

# Census of Agriculture: Content Consultation Report, 2026

Release date: November 27, 2024

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## Executive summary

The purpose of the Census of Agriculture (CEAG) is to provide a comprehensive and integrated profile of the physical, economic, social and environmental aspects of Canada's agriculture industry. The CEAG is mandated under the [Statistics Act](#) to be conducted every five years. It collects data on Canada's primary agriculture industry, with content on topics such as number of farms and farm operators, farm area, land management practices, agricultural commodities, and total operating expenses and revenues. The collected data are used to inform decisions about business management strategies and to develop, administer and evaluate agricultural policies that directly affect farmers and rural communities.

Statistics Canada conducts an extensive consultation and qualitative testing process before each CEAG to ensure that it reflects changes in Canada's agriculture industry. For the 2026 CEAG, Statistics Canada's priorities are to ensure that collected data remain relevant to the agriculture industry, while improving the overall cost effectiveness of the CEAG and reducing response burden.

In the fall of 2022, Statistics Canada conducted a national consultation process with data users, including federal government departments and provincial ministries, agricultural associations, and educational institutions. The purpose was to gather input and justifications for new and existing content on the CEAG questionnaire. Data users were asked to prepare their submissions based on a series of key considerations, including program and policy needs, response burden, data quality, costs, research, historical comparability, privacy, operational considerations, and availability of alternative data sources. This report provides a detailed overview of the consultation and submission analysis processes.

A total of 539 invitations were sent to data users for their input, and they were encouraged to forward the invitation to any other individuals or organizations that would be interested in participating in the consultation process. Data users had the opportunity to submit their feedback by completing the 2026 Census of Agriculture submission form ([Appendix A](#)). In total, 187 participants attended CEAG consultation workshops, and 58 forms were submitted for consideration.

All submissions were examined as part of a rigorous, multi-phase analysis and testing process. Through this process, 847 comments were identified. Approximately two-thirds of these were justifications for the importance and relevance of keeping specific CEAG content for data users or general comments. The remaining third comprised recommendations to change or add new questions ([Appendix B](#)). All recommendations were analyzed to determine their suitability for further testing. This analysis informed content changes that were introduced ahead of qualitative testing in 2023 and 2024.

The qualitative testing process for the 2026 CEAG questionnaire included two phases of modular testing and the 2024 Census of Agriculture Test with 10,000 respondents. After each step of testing, the prospective 2026 CEAG questionnaire underwent vigorous analysis to determine its suitability for subsequent testing. Test findings will inform content recommendations for the 2026 CEAG questionnaire.

## Background

Statistics Canada conducts the Census of Agriculture (CEAG) to provide a comprehensive profile of the physical, economic, social and environmental aspects of Canada's agriculture industry. The CEAG is mandated under the [Statistics Act](#) and is instrumental in supporting public and private decision making, research, and analysis in areas of concern to farmers and the Canadian agricultural sector. To this end, CEAG questionnaire content is considered each cycle to ensure that data collected are relevant and continue to reflect an evolving industry.

Before each CEAG, Statistics Canada conducts an extensive consultation process that allows data users and interested parties across Canada to share their views on how they use census data and the type of information they believe should be available from the census.

For the 2026 CEAG, the main priorities are to improve cost effectiveness and reduce response burden while remaining relevant and responsive to the information needs of governments, agricultural operators, farm organizations, data users and Canadians. As part of this process, efforts were made to reduce the number of questions on the final version of the electronic questionnaire (EQ). Another effort to reduce response burden for the 2026 CEAG questionnaire is the investigation of the full or partial replacement of questions using high-quality administrative data sources.

The 2026 CEAG content consultation process asked data users to provide input on the 2021 CEAG questionnaire and data. Submissions were examined as part of a rigorous, multi-phase analysis and testing process based on the following key considerations: program and policy needs, response burden, data quality, costs, research, historical comparability, privacy, operational considerations, and the availability of alternative data sources.

Overall, when making decisions about whether to keep, remove or add content for the 2026 CEAG questionnaire, Statistics Canada aimed to maintain data quality standards while reducing response burden.

## Census of Agriculture mandate and objectives

Under section 20 of the [Statistics Act](#), Statistics Canada is responsible for conducting a CEAG every 10 years in years that end in 1, and every 10 years in years that end in 6, unless the Governor in Council otherwise directs in respect of any such year.

The objectives of the CEAG are to:

- provide statistical information and analysis about Canada’s economic and social structure to develop and evaluate public policies and programs, and improve public and private decision-making for the benefit of all Canadians
- promote sound statistical standards and practices by
  - ▶ using common concepts and classifications to provide better quality data
  - ▶ working with federal departments and the provinces and territories to achieve greater efficiency in data collection and less duplication
  - ▶ using administrative data to validate information or replace survey data
  - ▶ improving statistical methods and systems through research studies and projects
- produce critical information to manage federal and provincial government expenditures in support of the agricultural sector
- improve Statistics Canada’s Business Register—the common frame for the surveys and censuses that produce economic statistics
- produce small-area data that are critical to industry structural analysis, crisis management, environmental programs, etc.
- provide measurement of rare or emerging commodities that may not be captured in other surveys in the Agriculture Statistics Program
- produce data that can be used for benchmarking and to reconcile common statistics and indicators in the Agriculture Statistics Program.

## 2026 Census of Agriculture content consultation process

In June 2022, a total of 539 letters were sent to provincial and federal government departments, agricultural organizations and groups, and educational institutions, inviting them to participate in CEAG’s content consultation process. Invitees who had responded with interest in participating in the content consultation process received the 2026 Census of Agriculture submission form ([Appendix A](#)), along with instructions to participate in the workshops. Data users who registered to participate in a workshop received a second wave of letters in early August 2022 with workshop details. Table 1 provides a breakdown of workshop attendees and submissions by organization type.

**Table 1**  
**Attendees and submissions by organization type**

Organization	Workshop attendees	Submissions
	number	
Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada	40	15
Agricultural organizations and producer groups (including NFU and CFA)	15	10
Educational institutions	2	2
Federal government departments and agencies (excluding Statistics Canada and AAFC)	3	1
Provincial government departments and agencies (excluding Statistics Canada and AAFC)	54	20
Statistics Canada	58	5
Other (consultants, regional associations, intermediaries, processors, suppliers, individuals, etc.)	15	5
<b>Total</b>	<b>187</b>	<b>58</b>

**Note:** AAFC stands for Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada; NFU stands for National Farmers Union of Canada; and CFA stands for Canadian Federation of Agriculture.

**Source:** 2026 Census of Agriculture content consultations.

## 2026 Census of Agriculture content consultation workshops

**CEAG workshops were attended by 187 data users.** Statistics Canada held 12 virtual workshops to obtain feedback from data users. Data users from federal and provincial government departments represented 51.8% of workshop attendees.

The purpose of these workshops was to:

- engage with data users
- explain the questionnaire's content assessment process
- obtain feedback on the content of the 2021 CEAG questionnaire
- gain a better understanding of data users' needs and receive justification for keeping secondary content questions in the 2026 CEAG questionnaire.

At the end of each workshop, attendees were invited to provide feedback through a workshop evaluation form. This form requested feedback about the effectiveness of the workshops and their appropriateness as a forum for providing feedback on the CEAG.

The evaluation forms submitted by attendees confirmed that these workshops were a good forum to discuss their data needs.

## 2026 Census of Agriculture submission form

The 2026 Census of Agriculture submission form ([Appendix A](#)) was created to allow data users to provide written feedback and explain their data needs. The form was provided to any data user who registered to participate in the consultation process. Statistics Canada also asked users to forward the submission form to any other users or organizations they thought might be interested in participating.

