

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 1998 budget of \$9.8 million provides \$5.1 million for Animal Disease Control, Plant Pest and Disease Control, and Resource Development Services, and \$3.5 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.

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. According to Jersey Fresh tracking studies, regional awareness of promotional activities for Jersey Fresh farm products more than doubled in the last three years.

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 reduction in funding for the Production Efficiency Grant and Business Incentive Grant programs from \$3.9 million to \$1 million. These grants assist farmers, agribusinesses, and agricultural cooperatives with innovative economic development projects designed to improve operating efficiency.

Two new initiatives in fiscal 1998 are: \$50,000 to implement rules and training of agents representing the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals; and \$200,000 for marketing and development activities necessary to build a viable aquaculture industry as directed by the State Aquaculture Development Plan. Aquaculture is defined as "the farming of aquatic organisms, including fish, mollusks, crustaceans, and aquatic plants".

The Horse Park of New Jersey represents a unique public-private partnership. While the Department oversees the development of the Horse Park, a not-for-profit educational organization, entitled the Horse Park of New Jersey at Stone Tavern, Inc., provides for operations. The equine industry, private-not-for-profit groups, Park trustees and hundreds of volunteers contribute to many aspects of equine events.

In the aggregate, the Department of Agriculture's programs help keep the "Garden" in the Garden State as it enhances the economic viability of New Jersey's farmers and agribusinesses while offering its citizens a fresh and reliable food supply in addition to other environmental and aesthetic benefits.

SUMMARY OF APPROPRIATIONS BY PROGRAM  
(thousands of dollars)

Year Ending June 30, 1996					Year Ending June 30, 1998			
Orig. & (S)Supplemental	Reapp. & (R)Recpts.	Transfers & (E)Emergencies	Total Available	Expended	1997 Adjusted Approp.	Requested	Recommended	
815	57	110	982	980	<b>Agricultural Resources, Planning, and Regulation</b>			
1,773	184	-299	1,658	1,654	Animal Disease Control	861	906	906
1,356	100	176	1,632	1,618	Plant Pest and Disease Control	1,723	1,704	1,704
936	15	15	966	962	Resource Development Services	1,217	1,350	1,350
2,548	565	-49	3,064	2,738	Dairy and Commodity Regulation	782	778	778
1,470	12	-107	1,375	1,332	Marketing Services	2,442	2,438	2,438
					Management and Administrative Services	1,255	1,250	1,250
<b>8,898</b>	<b>933</b>	<b>-154</b>	<b>9,677</b>	<b>9,284</b>	<b>Total Appropriation</b>	<b>8,280</b>	<b>8,426</b>	<b>8,426</b>

# AGRICULTURE

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## 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.
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.
- The Department distributes grants to farmers and agribusinesses to promote economic development within the agricultural industry. Production Efficiency Grants assist individual farmers and Business Incentive Grants are given to agribusinesses and agricultural cooperatives to fund innovative projects. The amount for these grants in the FY 1998 budget was reduced from previous years in conjunction with the economic recovery of the agriculture industry.

#### 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.
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.** 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.

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.

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 1995	Actual FY 1996	Revised FY 1997	Budget Estimate FY 1998
<b>PROGRAM DATA</b>				
<b>Animal Disease Control</b>				
Industry Value (billions) .....	\$1.15	\$1.15	\$1.05	\$1.00
Regulatory Inspections and Field Testing .....	500	500	550	500
General, Special, and Other Laboratory Exams .....	15,000	16,000	17,000	16,000
<b>Plant Pest and Disease Control</b>				
Plant Pest Management:				
Municipalities treated for Gypsy Moth .....	9	28	22	28
Forest, residential, and recreational acres protected from gypsy moth .....	8,000	22,000	5,000	7,000
Nurseries and dealers certified free of plant pests .....	1,672	1,700	1,800	1,900
Nursery acreage certified free of plant pests .....	13,854	13,851	13,850	13,850
Biological Control of Plant Pests:				
Savings in costs of pesticides not applied .....	\$10,532,000	\$10,535,000	\$10,440,250	\$10,440,250
Savings in pounds of pesticide not applied .....	—	—	1,352,456	1,352,456
Forest and crop acreage stabilized biologically .....	871,456	871,475	871,475	871,475
<b>Resource Development Services</b>				
Soil and Water Conservation Programs:				
Land protected from soil erosion and sedimentation during development (acres) .....	17,905	19,629	21,000	22,000
Farm and developing lands requiring conservation treatment (acres) .....	565,000	550,000	550,000	525,000
Farmland Preservation:				
Acres of farmland under retention				
Eight year program .....	18,993	18,214	19,500	20,000
Deed restricted (permanently) .....	26,364	29,014	39,438	46,158
Production Efficiency Grant Program				
Grant Applications Processed .....	705	696	675	175
Grant Applications Awarded .....	663	667	651	165
Business Incentive Grant Program				
Grant Applications Awarded .....	10	15	6	2

