



Ontario
Federation of
Agriculture



Farms and Food Forever

Grey County Agriculture





Ontario
Federation of
Agriculture



Ontario Federation of Agriculture (OFA)

- ✓ Representing more than 38,000 farm families
- ✓ Advocate for farmers through government relations, farm policy recommendations and lobby efforts
- ✓ Support 52 county and regional federations
- ✓ Member Service Representatives to provide front-line service to members
- ✓ Farm policy research staff to keep on top of regulatory and legislative matters



Ontario
Federation of
Agriculture



Grey Federation of Agriculture (GCFA)

- ✓ Celebrating 80 years
- ✓ Formed in 1940 to work on a local level to represent the voice of the farmer in Ontario
- ✓ 1,544 Grey County Members (2019)
- ✓ GCFA works to advance agriculture and the rural community through partnerships, education and advocacy
- ✓ Works with OFA to provide lobbying efforts and resources for local members



Ontario
Federation of
Agriculture



OFA Resources

ofa.on.ca

ofa.on.ca/GrowAg



Agriculture Matters

A Guide for Municipal Councillors and Staff



Ontario
Federation of
Agriculture



BOTH

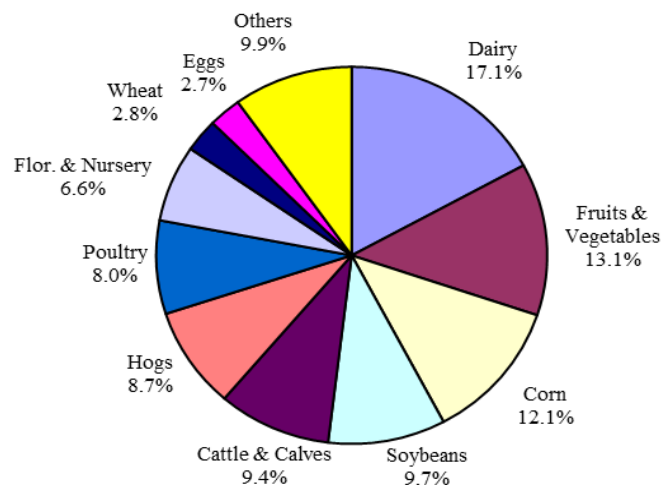
- Regular County Meetings
- MP/MPP/Local Politician Meeting
- Information Meetings
 - Shed Talks
- Host All Candidates Mtgs
- Annual Ag Review Paper.
- Affiliated with: Farm and Food Care Ontario and AGSCAPE
 - Elementary Public Speaking contest
 - Ag Career Education
 - Social Events

- Represent Grey County Members
- Advocate on issues, Legislation and Regulations
- Lobby Provincial & Federal Governments
- Advocate for agriculture
- Farmers working for farmers.

- Represent Ontario Members
- Grassroots Policy Development
- Farm Business Registrations
- Access to 21 Experienced, knowledgeable Member Service Representatives
- Exclusive discounts and promotions through OFA membership
- Highly skilled farm policy research staff.
- Educational opportunities province wide and webinars
- Training opportunities

Share of Ontario's Farm Cash Receipts Comparison: 2011 vs 2016

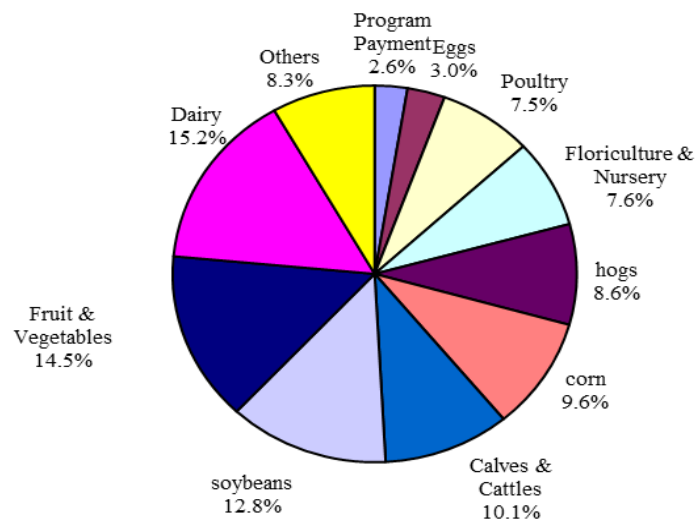
Share of Farm Cash Receipts by Commodity, Ontario, 2011



