

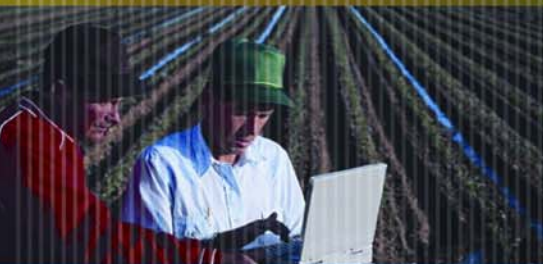


2007

A n n u a l R e p o r t



IICA-**Canada's**
Contribution to Agriculture and
the Development of the Rural
Communities in the Americas



IICA 
Inter-American Institute for
Cooperation on Agriculture

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A n n u a l R e p o r t

IICA-Canada's
Contribution to Agriculture and
the Development of the Rural
Communities in the Americas



Message from the Representative

Dear Friends of IICA,

I am pleased to present “IICA Canada’s Contribution to the Development of Agriculture and Rural Communities in the Americas” which reports on the activities of the IICA Canada team over 2007.

The year 2007 will be a memorable time for us with our biggest challenge in July when PM Stephen Harper announced the new policy focusing on the Americas. This window of opportunity led us to set up a strategy on how to proceed using all the available knowledge and experience of the IICA Canada team, which included all the current and former Canadians in IICA and our stakeholders. The second window opened when the World Bank presented its report in October concluding that agricultural projects was the best available means to reduce poverty and improve the livelihood in the developing world. Thanks to all our friends and partners for their interest and support to this tremendous challenge. We are now ready to confront the challenge with a document to present to the Canadian Government, which clearly expresses how IICA, if chosen as a partner, can help Canada become a leader making a difference in the Agricultural and Rural societies in Latin America and the Caribbean.

We are proud to announce that the IICA family in Canada has grown, with new, proactive stakeholders, whom we thank as well as our traditional ones, for choosing IICA as a partner and honest broker to support their activities with mutual benefits. We welcome from Alberta, the Alberta Institute of Agrologists, Alberta Association of Colleges and Technical Institutes, and the Alberta Research Council. In Quebec, we acknowledge our new partners Oxfax Quebec, Desjardins, Développement International, La Financière Agricole du Quebec, and the Canada-Haiti Chamber of Commerce and Industry. In Ontario, our warm welcome to the Canadian Livestock Genetics Association, Canadian Human Resources Council, Rural Development Network from the Rural Secretariat, and the Trade Facilitation Organization of Canada. Other important partners to welcome were the AAFC potato research group in New Brunswick, the new Technical Director in NAPPO and the PAHO Veterinary Public Health team together with Health Canada and the abattoir inspection team at CFIA. We specially thank those that participated in our performance evaluation survey for their comments and suggestions

In the Federal Government there were several important moves with new Ministers and Deputy Ministers of Agriculture and Foreign Affairs. Other relevant changes in the Canadian Government during this year were in DFAIT, with James Lambert appointed the DG of the Latin America and Caribbean Bureau and Léonard Beaulne as acting Director replacing Sarah Fountain. In CFIA, Brian Evans the Chief Veterinary Officer was appointed Executive Vice-President, Francine Lord was confirmed as Animal Health Director, and Rolf Schoenert, Senior Commercialisation Officer in Bilateral Affairs is our contact. In AAFC, Daryl Nearing replaced Maureen Dolphin.

We would like to acknowledge the outstanding role that Canada played at the Ministers’ and IABA meetings in Guatemala under the leadership of the Secretary of State. Additionally, the proactive participation of the AAFC team under Paul Murphy at the committees meetings in Costa Rica including the technical capacities review and the meeting between our DG and Minister Ritz in Rome.

This year during the Rep’s week in October we had a seminar by Stephen R. Covey and a Management Course with professors from INCAE Business School. Other important events were the Tri-National meeting in Cancun with an excellent presentation by Pulse Canada and the signing of a Letter of Intent with IICA. This was followed by the Canada-Mexico Bean Congress that included a researchers meeting in Celaya and coincided with the

celebrations of the 25th Anniversary of the Canada-Mexico Chamber of Commerce with the President of Mexico as the key speaker. We were honoured by the visit to our office of the Ministers of Agriculture from Peru and Haiti and the invitation as key speaker to the luncheon of the Latin American ambassadors. Other important experiences were the visits to the Royal Winter Show and the SIAL food fair in Montreal.

Another great accomplishment this year was a 98% budget execution reflected in the diverse activities described in our report, thanks to the teamwork and dedication of all the IICA Canada staff members. Also, we passed with flying colors, the first audit ever made to the IICA Canada Office. We thank Luis Condines for his advice and support. We also managed to upgrade our Website in preparation to the new IICA one thanks to the training visit of Adriana Alpizar. All these accomplishments were possible thanks to the unconditional support and trust of Chris Hansen, our Regional Director, who in spite of the cold weather proactively participated in our activities in Banff and Ottawa.

Anita retired from IICA Canada this year, after more than 20 years of dedication and hard work. She began her new life with a trip to Hawaii. I thank her and wish her all the best. Replacing her was not an easy job, so in the meantime, Louisa Martel held the fort with both jobs. We therefore, would like to give her our sincere thanks for her effort and dedication. Ysabel Giroux a young professional originally from Peru was chosen by the selection committee and began her training in December. We welcome her to the IICA Canada team.

Finally, I would like to fully acknowledge the outstanding work of Kimble Costain who during 2007 was the motor that pushed us and the other team members with his enthusiasm and dedication to meet the challenges and surpass our goals. I was honoured to be part of his evaluation committee in his management training course where he showed his great potential as a young professional.

Respectfully submitted,



Michael Bedoya, Representative
IICA in Canada

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Acronyms

| | |
|-----------|---|
| AACTI | Alberta Association of Colleges and Technical Institutes |
| AAFC | Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada |
| AEPLA | Agri-Environmental Policies in Latin America |
| AHFS | Agricultural Health and Food Safety |
| AI | Avian Influenza |
| AIA | Aberta Institute of Agrologists |
| APF | Agriculture Policy Framework |
| ARC | Alberta Research Council |
| ASAC | American Society of Agricultural Consultants |
| BSE | Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy |
| CAHC | Canadian Animal Health Coalition |
| CCAA | Canadian Consulting Agrologists Association |
| CFIA | Canadian Food Inspection Agency |
| CGIAR | Consultative Group on International Agriculture Research |
| CIDA | Canadian International Development Agency |
| CIP | Centro Internacional de la Papa – International Potato Centre |
| CINVESTAV | Centro de Investigación y Estudios Avanzados del Instituto Politécnico Nacional Mexico |
| CLGA | Canadian Livestock Genetics Association |
| CPC | Canadian Pork Council |
| CUCBA | Centro Universitario de Ciencias Biológicas y Agropecuarias Universidad Autonoma de Guadalajara |
| CVDR | Centre for Veterinary Drug Residues |
| CYFF | Canadian Young Farmers Forum |
| DFAIT | Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade |
| FAD | Foreign Animal Diseases |
| FAO | Food and Agriculture Organization |
| FMD | Foot-And-Mouth Disease |
| FSIS | Food Safety Inspection Service - USDA |
| FPT | Federal-Provincial-Territorial |
| GDP | Gross Domestic Product |
| HACCP | Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point |
| HPAI | Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza |
| IABA | Inter-American Board of Agriculture -IICA |
| IAI | Inter-American Institute for Research on Global Climate Change |
| IFAD | International Fund for Agricultural Development |
| IICA | Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture |
| INDAP | Instituto de Desarrollo Agropecuario - Chile |
| INIA | Instituto Nacional de Investigación Agropecuaria – National Institute for Agricultural Research |
| INIFAP | Instituto Nacional de Investigaciones Forestales, Agrícolas y Pecuarias –(Mexico) |
| INVIMA | Instituto Nacional de Vigilancia de Medicamentos y Alimentos- Colombia |
| LAC | Latin America and the Caribbean |
| LANAGRO | Laboratório Nacional Agropecuário – National Agriculture Laboratory |
| MAPA | Ministério da Agricultura, Pecuária e Abastecimento – Brazil |

| | |
|-----------|---|
| MIDAS | Más Inversión para Desarrollo Alternativo Sostenible - |
| NABI | North American Biotechnology Initiative |
| NACS | North American Consulting School |
| NAFTA | North American Free Trade Agreement |
| NAPPO | North American Plant Protection Organization |
| NCFAD | National Centre for Foreign Animal Diseases (Canada) |
| NGO | Non-Governmental Organization |
| OCBGA | Ontario Coloured Bean Growers Association |
| OIE | World Organization for Animal Health |
| OIRSA | Organismo Internacional Regional de Sanidad Agropecuaria- Central America and Mexico |
| PAHO | Pan-American Health Organization |
| PANAFTOSA | Centro Panamericano de Fiebre Aftosa – Pan-American Centre for Foot-and-Mouth Disease |
| PROCI | Program for Cooperation in Innovation |
| SACMI | Special Advisory Commission on Management Issues |
| SENASA | Servicio Nacional de Sanidad y Calidad Agroalimentaria – Argentina |
| SPF | Sistema Producto Frijol – Bean Production System |
| UNAM | Unviversidad Nacional Autonoma de Mexico |
| VPH | Veterinary Public Health |
| VWB | Veterinarians Without Borders |
| WHO | World Health Organization |
| WMHIC | World Meat Hygiene and Inspection Congress |
| WTO | World Trade Organization |

1.

Introduction

2007 – A NEW ERA IN CANADIAN AGRICULTURE BEGINS

Canada's agri-food system provides the country with an abundance of safe, wholesome, nutritious food. The quarter of a million family farms and the one in eight workers involved in the agriculture and agri-food value chain not only feed Canadians, they help to feed the world. Canada is the world's fifth largest agriculture and agri-food exporter and last year, Canadian agriculture and agri-food exports reached a record of almost 28 billion dollars. But Canada is also a critically important market for the agriculture and agri-food products produced in other countries, as the world's fifth largest importer of such goods.

This vitally important sector to Canada's economy has faced many challenges over the past years, including a soaring Canadian dollar, high energy prices, high costs of agriculture inputs, and a tight labour market that have all left their impact on the fortunes of Canadian farmers. But the sector had adapted, adjusted and has emerged with strength into a period of unprecedented change and opportunity. Canada's agriculture is entering a new era to become an ever bigger driver of the country's economic growth. Continued improvements in productivity and efficiency, higher crop prices stemming from rising food consumption in emerging markets and from competing demand in bio-fuels, increased consumer attention on the environment, health and food safety, and science innovations leading to new crops are all major opportunities for the sector to strengthen its prospects and drive economic growth in the country.

IICA is proud to be a partner of Canadian agriculture as it confronts the challenges and opportunities of this new era – the same challenges and opportunities facing many other IICA Member States in Latin America and the Caribbean. Over the past year, the IICA Canada team has strived to support the Canadian agriculture and agri-food sector in its diverse efforts to develop new linkages throughout the Americas, to protect a safe food supply, to address innovation and agri-business issues of mutual concern, to support rural community development here and abroad – in short, to position agriculture and rural life for the benefit of all citizens of the Americas.

