RDBN Agriculture Plan: PRODUCER SURVEY



1. Please choose the area which best describes where you live.

	Response Percent	Response Count
Smithers / Telkwa / Electoral Area	40.0%	32
Burns Lake / Electoral Area B	2.5%	2
Fort St. James/ Electoral Area C	11.3%	9
Fraser Lake / Endako / Fort Fraser / Electoral Area D	5.0%	4
Ootsa Lake / West Francois Lake / Electoral Area E	7.5%	6
Vanderhoof / Cluculz Lake / Electoral Area F	30.0%	24
Houston / Topley / Granisle / Electoral Area G	1.3%	1
Other (please specify)	2.5%	2
	answered question	80
	skipped question	2

2. How long have you lived in the area?

	Response Percent	Response Count
less than 5 years	16.5%	13
5-15 years	15.2%	12
15+ years	68.4%	54
	answered question	79
	skipped question	3

3. Please tell us your age category.

	Response Percent	Response Count
under 19 years	0.0%	0
19-34 years	10.1%	8
35-49 years	22.8%	18
50-64 years	36.7%	29
65+ years	30.4%	24
	answered question	79
	skipped question	3

4. What agricultural products do you produce? (Check all that apply)

	Response Percent	Response Count
fodder	40.3%	31
beef / hogs	70.1%	54
sheep / goats	19.5%	15
poultry / rabbits	11.7%	9
dairy	6.5%	5
grain	3.9%	3
eggs	14.3%	11
honey	3.9%	3
vegetables / fruits	23.4%	18
wildcrafting	1.3%	1
agri-tourism	2.6%	2
Other (please specify)	15.6%	12
	answered question	77
	skipped question	5

5. What was your gross income from the production of agricultural products in 2010?

	Response Percent	Response Count
under \$10,000	31.1%	23
\$10,001 - \$20,000	9.5%	7
\$20,001 - \$50,000	28.4%	21
\$50,001 - \$100,000	8.1%	6
\$100,001 - \$150,000	8.1%	6
\$150,001 or more	14.9%	11
	answered question	74
	skipped question	8

6. What percentage of your net income was from the production of agricultural products in 2010?

	Response Percent	Response Count
under 10%	35.6%	26
11% - 20%	5.5%	4
21% - 40%	9.6%	7
41% - 60%	8.2%	6
61% - 80%	11.0%	8
81% - 100%	30.1%	22
	answered question	73
	skipped question	9

7. With respect to land, which of the following present the greatest challenges you face as an agricultural producer? (please select a maximum of three)

	Response Percent	Response Count
lack of availability	22.4%	15
high land prices	35.8%	24
soil quality	37.3%	25
Crown land procurement	29.9%	20
encroaching development	7.5%	5
zoning	4.5%	3
ALR regulations	25.4%	17
conflict with other land uses	19.4%	13
water supply	19.4%	13
Other (please specify)	16.4%	11
	answered question	67
	skipped question	15

8. With respect to farm operations, which of the following present the greatest challenges you face as an agricultural producer? (please select a maximum of three)

	Response Percent	Response Count
profitability	84.1%	58
government regulations	63.8%	44
succession planning	11.6%	8
lack of skilled labour	17.4%	12
lack of farming knowledge (e.g. new products, methods, etc.)	8.7%	6
Other (please specify)	17.4%	12
	answered question	69
	skipped question	13

9. With respect to infrastructure, which of the following present the greatest challenges you face as an agricultural producer? (please select a maximum of three)

	Response Percent	Response Count
fencing and construction costs	76.2%	48
availability of equipment maintenance expertise	25.4%	16
access to power	3.2%	2
access to 3 phase power	12.7%	8
access to natural gas	0.0%	0
access to broadband internet service	12.7%	8
irrigation costs	19.0%	12
road access	9.5%	6
access to processing facilities	49.2%	31
access to cold storage facilities	15.9%	10
Other (please specify)	11.1%	7
	answered question	63
	skipped question	19

10. With respect to marketing, which of the following present the greatest challenges you face as an agricultural producer? (please select a maximum of three)

	Response Percent	Response Count
lack of training/expertise	16.19	5 10
restricted access to markets	50.0%	31
distance to markets	61.3%	38
limited advertizing budget	19.4%	5 12
limited time	40.3%	5 25
Other (please specify)	8.19	5 5
	answered question	62
	skipped question	20

11. Which markets do you sell to as an agricultural producer? (please select all that apply)

	Response Percent	Response Count
local market through a farmer's market	20.0%	13
local market by farm gate sales	64.6%	42
local retail outlets	4.6%	3
local restaurants	3.1%	2
Institutions (hospitals, schools, etc.)	1.5%	1
outside of region by direct sales	35.4%	23
outside of region by auction	41.5%	27
Other (please specify)	15.4%	10
	answered question	65
	skipped question	17

12. Which marketing tools do you use to sell your agricultural products? (please select all that apply)

	Response Percent	Response Count
word of mouth	83.6%	51
local newspaper / newsletter	13.1%	8
farmers market	18.0%	11
local producers directory	18.0%	11
community sponsorship	0.0%	0
radio	0.0%	0
internet	19.7%	12
Other (please specify)	24.6%	15
	answered question	61
	skipped question	21

13. Which resources would most help you as an agricultural producer? (please select a maximum of three)

	Response Percent	Response Count
business development and marketing support	42.2%	27
training opportunities	17.2%	11
strengthened farmer's markets	23.4%	15
assistance with government regulation	37.5%	24
development of innovative farm practices and products	26.6%	17
increased government financial support to local producers	51.6%	33
Other (please specify)	21.9%	14
	answered question	64
	skipped question	18

14. Which areas of education or training would most help you as an agricultural producer? (please select all that apply)

	Respons Percent	
business skills	18.69	6 11
marketing	50.89	6 30
basic farm workers skills	6.89	6 4
advanced farm practice and product	37.39	6 22
government regulations	42.49	6 25
Other (please specify)	20.3%	6 12
	answered questio	n 59
	skipped questio	n 23

15. Do you provide any type of agritourism products?

	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	10.8%	7
No	89.2%	58
	answered question	65
	skipped question	17

16. If yes, which types of agritourism products do you provide?

	Response Percent	Response Count
sleigh rides	0.0%	0
petting farm / zoo	11.1%	1
horse rentals / trail rides / pony rides	0.0%	0
farm bed and breakfast	22.2%	2
farm tours	66.7%	6
working farm vacation	22.2%	2
farm vacation	0.0%	0
farm weddings / special events	22.2%	2
mazes	0.0%	0
Other (please specify)	33.3%	3
	answered question	9
	skipped question	73

17. What is the primary challenge facing a new farmer?

	Response Percent	Response Count
land costs	29.9%	20
equipment and construction costs	23.9%	16
farming knowledge	4.5%	3
Other (please specify)	41.8%	28
	answered question	67
	skipped question	15

18. In your opinion, what are the primary challenges facing agricultural producers in region?	າ our
	Response Count
	49
answered question	49
skipped question	33
19. In your opinion, what are the best ways the Regional District could support local agriculture?	
	Response Count
	42
answered question	42
skipped question	40
20. Any other comments or suggestions?	
	Response Count
	17
answered question	17
skipped question	65