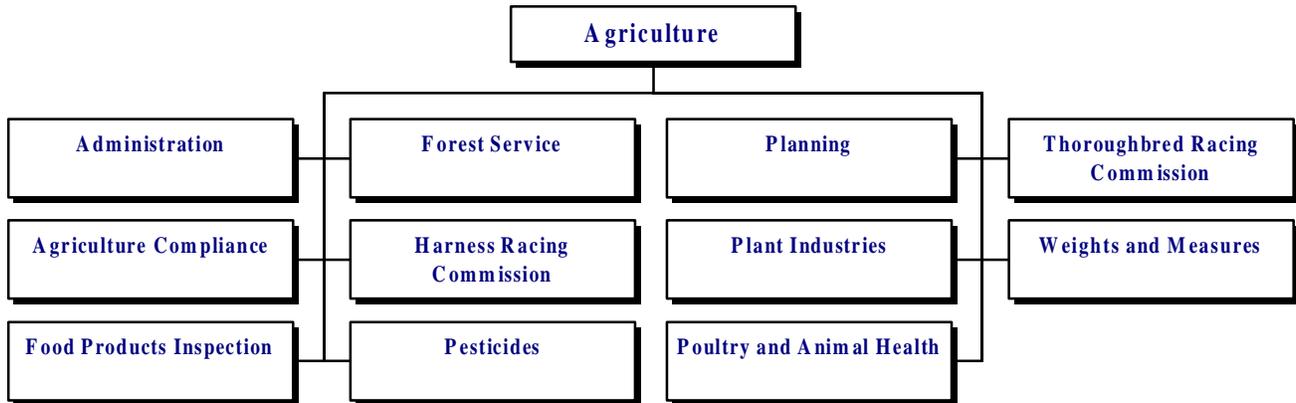


# AGRICULTURE

## 65-00-00



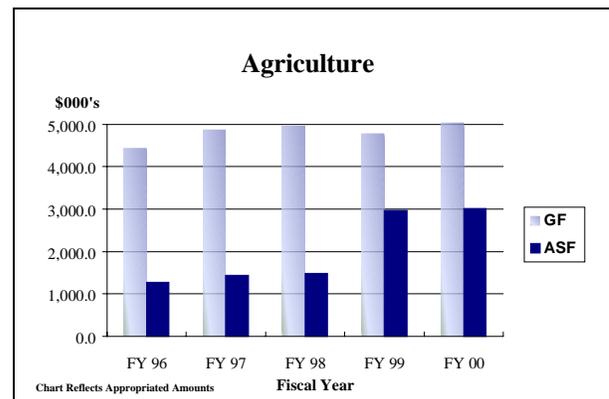
### MISSION

To advance the economic viability of the food, fiber, and agricultural industries of Delaware; to promote the sound utilization of resources; and to provide services that protect the environment, health, and welfare of the general public.

### KEY OBJECTIVES

- Continue to be the primary resource for agriculture and environmental education for Delaware educators.
- Administer a regulatory program for livestock feeds, pet foods, fertilizers, liming materials, soil conditioners, and frozen desserts.
- Ensure that meat, poultry, and egg products are safe, wholesome, and accurately labeled. Also, continue to educate the public on how to properly handle, prepare, and store meat and poultry products to minimize the growth of food-borne pathogens.
- Conserve, manage, and enhance Delaware's rural and urban forest resources through education, demonstration, analysis, and technical assistance.
- Provide the Delaware Racing Commission with clerical and technical support so the commission can effectively and efficiently regulate the racing industries in a competent and impartial manner.
- Maintain regulatory and educational programs for the safe and effective use of pesticides and nutrients used in agricultural practices.

- Participate in statewide land use planning and growth management efforts to enhance agricultural production and preserve open space.
- Preserve permanently 37,500 acres of Delaware farmland by the year 2000.
- Promote the export and statewide consumption of food and fiber crops grown or processed in Delaware.
- Protect the health and viability of the livestock and poultry in Delaware and prevent the introduction and spread of infectious diseases, including those transmissible to humans.
- Maintain the health and viability of food and fiber crops. Control both domestic and foreign plant and insect threats to food and fiber industries or to the environment.
- Provide equity in the marketplace for all transactions involving weight, measure, or count.



