

Agriculture in Canada

Use pages 163-165 in the *Experience Canada* package to answer the following questions to learn more about the importance of agriculture in Canada.

1. What does the term *agriculture* refer to and where do we find most agricultural activity in Canada (rural or urban areas)?

*Farming! Mostly rural (some in outskirts of suburban areas but that's usually because of urban sprawl)*

2. Is agriculture a renewable or non-renewable resource? Why?

*Renewable, if we take care of our land, we can reproduce the products of farming fairly quickly*

3. Describe why agriculture is important to Canada

*Provides jobs, brings \$ into the country through exports, provides much of the food we eat*

4. Compare crop production to animal production. Which one is more valuable to the Canadian economy?

*Crop production worth: \$9 308 million VS Animal production worth: \$3 645 million  
SOOOOO, **crop production** is worth more*

5. In what part of Canada does most crop production take place? Think back to our other units. What type of soil is found in this area?

*MOSTLY in the Prairies (Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Alberta) → flat land, short but hot summers, good rainfall  
Soil is dark and rich in minerals (because glaciers brought them in!!)*

Now use **pages 121-122** in your textbook **Geography Now** to learn about mechanization.

1. Explain what *mechanization* means:

*→ machines take over the jobs that humans/animals would have previously completed*

2. Identify three reasons why many farms have become mechanized in Canada.

*1. machines make workers' jobs easier*

*2. the work can be done faster*

*3. farmers can expand their farms because they can do more work*

3. Analyze Figure 12.4 on page 122. Use the figure to complete the following sentences in your notebook.

*Mechanization decreases employment in rural areas because...fewer workers are needed to run a farm.*

*Mechanization increases the size of farms because...the farms are able to earn MORE income than non-mechanized farms and, therefore, have the money to expand.*

*Mechanization decreases the number of farms in Canada because...machines cost a lot of money! There are fewer farm owners that have the money needed to invest in the machinery.*