

branch makes grants to regional livestock clubs that hold sales and livestock shows, and sponsors exhibits of livestock outside the province. A staff of specialists provides feeding and management advice to livestock producers.

An Ontario stockyards board, operating under the federal Livestock and Livestock Products Act, provides a marketing service for Ontario livestock producers and protects their bargaining power.

A crop insurance commission, a branch of the ministry, offers contributory insurance against weather, insect and disease damage to grain and forage crops, a wide variety of vegetables and fruits, tobacco, seed corn and flax. The administration is paid by the Ontario government and 50% of the premium is paid by the federal government.

The province has a milk commission which co-operates with the Ontario milk marketing board, cream producers' marketing board and dairy council in dairy policy planning and development. It delegates the necessary powers to the milk and cream boards to execute their responsibilities. The commission is responsible for regulations under The Milk Act, and conducts elections of members to the Ontario milk marketing board.

A milk industry section of the farm products quality branch is responsible for carrying out the regulatory functions identified under legislation. This section administers the farm milk quality, plant inspection, plant audit and central milk testing programs.

A fruit and vegetable section inspects fruit and vegetables for grade, and promotes improved methods of disease control, grading, packaging, marketing, handling, storage and transportation.

A market development branch is responsible for finding methods to improve domestic and export market opportunities. An Ontario food terminal, operating under the Ontario Food Terminal Act, offers farmers services of one of the largest volume wholesale fruit and vegetable markets in Canada.

Research and education are administered by the education and research and special services division. An advisory agricultural research institute reviews research programs and recommends priorities.

The extension branch, through agricultural representatives at 54 county and district offices, relays information on research development and advice on farm management. Agricultural engineers work throughout the province. Northern Ontario assistance policies are also administered by the branch, which assists 4-H clubs and a junior farmers' association of Ontario.

The home economics branch conducts extension programs for rural adult groups and for young people's 4-H homemaking clubs on foods, nutrition, clothing, textiles, home furnishings, home crafts, and family and community life.

The information branch distributes publications, news releases, radio tapes and television news clips. A film library distributes more than 2,000 films annually. The market information service provides commodity quotations to the media and producers daily using radio and audio-tape.

An agricultural and horticultural societies branch offers advice and financial aid to agricultural and horticultural societies and plowmen's associations and manages an international plowing match and farm machinery show. An economics branch researches marketing, policy, production, land use and dairying, and works with Statistics Canada to collect and publish statistics on farm production and marketing.

A food land development branch provides an agricultural perspective to land-use planning. Staff contribute to and comment on official plans, amendments to plans and subdivision applications, and project plans for hydro, highways, pipelines and other facilities. Interim management of government-owned agricultural lands is accomplished through a land-lease program. The branch administers the Drainage Act and the Tile Drainage Act to provide loans and grants for draining agricultural lands. Staff also provide policy recommendations on alternative land-use programs.

Manitoba. The agriculture department serves through four divisions: agricultural production; agricultural marketing development; agricultural land and water; and management.