

## 2006 Agriculture Profile - 1. Farms and the Land

	Big Lakes	Alberta
<b>Total Population</b>	<b>5,805</b>	<b>3,290,350</b>
Urban Population	0	2,699,851
Rural Population	5,805	590,499
<i>Rural as % of Total Population</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>17.9</i>
<b>Number of Farms</b>	<b>436</b>	<b>49,431</b>
Average Farm Size (acres)	1,074	1,055
<b>Average Per Reporting Farm</b>		
Net Farm Income (\$)	7,580	22,201
Farm Capital (\$)	738,918	1,452,150
Farm Operating Expenses (\$)	67,886	177,857
Gross Farm Receipts (\$)	75,466	200,058
Area in Crops (acres)	491	577
Seeded Area of Wheat (acres)	347	549
Number of Beef Cows (head)	x	79
Number of Pigs (head)	136	1,302

Farm Operating Arrangements	# Farms	% Distr.
Sole Proprietorship	279	64.0
Partnership	105	24.1
With Written Agreement	7	1.6
Without Written Agreement	98	22.5
Corporation	50	11.5
Family	43	9.9
Non-Family	7	1.6
Other*	2	0.5
<b>Total Farms</b>	<b>436</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Farms by Total Farm Area	# Farms	% Distr.
Under 10 Acres	4	0.9
10 to 129 Acres	22	5.0
130 to 239 Acres	78	17.9
240 to 399 Acres	53	12.2
400 to 559 Acres	50	11.5
560 to 759 Acres	51	11.7
760 to 1,119 Acres	47	10.8
<b>1,120 Acres and Over</b>	<b>131</b>	<b>30.0</b>
1,120 to 1,599 Acres	56	12.8
1,600 to 2,239 Acres	24	5.5
2,240 to 2,879 Acres	20	4.6
2,880 to 3,519 Acres	8	1.8
3,520 Acres and Over	23	5.3
<b>Total Farms</b>	<b>436</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Farms by Type**	# Farms	% Distr.
Dairy	0	0.0
Cattle (Beef)	207	51.4
Hog	3	0.7
Poultry and Egg	1	0.2
Wheat	4	1.0
Grain and Oilseed (except wheat)	61	15.1
Field Crop (except grain and oilseed)	67	16.6
Fruit	0	0.0
Vegetable	1	0.2
Miscellaneous Specialty	49	12.2
Livestock Combination	8	2.0
Other Combination	2	0.5
<b>Total Farms Classified</b>	<b>403</b>	<b>100.0</b>

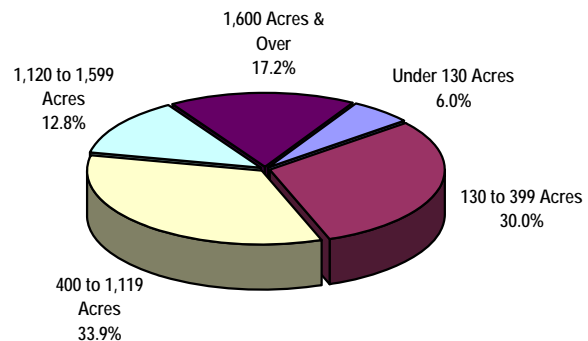
Land Tenure	# Farms	Acres	% Acres
Total Area Owned	430	273,962	58.5
Total Area Rented/Leased/Crop Shared	207	194,166	41.5
Rented/Leased from Government	114	x	x
Rented/Leased from Others	142	x	x
Crop Shared from Others	18	6,082	1.3
<b>Total Area of Farms</b>	<b>436</b>	<b>468,128</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Farms by Use of Land	# Farms	Acres	% Acres
Total Land in Crops	367	180,205	38.5
Summerfallow	76	8,440	1.8
Total Pasture Land	...	191,628	40.9
Tame or Seeded Pasture	213	74,533	15.9
Natural Land for Pasture	233	117,095	25.0
All Other Land	352	87,855	18.8
<b>Total Area of Farms</b>	<b>436</b>	<b>468,128</b>	<b>100.0</b>

