

Grower's Guide 2023

A GUIDE TO FOOD
PRODUCERS AND
FARM MARKETS IN
THE ALBERNI VALLEY
AND THE WEST COAST



ALBERNI-CLAYOQUOT
REGIONAL DISTRICT

Alberni Valley
NEWS

Photo: Shelter Farm

You're at home here.



Alberni



Member Owned

Community Invested

Local Partnership



albernico-op.crs

5086 Johnston Rd

9 am - 11 pm

Open 7 days a week

4006 Johnston Rd

5 am - 11 pm

Open 7 days a week

4885 Beaver Crk Rd

6 am - 9 pm

Open 7 days a week

3820 10th Ave

5 am - 11 pm

Open 7 days a week



ALBERNI-CLAYOQUOT
REGIONAL DISTRICT

Alberni Valley
NEWS Powered by
Black
Press
Media

1-250-723-6399  
alberniavalleynews.com

4918 Napier Street
Port Alberni, B.C., V9Y 6H2

Published in partnership with
Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District.

No part of this publication may be reproduced without written permission of The Alberni Valley News. The Alberni Valley News is not responsible for errors or omissions printed in this publication and retains the right to edit all copy.

WHAT'S INSIDE



Arrowvale Farm



Shelter Farm



Spirit Square Farmers' Market

Events.....	4
Farms and Food Producers	5
Farm Map.....	8
Farmers' Markets	11
Agri-tourism.....	14

Gord Johns MP
for Courtenay–
Alberni support
of local, healthy
and safe food
production
in the Alberni
Valley!

GORD JOHNS

1-844-620-9924
Gord.Johns@parl.gc.ca
GordJohns.ca



Calendar of Events

IN THE ALBERNI VALLEY

2023

JULY

Friday, 14th
Alberni District Fall
Fair Market. 4pm-8pm

AUGUST

Tuesday, 29th
Shannon's
Summer Market
4pm - 8pm

SEPTEMBER

Thurs-Sun, 7th-10th
Fall Fair

Sunday, 17th
Family Farm Day

OCTOBER

Sunday, 1st
Shannon's Harvest Market
10am - 2pm

Saturday, 21st
Alberni Valley Food Security
Society: Harvest Feast

NOVEMBER

Saturday, 4th
Alberni Farmers'
Institute AGM

Sunday, 26th
Christmas Market
10am - 2pm

DECEMBER

Friday, 1st
Alberni District Fall Fair
Christmas Market
4pm - 8pm

2024

FEBRUARY

Saturday, 10th
Alberni Valley Food
Security Society Seedy
Saturday

MARCH

Saturday, 16th
Alberni District
Fall Fair Spring Market
11AM to 3PM

MAY

Saturdays
4th, 11th & 18th
Annual Seedling Sale at
Spirit Square Farmers'
Market



FEEDING OUR COMMUNITY

For 125 years the Alberni Farmers' Institute has celebrated the resiliency of Valley farmers and their strength and diversity. We are passionate about local food security, raising the profile of agriculture in our region and promoting sustainable agricultural practices on Vancouver Island.

\$25/YEAR

Includes subscription to **Country Life Magazine**

\$15/YEAR

Associate Membership



Lisa Aylard - AFI President 250-724-6449
Anna Lewis - AFI Secretary 250-735-0520



albernifarmersinstitute@gmail.com



1 **AVALON BLUEBERRY FARM**

Cathy Burkosky
8286 Faber Road
250-724-6821
avalonfarm@shaw.ca
www.avalonfarm.ca

Avalon Farm produces Certified Organic blueberries, as well as hay, garlic, and assorted vegetables. We are near Sproat Lake, on Faber Road. Fresh blueberries can be pre-ordered or bought at the farm-gate during July and August. Feel free to call for more information or join our email list to pre-order your berries, as we often sell-out quickly!

2 **ALBERNI GROWERS' COLLECTIVE**

The Alberni Growers' Collective is a group of four small-scale farms who share a common vision of using sustainable & regenerative practices. Find us Saturdays at the Spirit Square Farmers' Market or at www.facebook.com/The-Alberni-Growers-Collective. Our delicious products include seasonal vegetables and herbs, eggs, honey, maple syrup, fruits, foraged wild mushrooms as well as seedlings, flowers, plants, processed goods, & meats. Grow local, eat local!