IICA CANADA'S TECHNICAL COOPERATION

IICA Canada 2007 Accountability Survey

This year, IICA Canada consulted stakeholders on the office's transparency and accountability and on its technical cooperation. IICA Canada's stakeholders, both traditional and new alike, from across the full spectrum of interests – government, academia and private sector – have expressed strong satisfaction with the strategic direction, quality and transparency of IICA Canada's technical cooperation. Issues related to agricultural health and food safety, trade and agribusiness development, technology and innovation, and sustainable rural development continue to be priorities for the Canadian agriculture sector and appropriate areas for IICA Canada to be involved in. Stakeholders also expressed confidence with the IICA Canada management team.

IICA Canada's technical cooperation can achieve even greater impact and stakeholders have provided suggestions on how to do this. Placing more focus on issues such as health, bio-industries and the environment; increasing awareness of IICA and its objectives

among Canadian organizations and partner groups in Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC); and sharing some of Canada’s recent experiences in such timely topics as agriculture science policy development are just three of the ideas put forth.

Many stakeholders requested more frequent updates from IICA Canada on its activities, which can be taken as a positive sign of their interest in and commitment to the work this office undertakes in Canada and throughout LAC.

Active involvement on the part of stakeholders is a critical element to success in technical cooperation and the Office of IICA in Canada is honoured to be able to count on this from Canada’s agriculture sector.

The 2007 IICA Canada Internship and Expertise Exchange Program

The Internship and Expertise Exchange Program has become IICA Canada’s flagship program for promoting agriculture and development of rural communities in Canada and the Americas. This past year, 41 producers, researchers, and government and agribusiness leaders from Canada and nine other countries were supported by the program. Six of the projects originated in the program’s open call with the remainder supporting and further strengthening existing relationships between IICA Canada and strategic stakeholders. Table 1 provides a summary of the projects supported under this program. More information on each of the projects can be found in Chapter 4 under the Strategic Area indicated in the table.

IICA Canada Support to Events

Each year, IICA Canada is proud to offer financial, technical and logistical support to important events in Canada and throughout the hemisphere. This year, IICA Canada made important contributions to more than 45 events in Canada, in twelve countries in LAC and two events held outside of the hemisphere. Table 2 provides a summary of these events with greater details found in Chapter 4.

Table 1. Summary of the 2007 IICA Canada Internship and Expertise Exchange Program

| Intern / Expert | Field of Study or Expertise | Home Institution ¹ | Counterpart Institution ¹ | IICA Strategic Area ² |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 16 Members of the Chile Mission | Agriculture Policy Development | MAG CHILE | CFIA CANADA | Repositioning of Agriculture |
| Gaston Munoz (OPEN) | Commercial Flax Production | IIAC CHILE | Olds College CANADA | Trade and Agribusiness |
| Greg Cherewyk | Bean Promotion | Pulse Canada CANADA | Tri-National Meeting MEXICO | Trade and Agribusiness |
| Hernan Rojas | Rural Development | INDAP CHILE | CCAA CANADA | Trade and Agribusiness |
| Mike Kotelko | Feedlot Industry | Highland Beef | SICARNE MEXICO | Trade and Agribusiness |
| Nuria Morfin (OPEN) | Bee Mite Control | UNAM MEXICO | U. Guelph CANADA | Agriculture Health and Food Safety |
| Francois Bedard | Pork Traceability | CPC CANADA | IICA COSTA RICA | Agriculture Health and Food Safety |
| Alejandra Diaz | Traceability | IICA GUATEMALA | TDV Global CANADA | Agriculture Health and Food Safety |
| Carmen Pencipil | Meat Inspection | CHILE | CFIA CANADA | Agriculture Health and Food Safety |
| Azucena Zuniaga | Meat Inspection | HONDURAS | CFIA CANADA | Agriculture Health and Food Safety |

¹ Refer to Acronyms for full name of Home and Counterpart Institutions

² Refer to appropriate section of Chapter 4 for more information on these activities

| Intern / Expert | Field of Study or Expertise | Home Institution ¹ | Counterpart Institution ¹ | IICA Strategic Area ² |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Chris Kletke | Young Farmers | CYFF CANADA | INDAP CHILE | Sustainable Rural Development |
| Ian Richardson | Young Farmers | CYFF CANADA | INDAP CHILE | Sustainable Rural Development |
| Mark Richards | Young Farmers | CYFF CANADA | INDAP CHILE | Sustainable Rural Development |
| Leona Dargis | Young Farmers | CYFF CANADA | INDAP CHILE | Sustainable Rural Development |
| Susana Fischer (OPEN) | Biofumigants | U. Concepcion CHILE | Olds College CANADA | Technology and Innovation |
| Carlos Alvarado (OPEN) | Potato Genetics | International Potato Centre PERU | AAFC CANADA | Technology and Innovation |
| Laura Espinosa (OPEN) | Avocado Nutraceuticals | CINVESTAV MEXICO | AAFC CANADA | Technology and Innovation |
| Dr. Paul Kolodziejczyk (OPEN) | Bioproducts and Bioprocesses | Olds College CANADA | MAG CHILE | Technology and Innovation |
| Kirsten Betts | Dry Bean Breeding | U. of Saskatchewan | INIFAP MEXICO | Technology and Innovation |
| David Oomah | Dry Bean Breeding | AAFC CANADA | INIFAP MEXICO | Technology and Innovation |
| David Woods | Bean Production | OCBGA | INIFAP MEXICO | Technology and Innovation |
| Karl Pauls | Dry Bean Breeding | U. of Guelph | INIFAP MEXICO | Technology and Innovation |
| Parthiba Balasubramanian | Dry Bean Breeding | AAFC CANADA | INIFAP MEXICO | Technology and Innovation |
| Frederique Abreu | Bioenergy | BRAZIL | AIA CANADA | Technology and Innovation |
| Carlos Fernandez | Agriculture Innovation | FIA CHILE | CCAA CANADA | Technology and Innovation |
| Mike Kotelko | Biogas Production | Highmark Renewables | CUCBA | Technology and Innovation |
| Adriana Alpizar | Informatics | IICA COSTA RICA | IICA CANADA | Technology and Innovation |

Table 2. Events in 2007 that were supported by IICA Canada

| Event | Location | Date | IICA Strategic Area ¹ |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------|----------|------------------------------------|
| Visit of Agriculture Minister of Peru | Montreal CANADA | January | Repositioning of Agriculture |
| CAHC Annual Meeting | Ottawa CANADA | January | Agriculture Health and Food Safety |
| ARC Meeting | Edmonton CANADA | January | Technology and Innovation |
| Tri-National | Cancun MEXICO | February | Repositioning of Agriculture |
| Belize AI Meeting | Chetumal MEXICO | February | Agriculture Health and Food Safety |
| 2007 Canada / Mexico Bean Congress | Mexico City MEXICO | March | Trade and Agribusiness |
| Belize AI | Belmopan BELIZE | March | Agriculture Health and Food Safety |
| CCAA | Banff CANADA | March | Trade and Agribusiness |
| AIA | Banff CANADA | March | Technology and Innovation |

¹ Refer to appropriate section of Chapter 4 for more information on these activities

| Event | Location | Date | IICA Strategic Area ¹ |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------|-----------|------------------------------------|
| Peru Forum | Lima PERU | April | Repositioning of Agriculture |
| Emerging Diseases | San Jose COSTA RICA | April | Agriculture Health and Food Safety |
| VPH Forum | Ottawa CANADA | May | Agriculture Health and Food Safety |
| Traceability | San Jose COSTA RICA | May | Agriculture Health and Food Safety |
| Minister of Alberta | Edmonton CANADA | May | Technology and Innovation |
| NACS-Ottawa | Ottawa CANADA | May | Trade and Agribusiness |
| IICA/CFIA Meeting | Ottawa CANADA | June | Agriculture Health and Food Safety |
| WMHIC | Niagara Falls CANADA | June | Agriculture Health and Food Safety |
| IICA/PAHO Workshop | Niagara Falls CANADA | June | Agriculture Health and Food Safety |
| Chilean CLGA | Ottawa CANADA | June | Technology and Innovation |
| Chilean CLGA | Calgary CANADA | June | Technology and Innovation |
| Haiti Mission | Montreal CANADA | June | Sustainable Rural Development |
| Haiti Mission | Ottawa CANADA | June | Sustainable Rural Development |
| Guelph/Kinross Meeting | Ottawa CANADA | June | Sustainable Rural Development |
| Residue Training | Saskatoon CANADA | June | Agriculture Health and Food Safety |
| IABA | Antigua GUATEMALA | July | Repositioning of Agriculture |
| INVIMA | Montreal CANADA | July | Agriculture Health and Food Safety |
| INVIMA | Ottawa CANADA | July | Agriculture Health and Food Safety |
| INVIMA | Guelph CANADA | July | Agriculture Health and Food Safety |
| AACTI | Ottawa CANADA | July | Technology and Innovation |
| CYFF | Santiago CHILE | July | Sustainable Rural Development |
| 2 nd World Young Farmers | Buenos Aires ARGENTINA | July | Sustainable Rural Development |
| Guelph/Kinross Meeting | Brasilia BRAZIL | August | Sustainable Rural Development |
| Pulse Canada | Mexico City MEXICO | September | Trade and Agribusiness |
| NR Planning | San Jose COSTA RICA | September | Repositioning of Agriculture |
| Chile Modernization | Ottawa CANADA | September | Repositioning of Agriculture |
| SICARNE | Mexico City MEXICO | September | Trade and Agribusiness |
| CUCBA | Guadalajara MEXICO | September | Technology and Innovation |
| TDV Traceability | Calgary CANADA | October | Agriculture Health and Food Safety |
| Haiti Mission | Ottawa CANADA | October | Sustainable Rural Development |
| Reps' Week | San Jose COSTA RICA | October | Repositioning of Agriculture |

| Event | Location | Date | IICA Strategic Area ¹ |
|-------------------------|-------------------|----------|------------------------------------|
| AI Course | Uberlandia BRAZIL | October | Agriculture Health and Food Safety |
| IFAD/World Bank Seminar | Ottawa CANADA | October | Repositioning of Agriculture |
| Min Ritz/ DG | Rome ITALY | November | Repositioning of Agriculture |
| NCFAD SA | Campinas BRAZIL | November | Agriculture Health and Food Safety |
| ASAC | St. Louis USA | November | Trade and Agribusiness |

2. Executive Summary

This past year, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC) worked with provincial counterparts and the country's agriculture sector to finalize development of Growing Forward, the next generation of Canada's agriculture policy and associated programs. Lead responsibility for its implementation now falls to the Honourable Gerry Ritz, who was appointed Minister for AAFC. Prime Minister Harper also appointed the Honourable Maxine Bernier as Minister of Foreign Affairs. Deputy Ministers also changed in 2007, with AAFC's Len Edwards moving to support Minister Bernier and DM Yaprak Baltacioglu taking over at AAFC. Another important development registered was the announcement by the Prime Minister of the new foreign policy objective of Canada to revive and expand its political and economic engagement in Latin America and the Caribbean. With its focus on promoting Canada's foundational values, building strong sustainable economies, and meeting new security challenges, including natural disasters, this policy represents a great opportunity for Canada to play a renewed leadership role in the Americas. Our Director General Dr. Brathwaite pledged IICA's full support to the country in this endeavour during his meeting with Minister Ritz in Rome.

RESULTS OF IICA CANADA'S TECHNICAL COOPERATION ACTIVITIES IN 2007

Emphasizing sustainable results, IICA Canada continued integrating its three technical cooperation instruments – Internships, Expertise Exchanges and Support to Events – a process we began with the 2006-2010 Technical Cooperation Agenda. This year, we instituted further modifications to the IICA Canada Internship and Expertise Exchange Program to increase accountability and impact of the program and secure improved compliance. Forty-one producers, junior and senior researchers, and government and agri-business leaders from across Canada and from nine other countries in the hemisphere benefited directly from this flagship program. Also, significant contributions were made to more than 45 events held in Canada and twelve other countries in LAC and to two events outside of the hemisphere.