For the purposes of the submission form, the modules in the CEAG questionnaire were divided into two categories: core content and secondary content. **Core content** is the minimum content required to sustain Statistics Canada's agriculture program and is expected to remain intact. **Secondary content** makes up the remainder of the questionnaire. It evolves based on data users' changing needs and is subject to change or removal. Here is the list of modules by content category:

### Core content

- Business and contact information
- Agricultural operators
- Main farm location
- Unit of measure
- Area of land and land use

- Commodities
- Market value of land and buildings
- Farm vehicles, machinery and equipment (total only)
- Total operating revenues and expenses
  - ▶ Totals on questionnaire
  - ▶ Details from tax data.

### Secondary content

- Paid labour
- Organic products
- Summerfallow
- Tillage and seeding practices
- Land practices and features
- Crop residue
- Inputs and manure
- Irrigation
- Technologies
- Renewable energy
- Farm vehicles, machinery and equipment (details)
- Direct sales
- Succession plan
- Operating arrangement from tax data.

The 2026 Census of Agriculture submission form was delivered to data users as a fillable PDF and contained both multiple-choice and open-ended questions on

- data uses
- the importance of each module in the CEAG questionnaire in providing the data needed
- justifications for core and secondary content in terms of data needs
- data gaps in the CEAG questionnaire
- administrative data sources.

**Overall, CEAG received 58 submission forms** from data users by the October 14, 2022 deadline.<sup>1</sup> Organizations were encouraged to combine their data needs and requests into one submission form to reduce the number of duplicate submissions from each organization.

## Data needs and uses

Users were asked to report their need for each questionnaire module. The following definitions were provided to data users:

- **Essential** means that it is required to fulfill a legislative requirement or the needs of a regulation, policy or program.
- **Some need** means that it could be used to fulfill the needs of a regulation, policy, program or other application.
- **No need** means that it is not used.

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1. Deadline was extended for some data users upon request.

**Data provided by the CEAG were predominantly identified as essential or of some need by data users.** The majority of CEAG data users noted that data are essential or of some need. In particular, area of land and land use questions were identified as essential or of some need to 98% of users, with only 2% indicating that they had no need for these questions or data. By contrast, 82% of data users indicated that questions on paid labour and succession plan were essential or of some need, with 18% indicating they had no need.<sup>2</sup> See Table 2 for data users' needs by CEAG topic.

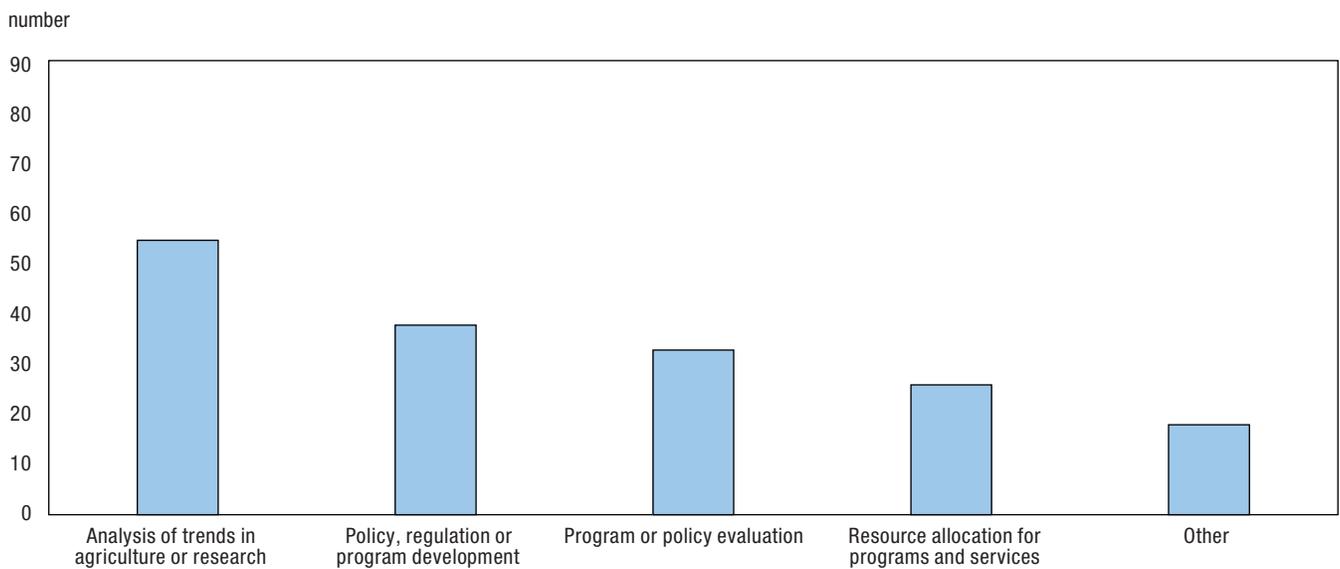
**Table 2**  
**Data users' level of need by 2026 Census of Agriculture topic**

Topic	Level of need		
	Essential need	Some need	No need
	percent		
Agricultural operators	67.9	18.9	13.2
Paid labour	67.3	15.4	17.3
Area of land and land use	84.3	13.7	2.0
Organic products	53.8	32.7	13.5
Land practices and features	70.1	18.9	11.0
Inputs or manure	73.6	20.8	5.7
Irrigation	60.8	29.4	9.8
Agricultural products	59.2	22.5	18.2
Poultry and livestock	68.6	17.5	13.9
Technologies and renewable energy	57.1	31.4	11.5
Market value	58.0	28.0	14.0
Farm vehicles, machinery and equipment	46.9	44.9	8.2
Direct sales	62.0	24.0	14.0
Succession plan	55.1	26.5	18.4

Source: 2026 Census of Agriculture content consultations.

**The top two uses of CEAG data are for the analysis of trends in agriculture or research and the development of policies, regulations and programs.** Users were given a list of four general uses for CEAG data, with the option to add additional uses that were not listed. See Chart 1 for the distribution of responses.

**Chart 1**  
**Census of Agriculture data uses for organizations**



Source: 2026 Census of Agriculture content consultations.

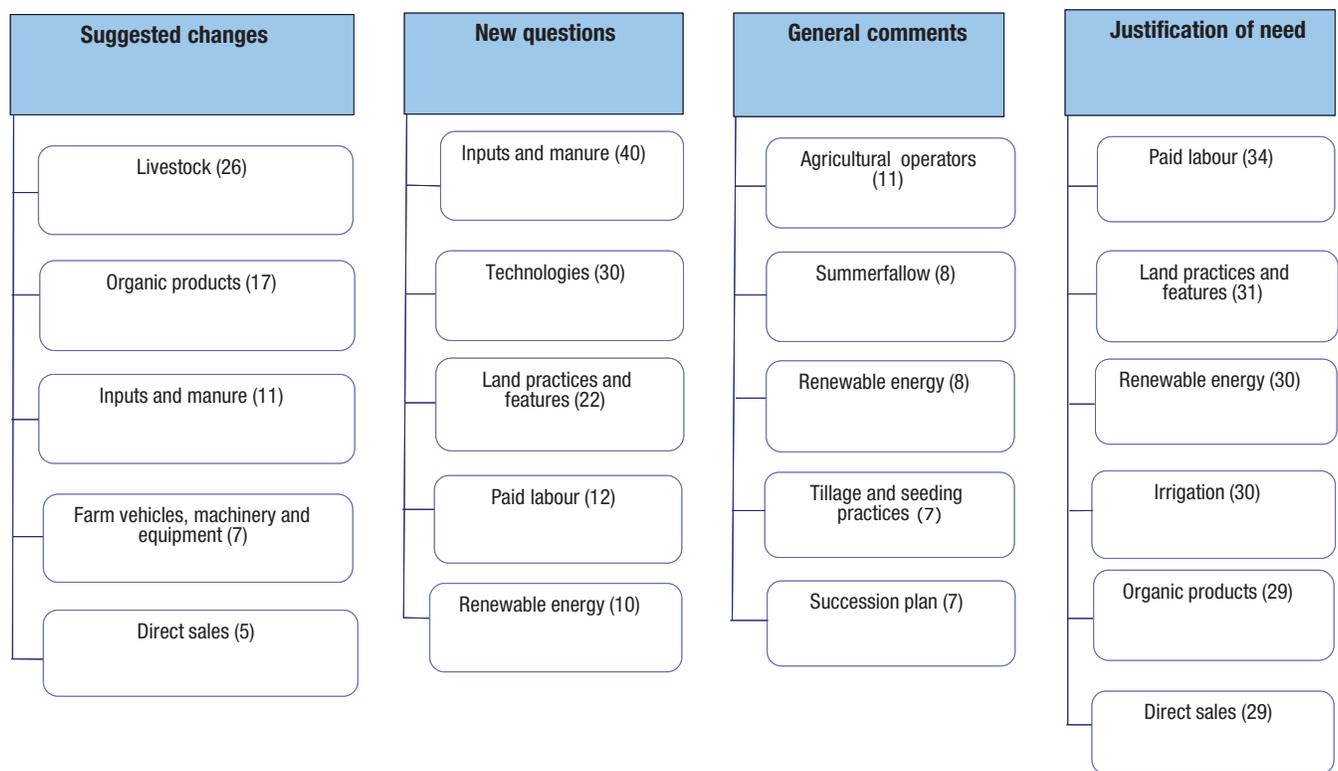
2. It is important to note that organizations reported their specific needs, which depend on their priorities. For example, specific data may be considered essential for one organization, but of no need for another organization with different priorities.

