

# PRIMARY INDUSTRIES

(Vroom)



## AGRICULTURE

Agriculture is Canada's second most important primary industry, although it employs less than 6 per cent of the country's labour force. Occupied land exceeds 170 million acres and the total number of farms is 366,128. Farming is highly commercialized, mechanized and specialized.

Types of farming include grain and other field crops, dairying, livestock and poultry raising, fruit and vegetable growing, and the cultivation of specialties such as tobacco honey and maple products, and fur farming.

The farm commodity produced in greatest abundance, owing to the combined influence of climatic conditions, plant-breeding programs and an efficient grading system, is wheat. In 1971, the production of this grain was 524 million bushels. The general agency in Canada for the sale of all grains, including wheat, is the Canadian Wheat Board, a Crown corporation.

Livestock and dairy enterprises together yield 59 per cent of the farm cash receipts. Wheat accounts for 14 per cent. Ranching prevails in the West, and native grasslands sustain almost 7.0 million head of beef cattle.

The most important fruit grown in Canada is the apple. Commercial orchards are found primarily in Nova

Combines harvest wheat in Saskatchewan