Department 602 - Agriculture Department House Bill No. 1009

2001-03 Schafer Executive Budget	FTE Positions 55.50	General Fund \$4,640,283	Other Funds \$6,638,291	Total \$11,278,574
1999-2001 Legislative Appropriations	55.50	4,479,271	4,596,441	9,075,7121
Increase (Decrease)	0.00	\$161,012	\$2,041,850	\$2,202,862
2001-03 Hoeven Executive Budget	55.50	\$4,440,283	\$6,838,291	\$11,278,574
Hoeven Increase (Decrease) to Schafer	0.00	(\$200,000)	\$200,000	\$0

¹The 1999-2001 appropriation amounts include \$27,134, \$17,909 of which is from the general fund, for the agency's share of the \$5.4 million funding pool appropriated to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for special market equity adjustments for classified employees. The 1999-2001 appropriation amounts do not include \$462,825 of additional spending authority resulting from Emergency Commission action during the 1999-2001 biennium.

Major Schafer Recommendations Affecting Agriculture Department Budget

1.	1. Provides funding for salary equity adjustments effective January 1, 2002 based on the Central Personnel Division's salary market study. The proposed increase is \$166.26 per month for the commissioner and \$151.67 per month for the deputy commissioner. The total increase required for the biennium, including benefits, is \$6,682 or \$6,287 less than the executive recommendation.		General Fund \$12,969	Other Funds	Total \$12,969
2.	 Replaces general fund moneys with special funds from the environment and rangeland protection fund for the noxious weed program. The following schedule presents the total funding recommended for agriculture programs from the ERP fund: 		(\$80,000)	\$80,000	\$0
	Noxious weeds Pesticide Pesticide disposal (Safe Send)	\$1,404,602 314,620 596,842			
	Compensation package Total	<u>25,751</u> \$2,341,815			
3.	3. Replaces general fund moneys with special funds from the anhydrous ammonia storage inspection fund for the Pesticide Anhydrous Division.		(\$25,000)	\$25,000	\$0
4.	4. Replaces general fund moneys with special funds from the game and fish fund for wildlife services (\$200,000) and Board of Animal Health (\$23,000). The following schedule presents the total funding recommended for the game and fish fund:		(\$223,000)	\$223,000	\$0
	Wildlife services	\$200,000			
	Waterbank program Board of Animal Health	200,000 68,000			
	Total	\$468,000			
5.	 Increases funding for the waterbank program from the game and fish fund. 			\$200,000	\$200,000
6.	Restores funding for the meat inspection program which in the hold-even budget and increases the funding by \$2 the 1999-2001 level (including salaries and benefits pac	257,964 from	\$340,082	\$371,882	\$711,964

Adds funding from the environment and rangeland protection fund to the noxious weed line item for control of Canada thistle.

\$170,000

\$170,000

Major Hoeven Recommendations Affecting Agriculture Department 2001-03 Budget Compared to the Bill as Introduced (Schafer Budget)

		General Fund	Other Funds	Total
1.	Replaces general fund moneys with special funds from the game and	(\$200,000)	\$200,000	\$0
	fish fund for wildlife services. The total amount from the game and			
	fish fund for wildlife services is \$400,000.			

Major Legislation Affecting the Agriculture Department

Section 2 of House Bill No. 1009 includes the statutory changes necessary to increase the Agriculture Commissioner's salary as follows:

Annual salary authorized by the 1999 Legislative Assembly:

 July 1, 1999
 \$58,262

 July 1, 2000
 \$59,428

 January 1, 2001
 \$64,569

Proposed annual salary recommended in the 2001-03 executive budget:

July 1, 2001 \$66,509 January 1, 2002 \$68,504 July 1, 2002 \$69,874

House Bill No. 1009 includes estimated income to the Agriculture Department from the following funds:

Environment and rangeland protection fund \$2,341,815
Anhydrous ammonia storage inspection fund \$139,775
Game and fish fund \$468,000

House Bill No. 1052 provides a sales and use tax exemption for used farm machinery, farm machinery repair parts, and used irrigation equipment used exclusively for agriculture purposes.

Senate Bill No. 2109 provides for continuing education requirements and annual license requirement and fee for meat processing and slaughtering establishments.

Senate Bill No. 2110 continues the agriculture pesticide and pesticide container disposal program (Safe Send) through July 31, 2003.