

2006 Agriculture Profile - 1. Farms and the Land

	North West Region	Alberta
Total Population	943,844	3,290,350
Urban Population	792,762	2,699,851
Rural Population	151,082	590,499
<i>Rural as % of Total Population</i>	<i>16.0</i>	<i>17.9</i>
Number of Farms	11,498	49,431
Average Farm Size (acres)	571	1,055
Average Per Reporting Farm		
Net Farm Income (\$)	11,749	22,201
Farm Capital (\$)	1,104,821	1,452,150
Farm Operating Expenses (\$)	100,950	177,857
Gross Farm Receipts (\$)	112,698	200,058
Area in Crops (acres)	348	577
Seeded Area of Wheat (acres)	304	549
Number of Beef Cows (head)	53	79
Number of Pigs (head)	606	1,302

Farm Operating Arrangements	# Farms	% Distr.
Sole Proprietorship	6,585	57.3
Partnership	3,565	31.0
With Written Agreement	289	2.5
Without Written Agreement	3,276	28.5
Corporation	1,326	11.5
Family	1,168	10.2
Non-Family	158	1.4
Other*	22	0.2
Total Farms	11,498	100.0

Farms by Total Farm Area	# Farms	% Distr.
Under 10 Acres	273	2.4
10 to 129 Acres	2,396	20.8
130 to 239 Acres	2,455	21.4
240 to 399 Acres	1,704	14.8
400 to 559 Acres	1,118	9.7
560 to 759 Acres	975	8.5
760 to 1,119 Acres	1,042	9.1
1,120 Acres and Over	1,535	13.4
1,120 to 1,599 Acres	700	6.1
1,600 to 2,239 Acres	396	3.4
2,240 to 2,879 Acres	196	1.7
2,880 to 3,519 Acres	84	0.7
3,520 Acres and Over	159	1.4
Total Farms	11,498	100.0

Farms by Type**	# Farms	% Distr.
Dairy	193	1.8
Cattle (Beef)	4,928	46.8
Hog	114	1.1
Poultry and Egg	118	1.1
Wheat	172	1.6
Grain and Oilseed (except wheat)	1,634	15.5
Field Crop (except grain and oilseed)	996	9.4
Fruit	46	0.4
Vegetable	28	0.3
Miscellaneous Specialty	1,960	18.6
Livestock Combination	213	2.0
Other Combination	139	1.3
Total Farms Classified	10,541	100.0

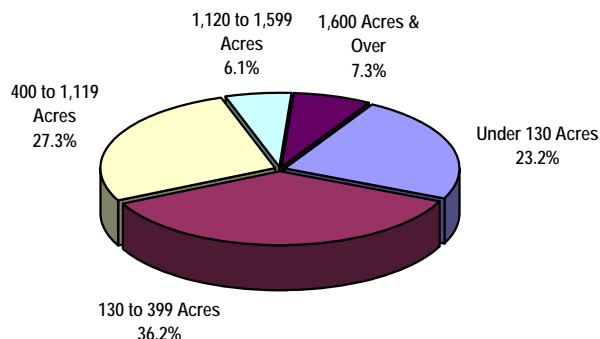
Land Tenure	# Farms	Acres	% Acres
Total Area Owned	11,144	3,131,273	47.7
Total Area Rented/Leased/Crop Shared	4,962	2,051,878	31.3
Rented/Leased from Government	1,190	323,080	4.9
Rented/Leased from Others	4,135	664,923	10.1
Crop Shared from Others	685	133,852	2.0
Total Area of Farms	11,498	6,560,020	100.0

Farms by Use of Land	# Farms	Acres	% Acres
Total Land in Crops	9,255	3,216,415	49.0
Summerfallow	1,274	117,949	1.8
Total Pasture Land	...	2,317,634	35.3
Tame or Seeded Pasture	5,888	1,179,338	18.0
Natural Land for Pasture	6,067	1,138,296	17.4
All Other Land	9,095	908,022	13.8
Total Area of Farms	11,498	6,560,020	100.0

