
AGENCY OVERVIEW

616 STATE SEED DEPARTMENT

Date: 12/13/2006

Time: 07:16:28

STATUTORY AUTHORITY

North Dakota Century Code Chapters 4-09, 4-10, 4-11, 4-25, 4-26 and 4-42.

AGENCY DESCRIPTION

The North Dakota State Seed Department (NDSSD) provides services to the North Dakota agricultural industry and concentrates its activities in enforcement of seed laws, certification, promotion and marketing of field seeds and potatoes. A nine-member Seed Commission, who represents the agricultural industries using the department services, serves as the board of directors. This board establishes policy, approves major program changes recommended by administration, appoints a manager and approves budgets. The department employs 30 full-time and 40-50 temporary and part-time staff in Fargo, at its regional office in Grafton, and throughout the state on a seasonal basis. The Seed Department is a self-funded agency of the State with revenues generated by service fees. All funding for the department's programs is derived from the services it performs.

The department operates four primary programs as part of its role in North Dakota agriculture. Managers in each program area lead teams of trained staff who perform the administrative, inspection, testing and regulatory functions of the Department. The four major programs include:

Seed Regulatory Program - Fulfills the state's obligation for enforcement of state and federal seed laws. This program is responsible to ensure that seed is properly labeled for the purchaser. It involves sampling and testing seed lots, performing field grow outs for varietal identification, investigating complaints, administering a seed permit system, and educating the industry on state and federal seed laws. This program area also enforces the Plant Variety Protection Act, and acts in cooperation with public institutions and private companies to ensure integrity of protected varieties and adherence to intellectual property rights law.

Potato Program - Provides service to the potato industry with the inspection of seed fields, and provides Federal/State shipping point inspection at potato warehouses and processing plants.

Field Seeds Program - Provides field inspection and certification services on over 300,000 acres and 7.0 million bushels of northern grown seed crops each year.

Laboratory Services Program - Incorporates recent technology in traditional and newly developed testing practices.

AGENCY MISSION

To assure integrity of the seed industry through a commitment to client service and product quality"

AGENCY PERFORMANCE MEASURES

Biennial audit.

Planned: Biennial satisfaction/needs survey of customers in all program service areas.

Acres applied for certification

Bushels/Lbs. of seed final certified upon lab analysis

*Both areas are jointly dependent on industry factors and agency performance.

Annual AOSCA compliance audit

Ring/Referee tests: Validation tests performed cooperatively with accredited laboratories nationwide. NDSSD participates in referee tests in both Seed and Diagnostic labs, validating the expertise in each area.

Professional development: Accreditation of individual staff in Certified and/or Registered Seed Technologist categories (among other accreditation programs at national level). Professional and laboratory accreditations are granted through a process of proficiency testing and auditing.

USDA/other federal program accreditations: Testing laboratories are provided opportunity to comply with standards developed by the federal government to prove service quality (see above). Accredited laboratories are listed for use in certain federal testing schemes, often on issues of quarantined pests that affect entire industry segments (ex. Karnal Bunt, Potato Mop Top Virus).

Cwt. of seed and commercial potatoes provided shipping point (grade) inspections.
Lbs. of seed produced and sold through NDSSD Potato Seedstocks enterprise area.
*All areas are jointly dependent on industry factors and agency performance

Number of seed samples procured and tested.
Number of seed samples found out of compliance with state and federal seed laws.
*This area also provides an indication of the success of Field Seed program certification efforts.
Number of complaints related to seed performance and quality.

MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Maintained financial stability during the past decade, despite adverse circumstances in the agriculture economy.
- Completed, and annually reviewed, a strategic planning process that will guide agency program development over next 5-10 year period.
- Introduced web-based information systems in a secure on-line form designed to provide inspection results to producers and seed companies quickly and reliably. An on-line application for services is being integrated.
- Expanded laboratory test services in response to industry demands, including those related to specific GM events and crop diseases common to this region.
- Experienced expansion in production and sale of nuclear seed stocks developed in our tissue culture and greenhouse facilities.
- Developed and received USDA-APHIS accreditation for a Ring Rot testing laboratory enterprise situated in the Grafton office. The lab accreditation was pursued to assist in meeting goals associated with 2005 legislation passed to protect ND producers from pests such as ring-rot entering the state through interstate or international trade.
- Received accreditation and licensing to issue phytosanitary certificates in potato program, in cooperation with NDDA who is the state's designated authority for APHIS phyto issues.
- Initiated the integration of key components of International Standards Organization (ISO) quality programs in the Field Seed, Regulatory and Laboratory Services programs.
- Improved and expanded research fee collection programs in collaboration with public universities and private companies to help entities maintain funding streams associated with variety development.

