



Canada's

Agriculture, Food and Beverage INDUSTRY

Canada's Grains and Oilseeds Industry

Canada produces a wide variety of grains and oilseeds, which are used in breads, pasta, breakfast cereals, cooking oils, and other food products. In addition, innovative Canadian technology has created new products and markets for many grain and oilseed by-products.



The main grain export crops produced in Canada are wheat, barley and oats. Corn and rye are also produced, but mostly for domestic consumption.

Grains

Coarse grains, such as barley and corn, are used both for human consumption and as livestock and poultry feed. Canada is also a leading producer and exporter of malting barley and barley malt.

In 2006-2007 Canada produced 25.3 million tonnes of wheat and 9.6 million tonnes of barley. Wheat exports totalled 19.5 million tonnes valued at \$4.4 billion, while barley exports totalled 2 million tonnes valued at \$524 million. The main export destinations for these commodities were the U.S., Indonesia, Mexico and Japan for wheat, and the U.S., Japan and China for barley.

Oilseeds

The main Canadian oilseed export crops are canola, soybean and flaxseed. Canada has a large oilseed processing industry and exports not only the oilseeds but also the vegetable oils and feed meals resulting from their crush. There is also a significant market in Asian countries for Special Quality White Hylum Soybeans from Canada, which comprise special premium varieties for the production of human food such as tofu, tempe, miso, etc.

In 2006-2007 Canada also produced 9 million tonnes of canola, 3.5 million tonnes of soybeans and 1 million tonnes of flax. In the same year, Canadian canola exports totalled 5.5 million tonnes worth \$2 billion. The main export destinations for these commodities are Japan and Mexico for canola, Japan, the European Union and Iran for soybeans, and the European Union and the U.S. for flax.

During the same period, the Canadian oilseed processing industry exported 1.2 million tonnes of canola oil worth approximately \$1 billion. The U.S. was Canada's largest market, with 708,000 tonnes exported to the U.S in 2006-2007.



Additional Information

The Canadian Grain Commission (CGC) maintains a quality control program that includes varietal control, licensing of elevators, product inspection and weighing, and sanitation and quality monitoring programs. The Commission is the centre for applied and basic research on the quality of a variety of grains. Its Grain Research Laboratory also conducts studies using its pilot-scale malting plant, flour mill and bakery, noodle processor and small-scale pasta press. For more information on the CGC visit www.grainscanada.gc.ca. In addition, the Canadian Food Inspection Agency supports the Canadian grain sector through its quarantine, pest, and phytosanitary certification programs.

Two other leading Canadian institutions are the Canadian Malting Barley Technical Centre (CMBTC) and the Canadian International Grain Institute (CIGI). The CMBTC has become a leading centre of excellence for research in the technical processes of malting barley and brewing. The CIGI provides educational programs and technical activities in support of the marketing and utilization of Canadian grains, oilseeds, pulses and special crops.

For More Detailed Information

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Other Links

Crops Market Information
www.agr.gc.ca/pol/mad-dam/index_e.php

Cereal Industry Directory
www.ats.agr.gc.ca/supply/4219_e.htm

Oilseed Industry Directory
www.ats.agr.gc.ca/supply/4218_e.htm

Further information on products, suppliers and investment opportunities in the Canadian agri-food industry is available on the Agri-Food Trade Service Web site at: www.ats.agr.gc.ca

Canada's food and agricultural products reflect our dedication to excellence, and our deep commitment to safety, quality, environmental responsibility, innovation and service.

In every facet of our industry, we seek to earn the trust of our customers by answering their needs and exceeding their expectations. Those values along with our belief in building strong relationships, have given Canadian agriculture and food products an international reputation for excellence. Customers around the world know that they can trust the goodness of Canada.