IICA Canada used its technical cooperation tools across all priority areas and IICA regions. From Montreal to Calgary, and from Mexico to Chile, IICA Canada confirmed its commitment to support its stakeholder communities in building strategic alliances through Latin America and the Caribbean. In the following paragraphs, we provide details for five of the many significant results IICA Canada achieved this past year.

1. IICA Canada's Contribution to the Repositioning of Agriculture and Rural Life

In continual support to the on-going cooperation between the agriculture ministries of Canada and Chile, IICA Canada and IICA Chile played an active role during the Chilean Technical Mission to Canada on Institutional Modernization. This was a priority activity of Chile's "*Proyecto Nueva Institucionalidad*." The 16-member mission from Chile's Ministry of Agriculture came in September to meet with counterparts from Canada's agriculture portfolio, including the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) and AAFC. Headed by Cristian Saez of *Oficina de Estudios y Políticas Agrarias*, this group has been leading the process in Chile for modernizing the Ministry of Agriculture. IICA Canada supported the work of Peter Brackenridge, former Vice President of the CFIA and now consultant for IICA in Canada, who navigated the Chilean mission through Canada's more than ten years of

experience in institutional modernization and in creating a national food inspection agency, including issues related to human resources, budgeting and planning, operations and strategic relationships with other ministries involved in the food inspection system. Additionally, IICA Canada hosted a round-table discussion to review all issues and bring the mission to a successful close.

2. Promoting Trade and Competitiveness of Agribusiness

IICA Canada partnered once again with the Canadian Consulting Agrologists Association (CCAA) to bring an international perspective to the 2007 North American Consulting School, which was held in Banff, Alberta in March. Working closely with CCAA Executive, and our office in Chile, we designed a program with Dr. Hernán Rojas Olavarría, National Director of Chile's *Instituto de Desarrollo Agropecuario* (INDAP) as a key speaker to the school. His presentation focused on his vision for bringing quality assurance and quality control to INDAP's extension services which are offered through consultants to small-scale producers. A Letter of Intent was signed between INDAP and the CCAA, with IICA Canada as a witness, to address this challenge.

3. Strengthening Agriculture Health and Food Safety Systems

With a focus on international developments in meat hygiene and inspection and a goal to foster international dialogue among veterinary professionals, this year's World Meat Hygiene and Inspection Congress was jointly hosted by the CFIA and the U.S. Department of Agriculture, in Niagara Falls, Canada in June. IICA Canada, in a joint effort with the Pan-American Health Organization (PAHO), secured the participation of representatives from Mexico, Guatemala, Dominican Republic, Chile, Argentina and Brazil. Together, we hosted an international workshop along with CFIA for these participants to explore technical cooperation needs in meat inspection. This was followed by the official visit of Dr. Ricardo Molins, IICA'S Director of AHFS, to CFIA.

4. Promoting Sustainable Management of Natural Resources and the Environment and Strengthening Rural Communities

Canada's rural community and its core agriculture sector is facing a renewal challenge, with many young people seeking livelihoods off the farm. The Canadian Young Farmers Forum (CYFF) is an organization designed to build knowledge and leadership among Canada's young farmers in efforts to address this problem. Many countries throughout Latin America and the Caribbean are facing similar problems. In order to increase awareness among LAC of the CYFF model and with the support of IICA Canada, four executive members traveled to Santiago, Chile and then on to Buenos Aires, Argentina to speak with agriculture leaders and other young farmers about the CYFF and the benefits such an organization can bring to the young people in rural communities and to the entire agriculture sector.

5. Introducing Technology & Innovation for the Modernization of Agriculture and Rural Life

Energy from agriculture continued to be of great interest in the hemisphere. Brazil's many years of experience and technical know-how were called upon during the Alberta Institute of Agrologists' Annual Meeting and Bioenergy Forum held in Banff in March. Using our Expertise Exchange Program, we were able to support Dr. Frederique Abreu, General Coordinator of Agrienergy within Brazil's Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Food Supply, as a keynote speaker at this event.

2. Résumé

L'année passée, Agriculture et Agroalimentaire Canada (AAC) a collaboré avec ses homologues provinciaux et le secteur national de l'agriculture pour finaliser l'élaboration de Cultiver l'avenir, la prochaine génération de la politique agricole du Canada et des programmes connexes. La responsabilité première pour sa mise en œuvre revient à l'honorable Gerry Ritz, qui a été nommé ministre de l'Agriculture et de l'Agroalimentaire. Le Premier ministre Harper a également nommé l'honorable Maxime Bernier ministre des Affaires étrangères. Les sous-ministres ont également changé en 2007, Len Edwards passant d'AAC aux Affaires étrangères pour appuyer le ministre Bernier et le SM Yaprak Baltacioglu assumant ses responsabilités à AAC. Un autre développement important à noter a été l'annonce par le Premier ministre du nouvel objectif de politique étrangère du Canada de revitaliser et d'accroître son engagement politique et économique en Amérique latine et dans les Caraïbes. Axée sur la promotion des valeurs fondamentales du Canada, soit établir des économies solides et durables et relever les nouveaux défis qui se posent à la sécurité, y compris les catastrophes naturelles, cette politique représente une excellente occasion pour le Canada de jouer un rôle de premier plan renouvelé dans les Amériques. Notre Directeur général, M. Brathwaite, a promis le plein appui de l'IICA au pays dans cette entreprise lors de sa réunion avec le ministre Ritz à Rome.

RÉSULTATS DES ACTIVITÉS DE COOPÉRATION TECHNIQUE D'IICA CANADA EN 2007

Accordant une importance particulière aux résultats durables, IICA Canada a continué d'intégrer ses trois instruments de coopération technique – stages, échanges d'expertise et appuis aux événements – un processus que nous avons entamé avec le Programme de coopération technique 2006-2010. Cette année, nous avons apporté d'autres modifications au Programme de stages et d'échanges d'expertise d'IICA Canada pour accroître la responsabilisation et l'impact du programme et obtenir une conformité améliorée. Quarante et un producteurs, des chercheurs débutants et expérimentés, et des leaders du gouvernement et des industries agricoles de l'ensemble du Canada et de neuf autres pays du Continent ont bénéficié directement de ce programme « vedette ». Il convient de noter également que des contributions importantes ont été faites à plus de 45 événements tenus au Canada et dans douze autres pays d'Amérique latine et des Caraïbes et à deux événements organisés en dehors du Continent.

IICA Canada a utilisé ses outils de coopération technique dans l'ensemble des secteurs prioritaires et des régions de l'IICA. De Montréal à Calgary et du Mexique au Chili, IICA Canada a confirmé son engagement d'appuyer ses communautés partenaires pour l'établissement d'alliances stratégiques dans l'ensemble de l'Amérique latine et des Caraïbes. Dans le paragraphe suivant, nous fournissons des détails pour cinq des résultats les plus importants obtenus par IICA Canada au cours de l'année écoulée.

1. Contribution d'IICA Canada au repositionnement de l'agriculture et de la vie rurale

À titre d'appui continu à la coopération permanente entre les ministères de l'agriculture du Canada et du Chili, IICA Canada et IICA Chili ont joué un rôle actif dans le cadre de la mission technique chilienne au Canada consacrée à la modernisation institutionnelle. Il s'agissait là d'une activité prioritaire du "Proyecto Nueva Institucionalidad" [Projet de nouvelle institutionnalité] du Chili. La mission de 16 délégués du ministère de

L'Agriculture du Chili est venue en septembre pour rencontrer des homologues du portefeuille de l'agriculture du Canada, y compris l'Agence canadienne d'inspection des aliments (ACIA) et AAC. Sous la direction de Cristian Saez de l'Oficina de Estudios y Políticas Agrarias [Office des études et politiques agraires], ce groupe a ouvert la voie au Chili au processus de modernisation du ministère de l'Agriculture. IICA Canada a appuyé le travail de Peter Brackenridge, ancien vice-président de l'ACIA et maintenant consultant pour l'IICA au Canada, qui a emmené la mission chilienne pour une exploration de plus de dix ans d'expérience du Canada dans la modernisation institutionnelle et dans la création d'une agence nationale d'inspection des aliments, y compris des questions relatives aux ressources humaines, les budgets et la planification, les opérations et les relations stratégiques avec d'autres ministères intéressés par le système d'inspection des aliments. De plus, IICA Canada a tenu une table ronde pour examiner toutes les questions et mener à bon terme une mission couronnée de succès.

2. Promotion du commerce et de la compétitivité des industries agricoles

IICA Canada a collaboré une fois encore avec l'Association canadienne des agronomes conseils (ACAC) pour donner une perspective internationale à la North American Consulting School de 2007, tenue à Banff, Alberta, en mars. Travaillant en étroite collaboration avec le Comité exécutif de l'ACAC et notre bureau au Chili, nous avons formulé un programme avec M. Hernán Rojas Olavarría, directeur national de l'Instituto de Desarrollo Agropecuario (INDAP) [[Institut de développement agricole] du Chili, comme orateur principal dans cette école. Sa présentation était axée sur sa vision pour amener l'assurance de la qualité et le contrôle de la qualité aux services de vulgarisation de l'INDAP qui sont offerts par des consultants aux producteurs à petite échelle. Une lettre d'intention a été signée entre l'INDAP et l'ACAC, en présence d'IICA Canada en tant que témoin, pour relever le défi.

3. Renforcement de la protection sanitaire agropastorale et des systèmes d'innocuité des aliments

Avec un accent mis sur les développements internationaux en matière d'hygiène et d'inspection des viandes, ainsi qu'un objectif portant sur le renforcement du dialogue international entre les spécialistes de la profession vétérinaire, le Congrès mondial sur l'hygiène et l'inspection des viandes de cette année était co-parrainé par l'ACIA et le Département de l'agriculture des États-Unis et a eu lieu en juin à Niagara Falls, Canada. L'événement, qui a également bénéficié des efforts fournis par l'Organisation panaméricaine de la santé (OPS), a vu se réunir des représentants du Mexique, du Guatemala, de la République dominicaine, du Chili, de l'Argentine et du Brésil. Nous avons unis nos efforts à ceux de l'ACIA pour offrir à tous ces participants un atelier international pour explorer les besoins de coopération technique en matière d'inspection des viandes. Cet atelier a été suivi de la visite officielle à l'ACIA de M. Ricardo Molins, directeur des services de Protection sanitaire agropastorale et d'innocuité des aliments de l'IICA.

4. Promotion de la gestion durable des ressources naturelles et de l'environnement et renforcement des communautés rurales

La communauté rurale du Canada et son secteur clef de l'agriculture font face au défi du renouvellement, avec de nombreux jeunes qui cherchent leur gagne-pain dans les travaux de la ferme. La Table pancanadienne de la relève agricole (TPRA) est une organisation qui cherche à bâtir les connaissances et le leadership au sein des jeunes agriculteurs canadiens afin de traiter ce problème. De nombreux pays d'Amérique latine et des Caraïbes font face à des problèmes similaires. Afin d'accroître la sensibilisation au modèle du TPRA au sein de l'Amérique latine et des Caraïbes, quatre membres de l'exécutif sont allés à Santiago, Chili, puis à Buenos Aires, Argentine, pour parler à des chefs de file de l'agriculture et à d'autres

jeunes agriculteurs du TPRA ainsi que des avantages qu'une organisation de ce genre peut procurer aux jeunes dans les communautés rurales et à l'ensemble du secteur agricole.

