

The Plant Industry Branch organizes and administers programs for crop improvement and crop protection, and advises on seed and crop improvement, soil conservation, horticultural problems, and weed and pest control. The improvement of grassland is promoted through a forage crop program. The Seed Plant Division carries on custom cleaning of forage seeds and registered cereals. The Apiary Division advises on beekeeping and honey production and carries on continuous inspection.

The Agricultural Machinery Administration conducts a testing service, publishes reports on farm machinery, and licenses dealers in farm machinery.

The Family Farm Improvement Branch, newly established, assists farmers by providing technical services and financial assistance with farmstead development. The Branch specializes in such farmstead problems as buildings, water and sewage works, household problems, vegetation used in the farmyard, and materials handling. The Farm Water and Sewage Program is the first major program to be undertaken by the Branch.

Alberta.—The Alberta Department of Agriculture is organized in the following branches and services.

The Field Crops Branch administers programs and policies relating to crop improvement, soil conservation and weed control, crop protection and pest control, horticulture and apiculture. Agricultural Service Boards have been organized in municipal districts to assist with agricultural programs, and the Department of Agriculture is represented on each Board.

The Live Stock Branch aids in maintaining the quality of herds and flocks by assisting farmers in securing purebred herd sires and assists artificial breeding associations in the breeding of dairy cattle. The Branch also supervises livestock feeder associations and administers legislation relating to stock inspection, brands, domestic animals and the sale of horned cattle.

The Dairy Branch administers the Dairymen's Act and the Frozen Food Locker Act. Grading and purchasing of raw produce by all dairy plants are under regulation, as are standards of construction, manufacture, processing, sanitation, and temperature control for dairies and frozen-food lockers. A regular cow-testing service is available to dairy producers and the Branch laboratory conducts chemical and bacteriological analyses needed for industrial directives. Yearly cost studies and dairy farm management services are in operation in the principal milk-producing areas.

The Poultry Branch carries on programs for the improvement of poultry husbandry and supervises flock approval for the control of pullorum disease. The Branch issues hatchery, wholesale, first receiver and trucker licences for the handling of poultry products.

The Veterinary Services Branch provides scientific diagnoses of livestock and poultry diseases through its laboratory; conducts investigations of disease conditions; lectures in veterinary science at the University of Alberta, Schools of Agriculture, and many meetings; and promotes government policies aimed at reducing losses throughout the province.

The Agricultural Extension Service operates 43 offices and employs the services of 56 district agriculturists and 21 district home economists. The district agriculturists assist farmers with their problems and advance departmental policies designed to improve the standard of agricultural practices. The district home economists provide a similar service for farm women. Bulletins are prepared dealing with agricultural and home economics topics. The Branch is responsible for the supervision of agricultural societies and, in co-operation with the federal Department of Labour, is concerned with recruitment and placement of farm labour.

The Fur Farms Branch administers the licensing and exporting of live animals and pelts, and assists fur farmers in care, management and stock improvement; the Radio and Information Branch conducts five broadcasts a week over seven radio stations and issues weekly bulletins to press and radio; the Water Resources Branch deals with water rights, drainage, irrigation, and water power development; the Land and Forests Utilization