3 **BEARDALE FARM**

George Haack
250-720-1554 call or text
Hay sales. 1st and 2nd cut 4x4 round bales. Pick up or delivery options are available.

4 **BOB'S PLACE**

Bob Haynes
6269 Smith Road
250-724-1116 or cell: 250-720-5884
Bob's place we grow everything as naturally and humanely as possible. Chicken, lamb and pork when in season. By appointment only.

5 **COLEMAN MEADOWS FARM WATER BUFFALO DAIRY**

The Dyson Family
6670 Coleman Road
250-724-0876
awpb@island.net
Coleman Meadows Farm is a 170-acre farm and home to Canada's most West Coast Water Buffalo and Cow dairies. The Dyson family welcomes you to visit our friendly herd of grass-fed water buffalo and Jersey's just off the Pacific Rim Hwy. Our farm market is open year-round on Saturday's from 10-2 with a selection of water buffalo products including: cheeses, yogurt, Gelato and a full assortment of meats.



ALBERNI DISTRICT FALL FAIR

albernifair.com

FEATHERS FUR & FUN!
SEPT 7, 8, 9 & 10 2023

@ALBERNI_FAIR
Agriculture Education, Livestock and Attractions

Farms and Food Producers

6 COLLINS FARM/ ARROWVALE CAMPGROUND

Collins Family
5955 Hector Road
250-723-7948
info@arrowvale.ca
www.arrowvale.ca

The farm is located on 68 riverside acres, which has been home to the Collins farm since 1980. We host special events throughout the year including a pumpkin patch every October, hosting school tours and other special events. We have Belted Galloway Cattle and Canadian horses. Maple syrup is made on the farm along with a selection of beef, veggies and preserves. Farm gate sales are Saturdays 10-2 or by appointment.



7 COX LAKE FARM

Mark Murray
285 Franklin River Road
250-720-7494
www.coxslakeblueberryfarm.com
FB:Cox's Lake Blueberry Farm

Cox Lake Farm is a seasonal blueberry farm operating everyday through mid-July to late September. The hours of operation are from 9am-5pm. We offer two varieties of delicious blueberries and offer a u-pick option as well. You can also find us Saturday mornings during the summer months at the Spirit Square Farmers' Market.

8 EDEN TREE FARM AND GARDENING

Heather Shobe
6220 Karen Place.
250-724-2175
heather@edentreefarm.ca
www.edentreefarm.ca

Eden Tree is a teeny-tiny, permaculture-inspired farm in its 13th year of operation. Sales are by appointment at the farm gate, or through the Alberni Growers' Collective table at the Spirit Square Farmers' Market. Farm products include chicken, honey and honey comb, maple syrup, rabbit, nursery plants, vegetables, and orchard fruits and berries. We offer consulting services, garden coaching, and assistance to various food-related community projects.



Alberni Valley
FOOD SECURITY SOCIETY

 **COMMUNITY GARDEN**  **THE GREENING PROJECT**  **GROW LOCAL PROGRAM**

WWW.AVFOOD.CA



9 **f** **EFFINGHAM OYSTERS AT EAT CANADIAN SEAFOOD**

100-3140 Harbour Road
604-537-0326 or 250-661-9528
info@eatcanadianseafood.com
www.shop.eatcanadianseafood.com
IG: @effinghamoyster and @eatcanadianseafood

Eat Canadian Seafood is a boutique seafood processor offering a variety of frozen and fresh in season local seafood including Effingham Oysters. Located in a cold, pristine deep-water fjord in Barkley Sound, carved out centuries ago by glaciers, Effingham Oysters are some of the very best oysters in the world. They provide a unique, sweet and sea-salty flavor and buttery finish with deep, beautifully coloured cup. Order seafood today through our online store and pickup at our location at The Dock+.

10 **f** **HALF-ACRE GARDEN**

Anna & Evan
5955 Hector Road
250-720-7648
halfacre gardeners@gmail.com
IG: @halfacre gardeners

Half-Acre Garden follows regenerative agriculture principles and techniques. This reduces soil disturbance, integrates livestock and maximizes crop diversity. Our fresh fruit & vegetables, flowers,

herbs and hand-made products (soaps, salves & herbal tea) are available for purchase at the Arrowvale campground office, at the Spirit Square Farmers' Market, and featured at local restaurants- Grass Roots and Wildflower Cafe.

