

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
OVERVIEW

The mission of the Department of Agriculture is to protect, promote, conserve, and support the agricultural interests and agribusinesses of the state, as well as the natural resources that are associated with agriculture and other open lands. The Department's fiscal 1999 budget of \$18.1 million provides \$6.0 million for Animal Disease Control, Plant Pest and Disease Control, and Resource Development Services, and \$10.8 million for Dairy and Commodity Regulation and Marketing Services. The Farmland Preservation Program is primarily supported by four bond issues, each approved by at least 60% of the state's voters. In addition, the Department will help administer the Department of Environmental Protection's new \$50 million Open Space Local Match Program as it affects farmland.

Natural Resource Management programs such as Animal Disease Control, Plant Pest and Disease Control, and Resource Development Services protect the health of the livestock and poultry industries from disease and contaminants; protect food crops, forests, and other plant resources from injurious plant insects and diseases; conserve, protect, and develop soil, water, and related natural resources; and help retain farmland, particularly through the Farmland Preservation Program. The Department of Agriculture's Economic Regulation and Development programs, namely Dairy and Commodity Regulation and Marketing Services, improve the marketability of the State's agricultural products in domestic and international markets. The Department's most noteworthy marketing effort has been its "Jersey Fresh" advertising program.

Two new initiatives in fiscal 1999 are: \$2 million to implement a Conservation Cost Share program which will provide technical and financial assistance to farmers who develop and implement conservation plans incorporating best management practices to control nonpoint source pollution; and \$50,000 for testing sludge for use as a fertilizer.

In order to consolidate the State's efforts to distribute both food commodities and cash reimbursements, the Bureau of Child Nutrition Programs moved to the Department of Agriculture from the Department of Education in fiscal 1998. The Child Nutrition Program includes the National School Lunch Program, Child and Adult Day Care, School Breakfast, Summer Food Service and Special Milk. Through its food distribution programs, the Department of Agriculture receives, stores and distributes millions of pounds of federally donated foods to New Jersey's school children as well as its needy citizens.

The improvement in total net farm income over recession-related losses facilitates a proposed elimination of funding for the Production Efficiency Grant and Business Incentive Grant programs funded at \$1 million in fiscal 1998. The remaining grants will be used to address deer fence requirements and energy efficiency projects.

SUMMARY OF APPROPRIATIONS BY PROGRAM  
(thousands of dollars)

Year Ending June 30, 1997					Year Ending June 30, 1999			
Orig. & (S)Supplemental	Reapp. & (R)Recpts.	Transfers & (E)Emergencies	Total Available	Expended	1998 Adjusted Approp.	Requested	Recommended	
					<b>Agricultural Resources, Planning, and Regulation</b>			
865	66	70	1,001	996	Animal Disease Control	1,027	1,027	1,027
1,732	202	-198	1,736	1,726	Plant Pest and Disease Control	1,739	1,739	1,739
1,221	108	-228	1,101	1,082	Resource Development Services	1,432	1,252	1,252
786	363	-157	992	991	Dairy and Commodity Regulation	1,008	850	850
2,587	349	31	2,967	2,625	Marketing Services	2,581	2,581	2,581
1,270	37	469	1,776	1,773	Management and Administrative Services	1,293	1,143	1,143
<b>8,461</b>	<b>1,125</b>	<b>-13</b>	<b>9,573</b>	<b>9,193</b>	<b>Total Appropriation</b>	<b>9,080</b>	<b>8,592</b>	<b>8,592</b>

