

The Production and Marketing Division administers 27 acts and regulations designed to improve production, handling, processing and marketing of specific agricultural commodities. It includes the following branches: Plant Industry, Animal Industry, Veterinary Services, Agricultural Engineering Services, and Marketing and Economics; and the following agencies: the Milk Control Board, Saskatchewan Crop Insurance Corporation, Saskatchewan Hog Marketing Commission and the Saskatchewan Sheep and Wool Marketing Commission.

The Extension and Rural Development Division is responsible for development and performance of farm units. It coordinates the activities of all department personnel who deal regularly with the public. The division consists of the Regional Extension Services Branch and the Family Farm Improvement Branch. The Regional Extension Services Branch, organized into six regions, offers guidance in agricultural adjustment programs. Its work is carried out by 43 agricultural representatives stationed throughout the province and a supporting staff of regional specialists. The Family Farm Improvement Branch gives farmers technical and professional advice on farm buildings, farmstead planning, water supplies, waste disposal, mechanization and materials handling.

The Extension and Rural Development Division coordinates activities of the FarmStart Corporation. The corporation administers a credit and grant program for persons establishing or expanding livestock production as a means of developing profitable farming operations.

The Farm Resources Development Division is primarily responsible for the development of land and water resources for agricultural use. It consists of the Lands Branch and the Conservation and Land Improvement Branch. The division is also responsible for construction work for the Saskatchewan River Irrigation Project and for development work in community pastures. The Lands Branch administers over 7,000,000 acres (2 832 799 ha) of provincial lands for agricultural use. More than 12,000 farmers and ranchers lease land from the Lands Branch as full units or as additions to their private holdings. The remaining 1,500,000 acres (607 028 ha) are in provincial and cooperative pastures providing grazing for over 150,000 head of cattle belonging to more than 5,500 farmers.

The Saskatchewan Land Bank Commission and the Agricultural Implements Board are included in the Farm Resource Development Division. The Saskatchewan Land Bank Commission provides an alternative for farmers not wishing to commit themselves immediately to a heavy investment in land. It also provides Saskatchewan land-owners with a continuing sales opportunity for their land, enables new farmers to commence farming independent of substantial family assistance and permits farmers with insufficient land to add to their holding without raising large sums of money for capital investment. Major activities of the Agricultural Implements Board include registration of implement distributors, licensing and inspection of retail vendors, and investigating complaints regarding warranties and repair parts availability.

Alberta. Activities of the Department of Agriculture are coordinated by an executive committee made up of the directors of its 11 divisions, the deputy minister, three assistant deputy ministers and the director of administration. In addition, the Planning and Research Secretariat, in consultation with agribusiness, farm organizations and researchers, advises the department with regard to planning and policy.

The office of the Farmers' Advocate ensures protection of the rights of individual farmers. The office investigates problems and complaints of farmers not relating to the provincial government and its agencies.

The Marketing Sector develops programs and policies that support all parts of the marketing chain. Within this sector there are four "action oriented" sections: the Market Development Division emphasizes both export and domestic market expansion, and provides market information; the Agricultural Processing Branch encourages and supports the development of new foods manufactured from Alberta farm products; the Commodity Development Branch works with