

# Canada's Raspberry Industry

- BC Raspberry Industry Development Council
- Lisa Craig, Council Manager
- IRO - May 2021





# Provinces Producing Raspberries in Canada

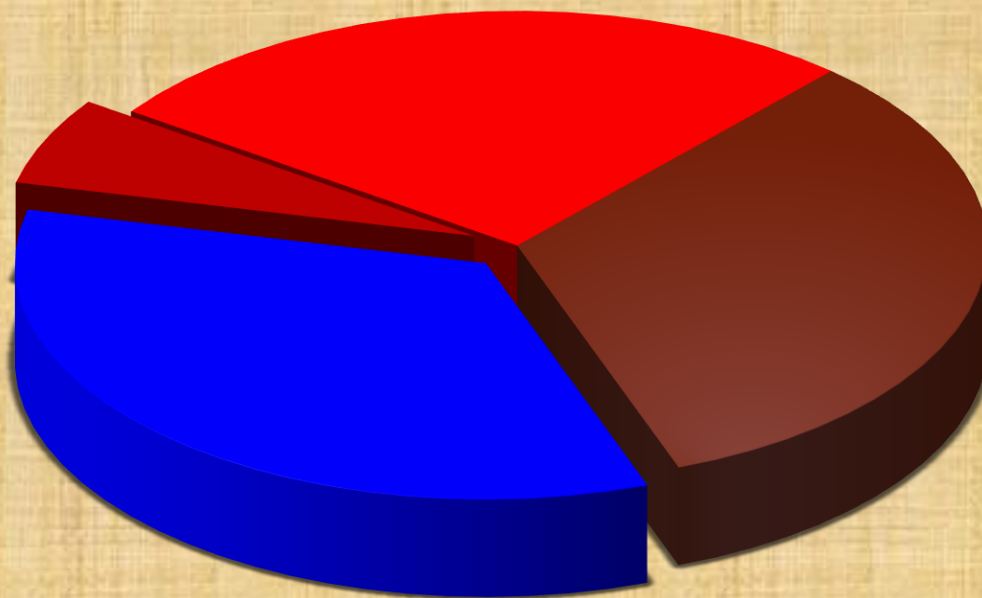




## Canada's Raspberry Industry

IRO MEMBER 2021	
Country Name	Canada
Cultivated Area (HA)	1,775
Total Production (MT)	7,653
Yield (MT/HA)	9.485
Varieties (Name and %)	Eastern Canada: Tulameen and Malahat Western Canada: Meeker: 60%, Chemainus: 20% Wake™Field/Wake™Haven: 9%; Rudi: 6%; and Squamish: 5%

# Berry Production in Canada



■ Blueberries ■ Raspberries ■ Strawberries ■ Cranberries



# Canada's Raspberry Production

## over past 5-years

Year	Metric Ton (000)	Hectares	Farm Gate Value Dollars
2016	11,670	2,314	\$37,952 Mil
2017	9,745	2,140	\$34,942 Mil
2018	10,192	2,093	\$35,452 Mil
2019	8,947	1,963	\$32,128 Mil
2020	7,134	1,775	\$28,596 Mil

Source: Statistics Canada (<https://www.canada.ca/en/statistics-canada.html>).





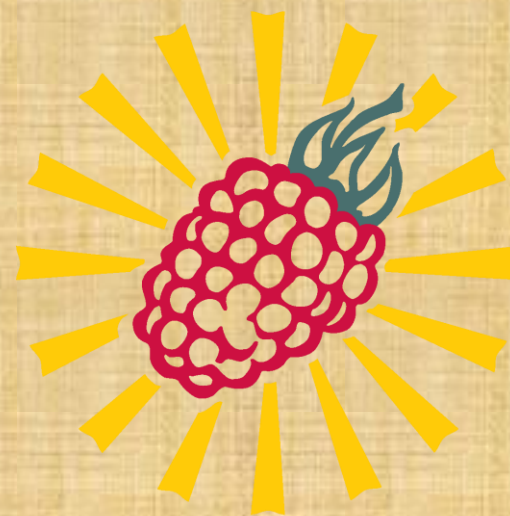
## Canada's Raspberry Trade

Year	Exports Fresh & Frozen Metric Tons	Imports Fresh & Frozen Metric Tons
2016	3,645	34,680
2017	3,045	36,061
2018	2,968	40,264
2019	3,663	44,270
2020	4,556	47,954