In addition to rating the relevance of core content and identifying key uses for data, data users were asked to provide

- a list of relevant core content and their uses
- rationales for keeping secondary content under consideration for removal from the CEAG
- data gaps in the CEAG questionnaire
- alternative data sources for the identified gaps.

User content submissions related to core content justifications, rationales for keeping secondary content and data gaps were broken down by modules and question numbers, while information about alternative data sources was kept for future reference. Once the submissions had been divided into the various CEAG questionnaire modules, they were reviewed by CEAG analysts and grouped into categories based on submission type. Figure 1 outlines feedback by module and type of feedback.

**Figure 1**  
**Top topics by content submission type**



Source: 2026 Census of Agriculture content consultations.

**The inputs and manure module received the highest number of comments.** The majority (58.8%) of user content submissions were justifications for keeping specific content in the CEAG questionnaire. The remaining submissions were suggestions for either new questions (18.5%), changes to existing questions (13.6%) or contained general comments (9.1%) ([Appendix B](#)).

## Content evaluation method

User content submissions identified as suggesting changes or proposing new questions went through an exhaustive and systematic analysis based on key criteria developed by Statistics Canada ([Appendix C](#)). Content submissions categorized as justifications of need or general comments were retained for use by Statistics Canada to determine whether secondary content would be kept or modified.

The key criteria provided an efficient, structured and standardized way to analyze users' comments and suggestions. The key criteria included the following questions:

- Is this suggestion critical to existing agriculture-related programs and policies?
- Did multiple organizations request this change?
- Do other countries ask this question?
- Is the size of the data set suggested in terms of farm count or total farm area small?
- Is this topic of national interest?
- Is the information required to be cross-classified with other questions from the questionnaire?
- Are there any quality alternative sources available?
- Will this suggestion affect historical comparability?
- Is the collection of these data every five years sufficient?
- Can farmers easily answer this question?
- Will farmers be willing to answer this question?
- Has this question tested negatively before and is it likely to do so again?
- Can they be easily targeted on the Business Register using our new farm definition?
- Are data needed at sub-provincial levels?

The key criteria were assigned a score<sup>3</sup> using a stringent methodology that considered the relative importance in determining the content for the 2026 CEAG questionnaire. Factors considered when assigning the score included whether

- the requested data were relevant to agricultural policies
- the topic was of national interest
- there was a demand for the requested data
- the requested data were sensitive
- the data were disseminated frequently enough
- the data were needed at the sub-provincial level.

Under the direction and review of the CEAG program manager, two data analysts worked independently to review and score proposed changes. A structured guide was used to ensure that the final decision was accurate and appropriate before finalizing the combined score for each proposed change. A third review for cases with large gaps between scores was conducted by the program manager, in consultation with the Census of Agriculture Steering Committee, to finalize the scores of these cases.

3. See Appendix C for key criteria scores.

These scores guided decisions for inclusion in the 2026 CEAG questionnaire, with all suggestions grouped into one of the following three categories:

1. **Suitable for the CEAG and qualified for Questionnaire Design Resource Centre (QDRC) testing**—the suggestion or new question met most of the key criteria (for example, if a suggestion was relevant, of national scope, easy for farmers to answer and was requested by multiple organizations, it would be deemed worthy of further testing).
2. **Not suitable for the CEAG, but may be suitable for other Statistics Canada agriculture surveys**—the suggestion or new question may represent an important data need, but the CEAG is not the preferable collection method for it (this category could include data gaps where data are needed more frequently than every five years, or data gaps that are too specific to be included in the CEAG).
3. **Not suitable for the CEAG or other Statistics Canada agriculture surveys**—the suggestions or new questions do not meet enough key criteria to qualify for further testing (for example, content submissions that are too detailed, not relevant to the CEAG, or not within the mandate of the CEAG or Statistics Canada).

The data users submitted 157 suggestions that were categorized as new questions. Of the new questions suggested, 76% were deemed to be suitable for the CEAG or other Statistics Canada agriculture surveys, while 24% were determined to be unsuitable for both the CEAG and other Statistics Canada surveys, based on the CEAG's key criteria.

Additionally, a total of 115 comments were categorized as suggested changes to existing CEAG questions; 58.3% of the suggested changes to questions were identified as suitable for the CEAG or other Statistics Canada agricultural surveys, while 41.7% were identified as unsuitable for both the CEAG and other Statistics Canada surveys.<sup>4</sup>

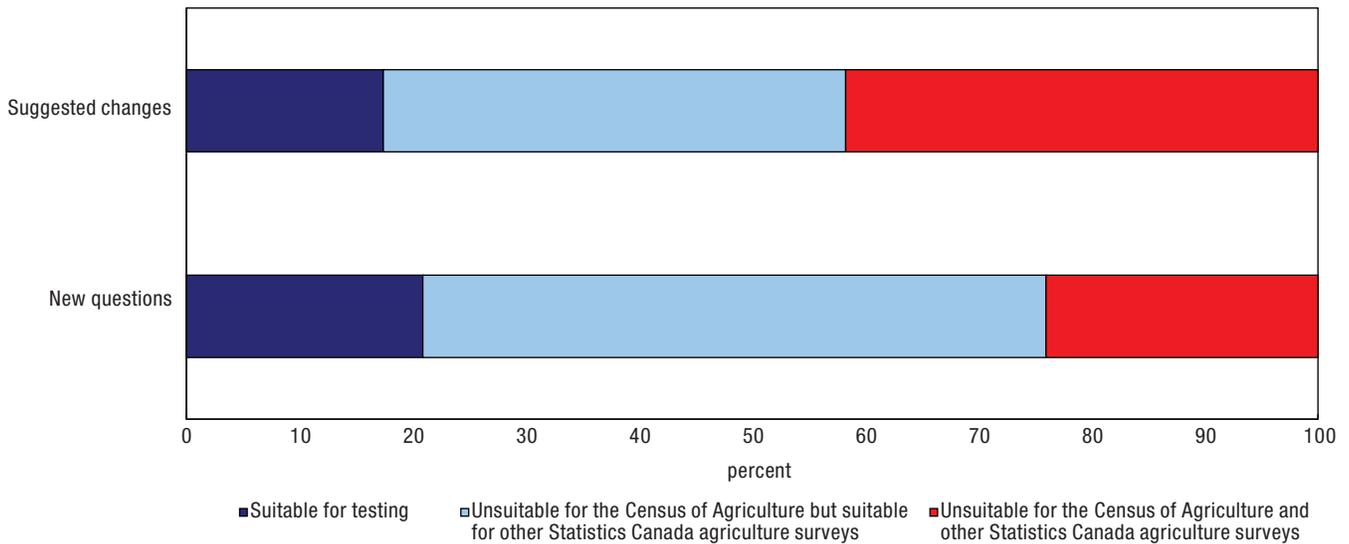
Chart 2 provides a breakdown of the suitability of proposed changes and suggested new questions. Tables D.1 and D.2 in [Appendix D](#) provide a full breakdown of suggestions by topic, grouped by core and secondary content, and the decisions made about their suitability for modular testing.