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### BUDGET

	FY 1998 ACTUAL	FY 1999 BUDGET	FY 2000 GOV. REC.
GF	4,966.2	4,793.2	5,037.4
ASF	1,476.3	2,969.1	3,009.2
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>6,442.5</b>	<b>7,762.3</b>	<b>8,046.6</b>

### POSITIONS

	FY 1998 ACTUAL	FY 1999 BUDGET	FY 2000 GOV. REC.
GF	80.3	81.3	83.3
ASF	23.0	25.5	25.5
NSF	16.7	16.2	17.2
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>120.0</b>	<b>123.0</b>	<b>126.0</b>

### FY 2000 BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS

#### OPERATING BUDGET:

- ◆ Recommend enhancements of \$48.1 and 1.0 FTE Agricultural Program Manager II; \$5.0 for travel; and \$3.0 for supplies and materials in Administration. Recommend enhancements of \$21.8 and 1.0 FTE for Analytic Chemist Technician and \$10.2 for supplies, chemicals, and glassware, and one-time funding of \$101.7 for laboratory equipment in Agriculture Compliance. These positions and funds are appropriated for the administration of the nutrient management testing program.
- ◆ Recommend one-time funding of \$40.5 to update laboratory information management system computer program in the Agriculture Compliance laboratory, and an enhancement of \$7.0 to provide annual system maintenance and upgrades.
- ◆ Recommend one-time funding of \$16.0 for lap top computers and federally mandated training for meat and poultry inspectors in Foods Product Inspection.
- ◆ Recommend enhancement of \$2.1 for off-site Internet access fees.
- ◆ Recommend one-time funding of \$2.8 to update and calibrate equipment in metrology laboratory, and one-time funding of \$5.0 for metrologist certification training. Recommend enhancement of \$1.2 for service contract to maintain metrology equipment.

- ◆ Recommend enhancement of \$2.2 for protective clothing for Weights and Measures field inspectors who handle hazardous materials.

#### CAPITAL BUDGET:

- ◆ Recommend \$998.2 for renovations to the Agriculture Compliance laboratory located at the Department of Agriculture Building in Dover.
- ◆ Recommend \$30.0 to complete capital projects at the Redden State Forest.
- ◆ Recommend \$200.0 for research and investigation into long-term solutions to the nutrient management issue. These funds are expected to be matched by a combination of federal and private funds.

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### BACKGROUND AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

#### ADMINISTRATION

The Office of the Secretary serves as the contact point between the largest industry in the State—agriculture—and state government. The Secretary of Agriculture represents the agricultural community and the related sectors of the economy in all facets of state government. Under the direction of the Office of the Secretary, the department has conducted an aggressive program to inform the public of both the contributions made by the agricultural community, and the services and protection provided by the department to the consumers of the State. Combined with this educational effort, the department has also sought to develop better lines of communication with those we regulate, in order to obtain full compliance with the laws, rules, and regulations enforced by the department, without the need to resort to administrative or criminal hearing procedures.

#### AGRICULTURE COMPLIANCE

The Agriculture Compliance Section regulates a variety of agricultural and consumer products under the authority of the State of Delaware Code, specifically *The Delaware Commercial Feed Law*, *The Delaware Commercial Fertilizer and Soil Conditioner Law*, *The Delaware Agricultural Liming Materials Act*, *The Frozen Sweetened Products Law*, and *The Milk, Cream and Other Milk Products Law*. These Delaware laws and regulations are written to ensure that manufacturers label their products with accurate, non-misleading information. The regulatory programs of the Agriculture Compliance Section not only protect the Delaware consumer, but also promote fair competition among the industry.

