#### SECTOR PROFILE AT A GLANCE

# **Dry Peas**



## **Highlights**

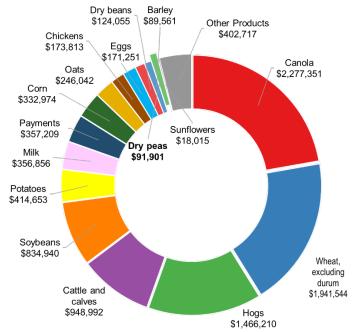
- Farm cash receipts for peas more than tripled from 2019 to 2023 in Manitoba, from \$29.3 million to \$91.9 million.
- Manitoba's harvested pea acreage has averaged 183,695 acres from 2020-24, almost doubling the 98,380-acre average from 2015-19. For 2024, production is estimated at 223,640 metric tonnes, third highest on record after 2022 and 2020.
- Roquette has been operating the world's largest pea processing plant in Portage la Prairie since late 2020.
- Dry peas are used to produce pea flour, protein, starch and fibre. They are also an excellent protein-dense, highly digestible feed for hogs, poultry and cattle.
- Manitoba is projected to harvest 7.1 per cent of Canada's total dry pea production in 2024.
  Saskatchewan and Alberta are estimated to produce 54.7 and 37.5 per cent respectively of Canada's pea production in 2024.

## Production (metric tonnes)



Source: Statistics Canada

## Farm Cash Receipts (2023, '000 of dollars)



Source: Statistics Canada

### **Prices** (dollars per metric tonne)



Source: Statistics Canada

## **Processing**

- Roquette operates the world's largest pea processing plant in Portage la Prairie, Manitoba, serving growing global demand for plant-based proteins.
- Pea-based ingredients are broadly used in baked goods, baking mixes, soup mixes, breakfast cereals, processed meats, health foods, pastas, and purees.
- Food use of dry peas includes canning, split, and whole dry markets, as well as value-added food ingredients (e.g., flour, starch, fibre, and protein).
- There are several companies in Manitoba that clean, split and bag peas for export. Several others produce refined pea starch and protein, fine and coarse pea hull fibre, and packaged pea soup.
- Dry peas are an excellent source of protein, soluble and insoluble fibre, complex carbohydrates, B vitamins and minerals (e.g., calcium, iron and potassium).

## **Marketing**

- Canada is the world's largest exporter and producer of dry peas.
- The majority of dry peas produced in Manitoba are yellow peas. Several factors determine the grade of dry peas, including paleness of colour, splits, cracked seed coats and shriveled immature seed. Canada No. 2 Yellow is the minimum grade for processing as well as in most export markets.
- The export demand for dry peas and processed pea products is growing, thanks to population growth and increasing demand for plant-based protein.
- Pea prices declined in 2023 through summer, then recovered somewhat, but ended 2023 lower than they started.
- In 2023, Manitoba exported \$57.9 million worth of dry peas as dried, shelled or split peas.

#### **DID YOU KNOW?**

- Pea production in Manitoba began in 1908, when fewer than 2,000 acres were harvested.
- Dry peas are a cool season crop with a relatively shallow root system. They are generally as drought tolerant as cereal grains, but do not tolerate heat stress during flowering.
- Crop rotation is enhanced by incorporating dry peas, since they are not grown on the same field more than once every four years.
- Crops grown on a field following dry peas tend to have improved yields, thanks to the nitrogenfixing capabilities of dry peas.
- The amino acids in pea protein cover 95 per cent of the daily essential proteins needed for an adult.
- Manitoba Pulse and Soybean Growers represents dry pea farmers in Manitoba with a focus on research, knowledge sharing, and market development.

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#### **Contact us**

- Go to manitoba.ca/agriculture and click on Markets and Statistics.
- Email us at industryintelligence@gov.mb.ca.
- Follow us on X@MBGovAg.

