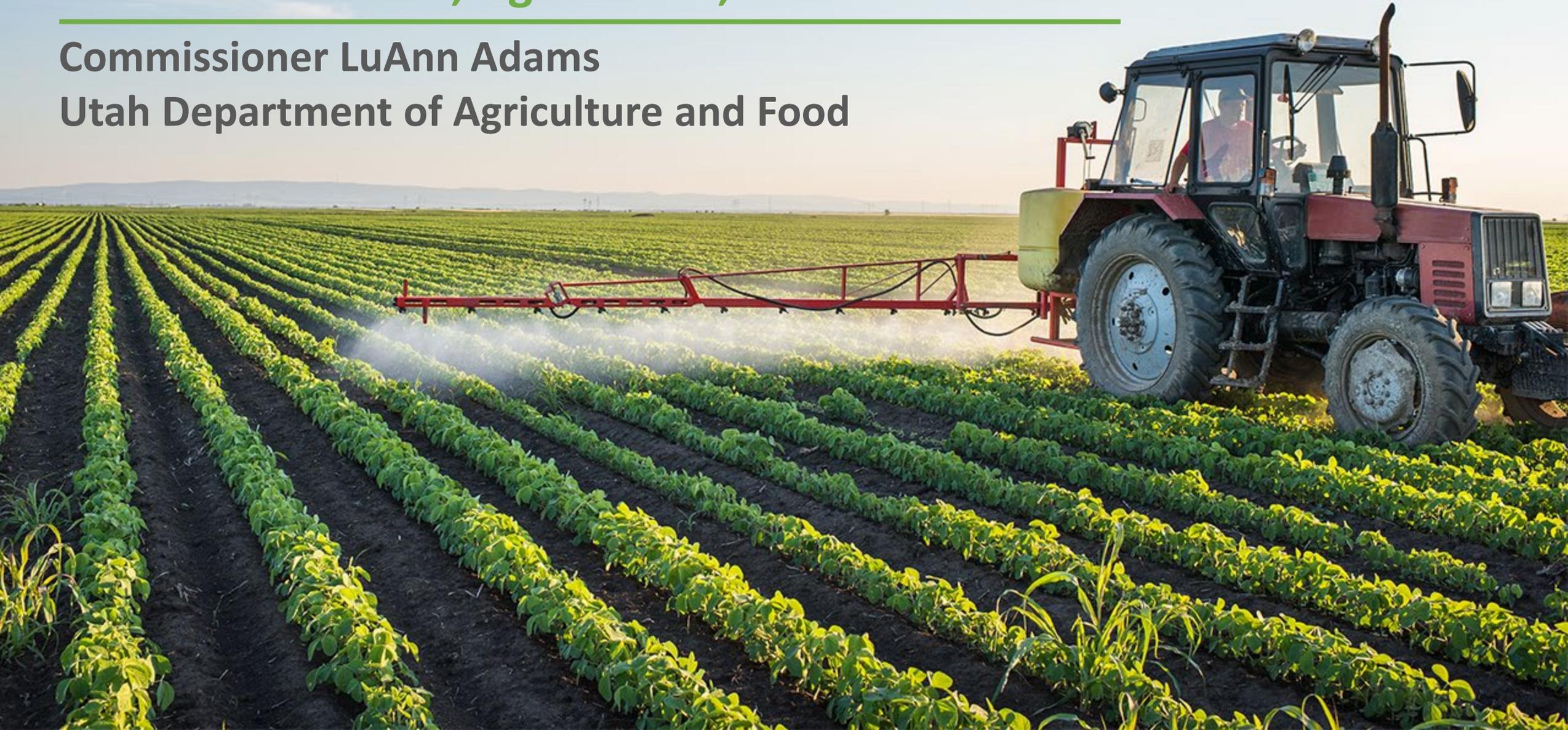


Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Environment

Commissioner LuAnn Adams

Utah Department of Agriculture and Food



1

Why Utah Agriculture Matters





Economic Impact of Agriculture in Utah



Accounts for 15.1% of the state's total economic output



Generates \$21.2 billion annually



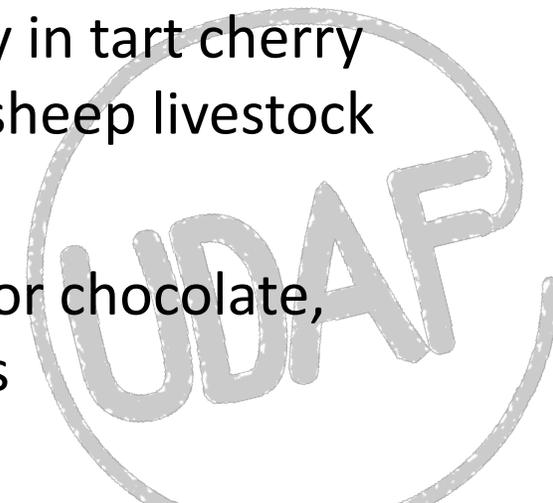
Employs nearly 80,000 – 4 times larger than Utah's largest employer



Utah ranks 2nd in the country in tart cherry and wool production; 5th in sheep livestock and safflower production



Utah recognized nationally for chocolate, cheese industries, distilleries



2

Wildlife Services Predator Animal Control





Predator Animal Control Program



UDAF wildlife services protect livestock from depredation caused by predators



Predators: Coyotes, Cougars, Bears, Ravens



Threatened Animals: Livestock (sheep, cattle), and wildlife (deer, sage grouse, bighorn sheep, and more)