Total = \$11.1 billion

VS

Share of Farm Cash Receipts by Commodity, Ontario, 2016



Total = \$13.0 billion



Ontario
Federation of
Agriculture



Agriculture & Food Industry

- ✓ 1.4 % of Ontario's population are operating farms
- ✓ Agri-food sector is the #1 driver of the Provincial economy
- ✓ Generates 47.7 Billion to Ontario GDP
- ✓ Creates 837,000 jobs
- ✓ Ontario Farmers produce more than 200 farm and food products

Economic Contributions of Grey Farm Production to the Provincial Economy in 2017

Number of Jobs	GDP (Millions of Dollars)
23,918	\$1,149.5

Agriculture in Grey County



Total Number of Farms

2,304 farms



Major Fruit Crop

Apples 3,352 acres



Total Farmland Area

495,483 acres



Major Vegetable Crop

Sweet Corn 49 acres



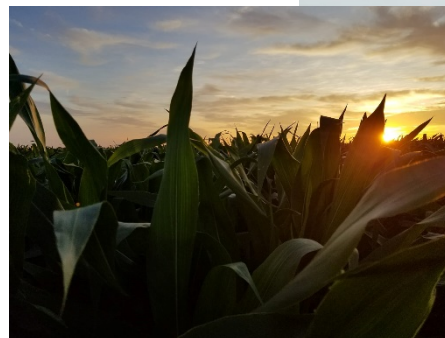
Largest Farming Industry

Beef Cattle Farming 693 farms



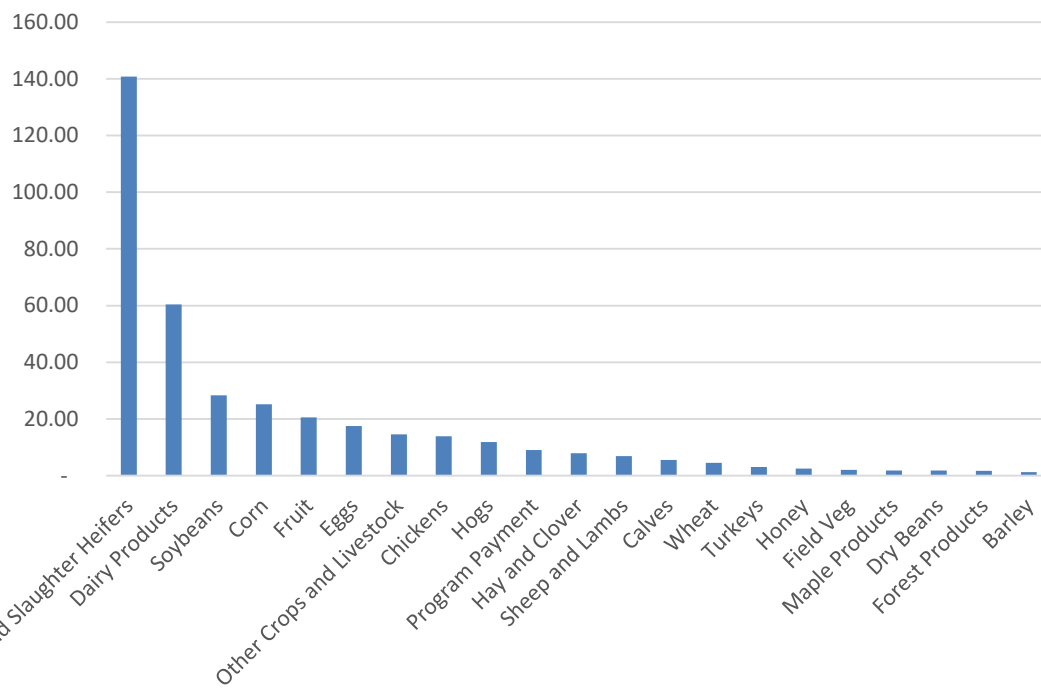
Major Field Crop

Hay 120,581 acres



Estimated Farm Cash Receipts (FCR) by County and Crop (\$ Million)- 2018

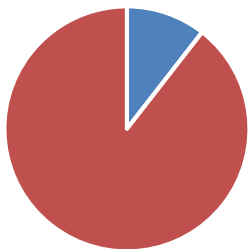
Estimated Farm Cash Receipts (FCR) by County and Crop (\$ Million)- 2018 Grey County



