

The Animal Industry Branch develops and administers policies that encourage the improvement and efficient production of different classes of livestock, including poultry; supervises the grading of cream and inspects dairy manufacturing plants. Several Acts to promote high-quality products for consumer protection are administered in close co-operation with federal departments.

The Soils and Crops Branch encourages the development, production and improvement of cereal, forage, special crops and horticulture and promotes proper land use through soil conservation programs. The Branch develops and administers policies that encourage good field crop husbandry, soil conservation and weed control.

The Economics and Publications Branch deals with agricultural economics, supervises the farm business clubs and publishes and distributes annually approximately 250,000 bulletins, circulars, posters, leaflets, etc. The Publications section publishes agricultural statistics and maintains an agriculture reference library.

The Co-operative Services Branch registers and supervises co-operatives and credit unions and administers the Acts governing them. It also collects and compiles statistics on co-operative activity throughout the province.

The Veterinary Services Branch provides a diagnostic laboratory for animal diseases; administers the brucellosis control program, the Veterinary Services District Act and the Veterinary Science Scholarship Fund Act; works in close co-operation with practising veterinarians and the federal Health of Animals Branch in the control of livestock and poultry diseases.

The Water Control and Conservation Branch administers, through the Water Rights and the Water Power Acts, the water resources of the province and all works in connection with the control and utilization of those resources. The Departmental Act and associated statutes provide for the construction of works to control and use water, and for technical and financial assistance to local governments for the construction, maintenance and operation of such works. The Floodway Division is responsible for co-ordinating all matters in respect to design and construction of the Red River Floodway.

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

The Agricultural Representative Branch has a technical staff of 55, which serves all branches of the Department as well as the other agencies operating within the Co-operative Agricultural Extension Program. Agricultural representatives are active in all federal, provincial and university farm services; they work through Agricultural Conservation and Improvement Committees in each rural municipality and local improvement district to supply the farmer with scientific and practical information and to develop district improvement programs. The Department pays one half the cost of local group development projects. In farm labour matters, co-operation is maintained with the federal Department of Labour, including the National Employment Service.

Animal Industry Branch specialists provide technical information to livestock producers and administer the record of performance program for beef cattle. The Dairy Division of the Branch administers dairy herd improvement programs, assists producers with management and production problems, inspects and licenses dairy manufacturing and frozen-food locker plants, and administers dairy, locker plant and margarine legislation; the Livestock Division encourages the use of suitable animals for breeding purposes by the establishment of purebred sire areas and by assistance in the purchase and distribution of bulls, boars and rams, and registers brands, licenses livestock dealers and agents and promotes programs on insect control, feeding and management; the Poultry Division maintains poultry testing and banding services, licenses produce dealers and buyers, hatcheries and hatchery agents, and otherwise promotes flock improvement; the Veterinary Division assists students in veterinary science under a scholarship plan, administers the