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4. See Appendix B for comments received on the Census of Agriculture submissions form, by module.

**Chart 2**

**Suitability for testing of data user suggestions and new questions for the 2026 Census of Agriculture questionnaire**



Source: 2026 Census of Agriculture content consultations.

**Modular testing**

In accordance with the Policy on the Development of Questionnaires, Statistics Canada’s QDRC conducted qualitative testing, also known as modular testing, with farm operators. In 2023, testing was completed in two phases, where changes to the 2021 CEAG questionnaire and help text were presented to respondents to gather their feedback.

The purpose of this testing was to

- test the cognitive process of respondents when answering questions (i.e., their understanding of concepts, terminology and response categories)
- test respondents’ ability and willingness to answer the questions
- test the functionality and usability of some questions in the EQ
- test the flow of questions with respondents
- obtain feedback from respondents on their overall experience of responding via an electronic version of the questionnaire.

The qualitative testing was conducted on a one-to-one basis with farmers. Participants recruited for testing were prioritized based on the proposed changes to the questionnaire’s content, while ensuring that there were enough diverse farms included to cover all elements of the questionnaire. Statistics Canada employees recruited operators of farms of various sizes, types and operating arrangements, and with the specific attributes that needed to be tested (e.g., farms with renewable energy or mushrooms). Both French and English versions of the questionnaire were tested.

## Modular test—Phase 1

The first phase of testing took place in January 2023. A total of 59 interviews were completed virtually via Microsoft Teams. In this phase of testing, CEAG tested changes to the English and French EQs, including changes to the help text.

Table 3 outlines the testing priorities for the first phase of modular testing.

**Table 3**  
**Phase 1: testing priorities for 2026 Census of Agriculture content**

Priority	2021 Census of Agriculture questionnaire modules
High	Organic products Land practices and features Greenhouses Poultry Renewable energy
Medium	Fruits, berries and nuts Land use Inputs or manure Livestock Technologies
Low	Agricultural activity Agricultural operators Paid labour Hay and field crops Field vegetables Market value Farm vehicles, machinery and equipment Direct sales Succession plan

Source: 2026 Census of Agriculture content consultations.

The results from this phase of testing were used to determine whether the new content was suitable for further testing (Phase 2) or whether it was unsuitable for the CEAG (e.g., the question was difficult for farmers to understand or unduly increased response burden). Changes to new content were made as required before the second phase of testing.

## Modular test—Phase 2

The second phase of testing took place in June 2023. A total of 79 interviews were conducted during this phase, where both the English and French versions of the EQ were tested. By Phase 2, much of the new content had already been integrated into the EQ.

Table 4 outlines the testing priorities for the second phase of modular testing.

**Table 4**  
**Phase 2: testing priorities for 2026 Census of Agriculture content**

Priority	2021 Census of Agriculture questionnaire modules
High	Agricultural operators Paid labour Mushrooms Greenhouses Maple tree taps Poultry Livestock
Medium	Land use Inputs or manure
Low	Agricultural activity Area of land Organic products Hay and field crops Farm vehicles, machinery and equipment

Source: 2026 Census of Agriculture content consultations.

## Interpretation of the modular test results

If new content tested well in the second phase, it was integrated into the EQ in preparation for the 2024 Census of Agriculture Test.

For the remaining content, the modular testing results were used to determine appropriate solutions to any issues that were identified, including

- improving questions to increase respondents' understanding
- providing additional information to clarify instructions (e.g., for the agricultural production yes/no filter questions).

All the content issues identified during modular testing were outlined in the QDRC reports, which were written after each phase. In addition to identifying content issues, these reports provided a module-by-module breakdown of the results from probing questions developed by CEAG analysts. In cases where more than one version of the question was being tested, the versions preferred by respondents were also included in the report.

After reviewing these reports, CEAG analysts met with QDRC interviewers to discuss and address the identified issues. For example, if a module had content that was difficult for respondents to understand, QDRC would provide suggestions for how this issue could be resolved, based on their experience with questionnaire design and testing. This feedback informed the content change decisions made by CEAG analysts in preparation for the 2024 Census of Agriculture Test.

## 2024 Census of Agriculture Test

On May 14, 2024, the final stage of content testing for the 2026 CEAG, the 2024 Census of Agriculture Test, took place. Data collection began on May 6, 2024, and ended on June 28, 2024. The purpose of the 2024 Census of Agriculture Test was to test content changes, as well as all EQ systems and processes, imputation processes, and validation tools.

### Methodology

**A sample of 10,000 agriculture operations were selected from across Canada.** The sample was targeted to include specific language profiles and farm characteristics. Additionally, some farm types were given priority based on changes to content or collection methods, as outlined in Table 5. For instance, the land practices and features module was rated as a high testing priority for the census test because of changes in content. Consequently, part of the sampling strategy involved ensuring that enough operations that had reported land practices and features in 2021 were included in the sample to ensure proper testing of the question.

**Table 5**  
**Testing priorities for the 2024 Census of Agriculture Test**

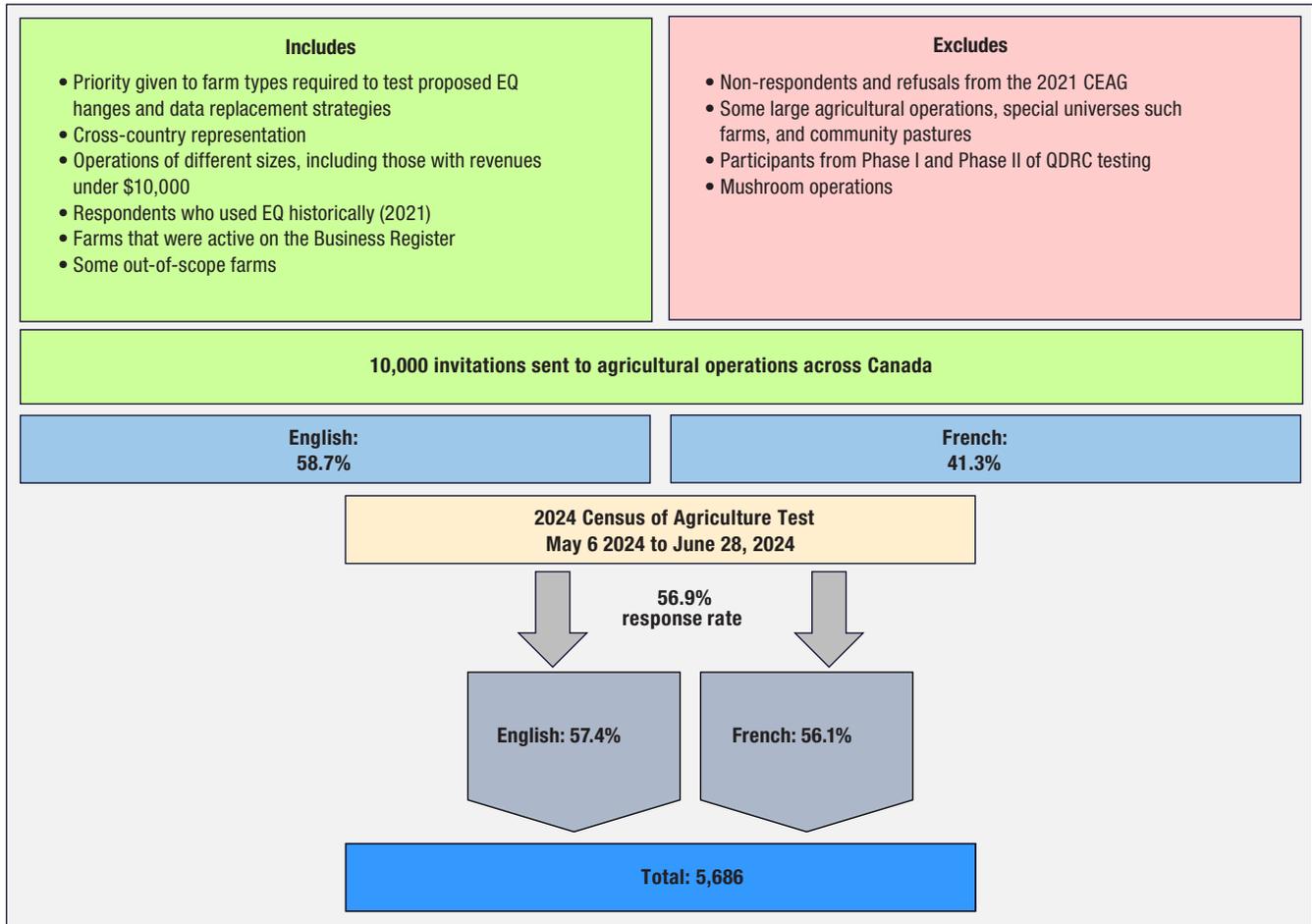
Priority	Modules from the 2024 Census of Agriculture Test questionnaire
High	Greenhouses Maple tree taps Paid labour Out-of-scope operations Poultry Technologies Land practices and features
Medium	Livestock Organic products Renewable energy Inputs or manure
Low	Fruits, berries and nuts Field vegetables Direct sales

