

tors and consumers. Market development, import replacement, and expansion of food information and consumer affairs services are major areas of the Council's work. The Ontario Food Terminal, operating under the Ontario Food Terminal Act, offers farmers the services of one of the largest volume wholesale fruit and vegetable markets in Canada.

Research and education are administered by the Education and Research Division. An advisory body, the Agricultural Research Institute of Ontario, reviews current programs of research and recommends areas of research which should receive priority. The Division undertakes continuous research on crops, livestock, and farming practices. Horticultural research is co-ordinated by the Horticultural Research Institute of Ontario, which also operates under this Division.

The provincial entomologist reports on insect control programs, as provided under the Plant Diseases and Abandoned Orchards Act, to determine pest control recommendations for Ontario crops. The provincial apiarist is responsible for reporting on the bee and honey industry.

The Extension Branch has personnel in each of the 54 county and district offices. Agricultural representatives relay information about agricultural research developments directly to farmers. In addition, specialists on farm management and engineering are located strategically throughout the province. The northern Ontario assistance policies of the Ministry, which vary from year to year, are also administered by the Branch. The Branch endorses and assists the 4-H Clubs and the Junior Farmers' Association of Ontario.

The Home Economics Branch conducts an extension program for rural women's groups and for girls' 4-H homemaking clubs. Programs deal with the study of foods, nutrition, clothing, textiles, home furnishings, home crafts and home management.

The Information Branch publishes and distributes several hundred publications on agriculture and food, home gardening and homemaking. News releases, radio tapes and television film clips are used to convey information to farmers on important changes in agriculture. The film library distributes more than 2,000 films annually to the public. This Branch co-ordinates a Ministry Market Information Service which provides up-to-date commodity quotations and farm weather reports to the media and individual producers on a daily basis using radio and audio-tape facilities.

The Agricultural and Horticultural Societies Branch advises and offers financial assistance to agricultural and horticultural societies and ploughmen's associations and administers the Drainage Act and the Tile Drainage Act, 1971.

The Economics Branch does research into marketing, policy, production, land use and dairying, and works with Statistics Canada to collect and publish statistics on farm production and marketing.

Manitoba. The Department of Agriculture serves Manitoba through four Divisions: Marketing and Production; Rural Development; Regional; and Administration and Program Services. Within these divisions the following branches carry out a wide range of services.

The Animal Industry Branch develops and administers policies and programs that encourage the improvement and efficient production of all classes of livestock, including poultry. The Branch is also involved in helping to improve the quality of dairy products at the producer and processor level, by means of inspection, consultation, education and laboratory quality control. In co-operation with federal departments the Branch administers several acts that provide consumer protection and ensure a supply of high quality livestock products.

The Soils and Crops Branch encourages the development, production and improvement of cereal, forage and special crops, and horticulture and promotes proper land use through soil conservation programs; it also develops and administers policies that encourage good field crop husbandry, soil conservation, land development and weed control. The Economics Branch deals with educational and development programs in farm management and agricultural economics and carries out special studies and supervises the new farm diversification program. The Marketing Branch carries out a market development, research and analysis function aimed at establishing long-term markets for agricultural products. Market intelligence and relevant information are provided to the various branches of the Department, to producers and to agribusiness. The Veterinary Services Branch operates a diagnostic laboratory for animal diseases, administers the Veterinary Services District Act and the Veterinary Scholarship Fund Act and works in co-operation with practising veterinarians and the federal Health of Animals Branch in the control of livestock and poultry diseases.