#### FOOD PRODUCTS INSPECTION

Inspection begins with a review of a slaughtering or processing plant's plans for facilities, equipment, and procedures to assure the plant will have a safe and sanitary operation. All animals are inspected before and after slaughter. After slaughter, each carcass and the internal organs are examined for disease or contamination that would make all or part of the carcass unfit for human consumption.

The USDA maintains cooperative grading agreements with state Departments of Agriculture and other state agencies. Under these federal-state agreements, federal-state licensed graders perform their work throughout the State at point of origin grading various commodities. The Food Safety and Quality Service (FSQS) establishes basic grading policies and procedures. The grade standards describe the quality requirements for each grade of a commodity, giving the industry a common language for selling and buying.

#### FOREST SERVICE

Approximately 30 percent, 350,000 acres, of Delaware is forested, and these forests provide numerous benefits to all Delawareans. Additionally, the forests located within cities and towns, referred to as community forests, are equally important as they not only beautify the state, but also moderate temperatures, reduce storm water runoff, and conserve energy within communities. Delaware's forests face many challenges, including fragmentation, wildfire, insects and disease, poor management techniques, and non-native (exotic) species; the DDA Forest Service provides several programs to help citizens address these challenges.

The greatest challenges facing Delaware's forests, and the DDA Forest Service, can be divided among five categories:

- Natural Resource Education
- Wildland Fire
- Forest Management
- Urban & Community Forests
- State Forests

In order to address these challenges, the DDA Forest Service works very closely with the U.S. Forest Service, State and Private Forestry (S&PF) Program. The S&PF program provides grants to the DDA Forest Service as well as technical assistance. Funding for approximately one-fourth (five positions) of the Forest Service's staff, including three foresters, and 33 percent (\$450,000 in federal Fiscal Year 1998) of the operating budget are provided by the S&PF program.

#### HARNESS RACING COMMISSION

The Delaware Harness Racing Commission regulates and oversees the sport of harness racing in the state. Its primary objective is to do this in regard to the protection of the betting public. In addition, the Commission oversees the conduct of the racing industry and may

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hold hearings to thoroughly investigate any potential wrongdoings.

## **PESTICIDES**

The Pesticides Section, under the authority of the Delaware Pesticide Law and the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act, provides the framework for regulating the sale and use of pesticides in the State. There are many stakeholders involved in this process, ranging from large chemical corporations applying for the registration of their products to the small homeowner or tenant with a complaint about the application of pesticides by lawn care firms. Other constituents include farmers, pesticide dealers, commercial pesticide applicators (which includes 18 categories of pest control), researchers, farm workers, local, state and federal agencies, and various environmental and industry associations.

The Pesticides Section is pursuing a pollution prevention goal of monitoring for the possible contamination of the state's ground water from pesticide use. The section is working closely with the Division of Public Health (Safe Drinking Water), the Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control, the Delaware Geological Survey, and the U.S. Geological Survey on water quality issues. The statewide monitoring network for pesticides consists of approximately 150 wells. The strategy calls for increasing the number of pesticide analytes tested for in the ground water samples.

## **PLANNING**

Planning is a technical enterprise within the department that includes land use planning, agricultural land preservation, and computer operations.

**Land Use Planning** Combining farmland preservation and planning coordination has helped to stem the loss of the best farmland in Delaware. The work of this section is closely tied to the Secretary's membership on the Cabinet Committee on State Planning Issues.

**Farmland Preservation** Farmland loss in Delaware remains a serious public concern. Since March of 1996, the Foundation has received more than 400 applications to preserve farmland. There are now 106,705 acres in 368 Agricultural Preservation Districts and District expansions in Delaware. Almost 500 different families and organizations (titleholders) own these lands.

**Computer Operations** The Department of Agriculture supports its mission with an extensive computer network and communications capability, including local area network, geographic information system and graphic and mapping capabilities.