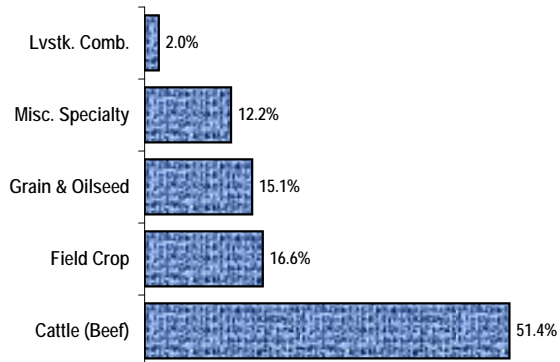
Paid Agricultural Labour	# Farms	# Weeks	% Weeks
Year Round	47	2,468	71.4
Seasonal or Temporary	78	987	28.6
<b>Total Paid Labour</b>	<b>109</b>	<b>3,455</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Use of Personal Computers for Farm Management	# Farms	% Farms
Number of Farms Reporting Use	175	40.1
Number of Farms Reporting Internet Use	116	26.6

Per Cent Distribution of Farms by Size



Per Cent Distribution of Top Five Farm Types



Note: Regional data do not include municipalities where confidentiality applies. Numbers may not add up due to rounding. x - confidential ... not available

\* Institutions, Community Pastures, etc. \*\* Farms reporting total gross farm receipts greater than \$2,500. # Farms\* refers to number of farms reporting.

Source: Statistics Canada, 2006 Census of Agriculture, and 2006 Census of Population

Refer to census definitions and notes for more information.

Prepared by: Alberta Agriculture and Rural Development, Economics and Competitiveness Division, Statistics and Data Development Branch

## 2006 Agriculture Profile - 2. Financial Characteristics

	Big Lakes	Alberta
<b>Number of Farms</b>	436	49,431
<b>Average Per Reporting Farm</b>		
Net Farm Income (\$)	7,580	22,201
Farm Capital (\$)	738,918	1,452,150
Farm Operating Expenses (\$)	67,886	177,857
Farm Interest Expenses (\$)	7,797	14,607
Gross Farm Receipts (\$)	75,466	200,058

Farm Capital	# Farms	\$ '000	% Distr.
Machinery and Equipment	436	65,791	20.4
Livestock and Poultry	312	32,034	9.9
Land and Buildings	436	224,343	69.6
Owned	430	178,982	55.6
Rented or Leased from Others	210	45,361	14.1
<b>Total Farm Capital</b>	<b>436</b>	<b>322,168</b>	<b>100.0</b>

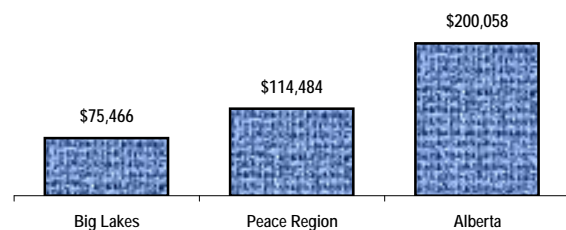
Farms Classified by Farm Capital	# Farms	% Distr.
Under \$50,000	3	0.7
\$50,000 - \$99,999	6	1.4
\$100,000 - \$199,999	32	7.3
\$200,000 - \$349,999	83	19.0
\$350,000 - \$499,999	87	20.0
\$500,000 - \$999,999	133	30.5
\$1,000,000 - \$1,499,999	51	11.7
\$1,500,000 - \$1,999,999	16	3.7
\$2,000,000 and Over	25	5.7
<b>Total Farms</b>	<b>436</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Farm Operating Expenses	# Farms	\$ '000	% Distr.
Farm Interest Expenses	258	2,012	6.8
Custom and Contract Work	221	1,498	5.1
Rent/Leasing of Land and Buildings	165	998	3.4
Rent/Leasing of Mach./Equip./Vehicles	77	296	1.0
Wages and Salaries	109	1,657	5.6
Paid to Family Members	76	1,065	3.6
Paid to all Other Persons	60	592	2.0
All Fuel Expenses	416	4,074	13.8
Repairs/ Maint., Mach./Equip./Vehicles	408	3,029	10.2
Fertilizer and Lime Purchases	145	2,377	8.0
Herbicides/Insecticides/Fungicides	131	1,162	3.9
Seed/Seedling Purchases	199	933	3.2
Livestock and Poultry Purchases	151	3,373	11.4
Veterinary Services, Drugs, etc.	259	520	1.8
Feed and Supplement Purchases	248	1,621	5.5
Electricity/Telephone/Telecom.	397	1,254	4.2
Repairs/ Maint., Farm Bldgs. & Fences	323	708	2.4
All Other Expenses	411	4,086	13.8
<b>Total Operating Expenses</b>	<b>436</b>	<b>29,598</b>	<b>100.0</b>