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	Actual FY 1995	Actual FY 1996	Revised FY 1997	Budget Estimate FY 1998
<b>Dairy and Commodity Regulation</b>				
Income to dairy farmers .....	\$42,000,000	\$40,000,000	\$39,000,000	\$38,000,000
Income per dairy farmer .....	\$171,000	\$166,000	\$177,000	\$181,000
Complaints reviewed at dairy stores .....	3,200	3,200	3,500	3,500
Volume of produce graded for processing (lbs.) .....	27,058,000	36,776,000	32,922,000	35,000,000
Producers requesting "Jersey Fresh" quality grading .....	113	179	200	200
Volume graded for Jersey Fresh (lbs.) .....	23,617,000	34,000,000	35,000,000	40,000,000
Volume of fish and products graded at wholesale (lbs.) .....	10,942,000	11,331,000	12,000,000	14,000,000
<b>Marketing Services</b>				
Cash receipts for farm products (millions) .....	\$773	\$760	\$706	\$770
Chain stores featuring New Jersey agricultural products .....	20	20	20	27
Individual store outlets featuring New Jersey agricultural products .....	1,350	1,425	1,500	2,100
Foreign export sales (millions) .....	\$102	\$110	\$115	\$195
Racing mares bred .....	2,480	2,081	2,000	2,000
<b>Commodity Distribution</b>				
Recipients				
School students (nine month average) .....	487,500	473,000	480,000	490,000
Temporary emergency food assistance recipients .....	525,000	225,000	230,000	250,000
Market value of food distributed (millions)				
School lunch (a) .....	\$15	\$15	\$16	\$16
Temporary emergency food assistance .....	\$4	\$1	\$2	\$3
Pounds of food distributed (millions)				
School lunch .....	28	22	26	28
Temporary emergency food assistance .....	6	3	6	7
<b>PERSONNEL DATA</b>				
<b>Affirmative Action Data</b>				
Male Minority .....	22	21	20	20
Male Minority % .....	10	10	9	9
Female Minority .....	20	19	20	21
Female Minority % .....	9	9	9	10
Total Minority .....	42	40	40	41
Total Minority % .....	20	19	19	19
<b>Position Data</b>				
Filled Positions by Funding Source				
State Supported .....	139	138	145	148
Federal .....	10	12	10	11
All Other .....	51	54	51	49
Total Positions .....	200	204	206	208
Filled Positions by Program Class				
Animal Disease Control .....	18	18	19	20
Plant Pest and Disease Control .....	38	35	35	37
Resource Development Services .....	28	34	35	35
Dairy and Commodity Regulation .....	38	40	39	37
Marketing Services .....	27	27	26	27
Commodity Distribution .....	20	21	21	22
Management and Administration .....	31	29	31	30
Total Positions .....	200	204	206	208

Notes: Actual Fiscal Years 1995 and 1996 and Revised Fiscal Year 1997 position data reflect actual payroll counts. The Budget Estimate for Fiscal Year 1998 reflects the number of positions funded.

(a) Includes foods processed.

APPROPRIATIONS DATA  
(thousands of dollars)

Year Ending June 30, 1996					Year Ending June 30, 1998				
Orig. & (S) Supplemental	Reapp. & (R) Recpts.	Transfers & (E) Emergencies	Total Available	Expended	Prog. Class.	1997 Adjusted Approp.	Requested	Recommended	
<b>Distribution by Program</b>									
815	57	110	982	980	01	861	906	906	
1,773	184	-299	1,658	1,654	02	1,723	1,704	1,704	
1,356	100	176	1,632	1,618	03	1,217	1,350	1,350	
936	15	15	966	962	04	782	778	778	
2,548	565	-49	3,064	2,738	06	2,442	2,438	2,438	
<u>1,470</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>-107</u>	<u>1,375</u>	<u>1,332</u>	99	<u>1,255</u>	<u>1,250</u>	<u>1,250</u>	
<b>8,898</b>	<b>933</b>	<b>-154</b>	<b>9,677</b>	<b>9,284</b>		<b>8,280<sup>(a)</sup></b>	<b>8,426</b>	<b>8,426</b>	
<b>Distribution by Object</b>									
Personal Services:									
<u>4,657</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>1,214</u>	<u>5,871</u>	<u>5,870</u>		<u>5,333</u>	<u>5,324</u>	<u>5,324</u>	
4,657	—	1,214	5,871	5,870		5,333	5,324	5,324	
148	3	24	175	163		213	198	198	
325	11	38	374	369		379	432	432	
300	—	-126	174	174		324	257	257	
Special Purpose:									
—	56 <sup>R</sup>	-56	—	—	01	—	—	—	
—	—	—	—	—	01	—	50	50	
—	22 <sup>R</sup>	-22	—	—	02	—	—	—	
—	151 <sup>R</sup>	-151	—	—	02	—	—	—	
650	8 <sup>R</sup>	-590	68	67	02	— <sup>(b)</sup>	—	—	
126	—	-72	54	46	03	—	—	—	
100	—	-65	35	34	03	100	100	100	
114	—	-6	108	108	03	40	40	40	
275	—	-275	—	—	03	— <sup>(b)</sup>	—	—	
100	—	-34	66	66	03	100	100	100	
—	—	—	—	—	03	—	200	200	
100	—	—	100	100	03	100	100	100	
45	—	-19	26	26	03	45	45	45	
—	100 <sup>R</sup>	—	100	100	03	—	—	—	
—	—	—	—	—	03	65	—	—	
—	15 <sup>R</sup>	-15	—	—	04	—	—	—	
1,266	543	-5	1,804	1,493	06	1,166	1,166	1,166	
175	—	-11	164	164	06	— <sup>(b)</sup>	—	—	
30	—	—	—	—	06	30	30	30	
2 <sup>S</sup>	—	—	32	32	06	338	338	338	
338	—	—	338	338	06	—	—	—	
18	—	—	18	17	99	18	18	18	