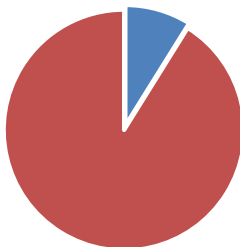
Grey County's Top Commodities (blue) as a percentage of Provincial total - 2018

Steers and Slaughter

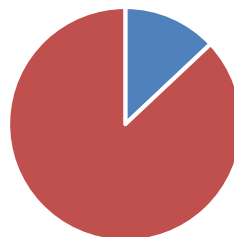
Heifers
12%



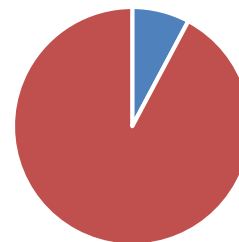
Honey
10%



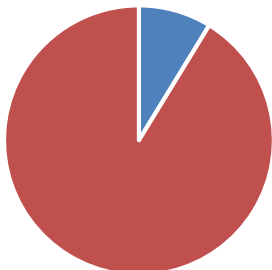
Barley
15%



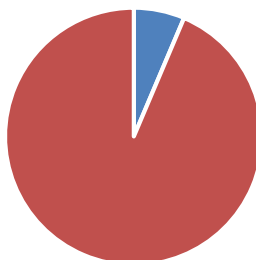
Calves
8%



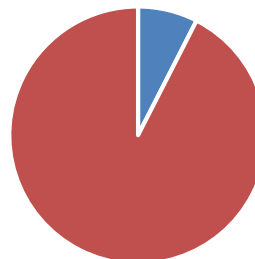
Sheep and Lambs
10%



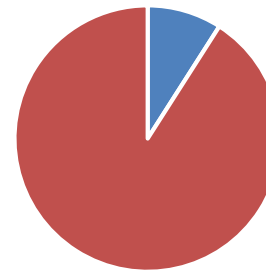
Fruit
7%



Maple Products
8%



Forest Products
10%





Ontario
Federation of
Agriculture



Grey County Federation Supports OFA's Provincial Priorities



Natural Gas



Broadband



Schools



Transportation

GCFA's 3 Key Priorities for 2020

- ✓ Membership Engagement
- ✓ Youth in Farming
- ✓ Healthy Farms and Environment



Youth/Member Engagement

- ✓ According to the 2016 Census of Agriculture, Grey County added young farmers at more than double the national rate with a 20% increase in farmers under 35. We saw a 61% increase in gross farm receipts between 2011 and 2016.
- ✓ Young Farmers are the key to agriculture's future, we want to ensure they feel supported and welcome into the OFA farm community.
- ✓ We know that our strength and our capacity to influence policy is tied to our members and their willingness to participate.