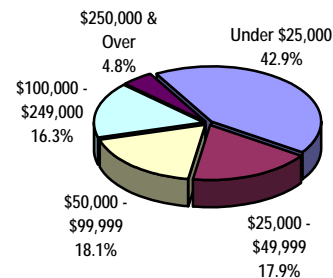
Farm Machinery (Owned & Leased)	# Farms	Total Number	Avg. Value \$/Farm
Total Tractors	404	1,384	53,986
Total Farm Trucks	404	1,119	31,998
Pick-ups and Cargo Vans	382	684	24,097
Other Farm Trucks	254	436	14,654
Cars/Passenger Vehicles	189	216	14,259
Swathers/Mower Cond.	307	464	12,066
Combines	215	264	26,135
Balers	271	345	12,728
Forage Harvesters	34	36	8,704
Tillage/Cultivation/Seeding Equip.	307	1,343	21,351
Irrigation Equipment	6	...	23,517
Other*	312	...	27,544

Total Gross Farm Receipts	\$ '000	% Alta.
<b>Total Gross Farm Receipts</b>	<b>32,903</b>	<b>0.3</b>
<b>Farms by Gross Farm Receipts</b>		
Farms by Gross Farm Receipts	# Farms	% Distr.
Under \$10,000	104	23.9
\$10,000 - \$24,999	83	19.0
\$25,000 - \$49,999	78	17.9
\$50,000 - \$99,999	79	18.1
\$100,000 - \$249,999	71	16.3
\$250,000 - \$499,999	12	2.8
\$500,000 - \$999,999	8	1.8
\$1,000,000 - \$1,999,999	0	0.0
\$2,000,000 and Over	1	0.2
<b>Total Farms</b>	<b>436</b>	<b>100.0</b>

**Average Gross Receipts Per Farm**



**Per Cent Distribution of Farms by Class of Gross Farm Receipts**



Note: Regional data do not include municipalities where confidentiality applies. Numbers may not add up due to rounding. x - confidential ... not available

"# Farms" refers to number of farms reporting. \* Other Machinery, Workshop and Office Equipment

Source: Statistics Canada, 2006 Census of Agriculture

Refer to census definitions and notes for more information.

Prepared by: Alberta Agriculture and Rural Development, Economics and Competitiveness Division, Statistics and Data Development Branch

## 2006 Agriculture Profile - 3. Livestock, Poultry and Farm Machinery

Cattle and Calves	# Farms	Head	% Alta.
Total Cows	232	20,839	1.0
Dairy Cows	1	x	x
Beef Cows	232	x	x
Heifers	152	4,480	0.4
Bulls	212	1,024	0.9
Steers	98	2,425	0.2
Calves	228	15,329	0.7
<b>Total Cattle and Calves</b>	<b>249</b>	<b>44,097</b>	<b>0.7</b>

Pigs	# Farms	Head	% Alta.
Boars	12	25	0.4
Sows and Gilts for Breeding	13	196	0.1
Nursing and Weaner Pigs	12	603	0.1
Grower and Finishing Pigs	11	1,357	0.1
<b>Total Pigs</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>2,181</b>	<b>0.1</b>

Sheep and Lambs	# Farms	Head	% Alta.
Rams	8	32	0.6
Ewes	8	330	0.3
Lambs	8	284	0.2
<b>Total Sheep and Lambs</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>646</b>	<b>0.3</b>

Other Livestock	# Farms	Head	% Alta.
Horses and Ponies	141	1,298	0.8
Goats	7	216	0.7
Mink	0	0	x
Fox	0	0	0.0
Bison (Buffalo)	4	136	0.1
Deer (excluding wild deer)	1	x	x
Elk	4	179	0.5
Llamas and Alpacas	5	12	0.1
Wild Boars	2	x	x

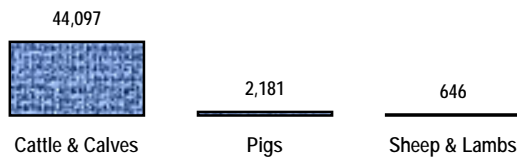
Bees	# Farms	Number	% Alta.
Colonies of Bees	14	6,245	2.7
Gallons of Other Pollinating Bees	0	0	0.0

