

Agency 18 - Department Of Agriculture

Statutory Authority:

Section 81-101 creates the Department of Agriculture as one of 15 departments under the Governor vested with administering laws of the state. There are 65 different areas of the law the Department is either directly responsible for or works with other agencies on, each containing a different subject matter relative to agriculture. Additionally, the Department is indirectly involved, by reference, with several other sections of the law.

Vision Statement:

The Department's long-range plan will focus on the development of programs to promote agriculture and uniformly enforce state statutes regulating industries. The Department's Mission Statement, which reads, "to regulate industries as prescribed by statute; and to encourage and promote the interest of agriculture through advocacy and education," will continue to be the primary focus of the Department of Agriculture.

Mission Statement:

The Department mission is . . . "to regulate industries, as prescribed by statute; and to encourage and promote the interest of agriculture through advocacy and education."

Goals:

The Nebraska Department of Agriculture has five major goals:

1. To promote agricultural products through the development of markets and to facilitate the sale of such products;
2. To serve as a progressive and responsive advocate for Nebraska agriculture;
3. To provide efficient and effective regulation of the industries that support and protect the health, safety, and welfare of industry and consumers; and
4. Provide quality support services to fulfill the mission of the Department.
5. Identify, plan and prepare necessary agro-terrorism response plans.

Financial Data:

	Actual FY02	Approp FY03	Request FY04	Recom FY04	Request FY05	Recom FY05
General Fund	6,623,190	5,764,581	5,769,212	5,406,494	6,071,116	5,513,487
Cash Fund	5,433,538	6,300,442	5,865,574	5,942,084	5,652,400	6,025,120
Federal Fund	2,176,041	2,372,920	1,475,578	1,497,536	1,475,616	1,520,214
Revolving Fund	418,721	609,841	460,365	476,691	460,404	485,578
Other Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Agency	14,651,490	15,047,784	13,570,729	13,322,805	13,659,536	13,544,399

Agency 18 - Department Of Agriculture Program 027 - Administration

Program Objectives:

Administration is comprised of supervision that provides leadership, direction, and supervision to the agency and eleven additional budgeted subprogram activities that provide support or are direct program activities assigned to the Department. Support activities include legal, fiscal, personnel, word processing, data processing, building overhead, and administrative revolving fund service for other agency boards and commissions. Other statutory program activities part of administration include Animal Damage Control, Ag Promotion, Mediation, Beginning Farmer, Competitive Livestock Marketing, Ag Product Grading/Inspection, value-added grants, and Market News. Emphasis is placed on providing the necessary tools and training to our staff to carry out the mission of the Department.

Financial Data:

	Actual FY02	Approp FY03	Request FY04	Recom FY04	Request FY05	Recom FY05
General Fund	2,347,386	1,649,529	1,623,571	1,487,840	1,623,862	1,516,500
Cash Fund	85,102	324,249	190,411	190,419	190,411	190,419
Federal Fund	969,951	793,518	281,000	282,532	281,000	283,617
Revolving Fund	405,194	589,841	460,365	471,274	460,404	480,108
Other Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	3,807,633	3,357,137	2,555,347	2,432,065	2,555,677	2,470,644

Performance Measures:

Nebraska agriculture is a wide, diverse industry. The broad range of agricultural products found in Nebraska requires a broad range of production input and services to help commodities reach between the producer, processor, and consumer. The Department's basic function is to monitor activities between the links of the food chain. The Department works for the protection of the consumer, as well as the producer.

Agency 18 - Department Of Agriculture Program 056 - Weights & Measure

Program Objectives:

The purpose of the Division of Weights and Measures is to protect the buyer and seller in all commercial transactions involving weighing and measuring devices or commodities sold by weight, measure, or count. This is accomplished through annual registration and inspection of over 32,644 devices, and verification of net content in over 791,000 packages. These functions also ensure fair competition between competing businesses. Over \$35 billion of Nebraska's economy is determined by measurement. A change in measurement performance of just 1/10 percent would have an effect of \$35 million annually to the state's citizens, businesses, and industries.