Source: Statistics Canada (<https://www.canada.ca/en/statistics-canada.html>)



# British Columbia's Raspberry Industry



british columbia  
raspberries





# BC's Raspberry History

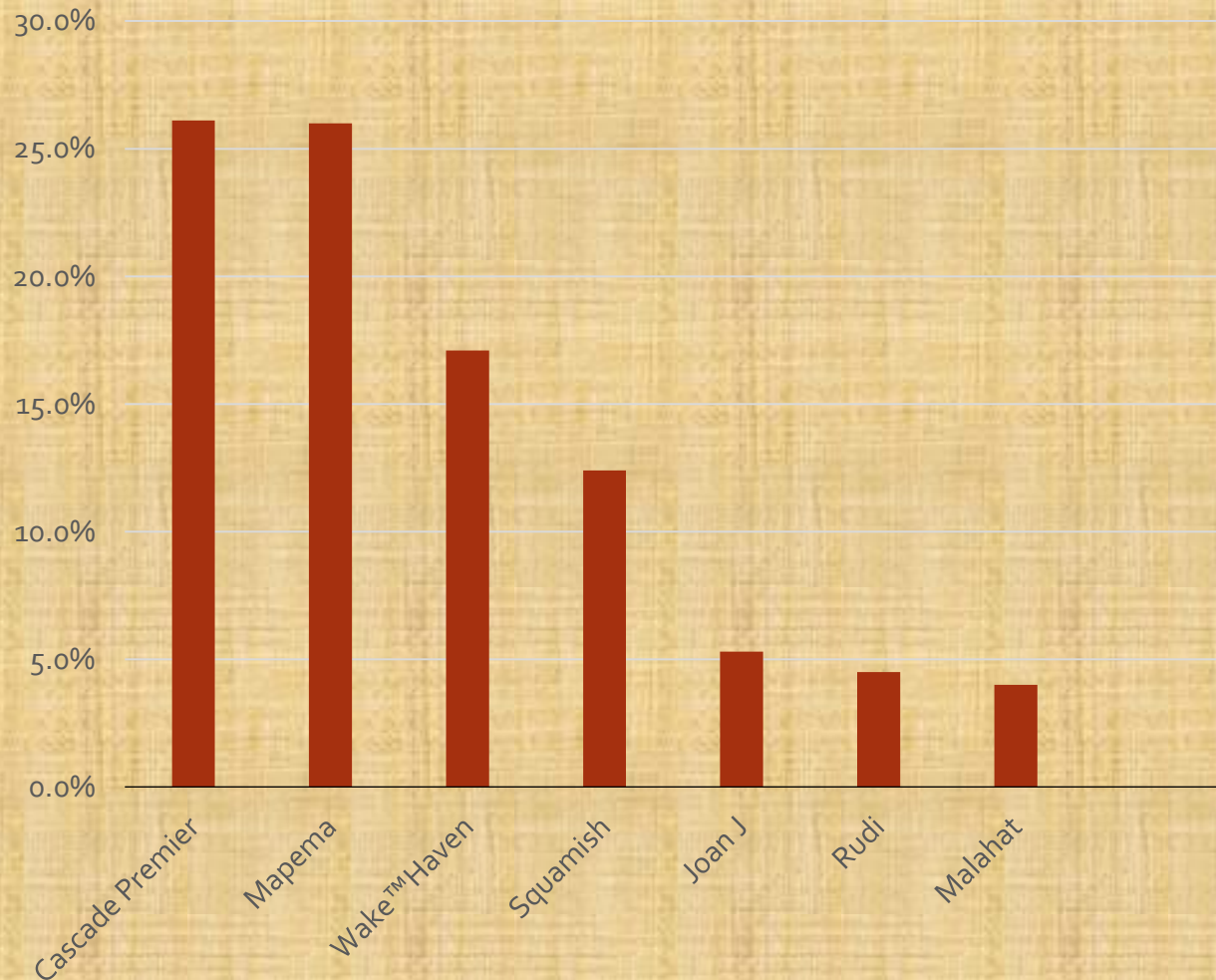
- British Columbia has been producing and promoting raspberries collectively for over 50 years.
- In 2020, British Columbia accounted for 72% of the total raspberry production and 54% of the raspberry planted area in Canada. Whereas, in 2016 BC accounted for 77% of the total raspberry production and 56% of the raspberry planted area.
- Many farms involve 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> generation family members, who are following in their ancestors' footsteps and aligning their farms with new production practices with respect to climate change, soil health and innovative technologies.
- The central producing area is in Abbotsford, which is located in the Fraser Valley, 60 km East of Vancouver and 187 km North of Seattle, Washington.
- Production Radius: 16.1 km East to West & 6.7 km North to South







