



Oats

Oats are enjoying their recently-conferred status of “superfood.” They are a natural, gluten-free whole grain, packed with healthy carbohydrates and fibre, as well as a number of important vitamins, minerals, and antioxidants.

The world has taken notice: The U.S. devours 60 percent of all Canadian oats, with export demand growing heartily. The Chinese breakfast cereal market, which accounts for \$1.1 billion U.S., is seeing consumption of ready-to-eat oatmeal increasing among all age demographics.

Canadian farmers in 2019 planted 3.6 million acres of oats (the highest area in a decade), and our federal government recently allocated \$2 million to oat breeding (a testament to their faith in this crop’s future).

Closer to home, Alberta has 40 percent of all the organic oat production in western Canada. Mackenzie County is one of the most concentrated regions for organic oats in all of North America.



MACKENZIE COUNTY HAS A SIGNIFICANT PERCENTAGE OF THE TOTAL ORGANIC OATS ACREAGE IN CANADA.



Facts & Figures on Oats

Statistics Canada, Mackenzie County

OATS, 2011/2016 CENSUS	2011	2016
Number of farms reporting	187	262
Acres	38,396	52,983
Hectares	15,538	21,441

Mackenzie County is one of the most concentrated sourcing regions for organic oats in North America. In 2018, Alberta organic oats acreage was **85,173**, which accounts for **40%** of the total in Canada.



U.S. is the largest buyer of Alberta oats (93%); oats garnered **\$28 million** for the province.



Alberta has **40%** of the organic oat production in western Canada and 100% of the organic milling oats processed in North America.

In 2017 there were **301** export shipments of oats in the province.

Growing, Naturally.

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