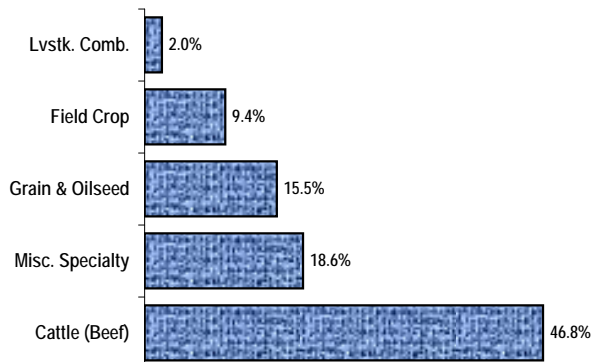
Paid Agricultural Labour	# Farms	# Weeks	% Weeks
Year Round	1,640	118,560	71.2
Seasonal or Temporary	2,086	47,875	28.8
Total Paid Labour	3,289	166,435	100.0

Use of Personal Computers for Farm Management	# Farms	% Farms
Number of Farms Reporting Use	4,979	43.3
Number of Farms Reporting Internet Use	3,652	31.8

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

	North West Region	Alberta
Number of Farms	11,498	49,431
Average Per Reporting Farm		
Net Farm Income (\$)	11,749	22,201
Farm Capital (\$)	1,104,821	1,452,150
Farm Operating Expenses (\$)	100,950	177,857
Farm Interest Expenses (\$)	11,317	14,607
Gross Farm Receipts (\$)	112,698	200,058

Farm Capital	# Farms	\$ '000	% Distr.
Machinery and Equipment	11,498	1,707,200	13.4
Livestock and Poultry	8,863	750,553	5.9
Land and Buildings	11,498	10,245,478	80.7
Owned	11,180	7,217,677	56.8
Rented or Leased from Others	5,000	3,027,801	23.8
Total Farm Capital	11,498	12,703,231	100.0

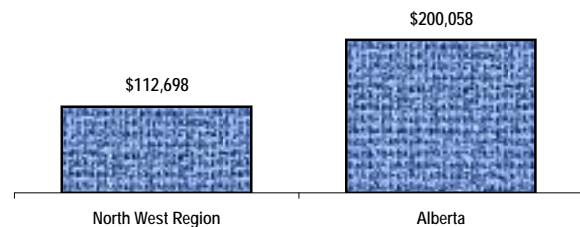
Farms Classified by Farm Capital	# Farms	% Distr.
Under \$50,000	32	0.3
\$50,000 - \$99,999	109	0.9
\$100,000 - \$199,999	584	5.1
\$200,000 - \$349,999	1,949	17.0
\$350,000 - \$499,999	1,868	16.2
\$500,000 - \$999,999	3,495	30.4
\$1,000,000 - \$1,499,999	1,357	11.8
\$1,500,000 - \$1,999,999	702	6.1
\$2,000,000 and Over	1,402	12.2
Total Farms	11,498	100.0

Farm Operating Expenses	# Farms	\$ '000	% Distr.
Farm Interest Expenses	6,104	69,077	6.0
Custom and Contract Work	5,907	54,435	4.7
Rent/Leasing of Land and Buildings	4,127	38,939	3.4
Rent/Leasing of Mach./Equip./Vehicles	1,724	7,885	0.7
Wages and Salaries	3,289	91,590	7.9
Paid to Family Members	2,321	44,625	3.8
Paid to all Other Persons	1,758	46,965	4.0
All Fuel Expenses	10,961	100,035	8.6
Repairs/ Maint., Mach./Equip./Vehicles	10,576	79,964	6.9
Fertilizer and Lime Purchases	4,822	86,057	7.4
Herbicides/Insecticides/Fungicides	4,329	38,586	3.3
Seed/Seedling Purchases	5,520	35,628	3.1
Livestock and Poultry Purchases	4,334	211,782	18.2
Veterinary Services, Drugs, etc.	7,595	23,359	2.0
Feed and Supplement Purchases	7,562	133,715	11.5
Electricity/Telephone/Telecom.	10,382	36,282	3.1
Repairs/ Maint., Farm Bldgs. & Fences	9,010	28,979	2.5
All Other Expenses	10,689	124,409	10.7
Total Operating Expenses	11,498	1,160,720	100.0