Source: 2026 Census of Agriculture content consultations.

When the sample was selected, each agricultural operation was sent an invitation to participate at the beginning of May 2024. Participation in the census test was voluntary.

**Of the 10,000 potential respondents, 5,686 responded, representing a response rate of 56.9%.** More information on the census test sampling strategy is provided in Figure 2.

**Figure 2**  
**2024 Census of Agriculture Test sampling strategy**



**Note:** These values contain respondents that were out of scope in 2024.  
**Source:** 2024 Census of Agriculture Test.

## Content validation

After data collection was closed, the results were analyzed to ensure that changes to the questionnaire were properly understood and reported, and that the EQ functionality was operating as expected. Validators assessed results based on the following criteria:

**Validity edits:** Validators assessed the inconsistencies within a single module. For example, when a respondent reported “yes” to greenhouse production in question 16 but did not report any greenhouse area in questions 45 or 46.

**Integrity edits:** Validators assessed inconsistencies or incoherence with other related questions. For example, a respondent that reported tapping maple trees in question 47 but reported no woodland area in question 32.

**Reliability edits:** Validators assessed inconsistencies between reported data and other or historical data sets. For example, validators compared the number of dairy cattle reported by respondents in 2024 with the number reported in the 2021 CEAG.

In addition, responses to the 2024 Census Test were analyzed by language to ensure that the terminology used was equally understood in French and English.

## Testing summary

The testing process for the 2026 CEAG questionnaire was thorough and included two phases of modular testing and a National Census Test. After each of these tests, the prospective 2026 CEAG questionnaire underwent vigorous analysis to determine its suitability for subsequent testing. The findings will inform content recommendations for the 2026 CEAG questionnaire.

## Appendix A: 2026 Census of Agriculture submission form

The information you provide will be carefully reviewed and will assist in determining content for the 2026 Census of Agriculture.

Statistics Canada is committed to respecting the privacy of consultation participants. All personal information created, held or collected by the agency is protected by the [Privacy Act](#).

Anonymized comments collected during the consultation may be published in the 2026 Census of Agriculture Content Consultation Report available on the Statistics Canada website in fall 2024.

### 1. Please provide your contact information.

- Name:
- Organization (if applicable):
- E-mail address:
- Phone number:

### 2. Select the category that best describes you or the organization that you represent.

- Federal government
- Provincial or territorial government
- Municipal government
- Agricultural organization or producer group
- Academia (professors, researchers, students, etc.)
- Agricultural business
- Other (please specify):

### 3. For what purpose(s) do you or your organization use Census of Agriculture data? Select all that apply.

- Analysis of trends in agriculture or research
- Policy, regulation or program development
- Resource allocation for programs and services
- Program or policy evaluation
- Other (please specify):

### 4. The Census of Agriculture questionnaire modules are listed below. Considering the following definitions, please rate your organization's need for each module.

- **Essential** means that it is required to fulfill a legislative requirement or the needs of a regulation, policy or program.
- **Some need** means that it could be used to fulfill the needs of a regulation, policy, program or other application.
- **No need** means that it is not used.

## 2021 Census of Agriculture: modules and ratings

Modules	Essential	Some Need	No Need
Agricultural operators (questions 3 to 6)			
Paid labour (questions 7 to 9)			
Area of land (question 12)			
Organic products (question 26)			
Hay and field crops (question 28)			
Field vegetables (question 29)			
Fruits, berries, and nuts (question 30)			
Sod, nursery products, and Christmas trees (question 31)			
Land use (question 32)			
Summerfallow (question 33)			
Tillage and seeding practices (question 34)			
Land practices and features (questions 35 and 36)			
Crop residue (question 37)			
Inputs or manure (questions 38 and 39)			
Irrigation (question 40)			
Mushrooms (questions 41 to 44)			
Greenhouses (questions 45 and 46)			
Maple tree taps (question 47)			
Honeybees (question 48)			
Other pollinating bees (question 49)			
Poultry (question 50)			
Chicken or turkey production (questions 51 and 52)			
Table and hatching eggs (questions 53 and 54)			
Commercial poultry hatcheries (question 55)			
Livestock – cattle or calves (question 56)			
Livestock – pigs (question 57)			
Livestock – sheep or lambs (question 58)			
Livestock – other livestock (question 59)			
Technologies (question 60)			
Renewable energy (question 61)			
Use of renewable energy (question 62)			
Market value of land and buildings (question 63)			
Farm vehicles, machinery and equipment - details (question 64)			
Farm vehicles, machinery and equipment - total only (question 64)			
Gross farm receipts and operating expenses (questions 65 and 67)			
Sales of firewood, pulpwood, logs, fence posts and pilings (question 66)			
Direct sales (questions 68 to 71)			
Succession plan (question 72)			
Operating arrangement (from tax data)			
Cannabis (from coded cells and/or alternative sources)			

**5. The following modules are part of the secondary component and are under consideration for removal for the 2026 Census of Agriculture. Please justify your needs.**

If the module is important to you or your organization, please provide your rationale for keeping the question in the 2026 Census of Agriculture. Include a description of your needs and how you use this data (e.g., for policy requirements, research, etc.), as well as the level of geography required.

