

# BC GREENHOUSE VEGETABLES

DID YOU KNOW?

BC GREENHOUSE GROWERS CAN GROW VEGETABLES IN OPTIMAL CONDITIONS FOR UP TO 10 MONTHS OF THE YEAR

## EFFICIENT ENVIRONMENT

Greenhouse growers have perfected their growing environments to make efficient use of land and water. By extending the growing season, greenhouses typically produce 15-20 times more vegetables than a field of equal area.

## EFFECTIVE CONTROL

Most greenhouses employ technology to help monitor temperature, ventilation, humidity, carbon dioxide, light and water. This helps growers ensure their plants get the right nutrition to flourish.

## TYPES OF PRODUCE

Tomatoes and bell peppers account for 80% of greenhouse vegetables produced in BC with cucumbers rounding out the top three. BC growers also produce lettuce and eggplant.



THERE ARE  
**65**  
GREENHOUSE  
GROWERS  
IN BC



EMPLOYING  
MORE THAN  
**3,500**  
PEOPLE



GREENHOUSE  
GROWING  
CONTRIBUTED  
MORE THAN  
**\$699**  
MILLION  
TO BC'S  
ECONOMY IN  
**2017**



# BC GREENHOUSE VEGETABLES

DID YOU KNOW?

## BC GREENHOUSE GROWERS USE LEADING-EDGE PRODUCTION PRACTICES TO PRODUCE THE HIGHEST QUALITY VEGETABLES

### DRIP IRRIGATION

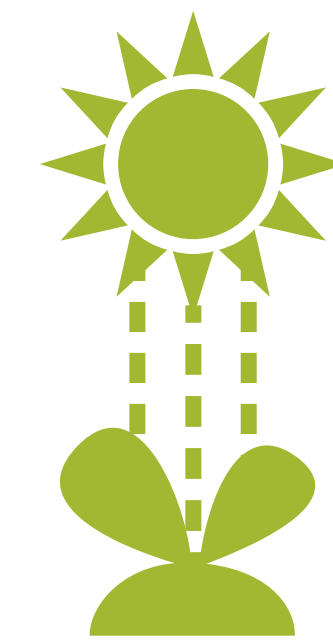
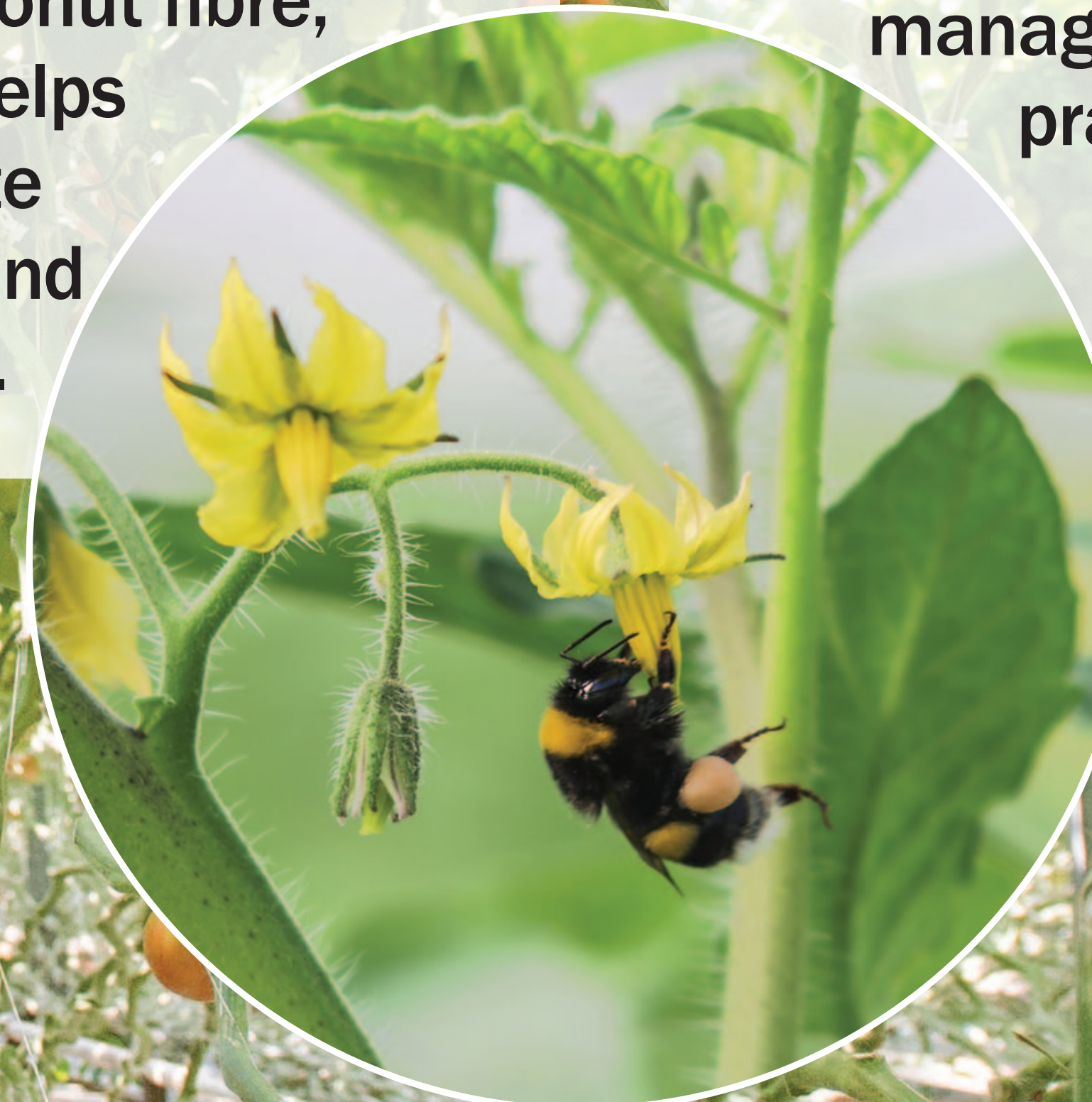
Greenhouse growers use hydroponics to produce vegetables, combining a number of systems to control water and nutrients. This allows growers to recycle water and minimize waste.

