

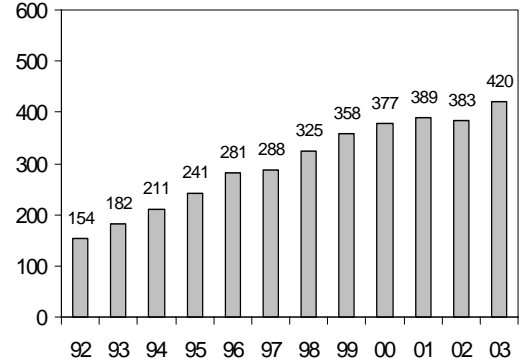
# Organic Statistics 2003

## BRITISH COLUMBIA

### FARMERS

Number certified: 420  
 % of total farmers in BC: 2%  
 Number in transition: 76  
 Estimated gross value of sales: \$20 M  
 % less than \$10,000 gross sales: 51%  
 % over \$50,000 gross sales: 20%  
 % female organic operators: 40%  
 % female operators all farms: 36%  
 Acreage in Production: 21,735  
 Additional acreage in program (crown & wild land): 243,023  
 Transitional acreage: 5,686

Certified producers - British Columbia



### TYPE OF PRODUCTION

#### Vegetables

BC is the province with the largest acreage and the most organic farms growing vegetables.  
 Acres: 2283; Number of farms: at least 215  
 12.7% of total vegetable area in province  
 Majority are market gardens with mixed vegetable production.  
 70% increase from 2000 to 2003, most of it in lower mainland.  
 7 mushroom producers

Crop	Acres	Farms
Mixed vegetables	897	202
Greenhouse	23	54
Large scale misc.	1076	8
Potatoes	>158	25
Garlic	31	13
Misc. other vegetable	97	5

#### Herbs

Acres: 177; Number of farms: 46  
 Wildcrafting acres: 615

#### Fruit & Nuts

BC is the province with the largest acreage and highest percentage of the total fruit acreage.  
 Acres: 1716; % of total in province: 3.5%  
 27% increase from 2000 to 2003  
 Organic apples are at least 5% of total apple area.  
 Organic grapes are 7% of total grape area.

Crop	Acres	Farms
Apples	567	75
Grapes	518	13
Tree fruit unidentified	176	54
Berries & grapes	97	46
Pears	59	24
Peaches	48	34
Apricots	21	23
Nectarines	16	16
Cherries	15	19
Hazelnuts	108	13

#### Grains & Oilseeds

Total acres: 2534  
 Oats: 1573 acres, 5 farms; Barley: 451 acres, 9 farms  
 Spelt: 250 acres, 10 farms; Wheat: 140 acres, 1 farm  
 Hemp: 30 acres, 1 farm; Rye: 23 acres, 2 farms  
 Unidentified: 45

#### Forages & Green manures

Pasture and Hay: 13506 acres, 108 farms;  
 Alfalfa: 327 acres, 3 farms;  
 Fallow/green manure: 972 acres, 58 farms

## PROCESSORS & DISTRIBUTORS

### Number of Certified Enterprises:

Processors: 60  
 Handlers: 13 (7 packing fruit or vegetables)  
 Livestock Feed: 1  
 Unidentified: 11  
 Processing value: at least \$16 million

### Types of processed products:

Dairy - fluid milk, cheese, butter, cream, yogurt, ice cream  
 Grains - breakfast cereals, pasta, flours & mixes  
 Soy products: tofu, tempeh, miso, soymilk  
 Nut butters, Oils  
 Fruit products: juice, chips, bars, spreads, jams, jellies  
 Frozen vegetables  
 Herbal- lozenges, extracts  
 Coffee roasting & tea packaging  
 Beer & wine, Meats  
 Pasta sauce, soups & chili,  
 Relish, chutneys, pickles, vinegar

### Retail outlets selling organic food:

297 mainstream grocery stores, 400 other outlets  
 C\$ value unknown

## EXPORTS

Mainly to United States  
 Apples: \$3.2 Million  
 Stone fruits \$50,000 (peaches, plums apricots nectarines & cherries)  
 Fresh Vegetables: tomatoes, beans, broccoli, potatoes, Asian vegetables, beets, spinach, radish & herbs.  
 Specialty mushrooms, frozen beans, processed products.

### These statistics were compiled from data provided by the following CBs:

[PACS](#), [BCARA](#), [BIO D](#), [BOPA](#), [FVOPA](#), [IOPA](#), [KOGS](#), [NOOA](#), [SOOPA](#), [STOPA](#), [LEOGA](#), [SOFs](#), [OCIA](#), [PROCERT](#), [OPAM](#), [FVO-ICS](#), [QAI](#), [TILTH](#), [CCOF](#).

From: "Certified Organic" The Status of the Canadian Organic Market in 2003  
 Prepared for Agriculture & Agri-food Canada by Anne Macey, March 2004

## Livestock

Type	Head	Farms
Beef cattle	873	18
Bison	34	1
Dairy	1174	5
Sheep	911	8
Goats	320	7
Pigs	235	5
Deer/elk	120	1

Total number livestock enterprises: 45

## Poultry

Type	Number	Farms
Meat birds	134,000	28
Layers	66089	45
Turkeys	1670	3
Geese	7	1
Ducks	8	1

Estimated egg production: 1,470,840 dozen