FUTURE CRITICAL ISSUES

Other than a reduction in IT plan costs and IT equipment over \$10,000 offset by an increase in laboratory equipment over \$10,000, this budget is a request for the same funding as the 2005-2007 biennium.

Budgeted costs for salaries, operating expenses, equipment, extraordinary repairs and grants are the amounts required to continue operating programs at a quality level.

All budgeted amounts are funded with Special Funds generated from fees for services.

REQUEST SUMMARY

616 STATE SEED DEPARTMENT

Biennium: 2007-2009

Bill#: HB 1022

Date: 12/13/2006

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Description	Expenditures 2003-2005 Biennium	Present Budget 2005-2007	Budget Request Change	Requested Budget 2007-2009 Biennium	Optional Budget Request
BY MAJOR PROGRAM					
ADMINISTRATION	122,389	631,258	0	631,258	0
SEED REGULATORY PROGRAM	356,766	605,198	0	605,198	0
POTATO PROGRAM	1,404,498	1,874,524	0	1,874,524	0
FIELD SEEDS	1,098,444	1,671,924	0	1,671,924	0
LAB SERVICES	937,705	1,150,487	0	1,150,487	0
TOTAL MAJOR PROGRAMS	3,919,802	5,933,391	0	5,933,391	0
BY LINE ITEM					
GRANTS	0	0	0	0	0
SEED OPERATIONS	3,919,802	5,933,391	0	5,933,391	0
TOTAL LINE ITEMS	3,919,802	5,933,391	0	5,933,391	0
BY FUNDING SOURCE					
GENERAL FUND	0	0	0	0	0
FEDERAL FUNDS	0	0	0	0	0
SPECIAL FUNDS	3,919,802	5,933,391	0	5,933,391	0
TOTAL FUNDING SOURCE	3,919,802	5,933,391	0	5,933,391	0
TOTAL FTE	32.00	30.00	.00	30.00	.00

REQUEST DETAIL

Date: 12/13/2006

616 STATE SEED DEPARTMENT

Bill#: HB 1022

Time: 07:16:28

Biennium: 2007-2009

Description	Expenditures 2003-2005 Biennium	Present Budget 2005-2007	Budget Request Change	Requested Budget 2007-2009 Biennium	Optional Budget Request
GRANTS					
GRANTS, BENEFITS & CLAIMS	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	0	0	0	0	0
SPECIAL LINES					
SEED OPERATIONS	3,919,802	5,933,391	0	5,933,391	0
TOTAL	3,919,802	5,933,391	10,000	5,933,391	0
SPECIAL LINES					
GENERAL FUND	0	0	0	0	0
FEDERAL FUNDS	0	0	0	0	0
SPECIAL FUNDS	3,919,802	5,933,391	0	5,933,391	0
TOTAL	3,919,802	5,933,391	0	5,933,391	0
FUNDING SOURCES					
GENERAL FUND	0	0	0	0	0
FEDERAL FUNDS	0	0	0	0	0
SPECIAL FUNDS	3,919,802	5,933,391	0	5,933,391	0
TOTAL FUNDING SOURCES	3,919,802	5,933,391	0	5,933,391	0

CHANGE PACKAGE SUMMARY

616 STATE SEED DEPARTMENT

Biennium: 2007-2009

Bill#: HB 1022

Date: 12/13/2006

Time: 07:16:28

Description	FTE	General Fund	Federal Funds	Special Funds	Total Funds
AGENCY BUDGET CHANGES					
Cost To Continue	.00	0	0	-130,000	-130,000
1 Change only for budget subschedules	.00	0	0	100,000	100,000
2 Additional Equipment over 5000	.00	0	0	40,000	40,000
3 Decrease in IT Plan	.00	0	0	-10,000	-10,000
Agency Total	.00	0	0	0	0

BUDGET CHANGES NARRATIVE

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Change Group: A	Change Type: A	Change No: 1	Priority: 2
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Change only for budget subschedules - Change reflects costs for supporting subschedules

Change package exists only for the facilitation of agreement to budget subschedules.

Change Group: A	Change Type: A	Change No: 2	Priority: 1
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Additional Equipment over 5000 - Increase in appropriations for laboratory equipment to replace dated equipment as well as purchase new equipment required by changing technology.

Appropriations for updated laboratory equipment in both the seed and diagnostic laboratories are requested to maintain standards in the industry and stay competitive with technological advances.

Change Group: A	Change Type: A	Change No: 3	Priority: 3
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Decrease in IT Plan - Decrease in IT plan expenses.

We are reflecting a decrease in IT plan expenses due to updates in 2005-2007.