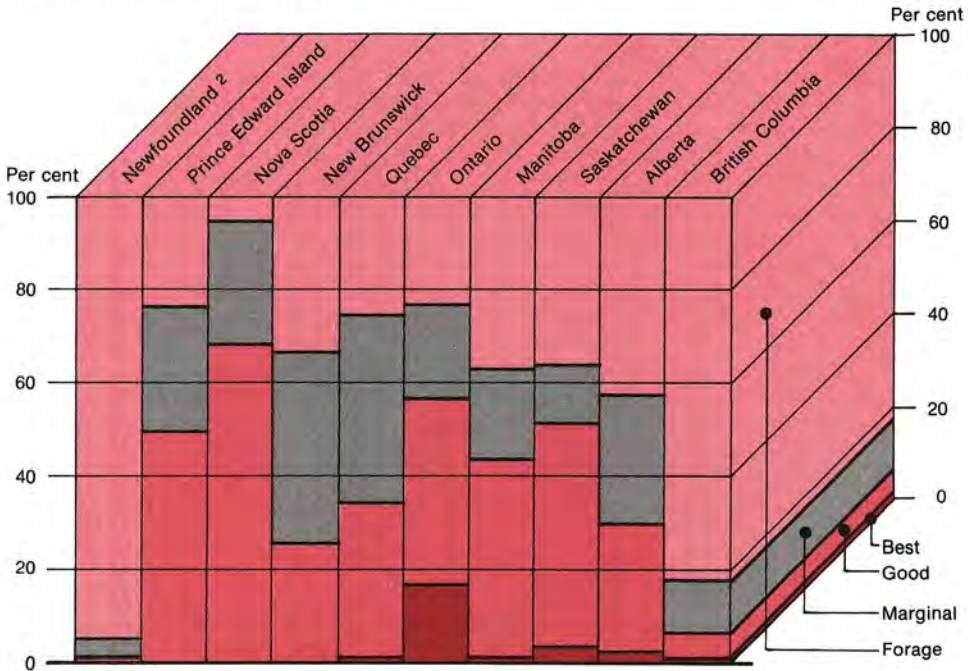


Food land capabilities by province¹

1. By Canada Land Inventory definition.

2. Includes only areas of Newfoundland within a 161 km radius of St. John's.

In Newfoundland agriculture is of only local importance because of rough terrain. Bogland offers some potential for reclaiming and vegetable farming.

The central region. This lowland area bordering the St. Lawrence River includes the Ottawa Valley and extends through Southern Ontario to Lake Huron. Fertile soils, mostly formed by glacial drift and lake sediment developed under deciduous forest cover, and a mild climate modified by the Great Lakes and the St. Lawrence River, account for varied farming. Precipitation averages 760 to 1 140 mm a year. It is the most densely populated part of the country, providing large markets for farm produce.

Well over half the commercial farms of Quebec are now dairy farms, a change from the traditional small mixed farming of old Quebec. Fairly large butter and cheese industries rely on these farms. Livestock farms, specializing in beef cattle, hogs or sheep, and mixed farms are common, and poultry and egg production is increasing. Forage crops account for the largest cultivation and oats and corn for feed are produced. Fruits, particularly apples, and vegetables are becoming prime crops. Sugar beets and flue-cured tobacco are also grown and processed.

Ontario has specialized crops in more southerly regions and the largest number of commercial livestock farms, and is second in dairy farms. Forage crops are the largest cultivated crops; others are corn, mixed grains, winter wheat, oats and barley.

Dairy farms are concentrated in Middlesex, Oxford and Perth counties in southwestern Ontario, in the Bruce Peninsula and in the eastern counties. Beef is a specialty in Lake Huron and Georgian Bay areas. Sheep, poultry and hog production is widespread. Ontario is a major producer of apples and the Niagara Peninsula accounts for most of Canada's tender tree fruits and grapes. Vegetables are grown near most large centres. Maple syrup is a major sideline for farmers in Ontario and Quebec.