

BACKGROUND

DIRECTIONAL EMPHASIS OF SECTOR

Because of the limited geographic size of Singapore, the government has moved towards the development of more high technology and high value added industries. In the area of agriculture, the government, through the Economic Development Board (EDB) is actively promoting investments in agrotechnology services. This involves all the activities which apply appropriate technology to large scale intensive farming to increase agricultural production over and above that obtained through traditional farming systems. Today, about 3.7% of Singapore's land area is devoted to agriculture. This supports about 20% of the poultry and 35% of the egg requirement of the population.

Fiscal incentives and government grants are available for firms who engage in the development of agrotechnology projects and services. Participation of the private sector, including foreign companies, is encouraged. Some possible investment areas pinpointed are :

- Shrimp/prawn and fish hatchery technology with emphasis on genetic selection for higher yield and more disease resistant varieties
- Intensive shrimp/prawn and fish farming technology systems in tanks and raceways under controlled environmental production
- Shrimp/prawn and fish artificial feeds with special diets for different growth stages, for enhancing growth and coloration, for prophylaxis and medication and for larval stages in hatcheries
- Automated feeding systems for large-scale farming
- Intensive vegetable and ornamental plant production systems under protected cultivation
- High quality vegetable seedlings, transplants for high value crops
- Plantlets from biotechnology : orchid mericlonos, ornamental plants and fruit tree/plantation crops
- Pig and cattle embryo transfer
- Intensive poultry farming
- Artificial insemination services
- Animal waste treatment engineering
- Biologics and animal vaccine production
- Feedmilling