**The question numbers refer to the 2021 Census of Agriculture questionnaire.**

- Paid labour (questions 7 to 9) – Max. 2,000 characters:
- Organic products (question 26) – Max. 2,000 characters:
- Summerfallow (question 33) – Max. 2,000 characters:
- Tillage and seeding practices (question 34) – Max. 2,000 characters:
- Land practices and features (questions 35 and 36) – Max. 2,000 characters:
- Crop residue (question 37) – Max. 2,000 characters:
- Inputs or manure (questions 38 and 39) – Max. 2,000 characters:
- Irrigation (question 40) – Max. 2,000 characters:
- Technologies (question 60) – Max. 2,000 characters:
- Renewable energy (question 61) – Max. 2,000 characters:
- Use of renewable energy (question 62) – Max. 2,000 characters:
- Farm vehicles, machinery and equipment – details (question 64) – Max. 2,000 characters:
- Direct sales (questions 68 to 71) – Max. 2,000 characters:
- Succession plan (question 72) – Max. 2,000 characters:
- Operating arrangement (from tax data) – Max. 2,000 characters:

## 6. The following modules of the Census of Agriculture questionnaire are considered core content.

### 2021 Census of Agriculture: core content

Core content	Modules
Business/Contact information	Introductory module – questions 1 to 4
Agricultural operators	Questions 3 to 6
Main farm location	Question 10
Area of land and land use	Questions 12 and 32
Organic products	Question 26
Hay and field crops	Question 28
Field vegetables	Question 29
Fruits, berries and nuts	Question 30
Sod, nursery products and Christmas trees	Question 31
Mushrooms	Questions 41 to 44
Greenhouses	Questions 45 and 46
Maple tree taps	Question 47
Honeybees	Question 48
Other pollinating bees	Question 49
Poultry	Question 50
Chicken or turkey production	Questions 51 and 52
Table and hatching eggs	Questions 53 and 54
Commercial poultry hatcheries	Question 55
Livestock – cattle or calves	Question 56
Livestock – pigs	Question 57
Livestock – sheep or lambs	Question 58
Livestock – other livestock	Question 59
Market value of land and buildings	Question 63
Farm vehicles, machinery and equipment (total)	Question 64
Total gross farm receipts	Question 65
Total farm operating expenses	Question 67
Detailed revenues	From tax data
Detailed expenses	From tax data
Sales of firewood, pulpwood, logs, fence posts and pilings	Question 66
Cannabis	From coded cells and/or alternative source

**Please indicate which modules are used by you or your organization and provide a brief description of how you use the data (e.g., for policy requirements, research, etc.).**

- Max. 2,000 characters:

**7. In your opinion, are there data gaps that the 2026 Census of Agriculture should fill? Data gaps may include topics, population groups, etc. that are not currently covered by the census.**

- Yes
- No

If yes, please list these data gaps below in order of priority. Include descriptions of how this data would be used by your organization, existing data sources for this information, and suggested wording for any questions that you propose to cover these data gaps.

- Data gap 1 – Max. 2,000 Characters:
- Data gap 2 – Max. 2,000 Characters:
- Data gap 3 – Max. 2,000 Characters:

**8. Do you know of alternative data sources that can provide similar information as the Census of Agriculture data?**

For example, an administrative list or a registration list.

- Yes
- No

**If yes, please provide the names of the alternative data sources and the organizations that produce it.**

**9. We invite you to provide any additional comments, questions or concerns you would like to share (Max. 2,000 Characters).**

Thank you very much for your input. We will carefully consider each of your comments during the consultation process.

Please note that the deadline for written submissions is **October 14, 2022**.

**This submission form should be sent to:**

statcan.ceag-consultationreag-consultation.statcan@statcan.gc.ca

## Appendix B: Comments received on the Census of Agriculture submissions form, by module

**Table B.1**  
**Number of comments by 2021 Census of Agriculture questionnaire module**

Topic/Module	Question number	Suggested	New	General	Justifications	Total
		changes	questions	comments	of need	
		number				
Farm operators	3 to 6	4	0	11	2	17
Paid labour	7 to 9	4	12	2	34	52
Main farm location	10	1	0	0	8	9
Unit of measure	11	0	0	0	0	0
Area of land	12	2	0	0	16	18
Organic products	26	17	0	1	29	47
Hay and field crops	28	3	0	2	17	22
Field vegetables	29	2	1	0	7	10
Fruits, berries, and nuts	30	3	0	0	7	10
Sod, nursery products, and Christmas trees	31	0	0	1	7	8
Land use	32	3	9	1	15	28
Summerfallow	33	1	2	8	24	35
Tillage and seeding practices	34	2	1	7	25	35
Land practices and features	35 and 36	2	22	1	31	56
Crop residue	37	0	6	6	25	37
Inputs or manure	38 and 39	11	40	2	27	80
Irrigation	40	1	7	1	30	39
Mushrooms	41 to 44	1	0	1	6	8
Greenhouses	45 and 46	3	1	0	6	10
Maple tree taps	47	0	0	0	4	4
Bees	48 and 49	2	0	0	4	6
Poultry	50 to 55	2	8	2	6	18
Livestock	56 to 59	26	0	2	17	45
Technologies	60	3	30	2	27	62
Renewable energy	61 and 62	2	10	8	30	50
Market value of land and buildings	63	3	0	0	7	10
Farm vehicles, machinery and equipment	64	7	2	3	22	34
Gross farm receipts	65 and 67	4	0	4	13	21
Direct sales	68 to 71	5	0	5	29	39
Succession plan	72	1	1	7	23	32
Other - data gaps	...	0	5	0	0	5
<b>Total</b>	<b>...</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>157</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>498</b>	<b>847</b>

... not applicable

Source: 2026 Census of Agriculture content consultations.

## Appendix C: Key criteria and score

**Table C.1**  
**Key criteria and score**

Question	Assessment
<b>Relevance:</b> Is this critical to ongoing programs/policies related to agriculture?	<b>Score:</b> Yes = 3, Somewhat = 2, No = 0  <b>Note:</b> Weight of 2 (somewhat) is assigned to those that do not specify a program/policy but stress an impact or risk associated with the data need.
<b>Prevalence/Demand:</b> Did multiple organizations request this change?	<b>Score:</b> Yes = 1, No = 0  <b>Note:</b> "Multiple" is 2 or more to get a weight of 1, 6 or more to get a weight of 2.
<b>International:</b> Do other countries ask for this?	<b>Score:</b> Yes = 1, No = 0
<b>Size of population:</b> Is the size of the data set suggested in terms of farm count and/or total farm area small?	<b>Score:</b> Yes = -1, No = 0  <b>Note:</b> If less than 3% for farm count or area then weight = -1.
<b>National scope:</b> Is this topic of national interest?	<b>Score:</b> Yes = 2, No = 0  <b>Note:</b> If the majority of the provinces produce the commodity then weight = 2.
<b>Cross-tabulations:</b> Is the information required to be cross-classified with other questions from the questionnaire?	<b>Score:</b> Yes = 1, No = 0
<b>Alternative source:</b> Are there no quality alternative sources available?	<b>Score:</b> Yes = 3, No = 0  <b>Note:</b> Reliable and good sources of information for all provinces = 0, less reliable and acceptable sources of information available for one or some provinces = 1 or 2, unreliable sources of information or none = 3.
<b>Continuity over time:</b> Will the change affect historical comparability?	<b>Score:</b> Yes = -2, No = 0
<b>Frequency:</b> Is the collection of this data every 5 years sufficient?	<b>Score:</b> Yes = 2, No = 0  <b>Note:</b> High profile content would require data every year.
<b>Difficulty:</b> Can farmers easily provide the information?	<b>Score:</b> Yes = 2, No = 0  <b>Note:</b> Tick box = 2, value from top of head (area, inventory) = 1, research needed (tax, T4, assessment) = 0.
<b>Willingness:</b> Is it likely that farmers will be willing to answer?	<b>Score:</b> Yes = 2, No = 0  <b>Note:</b> Content providing a competitive advantage or related to financial aspects of their business are more difficult to collect.
<b>Past testing:</b> Does past testing show negative results and are these negative results likely to be consistent over time?	<b>Score:</b> Yes = -2, No = 0
<b>Farm enumeration:</b> Can they be easily targeted on the BR using our new farm definition?	<b>Score:</b> Yes = 0, No = -2  <b>Note:</b> This criteria only applies for recommendations of adding new commodities not already covered by the CEAG. If that industry tends to report agricultural revenues and expenses, an agriculture NAICS set the score to 0; if the answer is no, set the score to -2.
<b>Geography:</b> Is the data needed at sub-provincial levels?	<b>Score:</b> Yes = 2, No = 0
<b>Maximum score possible</b>	<b>Score = 20</b>