Ontario
Federation of
Agriculture

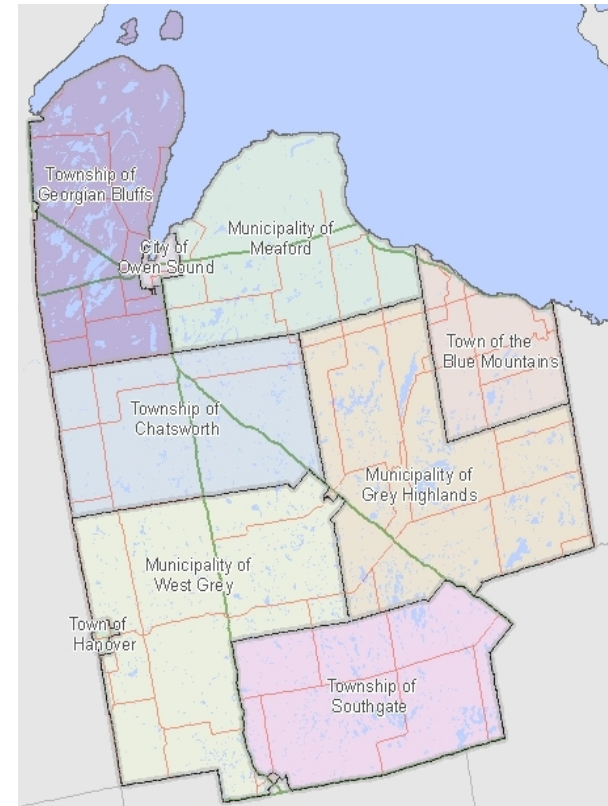


Healthy Farm and Environment

- ✓ Farmers in Grey County, represented by the Grey Federation of Agriculture (GCFA) support the philosophy that farmers play a lead role as stewards of a healthy land, air and water environment.
- ✓ Farmers in Grey County have a strong history of embracing initiatives that promote a healthy environment, programs such as the Environmental Farm Plan, ALUS and farm practices that include cover cropping, no till and others that are gaining momentum
- ✓ GCFA is advocating for more communication between the Conservation Authorities and the farm community

Grey County Federation Directors

- ✓ Paul Wettlaufer - West Grey
- ✓ Mike Ryan - West Grey
- ✓ Kevin Raszmann - West Grey
- ✓ Allen Hughes - Meaford
- ✓ Keith Reid - Meaford
- ✓ Dianne Booker - Meaford
- ✓ Jackie Pennings - Southgate
- ✓ Hugh Simpson - Grey Highlands
- ✓ Christine Robinson - County Of Grey
- ✓ Paul McQueen - Country Of Grey Alt





Ontario
Federation of
Agriculture



Our Professional Team is Ready to Help Contact us:

OFA Zone 2 Director

Grey/Bruce:

Paul Vickers

paul.vickers@ofa.on.ca

Grey County President &

OFA Director at Large

Hugh Simpson

hugh.simpson@ofa.on.ca

Grey County Federation Office

Hanover

Admin - Jackie Pennings

grey@ofa.on.ca

OFA Member Service

Representative Grey/Bruce

Joanne Hughes

joanne.hughes@ofa.on.ca



Ontario
Federation of
Agriculture



Farmland Property Tax Rate

With the increase of farm assessments, farmland property rates have shifted. How you can help.





Ontario
Federation of
Agriculture



Impacts on Property Tax in Grey County

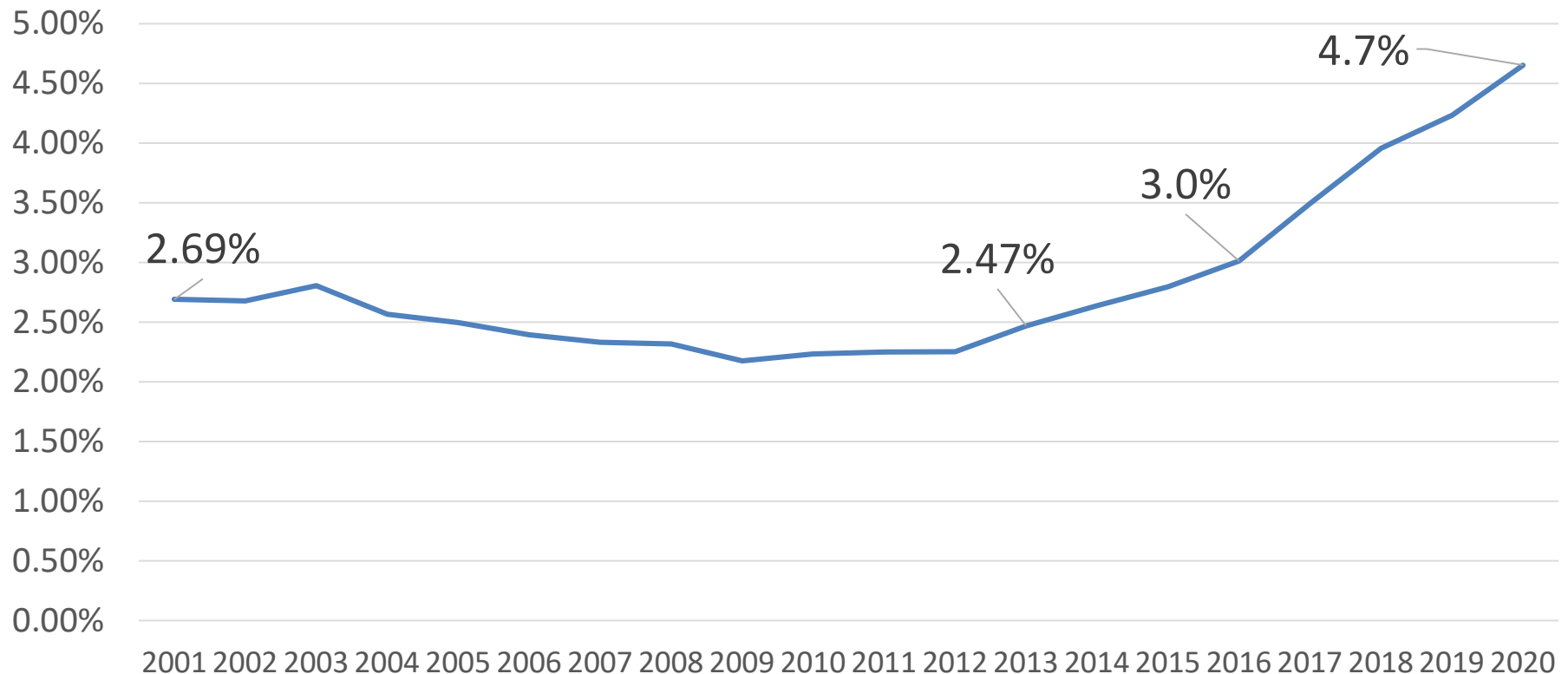
- ✓ In Grey County Farmland CVA has increased by 71%
- ✓ Residential CVA has only increased by 5%



