

Soundness of Pedigree

The reliability of the Canadian pedigree is recognized internationally.

The formation of breed associations and the registration of purebred livestock is controlled under the Animal Pedigree Act. The Holstein Association conducts its own registrations and the other associations use a central recording organization, the Canadian National Livestock Records.

Extended pedigrees provided on request contain detailed information on production and type classification of the animal and its ancestors. They are generated by the breed association and ensure accuracy and completeness. Foreign buyers can be confident in the quality of the animals being purchased.



Animal Health

Canada is free of serious livestock diseases such as foot-and-mouth disease and rinderpest. The Animal Disease and Protection Act and Regulations provides controls to ensure that these diseases will never become established in Canada. If they should appear, the Act provides for their eradication through immediate slaughter and strict quarantine procedures. Quarantine stations are located at Mirabel, Quebec and Edmonton, Alberta. There is a maximum security quarantine station on Grosse Ile, Quebec, in the St. Lawrence River, which handles cattle from high-risk countries.

Canada's national veterinary service, with approximately 7 000 veterinarians, attends to the needs of all cattle-farming areas. Agriculture Canada's Food Production and Inspection Branch employs 500 veterinarians full time. The remainder are in private practice and ensure the Canadian farming community of up-to-date services and advice necessary to maintain day-to-day animal health.

Canada became officially free of brucellosis in 1985. Surveillance for the disease at livestock markets and abattoirs will continue until at least 1990, as will testing of milk. Canada is one of only six countries to have achieved complete eradication of brucellosis.

Animals are inspected for tuberculosis at routine slaughter, and herds of origin are traced from animals with lesions. If the disease is found, affected herds are completely depopulated. Canada expects to be free of tuberculosis by the end of 1986.

Registration by Breed

	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985
Ayrshire	11 169	11 777	10 814	11 209	10 733
Brown Swiss	1 188	1 239	1 524	1 347	1 571
Canadienne	590	622	476	559	411
Guernsey	2 195	2 214	1 999	2 272	1 903
Holstein	127 072	140 564	158 472	145 881	149 014
Jersey	6 684	6 625	7 032	6 728	8 092
Total	148 898	163 041	180 317	167 996	171 724