## Appendix D: Summary of content consultations submissions

**Table D.1**  
**Summary of content consultation submissions for core content**

Topic	Question number in 2021 Census of Agriculture	Summary of submissions received	Number of comments	Topic assessment
Main farm location	Question 10	Change the order of the type of addresses.	1	Determined to be unsuitable for testing because <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the data is too granular for a CEAG.</li> </ul>
Area of land	Question 12	Include further breakdown of other land categories.	1	Determined to be suitable for testing because <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>it has national scope</li> <li>it improves question accessibility</li> <li>it is important for existing policies and programs.</li> </ul>
		Include further breakdown of fallow land.	1	Determined to be unsuitable for testing because <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>it unduly increases response burden</li> <li>it is difficult for respondents to answer.</li> </ul>
Organic products	Question 26	Add category for organic but not certified.	2	Determined to be suitable for testing because <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>collection of this data every 5 years is sufficient</li> <li>it does not increase response burden</li> <li>there are no high quality alternative data sources.</li> </ul>
		Add content about organic acreage, seeded acreage versus acreage intended to be seeded, breakdown by commodities (livestock, maple, eggs, etc.), percentage of organic versus non-organic, revenue from organic agriculture, GMO acreage, labour and employment, demographics, and national sustainability and certification systems.	15	Determined to be unsuitable for testing because <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>limited widespread interest in the data</li> <li>it is difficult for respondents to answer</li> <li>it has an impact on historical comparability</li> <li>the data is too granular for a CEAG</li> <li>there are high quality alternative data sources</li> <li>it unduly increases response burden.</li> </ul>
Hay and field crops	Question 28	Include further breakdown of cover crops.	1	Determined to be unsuitable for testing because <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>it has an impact on historical comparability</li> <li>it unduly increases response burden</li> <li>it is difficult for respondents to answer</li> <li>there are high quality alternative data sources.</li> </ul>
		Differentiate between crops grown for export or Canadian production.	1	Determined to be unsuitable for testing because <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>it has an impact on historical comparability</li> <li>it unduly increases response burden</li> <li>the data is too granular for a CEAG</li> <li>it is difficult for respondents to answer.</li> </ul>
		Add a category to report seed for each crop.	1	Determined to be unsuitable for testing because <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>it has an impact on historical comparability</li> <li>it unduly increases response burden</li> <li>the data is too granular for a CEAG</li> <li>it is difficult for respondents to answer.</li> </ul>
Field vegetables	Question 29	Add category for sweet potatoes.	1	Determined to be unsuitable for testing because <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the geographical scope is too narrow.</li> </ul>
		Include further breakdown of peppers into bell and hot.	1	Determined to be unsuitable for testing because <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>it has an impact on historical comparability</li> <li>it unduly increases response burden</li> <li>it is difficult for respondents to answer</li> <li>the geographical scope is too narrow.</li> </ul>
		Add a category to report quantity of seeds used.	1	Determined to be unsuitable for testing because <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>it unduly increases response burden</li> <li>it is difficult for respondents to answer</li> <li>the data is too granular for a CEAG.</li> </ul>

**Table D.1**  
**Summary of content consultation submissions for core content**

Topic	Question number in 2021 Census of Agriculture	Summary of submissions received	Number of comments	Topic assessment
Fruits, berries and nuts	Question 30	Include other types of alcohol production besides wine.	1	Determined to be suitable for testing because <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• it has national scope</li> <li>• it improves question accessibility</li> <li>• it is important for existing policies and programs</li> <li>• there is high interest in the data.</li> </ul>
		Include further breakdown of categories for grapes being produced for wine.	1	Determined to be unsuitable for testing because <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the targeted population does not meet size criteria</li> <li>• there are high quality alternative data sources.</li> </ul>
		Change the name of buckthorn to sea buckthorn.	1	Determined to be suitable for testing (within other fruits, berries and nuts) because <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• it improves question accessibility</li> <li>• it does not increase response burden.</li> </ul>
Land use	Question 32	Add a category for land not seeded due to environmental reasons.	2	Determined to be suitable for testing because <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• there are no high quality alternative data sources</li> <li>• other countries have adopted similar suggestions</li> <li>• the targeted population meets size criteria</li> <li>• there is high interest in the data.</li> </ul>
		Include further breakdown of categories for woodlands and wetlands and land use.	10	Determined to be unsuitable for testing because <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• it unduly increases response burden</li> <li>• it is difficult for respondents to answer.</li> </ul>
Mushrooms	Questions 41 to 44	Add more content about specialty mushrooms.	1	Determined to be unsuitable for testing because <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• there are high quality alternative data sources</li> <li>• it has an impact on historical comparability</li> <li>• it unduly increases response burden</li> <li>• the data is too granular for a CEAG.</li> </ul>
Greenhouses	Questions 45 and 46	Consider adding indoor/vertical farming as a separate category.	2	Determined to be unsuitable for testing because <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• limited widespread interest in the data</li> <li>• the data is too granular for a CEAG</li> <li>• there are high quality alternative data sources</li> <li>• it unduly increases response burden.</li> </ul>
		Add a separate category for lettuce.	1	Determined to be suitable for testing because <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• it harmonizes with other Statistics Canada surveys</li> <li>• it has national scope.</li> </ul>
		Add a separate category for strawberries.	1	Determined to be unsuitable for testing because <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the targeted population does not meet size criteria</li> <li>• there are high quality alternative data sources.</li> </ul>
Bees	Question 48	Add content about pollinating and honey bees and the value of renting colonies and sales of bee products.	2	Determined to be unsuitable for testing because <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the data requires a more frequent collection</li> <li>• it has an impact on historical comparability</li> <li>• it unduly increases response burden.</li> </ul>
Poultry	Questions 50 to 55	Addition of filter question to identify empty barns.	1	Determined to be suitable for testing because <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• it improves question accessibility</li> <li>• it does not increase response burden.</li> </ul>
		Include further breakdown or clarification of categories.	8	Determined to be unsuitable for testing because <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• limited widespread interest in the data</li> <li>• the data is too granular for a CEAG</li> <li>• it unduly increases response burden</li> <li>• the targeted population does not meet size criteria.</li> </ul>
		Addition of question to those reporting empty barns to find out the barn capacity and type of poultry.	1	Determined to be unsuitable for testing because <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the data is too granular for a CEAG</li> <li>• it unduly increases response burden</li> <li>• there are high quality alternative data sources.</li> </ul>

**Table D.1**  
**Summary of content consultation submissions for core content**

Topic	Question number in 2021 Census of Agriculture	Summary of submissions received	Number of comments	Topic assessment
Livestock	Questions 56 to 59	Include further breakdown of categories for pigs, sheep, lambs, veal, bison and horses.	12	Determined to be unsuitable for testing because <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the data is too granular for a CEAG</li> <li>• it unduly increases response burden</li> <li>• there are high quality alternative data sources</li> <li>• it is difficult for respondents to answer.</li> </ul>
		Add content about antibiotic use, retained ownership, biosecurity, traceability, animal welfare and types of housing.	11	Determined to be unsuitable for testing because <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• it unduly increases response burden</li> <li>• there are high quality alternative data sources.</li> </ul>
		Addition of filter question to identify empty barns.	1	Determined to be suitable for testing because <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• there is high interest in the data</li> <li>• it improves question accessibility</li> <li>• it does not increase response burden.</li> </ul>
Market value of land and buildings	Question 63	Split land value and building value.	2	Determined to be unsuitable for testing because <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• it unduly increases response burden</li> <li>• it is difficult for respondents to answer</li> <li>• some of these topics have not tested well historically.</li> </ul>
		Clarify inclusion and exclusion criteria.	1	Determined to be suitable for testing because <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• it improves question accessibility</li> <li>• it does not increase response burden.</li> </ul>
Total operating revenues and expenses	Questions 65 and 67	Add content about renewable energy income, more detailed expense categories, and lower level revenue categories.	4	Determined to be unsuitable for testing because <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• it unduly increases response burden.</li> </ul>

Source: 2026 Census of Agriculture content consultations.