Financial Data:

	Actual FY02	Approp FY03	Request FY04	Recom FY04	Request FY05	Recom FY05
General Fund	623,922	638,187	646,071	657,360	702,425	673,566
Cash Fund	590,296	704,714	672,822	682,510	617,129	696,054
Federal Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Revolving Fund	13,527	20,000	0	5,417	0	5,470
Other Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	1,227,745	1,362,901	1,318,893	1,345,287	1,319,554	1,375,090

Performance Measures:

Oversee the measurement of \$35 billion of Nebraska's goods and services when quantity is determined by weight, measurement, or count.

- Inspect and test 32,644 commercial weighing and measuring devices.
- Weigh, measure, and inspect 791,000 prepackaged commodities to determine net quantity compliance.
- Maintain traceability of 4,064 primary and secondary standards of measurement to the National Institute of Standards and Technology.

Description	FY02 Actual	FY03 Current	FY04 Request	FY05 Request
Total Devices	33,204	33,500	33,600	33,700
Initial Inspections/Year	33,771	34,500	34,800	34,800
Reinspections/Year	2,041	2,500	2,500	2,500
Total Inspections/Year	35,812	37,000	37,300	37,300
Inspector FTE's/Year	11.62	12.25	12.25	12.25
Device Inspection Cost/Year	\$988,969	\$1,105,908	\$1,078,131	\$1,077,361
Average Cost/Inspection	\$27.62	\$29.89	\$28.90	\$28.88
Average Number Inspection/FTE	3,082	3,020	3,045	3,045
Devices Rejected/Year	2,262	3,000	3,000	3,000

Agency 18 - Department Of Agriculture Program 057 - Bureau Of Dairies And Foods

Program Objectives:

The ultimate goal of the Bureau of Dairies and Foods is to protect the public health and welfare of the citizens in the State of Nebraska by ensuring a safe and wholesome food supply. The Nebraska Pure Food Act, Nebraska Pasteurized Milk Law, and Nebraska Manufacturing Milk Act provide minimum sanitation standards and statutory authority to inspect and issue permits to all milk and food suppliers within Nebraska.

The dairy inspection activities begin at the farm and continue through the milk processing plants under the authority of the milk laws. The Nebraska Pure Food Act covers restaurants, grocery stores, concessionaries, food warehouses, and similar establishments.

Financial Data:

	Actual FY02	Approp FY03	Request FY04	Recom FY04	Request FY05	Recom FY05
General Fund	636,298	680,250	739,307	695,303	739,040	711,755
Cash Fund	780,868	849,697	745,800	818,687	747,300	838,024
Federal Fund	27,239	23,000	46,000	46,818	46,000	47,417
Revolving Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	1,444,405	1,552,947	1,531,107	1,560,808	1,532,340	1,597,196

Performance Measures:

The Bureau of Dairies and Foods protects the public health and welfare of the citizens in the state of Nebraska by ensuring a safe and wholesome food supply. The food program utilizes 12 inspectors to inspect 5,438 food establishments throughout the state. There is a total of 8,867 food establishments, with the balance inspected by local health departments contracted by the Department. The dairy program utilizes 5 inspectors to inspect 701 producers, 195 haulers, and 56 milk processing plants, distributors, and receiving stations in the state.

Description	FY02 Actual	FY03 Current	FY04 Request	FY05 Request
Total Food Inspection/Year	17,643	17,793	17,836	17,936
Total Food Program Cost/Year	\$990,811	\$1,077,352	\$1,062,220	\$1,062,991
Average Cost Per Food Inspection	\$56.16	\$60.55	\$59.55	\$59.27
Average # of Food Inspections/Inspector	1,470	1,483	1,486	1,495
Number of Food Permits at July 1/Year	9,005	9,188	9,200	9,200
Frequency of Food Est Inspections/Year	2.0	1.9	1.9	1.9
Total Dairy Inspections/Year	5,188	5,360	5,350	5,350
Dairy Inspection Cost/Year	\$542,169	\$573,954	\$577,326	\$577,828
Average Dairy Cost/Inspection	\$104.50	\$107.08	\$107.91	\$108.01
Average Dairy Inspection/Inspector	1,038	1,072	1,070	1,070

Agency 18 - Department Of Agriculture Program 061 - Agricultural Laboratories

Program Objectives:

The mission of the Laboratory Division is to support the activities of the Department of Agriculture by providing accurate, timely testing of samples. In providing these testing services to the Department and to others, the Laboratory aids the Department in its role of regulating industries. Also, the Laboratory helps to ensure the public health and economic well-being of the citizens of the state by protecting against illness, disease, and economic fraud. The division consists of four separate laboratories: the Feed, Fertilizer and Ag Lime Laboratory, the Residue Laboratory, the Seed/Livestock Disease Control Laboratory, and the Dairy and Food Laboratory.