### NO SOIL, NO MESS

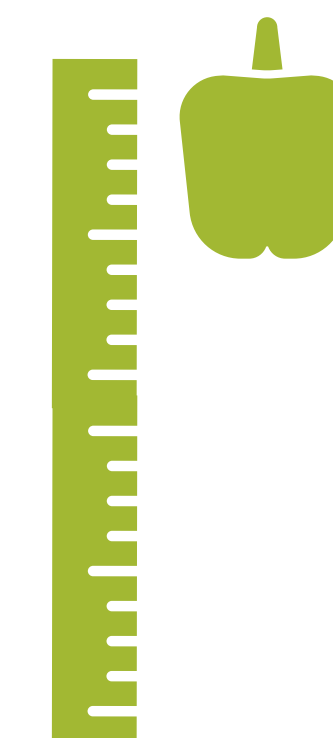
No digging, and no mess! Greenhouse vegetables grow in a soilless medium of rockwool, sawdust and coconut fibre, which helps minimize weeds and disease.

### INSPIRED BY NATURE

Bumble bees are the pollinators of choice for growers, with bee hives often placed right inside the greenhouse. This is just one piece of greenhouse growers' integrated pest management, a practice that BC is a world leader in!



GROWERS USE **STRINGS** TO HELP PLANTS GROW VERTICALLY TOWARD THE SUN



GREENHOUSE GROWN PLANTS ARE ESPECIALLY TALL WITH PEPPER PLANTS REACHING UP TO **16** FEET!



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## DID YOU KNOW?

**GREENHOUSE GROWERS FEED MILLIONS OF PEOPLE HEALTHY FRESH PEPPERS, TOMATOES, AND CUCUMBERS ALMOST YEAR-ROUND**

### HARVESTING

From March to early December, growers harvest vine-ripened peppers, tomatoes and cucumbers picked by hand.



### TASTY VEGGIES

BC greenhouse growers produce a wide variety of vegetables and are always striving to be innovative—that's how mini cucumbers and mini snacking peppers were born!

### EVERY SHADE

Greenhouse-grown vegetables come in a range of colours! Tomato and pepper varieties can range between red, orange, yellow, green, purple and more. As tomatoes and peppers mature on their vines, colour begins to develop, and sugar contents increase to produce a beautifully coloured and sweeter vegetable packed with healthy nutrients.



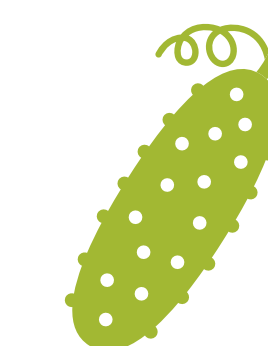
EVERY YEAR, IN AN AREA SMALLER THAN THE SIZE OF YOUR BATHTUB (1M<sup>2</sup>), BC GREENHOUSE GROWERS CAN PRODUCE...



**55 KG**  
OF TOMATOES



**26 KG**  
OF PEPPERS



**57 KG**  
OF CUCUMBERS



# BC GREENHOUSE VEGETABLES: FROM FARM TO TABLE

**MOST GREENHOUSE GROWERS IN BC ARE LOCATED LESS THAN A ONE-DAY DRIVE FROM THE MARKETS THEY SERVE!**

1

## FRESHLY PICKED

BC greenhouse vegetables are hand picked at the peak of their ripeness and often graded on-site.



2

## QUALITY CONTROL

Next, greenhouse-grown vegetables are sent to the packing house where they are inspected, packed and stored in refrigerated units until they are ready to be shipped. Farmers follow strict guidelines and criteria to ensure all food safety standards are met.



3

## FRESH TO YOU

Greenhouse vegetables are transported in temperature-cooled trucks to re-packers and wholesalers or are delivered straight to retail stores and restaurants across BC. Greenhouse vegetables are sold individually, bagged or boxed to preserve their freshly-picked flavour.