11 **f** **NO RYMER REASON FARM**
Ken and Sarah Rymer

no.rymer.reason.farm@gmail.com
Nestled at the foot of the Beaufort range, we have a market garden and laying hens. Our primary produce is a lettuce mix, complimented by tomatoes, beets and other produce. Our farm offerings are rounded out with baked goods, and our addictive gluten free granola. You can find us year-round at the Spirit Square Farmers' Market, & the seasonal markets at the Cabin at Shannon Farms.

12 **f** **OAK TREE FARM**

Teresa O'Neil
8405 Meshers Road
250-723-6333

Oak Tree Farm is located in the Beaufort region of the Alberni Valley. We grow and distill lavender on the farm; offering essential oils, dried lavender buds, fresh bunches in season and various lavender products. We also have a flock of laying hens and seasonal produce. Find us every Saturday morning, 9-12, at the Spirit Square Farmers market in the Harbour Quay.

- Luxury stay in a Romantic Cottage
- Camping
- Fishing in the river
- Hiking
- Wildlife viewing
- Birdwatching
- Petting Farm
- Old Fashioned Milkshakes
- Flowers, blackberries, pumpkin patch

f **Arrowvale Campground and Collins Farm**
ARROWVALE CAMPGROUND & COTTAGES
5955 Hector Road • 250-723-7948 • www.arrowvale.ca • info@arrowvale.ca

Map locations are approximate.

Farms & Markets in the Alberni Valley



FARMS AND FOOD PRODUCERS

1. Avalon Blueberry Farm
4. Bob's Place
5. Coleman Meadows Farm
6. Collins Farm/Arrowvale Campground
7. Cox Lake Farm
8. Eden Tree Farm
9. Effingham Oyster at Eat Canadian Seafood
10. Half-acre Garden
12. Oak Tree Farm
13. Shelter Farm
14. Simples
15. Sproat Starts
16. Stonehaven Farm Ltd.

FARMERS' MARKETS

- A. Alberni District Fall Fair Markets
- B. Coleman Meadows Farm Market
- C. Friday Night Market
- D. Naesgaards Farm & Market
- E. Port Alberni Farmers' Market
- F. "Port Al's" Positivity Portal Monday Market
- G. Spirit Square Farmers' Market



LEAVE HER WILD CONTAINER DESIGN

Over 21 years experience



Owner Shayla Lucier



- 🌿 Quality Annuals
- 🌿 Great Variety of Perennials, Shrubs and Edible Plants
- 🌿 Custom Baskets and Planters Year Round

OPEN WED, FRI & SAT 9:30am-1:30pm

Appointments also available

Greenhouse is Closed July & August and we can be found at Local Markets!

 **4951 Benjamin rd • 250.720.1225** 



13 SHELTER FARM

Alex Taylor- Interim Farm Manager
725 Franklin River Road
250-720-5478

alex@portalbernishelter.com

We are a Social Enterprise operated by the nonprofit Port Alberni Shelter Society. We operate a market garden where we grow potatoes, salad mixes, turnips, beets, carrots, peas, beans, onions, radish, broccoli, spinach, tomatoes, cucumbers, squash, berries, culinary herbs, garlic, gourmet mushrooms and micro-greens. You can purchase our produce at the Spirit Square Farmers Market on Saturdays, sign up for our CSA weekly veggie box program or online www.shelter-farm.localline.ca/retail.

14 **SIMPLES**

Ej and Tim Towle
2836 2nd Ave.
250-723-8061 (after noon)
simples@shaw.ca

Simples" sells herbs, native and heritage plants and fruits. They also create vinegars, vinaigrettes and bake delicious breads. This is balanced with various art items. We are a very small urban farm and still growing! We can be found Saturday mornings 9am-noon at the Spirit Square Farmers' Market at the foot of Argyle Street.

15 **SPROAT STARTS**

Anna Lewis
7500 Hector Road
250-735-0520

Walk down the veggie path with Anna who encourages everyone to grow what they can, where they can and all year long! Preorder all your plant starts and get them in the ground at the appropriate time. Specializing in tomatoes and peppers starts but also promoting year-round gardening, Sproat Starts has a plethora of veggie starts for your garden needs.