Financial Data:

	Actual FY02	Approp FY03	Request FY04	Recom FY04	Request FY05	Recom FY05
General Fund	1,049,287	852,584	820,114	652,324	821,278	658,861
Cash Fund	589,796	887,985	916,028	975,905	907,041	988,662
Federal Fund	62,333	70,136	42,750	44,300	42,750	46,201
Revolving Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	1,701,416	1,810,705	1,778,892	1,672,529	1,771,069	1,693,724

Performance Measures:

It is the mission of the Laboratory Division to provide accurate and timely testing of samples for the regulatory divisions. By providing accurate work, the regulators are assured that the actions they take, as specified by law, regulation, or enforcement procedure, are done with high confidence. By providing these analyses in a timely manner, the divisions are assured that regulatory actions can be taken in an appropriate time frame. There are many factors involved with high quality work. Proper analyst recruitment and training are highly important, as is adequately equipping the facility, and providing competent support services. Quality assurance is a daily activity, with resources committed to assuring high quality of the data. Staff safety is critical to the functioning of the laboratory, and much attention is paid to ensuring a safe workplace. All these help ensure that the department properly regulates industry in the state, for the benefit of the general populace.

Description	FY02 Actual	FY03 Current	FY04 Request	FY05 Request
Samples Analyzed				
Feed, Fertilizer and Ag Lime	3,995	4,000	4,000	4,000
Residue	249	250	250	250
Seed Lab	2,344	2,400	2,400	2,400
Livestock Disease	68,804	68,500	68,500	68,500
Dairy and Food	6,438	6,750	6,750	6,750
Total Samples/Year	81,830	81,900	81,900	81,900
Total Technical FTE's/Year	19.4	20.3	20.3	20.3
Total Determinations/Year	127,484	124,900	124,900	124,900

Agency 18 - Department Of Agriculture Program 063 - Bureau Of Animal Industry

Program Objectives:

The Bureau of Animal Industry is mandated by statute and "vested with the power and charged with the duties of protecting the health of livestock in Nebraska and determining and employing the most efficient and practical means of prevention, suppression, control and eradication of diseases transmissible among livestock...."

Disease control and eradication programs have saved producers millions of dollars in production costs associated with vaccinations, treatments and death losses. The preservation of good herd health is vital to the marketability of the state's livestock.

The passage of LB438 opened up a new area of focus for the Bureau in the way of supporting preventative herd health options for producers and increasing involvement in emergency management planning.

Financial Data:

	Actual FY02	Approp FY03	Request FY04	Recom FY04	Request FY05	Recom FY05
General Fund	1,641,056	1,641,948	1,629,698	1,623,165	1,722,782	1,655,053
Cash Fund	556,937	620,379	586,524	655,114	586,565	657,222
Federal Fund	206,953	35,018	35,018	35,018	35,018	35,018
Revolving Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	2,404,946	2,297,345	2,251,240	2,313,297	2,344,365	2,347,293

Performance Measures:

The mission of the Bureau of Animal Industry is to protect the health of the livestock in Nebraska from diseases transmissible to livestock and from livestock to humans by determining and employing the most efficient and practical means of prevention, suppression, control, and eradication of diseases transmissible to and among livestock through the administration and implementation of quality animal health programs. Even as the Bureau completes its disease eradication programs, it is essential to continue disease surveillance and monitoring to ensure that any disease entering the state's livestock herd would be found in time to effectuate control measures and prevent its spread.