5. Introduction de la technologie et de l'innovation pour la modernisation de l'agriculture et de la vie rurale

L'énergie que dégage l'agriculture a continué d'être d'un grand intérêt dans le Continent. Il a été fait appel aux nombreuses années d'expérience et à l'acquis technique du Brésil lors de la réunion annuelle et du forum de bioénergie de l'Alberta Institute of Agrologists tenus en mars à Banff. Tirant parti de notre Programme d'échange d'expertise, nous avons été en mesure d'appuyer Mme Frederique Abreu, coordinatrice générale d'Agri-énergie auprès du ministère de l'Agriculture, de l'Élevage et de l'Approvisionnement alimentaire du Brésil, comme oratrice principale à l'occasion de cet événement.

3.

The State of Agriculture and Rural Life in Canada in 2007

FACTORS IN THE NATIONAL CONTEXT

Canada's Federal Government new Americas Policy

On July 2007 Prime Minister Stephen Harper made a policy announcement that Canada would be seeking to revive and expand the country's political, economic, social and security engagement in the Americas with three key objectives:

- to strengthen and promote Canada's foundational values of freedom, democracy, human rights and the rule of law;
- to build strong sustainable economies through increased trade and investment linkages, as well as a mutual commitment to expanding opportunities to all citizens; and
- to meet new security challenges, as well as natural disasters and health pandemics.

The Government of Canada signaled its intentions to put this policy into meaningful practice by establishing an office within the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (DFAIT) to coordinate the Government's activities. In October, the Prime Minister during the new *Speech from the Throne* (SFT) reiterated the government's commitment to the Americas.

"In our own neighbourhood, the Americas, Canada is back playing an active role. The Canadian model of constitutional democracy and economic openness combined with social safety nets, equitable wealth creation and sharing across regions has much to offer those countries struggling to build a better future.

Canada's efforts in Haiti are a compelling example of how we can work with our neighbours to ensure security and development. Canadians understand that our country has a responsibility to help countries struggling to make a better life for their people—particularly in promoting democratic governance in fragile states. In Haiti and elsewhere, our Government will bring greater focus and effectiveness to Canada's international assistance to ensure that Canadians' money is well spent.



The best hope for fostering development and our common security in the hemisphere and beyond is through bolstering international trade. Through renewed focus on trade and investment arrangements, Canada has already secured a deal with the European Free Trade Association, the first new agreement in more than half a decade. Our Government will keep advancing Canada's trade interests in the Americas and around the world to open up new markets for Canada's innovators."

Currently, Canada is one of the largest sources of foreign investment in the southern hemisphere. It is estimated that Canadian trade in the Americas is in the order of over \$40

billion annually. This is only expected to grow as agreements that build on the successes of NAFTA, Chile and Costa Rica, are negotiated, such as those with CARICOM and El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Peru, Colombia and Dominican Republic.

With the “Americas” policy and the Government’s commitment to put it into practice, Canada has underscored the value of its ties to Latin America and the Caribbean and its willingness to be a leading partner in development.

New Agriculture Minister and Other Cabinet Changes

The Prime Minister named the Honourable Gerry Ritz as Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food and Minister for the Canadian Wheat Board on August 14, 2007. Minister Ritz was first elected to Parliament in 1997 and was re-elected in 2000, 2004 and 2006. He has served as Secretary of State (Small Business and Tourism), Chair of the Standing Committee on Agriculture and Agri-food, and as the Critic for Agriculture and Agri-Food and for Public Works and Government Services. He held the position of Deputy Whip and Question Period Coordinator for the Official Opposition was Chair of the Subcommittee on the Estimates Process and a member of the standing committees on Finance and on Transport, the Subcommittee on Private Members' Business and the Liaison Committee.

During the course of his career, Minister Ritz has run his own farming operation, owned and operated a general contracting business and co-owned a weekly newspaper. Before entering politics, he worked as constituency coordinator for former Saskatchewan MP Elwin Hermanson. He was actively involved in the Rosetown Economic Development Committee, the Knights of Columbus, and coaching children's hockey.



Prime Minister Harper also appointed the Honourable Maxine Bernier as Minister of Foreign Affairs. Deputy Ministers also changed in 2007, with AAFC’s Len Edwards moving to support Minister Bernier and DM Yaprak Baltacioglu taking over at AAFC.

CHANGES IN LEGISLATIONS AND POLICIES ON AGRICULTURE AND RURAL LIFE

Growing Forward

During 2007 the Canadian Government embarked through a national consensus process which involved over 3,000 stakeholders across the food value chain, in the development of a new agriculture policy framework to be implemented in 2008. The policy envisions a profitable, competitive, market oriented agriculture, agri-foods and agri-based products industry that seizes opportunities in responding to market demands and contributes to the health and well being of Canadians. It’s objectives are: Focusing on building a competitive and innovative sector; Being proactive in managing risks; and Ensuring the sector contributes to society priorities. This new policy focuses on supporting innovation and competitiveness, managing risk, gaining market place edge, flexibility to meet regional needs

and achieve national goals, modernizing regulatory systems and better delivery of programs and services.

Federal, Provincial and Territorial Ministers of Agriculture agreed in principle on Growing Forward during the month of June 2007 and presented a progress report in November with the new Business Risk Management suite or BRM. They agreed to continue with existing programs under the current APF while the Growing Forward programs are developed and implemented.

INSTITUTIONAL REFORMS IN AGRICULTURE AND THE RURAL MILIEU

Business Risk Management Suite (BRM)

Growing Forward addresses risk with a new Business Risk Management suite replacing the Canadian Agriculture Income Stabilization program. The BRM suite comprises four new programs that are more responsive, predictable and bankable for farmers, namely:

- AgriInvest, is a savings account for producers, supported by governments, which provides coverage for small income declines and allows for investments that help mitigate risks or improve market income.
- AgriStability, provides support when a producer experiences larger farm income losses. The program covers declines of more than 15% in a producer's average income from previous years.
- AgriRecovery, is a disaster relief framework which provides a coordinated process for federal, provincial and territorial governments to respond rapidly when disasters strike, filling gaps not covered by existing programs.
- AgriInsurance, is an existing program which includes insurance against production losses for specified perils (weather, pests, disease) and is being expanded to include more commodities.

Canadian Farm Income

Gross Cash Income

In 2007, dry weather conditions prevailed during the growing season in general terms in Western and Eastern Canada resulting in a production similar to 2006. The most important economic factors that impacted agriculture and agribusiness were the high record prices of the most important Canadian crops, in average 53%, due to increased world demand expansion due in part to biofuel industry. Secondly the steady rise of the Canadian dollar to par with the US dollar. These factors had a negative impact on the livestock sector bringing substantial losses to the beef and pork industries. Additionally, there was a drop in the amount of support from the Government of Canada to the agricultural sector declining from 4.5 billion in 2006 to 4.1 billion in 2007.

The increase in national farm cash income was of about 12% with a total of 41.26 billion being the largest increase ever recorded. The market revenue before government program payments was 37.10 billion up 15% with a record 18.82 billion in cash from crop sales or up 30% from 2006. The crop sources made up 46% of total farm gate revenue exceeding livestock revenue (44%) for the first time in 2 decades and Government supports 10%.

Net Income

The high gross income was partially affected by higher cash farm operating expenses, however the Net Cash Income (the difference between cash receipts and cash expenses, not

counting inventory) increased by 50% with a percentage margin (gross income/expenses) of 19%. This meant a record 8.02 billion from 5.32 in 2006.

| FARM CASH INCOME | | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|--------|--------|-----------|--------|----------------|-------|--------|--------|
| <i>(AGRIWEEK estimates for 2007)</i> | | | | | | | | |
| | CROPS | | LIVESTOCK | | GOV'T PAYMENTS | | TOTAL | |
| (\$millions) | 2007 | 2006 | 2007 | 2006 | 2007 | 2006 | 2007 | 2006 |
| ATLANTIC | 575 | 598 | 700 | 705 | 60 | 70 | 1,335 | 1,373 |
| QUEBEC | 1,600 | 1,498 | 4,010 | 3,949 | 1,020 | 851 | 6,830 | 6,199 |
| ONTARIO | 4,325 | 3,938 | 4,575 | 4,364 | 550 | 682 | 9,450 | 8,883 |
| MANITOBA | 1,980 | 1,299 | 1,825 | 1,760 | 375 | 626 | 4,160 | 3,675 |
| SASKATCHEWAN | 5,300 | 3,948 | 1,700 | 1,714 | 1,150 | 1,287 | 8,150 | 6,625 |
| ALBERTA | 3,950 | 2,983 | 4,375 | 4,288 | 900 | 945 | 9,225 | 7,813 |
| BRITISH COLUMBIA | 1,090 | 1,072 | 1,100 | 1,157 | 100 | 105 | 2,290 | 2,333 |
| CANADA | 18,920 | 14,523 | 18,285 | 17,833 | 4,155 | 4,527 | 41,260 | 36,884 |

| FARM NET INCOME | | | | | | |
|---|--------|----------|----------|--------|----------|----------|
| <i>AGRIWEEK estimates for 2007 (not including inventory change or income in kind)</i> | | | | | | |
| | 2007 | | | 2006 | | |
| (\$millions) | GROSS | EXPENSES | NET CASH | GROSS | EXPENSES | NET CASH |
| ATLANTIC | 1,335 | 1,275 | 60 | 1,372 | 1,225 | 147 |
| QUEBEC | 6,630 | 5,430 | 1,200 | 6,198 | 5,195 | 1,003 |
| ONTARIO | 9,450 | 8,050 | 1,400 | 8,863 | 7,705 | 1,158 |
| MANITOBA | 4,180 | 3,460 | 720 | 3,675 | 3,263 | 412 |
| SASKATCHEWAN | 8,150 | 5,775 | 2,375 | 6,629 | 5,374 | 1,255 |
| ALBERTA | 9,225 | 7,150 | 2,075 | 7,813 | 6,715 | 1,098 |
| BRITISH COLUMBIA | 2,290 | 2,100 | 190 | 2,333 | 2,090 | 243 |
| CANADA | 41,260 | 33,240 | 8,020 | 36,884 | 31,568 | 5,315 |

Crops

During 2007 there was a significantly increase in the seeded area for the production of Canadian main grains and oilseeds, however production was similar or lower than 2006 due to hot dry weather in the west and Ontario. The total production of grains and oilseeds was 62.4 million tonnes down from 63.35 during 2006.

| 2007 CROP ESTIMATES STATISTICS CANADA NOVEMBER 2007 | | | | | | |
|--|---------------|---------------|---------------|-------|---------------|---------------|
| | SEEDED AREA | | AVERAGE YIELD | | PRODUCTION | |
| | 2007 | 2006 | 2007 | 2006 | 2007 | 2006 |
| | 000 ACRES | | BU/ACRE | | 000 TONNES | |
| CANADA | | | | | | |
| SPRING WHEAT | 15,215 | 18,743 | 33.9 | 37.0 | 13,873 | 18,617 |
| WINTER WHEAT | 1,587 | 1,711 | 59.6 | 71.7 | 2,499 | 3,302 |
| DURUM WHEAT | 4,815 | 3,795 | 28.4 | 32.8 | 3,681 | 3,346 |
| ALL WHEAT | 21,617 | 24,249 | 34.5 | 38.8 | 20,054 | 25,265 |
| BARLEY | 10,865 | 9,118 | 51.1 | 55.2 | 10,984 | 9,573 |
| OATS | 5,408 | 5,099 | 67.9 | 65.8 | 4,696 | 3,852 |
| CORN | 3,440 | 2,701 | 135.6 | 135.0 | 11,649 | 8,990 |
| CANOLA | 14,726 | 13,053 | 26.4 | 30.7 | 8,751 | 9,000 |
| FLAX | 1,305 | 1,989 | 19.3 | 20.1 | 634 | 989 |
| SOYBEANS | 2,916 | 2,998 | 34.2 | 42.9 | 2,696 | 3,465 |
| PEAS | 3,630 | 3,116 | 30.2 | 30.4 | 2,935 | 2,520 |
| TOTAL | 63,907 | 62,323 | | | 62,399 | 63,654 |

Livestock

Cattle and beef:

2007 may have been the most unprofitable year in history for the Canadian beef and cattle industry due to the decline in prices and rise of the exchange rate of the Canadian dollar. Additionally the cost of feeding cattle rose sharply with record increases in U.S. corn and Canadian barley. It is considered that between the low prices and high costs the impact was worse than during the mad-cow crisis. Fed cattle slaughter in Canada was 3.25 million

head down from 3.4 in 2006 with a rise of 12% in exports (animals under 30 months) and 60% of feeder cattle.

