

The National Farm Products Marketing Council (NFPMC), established by the Farm Products Marketing Agencies Act in 1972, advises the Minister of Agriculture on all matters relating to marketing agencies. It works with the agencies and provincial governments to promote more effective marketing of the regulated products in inter-provincial and export trade. Agencies for eggs, turkeys and chickens have been in operation for many years and in December 1986, an agency for broiler hatching eggs was established. Membership of the Council includes producer, consumer, labour and agri-business representatives.

9.8 Agricultural education

All regions of Canada have universities and colleges giving undergraduate and postgraduate programs in agricultural science and home economics. Ontario, Quebec and Saskatchewan have degree-granting veterinary colleges.

The Atlantic Veterinary College, a faculty of the University of Prince Edward Island, accepted its first class in September 1986, for the four-year doctor of veterinary medicine program. Students interested in a career in veterinary medicine can receive their preveterinary training at any college or university in the Atlantic provinces. An MSc program in veterinary medicine is also available.

The Nova Scotia Agricultural College has degree-granting status and also provides the first two years in agricultural engineering with the final two years provided by other faculties in Eastern Canada. The college offers several technical programs associated with farming and agri-business and a variety of vocational courses designed to update farmers and other industry personnel.

New Brunswick's community college offers two programs, one in French at Grand Falls and the other in English at Woodstock. They are technical programs, designed to provide a basis for improving farming operations. The college also provides extension courses to producers to keep them aware of new techniques and to help improve their operations.

In Quebec, McGill and Laval universities offer undergraduate and postgraduate programs in agricultural science. The veterinary faculty of the University of Montreal grants degrees. The education department offers a course in farm management and operation at four CEGEPs; courses are offered at Ste-Croix school of agriculture; and 15 school boards provide vocational training in agriculture at the secondary level. The Quebec agriculture, fisheries and food department also operates two institutes of agricultural technology.

Ontario's Ministry of Agriculture and Food offers diploma course programs at the University of Guelph's Ontario Agricultural College, and at five colleges of agricultural technology in Kemptville, Alfred, Centralia, Ridgetown and New Liskeard.

The faculty of agriculture, University of Manitoba, offers a four-year course leading to a Bachelor of Science in agriculture and a two-year course leading to a diploma in agriculture. The university also has an extensive program for graduate studies in agricultural sciences.

The University of Saskatchewan's College of Agriculture, in Saskatoon, offers programs leading to a Bachelor of Science in Agriculture, Master of Science, and PhD. The college also offers a three-year diploma program. All traditional aspects of agricultural production are studied as well as key policy issues facing the industry today, such as international trade, marketing, and transportation. In addition, the college operates many associated institutes and centres and administers approximately 2 800 ha (7,000 acres) of research land. Saskatchewan's four technical institutes and the larger urban community colleges were recently merged to form the Saskatchewan Institute of Applied Science and Technology. The institute provides various courses relating to agriculture at the Wascana campus in Regina and Kelsey campus in Saskatoon.

Alberta has three agricultural colleges, Fairview, Olds and Lakeland (Vermilion campus), offering a broad range of diploma programs. Under the module approach in courses, students may enter credit programs at a variety of times and locations. Non-credit short courses focus on specific agricultural activities. In addition, Lethbridge Community College offers a range of agricultural programs and courses.

A green certificate program, with on-the-job and classroom training for farm workers and farm managers, is a joint project of farmers; Alberta departments of agriculture, and career development and employment; the three agricultural colleges; and Lethbridge Community College.

Several unusual college programs, such as turfgrass management and floriculture, attract students from other provinces. The colleges participate in interprovincial and international agricultural education under exchange and world youth programs. Curricula have been expanded to meet both manpower needs and diversified interests of rural communities.

Public and private colleges in Alberta offer one or two years of university-transfer courses