Ontario
Federation of
Agriculture



Impacts on Farm tax in Grey County





Ontario
Federation of
Agriculture



Impacts on Farm tax in Grey County

As the new assessments have phased in, the farm tax burden has increased as follows:

Year	% tax from farm	\$ increase in Farm Tax Burden
2016	3%	-
2017	3.5%	\$256,000
2018	4%	\$511,000
2019	4.2%	\$661,000
2020	4.7%	\$900,000
Total		\$2.33M



Ontario
Federation of
Agriculture



2019 Ratio Reduction

- ✓ GCFA appreciates the county reducing the farm tax ratio to 0.24 in 2019.
- ✓ The county was still able to reduce the residential tax rate from 0.359% in 2018 to 0.358% in 2019.
- ✓ This proves GCFA's position that lowering the farm tax ratio will not have a significant impact on other property classes.
- ✓ Even with a reduced farm tax ratio, Grey farmers tax burden was a record high in 2019.



Ontario
Federation of
Agriculture



Avoiding Further Shifts in Property Tax Burden

- ✓ To avoid further shifts of property tax burden onto Grey county farmers, GCFA asks council to consider reducing the farm tax ratio again in 2020.
- ✓ County governments have full authority to adjust the farm tax ratio anywhere between 0%-25% of the local residential tax rate each year.
- ✓ 2020 is the last year of the MPAC assessment cycle.
- ✓ A new MPAC assessment cycle will begin in 2021.



Ontario
Federation of
Agriculture



Farm Tax Ratio Required in Grey County

- ✓ To maintain the 2019 farm tax burden 4.2% would require a ratio of 0.218
- ✓ To Prevent the farm tax burden from setting a new record in Grey county, we ask council to consider supporting one of the following farm tax ratio in 2020.
 - Farm tax burden at historical 3% level would require a ratio of 0.153.

Farm Property Tax Ratio

Municipalities That Have Lowered the Farm Tax Ratio

- ✓ Oxford 0.235
- ✓ Dufferin 0.22
- ✓ Elgin 0.23
- ✓ Prince Edward 0.2319
- ✓ Chatham- Kent 0.22
- ✓ Lambton 0.226
- ✓ Grey 0.24
- ✓ Norfolk- 0.23
- ✓ Brant 0.24
- ✓ Lennox and Addington- 0.23
- ✓ Region of Durham- 0.20
- ✓ London 0.1752
- ✓ Kingston- 0.2375
- ✓ Hamilton 0.1767
- ✓ Ottawa 0.20
- ✓ Caledon 0.1689
- ✓ North Bay 0.15
- ✓ Halton Region 0.20



Ontario
Federation of
Agriculture



Thank you for your interest in Grey
County Agriculture

Any Questions?