

Agency 18 - Department Of Agriculture

Statutory Authority:

Section 81-101 creates the Department of Agriculture as one of 14 departments under the Governor vested with administering laws of the state. There are 58 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 four 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 services to fulfill the mission of the Department.

Financial Data:

	Actual FY98	Approp FY99	Request FY00	Recom FY00	Request FY01	Recom FY01
General Fund	5,295,039	5,541,927	5,660,197	5,714,710	5,662,912	5,953,877
Cash Fund	3,717,327	4,842,752	4,727,296	4,783,558	4,742,666	4,910,600
Federal Fund	1,526,800	1,621,897	1,645,484	1,616,471	1,637,206	1,657,087
Revolving Fund	316,298	430,652	461,690	442,130	461,744	455,570
Other Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Agency	10,855,464	12,437,228	12,494,667	12,556,869	12,504,528	12,977,134

Agency 18 - Department Of Agriculture Program 027 - Administration

Program Objectives:

The supervision program provides leadership, direction, and supervision to the agency. Nine subprograms exist within this program that are supportive of advocacy activities or provide support services to all divisions within NDA. Emphasis is placed on providing the necessary tools and training to our staff with which to carry out the mission of the Department.

Financial Data:

	Actual FY98	Approp FY99	Request FY00	Recom FY00	Request FY01	Recom FY01
General Fund	1,274,553	1,331,330	1,355,294	1,372,087	1,356,765	1,424,852
Cash Fund	34,722	79,857	79,858	79,857	79,858	79,857
Federal Fund	145,456	218,480	187,273	188,298	187,294	189,553
Revolving Fund	316,298	430,652	461,690	442,130	461,744	455,570
Other Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Agency	1,771,029	2,060,319	2,084,115	2,082,372	2,085,661	2,149,832

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.

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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 32,000 devices, and verification of net content in over 649,000 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 percent would have an effect of \$35 million annually to the state's citizens, businesses, and industries.

Financial Data:

	Actual FY98	Approp FY99	Request FY00	Recom FY00	Request FY01	Recom FY01
General Fund	599,878	615,625	639,183	638,543	639,345	665,834
Cash Fund	500,105	521,197	544,489	538,647	544,627	559,730
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 Agency	1,099,983	1,136,822	1,183,672	1,177,190	1,183,972	1,225,564

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 32,000 commercial weighing and measuring devices.
- Weigh, measure, and inspect 649,000 prepackaged commodities to determine net quantity compliance.
- Maintain traceability of 3,900 primary and secondary standards of measurement to the National Institute of Standards and Technology.

Description	FY98 Actual	FY99 Current	FY00 Request	FY01 Request
Total Devices Registered	31,991	32,000	32,000	32,000
Total Inspections/Year	35,095	35,000	35,000	35,000
Devices Rejected/Year	2,625	3,000	3,000	3,000
Packages Inspected	49,697	55,000	60,000	65,000
Total Packages Affected/Year	649,544	800,000	900,000	1,000,000
None Compliance Rate	11.00%	12.00%	11.10%	11.20%
Laboratory Calibration/Year	3,812	3,700	3,750	3,750

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 FY98	Approp FY99	Request FY00	Recom FY00	Request FY01	Recom FY01
General Fund	538,059	555,639	599,319	599,234	599,530	628,480
Cash Fund	754,131	811,104	772,094	817,344	772,173	851,612
Federal Fund	12,524	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000
Revolving Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Agency	1,304,714	1,381,743	1,386,413	1,431,578	1,386,703	1,495,092

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 13 inspectors to inspect 5,723 food establishments throughout the state. There is a total of 8,943 food establishments, with the balance inspected by local health departments contracted by the Department. The dairy program utilizes 6 inspectors to inspect 770 producers, 196 haulers, and 69 milk processing plants, distributors, and receiving stations in the state.

Description	FY98 Actual	FY99 Current	FY00 Request	FY01 Request
Food inspections per year	14,995	15,315	16,261	16,369
Average no food inspections/inspect	1,260	1,276	1,251	1,259
Number of food permits at July 1	5,522	5,570	5,592	5,605
Frequency of food est inspections	2.7	2.7	2.9	2.9
Total dairy inspections per year	6,877	6,780	6,550	6,440
Average dairy inspection/inspector	1,146	1,130	1,092	1,073

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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 five separate laboratories: Livestock Disease Control Laboratory, Feed, Fertilizer and Ag Lime Laboratory, Residue Laboratory, Seed Laboratory, and Dairy and Food Laboratory.

