



Farming

Farming accounts for more than a quarter of Canada's economy. Canada is the world's fourth largest exporter of farm products; farm exports earn 20 per cent of the country's foreign exchange. Approximately \$4-billion worth of agricultural goods were exported in 1977.

The Prairie provinces (Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta) – sometimes referred to as the "breadbasket of the world" – contain 80 per cent of Canada's improved farm land. Major prairie field crops are wheat, oats, barley, rapeseed, flaxseed and rye. Ranching is largely confined to the three Western provinces: native grasslands sustain some 4,766,000 head of beef cattle and 300,000 sheep.

In Newfoundland and Nova Scotia, dairy and poultry farming predominate. Farms in New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island grow mainly potatoes. In Ontario and Quebec, farming is diversified and includes the production of several types of leaf tobacco and sugar beets.

In 1977, total cash farm receipts came to a record \$10.1 billion, of which cash receipts for livestock amounted to \$5.2 billion.

Milk is produced in every province. Estimates in July 1977, put the number of milk-producing cows at two million, producing 7.68 billion kg of milk a year.

Wheat

A London, Ontario scientist, Charles E. Saunders (later knighted), helped to make the West "golden" by developing Marquis wheat in 1906. This strain, excellent for baking and milling, matures ten days earlier than other