Poultry Inventory	# Farms	Number	% Alta.
Total Hens and Chickens	25	1,625	0.0
Broilers, Roasters, Cornish	9	465	0.0
Pullets for Laying (under 19 wks.)	7	305	0.0
Laying Hens (19 wks and over)	22	855	0.0
Laying Hens (Hatchery Supply Flock)	0	0	0.0
Turkeys	5	35	0.0
Other Poultry	11	130	0.1

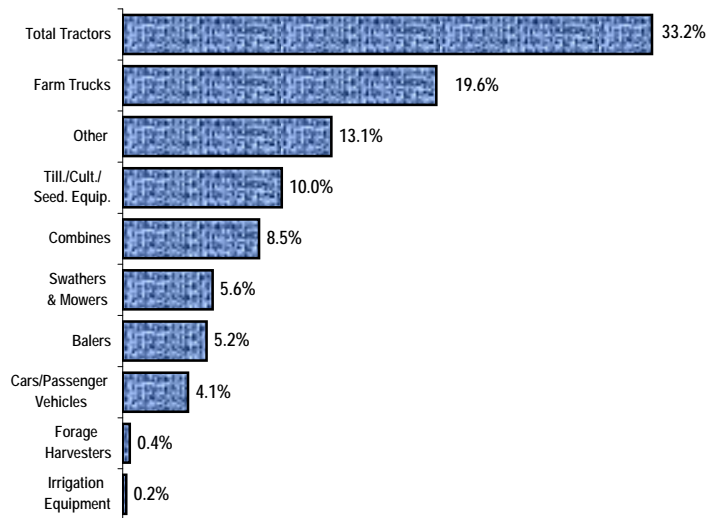
Poultry Production	# Farms	Kilograms	% Alta.	
Broilers/Roasters/Cornish Production	3	476	0.0	
Turkey Production	1	x	x	
		# Farms	Number	% Alta.
Chicks or Other Poultry Hatched	0	0	x	

Market Value of Farm Machinery and Equipment	# Farms	Number	\$ '000
Total Tractors	404	1,384	21,810
Total Farm Trucks	404	1,119	12,927
Pick-ups and Cargo Vans	382	684	9,205
Other Farm Trucks	254	436	3,722
Cars and Other Passenger Vehicles	189	216	2,695
Swathers and Mower Conditioners	307	464	3,704
Combines	215	264	5,619
Balers	271	345	3,449
Forage Harvesters	34	36	296
Tillage/Cultivation/Seeding Equip.	307	1,343	6,555
Irrigation Equipment	6	...	141
Other*	312	...	8,594

**Livestock Inventory, May 16, 2006  
(Number of Head)**



**Per Cent Distribution of Total Market Value of Machinery and Equipment**



**Cattle Inventory, May 16, 2006  
(Number of Head)**



Note: Regional data do not include municipalities where confidentiality applies. Numbers may not add up due to rounding. x - confidential ... not available  
 "# Farms" refers to number of farms reporting. \* Other Machinery, Workshop and Office Equipment

Source: Statistics Canada, 2006 Census of Agriculture

Refer to census definitions and notes for more information.

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**2006 Agriculture Profile - 4. Crops and Organic Production**

Grains*	# Farms	Acres	% Alta.
Total Wheat	40	13,872	0.2
Spring Wheat (excluding Durum)	38	13,242	0.2
Durum Wheat	0	0	0.0
Winter Wheat	3	630	0.5
Oats	103	16,640	1.3
Barley	70	15,825	0.4
Mixed Grains	7	1,227	0.3
Corn for Grain	0	0	0.0
Buckwheat	0	0	0.0
Total Rye	6	815	0.7
Fall Rye	5	x	x
Spring Rye	1	x	x

Oilseeds*	# Farms	Acres	% Alta.
Canola	56	17,631	0.4
Flaxseed	0	0	0.0
Soybeans	0	0	0.0
Mustard Seed	1	x	x
Sunflowers	0	0	0.0

Other Field Crops*	# Farms	Acres	% Alta.
Potatoes	1	x	x
Dry Field Peas	15	x	x
Lentils	0	0	0.0
Dry White Beans	1	x	x
Chick Peas	0	0	0.0
Other Dry Beans	1	x	x
Canary Seed	0	0	0.0
Sugar Beets	0	0	0.0
Caraway Seed	0	0	0.0
Triticale	1	x	x
Forage Seed for Seed	14	x	x
All Other Field Crops	0	0	0.0