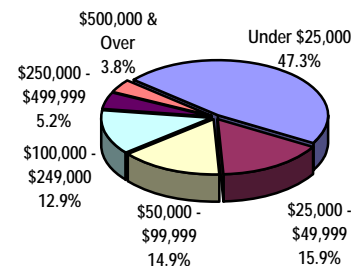
Farm Machinery (Owned & Leased)	# Farms	Total Number	Avg. Value \$/Farm
Total Tractors	10,811	38,460	53,433
Total Farm Trucks	10,634	27,686	29,779
Pick-ups and Cargo Vans	10,061	17,351	20,806
Other Farm Trucks	5,925	10,336	18,118
Cars/Passenger Vehicles	5,747	6,793	14,213
Swathers/Mower Cond.	6,933	10,212	14,396
Combines	4,726	5,775	33,672
Balers	6,518	8,948	11,000
Forage Harvesters	875	952	13,159
Tillage/Cultivation/Seeding Equip.	7,865	30,997	19,380
Irrigation Equipment	168	...	13,997
Other*	8,460	...	27,080

Total Gross Farm Receipts	\$ '000	% Alta.
Total Gross Farm Receipts	1,295,804	13.1
Farms by Gross Farm Receipts	# Farms	% Distr.
Under \$10,000	3,068	26.7
\$10,000 - \$24,999	2,372	20.6
\$25,000 - \$49,999	1,823	15.9
\$50,000 - \$99,999	1,711	14.9
\$100,000 - \$249,999	1,487	12.9
\$250,000 - \$499,999	598	5.2
\$500,000 - \$999,999	279	2.4
\$1,000,000 - \$1,999,999	105	0.9
\$2,000,000 and Over	55	0.5
Total Farms	11,498	100.0

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	6,007	386,011	18.3
Dairy Cows	280	19,112	24.2
Beef Cows	5,851	311,190	15.3
Heifers	4,085	126,610	11.3
Bulls	4,984	18,331	16.7
Steers	2,166	86,655	8.9
Calves	5,970	326,771	15.9
Total Cattle and Calves	6,551	944,378	14.8

Pigs	# Farms	Head	% Alta.
Boars	164	1,102	15.5
Sows and Gilts for Breeding	194	19,206	10.2
Nursing and Weaner Pigs	148	64,686	10.0
Grower and Finishing Pigs	266	125,106	10.3
Total Pigs	349	211,469	10.3

Sheep and Lambs	# Farms	Head	% Alta.
Rams	399	1,175	22.9
Ewes	540	22,073	21.3
Lambs	443	24,725	21.8
Total Sheep and Lambs	572	47,973	21.6

Other Livestock	# Farms	Head	% Alta.
Horses and Ponies	3,821	39,306	25.3
Goats	336	7,194	24.7
Mink	0	0	x
Fox	2	x	x
Bison (Buffalo)	256	21,348	21.9
Deer (excluding wild deer)	38	1,712	19.1
Elk	115	10,279	30.4
Llamas and Alpacas	516	4,423	30.0
Wild Boars	10	x	x

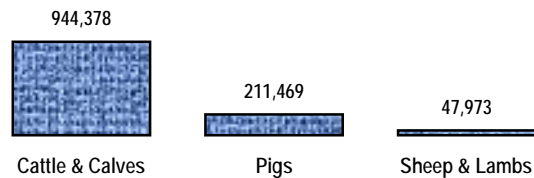
Bees	# Farms	Number	% Alta.
Colonies of Bees	127	56,082	24.3
Gallons of Other Pollinating Bees	6	x	x