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Year Ending June 30, 1996					Year Ending June 30, 1998				
Orig. & (S)Supplemental	Reapp. & (R)Recpts.	Transfers & (E)Emergencies	Total Available	Expended	Prog. Class.	1997 Adjusted Approp.	Requested	Recommended	
28	—	—	28	28	Affirmative Action and Equal Employment Opportunity	99	28	28	
3,367	895	-1,321	2,941	2,619	Total Special Purpose	2,030	2,215	2,215	
101	24	17	142	89	Additions, Improvements and Equipment	1	—	—	
<b>OTHER RELATED APPROPRIATIONS</b>									
6,214	—	84	6,298	5,774	Total Grants-in-Aid	4,394	1,408	1,408	
—	36	—	36	28	Total Capital Construction	—	415	415	
15,112	969	-70	16,011	15,086	Total General Fund	12,674	10,249	10,249	
<b>Federal Funds</b>									
18	—	—	18	18	Animal Disease Control	01	18	18	
155	—	—	155	155	Plant Pest and Disease Control	02	633	428	
78 <sup>S</sup>	52	—	285	237	Resource Development Services	03	—	—	
—	74	—	74	74	Dairy and Commodity Regulation	04	103	117	
139	30	—	169	123	Marketing Services	06	8	8	
8	—	—	8	8	Commodity Distribution	07	1,019	1,210	
1,060	369	—	1,429	630	Total Federal Funds	1,781	1,781	1,781	
1,458	525	—	1,983	1,090					
<b>All Other Funds</b>									
—	137	—	137	137	Plant Pest and Disease Control	02	7	19	
—	44 <sup>R</sup>	—	44	44	Resource Development Services	03	—	71	
—	14	19	102	57	Dairy and Commodity Regulation	04	824	860	
—	69 <sup>R</sup>	—	69	69	Marketing Services	06	7,438	7,230	
—	171	—	1,279	1,031	Commodity Distribution	07	1,511	1,512	
—	1,108 <sup>R</sup>	—	1,279	1,031	Administrative Costs	08	794	894	
—	3,290	249	9,844	6,361	Management and Administrative Services	99	—	—	
—	6,305 <sup>R</sup>	—	6,305	6,305	Total All Other Funds	10,574	10,586	10,586	
—	1,046	—	1,046	1,046	GRAND TOTAL	25,029	22,616	22,616	
—	1,580 <sup>R</sup>	—	1,580	1,580					
—	618 <sup>R</sup>	—	618	618					
—	37	11	48	10					
—	14,419	279	14,698	9,839					
16,570	15,913	209	32,692	26,015					

Notes: (a) The fiscal 1997 appropriation has been adjusted for the allocation of salary program and has been reduced to reflect the transfer of funds to the Employee Benefits and Salary Increases and Other Benefits accounts.  
 (b) The fiscal year 1997 appropriation and the fiscal year 1998 request and recommendation data have been distributed to applicable operating accounts.

## LANGUAGE RECOMMENDATIONS

Receipts from laboratory test fees are appropriated to support the Animal Health Laboratory program.  
 Receipts from the sale or studies of Beneficial Insects are appropriated to support the Beneficial Insect Laboratory.  
 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.  
 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.

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, 1997 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.

8,898	933	–154	9,677	9,284	<b>Total Appropriation, Department of Agriculture</b>	8,280	8,426	8,426
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