Hogs and pork

One of the poorest years for Canadian swine industry was 2007, as prices fell steadily with a rising Canadian dollar and flat US markets. This was made worse by high feed prices and production costs. The national swine herd was down 3.1% from 2006. The exports to the US rose by 11% with predominantly feeder and weaner pigs.

| CANADIAN CATTLE NUMBERS July 1 | | | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------|--------------------------------|-------|------------------|-------|
| | 2007 | 2006 | 2007 | 2006 | 2007 | 2006 |
| 000 HEAD | ALL CATTLE & CALVES | | BEEF COWS & HEIFERS | | SLAUGHTER | |
| ATLANTIC | 292 | 292 | 72 | 73 | 44 | 46 |
| QUEBEC | 1,395 | 1,425 | 260 | 252 | 148 | 140 |
| ONTARIO | 1,954 | 2,033 | 418 | 430 | 492 | 510 |
| MANITOBA | 1,540 | 1,680 | 619 | 760 | 200 | 190 |
| SASKATCHEWAN | 3,430 | 3,450 | 1,670 | 1,714 | 280 | 235 |
| ALBERTA | 6,470 | 6,300 | 2,360 | 2,303 | 1,835 | 1,700 |
| B.C. | 805 | 820 | 317 | 324 | 82 | 81 |
| CANADA | 15,885 | 16,000 | 5,593 | 5,672 | 3,079 | 2,902 |

| HOG NUMBERS October 1 | | | | | | |
|------------------------------|----------------------------|--------|-----------------|-------|--------------------|--------|
| | 2007 | 2006 | 2007 | 2006 | 2007 | 2006 |
| | ALL HOGS & PIGS | | BREEDING | | MARKET HOGS | |
| ATLANTIC | 290 | 326 | 31 | 32 | 259 | 294 |
| QUEBEC | 4,070 | 4,170 | 399 | 404 | 3,671 | 3,766 |
| ONTARIO | 3,790 | 3,911 | 417 | 426 | 3,373 | 3,485 |
| MANITOBA | 2,910 | 2,950 | 371 | 372 | 2,539 | 2,578 |
| SASKATCHEWAN | 1,340 | 1,374 | 137 | 134 | 1,204 | 1,240 |
| ALBERTA | 1,910 | 2,035 | 188 | 196 | 1,722 | 1,840 |
| B.C. | 127 | 134 | 18 | 18 | 109 | 116 |
| CANADA | 14,437 | 14,900 | 1,560 | 1,582 | 12,877 | 13,318 |

Poultry:

Canadian egg production in 2007 decreased to 763.2 million or 0.7% compared with 2006, however its value increased of 3.7%. Annual consumption was stable at 12.3 dozen per person. Poultry exports during 2007 totaled 103, 361,627 tons compared with 91, 778,327 in 2006.

AGRICULTURAL HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY

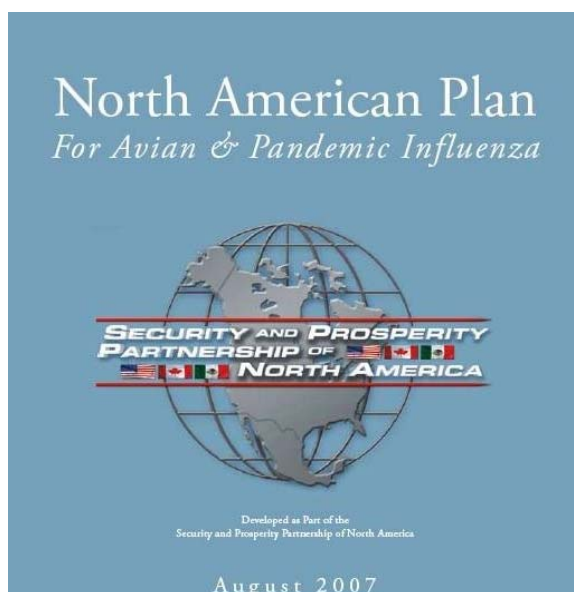
Animal Health Issues

Three additional cases of BSE were reported by CFIA in Canada during 2007. On January 2007 in a bull of a commercial beef herd in Northern Alberta, in April in a dairy cow in British Columbia and in a beef cow in Alberta. No part of the carcasses entered the human food supply or animal feed chain. The detection of these cases did not change Canada's BSE risk parameters. CFIA's Enhanced Surveillance Program processed 58177 samples during this year. (see chart below) Canada was recognized by the OIE Resolution XXIV as a country with a controlled BSE risk. In November the US allowed the entrance of Canadian cattle born after March 1999 as well as all processed beef.

| Month | Samples Collected | Samples Pending | Negative | Positive |
|---------------------|-------------------|-----------------|--------------|----------|
| January | 5449 | 0 | 5449 | 0 |
| February | 6108 | 0 | 6107 | 1 |
| March | 7096 | 0 | 7096 | 0 |
| April | 7162 | 0 | 7161 | 1 |
| May | 6343 | 0 | 6343 | 0 |
| June | 3969 | 0 | 3969 | 0 |
| July | 2912 | 0 | 2912 | 0 |
| August | 2946 | 0 | 2946 | 0 |
| September | 2601 | 0 | 2601 | 0 |
| October | 3509 | 0 | 3509 | 0 |
| November | 5158 | 0 | 5158 | 0 |
| December | 4924 | 0 | 4923 | 1 |
| Year to date | 58177 | 0 | 58174 | 3 |

In August 2007 the North American Plan for Avian and Pandemic Influenza was published to be adopted under the Security and Prosperity Partnership of North America accords of Cancún, Mexico 2006. This plan outlines how Canada, Mexico and the US intend to work together to combat an outbreak of Avian Influenza or an influenza pandemic. It complements national emergency management plans and builds upon the core principles of the international partnership, standards and guidelines of the OIE and the WHO and rules and provisions of the WTO and NAFTA. The Plan will enhance collaboration to detect, contain, and control AI outbreaks and prevent transmission to humans, prevent or slow the entry of a novel strain of human influenza, minimize illness and deaths and sustain infrastructure and mitigate the impact to the economy and the functioning of society.

During the month of September highly pathogenic, H7N3 avian influenza was detected in a commercial poultry operation in Regina Beach, Saskatchewan with 49,100 birds. The disease was contained and the restrictions on the movement of birds and products were lifted at the end of October.



Plant Health Issues

CFIA confirmed the presence of the Emerald Ash Borer in Middlesex County, Norfolk County and the City of Toronto during 2007. This increased to six the areas where trees, nursery stock, logs, lumber, wood packaging, wood or bark, woodchips or bark chips of ash trees and all firewood and their transport vehicles are regulated and must be treated to eliminate EAB.

In its continued effort to eradicate the Asian Long-Horned Beetle, CFIA removed 27,400 trees in Toronto and Vaughan in infested areas identified by survey crews. A compensation package for removal and assistance for planting new trees was implemented.

Potato Wart, *Synchytrium endobioticum*, risk based long term management plan continued to be implemented by CFIA in Prince Edward Island during 2007, with post harvest inspections in a total of 1553,637 hectares and 601 soils samples.



Apple maggot was detected for the first time in 2007 in Vancouver Island during survey activities. No detections have been made in the prime apple growing regions in the interior of the Province of British Columbia. Apple maggot or *Rhagoletis pomonella* is a fly with a larval stage in apples and other fruits.

Food Safety Issues

The major food safety issue in Canada in 2007 was melamine. -contaminated protein concentrates from China that were shipped to the US and Canada. In mid-May corn gluten was found positive to melamine and cyanuric acid and stopped at the border. On May 30 CFIA found the contaminants in feed additives from the US and products were recalled. Finally in June an amino acid product was found positive for cyanuric acid detained and recalled.

In the past twelve months, the CFIA issued 97 food safety alerts in Canada. Of those, 49 were Health Hazard Alerts relating to issues such as Salmonella, E. coli, Bacillus, Listeria, Staphylococcus, botulism, arsenic and undisclosed “dangerous bacteria”. The remaining 48 were Allergy Alerts for undeclared allergens such as milk, wheat, soy and egg proteins, sulphites, and nuts (peanuts, almonds). Four Consumer Alerts were made related to product tampering, labelling problems, and previously recalled products. One product was recalled by the CFIA in 2007, that being a beef product as result of the CFIA's investigation into the detection of E. coli O157:H7. The products were recalled as a precautionary measure to protect public health. One Safety Alert was issued in conjunction with Salmonella-contaminated pet food.

AGRICULTURAL INNOVATIONS, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

The ethanol and biodiesel industries had a record expansion during 2007 with plants built worldwide. In Canada 3 ethanol plants were built with 11 in operation at the end of 2007 with a combined capacity of 845 million litres and five under construction for an additional 750 million. In July the Canadian Government announced a new biofuel support policy, ecoENERGY for Biofuels program allocating 1.5 billion over 9 years to encourage ethanol and biodiesel industries.

SUSTAINABLE RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Canadians living in rural and small towns account for 19.8% of the Canadian population. The Rural Development Network, RDN, under AAFC's Rural Secretariat, brings federal departments together to collaborate on rural issues and to coordinate their efforts in order to develop policies and programs that better meet the diverse needs of rural Canadians. This year RDN established the framework for a series of electronic conferences on Bio-economy using webcasting and other technologies to reach all the communities.

4. Results of the Implementation of the National Technical Cooperation Agenda in Canada during 2007

IICA'S CONTRIBUTION TO THE REPOSITIONING OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL LIFE

Canada Supports Chile's Institutional Modernization

In continual support to the on-going cooperation between the agriculture ministries of Canada and Chile, IICA Canada and IICA Chile played an active role during the Chilean Technical Mission to Canada on Institutional Modernization. This was a priority activity of



Chile's "Proyecto Nueva Institucionalidad." The 16-member mission from Chile's Ministry of Agriculture came in September to meet with counterparts from Canada's agriculture portfolio, including the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) and AAFC. Headed by Cristian Saez of Oficina de Estudios y Políticas Agrarias, this group has been leading the process in Chile for modernizing the Ministry of Agriculture. IICA Canada



supported the work of Peter Brackenridge, former Vice President of the CFIA and now consultant for IICA in Canada, who navigated the Chilean mission through Canada's more than ten years of experience in institutional modernization and in creating a national food inspection agency, including issues related to human resources, budgeting and planning, operations and strategic relationships with other ministries involved in the food inspection system. Additionally, IICA Canada hosted a round-table discussion to review all issues and bring the mission to a successful close.