Poultry Inventory	# Farms	Number	% Alta.
Total Hens and Chickens	1,042	2,906,736	24.7
Broilers, Roasters, Cornish	451	2,241,484	26.2
Pullets for Laying (under 19 wks.)	182	170,184	17.3
Laying Hens (19 wks and over)	823	495,068	22.2
Laying Hens (Hatchery Supply Flock)	10	11,016	2.8
Turkeys	195	291,356	41.4
Other Poultry	296	29,967	14.2

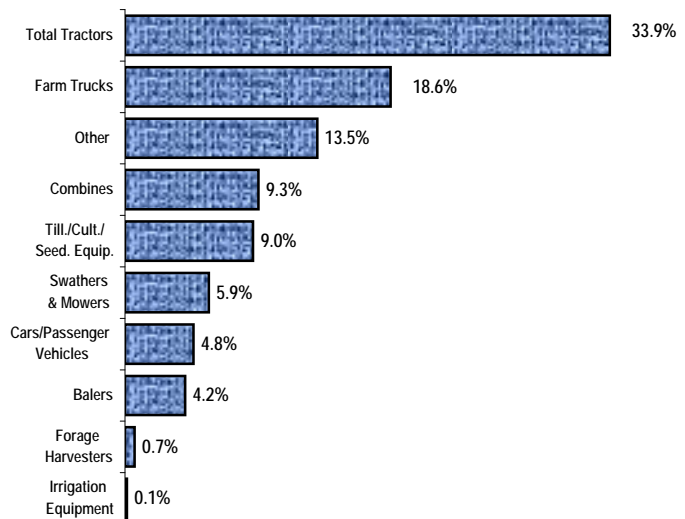
Poultry Production	# Farms	Kilograms	% Alta.
Broilers/Roasters/Cornish Production	183	29,884,014	25.8
Turkey Production	75	5,616,421	35.0
Chicks or Other Poultry Hatched	# Farms	Number	% Alta.
	6	20,894,491	x

Market Value of Farm Machinery and Equipment	# Farms	Number	\$ '000
Total Tractors	10,811	38,460	577,666
Total Farm Trucks	10,634	27,686	316,672
Pick-ups and Cargo Vans	10,061	17,351	209,325
Other Farm Trucks	5,925	10,336	107,347
Cars and Other Passenger Vehicles	5,747	6,793	81,681
Swathers and Mower Conditioners	6,933	10,212	99,810
Combines	4,726	5,775	159,136
Balers	6,518	8,948	71,698
Forage Harvesters	875	952	11,514
Tillage/Cultivation/Seeding Equip.	7,865	30,997	152,427
Irrigation Equipment	168	...	2,352
Other*	8,460	...	229,100

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.

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

2006 Agriculture Profile - 4. Crops and Organic Production

Grains*	# Farms	Acres	% Alta.
Total Wheat	1,472	447,067	6.9
Spring Wheat (excluding Durum)	1,444	432,918	7.5
Durum Wheat	27	3,690	0.6
Winter Wheat	30	2,222	1.7
Oats	2,779	259,586	20.5
Barley	2,560	488,218	11.9
Mixed Grains	411	58,449	15.7
Corn for Grain	5	349	8.1
Buckwheat	1	x	x
Total Rye	140	8,536	7.2
Fall Rye	121	4,012	3.8
Spring Rye	20	756	5.7

Oilseeds*	# Farms	Acres	% Alta.
Canola	1,833	587,528	14.4
Flaxseed	32	1,496	2.5
Soybeans	1	x	x
Mustard Seed	0	0	0.0
Sunflowers	5	191	10.7

