



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

Activities at DAAC in 2024

- North Durham On-Farm Diversified Uses Project undertaken between Scugog, Brock, Uxbridge and Regional Community Growth and Economic Development;
- Skilled Trades Programs in the Region;
- Farm Worker accommodation related by-law issues at farms in the Region;
- Hamilton-Oshawa Port Authority (HOPA) Grain Terminal update;
- Independent Electricity Systems Operator Battery Storage Site Selection;
- Regional Issues
 - Economic Development initiatives
 - Land Use issues – ROP development, provincial planning responses
 - Transportation issues – road design, culverts

Major Issues Facing Agriculture in the Region

- Backyard chickens and Avian Influenza
- Stormwater Management fees on agricultural properties
- On farm diversified uses
- Transportation of goods
- Price of agricultural land
- Need for more meat processing capacity
- Policy leading to increased costs for farmers, i.e. tariffs



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?