

**NDSU Extension Service
Budget 630
House Bill No. 1021**

	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
1999-2001 legislative appropriation	267.80	\$12,975,020	\$16,744,746	\$29,719,766
1997-99 legislative appropriation	<u>267.40</u>	<u>12,302,188</u>	<u>13,017,998</u>	<u>25,320,186</u>
1999-2001 appropriation increase (decrease) to 1997-99 appropriation	0.40	\$672,832	\$3,726,748	\$4,399,580

NOTE: The 1999-2001 appropriation amounts include \$138,083 from the general fund for the agency's share of the \$422,400 funding pool appropriated to the Main Research Center for additional salary adjustments for employees of the Agricultural Experiment Station, NDSU Extension Service, Northern Crops Institute, and Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute and \$31,807, \$19,730 of which is from the general fund, for the agency's share of the \$1.4 million funding pool appropriated to the Office of Management and Budget for assisting agencies in providing the \$35 per month minimum salary increases in July 1999 and July 2000.

Item Description

State Board of Agricultural Research and Education - The 1999 Legislative Assembly changed the name of the State Board of Agricultural Research to the State Board of Agricultural Research and Education provided that the board control and administer the NDSU Extension Service in addition to the Agricultural Experiment Station and provided that the NDSU Extension Service director be a voting member of the board and that the Agriculture Commissioner be a nonvoting member of the board.

Agriculture initiatives - The Legislative Assembly provided \$299,795 and 2.3 FTE positions for agriculture initiatives of the NDSU Extension Service. Initially, the executive budget had recommended funding of \$427,130 from the general fund, including three FTE positions for a value-added center initiative, a crop protection initiative, a mid-sized farms initiative, and a use of coproducts initiative. However, the Legislative Assembly reduced this funding by \$127,335 and the FTE positions by .7 FTE position and authorized the State Board of Agricultural Research and Education to determine the specific areas to reduce within the initiatives. The Legislative Assembly also authorized the board to transfer up to \$227,335 of the Agricultural Experiment Station appropriation to the NDSU Extension Service based on the agriculture initiatives approved by the board.

Dairy diagnostic teams - The 1999 Legislative Assembly provided \$50,000 from the general fund for developing and operating regional dairy diagnostic teams during the 1999-2001 biennium. The teams are to consist of agricultural business management professionals, dairy extension specialists, and dairy industry partners and are to assist dairy producers to enhance their productivity and profitability as requested.

Status/Result

The State Board of Agricultural Research and Education has been reviewing the responsibilities and organization of the NDSU Extension Service and is developing plans and budgets for the NDSU Extension Service for the future.

The State Board of Agricultural Research and Education allocated the \$299,795 from the general fund and the 2.3 FTE positions approved by the Legislative Assembly to the following initiatives:

Crop protection initiative	2.0 FTE	\$251,253
Use of coproducts initiative	.3 FTE	48,542
Total	2.3 FTE	\$299,795

The board did not allocate funding to the value-added center initiative or the mid-sized farms initiative.

The board does not intend to transfer any of the \$227,335 of the Agricultural Experiment Station appropriation to the NDSU Extension Service.

Through March 2000, 47 dairy farms have received assistance from the program. Thirty of these dairy farms have formed dairy diagnostic teams to evaluate, assess, and make recommendations to improve dairy operations.

Soil conservation leadership initiative - The 1999 Legislative Assembly provided \$60,000 from the general fund for training local soil conservation district supervisors regarding issues and concerns of the local supervisors.

During the first year of the biennium, the NDSU Extension Service provided a series of leadership training sessions for 265 district supervisors across the state. During the second year, the NDSU Extension Service is planning to provide another series of training sessions for district supervisors on the use of technology.