**Table D.2**  
**Summary of content consultation submissions for secondary content**

Topic	Question number in 2021 Census of Agriculture	Summary of submissions received	Number of comments	Topic assessment
Paid labour	Questions 7 to 9	Add content about temporary foreign workers.	5	Determined to be unsuitable for testing because <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• there are high quality alternative data sources.</li> </ul>
		Add content about labour shortages and unpaid workers (exchange or volunteer), hours worked.	11	Determined to be unsuitable for testing because <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• it has an impact on historical comparability</li> <li>• it unduly increases response burden</li> <li>• it is difficult for respondents to answer</li> <li>• the data is too granular for a CEAG.</li> </ul>
Summerfallow	Question 33	Explain distinction between summerfallow and idle cropland.	1	Determined to be suitable for testing because <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• it is important for existing policies and programs</li> <li>• other countries have adopted similar suggestions</li> <li>• there are no high quality alternative data sources</li> <li>• there is high interest in the data</li> <li>• the targeted population meets size criteria.</li> </ul>
		Consider moving summerfallow to be reported under land practices question and add more conservation and regenerative practices. Add questions about forms of weed control on all land and not just summerfallow.	2	Determined to be unsuitable for testing because <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• it unduly increases response burden</li> <li>• it is difficult for respondents to answer.</li> </ul>
Tillage and seeding practices	Question 34	Add question about the frequency of tillage.	1	Determined to be unsuitable for testing because <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• it unduly increases response burden</li> <li>• it is difficult for respondents to answer</li> <li>• the data is too granular for a CEAG.</li> </ul>
		Use terms <i>conventional</i> and <i>conservation</i> tillage to align with other agriculture surveys and improve the understanding of terminology.	2	Determined to be suitable for testing because <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• it harmonizes with other Statistics Canada surveys.</li> </ul>
Land practices and crop residue	Questions 35 to 37	Add content about area for land practices.	10	Determined to be suitable for testing because <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• collection of this data every 5 years is sufficient</li> <li>• it harmonizes with other Statistics Canada surveys</li> <li>• it has national scope</li> <li>• it is important for existing policies and programs</li> <li>• the targeted population meets size criteria</li> <li>• there is high prevalence or demand.</li> </ul>
		Add length of shelterbelts.	5	Determined to be unsuitable for testing because <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• it unduly increases response burden</li> <li>• it is difficult for respondents to answer</li> <li>• limited widespread interest in the data</li> <li>• the data is too granular for a CEAG</li> <li>• some of these topics have not tested well historically.</li> </ul>
		Align questions with Farm Management Survey.	1	Determined to be unsuitable for testing because <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• it has an impact on historical comparability</li> <li>• there are high quality alternative data sources</li> <li>• it unduly increases response burden.</li> </ul>
		Add more questions and categories for intercropping, planting of dedicated bioenergy crops, what is the future use of cover crops, and how many livestock are overwintered on pasture land.	9	Determined to be unsuitable for testing because <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• it unduly increases response burden</li> <li>• it is difficult for respondents to answer</li> <li>• it is not of national interest</li> <li>• the data is too granular for a CEAG</li> <li>• some of these topics have not tested well historically</li> <li>• limited widespread interest in the data.</li> </ul>
		Add more information regarding how crop residue is managed.	6	Determined to be unsuitable for testing because <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• it has an impact on historical comparability</li> <li>• it unduly increases response burden</li> <li>• it is difficult for respondents to answer</li> <li>• the data is too granular for a CEAG.</li> </ul>

**Table D.2**  
**Summary of content consultation submissions for secondary content**

Topic	Question number in 2021 Census of Agriculture	Summary of submissions received	Number of comments	Topic assessment
Inputs or manure	Questions 38 and 39	Make simple changes to question wording.	1	Determined to be suitable for testing because <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• it improves question accessibility</li> <li>• it does not increase the response burden.</li> </ul>
		Add categories for organic inputs and manure and manure, crop types, and other types of inputs and manures.	15	Determined to be unsuitable for testing because <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the targeted population does not meet size criteria</li> <li>• there are high quality alternative data sources</li> <li>• it is difficult for respondents to answer</li> <li>• it has an impact on historical comparability</li> <li>• it unduly increases response burden.</li> </ul>
		Add content about concentrations and nutrient components of fertilizers and manures, concentrations and source species of manure contents, timing of manure application, whether manure was purchased or produced, and application method.	35	Determined to be unsuitable for testing because <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the data is too granular for a CEAG</li> <li>• there are high quality alternative data sources</li> <li>• it unduly increases response burden</li> <li>• it is difficult for respondents to answer.</li> </ul>
Irrigation	Question 40	Provide more detailed irrigation information (e.g., types of crops irrigated and types of irrigation systems, and include greenhouse).	8	Determined to be unsuitable for testing because <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• it unduly increases response burden</li> <li>• it is not of national interest</li> <li>• it has an impact on historical comparability</li> <li>• it is difficult for respondents to answer</li> <li>• there are high quality alternative data sources.</li> </ul>
Technologies	Question 60	Add additional content on internet and mobile network coverage.	2	Determined to be unsuitable for testing because <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• it unduly increases response burden</li> <li>• there are high quality alternative data sources.</li> </ul>
		Add various categories.	25	Determined to be unsuitable for testing because <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• limited widespread interest in the data</li> <li>• it unduly increases response burden</li> <li>• it is difficult for respondents to answer</li> <li>• the data is too granular for a CEAG</li> <li>• the targeted population does not meet size criteria.</li> </ul>
		Make simple changes to question wording.	3	Determined to be unsuitable for testing because <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the geographical scope is too narrow</li> <li>• it is difficult for respondents to answer</li> <li>• it unduly increases the response burden.</li> </ul>
		Addition of more animal related categories.	5	Determined to be suitable for testing because <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• it has national scope</li> <li>• it is important for existing policies and programs</li> <li>• collection of this data every 5 years is sufficient</li> <li>• there is high interest in the data.</li> </ul>
Renewable energy	Questions 61 and 62	Add content for quantity of energy produced, used or sold and more information on how the energy from renewable resources is used on the farm.	6	Determined to be unsuitable for testing because <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• it unduly increases response burden</li> <li>• it is difficult for respondents to answer</li> <li>• the data is too granular for a CEAG</li> <li>• the targeted population does not meet size criteria</li> <li>• limited widespread interest in the data.</li> </ul>
		Add additional categories for area used to produce biomass and quantity of biomass, include more details on solar energy.	4	Determined to be unsuitable for testing because <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• it unduly increases response burden</li> <li>• it is difficult for respondents to answer</li> <li>• the data is too granular for a CEAG</li> <li>• the targeted population does not meet size criteria</li> <li>• limited widespread interest in the data.</li> </ul>
		Make changes to biomethane wording.	2	Determined to be unsuitable for testing because <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• it unduly increases response burden</li> <li>• it is difficult for respondents to answer</li> <li>• the data is too granular for a CEAG.</li> </ul>

**Table D.2**  
**Summary of content consultation submissions for secondary content**

<b>Topic</b>	<b>Question number in 2021 Census of Agriculture</b>	<b>Summary of submissions received</b>	<b>Number of comments</b>	<b>Topic assessment</b>
Farm vehicles, machinery and equipment	Question 64	Add more categories and options.	8	Determined to be unsuitable for testing because <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• it has an impact on historical comparability</li> <li>• it unduly increases response burden</li> <li>• it is difficult for respondents to answer</li> <li>• the data is too granular for a CEAG.</li> </ul>
Direct sales	Questions 68 to 71	Clarify and add context.	5	Determined to be unsuitable for testing because <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• there are high quality alternative data sources.</li> </ul>
Succession plan	Question 72	Add content about type and transition time for the succession plan.	2	Determined to be unsuitable for testing because <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• it unduly increases response burden</li> <li>• it is difficult for respondents to answer</li> <li>• the data is too granular for a CEAG.</li> </ul>

**Source:** 2026 Census of Agriculture content consultations.