## 40. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

### 49. AGRICULTURAL RESOURCES, PLANNING, AND REGULATION

#### OBJECTIVES

1. To protect and secure the health of the livestock and poultry industries from disease and contaminants in order to maximize food production, protect human health and maintain an economically sound animal industry.
2. To expand domestic and foreign markets for New Jersey agricultural products and provide consumers with timely and factual information concerning the availability and use of New Jersey farm products.
3. To protect food crops, forests, and other plant resources from injurious plant insects and diseases through detection, control, and eradication programs.
4. To assure consumers the availability of high-quality fruits, vegetables, eggs, egg products, fish, poultry, and poultry products by certifying that these perishable agricultural commodities meet high standards.
5. To conserve, protect, and develop soil, water, and related natural resources and to control soil erosion and sedimentation, storm water, and non-point source pollution damage for improved agricultural production, water quantity and quality, and economic benefits.
6. To assure farmers and homeowners that animal feeds, fertilizers, seeds, and plant and liming materials comply with label guarantees for product quality.
7. To foster the development of modern, adequate facilities for the distribution, processing, and marketing of New Jersey farm products.
8. To develop and implement policies and plans to enhance agriculture and help retain farms and farmland.
9. To retain a healthy economic environment for a viable, competitive dairy industry where dairy farmers are assured a fair return for milk sold to processors.
10. To supply New Jersey schools, charitable and welfare organizations with federally-donated agricultural commodities and to provide food to communities needing disaster assistance.
11. To provide administrative and management services required for the most effective and efficient accomplishment of the Department's goals and objectives.

#### PROGRAM CLASSIFICATIONS

01. **Animal Disease Control.** Resident and imported animals are subject to Department programs of disease detection, control and eradication. These include surveys, periodic inspections, regular and special field and laboratory examinations, quarantines, slaughter of certain animals, disinfection, and related epidemiology. Programs and regulations are adjusted based on changes in the appearance and virulence of disease in and out of the State. The Division sets standards and issues licenses to livestock dealers, auctions and biologic manufacturers and distributors in order to reduce the spread of infection. To prevent the introduction of exotic diseases not known to this country, it participates in the United States Department of Agriculture's National Emergency Animal Disease Eradication Program. One phase involved is the licensing and supervision of the processing of food wastes fed to swine to prevent food borne disease. The Division also operates an animal health laboratory to identify the cause of disease.

02. **Plant Pest and Disease Control.** The food crop, forests, and other plant resources of the State are protected against injurious plant insects and diseases by programs of the Department. Surveys and investigations are conducted regularly to delineate and measure insect populations and disease problems. Major infestations are countered with carefully regulated chemical and/or biological control programs. Where beneficial insects or other parasites are known, the Department, through its beneficial insect rearing laboratory, mass produces and releases them into the agricultural or forest environment for pest control.

In cooperation with the United States Department of Agriculture, the Department controls the movement of plant materials. All nurseries producing plant materials are inspected for pests and disease and must be free of both to qualify for certification.

Samples of agricultural and garden seed are randomly selected and tested for variety content, germination, and other labeled guarantees. Products which do not conform to label claims are removed from sale and violators are subject to penalty action and prosecution.

03. **Resource Development Services.** This program is designed to maintain, conserve, and enhance New Jersey's rural and agricultural resources and to control erosion, sedimentation, and non-point sources of water pollution and storm water damage. The primary objectives of this program are to improve agricultural productivity and New Jersey's agricultural business climate while maintaining environmental quality.

Soil and water resource management standards and regulations are promulgated and plans for soil erosion and sediment control are certified for land disturbance activities. Technical assistance is provided to landowners and public agencies through the State Soil Conservation Committee and local soil conservation districts. Cost sharing is provided to eligible farmland owners who install conservation systems.

A plan for the preservation of New Jersey farmland is being implemented by the State Agriculture Development Committee with the cooperation and support of the Department. The Department assists in resolving urban/rural conflicts caused by urban encroachment as well as problems involving energy, taxation, and environmental issues that directly affect the farmer.

04. **Dairy and Commodity Regulation.** This program contains the Agricultural Chemistry Program, which determines compliance with the stated contents of animal feeds, fertilizers, and liming materials offered for sale for farm and non-farm use. Random inspections and analyses of raw material commodities and animal feeds are conducted to determine the presence of natural and anthropogenic contaminants and adulterants.

Through on-site inspections at agribusiness plants, consumers are assured a supply of the highest quality fresh fruits and vegetables, fish, shell eggs, and egg and poultry products. Official inspection and grading services are provided to farmers, packers, processors, and wholesale and retail markets under formal agreements with the United States Departments of Agriculture and Commerce.

