

and No. 2 Canada Utility, which include feed and non-bread varieties, and No. 3 Canada Utility which includes the former No. 6 and Feed wheat. Canada No. 1 Western Red Spring Wheat, which replaced No. 1 Hard and No. 1 Northern and No. 2 Northern, was introduced in 1971.

A beef carcass appraisal service was instituted to identify animals at slaughter and, for the first time, to relay carcass information back to the producers of feeder calves and finished cattle. A new beef grading system was implemented on September 5, introducing a more precise system of measurement for quality and quantity in a carcass.

A nation-wide cattle blood-typing service at a nominal charge was announced; tests are performed at the Health of Animals Branch pathology laboratory at Guelph, Ont.

A program was implemented during the year to reduce the Canadian laying flock in order to lower the egg surplus that was disrupting marketing channels. Payments based on the slaughter of one million hens within eight weeks were made, and a higher assistance rate paid if slaughtering took place before the end of the period. The program ended successfully June 27 with producer prices strengthening.

An immunizing vaccine for Venezuelan Equine Encephalomyelitis — a serious virus disease affecting the central nervous system of horses — became available May 1. The federal government also offered to pay compensation to horse owners who have their animals destroyed under the program to eliminate equine infectious anemia (swamp fever).

On August 14, the Ministers of Agriculture and Health announced the suspension, effective January 1, 1973, of the use of DES (diethylstilbestrol) to promote growth in livestock, after studying a report from an advisory committee of non-governmental experts which indicated that, although there is no evidence that DES has harmed the health of Canadians, there is potential for harm. The suspension followed a phasing out of the use of the hormone announced by the US Department of Health, Education and Welfare on August 3. A final decision on the status of DES will be made after further experimentation.

Dairy producers in Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba entered the Market Sharing Quota Program during the year, joining Prince Edward Island, Ontario and Quebec in the scheme. With the addition of these provinces, more than 95% of the milk and cream used in manufactured dairy products in Canada came under market-sharing quotas.

The Canada Sheep Marketing Council was formed by representatives of lamb, wool and sheep associations across Canada. The Council will provide co-ordination of marketing efforts to industry and will recommend changes to improve returns to sheep producers.

A calf, believed to be the first born in Canada following the transfer of a fertilized egg from one cow to another (ovum transfer), was born May 9 at the Agriculture Canada farm near Hull, Que. The donor cow and foster mother were Holsteins; the sire was an Aberdeen Angus.

The Canada Department of Agriculture won a major international award at the Fifth International Food Products Exhibition in Paris, France, for a new process for producing quick-frozen egg mélange. By this process droplets of pasteurized egg mélange are frozen in liquid nitrogen, resulting in a granular form called cryogran eggs that overcomes the problems of handling the conventional 40-lb. bulk lots.

## 11.2 Federal government services

The Canada Department of Agriculture dates from Confederation in 1867. It was established as an outgrowth of the Province of Canada's Bureau of Agriculture, which was set up in 1852. The Department's authority lies in the British North America Act, 1867, which states, in part, "in each province, the legislature may make laws in relation to agriculture in the province" and "the Parliament of Canada may from time to time make laws in relation to agriculture in all or any of the provinces; and any law of the legislature of a province relative to agriculture, shall have effect in and for the province as long and as far as it is not repugnant to any Act of the Parliament of Canada".

A Department of Agriculture with a Minister of Agriculture at its head was accordingly established as part of the Government of Canada, and departments of agriculture headed by provincial Ministers were also set up by the provincial governments. In the Yukon Territory and Northwest Territories, agriculture is of very minor importance.

### 11.2.1 Canada Department of Agriculture

Activities of the Canada Department of Agriculture (CDA) cover three broad areas: research, promotional and regulatory services, and assistance programs. Research aims at