

- Total bilateral trade in all goods between North Carolina and Canada reached \$8.6 billion in 2006. Wood, paper, machinery, pharmaceuticals and plastics dominate the trade relationship. Agriculture and agri-food accounts for nearly a quarter of a billion dollars worth of goods exchanged.
- → In 2006, North Carolina ranked eleventh among the 50 states in exports of all manufactured products. It also leads the nation in the export of tobacco products – accounting for 42.9 percent of total U.S. production in terms of cash receipts in the year 2006. That year, Canada purchased \$8 million in tobacco from North Carolina.
- → North Carolina ranked second among its fellow states in the production of hogs raised in 2006. The state captured 13.6 percent of all U.S. hog production, and 14.9 percent of all turkey production (based on cash receipts) in the same year. In 2006, Canada imported from North Carolina \$11.2 million in pork and pork products, \$4.3 million in chicken and turkey meat, and \$2.4 million in eggs. North Carolina's other exports to Canada included vegetables, pies and baked goods, cotton, blueberries, peanuts and peanut oil.
- → North Carolina imports an equally diverse range of goods from Canada. Some of the highest ranking imports in 2006 included Canadian beef, valued at \$15.2, and fresh vegetables, valued at \$29.3 million. Other imports from Canada included peppers, whiskeys, live plants, bulbs and foliage, canola oil and meal, and frozen french fries.

HOW IMPORTANT IS AGRICULTURE?

In the U.S., the agriculture and agri-food industry represents roughly 5% of GDP, and is responsible for roughly 24 million jobs when you consider everything from growing the food to selling it at the local supermarket. In Canada, the agriculture and agri-food industry generates 8% of the GDP. It also employs nearly 2.1 million people, or approximately one out of every eight Canadians. Agriculture remains a central component of Canada's economy.

A COMPLEMENTARY HOG INDUSTRY

Canada's climate and herd size makes Canadian pork highly competitive. USDA researchers have found that the cooler climate up north is a good explanation for Canada's highly efficient hog-breeding industry. Lower density Canadian herds also give each animal more room to grow. In 2006, Canadian producers averaged 1.5 pigs per sow per year more than their American counterparts. While Canada excels at breeding piglets, the U.S. has particularly efficient finishing operations given the availability of high-quality, low-cost feeds, while open borders allow U.S. packers to bid for Canadian slaughter hogs. It is a natural partnership in an integrated market.