The Dairy program is responsible for fostering a stable and competitive dairy industry, including the regulation and enforcement of the production, processing, distribution and sales of fluid dairy products. In addition, this program licenses dealers who purchase milk from New Jersey farmers or who sell fluid dairy products to other dealers and to retail outlets. In order to be licensed, the dealers must post a bond with the Secretary of Agriculture conditioned upon the payment of all amount due and owing to New Jersey farmers.

**06. Marketing Services.** This program consists of marketing activities and also includes activities associated with Child Nutrition programs. An advertising, market development, and promotion program is conducted to create a positive image of New Jersey's agricultural products and to increase consumer awareness and purchase. This "Jersey Fresh" Program, aimed at domestic and foreign consumers, assists New Jersey's farmers in expanding their market share. Individual product promotions are also conducted by eight agricultural commodity councils.

Programs for the promotion of the New Jersey horse industry are conducted with funds derived from a small percentage of the pari-mutuel handle at both the thoroughbred and standardbred race tracks. Growth of the horse breeding industry is encouraged through monies awarded in the form of stakes purses and breeder awards.

Child Nutrition consists of six programs in public and non-public schools, residential and non-residential child care institutions, day care centers, recreation centers and other agencies that qualify for this aid. Program responsibilities include developing, disseminating, evaluating, and approving all pertinent program documents required for participation; providing technical assistance in the areas of implementation, facilities improvement and food service methods; on-site monitoring of programs for compliance with State and Federal regulations; and providing financial assistance.

State and Federal reimbursements are paid to school districts for part of the cost of school lunches and federal funds are paid to offset part of the cost of school breakfasts. In addition, non-school programs receive federal funds, especially for disadvantaged children.

**07. Commodity Distribution.** This program requisitions, receives, handles, stores, and distributes federal surplus food made available by the United States Department of Agriculture for distribution to State, county and municipal institutions, schools, charitable and welfare organizations, and needy individuals. It also provides for processing some of the federally donated basic food commodities.

Inspections are made of all organizations and institutions for compliance with the contract and regulations.

The Temporary Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP) distributes federally donated food commodities to needy citizens through a network of food centers, food banks, and food pantries.

**08. Farmland Preservation.** The State Agriculture Development Committee (SADC) administers New Jersey's Farmland Preservation Program.

The Farmland Preservation Program compensates farm owners for their development rights if they permanently deed restrict their farms against future development. The terms of these deed restrictions can be permanent or for as short a period as eight years. Future owners of those farms permanently preserved must comply with all deed restrictions.

The SADC also coordinates a variety of programs with participating counties and farmland owners to protect important farmland in sufficient quantity and quality to foster long-term agricultural viability. It is also charged with specific right-to-farm responsibilities relating to agriculture.

**99. Management and Administrative Services.** The State Board of Agriculture consists of eight farmers, elected at the annual Agricultural Convention. The Board is empowered to establish those programs, regulations and policies it deems essential to accomplish responsibilities assigned to the Department. The Secretary of Agriculture serves as Secretary to the Board, Chief Executive of the Department and is a member of the Governor's Cabinet. The Secretary is responsible for implementing State laws, regulations and policies established by the Board of Agriculture.

The Secretary's office provides overall planning, coordination and priority guidance for Department programs and includes policy and plan development, general hearing services, agricultural information services, and executive and legislative liaison. Department-wide general administrative services are provided, including services related to personnel and employee relations, fiscal control, management systems, and other administrative functions.