The Daunting Task of Predator Animal Control



Predator control coverage areas are vast – one area is over 2200 square miles; only one trapper per 20 producers



Without program, calf and lamb loss estimated at 5x current rate



Growing costs for control services; Attacks on the rise





Why Predator Animal Control Matters



Many predators are state-managed wildlife



Predators are like any other threat to livelihood and assets of Utah businesses



State has responsibility to protect Utah businesses from ANY threats, including wildlife





Predator Animal Control Funding Request



Current funding partnership sources: State, federal government, and individual producers



Requesting \$120,000 one-time funding



Requesting \$300,000 on-going funding



Funding Impact:

- Reduced loss to producers
- Smaller districts (additional employees)
- Better technology
- Reduced risk management issues (volunteers)



3

Water Efficiency





Critical Nature of Water Efficiency



As the second driest state, water has always been a concern in Utah



Population growth and climate uncertainty in the last decade have escalated the issue



Policies promoting effective water efficiency strategies deserve careful consideration



Because agriculture relies on a significant supply of water, it also represents the greatest opportunity to conserve





Water Efficiency Funding Request



UDAF is requesting \$15 million in general fund appropriations for grant to fund water improvement projects

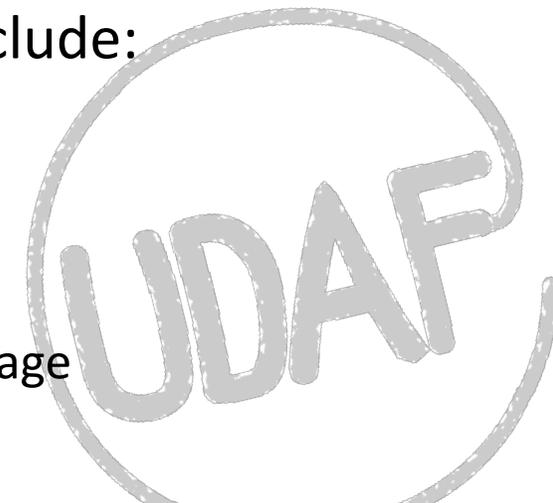


The Utah Conservation Commission would oversee disbursement, creating an appropriate approval and ranking procedure



Examples of water projects include:

- Drill wells
- Streambed Restorations
- Aquifer Recharge
- Canal Safety
- Irrigation Piping, Lining, and Storage



4

Cannabis Program

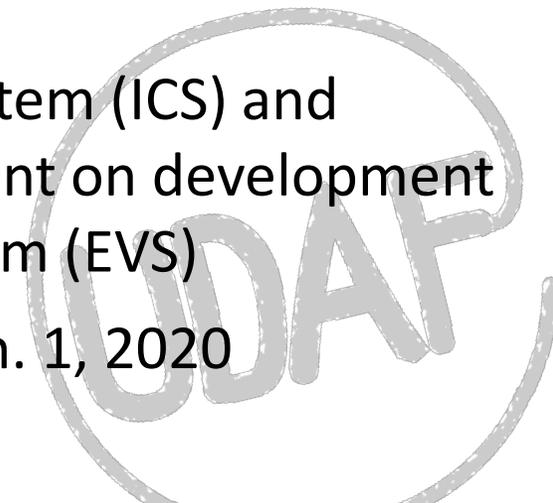




Cannabis Program Responsibilities



- ➔ Ensure public safety through licensing and inspection oversight of cultivation, transportation, processing, and testing
- ➔ Undergo a thorough rule making process
- ➔ Hire a team of qualified and skilled personnel
- ➔ Oversee Inventory Control System (ICS) and Partner with Health Department on development of Electronic Verification System (EVS)
- ➔ Meet statutory deadline of Jan. 1, 2020 establishment licensing





Cannabis Program Presently



Working with AG's Office to develop program outline that explicitly follows statute



Hiring key personnel



Meeting with stakeholders and groups



Writing rules and developing inspection and testing protocols



Working with Department of Health to identify key components of Electronic Verification System





Cannabis Program Funding Request



No funding came with the bill that passed in the December Special Session

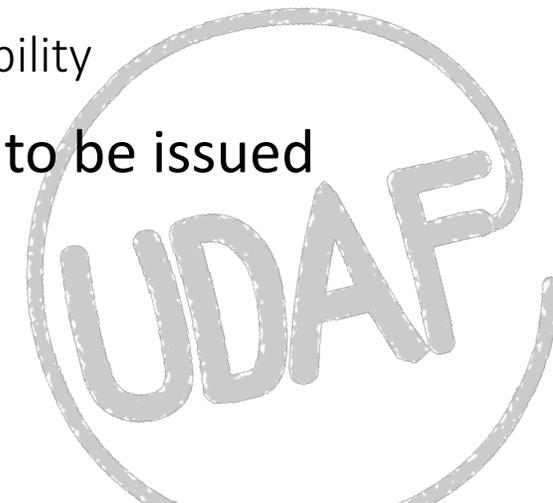


Program management costs

- Staffing salaries, benefits for eight personnel
- Office facility and equipment
- Testing and licensing
- Inventory Control System capability



47 Weeks until licenses need to be issued



5

UDAF Computer System





New Computer System Project - Rebooting



Antiquated Access System; New contract awarded but within three months fell apart in 44 states



Contract canceled - starting over



The system provides critical data about inspections UDAF cannot report on without it



Seeking to continue funding with dedicated credits

