



ANALYSIS OF THE NEW JERSEY BUDGET

**DEPARTMENT OF
AGRICULTURE**

FISCAL YEAR

2011-2012

NEW JERSEY STATE LEGISLATURE

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This report was prepared by the Environment, Agriculture, Energy and Natural Resources Section of the Office of Legislative Services under the direction of the Legislative Budget and Finance Officer. The primary author was Joseph A. Hroncich.

Questions or comments may be directed to the OLS Environment, Agriculture, Energy and Natural Resources Section (609-292-7676) or the Legislative Budget and Finance Office (609-292-8030).

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Budget Pages..... C-4; C-10; C-17; D-13 to D-20

Fiscal Summary (\$000)

	Expended FY 2010	Adjusted Appropriation FY 2011	Recommended FY 2012	Percent Change 2011-12
State Budgeted	\$29,099	\$19,722	\$19,597	(0.6%)
Federal Funds	\$313,893	\$346,628	\$349,434	0.8%
<u>Other</u>	<u>\$6,642</u>	<u>\$9,186</u>	<u>\$8,692</u>	<u>(5.4%)</u>
Grand Total	\$349,634	\$375,536	\$377,723	0.6%

Personnel Summary - Positions By Funding Source

	Actual FY 2010	Revised FY 2011	Funded FY 2012	Percent Change 2011-12
State	96	93	94	1.0%
Federal	56	52	58	11.5%
<u>Other</u>	<u>63</u>	<u>64</u>	<u>65</u>	<u>1.6%</u>
Total Positions	215	209	217	3.8%

FY 2010 (as of December) and revised FY 2011 (as of January) personnel data reflect actual payroll counts. FY 2012 data reflect the number of positions funded.

Link to Website: <http://www.njleg.state.nj.us/legislativepub/finance.asp>

Highlights

- The Fiscal Year 2012 Budget for the Department of Agriculture totals \$19.6 million, a net decrease of \$125,000, or 0.6 percent under the Fiscal Year 2011 adjusted appropriation of \$19.7 million.
- A reduction of \$100,000 or a 1.4 percent decrease, from \$6.9 million to \$6.8 million, is recommended in the Hunger Initiative/Food Assistance Program. This program was initiated in the FY 2007 State Budget to assist emergency feeding organizations, food pantries, soup kitchens, and homeless shelters in purchasing nutrient-dense food.
- A reduction of \$25,000 or a 71 percent decrease, from \$35,000 to \$10,000, is recommended in Payments in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT) under the Farmland Preservation Program. This appropriation is used to compensate municipalities for the loss of property taxes on land acquired in fee simple by the State Agriculture Development Committee, prior to the resale of that land at public auction to a private owner with agricultural deed restrictions that ensure the land's permanent preservation.
- The Department of Agriculture anticipates \$339.3 million in federal funding in FY 2012 for various food and nutrition programs primarily targeting children's nutritional needs, including the School Lunch and School Breakfast programs. For the 2010-2011 school year, the department projects 2,686 schools participating in the School Lunch program serving a total of 123.3 million lunches, and 1,833 schools participating in the School Breakfast program serving a total of 31.3 million breakfasts. The number of participating schools and meals provided for the 2011-2012 school year have not yet been determined.

Fiscal and Personnel Summary

AGENCY FUNDING BY SOURCE OF FUNDS (\$000)

	Expended FY 2010	Adj. Approp. FY 2011	Recom. FY 2012	Percent Change	
				2010-12	2011-12
<u>General Fund</u>					
Direct State Services	\$9,866	\$7,156	\$7,156	(27.5%)	0.0%
Grants-In-Aid	7,517	6,918	6,818	(9.3%)	(1.4%)
State Aid	11,716	5,648	5,623	(52%)	(0.4%)
Capital Construction	0	0	0	0.0%	0.0%
Debt Service	0	0	0	0.0%	0.0%
Sub-Total	\$29,099	\$19,722	\$19,597	(32.7%)	(0.6%)
<u>Property Tax Relief Fund</u>					
Direct State Services	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.0%	0.0%
Grants-In-Aid	0	0	0	0.0%	0.0%
State Aid	0	0	0	0.0%	0.0%
Sub-Total	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.0%	0.0%
Casino Revenue Fund	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.0%	0.0%
Casino Control Fund	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.0%	0.0%
State Total	\$29,099	\$19,722	\$19,597	(32.7%)	(0.6%)
Federal Funds	\$313,893	\$346,628	\$349,434	11.3%	0.8%
Other Funds	\$6,642	\$9,186	\$8,692	30.9%	(5.4%)
Grand Total	\$349,634	\$375,536	\$377,723	8.0%	0.6%

PERSONNEL SUMMARY - POSITIONS BY FUNDING SOURCE

	Actual FY 2010	Revised FY 2011	Funded FY 2012	Percent Change	
				2010-12	2011-12
State	96	93	94	(2.0%)	1.0%
Federal	56	52	58	3.6%	11.5%
All Other	63	64	65	3.2%	1.6%
Total Positions	215	209	217	0.9%	3.8%

FY 2010 (as of December) and revised FY 2011 (as of January) personnel data reflect actual payroll counts. FY 2012 data reflect the number of positions funded.

