

# Budget Brief – Department of Agriculture and Food

NUMBER: NRAS-BB-08-20

## SUMMARY

The Department of Agriculture and Food (DAF) is responsible for the administration of Utah’s agricultural laws, which mandate a wide variety of activities including inspection, regulation, information, rulemaking, loan issuance, marketing and development, pest and disease control, improving the economic position of agriculture, and consumer protection. Though not a part of DAF, the Utah State Fair Corporation has been included as a line item in DAF’s budget since FY 2003. For detailed information on DAF, please see [Compendium of Budget Information for the 2008 General Session](#), pages 135-173.

## ISSUES AND RECOMMENDATIONS

### *Re-allocation of General Funds*

The 2005 Legislature provided an ongoing appropriation of \$329,300 from the General Fund for mosquito abatement. The Department has passed on to local Mosquito Abatement Districts on average \$146,700 (45%) per year, and have indicated that this is sufficient to cover the needs of these districts. The Analyst recommends the Subcommittee make the following re-allocations of General Funds from the General Administration Program and fund other Subcommittee priorities:

- A one-time \$182,600 for FY 2008
- An ongoing \$182,600 for FY 2009.

### *Utah’s Own Promotion*

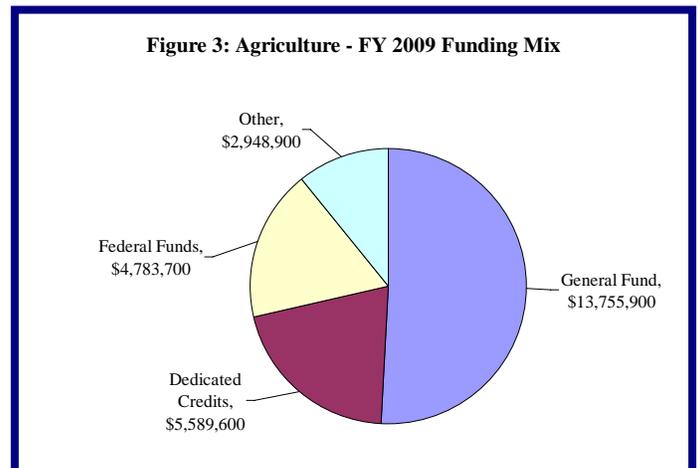
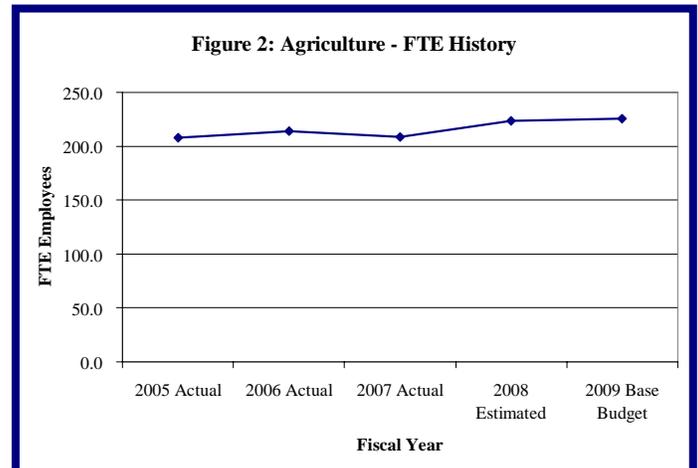
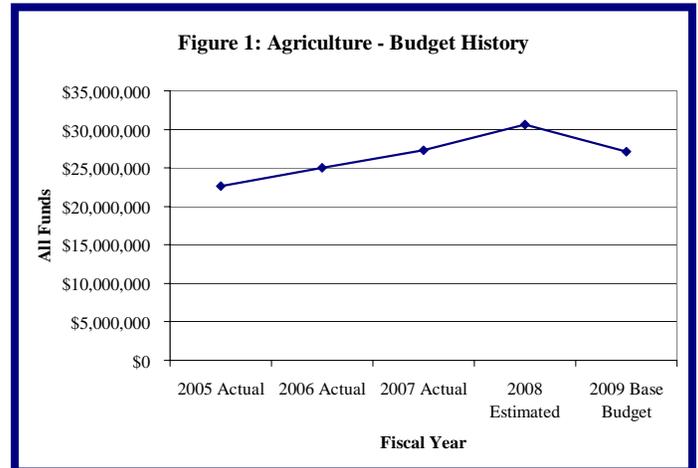
The Utah’s Own program was funded with one time appropriations of \$400,000 in FY 2006 and \$125,000 in FY 2008. The Analyst recommends the Subcommittee place on the priority list a request for one-time appropriation of \$250,000 from the General Fund.

