The combination of farmer ingenuity, protection from the Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR), a moderate climate, exports and proximity to urban markets, enables farms in Metro Vancouver to generate over $954 million (26% of BC’s gross annual farm receipts) on only 1.5% of the province’s agricultural land.

### Farmlands by Municipality

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Municipality</th>
<th>Farms</th>
<th>Operators</th>
<th>Ha</th>
<th>Average Size</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Burnaby</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>1.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vancouver</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>154</td>
<td>3.9</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Richmond</td>
<td>189</td>
<td>265</td>
<td>3.122</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Delta</td>
<td>185</td>
<td>270</td>
<td>9.090</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surrey</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>645</td>
<td>7.007</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pitt Meadows</td>
<td>133</td>
<td>195</td>
<td>4.785</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maple Ridge</td>
<td>203</td>
<td>310</td>
<td>2.446</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Langley Township</td>
<td>113</td>
<td>1,620</td>
<td>10.807</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barnston Island &amp; Other Municipalities</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>110</td>
<td>10</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Metro Vancouver Total</td>
<td>2,412</td>
<td>3,525</td>
<td>38,380</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Additional Information

- **Gross Farm Receipts are before expenses related to farming are deducted.**
- **Metro Vancouver has lots of small farms.**
  - 49% of farms are less than 4 ha in size.
  - 43% of farms have less than $10,000 in gross annual farm receipts.

### Farm Operators

Farm operators are the persons that make the management decisions on a farm. In 2016, there were 3,525 farm operators in the Metro Vancouver region.

- **35-54 years old:**
  - Male: 35%
  - Female: 35%
  - Younger than 35:
- **Older than 55:**
  - Male: 59%
  - Female: 35%
  - Average Age: 56.7

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*Regional Planning Committee 28*
The number of farms using beneficial land management practices has increased over the last 5 years:

- 19% of farms practice rotational grazing
- 15% of farms use windbreaks or shelterbelts
- 8% of farms are plowing down green manure
- 8% of farms use winter cover crops
- 831 farms are irrigating 12,188 ha of land
- 728 farms are using manure a 50% decrease from 2011
- 87 farms are growing organic products for sale

Farms in Metro Vancouver produce a wide variety of crops and livestock:

- 416 egg production
- 586 chicken + hen
- 189 turkey + other poultry
- 471 horse + pony
- 384 cattle (beef + dairy)
- 170 bee colonies
- 189 sheep + lamb
- 721 fruit, nut and berry
- 656 hay and field crops
- 388 vegetable
- 238 nursery and sod
- 225 greenhouse products
- 88 potato
- 20 mushroom

For further information see the 2016 Census of Agriculture bulletin on the Metro Vancouver website.