Description	FY02 Actual	FY03 Current	FY04 Request	FY05 Request
Livestock Inspections/Year	9,387	8,732	8,382	8,132
Market and Dealers	1,354	1,200	1,100	1,000
Pet Feed & Rendering Inspections	200	200	200	200
Brucellosis	283	200	150	150
Tuberculosis	157	125	125	125
Cattle Scabies	9	7	7	7
Livestock Movement	997	900	850	800
NPIP Inspections & Testing	462	300	300	300
Pseudorabies	1,643	1,200	1,000	800
Veterinarian Contacts	1,103	1,200	1,300	1,400

Agency 18 - Department Of Agriculture Program 333 - Bureau Of Plant Industry

Program Objectives:

The Bureau of Plant Industry consists of several programs which have responsibilities relating to plant certification and inspection, feed, fertilizer and agricultural lime, pesticides, plant protection, apiary, noxious weed control, seed, and groundwater and surface water protection. The Bureau is responsible for administering various statutes which have been enacted by the Nebraska Legislature. These statutes include the Nebraska Apiary Law, Plant Protection and Plant Pest Act, Commercial Feed Act, Nebraska Commercial Fertilizer and Soil Conditioner Act, Agricultural Liming Materials Act, Pesticide Act, Nebraska Seed Law, Noxious Weed Control Act, and the Buffer Strip Act.

Financial Data:

	Actual FY02	Approp FY03	Request FY04	Recom FY04	Request FY05	Recom FY05
General Fund	158,814	178,717	186,579	290,502	337,857	297,752
Cash Fund	2,500,135	2,501,367	2,366,825	2,233,433	2,216,790	2,265,002
Federal Fund	722,839	813,549	820,049	835,730	820,049	852,667
Revolving Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	3,381,788	3,493,633	3,373,453	3,359,665	3,374,696	3,415,421

Performance Measures:

Implement provisions of the various statutes which have been enacted by the Nebraska Legislature.

1. Protect Nebraska's agriculture, horticulture, forests, environment, and general public from the artificial introduction and spread of injurious plant pests.
2. Regulate the manufacturing, distribution, labeling and storage of feed, fertilizer, seed, and ag liming products.
3. Protect Nebraska agriculture and the citizens of Nebraska from the serious threat posed by noxious weeds.
4. Promote the safe use and handling of pesticide products through certification training and inspection.
5. Develop a statewide buffer strip plan that raises the awareness of the Buffer Strip Program to the general public.
6. Facilitate the movement of Nebraska grains and plant products to foreign countries.

Description	FY02 Actual	FY03 Current	FY04 Request	FY05 Request
Grain Quality Inspections/Year	198	203	213	221
Phytosanitary Certificates	3,496	3,900	4,310	4,520
Corn Borer Certificates	4,917	4,975	5,000	5,025
Feed, Fertilizer & Ag Lime	8,054	8,203	8,292	8,388
Pesticide Inspections/Year	1,515	1,005	1,005	1,005
Pesticide Samples/Year	1,647	1,263	1,263	1,263
Pesticide Dealer Licenses	1,800	1,800	1,900	1,900
Entomology	4,532	4,720	4,935	5,100
Noxious Weed Control	4,391	4,425	4,425	4,425

Agency 18 - Department Of Agriculture Program 382 - Potato Development

Program Objectives:

The Nebraska potato industry relies upon the Potato Development Program for funding to support basic research in the areas of disease, storage, and production. The program also funds activities to promote potatoes and the potato industry. An excise tax of .75¢ per cwt is assessed on potatoes grown and shipped in Nebraska to provide the funds for use in research, promotion, and operation of the program.

The Department of Agriculture, in conjunction with the Potato Development Committee, works closely with the Potato Certification Association of Nebraska, National Potato Council, and the University of Nebraska.

Financial Data:

	Actual FY02	Approp FY03	Request FY04	Recom FY04	Request FY05	Recom FY05
General Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cash Fund	96,739	129,770	111,063	111,329	111,063	111,590
Federal Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Revolving Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	96,739	129,770	111,063	111,329	111,063	111,590

Performance Measures:

The potato industry in the state is a \$40 million plus agriculture commodity. Nebraska's production has approximately doubled in less than five years. Producers look to this checkoff program for promotion and production research to address the many insects and diseases that affect potato production.

