



# LIVING LABORATORIES INITIATIVE

## Farmer's adoption of Beneficial Management Practices (BMPs) in Manitoba and PEI

In 2020 and 2021, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC) developed a survey of farming operations to determine the extent of BMP implementation and to gain insight into the impact of selected factors on BMP adoption. The sample of producers was composed of 18 operators from PEI and 70 from Manitoba.

How did the sample of surveyed producers compare to the general population of farmers in Manitoba and PEI (from the Census of Agriculture, 2021)?

- Similarities between census respondents and both surveyed samples**

- The majority of operators in the survey were in the same age range as the median range from the census and had similar education levels.

- Differences between census respondents and both surveyed samples**

- Surveyed farms were of larger size with higher net operating incomes, and were mostly male-operated.
- The majority of surveyed operators participated in a producer association, had adopted multiple BMPs on their operations, and had a developed Environmental Farm Plan (EFP).

- Some key facts about the PEI surveyed sample**

- PEI surveyed farms primarily were engaged in crop production, more specifically potato production.
- PEI surveyed operators were highly concerned about environmental problems, like soil erosion and extreme weather events.



### KEY SOCIO-ECONOMIC FACTORS

Farms with the following characteristics listed in the table rows were more (+) or less (-) likely to have adopted one of the following BMPs, listed in the table columns.

E.g., it was more likely that an early adopter operators had adopted cover crops.

BMPs	Cover Crops	Zero Or Conservation Tillage Practises	Fertilizer Application Practises	Surface Or Subsurface Innovation Drainage	Retention Ponds Or Wetland Restoration
Farms Located In Manitoba Compared to Farms Located In PEI		+			
Farms Located Near A Living Lab Watershed	+	-			
Age: Older producers		-		-	
Early Adopter Farm Operators	+	+	+		
Lower Net Operating Income farms		-	-		
Financial Assistance received for the specific BMP	+			+	+

To learn more about the results of the survey, please contact:

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