

Products Marketing Act of 1934 attempted to provide this power at the federal level but the courts ruled that the subject was outside federal jurisdiction. The subsequently introduced Natural Products Marketing (British Columbia) Act, 1936 was found to be within the powers of provincial governments and it has since been used as a model for marketing board legislation as it evolved in all 10 provinces.

While marketing board legislation has been revised from time to time on the basis of experience and there are variations in detail from province to province, the same basic powers are given to producers in all provinces. These include authority for a duly constituted producer board to control the marketing of 100% of a specified commodity produced in a designated area. A producer board, in at least some provinces, may set production quotas for each farmer. One producer board may control the marketing of several related commodities and the designated area may be either the whole or part of a province. A producer vote is usually required to establish a producer marketing board whose powers are delegated either by a provincial marketing board, which has certain supervisory authority, or by the Lieutenant Governor in Council.

The powers of a producer marketing board provided by provincial legislation are necessarily limited to trade within the province. Under the Agricultural Products Marketing Act (RSC 1970, c.A-7), the federal government may delegate to a marketing board powers with respect to interprovincial and export trade similar to those it holds under provincial authority with respect to intraprovincial trade. This Act also gives the Governor in Council the right to authorize a provincial marketing board to impose and collect levies from persons engaged in the production and marketing of commodities controlled by it for the purposes of the board including the creation of reserves and the equalization of returns.

The federal Farm Products Marketing Agencies Act was passed in January 1972 and is the enabling legislation for the creation of national marketing agencies or boards. National agencies may be set up, when producers and provincial authorities desire it, for any agricultural commodities which, due to widespread production in Canada or for other reasons, cannot be effectively marketed in an orderly manner under the jurisdiction of individual provincial boards. The Act establishes a National Farm Products Marketing Council to advise the Minister of Agriculture on all matters relating to the establishment and operation of national agencies, to review the performance of and assist in promoting effective marketing by these agencies and to consult with interested provinces on a continuing basis concerning the establishment of national marketing agencies. The first national agency formed under the Act, the Canadian Egg Marketing Agency, commenced operations in June 1973.

During 1972 there were 100 marketing boards in operation in Canada, including the milk control boards mentioned earlier in this Section, and the Canadian Wheat Board which is a federal board. Boards have now been established in all provinces, led by Quebec with 25 and Ontario with 20. An estimated 56% of 1972 farm cash income was received from sales made under the jurisdiction of marketing boards. A variety of agricultural commodities were sold under marketing boards, including grains, pigs, milk, fruit, potatoes and other vegetables, tobacco, poultry, eggs, wool, soya beans, honey, maple products and wood from farm woodlots. By the end of 1973, the federal government had delegated authority to 73 provincial boards to control their products in interprovincial and export trade.

Sources

- 11.1 Information Division, Canada Department of Agriculture.
- 11.2 Information Division, Canada Department of Agriculture; Agriculture Stabilization Board; Grains Group, Department of Industry, Trade and Commerce; Crop Insurance Division, Canada Department of Agriculture; Canadian Dairy Commission; Canadian Livestock Feed Board; Farm Credit Corporation; Guaranteed Loans Administration, Department of Finance; Grain Marketing Office, Department of Industry, Trade and Commerce.
- 11.3 Supplied by respective provincial government departments.
- 11.4 Agriculture Division, Industry Statistics Branch, Statistics Canada; except Tobacco: Food, Beverages and Textiles Section, Manufacturing and Primary Industries Division, Statistics Canada.
- 11.5 Census of Agriculture Division, Census Field, Statistics Canada.
- 11.6 - 11.7 Agriculture Division, Industry Statistics Branch, Statistics Canada.
- 11.8 Grains Group, Department of Industry, Trade and Commerce; Marketing and Trade Division, Canada Department of Agriculture.