## Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada

## **Canada-Connecticut Trade**



- Canada is Connecticut's most valuable trading partner, with total trade in all goods amounting to \$5.3 billion in 2006. The bulk of exports from Connecticut to Canada rest in machinery and parts, plastics, chemicals and scientific/medical instruments, while Canadian businesses find in Connecticut a market for their copper, aircraft, oil, wood and paper.
- → In Connecticut, the importance and vitality of the agriculture sector is surprising to many given its small geographic size and population. In terms of revenue generated in 2006, Connecticut's top five agricultural products are greenhouse and nursery products (ornamental shrubs, flowers, young plants), dairy products, chicken eggs, aquaculture and tobacco. Agriculture is a vital part of the state economy – and trade in these goods is essential. In 2006, \$198 million worth of Canada-Connecticut trade was attributed to sales of agriculture and agri-food products.
- → Connecticut's main agricultural exports to Canada in 2006 were miscellaneous processed food products. However, the state also exported to Canada \$1.3 million in teas and coffees, as well as \$2.2 million in baked goods. Other sales included lobsters, live chicken and chocolate.
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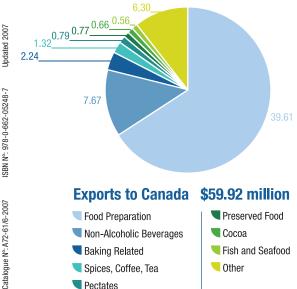
→ In return, Canada sold to Connecticut \$52 million in fresh fish and seafood, \$17.8 million in whiskies, vodkas, and bottled water, and \$11.9 million in beef, pork and poultry meats. Canada also exported vegetable oils, live trees and plants, pastries and pasta to Connecticut in 2006.

## TRADE SUPPORTS CONNECTICUT'S FAMILIES

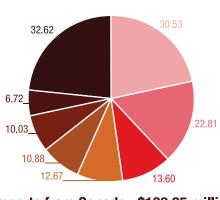
Canada's population is slightly less than the population of the state of California, but the face of agriculture remains the same for both Canada and the United States. Both in Canada and the United States, 98 percent of farms are family operations. In Connecticut, 82 percent of the 4190 farms in the state are family-owned or operated. Throughout North America, trade in farm and farm-related products is a family affair - even if the link is not always evident.

## **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.













Pectates

Pie Chart Data Source: World Trade Atlas (WTA), product group: Agri-food and Seafood, retrieved July 2007. Canada-US state trade data sourced from WTA, product group: Agri-food and Seafood, retrieved Oct. 2007. Additional sources include: USDA