### *Emergency Reseeding*

The Department is requesting for FY 2008 a supplemental appropriation of \$2,500,000 from the General Fund to cover the emergency stabilization and rehabilitation of over 700,000 acres of public and private lands burned in the summer of 2007. This funding is included in Senate Bill 1, 2008 General Session.

### *Japanese Beetle*

Japanese beetles were discovered in the Orem City area in 2006. In response, the Department formed a team of experts from the USDA, the USU Extension, Utah



County Health Department, as well as representatives from Orem City and Utah County. The team determined that the only method for total eradication was chemical treatment of the area. In 2007 they treated 480 acres and spent approximately \$400,000, which the Department paid from its non-lapsing reserve. It is anticipated that the total eradication of the Japanese beetles will require three years of treatment. The Department is requesting for FY 2008 a supplemental appropriation of \$200,000 from the General Fund. The Analyst recommends the Subcommittee place this request on the priority list.

### ***Chemistry Staff and Operating Increases***

The Chemistry/Dairy Laboratory is requesting funding to meet the increased workload mandated by meat pathogen testing and the new raw milk law. In addition, the costs for performing laboratory tests have also increased. The Analyst recommends the Subcommittee place on the priority list a request for ongoing appropriation of \$100,000 from the General Fund. The funding will be used to hire a microbiologist/chemist and to cover costs for additional testing.

### ***Bedding & Upholstery FTE***

There have been no staff increases for the Bedding, Quilted Clothing and Upholstered Furniture Program since 1991, while the workload has increased significantly since that time. The Department is requesting additional funding to hire one new employee. This request is intended to be funded by the increase in license fees collected by this program. The Analyst recommends the Subcommittee provide for FY 2009 the following funding from Dedicated Credits:

- \$17,000 one time appropriation for the purchase of a vehicle and a computer
- \$37,000 ongoing appropriation for the compensation of the new employee and current expenses.

## **BUDGET DETAIL**

### ***Budget Recommendation***

The Analyst recommends for the Department of Agriculture and Food for FY 2009 a base budget appropriation of \$27,078,100, with \$ 13,755,900 from the General Fund (see Budget Detail Table).

At this time the Executive Appropriations Committee (EAC) has not allocated any General Funds beyond the agencies' base budgets. The Analyst recommends the Appropriations Subcommittee consider the Analyst's recommendations in the Issues and Recommendations section of this Budget Brief and develop a funding priority list for the EAC.

None of the requests for funding increase are built in the tables and charts of this Budget Brief.

***Intent Language***

*It is the intent of the Legislature that the appropriation for conservation easements, whether granted to charitable organizations specified under UCA 57-18-3 or held by the Department of Agriculture & Food, be used to conserve agricultural lands and be nonlapsing.*

*Under terms of Section 63-38-8 Utah Code Annotated the Legislature intends that up to \$1,900,000 for the Plant Industry Program, provided by item 203 of Senate Bill 1, 2008 General Session not lapse at the close of fiscal year 2009.*

*Under terms of Section 63-38-8 Utah Code Annotated the Legislature intends that up to \$3,000,000 for the Regulatory Services Program, provided by item 203 of Senate Bill 1, 2008 General Session not lapse at the close of fiscal year 2009.*

*Under terms of Section 63-38-8 Utah Code Annotated the Legislature intends that up to \$600,000 for the Marketing and Development Program, provided by item 203 of Senate Bill 1, 2008 General Session not lapse at the close of fiscal year 2009.*

*Under terms of Section 63-38-8 Utah Code Annotated the Legislature intends that up to \$3,900,000 for the Utah State Fair Corporation, provided by item 205 of Senate Bill 1, 2008 General Session not lapse at the close of fiscal year 2009.*

*Under terms of Section 63-38-8 Utah Code Annotated the Legislature intends that up to \$1,300,000 for the Predatory Animal Control Program, provided by item 206 of Senate Bill 1, 2008 General Session not lapse at the close of fiscal year 2009.*

*It is the intent of the Legislature that funding approved for Soil Conservation District elections be nonlapsing and be spent only during even-numbered years when elections take place.*

