

The Animal Pathology Division consists of the Animal Diseases Research Institute at Hull, Que., the Animal Diseases Research Institute (Western) at Lethbridge, Alta., and seven other laboratories which conduct research and investigations on diseases of animals. The Division produces the biological products required in the control programs of the Branch; provides diagnostic services for diseases of domestic and wild animals; offers a consultation service regarding veterinary biologics and other agents used in the control of animal diseases; and assists in training departmental officers and technicians, as well as veterinarians from other lands. The Education and Development Division provides comprehensive training programs to meet the technical and scientific needs of the Branch and sponsors the attendance of its officers on other courses, and is involved in recruitment and liaison with other educational and professional institutions and organizations.

The Economics Branch furnishes the social science component, primarily economics, essential for the provision of comprehensive policies and programs to develop the agriculture and food sector of the Canadian economy. The Branch provides economic analysis and consulting services for the Minister, the Department and federal agencies. It conducts economic research, projects trends and prospects for agriculture, disseminates economic information, analyzes policy proposals, and plans and operates national economic programs for agriculture.

The structure of the Economics Branch is as follows: the Director General and Branch Executive, the Program Coordination and Development Group, the Policy Advisory Group and five divisions. The Marketing and Trade Division is concerned with the efficiency and development of markets for Canadian farm products; it also advises on trade policies and problems and prepares agricultural economic outlook information. The Farm and Rural Development Division helps Canadian farmers maintain profitable operations, keeps in touch with the problems of rural communities and operates the Small Farm Development Program. CANFARM Division provides a national computerized farm accounting service. The Research Division investigates the economics of production, marketing and resource use in agriculture and forecasts economic trends. There is also an Administration Division. Four regional research offices serve the following areas: the Maritime Provinces, Quebec, the Prairie Provinces and British Columbia; the CANFARM offices are at Guelph.

The Food Systems Branch was established in late 1972 to develop market-oriented plans for various commodities through the planning, development and co-ordination of programs within the Canada Department of Agriculture and with other components of the food system. The Branch works with all segments of the food industry, including producers, processors and distributors. Its responsibilities include monitoring and assessing food systems programs.

Administration, liaison and information. The Financial and Administration Branch provides central advisory and specialized staff services for the financial and business management of the Department and advises the Senior Executive in developing financial and administrative policies and programs. Personnel policies and programs for approximately 10,000 employees of the Department, including scientific and professional groups, technical, administrative and other support staff at various locations across Canada, are conducted by the Personnel Administration Branch.

The International Liaison Service, established in 1969, is the Department's "foreign affairs" arm. It maintains liaison on behalf of the Department with international agencies such as the Food and Agriculture Organization, the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development and the World Food Programme. The Service co-ordinates departmental participation in these organizations, and in aid and development programs undertaken by the Canadian International Development Agency, the International Development Research Centre and international foundations. It also reports regularly on agriculture policy trends abroad and evaluates the impact of these changes on Canadian agriculture and trade.

The Information Division gathers and disseminates information on the research, development and regulatory work of the Department, giving service to the news media, to agricultural extension workers and directly to the public through publications, press and radio releases, television material, motion pictures and exhibits.

11.2.2 Farm assistance programs

Basic to the concept of Canada's national agricultural policy is the premise that a stable agriculture is in the interests of the national economy and that farmers as a group are entitled