Financial Data:

	Actual FY98	Approp FY99	Request FY00	Recom FY00	Request FY01	Recom FY01
General Fund	933,354	961,678	976,386	996,434	976,490	1,037,640
Cash Fund	524,506	550,829	551,486	566,016	564,317	584,692
Federal Fund	151,945	128,310	185,348	130,240	176,859	137,782
Revolving Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Agency	1,609,805	1,640,817	1,713,220	1,692,690	1,717,666	1,760,114

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	FY98 Actual	FY99 Current	FY00 Request	FY01 Request
Samples Analyzed				
Livestock Disease	874,312	857,000	857,000	857,000
Feed, Fertilizer and Ag Lime	3,736	3,680	3,680	3,680
Residue	285	430	430	430
Seed Lab	4,062	3,350	3,300	3,300
Dairy and Food	6,921	7,025	6,875	6,725

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. Animals and herds free of diseases such as tuberculosis and brucellosis are worth more in the marketplace.

Financial Data:

	Actual FY98	Approp FY99	Request FY00	Recom FY00	Request FY01	Recom FY01
General Fund	1,433,246	1,560,640	1,549,190	1,548,580	1,549,822	1,614,004
Cash Fund	532,767	600,000	569,344	569,609	569,344	569,833
Federal Fund	75,639	53,630	75,000	75,096	75,000	75,178
Revolving Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Agency	2,041,652	2,214,270	2,193,534	2,193,285	2,194,166	2,259,015

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	FY98 Actual	FY99 Current	FY00 Request	FY01 Request
Livestock Inspectors				
Market and Dealers	2,956	2,750	2,600	2,500
Pet Feed & Rendering Plant Inspections	296	275	275	275
Brucellosis	959	750	600	500
Tuberculosis	203	200	200	200
Cattle Scabies	64	60	60	60
Livestock Movement	1,763	2,000	2,000	2,000
Pseudorabies	1,876	1,500	1,000	750
Veterinarian Contacts	1,718	1,700	1,700	1,700
Miscellaneous Disease	2,102	2,500	3,000	3,000

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 FY98	Approp FY99	Request FY00	Recom FY00	Request FY01	Recom FY01
General Fund	365,067	362,626	386,341	400,427	386,469	417,414
Cash Fund	1,139,823	2,009,759	1,884,067	1,909,977	1,884,627	1,956,360
Federal Fund	955,032	824,130	820,858	844,211	820,945	871,797
Revolving Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Agency	2,459,922	3,196,515	3,091,266	3,154,615	3,092,041	3,245,571

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, 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.

Description	FY98 Actual	FY99 Current	FY00 Request	FY01 Request
Inspections:				
Grain Quality Inspections	102	138	160	175
Feed, Fertilizer, and Ag Lime	7,313	7,383	7,470	7,520
Pesticides	1,393	1,662	1,785	1,910
Entomology	5,280	4,246	4,992	5,116
Apiary	64	255	276	276
Noxious Weeds	3,497	3,547	3,582	3,582

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 1.5¢ 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 program works closely with the Potato Certification Association of Nebraska, National Potato Council, University of Nebraska, and Nebraska Department of Agriculture.

Financial Data:

	Actual FY98	Approp FY99	Request FY00	Recom FY00	Request FY01	Recom FY01
General Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cash Fund	62,797	72,969	115,040	101,868	116,800	104,245
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 Agency	62,797	72,969	115,040	101,868	116,800	104,245

Performance Measures:

The potato industry in the state is a \$35 million to \$40 million 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 FY98	Approp FY99	Request FY00	Recom FY00	Request FY01	Recom FY01
General Fund	150,882	154,389	154,484	159,405	154,491	165,653
Cash Fund	6,262	9,011	9,011	9,011	9,011	9,011
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 Agency	157,144	163,400	163,495	168,416	163,502	174,664

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"

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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 FY98	Approp FY99	Request FY00	Recom FY00	Request FY01	Recom FY01
General Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cash Fund	162,214	188,026	201,907	191,229	201,909	195,260
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 Agency	162,214	188,026	201,907	191,229	201,909	195,260

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.

Description	FY98 Actual	FY99 Current	FY00 Request	FY01 Request
Increase or maintain attendance @ NE Poultry Ind Annl Convention	320	335	350	365
Increase TV/Radio Egg/Turkey Promotional recipe spots to promote egg & turkey consumption	34	36	38	40
Egg radio advertising (in conjunction with American Egg Board I Love Eggs Campaign)	153,397 Impressions	738,000 Impressions	369,000 Impressions	450,000 Impressions

Agency 18 - Department Of Agriculture

Program 564 - Agricultural Development

Program Objectives:

The Ag 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 FY98	Approp FY99	Request FY00	Recom FY00	Request FY01	Recom FY01
General Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cash Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Fund	186,204	382,347	362,005	363,626	362,108	367,777
Revolving Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Agency	186,204	382,347	362,005	363,626	362,108	367,777

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 intact.