# Raspberry varieties planted in BC in 2020





# BC's Raspberry Production

## over 5 years

Year	Marketed Production Metric Tons	Planted Area Hectares	Farm Gate Value Thousands of Dollars
2016	9,040	1,289	\$20.7 Mil
2017	7,463	1,189	\$19.1 Mil
2018	7,899	1,177	\$19.4 Mil
2019	6,789	1,090	\$16.9 Mil
2020	5,149	950	\$13.9 Mil

Source: Statistics Canada (<https://www.canada.ca/en/statistics-canada.html>).





## BC Packing Facilities



Fresh Pack Facilities

7

Processors

9

Processors (with IQF)

7

Juice Plants

5

U-Pick operations

15+





## BC Format Types



- BC production is over 80% frozen
- With 80 – 85% in bulk-block and 15-20% IQF
- There has been a shift in focus fresh and IQF raspberries over the last 5-years

# BC Raspberries



## Research and Plant Breeding





# BC Raspberries



## Research and Plant Breeding

- **Raspberry Breeding** – germplasm and cultivar development to improve yield, quality, pest and disease resistance
- **Raspberry Pathology** – decision to support systems for fruit rot, root rot management, disease resistance screening in breeding populations
- **Raspberry Entomology** – genetic resistance to key arthropod pests, trapping methods for invasive pests (SWD, Strawberry Blossom Weevil), and integrated pest management practices
- **Raspberry Crop Enhancement** – evaluation of biostimulants, and novel methods for control of plant parasitic nematodes





# BC's Challenges



## Labour:

- Low availability of domestic workers
- Reliability on foreign workers
- Increased minimum wage



## Production

- High input costs and strict regulations
- Fungicide/herbicide resistance (e.g., Botrytis)
- SWD (Spotted Wing Drosophila - *Drosophila suzukii*)
- New pest: Strawberry Blossom Weevil (*Anthonomous rubi*)
- Root rot, nematodes and weed species

## MRL Requirements for Export

- Ever changing MRL requirements
- Non-standardization world-wide
- Standardization between berry commodities

## Supply costs and supply of goods

# Food Safety

- CanadaGAP certification in British Columbia has become an industry standard and farms continue to be CanadaGAP Audited annually
- GAP Certification for shipping to a packers/processors is required
- Varying types of Audits:

CanadaGAP – recognized by (GFSI)

GlobalGAP (GFSI)

Primus Audit (GFSI)







## Acknowledgements



- BC Raspberry Council would like to thank the IRO committee and Poland for the invitation to participate and for considering the health and safety of the members by holding the IRO meeting virtually.
- Information for this presentation was supplied by the BC Raspberry Industry Development Council, BC's packers/processors, BC raspberry growers and Statistics Canada.
- Photos by Carolyn Teasdale, Amy Bergen