

Quota Program and remitted to the commission. The funds are used to equalize export prices with domestic prices for any products exported below domestic prices over a multiple-year period. More details on activities of the commission with regard to marketing may be found in Section 11.7.2.2.

The Canadian Livestock Feed Board, established by the Livestock Feed Assistance Act, is a Crown agency reporting to Parliament through the Minister of Agriculture. It has four main objectives: to ensure that feed grain is available to meet the needs of livestock feeders; that adequate storage space in eastern Canada is available for feed grain to meet the needs of livestock feeders; that the price of feed grain in eastern Canada and in British Columbia remains reasonably stable; and that there be fair equalization of feed grain prices in eastern Canada and in British Columbia.

To these ends, the board may make payments related to the cost of feed grain storage and transportation, the latter payments having been made since 1941. Under the Feed Grain Assistance Regulations of the Appropriations Act, the original program was initiated in October 1941 to provide a market for western feed grains and to enable livestock feeders in eastern Canada and British Columbia to obtain supplies at a cost that would maintain livestock and poultry production at a high level. Since April 1967, the freight subsidy has been administered by the Canadian Livestock Feed Board under the authority of the Livestock Feed Assistance Act. This program has been modified over the years to encourage better utilization of both transport and storage facilities. Initially, it was applied only to feed grains produced in the Prairie provinces and designated for domestic livestock consumption in eastern Canada and British Columbia. Subsequently it was extended to the movement of Ontario corn and wheat into the Atlantic provinces and Quebec.

The Feed Freight Assistance Program, as it has come to be known, underwent substantial changes as part of the domestic feed grain policy announced by the federal government on May 31, 1976. These changes, which became effective August 1, 1976, included reductions of \$4 a ton (\$4.41/t) in rates of assistance to British Columbia, \$6 a ton (\$6.61/t) in rates of assistance to Ontario and western Quebec (as far east as Montreal), with lesser reductions in central Quebec. Rates of assistance to eastern Quebec and the Atlantic provinces remain unchanged. In total, expenditures under the program will be reduced from recent levels of about \$20 million a year to an estimated \$11 million. The volume of eligible feed grain moved under the program has amounted to approximately 2.8 million tons (2.54 million t) a year.

The Livestock Feed Assistance Act also provides for the board to buy, transport, store and sell feed grains when authorized by the Governor in Council.

The Farm Credit Corporation. The Farm Credit Corporation (FCC) was established by the Farm Credit Act as successor to the Canadian Farm Loan Board. It is responsible for the administration of the Farm Credit Act and the Farm Syndicates Credit Act and acts as an agent of Agriculture Canada in administering the Land Transfer Plan of the Small Farm Development Program.

An advisory committee of farmers and other qualified persons, appointed by the Minister of Agriculture, advises the corporation with respect to policy. Responsibility for lending decisions and operations is decentralized into seven branch offices, one for the Atlantic region and one for each of the other provinces. Field officers work out of 112 offices across Canada.

The Farm Credit Act is designed to meet the long-term mortgage credit needs of Canadian farmers, and provides three types of mortgage loans. Borrowers must be of legal age to enter into a mortgage agreement, and loans may be made only to Canadian citizens or those with landed immigrant status. All loans are repayable on an amortized basis within a period not exceeding 30 years. Funds for lending under the Farm Credit Act are borrowed from the Minister of Finance. In the fiscal year ending March 31, 1976 the FCC approved 9,945 loans for a total of \$641 million, a record year.