



ANALYSIS OF THE NEW JERSEY BUDGET

**DEPARTMENT OF
AGRICULTURE**

FISCAL YEAR

2013-2014

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.

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Budget Pages..... C-3; C-10; C-17; D-13 to D-21

Fiscal Summary (\$000)

	Expended FY 2012	Adjusted Appropriation FY 2013	Recommended FY 2014	Percent Change 2013-14
State Budgeted	\$22,584	\$19,623	\$19,573	(0.3%)
Federal Funds	\$372,455	\$427,755	\$432,564	1.1%
<u>Other</u>	<u>\$6,914</u>	<u>\$9,855</u>	<u>\$9,529</u>	<u>(3.3%)</u>
Grand Total	\$401,953	\$457,233	\$461,666	1.0%

Personnel Summary - Positions By Funding Source

	Actual FY 2012	Revised FY 2013	Funded FY 2014	Percent Change 2013-14
State	91	88	91	3.4%
Federal	55	58	59	1.7%
<u>Other</u>	<u>59</u>	<u>61</u>	<u>66</u>	<u>8.2%</u>
Total Positions	205	207	216	4.3%

FY 2012 (as of December) and revised FY 2013 (as of January) personnel data reflect actual payroll counts. FY 2014 data reflect the number of positions funded.

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

Highlights

- The Fiscal Year 2014 Budget for the Department of Agriculture totals \$19.6 million, a decrease of \$50,000, or 0.3 percent under the Fiscal Year 2013 adjusted appropriation. The reduction is due to a cut of \$50,000 (50 percent) in the Marketing and Development Services appropriation.
- The department anticipates \$425.9 million in federal funding in FY 2014 for various food and nutrition programs primarily targeting children's nutritional needs, including the School Lunch and School Breakfast programs. For the 2012-2013 school year, the department projects 2,667 School Lunch programs serving a total of 117.6 million lunches, and 1,967 School Breakfast programs serving a total of 39.3 million breakfasts. While the number of programs and meals to be provided for the 2013-2014 school year has not yet been determined, the department estimates two percent growth in meals served under each program.
- The budget supports an increase in the total number of personnel of nine positions, from 207 in FY 2013 to 216 in FY 2014. Three of these positions will be State-funded, one will be federally-funded, and five will be funded by dedicated fees.
- State aid to support the School Lunch program is continued in the amount of \$5,613,000.
- Funding for the Hunger Initiative/Food Assistance program is continued at \$6,818,000. The program provides quarterly funding to the State's six Emergency Feeding Organizations to distribute food through local food pantries, homeless shelters, and soup kitchens.

Fiscal and Personnel Summary

AGENCY FUNDING BY SOURCE OF FUNDS (\$000)

	Expended FY 2012	Adj. Approp. FY 2013	Recom. FY 2014	Percent Change	
				2012-14	2013-14
General Fund					
Direct State Services	\$10,074	\$7,182	\$7,132	(29.2%)	(0.7%)
Grants-In-Aid	6,895	6,818	6,818	(1.1%)	0.0%
State Aid	5,615	5,623	5,623	0.1%	0.0%
Capital Construction	0	0	0	0.0%	0.0%
Debt Service	0	0	0	0.0%	0.0%
Sub-Total	\$22,584	\$19,623	\$19,573	(13.3%)	(0.3%)
Property Tax Relief Fund					
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	\$22,584	\$19,623	\$19,573	(13.3%)	(0.3%)
Federal Funds	\$372,455	\$427,755	\$432,564	16.1%	1.1%
Other Funds	\$6,914	\$9,855	\$9,529	37.8%	(3.3%)
Grand Total	\$401,953	\$457,233	\$461,666	14.9%	1.0%

PERSONNEL SUMMARY - POSITIONS BY FUNDING SOURCE

	Actual FY 2012	Revised FY 2013	Funded FY 2014	Percent Change	
				2012-14	2013-14
State	91	88	91	0.0%	3.4%
Federal	55	58	59	7.3%	1.7%
All Other	59	61	66	11.9%	8.2%
Total Positions	205	207	216	5.4%	4.3%

FY 2012 (as of December) and revised FY 2013 (as of January) personnel data reflect actual payroll counts. FY 2014 data reflect the number of positions funded.

AFFIRMATIVE ACTION DATA

Total Minority Percent	23%	22%	22%	---	---
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Significant Changes/New Programs (\$000)

<u>Budget Item</u>	<u>Adj. Approp.</u> <u>FY 2013</u>	<u>Recomm.</u> <u>FY 2014</u>	<u>Dollar</u> <u>Change</u>	<u>Percent</u> <u>Change</u>	<u>Budget</u> <u>Page</u>
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DIRECT STATE SERVICES**Special Purpose:****Promotion/Market****Development****\$100****\$50****(\$50)****(50%)****D-19**

This budget account supports the advertising and promotion budgets of the "Jersey Fresh" program. According to the department, the reduction to this appropriation will be made up from federal and other funding sources to support this program, and the total funded amount for the "Jersey Fresh" program will not be reduced.