Other Field Crops*	# Farms	Acres	% Alta.
Potatoes	106	6,464	11.8
Dry Field Peas	153	x	x
Lentils	4	427	3.9
Dry White Beans	4	x	x
Chick Peas	3	x	x
Other Dry Beans	26	2,380	4.4
Canary Seed	1	x	x
Sugar Beets	0	0	0.0
Caraway Seed	2	x	x
Triticale	31	2,068	2.7
Forage Seed for Seed	97	9,562	3.9
All Other Field Crops	40	5,027	16.3

Hay and Fodder Crops*	# Farms	Acres	% Alta.
Corn for Silage	107	7,354	10.4
Alfalfa and Alfalfa Mixtures	5,316	822,813	20.9
All Other Tame Hay/Fodder Crops	3,383	466,333	22.6

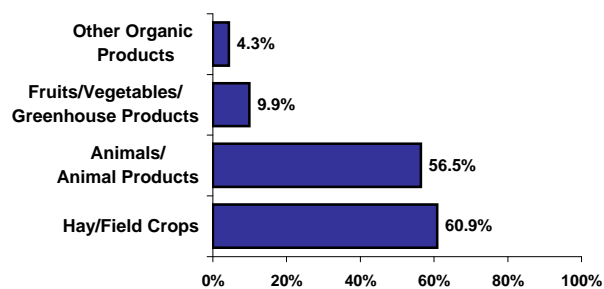
Selected Vegetables Grown for Sale	# Farms	Acres	% Alta.
Sweet Corn	51	60	1.3
Tomatoes	33	9	19.2
Cucumbers	48	14	9.4
Green Peas	67	177	4.3
Green or Wax Beans	60	5	2.1
Cabbage	37	115	31.0
Cauliflower	27	98	55.5
Broccoli	30	23	50.0
Carrots	69	132	13.1
Rutabagas and Turnips	16	101	62.6
Beets	57	22	32.5
Radishes	30	10	8.8
Dry Onions	55	15	1.5
Shallots, Green or Seed Onions	29	5	6.8
Lettuce	47	15	38.4
Celery	10	x	x
Pumpkins, Squash and Zucchini	49	28	6.2

Fruits, Berries and Nuts Grown For Sale	# Farms	Acres	% Alta.
Total Fruits/Berries/Nuts	158	754	25.7
Saskatoons	111	361	22.8
Strawberries	58	102	32.1
Raspberries	65	91	38.1
Area of Nursery Products	195	3,717	41.5
Area of Christmas Trees for Sale	49	499	39.2
Sod Grown for Sale	18	4,951	52.7
	# Farms	Dollars	% Alta.
Sales of Forest Products	157	1,230,403	18.6

Greenhouse Products	# Farms	Sq. Feet	% Alta.
Total Area Under Protection	165	2,348,947	18.7
Area in Use on May 16, 2006	165	2,289,187	18.4
Flowers	124	2,008,052	34.7
Vegetables	64	x	x
Other Greenhouse Products	18	x	x
Mushroom House Growing Area	3	x	x

Organic Production (Certified and Not Certified)	# Farms	% Total Farms
Total Farms Reporting Organic Production	836	100.0
Total Hay or Field Crops	509	60.9
Total Fruits, Veg. or Greenhouse Products	83	9.9
Total Animals or Animal Products	472	56.5
Total Other Organic Products	36	4.3
Farms Reporting Certified Organic Production	59	7.1
Hay or Field Crops	48	5.7
Fruits, Veg. or Greenhouse Products	5	0.6
Animals or Animal Products	20	2.4
Other Organic Products	4	0.5
Farms Reporting Transitional Organic Products	4	0.5
Hay or Field Crops	3	0.4
Fruits, Veg. or Greenhouse Products	0	0.0
Animals or Animal Products	1	0.1
Other Organic Products	0	0.0
Farms Reporting Not Certified Organic Products	778	93.1
Hay or Field Crops	459	54.9
Fruits, Veg. or Greenhouse Products	78	9.3
Animals or Animal Products	452	54.1
Other Organic Products	32	3.8

