

### 4. Strengths and Weaknesses

Canadian grains and oilseed exports are competitive in world markets, accounting 50 percent of Canada's production.

Because of the quality control of Canada's production, grading and marketing system and the superior quality of the grains and oilseeds, in particular bread and durum wheats and rapeseed/canola, Canada is able to obtain a price premium in world markets for commodities.

The large size of farms in Western Canada compared to most other countries enables Canadian farmers to adopt the latest technology in crop production and to make extensive use of mechanization.

The short growing season and limited annual precipitation in western Canada restricts the types of crops that can be grown and intensive crop production. These same climatic conditions contribute however to the high quality of Canadian HRS wheat, helping to offset disadvantages with respect to climate and size of operation.

In eastern Canada, improved varieties, drainage and management are helping to offset disadvantages with respect to climate and size of operation.