FEDERAL FUNDS**Animal Disease****Control****\$575****\$756****\$181****31.5%****D-20**

The increase in federal funding from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), which includes a variety of programs to test for and control disease in animals, is primarily due to anticipation of a grant of \$151,000 for the department's participation in the National Animal Identification Infrastructure. The department also anticipates a grant of \$26,000 for BSE ("mad cow disease") Surveillance, to fund the taking of samples from animals prone to hosting the disease. Neither of these grants was anticipated in FY 2013, but the department has received funds for these purposes prior to FY 2013.

The National Animal Identification System (NAIS) is an animal-disease surveillance program implemented by the federal Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS). The goal of this program is to develop the capability of APHIS to identify all animals and premises that have had direct contact with certain diseases within 48 hours after disease discovery. This system involves tagging farm animals, providing a specific identification number to a specific farm and specific animal at that farm, and keeping the records of this identification.

Plant Pest and**Disease Control****\$1,342****\$931****(\$411)****(30.6%)****D-20**

The department receives USDA funding for research, testing and control or eradication of a variety of pests and diseases affecting plants and crops. The net decrease in these funds is primarily the result of a \$400,000 reduction, from \$500,000 to \$100,000, in assistance to combat the Asian longhorn beetle infestation, which for now has been eradicated in New Jersey. Other significant changes include a \$75,000 decline in funds for gypsy moth control, from \$200,000 to \$125,000 in light of reduced infestation and spraying; and increased funding of \$69,000 for control of "mile a minute" vine, an invasive, exceptionally fast-growing species that threatens to overwhelm important ecosystems.

Significant Changes/New Programs (\$000) (Cont'd)

<u>Budget Item</u>	<u>Adj. Approp. FY 2013</u>	<u>Recomm. FY 2014</u>	<u>Dollar Change</u>	<u>Percent Change</u>	<u>Budget Page</u>
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Agriculture and Natural Resources	\$100	\$300	\$200	200%	D-20
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This increase in funding is from USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service, for soil conservation programs.

Food and Nutrition Services	\$418,942	\$425,863	\$6,921	1.7%	D-20
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This federal funding comprises USDA support for food and nutrition assistance programs, among the largest of which are the School Lunch (\$260 million) and School Breakfast (\$66 million) programs. Increased funding in the School Lunch program (+\$2.6 million) and the School Breakfast program (+\$5 million) is expected based on projected growth in student participation in these programs. "Key performance indicators" on budget page D-15 assume two percent growth in the number of meals served under both programs.

Marketing and Development Services	\$2,276	\$194	(\$2,082)	(91.5%)	D-20
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These USDA funds support the Specialty Crop Grants and Farm Risk Management programs. According to the department, funding for FY 2014 was incorrectly reduced due to an oversight in reporting. These grants are expected be funded at the same level as in FY 2013.

ALL OTHER FUNDS

Agriculture and Natural Resources	\$419	\$482	\$63	15.0%	D-20
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This net increase in dedicated funds is primarily due to anticipated growth of \$75,000 in the programs and activities associated with Future Farmers of America, offset by minor decreases in miscellaneous fees.

Marketing and Development Services	\$6,227	\$5,857	(\$370)	(5.9%)	D-20
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The department collects a variety of fees dedicated to support regulatory, marketing, and promotional programs to benefit certain agricultural products and activities. The projected reduction in total revenues of this type projected in FY 2014 is the net result of an expected decline in fees from the dairy industry (-\$397,000), fruit and vegetable inspections (-\$171,000), and Farm Products Publicity Fund collections (-\$50,000), offset by an increase in miscellaneous inspection fees (+\$248,000).

Significant Language Changes

Nonpoint Source Pollution Control Programs

Revision

2013 Handbook: p. B-9
2014 Budget: p. D-21

Notwithstanding the provisions of any law or regulation to the contrary, \$540,000 shall be transferred from the Department of Environmental Protection's Water Resources Monitoring and Planning – Constitutional Dedication special purpose account and is appropriated to support ~~the Conservation Cost Share program~~ nonpoint source pollution control programs in the Department of Agriculture on or before September 1, ~~2012~~ 2013. Further additional ~~sums~~ amounts may be transferred pursuant to a Memorandum of Understanding between the Department of Environmental Protection and the Department of Agriculture from the Department of Environmental Protection's Water Resources Monitoring and Planning – Constitutional Dedication special purpose account to support nonpoint source pollution control programs in the Department of Agriculture, subject to the approval of the Director of the Division of Budget and Accounting. The unexpended balance of this program at the end of the preceding fiscal year is appropriated for the same purpose, subject to the approval of the Director of the Division of Budget and Accounting.

Explanation

This language change was made to accurately reflect the current program description. According to the department, the Conservation Cost Share program is no longer in existence, but its elements of supporting nonpoint source pollution control programs continue. There have been no changes to the use of the funds transferred pursuant to this language.

EXPLANATION: FY 2013 language not recommended for FY 2014 denoted by strikethrough.
Recommended FY 2014 language that did not appear in FY 2013 denoted by underlining.

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Individuals wishing information and committee schedules on the FY 2014 budget are encouraged to contact:

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