

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.

A technical services branch provides programs in agricultural engineering, entomology and beekeeping and offers technical help to rural residents installing modern farm water systems. A community and family programs branch carries out education and development programs in 4-H and youth, agricultural manpower, community affairs, rural counselling and resource analysis. A communications branch provides press, radio and television services to mass media outlets and produces and distributes a wide range of instructional materials. The regional division includes five regions with 38 district offices, each staffed with agricultural representatives. The major role of this division is extension of educational programs and advice in agriculture and rural development.

The Manitoba Marketing Board supervises the operation of producer marketing boards responsible for the orderly marketing of hogs, milk, vegetables, eggs, broiler chickens, root crops, turkeys and honey. An agricultural products marketing commission helps market regulated agricultural products outside the control of producer boards.

Saskatchewan. Saskatchewan Agriculture has three main divisions: production and marketing, farm resources development, and extension and rural development. The department includes support services and a planning and research secretariat.

The production and marketing division administers legislation designed to improve production, handling, processing and marketing of specific farm products. It includes the following branches: plant industry, animal industry, veterinary services, and marketing and economics; and a milk control board, a crop insurance corporation, a hog marketing commission and sheep and wool marketing commission.

The extension and rural development division serves a co-ordinating function for extension programs and activities to help farm families develop and maintain viable farm units. It includes three branches. The regional extension services branch consists of about 100 field staff working throughout the province. The family farm improvement branch provides technical advice and services relating to farmstead mechanization. The newly formed irrigation branch, with headquarters at Outlook, is assisting development of a South Saskatchewan River irrigation project.

The extension and rural development division co-ordinates activities of FarmStart Corporation which administers a credit and grant program for persons establishing or expanding livestock operations.

The farm resources development division is primarily responsible for the development of land and water resources for agricultural uses through a lands branch and conservation and land improvement branch. The division is responsible for construction work for the South Saskatchewan River irrigation project and for development work in community pastures. The conservation and land improvement branch provides engineering services to the department in water management, including flood control, drainage and irrigation and is responsible for implementing Qu'Appelle conveyance and flood protection projects. The lands branch administers over 2.8 million hectares (7.0 million acres) 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 607 028 hectares (1.5 million acres) are in provincial and co-operative pastures providing grazing for over 150,000 head of cattle belonging to more than 5,500 farmers.

Saskatchewan's land bank commission, agricultural implements board, and farm ownership board, are included in the farm resources development division. The 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 land, enables new farmers to start 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