

# Agriculture and agri-food sector review – 2014

The agriculture and agri-food sector is an important component of the provincial economy, generating employment, income and nourishment to both rural and urban communities. The sector combines 2,611 farms and about 140 processing plants to produce farm cash receipts of \$564 million and processed agri-food products worth more than \$1 billion.

New Brunswick enjoys one of the highest levels of value-added processing in the country from its agriculture and agri-food sector, with around 80 per cent of the province's agriculture production being processed in-province before reaching the market. The sector has an extensive network of export markets comprising more than 80 countries, with total exports estimated at \$400 million in 2014.

The sector is quite diverse with more than 30 commodities being produced in New Brunswick. Potatoes, dairy products, poultry and eggs, floriculture, nursery and sod, fruits and berries, and beef accounted for about 80 per cent of total farm cash receipts in 2014. In terms of employment, the sector generated about 4,100 and 6,100 full-time equivalent jobs in primary production and secondary processing activities, respectively.

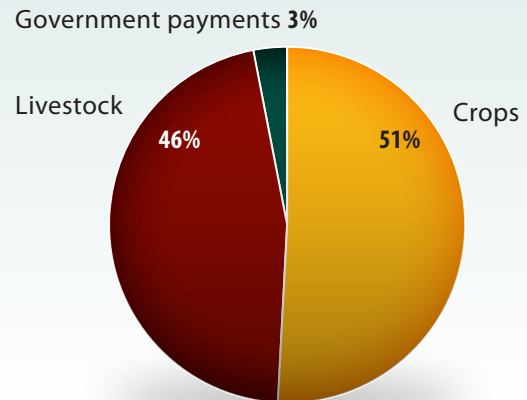
## Agriculture and Agri-Food Industry

Number of farms (2011 Census of Agric.)	2,611
Farmland, hectares (2011 Census of Agric.)	379,526
Land in crops, hectares (2011 Census of Agric.)	142,138
Total farm assets	\$2.7 billion
Farm cash receipts	\$564 million
Number of processing plants	140
Shipments of processed food products*	Over \$1 billion
Agri-food exports	\$400.2 million
Employment, farm	4,100
Employment, processing	6,100

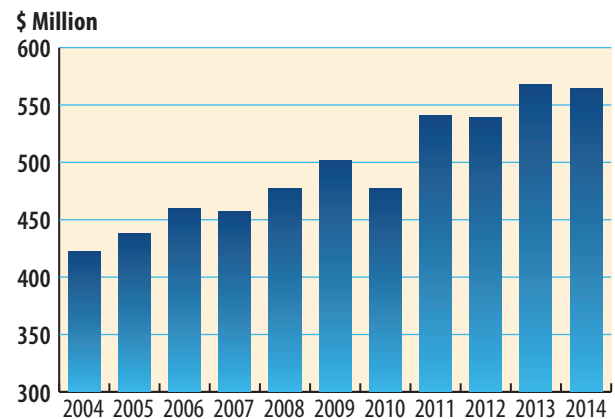
## Major Crops - Production Area (Hectares)

	2013	2014
Potatoes	19,425	19,486
Blueberries	13,365	13,364
Barley	8,900	7,300
Oats	8,100	12,100
Corn for grain	4,000	3,800
Soybeans	6,500	6,100

## 2014 Farm Cash Receipts: \$564 million



## Total Farm Cash Receipts: 2004–2014



## Major Commodities - Value (\$ million)

	2013	2014
Potatoes	139.7	129.8
Poultry and eggs*	102.7	103.7
Dairy	102.4	101.4
Floriculture, nursery and sod	34.6	36.6
Fruits & berries	37.2	43.5
Beef	27.4	30.6
Maple products	28.9	30.6
Grain	23.4	20.3
Hogs	12.3	12.1
Total payments	20.9	14.1
Other	38.4	41.2

Note: \*estimate

## Exports of Agri-Food Products

By Country	\$ Million	
	2013	2014
United States	281.5	327.3
Japan	29.0	8.8
Aruba	8.6	2.6
Bahamas	7.6	4.8
Mexico	7.0	3.8
Indonesia	5.3	1.3
Costa Rica	4.6	8.9
Bahrain	4.1	1.2
Saudi Arabia	3.5	2.1
Kuwait	3.4	2.3
Denmark	3.3	3.1
United States Minor Outlying Islands	3.1	5.1
Other	20.0	29.0
<b>Total exports</b>	<b>381.0</b>	<b>400.2</b>