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	11,498	6,560,020	100.0
Use of Irrigation	148	6,700	0.1
Use of Commercial Fertilizer	4,179	1,932,898	29.5
Use of Herbicides	3,491	1,486,115	22.7
Use of Insecticides	390	103,207	1.6
Use of Fungicides	340	176,616	2.7

Tillage Practices	# Farms	Acres	% Distr.
Total Area Prepared for Seeding	6,567	2,104,395	100.0
Incorporating Most Residue into Soil	4,395	870,313	22.7
Retaining Most Residue on Surface	1,673	623,688	26.9
No Tillage Prior to Seeding	1,052	610,394	50.3

Manure Application	# Farms	% Farms
Farms Producing or Using Manure	7,445	64.8
Farms Applying Manure	4,390	38.2

Type of Application and Use of Land	# Farms	Acres	% Area
Composted Manure Incorporated	1,731	92,437	1.4
Field Crop Land	1,064	...	...
Hay and Pasture Land	674	...	...
Other Land	137	...	...
Composted Manure Not Incorporated	814	37,872	0.6
Field Crop Land	103	...	...
Hay and Pasture Land	666	...	...
Other Land	81	...	...
Solid Manure Incorporated	1,339	95,638	1.5
Field Crop Land	965	...	...
Hay and Pasture Land	420	...	...
Other Land	51	...	...
Solid Manure Not Incorporated/Injected	835	51,592	0.8
Field Crop Land	133	...	...
Hay and Pasture Land	714	...	...
Other Land	47	...	...
Liquid Manure Incorporated/Injected	200	35,712	0.5
Field Crop Land	186	...	...
Hay and Pasture Land	34	...	...
Other Land	6	...	...
Liquid Manure Not Incorporated/Injected	93	11,791	0.2
Field Crop Land	39	...	...
Hay and Pasture Land	68	...	...
Other Land	1	...	...
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	1,274	117,949	100.0
Chemical Only	86	9,731	8.3
Tillage Only	874	64,168	54.4
Tillage and Chemical Combination	360	38,411	32.6

Farms Reporting Soil Conservation Practices	# Farms	% Farms
Crop Rotation	6,619	57.6
Rotational Grazing	5,397	46.9
Winter Cover Crops	300	2.6
Buffer Zones Around Water Bodies	2,292	19.9
Windbreaks or Shelterbelts	6,271	54.5
Green Manure Crops for Plough-Down	1,014	8.8

Farm Operators*	Number	% Alta.
Total Operators	17,165	24.0

Total Operators:	% Distr.
On Farms with One Operator	6,090 35.5
On Farms with Two or More Operators	11,075 64.5
Total Male Operators	11,695 68.1
Total Female Operators	5,515 32.1

Average Age of Farm Operators	Age in Years
All Operators	...
On Farms with One Operator	...
On Farms with Two Operators	...

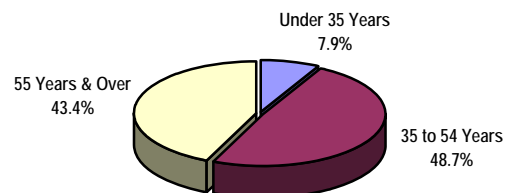
Farm Operators by Age Class	Number	% Distr.
Under 35 Years	1,355	7.9
35 - 54 Years	8,375	48.7
55 Years and Over	7,460	43.4

Farm Work and Non-Farm Work	Number	% Distr.
Operators Reporting No Paid Non-Farm Work	7,330	42.6
Operators Reporting Paid Non-Farm Work	9,885	57.4

Average Hours of Farm Work per Week	Number	% Distr.
Less than 20 Hours	5,360	31.1
20 - 40 Hours	5,125	29.8
More than 40 Hours	6,725	39.1

Average Hours of Non-Farm Work per Week	Number	% Distr.
Less than 20 Hours	1,745	17.7
20 - 40 Hours	3,665	37.1
More than 40 Hours	4,475	45.3

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.

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