Hay and Fodder Crops*	# Farms	Acres	% Alta.
Corn for Silage	2	x	x
Alfalfa and Alfalfa Mixtures	169	48,654	1.2
All Other Tame Hay/Fodder Crops	199	59,273	2.9

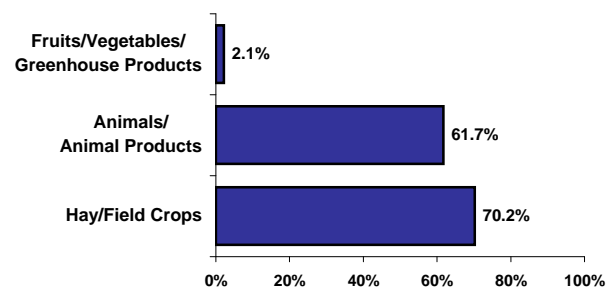
Selected Vegetables Grown for Sale	# Farms	Acres	% Alta.
Sweet Corn	1	x	x
Tomatoes	2	x	x
Cucumbers	1	x	x
Green Peas	2	x	x
Green or Wax Beans	2	x	x
Cabbage	2	x	x
Cauliflower	1	x	x
Broccoli	2	x	x
Carrots	2	x	x
Rutabagas and Turnips	1	x	x
Beets	2	x	x
Radishes	2	x	x
Dry Onions	1	x	x
Shallots, Green or Seed Onions	1	x	x
Lettuce	2	x	x
Celery	0	0	0.0
Pumpkins, Squash and Zucchini	2	x	x

Fruits, Berries and Nuts Grown For Sale	# Farms	Acres	% Alta.
Total Fruits/Berries/Nuts	4	3	0.1
Saskatoons	1	x	x
Strawberries	2	x	x
Raspberries	1	x	x
Area of Nursery Products	2	x	x
Area of Christmas Trees for Sale	2	x	x
Sod Grown for Sale	0	0	0.0
	# Farms	Dollars	% Alta.
Sales of Forest Products	13	219,023	3.3

Greenhouse Products	# Farms	Sq. Feet	% Alta.
Total Area Under Protection	1	x	x
Area in Use on May 16, 2006	1	x	x
Flowers	0	0	0.0
Vegetables	1	x	x
Other Greenhouse Products	0	0	0.0
Mushroom House Growing Area	0	0	0.0

Organic Production (Certified and Not Certified)	# Farms	% Total Farms
Total Farms Reporting Organic Production	47	100.0
Total Hay or Field Crops	33	70.2
Total Fruits, Veg. or Greenhouse Products	1	2.1
Total Animals or Animal Products	29	61.7
Total Other Organic Products	0	0.0
Farms Reporting Certified Organic Production	7	14.9
Hay or Field Crops	7	14.9
Fruits, Veg. or Greenhouse Products	1	2.1
Animals or Animal Products	3	6.4
Other Organic Products	0	0.0
Farms Reporting Transitional Organic Products	1	2.1
Hay or Field Crops	1	2.1
Fruits, Veg. or Greenhouse Products	0	0.0
Animals or Animal Products	0	0.0
Other Organic Products	0	0.0
Farms Reporting Not Certified Organic Products	41	87.2
Hay or Field Crops	26	55.3
Fruits, Veg. or Greenhouse Products	0	0.0
Animals or Animal Products	26	55.3
Other Organic Products	0	0.0

**Per Cent of All Organic Farms Reporting Types of Organic Production**



Note: Regional data do not include municipalities where confidentiality applies. Numbers may not add up due to rounding. \* seeded acreage x - confidential  
 "# Farms" refers to number of farms reporting. "% Total Farms" refers to % of total farms reporting organic products.

Source: Statistics Canada, 2006 Census of Agriculture

Refer to census definitions and notes for more information.