Canada and Peru Benefit from Horizontal Cooperation

The office collaborated with the IICA office in Peru, Ambassador Guillermo Ruso and the Peruvian Embassy in Canada and with Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada on the official visit of the Minister of Agriculture from Peru, Juan Jose Salazar, and his Director General of Agrarian Planning, Patricia Milton Paico, to Canada. The official visit culminated with a signing of an agreement between Peru and the Government of Quebec.



Further, as part of its efforts in horizontal cooperation, the IICA Canada office coordinated



with the office in Peru to provide support to an international workshop in Lima, which served as the launching of a national consultative process to develop an agriculture policy for Peru. The IICA Canada office provided a CD compilation of documents on the consultative process Canada undertook in 2003 to create the Agriculture Policy Framework and the process now taking place in Canada to develop “Growing Forward”, the next generation of agriculture and agri-food policy.

IICA Canada Key Speaker at the GRULA Ambassadors Luncheon

During the month of March IICA Canada’s Representative was invited as a key speaker to the Grupo de America Latina Ambassador’s Luncheon at the Rideau Restaurant in Ottawa. The presentation focused on familiarizing the diplomatic community from Latin America on IICA’s activities in Canada and the potential of close collaboration. HE Ambassador Juan Esteban Aguirre Martinez ex-chancellor and now Ambassador for Paraguay presided the meeting. This was followed by several invitations for one to one meetings to identify potential joint activities with H.E. Emilio Rafael Goicoechea Luna, new Mexican Ambassador, H.E. Edgar Jose Torres Mosqueira, new Bolivian Ambassador, and H.E. Manuel Estuardo Roldan Barillas, Guatemalan Ambassador, who was briefed on the 2007 IABA and Ministers’ meeting.

IICA’s AHFS Director discusses new SPS project for LAC with CFIA Authorities

During the month of June Dr. Ricardo Molins, IICA’s new Director of the AHFS area met with CFIA senior authorities to present and discuss the new SPS project for Latin America and the Caribbean. Included were meetings with the CFIA’s Deputy Director of the Americas, the Directors of both Plant Health and Animal Health, and the Chief Veterinary officer for Canada. Canada, through CFIA, which is part of the Steering Committee, has been one of the main supporters of the SPS initiative program that IICA has been conducting for the past years under the leadership of the AHFS Director.

Minister Ritz and IICA DG Brathwaite Meet in Rome

IICA Canada staff worked with Minister Ritz’s office staff to secure a meeting between the Canadian agriculture minister and the DG of IICA during the recent FAO Conference in Rome, Italy. Topics up for discussion were the status of IICA’s technical capacity evaluation, the new IICA Leadership programs and Canada’s new policy for Latin America and the Caribbean.

PROMOTING TRADE AND THE COMPETITIVENESS OF AGRIBUSINESS

In 2007, IICA Canada offered technical cooperation activities in collaboration with other IICA offices and with IICA Canada stakeholders to promote trade and the competitiveness of agribusiness.

| PROMOTING TRADE AND THE COMPETITIVENESS OF AGRIBUSINESS | |
|---|--|
| Countries Involved | Stakeholders Involved |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mexico • Chile • Barbados | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pulse Canada • CCAA • Olds College • Highland Feeders |

IICA Canada an Active Player in Strengthening the Canada /Mexico Bean Partnership

Over the course of 2007, IICA Canada worked collaboratively with the Canadian and Mexican bean sectors to help strengthen this important alliance. First, in January, the office coordinated and was invited to attend a meeting between Pulse Canada representatives and the Minister of Agriculture at the Mexican Embassy in Ottawa, to discuss the preparations for the 2007 Canada Mexico Bean Congress. This was followed in February by a presentation by Greg Cherewyk of Pulse Canada at IICA's 8th Annual Tri-National meeting held in Cancun, Mexico. Mr Cherewyk provided an overview of the Canada/Mexico Bean Congress to the Tri-National Delegates.

The 3rd Annual Canada/Mexico Bean Congress was held in Mexico City on March 7th. As in previous years, IICA Canada and IICA Mexico provided significant support to the event, sponsoring and facilitating the participation of four Canadian bean researchers who met in a workshop with their counterparts in Celaya, Mexico, and one producer in the week-long program. The Representative, the Technical Specialist and the Northern Region Director, Chris Hansen, participated throughout the program.



Jackie Blondeau, who took over the Canada/Mexico Bean Initiative file at Pulse Canada in 2007 requested IICA assistance in the preparation of an agenda of meetings between herself, Dr. Jeff Stewart who is AAFC's Director of Science in Crop Genetics Improvements Program and representatives of Mexico's Sistema Producto Frijol, which took place in September in Mexico City. The meetings were set up to enable the groups

to discuss plans for the next Canada Mexico Bean Congress and other activities. As a follow-up to this meeting, IICA Canada and IICA Mexico supported a visit by Mr. Montes, the new non-governmental industry representative of SFP to Winnipeg to meet with Pulse Canada and other officials on next steps in the Canada/Mexico Bean Initiative

IICA key speakers from LA at the 2007 North American Consulting Schools in Banff and Ottawa

IICA Canada partnered once again with the Canadian Consulting Agrologists Association (CCAA) to bring an international perspective to the 2007 North American Consulting School, which was held in Banff, Alberta in March. Working closely with CCAA Executive, and the office in Chile, IICA Canada designed a program that included the participation of Dr. Hernán Rojas Olavarría, National Director of Chile's Instituto de Desarrollo Agropecuario (INDAP) as a key speaker to the school. His presentation focused on his vision for bringing quality assurance and quality control to INDAP's extension services which are offered through consultants to small-scale producers.

As well, Mr. Enrique Lobos, Agriculture Minister with the Mexican Embassy in Canada also addressed the school providing insights into business opportunities for consulting within free trade frameworks. The event also included the active participation of Northern Region Director Chris Hansen.

Also in 2007, IICA Canada was pleased to support the first ever Ontario campus of the North American Consulting School (O-NACS), which was held in May. Northern Region Director Chris Hansen, along with the Representative and the Technical Cooperation Specialist, co-hosted a welcoming reception for dignitaries and participants of the O-NACS. Following the reception, IICA and the CCAA held a meeting to discuss on-going

collaboration. As well, during the School, Chris Hansen gave a presentation on opportunities for consultants in the Americas.

As a follow up to the 2007 North American Consulting Schools, Chris Hansen, IICA's Northern Region Director participated as a speaker at the annual meeting of the American Society of Agriculture Consultants which is a sister association to the CCAA.

Chile Seeks Canadian Expertise on Quality Management

At IICA Canada facilitated meetings held parallel to the 2007 NACS in Banff, Dr. Hernán Rojas Olavarría, National Director of Chile's Instituto de Desarrollo Agropecuario (INDAP) and Executive Committee members of the CCAA met to discuss potential collaboration and develop a plan of action to facilitate quality management of INDAP's activities and programs for small farmers in Chile. As a direct result of this meeting, INDAP and the CCAA signed an IICA drafted and witnessed Letter of Intent to work collaboratively along these lines. IICA Canada was asked to support the initiatives. As follow-up to this meeting IICA Canada continued to act as an honest broker between the two groups and proposed potential lines of action between Canada and Chile.

IICA Canada received the formal response from CCAA to the proposal of activities from INDAP. Under the proposal, activities were suggested, including a mission from Chile to Canada and a mission from Canada to Chile, as well as a mentoring program. CCAA agreed to the Chile-to-Canada mission as the first step in the immediate future and IICA Canada will be supporting this activity.

As well, Terry Betker, President of the CCAA paid a visit to the Representative, during which the CCAA/IICA joint activities were discussed, particularly those involving the CCAA's recently-signed Letter of Intent with Chile's Agriculture Development Institute, INDAP.

Feedlot Producer from Alberta speaker at the SICARNE Symposium in Mexico

IICA Canada supported the 4th International Beef Symposium (SICARNE) held in Mexico City by facilitating the invited participation of Canadian feedlot owner and Highland Feeders General Manager Mike Kotelko to the event as a keynote speaker. Mr Kotelko made a presentation on trends in the Canadian beef sector and spoke about his operation, one of the largest feedlots in Canada. Mr. Kotelko was accompanied by the Representative.



STRENGTHENING AGRICULTURAL HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY SYSTEMS

Over the past year, a primary focus of IICA Canada's technical cooperation activities has been agricultural health and food safety.

STRENGTHENING AGRICULTURAL HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY SYSTEMS

Countries Involved

- Mexico
- Guatemala
- Belize
- Costa Rica
- Dominican Republic
- Colombia
- Chile
- Argentina
- Brazil

Stakeholders Involved

- CFIA
- AAFC
- NAPPO
- CBSA
- NCFAD
- HC
- PAHO
- OIRSA
- INVIMA

IICA- PAHO joint support to the World Meat Hygiene and Inspection Congress Hosted by CFIA and FSIS in Niagara

With a focus on international developments in meat hygiene and inspection and a goal to foster international dialogue among veterinary professionals, this year's World Meat Hygiene and Inspection Congress was jointly hosted by the CFIA and the Food Safety Inspection Service, FSIS, of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, in Niagara Falls, Canada in June. IICA Canada, in a joint effort with the Pan-American Health Organization (PAHO), secured the participation of representatives from Mexico, Guatemala, Dominican Republic, Chile, Argentina and Brazil. Together, we hosted an international workshop along with CFIA for these participants to explore technical cooperation needs in meat inspection.



Support to the Veterinary and Public Health meeting in Ottawa hosted by Health Canada

IICA Canada Advisor Barry Stemshorn facilitated a two-day conference hosted jointly by Health Canada (HC) and the Pan-American Health Organization (PAHO) on veterinary public health, which was held in Ottawa. As a result of this event, there is new and increased awareness of the role of IICA in the areas of public health in the Americas among Health Canada, CFIA and academics and stronger institutional linkages with PAHO.

Also stemming from this successful effort with HC and PAHO, IICA Canada assisted in the development of a successful proposal by the NCFAD to model animal disease spread in the Americas in collaboration with PANAFITOSA. IICA is a partner in this

initiative. (See “Canada Supports Capacity Building in the Southern Cone” below for more details)

Another development from this meeting was the initiative of setting up a PAHO Office in Canada as IICA Canada. Two representatives from Health Canada came by the IICA Canada office to speak with the Representative and the Technical Specialist on the added-value the IICA office in Canada brings to the relationship between the country and the Institution, as part of their research into options for a potential PAHO office to be located in Canada.

Poultry Sectors Better Prepared for Avian Influenza

Over the course of the year, IICA Canada worked in close collaboration with the IICA Belize office and Regional AHFS Specialists in a coordinated response to the Belize Government’s request for technical assistance in strengthening its aviculture industry against a potential AI outbreak. The Representative and Technical Specialist met with their Belize counterparts in Chetumal, Mexico in February, along with Belize government and industry representatives and a representative from OIRSA. As a result of the meeting, the Technical Specialist facilitated a seminar and awareness workshop with the Belize poultry sector to share Canada’s experience in AI and to determine potential areas for future collaboration. The Technical Specialist also met with several Belize authorities, including the Minister of Agriculture and the Director of the Belize Agriculture Health Authority.