## EVALUATION DATA

	Actual FY 1996	Actual FY 1997	Revised FY 1998	Budget Estimate FY 1999
<b>PROGRAM DATA</b>				
<b>Animal Disease Control</b>				
Regulatory Inspections and Field Testing .....	500	550	500	500
General, Special, and Other Laboratory Exams .....	16,000	17,000	16,000	16,000
<b>Plant Pest and Disease Control</b>				
Plant Pest Management:				
Forest, residential, and recreational acres protected from gypsy moth .....	22,000	5,000	700	1,000
Nurseries and dealers certified free of plant pests .....	1,700	1,800	1,900	1,950
Nursery acreage certified free of plant pests .....	13,851	13,850	13,850	13,950
Biological Control of Plant Pests:				
Savings in costs of pesticides not applied .....	\$10,535,000	\$10,440,250	\$10,859,940	\$10,859,940
Savings in pounds of pesticide not applied .....	—	1,352,456	1,390,702	1,390,702
Forest and crop acreage stabilized biologically .....	871,475	871,475	956,960	956,960
<b>Resource Development Services</b>				
Soil and Water Conservation Programs:				
Land protected from soil erosion and sedimentation during development (acres) .....	19,629	21,000	22,000	23,000
Farm and developing lands requiring conservation treatment (acres) .....	550,000	550,000	525,000	510,000

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	Actual FY 1996	Actual FY 1997	Revised FY 1998	Budget Estimate FY 1999
<b>Farmland Preservation:</b>				
Acres of farmland under retention				
Eight year program .....	18,214	19,576	20,000	21,000
Deed restricted (permanently) .....	29,014	39,198	47,170	55,027
<b>Aquaculture Development Program</b>				
Aquaculture Production (lbs.) .....	23,000,000	28,000,000	34,000,000	37,000,000
<b>Fish and Seafood Development</b>				
Seafood Exports (dollars) .....	47,000,000	52,000,000	55,000,000	63,000,000
<b>Dairy and Commodity Regulation</b>				
Income to dairy farmers .....	\$40,000,000	\$39,000,000	\$36,000,000	\$36,000,000
Income per dairy farmer .....	\$166,000	\$177,000	\$173,000	\$173,000
Complaints reviewed at dairy stores .....	3,200	3,500	3,400	3,300
Volume of produce graded for processing (lbs.) .....	36,776,000	32,922,000	40,000,000	40,000,000
Producers requesting "Jersey Fresh" quality grading .....	179	200	240	250
Volume graded for Jersey Fresh (lbs.) .....	34,000,000	35,000,000	80,000,000	80,000,000
Volume of fish and products graded at wholesale (lbs.) .....	11,331,000	12,000,000	14,000,000	14,000,000
<b>Marketing Services</b>				
Cash receipts for farm products (millions) .....	\$760	\$706	\$770	\$772
Chain stores featuring New Jersey				
agricultural products .....	20	20	27	27
Individual store outlets featuring New Jersey				
agricultural products .....	1,425	1,500	2,100	2,500
Foreign export sales (millions) .....	\$110	\$115	\$195	\$200
Racing mares bred .....	2,081	2,000	1,800	1,800
<b>Commodity Distribution</b>				
Recipients				
School students (nine month average) .....	473,000	480,000	490,000	480,000
Temporary emergency food assistance recipients .....	225,000	230,000	250,000	250,000
Market value of food distributed (millions)				
School lunch (a) .....	\$15	\$16	\$16	\$15
Temporary emergency food assistance .....	\$1	\$2	\$3	\$3
<b>PERSONNEL DATA</b>				
<b>Affirmative Action Data</b>				
Male Minority .....	21	20	20	22
Male Minority % .....	10	9	9	8
Female Minority .....	19	21	33	34
Female Minority % .....	9	10	13	13
Total Minority .....	40	41	54	56
Total Minority % .....	19	19	22	22
<b>Position Data</b>				
Filled Positions by Funding Source				
State Supported .....	138	144	141	140
Federal .....	44	43	44	43
All Other .....	54	51	54	54
Total Positions .....	236	238	239	237
Filled Positions by Program Class				
Animal Disease Control .....	18	19	20	20
Plant Pest and Disease Control .....	35	35	34	36
Resource Development Services .....	34	35	35	36
Dairy and Commodity Regulation .....	40	39	38	40
Marketing Services .....	59	58	60	58
Commodity Distribution .....	21	21	22	22
Management and Administration .....	29	31	30	25
Total Positions .....	236	238	239	237

Notes: Actual Fiscal Years 1996 and 1997 and Revised Fiscal Year 1998 position data reflect actual payroll counts. The Budget Estimate for Fiscal Year 1999 reflects the number of positions funded.  
(a) Includes foods processed.