Prepared by: Alberta Agriculture and Rural Development, Economics and Competitiveness Division, Statistics and Data Development Branch

## 2006 Agriculture Profile - 5. Land Management and Farm Operators

Land Management	# Farms	Acres	% Area
Farms Reporting	436	468,128	100.0
Use of Irrigation	5	546	0.1
Use of Commercial Fertilizer	112	68,250	14.6
Use of Herbicides	100	55,716	11.9
Use of Insecticides	5	x	x
Use of Fungicides	6	2,930	0.6

Tillage Practices	# Farms	Acres	% Distr.
Total Area Prepared for Seeding	220	86,168	100.0
Incorporating Most Residue into Soil	139	37,727	22.7
Retaining Most Residue on Surface	57	26,899	26.9
No Tillage Prior to Seeding	46	21,542	50.3

Manure Application	# Farms	% Farms
Farms Producing or Using Manure	262	60.1
Farms Applying Manure	111	25.5

Type of Application and Use of Land	# Farms	Acres	% Area
Composted Manure Incorporated	42	3,027	0.6
Field Crop Land	19	...	...
Hay and Pasture Land	24	...	...
Other Land	3	...	...
Composted Manure Not Incorporated	23	1,007	0.2
Field Crop Land	1	...	...
Hay and Pasture Land	19	...	...
Other Land	3	...	...
Solid Manure Incorporated	34	3,361	0.7
Field Crop Land	16	...	...
Hay and Pasture Land	22	...	...
Other Land	1	...	...
Solid Manure Not Incorporated/Injected	17	926	0.2
Field Crop Land	3	...	...
Hay and Pasture Land	12	...	...
Other Land	2	...	...
Liquid Manure Incorporated/Injected	2	x	x
Field Crop Land	1	...	...
Hay and Pasture Land	1	...	...
Other Land	0	...	...
Liquid Manure Not Incorporated/Injected	1	x	x
Field Crop Land	0	...	...
Hay and Pasture Land	1	...	...
Other Land	0	...	...
Liquid Manure Applied by Irrigation	0	0	0.0
Field Crop Land	0	...	...
Hay and Pasture Land	0	...	...
Other Land	0	...	...

Weed Control on Summerfallow	# Farms	Acres	% Distr.
Total Summerfallow Land	76	8,440	100.0
Chemical Only	9	x	x
Tillage Only	51	4,643	55.0
Tillage and Chemical Combination	19	x	x

Farms Reporting Soil Conservation Practices	# Farms	% Farms
Crop Rotation	213	48.9
Rotational Grazing	198	45.4
Winter Cover Crops	21	4.8
Buffer Zones Around Water Bodies	108	24.8
Windbreaks or Shelterbelts	258	59.2
Green Manure Crops for Plough-Down	59	13.5

Farm Operators*	Number	% Alta.
Total Operators	610	0.9

Total Operators:	% Distr.
On Farms with One Operator	270 44.3
On Farms with Two or More Operators	340 55.7
Total Male Operators	445 73.0
Total Female Operators	165 27.0

Average Age of Farm Operators	Age in Years
All Operators	52.2
On Farms with One Operator	55.0
On Farms with Two Operators	49.9

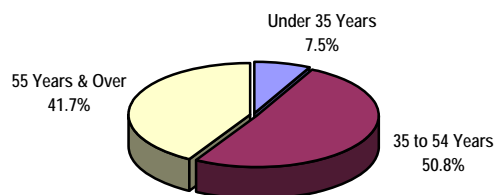
Farm Operators by Age Class	Number	% Distr.
Under 35 Years	45	7.5
35 - 54 Years	305	50.8
55 Years and Over	250	41.7

Farm Work and Non-Farm Work	Number	% Distr.
Operators Reporting No Paid Non-Farm Work	240	39.3
Operators Reporting Paid Non-Farm Work	370	60.7

Average Hours of Farm Work per Week		
Less than 20 Hours	165	27.0
20 - 40 Hours	190	31.1
More than 40 Hours	255	41.8

Average Hours of Non-Farm Work per Week		
Less than 20 Hours	65	17.6
20 - 40 Hours	140	37.8
More than 40 Hours	165	44.6

**Per Cent Distribution of Farm Operators by Age**



Note: Regional data do not include municipalities where confidentiality applies. Numbers may not add up due to rounding. x - confidential ... not available  
 "# Farms" refers to number of farms reporting. "% Area" refers to per cent of total farm land area. \* Farm Operator data has been randomly rounded, therefore differences may exist between the rounded totals and the sum of their rounded components.

Source: Statistics Canada, 2006 Census of Agriculture

Refer to census definitions and notes for more information.

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