

**Agriculture Commissioner
Budget 602
House Bill No. 1009; Senate Bill No. 2342**

	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
2009-11 legislative appropriation	74.50	\$7,547,383	\$14,181,466	\$21,728,849
2007-09 legislative appropriation	<u>67.50</u>	<u>5,969,937</u>	<u>11,414,326</u>	<u>17,384,263</u>
2009-11 appropriation increase (decrease) to 2007-09 appropriation	7.00	\$1,577,446	\$2,767,140	\$4,344,586

NOTE: The 2009-11 legislative appropriation amounts include \$167,000, of which \$80,000 is from the general fund, for the agency's share of the \$16 million funding pool appropriated to the Office of Management and Budget for special market equity adjustments for executive branch employees.

Item Description

Livestock health permit inspection program - Section 7 of House Bill No. 1009 requires the State Board of Animal Health to increase the number of health permit inspections on livestock entering the state and provide public information on the results of the inspections.

Office space - Section 8 of House Bill No. 1009 requires the Agriculture Commissioner to obtain Budget Section approval prior to leasing additional office space for department purposes.

Meat inspection program - The Legislative Assembly added 1 FTE meat inspector position without funding that may be filled upon Emergency Commission approval.

Johne's disease program - Senate Bill No. 2342 provides a general fund appropriation of \$245,500 to the Agriculture Commissioner for testing and control of Johne's disease. The funding is to be disbursed to livestock producers participating in the North Dakota voluntary Johne's disease herd status program to defray livestock testing and to defray expenses associated with educating producers and veterinarians concerning the testing and control of Johne's disease.

Project Safe Send flood cleanup - Section 9 of House Bill No. 1009 provided that \$40,000 from the environment and rangeland protection fund appropriated for Project Safe Send be used to collect damaged pesticides resulting from 2009 flooding.

Status/Result

The Agriculture Commissioner has increased the number of inspections of health permits on livestock entering the state. Statistics regarding the increase in inspections have not yet been compiled by the department.

The Agriculture Commissioner received Budget Section approval in December 2009 to lease office space outside the Capitol complex. The department entered a lease agreement for additional office space and has moved 10 FTE positions to the new location. The department is leasing 2,640 square feet of office space at a cost of \$13.95 per square foot per year.

Current demand for the meat inspection program has not reached a level for the department to seek Emergency Commission approval to fill the additional meat inspector position.

The Agriculture Commissioner has developed a testing program and educational program related to Johne's disease. The department anticipates most of the funding allocated for this program will be used during the 2009-11 biennium.

The Agriculture Commissioner used the funding to collect damaged pesticides at four sites affected by flooding during the spring of 2009.