In related activities, IICA Canada continued its efforts to support the adaptation of an AI simulation activity for LAC. Working closely with the new Director of AHFS, Ricardo



Curso/Exercício Simulado
de Erradicação de Doenças Exóticas
e Emergências Zoonosológicas em Aves

15 A 20 DE OUTUBRO DE 2007

Molins, the Office finalized the acquisition of IICA’s new AI Simulation Exercise and began translating materials for adaptation to the Americas. As well, the Technical Specialist was invited to an AI Simulation Exercise and Course in Uberaba, Brazil to provide presentations on the North America Plan for Avian and Pandemic Influenza and on Canada’s recent experiences with AI. The Specialist also participated in the simulation exercise in order to provide input into the adaptation of the material to IICA and the rest of LAC.

Finally, the Representative participated as a key speaker at the Transboundary Diseases Technical Forum held at IICA headquarters. The purpose of the forum was to increase the awareness of the importance of strengthening veterinary services in LAC with particular interest in Avian Influenza. Dr. Bedoya spoke on the role of industry and government in controlling outbreaks of disease with examples on schemes and experiences in different countries.

Canada’s Food Inspection Model Shared with Colombia and Chile

The Canadian Food Inspection Agency is respected around the world. Over 2007, IICA Canada worked with incoming missions from Colombia and Chile to share this unique food inspection model.



Colombia requested IICA assistance in coordinating a visit of INVIMA inspectors to Canadian airports, ports and borders to learn first-hand about the inspection procedures used in Canada. Besides the site visits and presentations made by Canadian authorities, IICA Canada also hosted a workshop during which several priority issues were identified.

Also, representatives from Chile's Ministry of Agriculture were in Canada in September for a three-day technical mission to explore Canada's experiences in institutional modernization and modern food inspection services. The mission, supported by IICA in Canada and Chile, was coordinated by Peter Brackendridge, former Vice President of the Canadian Food Inspection Agency and now an IICA Canada consultant, and included presentations from CFIA, AAFC and other federal partners in the Canadian system.

Canada Supports Capacity Building in the Southern Cone

Over 2007, IICA continued to work with Dr. Alfonso Clavijo, Head of Vesicular Diseases at the NCFAD on plans for continued collaboration with labs in South America. Dr. Clavijo traveled to Brazil as a follow up to the PCR-rt training events held last year in Uruguay and Winnipeg.

IICA has been included as a project partner in CFIA's Counter-Terrorism Capacity Building Project, financed by the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade. Under the project, IICA will be supporting training and equipment transfers to the Andean Region in Foot-and-mouth disease diagnostics, and in animal disease spread modeling.

Brazil a Canadian Training in Residue Analysis

With the AHFS Specialist in Brazil, Thomas Krotsch, IICA Canada responded to a request from the Brazilian Ministry of Agriculture for technical cooperation from Canada in the area of residue analysis in food, and for assistance in developing an agenda for meetings between food safety officials of the two countries. Representatives from the Brazil Ministry of Agriculture and its private sector participated in a training event on veterinary medicine residues in meat held in Saskatoon, Canada. As well, a meeting between the Brazilian team and representatives of three CFIA labs were held to discuss technical assistance needs in the country that may result in further training being offered by CFIA to Brazil.

**Saskatoon International Validation
Workshop for Regulatory Analyses of
Residues in Foods (SaskVal Workshop)
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada,
June 10 - 13, 2007**

NAPPO and IICA Discuss Guidelines for Joint Plan of Action

In 2007, the Representative met with the newly appointed Technical Director of the North American Plant Protection Organization (NAPPO), Mr. Walter Enkerlin, where the two discussed collaboration between the organizations. Further, the Representative and Technical Specialist also met with Ian McDonnell, Executive Director of NAPPO to jointly develop guidelines for an IICA/NAPPO work plan for 2008. They identified several activities of mutual interest. As Canada, the US and Mexico are NAPPO member countries the these would be part of the IICA Regional Agenda for North America..

Sharing Canadian Experiences in Traceability with Central America

The Representative, the Technical Specialist, and Special Advisor Barry Stemshorn, met with representatives of TDV Global, Inc., the consulting firm managing the CIDA project to offer risk management courses on sanitary and phytosanitary measures in the Americas, to explore avenues of cooperation and collaboration in SPS and other technical area. Stemming from this, IICA Canada worked with the AHFS Directorate at IICA HQ to

ensure the IICA participation in the Traceability Event / Study Tour for Costa Ricans, which was organized by TDV Global Alejandra Diaz, IICA Central Regional Specialist in Agriculture Health and Food Safety attended the event in Calgary, Alberta.

Also on traceability, IICA Canada supported Francois Bedard of the Canadian Pork Council to make a presentation on traceability systems in Canada's pork sector at the International Seminar/Workshop on Traceability, held in San Jose, Costa Rica.

PROMOTING THE SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND THE ENVIRONMENT

During 2007 IICA Canada continued promoting and supporting initiatives derived from environmentally sustainable agriculture with AAFC and Headquarters.

PROMOTING SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND THE ENVIRONMENT

Countries Involved

- Costa Rica

Stakeholders Involved

- IAI
- Carleton University
- AAFC

Canadian Expert Plays Role in IICA/IAI Collaboration on Global Climate Change

The Technical Specialist along with Barry Stemshorn participated in the joint IICA/ Inter-American Institute for Research on Global Climate Change (IAI) Technical Forum on Agricultural Adaptation to Global Change. Both institutions have committed to work together to bridge the science/policy gap to make global climate change research more readily available for government decision makers. As well, during a trip to Costa Rica, the Representative held talks with Dr. Michael Brklacich, Professor at Carleton University in Ottawa and member of IAI to discuss this group's participation with a key speaker at the IABA meeting held in July. The meeting was held jointly with the Sustainable Rural Development Directorate in Headquarters.

AAFC Support Agri-Environmental Capacity Building in Costa Rica

Under the new AAFC project leadership of Gordana Delic-Radovic, Deputy Director of International Development, and Awatif Elshibli, Program and Planning Officer, IICA Canada participated in a meeting with IICA Costa Rica and the SRD Unit at IICA Headquarters to reengage on the Agri-Environmental Policies in Latin America (AEPLA) initiative and established new timeframes for completion of the learning workshop. Over the course of 2007, the Office signed the AAFC / IICA contract for the final development and delivery of the agri-environmental policies learning modules and pilot project slated for Costa Rica under the leadership of the Sustainable Rural Development Directorate and the SRD team at IICA HQ released its draft version of the AEPLA training course for review and comments.

STRENGTHENING RURAL COMMUNITIES BASED ON THE TERRITORIAL APPROACH

IICA Canada facilitated the strengthening of rural communities focusing on developing young farming entrepreneurs in partnership with IICA Haiti and CYFF. It also initiated a relationship with de University of Guelph involving IICA Brazil and the Canadian Kinross Mining Corporation

STRENGTHENING RURAL COMMUNITIES BASED ON TERRITORIAL APPROACH

Countries Involved

- Chile
- Argentina
- Haiti
- Brazil

Stakeholders Involved

- CYFF
- CIDA
- U. of Guelph
- Kinross

Canada's Young Farming Leaders in the Southern Cone

Canada's rural community and its core agriculture sector is facing a renewal challenge, with many young people seeking livelihoods off the farm. The Canadian Young Farmers Forum (CYFF) is an organization designed to build knowledge and leadership among Canada's young farmers in efforts to address this problem. In 2007, IICA-Canada was invited to meet with the Board of Directors of the CYFF to discuss potential collaboration between the two groups and the Representative gave a keynote presentation during the CYFF Annual General Meeting, where he spoke about IICA-Canada's activities, including the Internship Program.

As a result of the discussions and presentations, CYFF and IICA Canada signed a Letter of Intent to develop a general workplan for activities in LAC. Many countries throughout Latin America and the Caribbean are facing youth-retention problems similar to those in Canada. In order to increase awareness among LAC of the CYFF model and with the support of IICA Canada's Internship and Expertise Exchange Program, four executive members traveled to Santiago, Chile and then on to Buenos Aires, Argentina to speak with agriculture leaders and other young farmers about the CYFF and the benefits such an organization can bring to the young people in rural communities and to the entire agriculture sector. In Buenos Aires, the CYFF was able to participate in the 2nd World Congress of Young Farmers. As well, the IICA Argentina office in BA coordinated and developed a farm visit program for members of the Fédération de la relève agricole du Québec, who were also in Argentina to participate in the World Congress.



Canadian Young Farmers' Forum
La Table pancanadienne de la relève agricole

IICA Continues its Long-Standing Support for Development in Haiti

Working collaboratively with Francois Dagenais, Director of External Finance and Investment Projects at IICA HQ and Alfredo Mena, Representative of IICA in Haiti, the office in Canada assisted in developing concrete proposals to support sustainable development in Haiti's agriculture sector. In particular, the office reviewed two recent proposals on farm credit and support to farm entrepreneurs and developed the agendas for two incoming missions from Haiti. The first mission had a week-long programme of activities in the province of Quebec to discuss sustainable development in Haiti's agriculture sector, including proposals on farm credit and support to farm entrepreneurs. IICA Canada has pledged to support the initiatives through the use of the IICA Canada Internships and Expertise Exchange program.

Activities of the second mission included meetings with CIDA officials in Ottawa and an official visit to IICA Canada where the office was honoured to host Haiti's Secretary of State for Agriculture Mr. Joanas Gué. Accompanying the Secretary of State were Ms. Rachele Chery of the IICA office in Haiti, Mr. Frantz Liautaud, President of the Haitian-Canadian Chamber of Commerce and Industry, and Ms. Lalla Haidara, Project Manager of the Trade Facilitation Office of Canada. During the meeting, the Secretary acknowledged IICA Canada's support through its Internships and Expertise Exchange Program, to allow three agro-entrepreneurs from Haiti to train in Canada for one month in dairy, grain and fruit processing plants.



Guelph and IICA Partner to Mitigate Environmental Impacts

In 2007, IICA Canada hosted Dr. Richard Heck, Professor at University of Guelph's Ontario Agriculture College to learn about the University's newest initiative with Brazil. Under this initiative, Guelph aims to develop and support a network of multi-disciplinary, resource-sector researchers in the natural, biological and engineering sciences, focused in part on mitigating and ameliorating environmental impacts of mining production. IICA Canada provided assistance to Heck and two other researchers from the University of Guelph, for meetings at the IICA offices in Brazil. The network is funded by the Kinross Gold Corporation of Canada.

INTRODUCING TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION FOR THE MODERNIZATION OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL LIFE

Technology and innovation expert exchanges of mutual interest between Canadian and LAC institutions were facilitated by IICA Canada in 2007 focusing on recent advances in ethanol, biogas, animal genetics and biosafety.

INTRODUCING TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION FOR THE MODERNIZATION OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL LIFE:

Countries Involved

- Chile
- Brazil
- Mexico

Stakeholders Involved

- AIA
- CLGA
- DFAIT
- ARC
- AACTI
- FIA
- AAFC's Rural Secretariat
- Highland Renewables

Brazil Shares its Agro-Energy Leadership with the Canadian Sector

Energy from agriculture continued to be of great interest in the hemisphere. Brazil's many years of experience and technical know-how were called upon during the Alberta Institute of Agrologists' Annual Meeting and Bioenergy Forum held in Banff in March. Using our Expertise Exchange Program, we were able to support Dr. Frederique Abreu, General Coordinator of Agrienergy within Brazil's Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Food Supply, as a keynote speaker at this event.



