022.

DID YOU KNOW?

- Manitoba has 17.1 million acres of farmland, of which 11.6 million (68 per cent) were used for crop production in 2021.
- Manitoba has 14,543 farms, averaging 1,177 acres per farm in 2021.
- The food manufacturing industry is the largest manufacturing industry in Manitoba, in terms of sales, accounting for 32 per cent of the province’s total manufacturing sales in 2022.
- In 2022, capital investments in the agriculture and agri-food sector increased 1.2 per cent, reaching $899 million.
- Manitoba has the highest proportion of young farmer operators in Canada. In 2021, 11.5 per cent of farm operators in Manitoba were young farmers.
- In 2021, Manitoba counted 19,465 farm operators.
- Female farm operators are increasing in number and proportion. In 2021, 26.6 per cent of farm operators in Manitoba were female, up from 24 per cent in 2016.