APPROPRIATIONS DATA  
(thousands of dollars)

Year Ending June 30, 1997					Year Ending June 30, 1999				
Orig. & (S) Supplemental	Reapp. & (R) Recpts.	Transfers & (E) Emergencies	Total Available	Expended	Prog. Class.	1998 Adjusted Approp.	Requested	Recommended	
865	66	70	1,001	996					
1,732	202	-198	1,736	1,726					
1,221	108	-228	1,101	1,082					
786	363	-157	992	991					
2,587	349	31	2,967	2,625					
<u>1,270</u>	<u>37</u>	<u>469</u>	<u>1,776</u>	<u>1,773</u>					
<b>8,461</b>	<b>1,125</b>	<b>-13</b>	<b>9,573</b>	<b>9,193</b>					
					<b>Distribution by Program</b>				
					01	1,027	1,027	1,027	
					02	1,739	1,739	1,739	
					03	1,432	1,252	1,252	
					04	1,008	850	850	
					06	2,581	2,581	2,581	
					99	<u>1,293</u>	<u>1,143</u>	<u>1,143</u>	
						<b>9,080<sup>(a)</sup></b>	<b>8,592</b>	<b>8,592</b>	
					<b>Distribution by Object</b>				
					Personal Services:				
						5,931	5,648	5,648	
						5,931	5,648	5,648	
						200	184	184	
						437	422	422	
						257	288	288	
					Special Purpose:				
					01	—	—	—	
					01	—	—	—	
					02	—	—	—	
					02	—	—	—	
					03	—	—	—	
					03	—	—	—	
					03	—	—	—	
					03	200	200	200	
					03	100	100	100	
					03	45	45	45	
					03	45	45	45	
					03	—	—	—	
					03	65	—	—	
					03	65	—	—	
					04	200	75	75	
					04	—	50	50	
					06	1,166	1,166	1,166	
					06	30	30	30	
					06	338	338	338	
					99	18	18	18	
					99	<u>28</u>	<u>28</u>	<u>28</u>	
						<b>2,255</b>	<b>2,050</b>	<b>2,050</b>	
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Year Ending June 30, 1997					Year Ending June 30, 1999				
Orig. & (S)Supplemental	Reapp. & (R)Recpts.	Transfers & (E)Emergencies	Total Available	Expended	Prog. Class.	1998 Adjusted Approp.	Requested	Recommended	
<b>OTHER RELATED APPROPRIATIONS</b>									
4,394	---	-12	4,382	4,162	<i>Total Grants-in-Aid</i>	1,543	2,354	2,354	
7,004	---	---	7,004	7,004	<i>Total State Aid</i>	7,004	7,004	7,004	
---	12	---	12	---	<i>Total Capital Construction</i>	415	156	156	
<u>19,859</u>	<u>1,137</u>	<u>-25</u>	<u>20,971</u>	<u>20,359</u>	<i>Total General Fund</i>	<u>18,042</u>	<u>18,106</u>	<u>18,106</u>	
<b>Federal Funds</b>									
18	---	---	18	18	Animal Disease Control	01	18	18	
497	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	
93 <sup>S</sup>	53	---	643	144	Plant Pest and Disease Control	02	250	179	
284 <sup>S</sup>	285	---	569	337	Resource Development Services	03	75	---	
103	20	---	123	113	Dairy and Commodity Regulation	04	207	207	
187,459	10,561	---	198,020	144,772	Marketing Services	06	175,401	188,803	
1,019	178	---	1,197	577	Commodity Distribution	07	1,210	1,265	
---	---	---	---	---	Farmland Preservation	08	1,000	---	
<u>189,473</u>	<u>11,097</u>	<u>---</u>	<u>200,570</u>	<u>145,961</u>	<i>Total Federal Funds</i>	<u>178,161</u>	<u>190,472</u>	<u>190,472</u>	
<b>All Other Funds</b>									
---	---	---	---	---	Animal Disease Control	01	115	115	
---	56	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	
---	54 <sup>R</sup>	-1	109	47	Plant Pest and Disease Control	02	219	207	
---	44	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	
---	68 <sup>R</sup>	---	112	89	Resource Development Services	03	179	176	
---	249	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	
---	1,089 <sup>R</sup>	---	1,338	1,081	Dairy and Commodity Regulation	04	1,397	1,362	
---	3,493	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	
---	5,651 <sup>R</sup>	79	9,223	6,961	Marketing Services	06	7,230	6,612	
---	1,075	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	
---	1,453 <sup>R</sup>	---	2,528	1,512	Commodity Distribution	07	1,512	1,513	
---	842 <sup>R</sup>	---	842	841	Farmland Preservation	08	894	990	
---	38	10	48	4	Management and Administrative Services	99	---	---	
---	<u>14,112</u>	<u>88</u>	<u>14,200</u>	<u>10,535</u>	<i>Total All Other Funds</i>	<u>11,546</u>	<u>10,975</u>	<u>10,975</u>	
<u>209,332</u>	<u>26,346</u>	<u>63</u>	<u>235,741</u>	<u>176,855</u>	<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>207,749</b>	<b>219,553</b>	<b>219,553</b>	

