

### Sustainable Agriculture

- assessment of the effectiveness of the federal agriculture department's first sustainable development strategy and the drafting of a second strategy, as well as that of other federal strategies related to sustainable agriculture
- a resolution of the tension between intensive farming (of both crops and livestock) and environmentally sustainable agriculture
- continued support of the national agri-environmental indicator project and provincial monitoring projects that regularly assess the state of agricultural resources
- field research to test the findings of indicator programs and identify areas to which programs can be targeted
- greater emphasis on developing effective programs with adequate funding to improve manure management and improve relations between farmers and their neighbours
- further development and adoption of integrated pest management
- continued research in biotechnology, with adequate risk assessments
- research into tillage alternatives where reduced tillage and no-till are not an option
- continued support for environmental farm planning, including a nutrient management component based on adequate soil and crop testing and a good knowledge of the nutrient content of various inputs such as manure
- support for the certification process for organic products and enhanced research on organic agriculture and food products
- further research on agricultural practices to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and encouragement of farmers to adopt these practices
- attention to other emerging air quality issues, such as those related to particulate matter and ammonia
- research on, and adoption of, demand management methods to promote water use efficiency, particularly related to irrigation technology
- water rights reform and fair resolution of conflicts over water use
- development of effective ways to improve the environmental image of farming and to capitalize on this image for marketing.