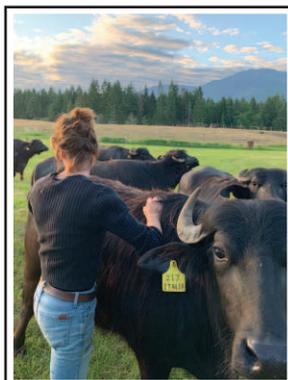


16 **STONEHAVEN FARM LTD.**

Jamie and Lisa Aylard
8600 Bryson Road
250-724-6449

jlalard@gmail.com

176-acre farm nestled along the base of the Beaufort Range. We raise grass fed Black Angus Beef and a Suffolk sheep flock. All animals are pasture grazed and winter feed is grown on the farm. Whole sides and cuts available by request. Call for availability. You can follow us on Facebook.



Welcome to Coleman Meadows Water Buffalo Dairy

Farm Market open **Saturday 10 - 2**, for water buffalo meats, cheese, yogurt and Gelato

Find us on 

6670 Coleman Rd, Port Alberni • Call **250-724-0876**

Farmers' Markets

A **f** ALBERNI DISTRICT FALL FAIR MARKETS

Summer Market - July 14, 2023
4:00 PM to 8:00 PM

Christmas Market - Dec. 1, 2023
4:00 PM to 8:00 PM

Spring Market - March 16, 2024
11:00 AM to 3:00 PM

Hosted on the Alberni District
Fall Fair grounds

4090 Hollywood Street

www.albernifair.com

Social Media: @albernifair

You will find a variety of artisans with
crafts, food products and so much more.



B **f** COLEMAN MEADOWS FARM MARKET

Saturdays, 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM, year round

6670 Coleman Road

250-724-0876

awpb@island.net

Our farm market offers a great selection
of water buffalo products including:
cheeses, yogurt, Gelato and a full as-
sortment of water buffalo meats. Come
and meet the girls and stroll through the
gardens.

C **f** FRIDAY NIGHT MARKET

Fridays, 4:00 PM to 8:00 PM

Seasonal Market running from
April to end of October

Harbour Quay, 5440 Argyle Street
Market Managers: Sylvain Rollin &
Jessica Lentini

250-735-6532 & 250-266-2204

wescofoods@hotmail.com

www.wescofoods.ca

FB: [fridaynightmarket](https://www.facebook.com/fridaynightmarket)

The Friday Night Market features mem-
bers participating in local craft, art, food,
drinks, farming, gardening, foraging,
gleaning, music, dancing & more. It is a
festive market showcasing food, art &
crafts made/grown in the Alberni Valley
& its surrounding communities. We wel-
come local vendors to join as a seasonal
membership or drop-ins' membership
accessible via our website /or/ by getting
in contact with us!

D **f** NAESGAARDS FARM & MARKET

Daily, 10:00 AM to 5:30 PM

5681 River Road

250-723-3622

Naesgaards offers a great selection of
fruits and vegetables picked fresh from
our fields and from local suppliers. The
garden centre has a compelling selection
of flowers and plants and the storefront
has other offerings as well.

**FRESH COFFEE.
LOCAL INGREDIENTS.
HARBOUR QUAY.**

www.facebook.com/GrassrootsFresh

E f PORT ALBERNI FARMERS' MARKET

(AKA Cherry Creek Farmers' Market)

Saturdays, 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM,
year-round (inside and out)

6211 Cherry Creek Road

Market Manager: Gwen Lowe

250-723-8351

Year-round Farmers' Market featuring local farmers and fare. Seasonal produce, plants, grass fed beef, pork & poultry, as well as baking, crafts & culinary vendors. Both year-round vendors & drop-ins welcome.



Photo: Spirit Square Farmers' Market



F f "PORT AL'S" POSITIVITY PORTAL MONDAY MARKET

Mondays, 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM

Seasonal Market running

May through October

2990 Alberni Highway

Market Manager: Jeremy

Papportalsmondaymarket@gmail.com

Come out and enjoy local vendors, artisans, fresh vegetables, trees, knives, jewelry and mushrooms. There will be presentations and music.

Contact Jeremy at Mecca Tea for more information.