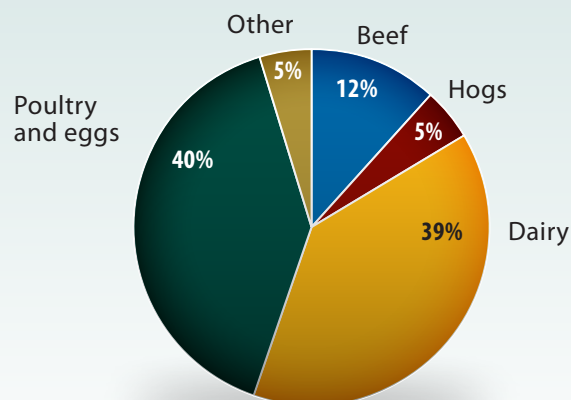
By Commodity	\$ Million	
	2013	2014
Potatoes and potato products	226.7	221.2
Beer	47.6	45.7
Live tree, plant and flowers	28.5	32.5
Maple products	9.5	12.0
Preparations of grain, pasta	7.4	10.0
Live animals	15.0	19.6
Other	46.1	59.2
<b>Total exports</b>	<b>380.8</b>	<b>400.2</b>

## 2014 highlights

- Potato receipts decreased by about \$10 million (seven per cent) to about \$130 million in 2014. This was due to a decrease in seeded area by 5,500 acres (10 per cent) in 2013 from 2012, which reduced the production for 2013 and consequently the amount sold in 2014. As well, there was a reduction in the price for potatoes compared to 2013. However, yield increased by about 11cwt (3.7 per cent) to about 298 cwt/acre in 2014, an outcome which will be reflected in the potato receipts for 2015 due to the lag in reporting potato receipts.
- Blueberry receipts increased by \$7 million (24 per cent) to about \$36 million in 2014. This was due to an increase in marketed output by about 16 million pounds (38 per cent) to close to 60 million pounds in 2014. Since 2012, blueberry yield and area have been on an upward trend in the province.
- Floriculture, nursery and sod receipts increased by around \$2 million (six per cent) to close to \$37 million in 2014.

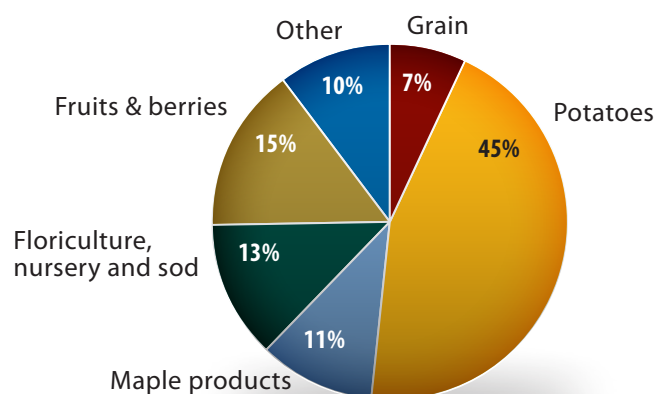
## Livestock Production

Total Value in 2014: \$260 million



## Crops

Total Value in 2014: \$290 million



- Maple product receipts also increased by nearly \$2 million (six per cent) to almost \$31 million in 2014.
- Following a nation-wide trend, beef receipts increased by around \$3 million (11 per cent) to close to \$31 million. This was mainly due to an increase in beef prices because of low North American supplies.
- Agri-food export revenues increased by almost \$20 million (five per cent) to a total of \$400 million in 2014. Exports to the United States increased by about \$46 million (16 per cent), while exports to Japan declined by \$20 million (70 per cent).
- Concurrent with the depreciation of the Canadian dollar, commodities that experienced export increases to the United States included potato and potato products (by \$20 million), live animals (by \$5 million), Christmas trees (by \$3 million) and maple products (by \$3 million). The rest of the \$15-million increase was distributed across many commodities. Almost all the decline in Japan came from potato and potato product exports.