- Notes: (a) The fiscal year 1998 appropriation has been adjusted for the allocation of salary program and has been reduced to reflect the transfer of funds to the Salary Increases and Other Benefits account.
- (b) The fiscal year 1998 appropriation and the fiscal year 1999 request and recommendation data have been distributed to applicable operating accounts.
- (c) The Child Nutrition program transferred from the Department of Education to the Department of Agriculture in fiscal year 1998.

## LANGUAGE RECOMMENDATIONS

Receipts from laboratory test fees are appropriated to support the Animal Health Laboratory program. The unexpended balance as of June 30, 1998 in the Animal Health Laboratory program is appropriated for the same purpose.

Receipts from the sale or studies of Beneficial Insects are appropriated to support the Beneficial Insect Laboratory. The unexpended balance as of June 30, 1998 in the Sale of Insects account is appropriated for the same purpose.

Receipts from the seed laboratory testing and certification programs are appropriated for program costs.

Receipts from Nursery Inspection fees are appropriated for Nursery Inspection program costs. The unexpended balance as of June 30, 1998 in the Nursery Inspection fee account is appropriated for the same purpose.

Receipts derived from the Soybean Integrated Pest Management Program are appropriated for the same purpose.

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In addition to the amount hereinabove for Rural Development Services, such sums as may be necessary shall be transferred, pursuant to an agreement between the Department of Environmental Protection and the Department of Agriculture, from the Department of Environmental Protection's Water Resources Monitoring and Planning – Constitutional Dedication account to support non–point source pollution control programs in the Department of Agriculture, subject to the approval of the Director of Budget and Accounting.

Receipts from Stormwater Discharge Permit program fees are appropriated for program costs. The unexpended balance as of June 30, 1998 in the Stormwater Discharge Permit Program account is appropriated for the same purpose.

Receipts from dairy licenses and inspections are appropriated for program costs.

Receipts in excess of the amount anticipated from feed, fertilizer, and liming material registrations and inspections are appropriated for program costs.

Receipts from inspection fees derived from fruit, vegetable, fish, and poultry inspections are appropriated for the cost of conducting fruit, vegetable, fish, and poultry inspections.

The unexpended balance as of June 30, 1998 in the Promotion/Market Development account is appropriated for the same purpose.

Receipts in excess of those anticipated, generated at the rate of \$.20 per gallon of wine, vermouth and sparkling wines sold by plenary winery and farm winery licenses issued pursuant to R.S.33:1–10, and certified by the Director of the Division of Taxation, are appropriated to the Department of Agriculture from the alcoholic beverage excise tax for expenses of the Wine Promotion Program. If receipts are less than anticipated, the appropriation shall be reduced proportionately.

Receipts derived from the distribution of commodities, sale of containers, and salvage of commodities, in accordance with applicable federal regulations, are appropriated for Commodity Distribution expenses.

8,461	1,125	–13	9,573	9,193	<b>Total Appropriation, Department of Agriculture</b>	9,080	8,592	8,592
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# NOTES