

# COAL

(Export, National Trade)

- Coal is a fossil fuel. It is a combustible, organically-formed sedimentary rock. Millions of years ago, plant materials accumulated in swamps as peat. This peat changed to coal through chemical and physical processes.
- Coal can vary in colour from brown to black. It can either be dull or shiny in appearance.
- Canada has an abundant coal resource.
- The largest known coal reserves are located in the western provinces, such as Alberta and Saskatchewan, which are Canada's principle producers.
- Coal is also mined in Atlantic Canada.
- Globally, Canada is a mid-sized coal producer. Over half of its production is used for electricity and various industrial applications in Canada. The remaining production is exported to other countries.
- Canada imports coal, primarily for electricity generation and metallurgical applications.
- Coal consumption may eventually decline in Canada as a result of environmental policies. However, it might continue to thrive with the development of new technologies to reduce air emissions.

To find more information about Coal, please visit:

Coal Association of Canada at [www.coal.ca/coal-basics/](http://www.coal.ca/coal-basics/)

Natural Resources Canada at [www.nrcan.gc.ca](http://www.nrcan.gc.ca)

# SALT

(Export)

- Salt is one of the most widely used minerals on Earth. It is also known as Sodium Chloride.
- Salt is important to human and animal health. It is such a common part of our everyday lives that we rarely think of it as a natural resource that must be discovered, boiled, evaporated, mined, processed, and marketed – all before it is used.
- Salt has many different uses. It is used as a flavour enhancer, food preserver, healing agent, water softener, used on ice during the winter, and much more.
- Canada is a major producer of salt, ranking fifth in the world. 99% is shipped to the United States.
- Goderich, Ontario has the largest salt mine in the world, producing 9 million tons of salt a year.
- Spurred by growing demand from the Chinese chemical industry, global demand for salt is expected to grow at an average of 3% per year.

To find more information about Salt, please visit:

Natural Resources Canada at [www.nrcan.gc.ca](http://www.nrcan.gc.ca)

Energy Alberta [www.energy.alberta.ca/](http://www.energy.alberta.ca/)

# CORN

(Export)

- Corn is a tall, coarse grass that bears ears of grain. Also known as Maize.
- Corn is one of Canada's traditional crops. It was first grown by Indigenous Peoples, who taught European settlers how to farm it.
- Corn is native to North America.
- It is the number one produced grain in the world.
- Ontario and Quebec produce the most corn in Canada.
- There are three main uses of corn grown in Canada: corn for grain, corn for silage, and sweet corn.
- Corn is harvested as grain to feed animals and humans. It can be processed as many types of food including cooking oil, vinegar, flour, and corn syrup. It is also used in paints and soaps.

To find more information about Corn, please visit:

Canadian Grain Commission at [www.grainscanada.gc.ca](http://www.grainscanada.gc.ca)

Stats Canada at [www.statcan.gc.ca](http://www.statcan.gc.ca)

Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food, and Rural Affairs at [www.omafra.gov.on.ca](http://www.omafra.gov.on.ca)

# OATS

(Export)

- Oats are a cereal grain from the same family as wheat, rice, corn, and barley.
- Oats were one of the first grains grown by humans and were one of the first crops grown by European settlers in Canada.
- Oats are most often used to feed livestock, but also appear in many foods consumed by humans, such as cereal and flours.
- Russia is the world's leading oat producer
- Canada is the third largest grower. Oats are grown in Saskatchewan, Alberta, and Manitoba. Canada is number one in the world for exporting oats. 95% of Canada's oats are exported to the United States.

To find more information about Oats, please visit:

Canadian Grain Commission at [www.grainscanada.gc.ca](http://www.grainscanada.gc.ca)

Stats Canada at [www.statcan.gc.ca](http://www.statcan.gc.ca)

Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food, and Rural Affairs at [www.omafra.gov.on.ca](http://www.omafra.gov.on.ca)

Manitoba Government at [www.gov.mb.ca](http://www.gov.mb.ca)

# BARLEY

(Export)

- Barley is a cereal grain that resembles wheat. Barley comes from the same family of grains as oats, corn, rice, and wheat.
- Until the 16th century, barley was one of the most important grains. It was even used as currency.
- Barley provides grain for malting used in beer and liquor.
- Barley provides feed for livestock. Barley products available in Canada include barley pearl, pot, flakes, and barley flour. It is used in bread, cereal, and soup thickener.
- Alberta and Saskatchewan are the leading world producers.
- Barley is Canada's third largest crop, after wheat and canola.

To find more information about Barley, please visit:

Canadian Grain Commission at [www.grainscanada.gc.ca](http://www.grainscanada.gc.ca)

Stats Canada at [www.statcan.gc.ca](http://www.statcan.gc.ca)

Grow Barley at [www.growbarley.com](http://www.growbarley.com)

Go Barley at [www.gobarley.com](http://www.gobarley.com)

Manitoba Government at [www.gov.mb.ca](http://www.gov.mb.ca)

Barley Council of Canada at [www.barleycanada.com](http://www.barleycanada.com)

# BAUXITE

(Import)

- Bauxite is not a mineral. It is a reddish rock that is either hard or soft like clay or dirt.
- Bauxite is located in hot, moist climates.
- Australia is the world's leader in bauxite production, along with China, Brazil, India, and Guinea.
- Bauxite is refined to become aluminum. Aluminum is the most common metal found on Earth and is found in bauxite ore. It takes a lot of energy to process, and therefore, bauxite is often refined in countries where electricity is inexpensive.
- Canada processes the rock into aluminum. Aluminum is used to make products such as doors, house siding, pop cans, utensils, and foil.
- Canada is the world's fourth largest producer of aluminum, however, there are no bauxite mines in the country.
- All bauxite in Canada is imported from other countries.

To find more information about Bauxite, please visit:

Electric Canadian at [www.electriccanadian.com](http://www.electriccanadian.com)

Geology at [www.geology.com](http://www.geology.com)

The Aluminum Association at [www.aluminum.org](http://www.aluminum.org)

Aluminum Association of Canada at [www.aluminium.ca](http://www.aluminium.ca)