*It is the intent of the Legislature that the Soil Conservation Districts submit annual reports documenting supervisory expenses to the Legislative Fiscal Analyst, the Office of Planning and Budget, and the Soil Conservation Commission. It is also the intent of the Legislature that these documents be reviewed and reported to the Governor and the Legislature.*

*Under terms of Section 63-38-8 Utah Code Annotated the Legislature intends that up to \$1,300,000 for the Resource Conservation Program, provided by item 207 of Senate Bill 1, 2008 General Session not lapse at the close of fiscal year 2009.*

**BUDGET DETAIL TABLE**

<b>Agriculture</b>						
	<b>FY 2007</b>	<b>FY 2008</b>		<b>FY 2008</b>		<b>FY 2009*</b>
<b>Sources of Finance</b>	<b>Actual</b>	<b>Appropriated</b>	<b>Changes</b>	<b>Revised</b>	<b>Changes</b>	<b>Base Budget</b>
General Fund	12,858,200	13,755,900	0	13,755,900	0	13,755,900
General Fund, One-time	678,400	145,000	0	145,000	(145,000)	0
Federal Funds	5,120,300	5,063,200	168,600	5,231,800	(448,100)	4,783,700
Dedicated Credits Revenue	5,204,200	5,589,600	0	5,589,600	0	5,589,600
GFR - Horse Racing	50,000	50,000	0	50,000	0	50,000
GFR - Livestock Brand	916,200	877,000	0	877,000	0	877,000
GFR - Wildlife Damage Prev	611,800	633,900	0	633,900	0	633,900
Agri Resource Development	629,400	804,400	0	804,400	0	804,400
Utah Rural Rehab Loan	18,000	63,000	0	63,000	0	63,000
Transfers	1,760,900	657,100	0	657,100	19,000	676,100
Pass-through	155,300	0	0	0	0	0
Beginning Nonlapsing	3,472,500	569,200	2,829,200	3,398,400	(2,829,200)	569,200
Closing Nonlapsing	(3,426,000)	(717,300)	116,200	(601,100)	(123,600)	(724,700)
Lapsing Balance	(721,600)	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$27,327,600</b>	<b>\$27,491,000</b>	<b>\$3,114,000</b>	<b>\$30,605,000</b>	<b>(\$3,526,900)</b>	<b>\$27,078,100</b>
<b>Line Items</b>						
Administration	19,569,900	19,867,600	2,884,800	22,752,400	(3,309,300)	19,443,100
Building Operations	270,000	270,000	0	270,000	0	270,000
Utah State Fair Corporation	4,244,500	3,907,300	(4,600)	3,902,700	4,600	3,907,300
Predatory Animal Control	1,533,300	1,336,200	232,500	1,568,700	(213,500)	1,355,200
Resource Conservation	1,423,300	1,575,800	1,300	1,577,100	(8,700)	1,568,400
Loans	286,600	534,100	0	534,100	0	534,100
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$27,327,600</b>	<b>\$27,491,000</b>	<b>\$3,114,000</b>	<b>\$30,605,000</b>	<b>(\$3,526,900)</b>	<b>\$27,078,100</b>
<b>Categories of Expenditure</b>						
Personal Services	12,696,600	14,256,400	130,800	14,387,200	(258,200)	14,129,000
In-State Travel	365,800	451,800	29,900	481,700	(24,400)	457,300
Out of State Travel	121,100	141,000	(6,800)	134,200	(4,200)	130,000
Current Expense	2,706,300	3,012,500	(256,800)	2,755,700	(269,500)	2,486,200
DP Current Expense	672,900	431,900	121,000	552,900	(107,100)	445,800
DP Capital Outlay	37,900	0	0	0	0	0
Capital Outlay	508,700	42,000	352,100	394,100	(352,100)	42,000
Other Charges/Pass Thru	10,218,300	9,155,400	2,743,800	11,899,200	(2,511,400)	9,387,800
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$27,327,600</b>	<b>\$27,491,000</b>	<b>\$3,114,000</b>	<b>\$30,605,000</b>	<b>(\$3,526,900)</b>	<b>\$27,078,100</b>
<b>Other Data</b>						
Budgeted FTE	208.6	223.1	0.4	223.5	2.0	225.5
Vehicles	112.0	109.0	3.0	112.0	0.0	112.0

\*Does not include amounts in excess of subcommittee's state fund allocation that may be recommended by the Fiscal Analyst.