

Exotic imports from Europe

Since 1966, Agriculture Canada has been issuing import permits for European cattle – the exotic breeds, as they have come to be known collectively.

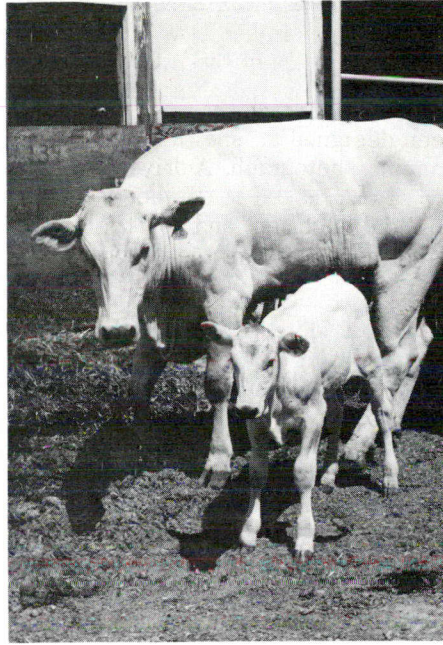
With names like Charolais, Simmental, Limousin, Chianina, Maine-Anjou, Gelbvieh and Pinzgauer, they are being brought into Canada to improve the quality of this country's beef industry.

Since the immigration program began, Canadians have imported 3,884 exotic cattle from Europe. The cattle can only come from countries where disease – mainly the dread foot-and-mouth disease – is not a problem and adequate control measures are in effect. Even then, the veterinarians of the Health of Animals Branch insist on testing the cattle in Europe before they are boarded onto ships bound for Canada.

A further battery of tests is run at Grosse Isle, just 30 miles down the St. Lawrence River from Quebec City, and at St. Pierre, a French-owned island off the southern coast of Newfoundland.

Canadian beef breeders believe the exotic strains of cattle have so much to offer in upgrading the national beef herd that there is strong competition for the limited space in the shipments.

The space is allocated under an import permit system. Import permits are required for the importation of animals from all countries except the United States.



Chianina cow and calf at Agriculture Canada's Research Station in Lethbridge, Alberta. Canadian cattle breeders have imported 3,884 head of exotic cattle since 1966.

workmen's compensation boards and auditing expenses, make up the balance.

The Minister said that a minimum of \$75,000 would go to each federal constituency "because even in seemingly affluent areas of employment there can be pockets of high unemployment".

"We examined the Statistics Canada estimates of labour force participation and unemployment for 41 economic regions in the country and for the constituencies within those regions. We did a similar study covering natives on reserves. We also made an independent estimate of clients registered for employment at our Canada Manpower Centres."

The Minister explained that funds were being distributed on the basis of the number of unemployed persons beyond a 4 percent base rate of unemployment, subject to a minimum allocation of \$75,000 in each constituency. "Having looked at the estimated unemployment totals," Mr. Andras said, "the entire amount available for LIP was distributed equitably throughout the country." The effect of this is to provide approximately \$262 per eligible unemployed person.

Projects are funded for periods of up to 26 weeks, with starting dates between December 1 and January 31. Some remote communities are permitted to begin projects earlier to meet local conditions.

Exotics and ultrasonics help beef industry

Dr. Warren Kitts, head of the Department of Animal Science at the University of British Columbia, is finishing up a project that compares the performance of a number of exotic breeds crossed with the traditional Hereford.

He is also studying the effective-

ness of predicting the grade of an animal while it is still alive, using ultrasonic equipment instead of guessing what stage of development the animal has reached before sending it to market. The ultrasonic measuring method is successful and may become a standard feature of feedlots.

Local initiative funds to assist the unemployed

Manpower and Immigration Minister Robert Andras announced on September 20 that \$90 million had been allocated to the 1974-75 Local Initiatives Program to "meet the needs of unemployed persons in those parts of Canada where unemployment is most severe".

The formula for determining allocation of funds, Mr. Andras said, was based on "an exhaustive study" of all economic components.

"We were seeking to achieve a just

and equitable formula concentrating on areas of greatest need," the Minister added.

Newfoundland will receive \$7,409,000; Nova Scotia, \$3,924,000; Prince Edward Island, \$998,000; New Brunswick, \$4,724,000; Quebec, \$34,601,000; Ontario, \$13,806,000; Manitoba, \$1,797,000; Saskatchewan, \$1,636,000; Alberta, \$1,811,000; Northwest Territories, \$511,000; British Columbia, \$7,940,000; Yukon, \$285,000. Administrative costs, including payments to

Increase in old age pensions

The Old Age Security Pension and the Guaranteed Income Supplement rises in October, the fourth quarterly escalation in 1974 based on the cost of living.

The basic Old Age Security pension as of this month is \$117.02, compared to the previous amount of \$112.95.

The maximum Guaranteed Income Supplement for a single person or a married person whose spouse is not a pensioner will go up to \$82.08 from \$79.23. Added to the basic Old Age Security pension, this will produce a monthly maximum total of \$199.10.

The maximum supplement for a married couple, both pensioners, increases to \$72.89 each, from \$70.36. Added to the basic pension, this will give each pensioner \$189.91 for a combined maximum payment of \$379.82.