



Durham Agricultural Advisory Committee (DAAC) Annual Update

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About DAAC

- DAAC provides advice to the Region of Durham on agricultural matters and rural matters as they relate to agriculture.
- Matters, projects and consultations can be referred/presented to DAAC for information or to gather feedback.
- DAAC provides agricultural perspectives and shares the impacts or benefits to agriculture related to the topic.
- DAAC has 17 members including members at large, a representative from each local municipality, Durham Region Federation of Agriculture and Durham Farm Fresh. There are also 3 non-farming representatives on the committee.



Agriculture at a Glance

AS OF 2024



1,200
farms



264,518
acres of farmland



220 acres
is the average sized farm

Local Snapshot

Durham Region
CENSUS DIVISION



Local Farm Sales

24%
sell farm
products directly
to the
consumer:



18
farms operate a CSA
(Community Supported Agriculture)



32 farms sell
at farmers' markets



191 farms sell directly from their
farm, at stands, or pick-your-own

Economic Contributions in 2021

Local Impact



The local agri-food sector employed **27,105** people through **3,360** local agri-food business establishments

Farm Cash Receipts



\$354 million
In Farm Cash Receipts

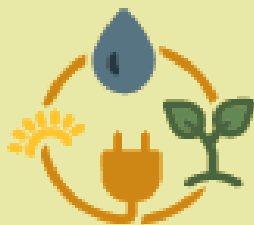


- Grains & Oilseeds
- Floriculture & Sod
- Dairy

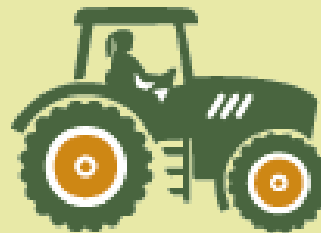
Across the Province

Farm cash receipts generated by local farms supported **\$775 million** in GDP and **11,638** employees in the agri-food sector from farm to fork across Ontario

Farm Facts



16.4%
generate renewable energy, including solar, bioenergy and wind power



31.6%
of farm operators are female



68.1%
are small farms
(less than \$100,000 in revenue)

Activities at DAAC in 2025

- Annual Farm Tour & Agriculture Focused Mental Health Training
- North Durham On-Farm Diversified Uses Project undertaken between Scugog, Brock, Uxbridge and Regional Community Growth and Economic Development;
- Duffins Rouge Agricultural Preserve;
- The Rural Clean Water program at the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority;
- Local Planning Issues (Official Plan Reviews, Official Plan Amendments)
- Regional Issues
 - Economic Development initiatives
 - Transportation issues – road design, culverts

Major Issues Facing Agriculture in the Region

- On farm diversified uses
- Transportation of goods
- Price of agricultural land
- Need for more food processing capacity
- Challenges to global markets (tariffs, etc.)
- Planning policy changes
- Agricultural Education



DAAC as a Resource

- Gather an agricultural perspective on new projects, strategies and more.
- Ensure local decisions consider the impacts to agriculture businesses
- Liaise between the Region and agricultural businesses

Example of where DAAC provides feedback

- Regionals and Local Strategies or Plans
- Economic Development Projects and Strategies
- Agricultural Land-Use Matters
- Works Departments Matters (roundabouts, intersections, ditches, roadwork, etc.)

How Can DAAC help you?