

SECTOR PROFILE AT A GLANCE

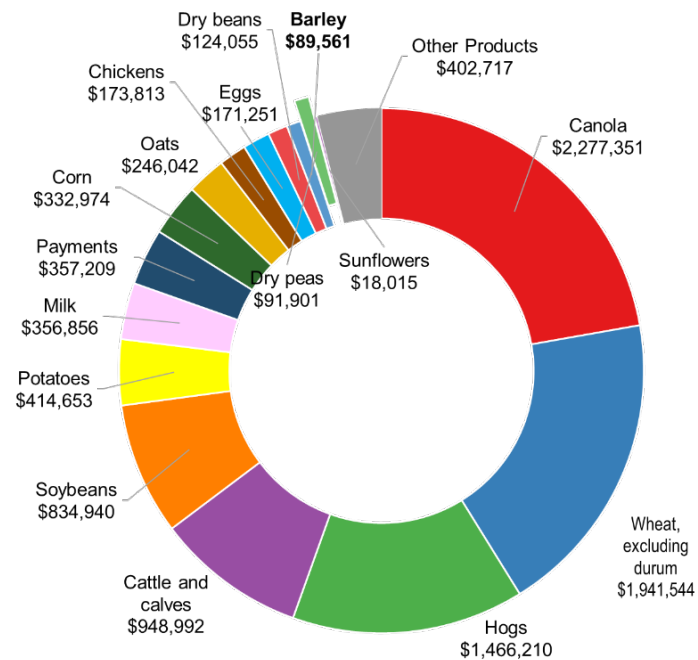
Barley



Highlights

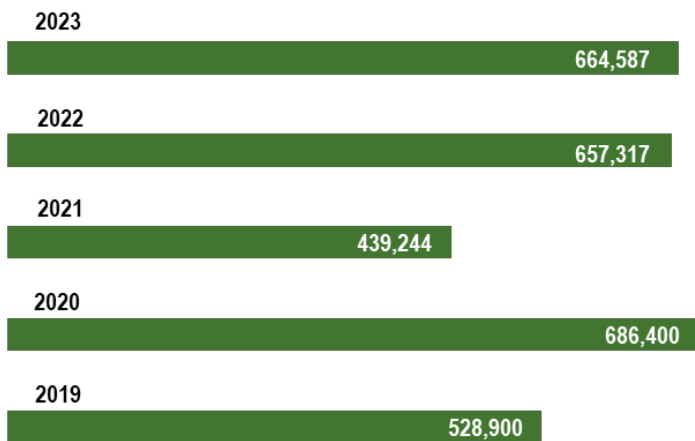
- Manitoba planted 311,200 acres to barley in 2024, positioning it as the sixth largest crop by seeded area.
- In 2023, Manitoba produced 7.5 per cent of Canada's barley, while Alberta produced 53 per cent and Saskatchewan produced 36.3 per cent.
- The Manitoba-wide record barley yield of 80.4 bushels per acre was achieved in 2017.
- Over half of Manitoba's barley is used locally for livestock feed, with the remainder roughly split evenly as the input to produce malt in Manitoba or as exports for malting overseas.
- China is the largest export market for Manitoba barley, while the United States is the largest buyer for Manitoba's barley malt.

Farm Cash Receipts (2023, '000 of dollars)



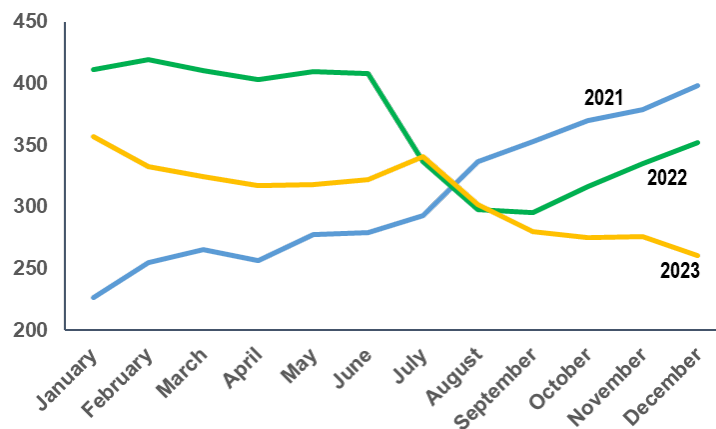
Source: Statistics Canada

Production (metric tonnes)



Source: Statistics Canada

Prices (dollars per metric tonne)



Source: Foresight and Analysis

Processing

- Because barley is a very digestible and nutritious feed choice for all species, Manitoba's livestock sectors are the primary consumers of barley grown in the province.
- Barley is also malted to produce barley malt, a key beer-making ingredient. The malting process can be adjusted to achieve specific desired flavours.
- Malteurop Canada Ltd operates a malt house just east of Winnipeg.
- Manitoba is home to over two dozen local craft breweries, producing homegrown beers.
- The Manitoba Brewers Association is a group of craft brewers that collaborate to promote and celebrate Manitoba's local craft beers.
- Barley is also a food ingredient commonly used in soups in the form of pearled barley. It may be consumed whole or in various baked products in flour form as well. Barley is rich in vitamins and minerals, along with soluble and insoluble fibre and antioxidants.

Marketing and Trade

- The price of barley, along with most crops, rose strongly through 2021 as drought reduced supplies. Improved production in both 2022 and 2023 moved prices lower in a two-step fashion.
- In 2023, Manitoba exported about \$87 million of barley and barley products. Barley exports were predominantly destined for China at 79 per cent, with the United States second at 18 per cent. For barley products, the United States was the main buyer, representing 80 per cent of barley product exports.

DID YOU KNOW?

- Manitoba's barley is destined for two primary uses: malting to make beer and as feed for all species of livestock.
- By seeded area, barley is Manitoba's sixth largest crop for 2024.
- Barley is one of Manitoba's traditional crops as it is suited to a cooler, shorter growing season.
- Pearled barley is a popular ingredient in hearty soups.
- Manitoba's barley producers are represented by the Manitoba Crop Alliance and Cereals Canada who focus on profitability, sustainability and market promotion of barley.
- The Canadian Malting Barley Technical Centre (CMBTC) supports the barley-malting sector by providing technical and marketing support.
- The Brewing and Malting Barley Research Institute (BMBRI) focuses on research aimed at improved malting barley agronomics and malting characteristics.

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Contact us

- www.manitoba.ca/agriculture/markets-and-statistics/.
- Email us at industryintelligence@gov.mb.ca.
- Follow us on X @MBGovAg.