G f SPIRIT SQUARE FARMERS' MARKET

Saturdays, 9:00 AM to noon, year round

Harbour Quay, 5440 Argyle Street

Market Manager: Teresa O'Neil

250-723-6333

ssquarefarmersmarket@gmail.com

The Spirit Square Farmers' Market is situated at the foot of Argyle Street in the picturesque Harbour Quay. Local farmers offer a wide selection of seasonally available fruits & vegetables, farm fresh eggs, meat and honey. You will also find delicious preserves and baked goods as well local artisans showcasing their unique talents. 100% locally grown, made, baked or foraged! Enjoy the live music, during the summer months, while doing your shopping!

SPIRIT SQUARE

Farmers' Market

at the Harbour Quay



FRESH LOCAL PRODUCE, BAKING,
PRESERVES AND MORE

Saturday 9 a.m. to 12 noon • year round

SUPPORT
YOUR LOCAL
PRODUCERS

Farmers' Markets

H **f** SHANNON FARMS MARKET

Summer Market

Tuesdays, August 29, 4:00 PM to 8:00 PM

Harvest Market

Sundays, October 1, 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM

Christmas Market

Sundays, November 29, 10:00AM to 2:00PM

Hosted at The Cabin,

8865 Beaver Creek Rd, Port Alberni

250-720-5867 (Tanya)

thecabin@shannonfarms.ca

www.shannonfarms.ca

FB: [thecabinatshannonfarms](https://www.facebook.com/thecabinatshannonfarms)

IG: [@shannonfarmscabin](https://www.instagram.com/shannonfarmscabin)

Enjoy an on-farm seasonal market in the Beaufort area of the Alberni Valley. Shannon Farms, as well as other producers, farmers, creators and artisans from the Alberni Valley, offer locally grown, produced, processed, and created goods. We encourage shoppers to bring cash as payment, as cell service for electronic payment methods can't always be relied on in our area. Weather permitting, the Summer Market is aimed to be a larger market, as one of the fields can serve as additional parking. Otherwise, we strongly recommend carpooling to our shoppers, as parking is limited.

I **f** TOFINO PUBLIC MARKET

Saturdays, 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM

May 20th - October 7th, 2023

Tofino Village Green

250-266-5006

info@tofinomarket.com

www.tofinomarket.com

FB: [Tofino Market](https://www.facebook.com/tofinomarket) IG: [@tofinomarket](https://www.instagram.com/tofinomarket)

"Make It, Bake It, Grow It, Gather It!" The Tofino Market runs every Saturday from 10am-2pm on the Tofino Village Green, May Long Weekend through Thanksgiving. Find unique, hand-crafted artisan wares, up-cycled creations and local food and drink from over 30 vendors and enjoy live entertainment on the green in the afternoons. Support local arts and culture, meet the artisans and experience the eclectic character of Tofino.



Photo: TUGC

J **f** TOFINO UCLUELET CULINARY GUILD (TUCG)

Year Round

250-266-2774

members@tucg.ca

www.tucg.ca

FB: [Tofino Ucluelet Culinary Guild](https://www.facebook.com/tofino.ucluelet.culinary.guild)

The Culinary Guild is a dynamic, membership driven food hub that has been supplying goods to west coast residents and restaurants since 2010. TUCG Members are able to make weekly custom orders, year round, through the TUCG Online Market. The market is updated weekly and offers seasonal produce as well as a hand picked selection of dairy products, meats, and dry goods. From June until October TUCG also offers the Food Lover's Box Program which consists of a preselected assortment of freshly farmed crops that show off the variety, value, and seasonal flavours that we are so lucky to have here in BC. *Pickup locations in Tofino and Ucluelet.



AGRI-TOURISM:

Diversification Opportunity for Farmers

Agri-tourism is tourism that supports agriculture production, which is a wonderful opportunity for producers to bring in supplemental income to their farm, and for consumers to learn about local agriculture.

Agri-tourism activities (in BC) include on-farm heritage displays, tours, educational activities or demonstrations, tractor rides, harvest festivals or other seasonal events on a farm for the purpose of promoting or marketing farm products. Agri-tourism accommodation can also be offered by farms (with certain restrictions).

