Storage

Canada's licensed grain-storage facilities had a total capacity at August 1, 1976, of 626 million bushels (17.5 million tonnes). The bulk of the storage space was in the 3,964 country elevators, which had a capacity of 344 million bushels (9.6 million tonnes). The 28 terminal elevators, mainly at Thunder Bay, the West Coast ports and Churchill, had a capacity of 139 million bushels (3.9 million tonnes), while 28 transfer elevators at Great Lakes ports and export ports on the St. Lawrence and in the Maritimes had a capacity of 122 million bushels (3.4 million tonnes). Another 31 elevators, with a capacity of 21 million bushels (0.6 million tonnes), were used to store grain prior to its processing.

Regulation

The Canadian Grain Commission is responsible for regulating all phases of grain-handling in Canada, including the inspection, grading and weighing of grain, the maintenance of statistical and research facilities, and the constitution of the Grain Standards Committees, which establish the standards for the various grades of grain.

The Grain Research Laboratory of the Commission conducts surveys and publishes information each year on the protein content of the wheat crop. It also conducts baking tests with flour milled from Canadian wheat and issues a report on the baking quality of the Prairie wheat crops. The reputation that Canadian grain has long enjoyed in world markets is due in large part to the rigid controls exercised by the Commission.

Training and development facilities

The Canadian International Grains Institute was established in Winnipeg in 1971 by the Canadian Wheat Board and the Canadian Grain Commission, in co-operation with the Federal Government. The object of the Institute is to provide a better understanding of the world grain industry and thereby contribute to the maintenance and enlargement of markets for Canadian grains and oilseeds and their products. The three main areas of study are grain-handling and transportation, marketing and technology. Courses on the international grain industry, usually of five weeks duration twice annually, involve participants from many countries besides Canada. Those