Agency 18 - Department Of Agriculture Program 385 - Agricultural Statistics

Program Objectives:

The Agricultural Statistics Division publishes agricultural statistical information of value to agriculture and allied interests in Nebraska, in cooperation with the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA). The cooperative office is known as the Nebraska Agriculture Statistics Service. Total office expenditures are split approximately 90% from federal funds and 10% from state funds. The agricultural reports are based on summarized data obtained from surveys of farmers, ranchers, and agribusiness firms. Information obtained on major crops and livestock items is used as a basis for local (county and district) crop and livestock estimates issued annually in the "Nebraska Agriculture Statistics" publication.

Financial Data:

	Actual FY02	Approp FY03	Request FY04	Recom FY04	Request FY05	Recom FY05
General Fund	166,427	123,366	123,872	0	123,872	0
Cash Fund	1,346	9,011	5,000	0	5,000	0
Federal Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Revolving Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	167,773	132,377	128,872	0	128,872	0

Performance Measures:

The following releases and/or publication are regularly published by the Agricultural Statistics Division. The information is now available on Internet, bulletin board, by mail or fax. Other statistical reports and summaries are generated on an "as-needed" basis:

1. "Nebraska Agri-Facts"
2. "Nebraska Crop-Weather"
3. "Annual Nebraska Agriculture Statistics"
4. "Nebraska Crops and Weather Summary"
5. "Nebraska Agriculture County Profile"

Agency 18 - Department Of Agriculture Program 387 - Poultry Development

Program Objectives:

This division was created in 1976 to develop education, promotion, and/or appropriate research programs to enhance Nebraska's egg and turkey producers in developing and maintaining a prosperous industry. Targeted audiences include consumers, food service personnel, health professionals, educators, youth, and media. Quarterly board meetings are held with poultry representatives to address industry, program issues, and approve budgetary expenditures. The Nebraska Poultry and Egg Resources Act governs the mandatory checkoff and program activities to be performed.

Financial Data:

	Actual FY02	Approp FY03	Request FY04	Recom FY04	Request FY05	Recom FY05
General Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cash Fund	232,319	273,270	271,101	274,687	271,101	278,147
Federal Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Revolving Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	232,319	273,270	271,101	274,687	271,101	278,147

Performance Measures:

Develop and support education, promotion, and/or appropriate research programs to enhance Nebraska's egg and turkey producers in developing and maintaining a prosperous industry.

1. Target audiences of consumers, food service personnel, health professionals, educators, youth, and media through appropriate trade shows, recipe/nutrition/food safety news releases, radio/television promotional segments, extension office community programs, state fair, working in cooperation with other organizations (i.e., Nebraska Dietetics Association, and Nebraska Nurses Association).
2. Participate in appropriate national meetings to stay abreast of industry issues and coordinate state promotional activities with national efforts.
3. Monitor programs for effectiveness, if possible.
4. Provide leadership, support, and direction for Nebraska's poultry industry, for state and national benefits to egg and turkey producers.

Agency 18 - Department Of Agriculture Program 564 - Agricultural Development

Program Objectives:

The Agriculture Development Division administers the assets of the Rural Rehabilitation funds. The Federal Emergency Relief Act of 1933 and the Federal Emergency Relief Act of 1935 authorize monies to be given to states for relief activities - specifically to benefit agricultural areas. In the early 1970s, a model trust agreement allowing states the right to administer their own assets took effect. The purposes for which these assets could be used were specifically designated as agricultural. The USDA agreed to allow states to use these assets for rural rehabilitation purposes with the prior approval of USDA.

Financial Data:

	Actual FY02	Approp FY03	Request FY04	Recom FY04	Request FY05	Recom FY05
General Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cash Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Fund	186,726	637,699	250,761	253,138	250,799	255,294
Revolving Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	186,726	637,699	250,761	253,138	250,799	255,294

Performance Measures:

In addition to ongoing programs, solicit new program funding authorized under the USDA use agreement. With majority approval of the Rural Rehabilitation Advisory Committee, fund new activities through a Rural Rehabilitation mini-grant program or trust program. Seek to fund approximately three new programs each year from interest income earned, and keep fund principal in tack.