

The Soils Research Institute is engaged in studying genesis and classification, fertility, mineralogy and the organic, physiochemical and physical aspects of soils. This Institute gives leadership to the federal-provincial soil survey program through classification studies and by developing and standardizing analytical methods. It also provides a national soil-mapping service.

A major section of the Entomological Research Institute deals with taxonomy, other assignments being in the fields of genetics, physiology, nematology and apiculture. The Institute assembles and maintains the national collection of insects.

The Microbiological Research Institute is mainly concerned with metabolism, nutrition and genetics of bacteria of agricultural significance.

The Dairy Technology Research Institute investigates problems in sanitary milk production and the processing of dairy products and undertakes projects to improve existing dairy products and to develop new ones.

The Pesticide Research Institute at London examines chemicals used or intended to be used for insect, disease or weed control and investigates the reason for and the nature of the biological activity of the chemical.

The Biological Control Research Institute at Belleville is concerned with efforts to control destructive insect pests and noxious weeds with parasitic and predaceous insects, and with insect disease organisms. It is also the principal importing centre for beneficial insects and for some disease organisms from foreign countries.

The Insect Pathology Research Institute at Sault Ste. Marie is the major importing centre for disease organisms. Insect diseases, including those caused by viruses, fungi, bacteria and protozoa are studied.

The Regional Research Stations and Laboratories cope with primary problems in various regions in all provinces. Other units have undertaken projects assisting in the exploitation of peat bogs, reclamation of marshland for pasture, propagation of shelter-belt trees and prevention of soil erosion, dryland agriculture, the growing of special crops such as tobacco, and livestock breeding.

Production and Marketing Branch.—The Production and Marketing Branch conducts the promotional and regulatory functions of the Department. Its seven Divisions administer legislation and policies in the fields of agricultural production, marketing and control of disease in plants and animals. Three Sections—Consumer, Markets Information, and Transportation, Storage and Retail Inspection—carry on activities in their respective fields.

The Health of Animals Division administers the Animal Contagious Diseases Act and the Meat Inspection Act and also operates animal pathology laboratories. Besides its responsibility in carrying out various disease prevention measures, the Division operates programs for the eradication of bovine tuberculosis and brucellosis and issues health certificates for livestock entering export trade. The animal pathology laboratories, in addition to their research function, manufacture diagnostic reagents and biological products and provide analytical and diagnostic services for diseases of domestic and wild animals. District laboratories across the country give routine diagnostic and research services.

The Livestock Division administers legislation dealing with the grading of meat, wool and fur, with the registration of livestock pedigrees, with performance testing of cattle and hogs and with the supervision of racetrack betting. Other activities include the promotion of livestock improvement and the compilation of market statistics.

The Poultry Division carries out the policies of the national poultry breeding program, including Record of Performance for poultry and hatchery inspection, and administers the regulations for the grading of poultry products.