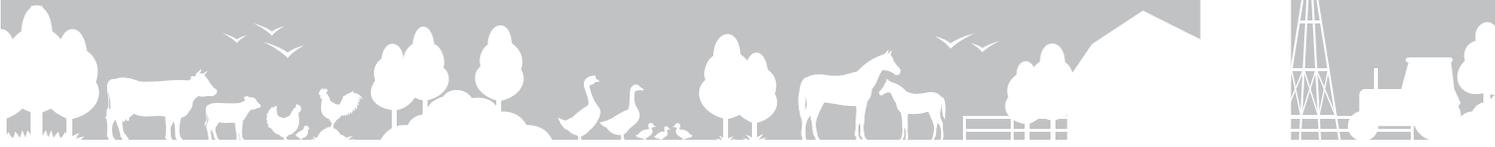


EXPLORE ANIMALS



Alberta has 40,638 farms. Many of them grow crops like wheat, canola or hay. Others raise animals.

Read the table and identify two animals that are raised on Alberta farms:

Cows, sheep, goats, pigs, and chickens.
Other animals could be: buffalo, bison, elk, bees, horses, ducks, geese, turkeys, llamas or alpacas

Name two animals that are poultry.

TURKEY
CHICKEN

Livestock are mammals. True False

Sometimes we refer to any animal on a farm as livestock including poultry, but livestock refers to mammals like cattle, pigs, goats, sheep or bison.

Can you match the parents and their offspring?

| DAD: | BABY OFFSPRING: | MOM: |
|----------|-----------------|-------|
| Tom | Poult | Hen |
| Rooster | Chick | Hen |
| Drake | Duckling | Hen |
| Gander | Gosling | Goose |
| Bull | Calf | Cow |
| Ram | Lamb | Ewe |
| Buck | Kid | Doe |
| Boar | Piglet | Sow |
| Stallion | Foal | Mare |

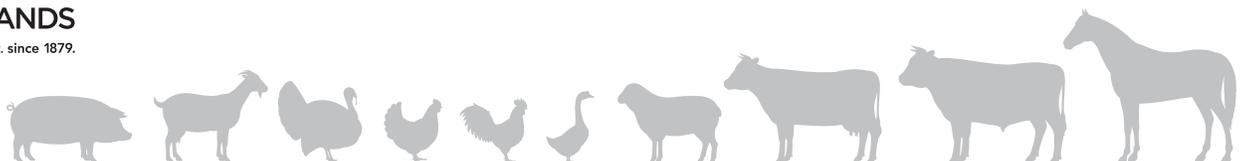
This table shows the kinds and number of livestock farms in Alberta.

| TYPE OF FARM | NUMBER OF FARMS IN ALBERTA |
|-----------------|----------------------------|
| Beef | 12,282 |
| Dairy | 411 |
| Poultry and egg | 373 |
| Pig | 166 |
| Sheep and goat | 399 |
| Other animals | 5,101 |

Do you think there are more dairy or beef cattle in Alberta?

Beef cattle

The table shows that there are 12,282 beef farms and just 411 dairy farms. Alberta is home to 4.7 million beef cattle compared to 81,000 dairy cattle.



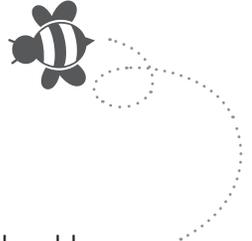
Alberta farms can have cattle, pigs and chickens. But there are also other animal farms too!

Name three "other" animals and identify the group they belong to...

| Farm Animal | Animal Group |
|-----------------------|--------------|
| Bison | Mammal |
| Elk | Mammal |
| Llamas, Alpacas | Mammal |
| Bee | Insect |
| Turkeys, Geese, Ducks | Bird |

Are there any animals on Alberta farms that aren't mammals or birds?

(Hint: one makes honey) Bees



What animal category does that animal belong to? Insect

Are they vertebrates or invertebrates? Bees are invertebrates as they do not have a backbone.

There are farms in Alberta that raise fish. True False

Alberta fish farmers seed and deliver fish to customers (such as restaurants). Farmers house fish in tanks in covered barns so they can monitor the oxygen and ammonia levels in the water.



Chicken Life Cycle

On a small farm, a chicken could spend its whole life cycle in one place. In the poultry industry however, a bird often spends different stages of the life cycle at different farms.

Who can be found at which farm?



| Life Cycle Stage | Type of Farm |
|--|-------------------|
| Roosters and hens live on this farm. They mate and the hens lay fertilized eggs. | Hatching Egg Farm |
| Fertilized eggs are hatched on this farm. The chicks are sent to other farms. | Hatchery |
| Pullets (female chicks) grow into adults on this farm and lay eggs for sale in grocery stores. | Egg Farm |
| Chicks, male and female, grow until they are about 8 weeks old when they are processed for meat. | Broiler Farm |

