

4.3.4.3 New Brunswick Swine Assistance Policy on Boars

This program was intended to encourage breeding stock producers to produce quality boars at reasonable prices for use in commercial swine herds. The program provided assistance in the form of grants to swine producers (to a maximum of C\$110) for the purchase of boars. Commerce found the program to be countervailable because it was limited to a specific industry.

4.3.4.4 New Brunswick Swine Industry Financial Restructuring and Agricultural Development Act—Swine Assistance Program

Under this program, hog producers indebted to the Farm Adjustment Board because of earlier loans were granted an interest rebate on the portion of their total debt that exceeded the "standard debt load" as of March 31, 1984. Commerce found the program to be countervailable because loans were provided to a specific industry on terms inconsistent with commercial considerations.

4.3.4.5 New Brunswick Loan Guarantees and Grants under the Livestock Incentives Program

This program provided loan guarantees to livestock producers. Loans ranging from \$1,000 to \$90,000 were granted by commercial lending institutions and guaranteed by the Government of New Brunswick. The interest rate for the loans was set at the prime rate plus 1.0 percentage point. Commerce established as its benchmark the Bank of Canada prime rate plus 1.5 percentage points. This rate represented the average of the spread above prime charged by commercial banks on comparable loans. The amount that a recipient paid on such a loan was therefore less than what the recipient would have paid on a comparable commercial loan. Commerce found the program to be *de jure* specific and therefore countervailable because the legislation expressly made it available only to livestock producers.

4.3.4.6 New Brunswick Hog Marketing Program

With the closure of slaughterhouses in northern New Brunswick, it became more expensive for farmers in that area to move their hogs to market. This program was aimed at equalizing the cost of moving hogs to markets across the province. In 1984, the provincial government paid C\$1.25 per hog marketed. Because these grants targeted specific groups, the program was found countervailable.

4.3.4.7 Nova Scotia Swine Herd Health Policy

This program reimbursed veterinarians for house calls to enrolled producers. Any hog producer could enroll, but each had to agree to follow specific health practices and to pay the veterinarian a stipulated fee for the services provided. Because the program was limited to a specific enterprise or industry, or group of enterprises or industries, Commerce found that it conferred countervailable benefits.