While the opportunity is there for producers to incorporate agri-tourism on their farm, thoughtful consideration needs to be made whether it is a good fit for their operation, and to what agri-tourism activities could be successfully offered. Producers need to consider a number of factors regarding agri-tourism activities, such as, but not limited to: provincial and local regulations, biosecurity measures, and business resources. While agri-tourism activities on farms in BC must be secondary to main farm operations, it still requires considerable effort and resources to be a successful part of the farm as a whole.

In the past decade, there has been an increase in interest from communities and consumers to support shopping local, and to not only better understand where their food is coming from, but how it is being produced. Farms that offer agri-tourism activities, such as markets or tours, are wonderful experiences for shoppers to converse with the

producers, and learn about all facets of local agriculture - from farming practices such as regenerative agriculture, the importance of local food production, and how you can support local food sustainability.

WHICH FARMS OFFER AGRI-TOURISM ACTIVITIES IN THE ALBERNI VALLEY?

COLLINS FARM AND ARROWVALE CAMPGROUND - offers accommodation by way of cabins and campground, seasonal tours (such as the pumpkin patch and hayrides), wreath making workshops, and is open every Saturday from 10-2 for farm-gate sales of beef, veggies, preserves and maple syrup). More information at www.arrowvale.ca

SHANNON FARMS - hosts seasonal on-farm markets, workshops (including sugaring and wreath making), dairy tours (by appointment), and has a cabin available as accommodation. More information at www.shannonfarms.ca

LEDA ORGANIC FARM - offers workshops on biodynamic gardening, and is open Tuesdays from 9am - noon for farm-gate sales. More information by contacting Gary at gwswann@shaw.ca

COLEMAN MEADOWS FARM - hosts on-farm markets every Saturday from 10-2, where they sell products from their water buffalo herd. More information at www.facebook.com/colemanmeadowsfarm

Rent The Best!

Top Quality Equipment for the Consumer & Professional

Lawn & Garden Equipment

- Aerator
- Post Hole Auger
- Blower - Handheld - Gas
- Blower - Backpack - Gas
- Brushcutter - Line - Gas
- Brushcutter - Blade - Gas
- Lawn Edger - Gas
- Billy-Goat Brush - Self Prop
- Billy-Goat High Weed Mower
- Hedgetrimmer - Electric
- Hedgetrimmer - Gas
- Lawn mower- Push - Commercial Mower
- Powerrake - Dethatcher - Gas
- Pruner- Telescoping
- Pruner - Telescoping - Gas
- Landscape Rake
- Lawn roller Push or Tow
- Sod Cutter
- Spreader - Broadcast
- Stumpgrinder
- Tiller - Honda/Husqvarna
- Trencher 18"
- Track Wheelbarrow
- Post Pounder
- Wheelbarrow

Scissor/Boom Lifts

Piping & Plumbing Equipment

Traffic Control

Cleaners

Ladders

Floors

Mini Excavator & Skidsteer

- Auger
- Tiller
- Rock Picker
- Forks



Chainsaws

- 16" Electric Chainsaw
- 16" - 20" Gas Chainsaw
- 28" - 36" Gas Chainsaw
- Telescoping Gas Pruner

Air Compressors & Accessories

Compaction Equipment

Concrete Equipment

Electric Equipment

Heaters & Fans

Pumps & Accessories

SCAFFOLDING MATERIALS AVAILABLE

Levels

Lifting Equipment

Miscellaneous

Check out our Website for all of our Rentals!

WWW.LBWOODCHOPPERS.COM

3509 - 3rd Ave • 250-723-5841

DELIVERY IS AVAILABLE



Regional Food System and Agricultural Support

It Takes a Community!

Grow Local

- Plant a seed, tend a garden, start a farm
- Get help from Alberni Valley Food Security Society, Tofino Community Food Initiative, or Alberni Farmers' Institute
- Learn ecosystem-based gardening, foraging, and fishing skills

Buy Local

- Visit a farmers' market or farm gate stand
- Purchase local food for events and celebrations
- Support local food retailers and food box programs

Share Your Ideas and Energy

- Volunteer with the Fall Fair, a fruit gleaning project, a school garden, or a local farm
- Get involved with one of the ACRD's four Agricultural Committees or a local food organization
- Exchange knowledge with friends and neighbours



The ACRD's System Change project provides \$50,000 annually to local organizations for agri-food programming. Find out more at www.acrd.bc.ca/agriculture



How can we support you?
Email ACRDagriculture@gmail.com