Chilean Livestock Improvement Programs Benefit from Canadian Expertise

Working with leaders of the Canadian Livestock Genetics Association, the Canadian Embassy in Chile and IICA Chile, the office supported several activities in 2007. First, a series of discussions on areas of common interest and potential CLGA/IICA collaboration were held in 2007. As a special guest in one such discussion, Horacio Larrea, Sales Manager for LA of Alta Genetics in Argentina, accompanied Rick McDonald and Bob Lang of the CLGA to the IICA Canada office to learn more about IICA and to discuss the development of training programs to meet the needs of farms with high genetic-value animals.



As well, IICA Canada also provided significant support for an incoming mission of Chilean producers and government representative responsible for developing Chile's new genetic improvement program. Specifically, IICA Canada facilitated a workshop for participants during which technical cooperation needs were discussed and an initial draft technical cooperation plan of action in genetic improvement was developed.

IICA Forges Technology Linkages with Alberta

The Representative and Technical Specialist visited the Alberta Research Centre (ARC) in Edmonton, Alberta to meet with Darrel Toma and researchers there interested in working with IICA to further develop research interests in LAC, including novel and functional foods and bioenergy. Resulting from this visit, the Representative participated in a conference call with Bruce Wallace, leader of the Applied Research and Innovation Task Force of the Alberta Association of Colleges & Technical Institutes (AACTI), a group

representing 17 colleges and technical school and over 150,000 students. One of the topics discussed during the conference call was collaboration between AACTI and IICA Canada in the area of biofuels technology transfer and education.

Also in 2007, the office provided support to a Chile's Fundación para la Innovación Agraria (FIA) in its efforts to establish a general agreement with the Ministry of Agriculture of Alberta, as follow-up to recent discussions facilitated by IICA-Canada between FIA and the province, held during the 2007 North American Consulting School in Banff.

AAFC's Rural Secretariat Seeks IICA Input for Bio-Economy Conference Series

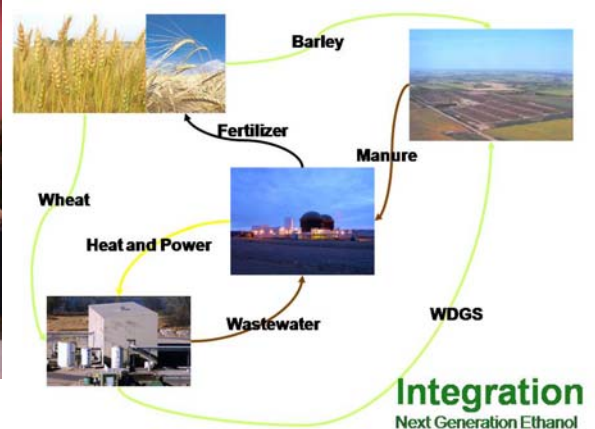
This year, the office was approached by representatives of AAFC's Rural Secretariat to support a series of electronic conferences on the bio-economy. As a first step, the Representative and Technical Cooperation Specialist hosted two representatives from AAFC to discuss potential topics for IICA speakers and to examine technical issues in connecting IICA's webcasting technology to that of AAFC. IICA and its interim Director of Hemispheric Program of Agro-Energy and Bio-Fuels pledged support to AAFC to support the participation of international speakers in the series, with the first being planned for 2008.

Support to Build Biotechnology and Biosecurity Network

The office cooperated with Eduardo Rojas-Padilla, Information Manager on Biotechnology and Biosafety to support the development of a communication network on biotechnology and biosafety. Such a network is currently under implementation within the framework of IICA's Information System on Biotechnology and Biosafety. This communication network will become IICA's main contact with external collaborators or regional ad hoc support groups, which are under development in different regions where multilateral initiatives are lacking.

Biogas Producer from Canada shares Experiences with Mexico

IICA Canada supported the participation of Mike Kotelko as a keynote speaker during the Bio-Gas Forum held at the CUCBA Campus of the University of Guadalajara in Guadalajara, Mexico in 2007. Mr. Kotelko gave a presentation on the biogas technology he has been developing in Alberta. IICA Canada provided further support by compiling proceedings and other relevant information for the event organizers.



5. Results of Inter-Agency Cooperation

IICA- PAHO joint support to the World Meat Hygiene and Inspection Congress Hosted by CFIA and FSIS in Niagara

With a focus on international developments in meat hygiene and inspection and a goal to foster international dialogue among veterinary professionals, this year's World Meat Hygiene and Inspection Congress was jointly hosted by the CFIA and the Food Safety Inspection Service, FSIS, of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, in Niagara Falls, Canada in June. IICA Canada, in a joint effort with the Pan-American Health Organization (PAHO), secured the participation of representatives from Mexico, Guatemala, Dominican Republic, Chile, Argentina and Brazil. Together, we hosted an international workshop along with CFIA for these participants to explore technical cooperation needs in meat inspection.

Key Support to the Veterinary Public Health meeting in Ottawa hosted by Health Canada

IICA Canada Advisor Barry Stenshorn facilitated a two-day conference hosted jointly by Health Canada (HC) and the Pan-American Health Organization (PAHO) on veterinary public health, which was held in Ottawa. As a result of this event, there is new and increased awareness of the role of IICA in the areas of public health in the Americas among Health Canada, CFIA and academics and stronger institutional linkages with PAHO.

Also stemming from this successful effort with HC and PAHO, IICA Canada assisted in the development of a successful proposal by the NCFAD to model animal disease spread in the Americas in collaboration with PANAFTOSA. IICA is a partner in this initiative. (See "Canada Supports Capacity Building in the Southern Cone" below for more details)

Another development from this meeting was the initiative of setting up a PAHO Office in Canada as IICA Canada. Two representatives from Health Canada came by the IICA Canada office to speak with the Representative and the Technical Specialist on the added-value the IICA office in Canada brings to the relationship between the country and the Institution, as part of their research into options for a potential PAHO office to be located in Canada.

NAPPO and IICA Discuss Guidelines for Joint Plan of Action

In 2007, the Representative met with the newly appointed Technical Director of the North American Plant Protection Organization (NAPPO), Mr. Walter Enkerlin, where the two discussed collaboration between the organizations. Further, the Representative and Technical Specialist also met with Ian McDonnell, Executive Director of NAPPO to jointly develop guidelines for an IICA/NAPPO work plan for 2008. They identified several activities of mutual interest. As Canada, the US and Mexico are NAPPO member countries these would be part of the IICA Regional Agenda for North America.

6. Results of Horizontal Technical Cooperation

IICA Canada's strategy promoting involvement between the Canadian and LAC stakeholders continued to move forward. These covered general topics such as policy development and institutional reforms to very specific molecular biology techniques. Three Ministers of Agriculture visited Canada during 2007 (Peru, Chile and Haiti) with IICA playing a key role as an honest broker in the horizontal technical cooperation activities.

IICA Canada Horizontal Cooperation 2007

| COUNTRY | PRIORITY AREA | CANADIAN STAKEHOLDERS |
|------------|--|---|
| Argentina | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustainable Rural Development • Agricultural Health and Food Safety | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CYFF • CFIA |
| Brazil | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agricultural Health and Food Safety • Sustainable Rural Development • Technology and Innovation | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CFIA • U of Guelph • AIA |
| Chile | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Repositioning of Agriculture • Agricultural Health and Food Safety • Sustainable Rural Development • Trade and Agribusiness | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AAFC/CFIA • CFIA • CYFF • CCAA |
| Colombia | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Repositioning of Agriculture | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AAFC/CFIA |
| Costa Rica | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustainable Rural Development • Agricultural Health and Food Safety | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AAFC • TDV |
| Haiti | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Repositioning of Agriculture • Trade and Agribusiness • Sustainable Rural Development | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AAFC/CIDA • Can-Haiti Chamber • Govt Quebec |
| Mexico | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agricultural Health and Food Safety • Technology and Innovation • Trade and Agribusiness | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CFIA • AAFC • Pulse Canada |
| Peru | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Repositioning of Agriculture • Sustainable Rural Development • Technology and Innovation | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AAFC • Govt. Quebec • AAFC |

7.

New Opportunities for Technical Cooperation

Canada's interest in reengaging with the Americas opens a tremendous amount of new opportunities for technical cooperation with IICA as the partner of choice for the coming years. A proposal document was prepared jointly with IICA Canada's stakeholders from the Government, Academic Institutions and Private Sector to be presented to the Canadian Government during 2008. Our Director General and Minister Gerry Ritz in Rome have discussed this possibility in general terms during their meeting in Rome last year with good results. The final document with the details and response from the Canadian Government will be available during the first semester of 2008.

As a follow up to the 2007 activities the following initiatives and events where IICA Canada will be playing a key role have been identified:

- Counter Terrorism Capacity Building project with CFIA, which has two components, a laboratory one, for the Andean Countries, and an epidemiology modelling one, for all of South America.
- Haiti Project for new entrepreneurs with IDB funds and the Canada –Haiti Chamber of Commerce which implies a mentor program in Canada.
- Young Farmers Hemispheric Meeting in Edmonton organized by the Canadian Young Farmers Forum
- Capacity Building Project between the University of Guelph, and Brazilian Universities funded by the Kinross Gold Corporation.
- Pulses and Health International Forum in Mexico organized by Pulse Canada
- International Year of the Potato events are being organized with the International Potato Center in Peru and Researchers in Canada
- Agri-Tourism seminar and activities as part of the Caribbean project
- New SPS Hemispheric project with the participation of CFIA.
- Laboratory Biosafety Course for level 3 laboratories in Ottawa
- McGill Food Safety project for Cocoa
- Panamerican Veterinary Congress in Guadalajara, Mexico in October with several forums dedicated to food safety and other international issues.

8.

Main Activities Organized by IICA

The five most important events organized by IICA Canada in 2007.

| NAME OF THE EVENT | DATE | SITE | NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS |
|--|-----------|---|------------------------|
| 2007 CCAA North American Consulting School -and- Alberta Institute of Agrologists Biofuels Forum | March | Banff, CANADA | 300 |
| 2007 Canada/Mexico Bean Congress and Bilateral Bean Researcher Forum | March | Celaya and Mexico City, MEXICO | 60 |
| World Meat Hygiene and Inspection Congress - and - IICA/PAHO International Workshop “Necesidades de Cooperación Técnica en Higiene e Inspección de Carne” | June | Niagara Falls, CANADA | >100 |
| Canadian Young Farmers Forum Mission to South America | July | Santiago, CHILE and Buenos Aires, ARGENTINA | 20 |
| IICA Canada Round-Table to support the Chilean Technical Mission to Canada | September | Ottawa, CANADA | 35 |

9. List of Publications

1. 2006 Annual Report: IICA-Canada's Contribution to Agriculture and the Development of the Rural Communities in the Americas
2. 2007 IICA Canada Work Plan
3. 2007 IICA Canada Accountability Survey
4. Proceedings and Final Report of the Chilean Technical Mission to Canada on Institutional Modernization: "Proyecto Nueva Institucionalidad"
5. Proceedings of the IICA / PAHO International Workshop: "Necesidades en Cooperación Técnica en Higiene e Inspección de Carne"
6. Proceedings of the 2007 North American Consulting School
7. Sharing a Canadian Experience in IMUS Biogas Production: Mike Kotelko's Presentation at Mexico's Centro Universitario de Ciencias Biológicas y Agropecuarias



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