

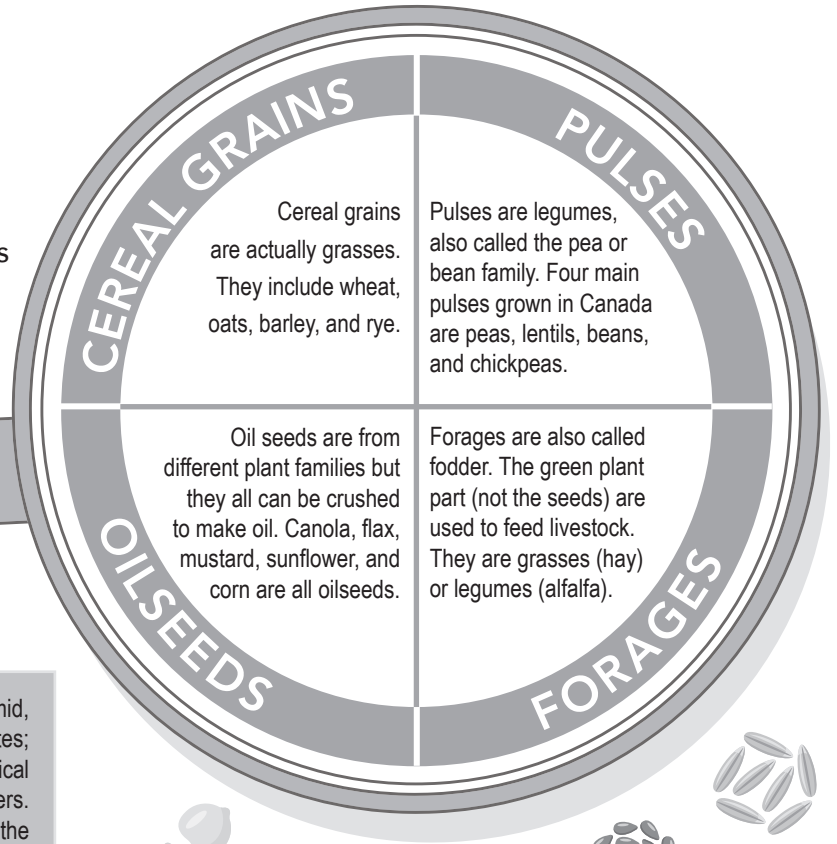
EXPLORE FIELD CROPS



What is the definition of a field crop?

A field crop is a plant that is:

- Planted on purpose and in an orderly way — it doesn't grow randomly or in the wild
- Grown on a large scale — in an area that is much larger than a garden or a patch
- Harvested and used by humans — it is often, but not always, to be eaten



We're going to divide field crops into four categories: >>>

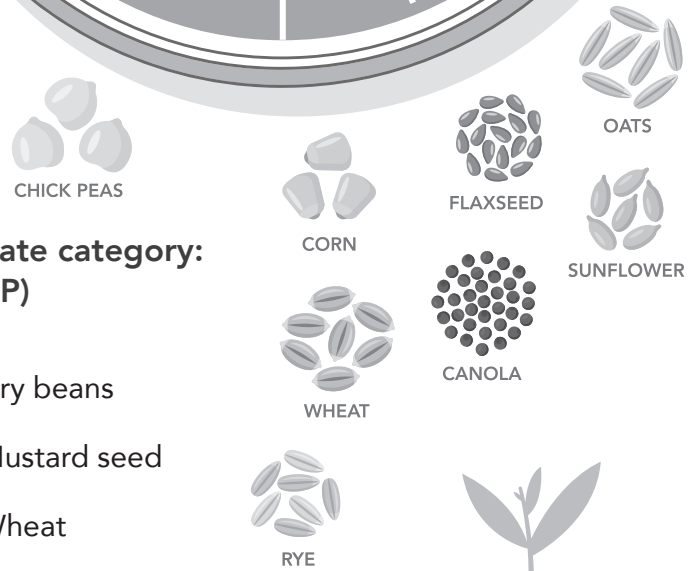
Cross out the two field crops that do NOT grow in Alberta:

- | | |
|-----------------|--------------------|
| Wheat | Peas |
| Canola | Strawberries |
| Rice | Oranges |
| Beans | Barley |

Rice grows in humid, subtropical climates; oranges require tropical climates with hot summers. Both cannot grow in the cool climates and short summers in Alberta.

Identify the following field crops with the appropriate category: Oil seeds (O), Forage (F), Cereal grains (C), Pulses (P)

- | | | |
|---------------------------------------|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> P Chick peas | <input type="checkbox"/> P Dry peas | <input type="checkbox"/> P Dry beans |
| <input type="checkbox"/> O Canola | <input type="checkbox"/> C Oats | <input type="checkbox"/> O Mustard seed |
| <input type="checkbox"/> F Hay | <input type="checkbox"/> F Fodder corn | <input type="checkbox"/> C Wheat |
| <input type="checkbox"/> P Lentils | <input type="checkbox"/> C Rye | <input type="checkbox"/> F Clover |
| <input type="checkbox"/> C Barley | <input type="checkbox"/> O Flaxseed | <input type="checkbox"/> F Alfalfa |



Look at the numbers of acres of field crops grown in Alberta in 2017:

CROP	NUMBER OF ACRES (000)
Wheat	6,965
Canola	6,890
Hay	4,160
Barley	2,500
Dry Peas	1,790
Oats	425
Fodder corn	90
Other field crops including rye, flaxseed, dry beans, mustard seed, triticale, sugar beets.	2,440
TOTAL AREA	25,260



Numbers based on Agriculture Statistics Fact Sheet., AGDEX 853. Alberta Agriculture and Forestry. July 2018.

Field crops always have a purpose.

Can you think of two things that field crops are used for?

1. Food for humans (grains, breads, cooking oil).
2. Feed for livestock (both forage and grains).
3. Crops can be turned into fuel (called biofuel) – this is happening more and more in Alberta.
4. Straw from some grains is used for bedding animals and even for building houses!

Use the space provided to create a pictograph or a bar graph showing the numbers of acres of the main field crops grown in Alberta.

Pictograph:

1 symbol = 1,000,000 acres

Field Crops in Alberta	
Wheat	
Canola	
Hay	
Barley	
Dry Peas	
Oats	
Fodder corn	
Other	

Your pictograph and bar graph could look like these!