AFFIRMATIVE ACTION DATA

Total Minority Percent	26.5%	22.5%	22.1%	---	---
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Significant Changes/New Programs (\$000)

<u>Budget Item</u>	<u>Adj. Approp. FY 2011</u>	<u>Recomm. FY 2012</u>	<u>Dollar Change</u>	<u>Percent Change</u>	<u>Budget Page</u>
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GRANTS-IN-AID**Hunger Initiative/
Food Assistance
Program**

	\$6,918	\$6,818	(\$100)	(1.4%)	D-18
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This program was initiated in the FY 2007 State Budget to assist emergency feeding organizations, food pantries, soup kitchens, and homeless shelters in purchasing nutrient-dense food. The program allocates these funds to six major food banks, which then buy food and distribute it to smaller pantries, churches or organizations based on the number of people served. This account was reduced to the actual FY 2011 spending level, given that that Executive intends to lapse \$100,000 at the close of the fiscal year.

STATE AID**Farmland
Preservation**

	\$35	\$10	(\$25)	(71.4%)	D-18
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The Farmland Preservation Program is administered by the State Agriculture Development Committee and compensates farm owners for their development rights if their deeds restrict their farms against future development. This account was reduced to the actual FY 2011 spending level, given that that Executive intends to lapse \$25,000 at the close of the fiscal year.

FEDERAL FUNDS**Food and Nutrition
Services**

	\$336,350	\$339,250	\$2,900	0.9%	D-19
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These accounts mostly support the School Lunch and School Breakfast programs, as well as other child nutrition activities and the Temporary Emergency Food Assistance program. The recommended increases in these programs reflect increases in the costs of food, labor, and other costs associated with providing meals. The funding allows the sponsors to meet these rising costs, and still serve nutritious meals that comply with regulations.

ALL OTHER FUNDS**Marketing and
Development Services**

	\$5,515	\$5,085	(\$430)	(7.8%)	D-19
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These accounts mostly support the advertising, marketing, and promotional activities for New Jersey's agricultural products and horse industry. This total reduction consists of a decrease of \$300,000 in the Sire Stakes program, a decrease of \$110,000 for horse breeding and development, and a decrease of \$20,000 for Standardbred Breeder Awards. These decreases anticipate a lower level of horse racing activity in the coming year, given uncertainties about the industry in the near term.

Significant Language Changes

School Breakfast – State Aid Grants

Deletion

2011 Handbook: p. B-9
2012 Budget: p. -

~~The unexpended balances at the end of the preceding fiscal year in the School Breakfast – State Aid Grants account are appropriated for the same purpose.~~

Explanation

The cited account was included in the FY 2010 Budget with \$3 million for the school breakfast program. Funding for this program is not continued in the FY 2012 Budget because no more money remains in the account.



School Lunch and Non-Public Nutrition Aid

Revision

2011 Handbook: p. B-9
2012 Budget: p. D-20

The unexpended balances at the end of the preceding fiscal year in the School Lunch ~~and Non-Public Nutrition Aid – State Aid Grants accounts~~ are account is appropriated for the same purpose.

Explanation

This language has been revised to remove the reference to Non-Public Nutrition Aid, which was last funded in FY 2010. No significant unexpended balance remains from the appropriation, so the reference to the program is no longer needed.



Soil and Water Conservation Grants

Deletion

2011 Handbook: p. B-9
2012 Budget: p. -

~~The unexpended balance at the end of the preceding fiscal year in the Soil and Water Conservation Grants account is appropriated for the same purpose.~~

EXPLANATION: FY 2011 language not recommended for FY 2012 denoted by strikethrough.
Recommended FY 2012 language that did not appear in FY 2011 denoted by underlining.

Significant Language Changes (Cont'd)**Explanation**

The cited account last received a direct appropriation (\$300,000) in FY 2009. No significant unexpended balance is expected to remain in the account at the close of FY 2011, so this language is no longer needed.

EXPLANATION: FY 2011 language not recommended for FY 2012 denoted by strikethrough.
Recommended FY 2012 language that did not appear in FY 2011 denoted by underlining.

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Individuals wishing information and committee schedules on the FY 2012 budget are encouraged to contact:

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