## **PLANT INDUSTRIES**

Plant Industries is the plant and plant pest regulatory enforcement authority in the State. The programs conducted deal directly with various groups, private industry, and people in the State. Farmers, beekeepers, nursery growers and dealers, fruit growers, University of Delaware and DuPont Co. researchers, grain mill operators, stores that sell seed, exporters of Delaware agricultural products, people with gypsy moth problems, people moving houseplants out-of-state, and people wanting pest identification services are some of the many types of people and businesses served by Plant Industries in Delaware.

**Plant Protection and Regulatory Programs.** The *Plant Pest Law* gives this section the responsibility to detect and suppress insects, diseases, and other pests that threaten plants, crops, and the environment. Plant Industries has the authority to quarantine certain products and/or pests as necessary to carry out the task of preventing the spread of economically or environmentally important pests.

**Cooperative Agricultural Pest Survey Program.** This program is conducted with the USDA Plant Protection and Quarantine Unit. Surveys are conducted for exotic pests and pests of export significance and data are entered into the National Agricultural Pest Information System. Plant Industries' personnel conduct export certification inspections and issue phytosanitary permits in order to facilitate Delaware businesses that export agricultural plant products.

**Nursery Inspection and Certification Program.** The *Nurseries and Nursery Stock Law* is designed to keep unwanted plant pests out of Delaware, and helps to ensure that nursery stock being shipped from or sold in the state is pest-free.

**Gypsy Moth Suppression Program.** This is a cooperative program between the USDA Forest Service and Plant Industries to help landowners deal with the impacts of the gypsy moth. The program is voluntary, whereby, landowners request assistance from the department. Landowners contact Plant Industries to request a fall egg mass survey to determine if treatment

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is necessary the next spring to control the leaf-eating caterpillars. DDA is currently surveying approximately 45,000 acres of forestlands per year, based upon 200 to 300 landowner/land manager requests.

**Noxious Weed Program.** The *Noxious Weeds Law* and regulations require that four species of noxious weeds be controlled in Delaware. When an area is found to be infested with Johnsongrass, Canada thistle, burcucumber, or giant ragweed, the landowner is contacted and informed that the infestation must be controlled. A compliance agreement is prepared with large landowners and with individuals having a previous noxious weed problem. Between 300 and 700 Noxious Weed Compliance Agreements are signed each year by landowners and people responsible for tilling fields.

**Apiary Inspection Program.** The *Beekeeping Law* requires anyone who plans to keep bees must annually register their colonies along with their location with the department. Bees and equipment are inspected annually for disease, mites, and Africanized bees.

**Seed Laboratory Programs.** The Seed Laboratory provides grain testing services at four grain mills; provides seed testing services to farmers; collects official seed samples from stores offering seed for sale throughout the state to test and ensure the labeling conforms to the *Seed Law* and that the seed meets minimum standards; and conducts the seed certification program. The primary crops tested are barley, wheat, and soybeans.

## ***POULTRY AND ANIMAL HEALTH***

It is the responsibility of the Poultry and Animal Health Section to be completely familiar with the disease status of all classes of animals -- livestock, pet, and exotic, as well as commercial poultry and pet birds. This applies not only to local conditions, but also regional and national conditions. If there is a serious disease in another state or section of the country, the State Veterinarian may place severe importation restrictions or a total embargo on the affected species in an attempt to prevent the introduction of the disease into this state.

This section is charged with preventing the introduction and spread of contagious and infectious diseases into and within the animal and poultry population of the state. It accomplishes this by maintaining a diagnostic laboratory of its own, as well as cooperating with the poultry diagnostic laboratory of the University of Delaware. Section personnel respond to reports of

actual or potential disease problems from veterinarians and from livestock, poultry, and pet owners. Personnel visit farms, dairies, livestock auctions, etc. to collect various biological specimens for analysis and diagnosis of disease. In most instances, the veterinarian or owner is informed of the diagnosis, control, and/or treatment for the disease. When certain serious, highly contagious diseases are diagnosed, however, the State Veterinarian, through the authority given to the Secretary of Agriculture, may quarantine or even destroy the animal, herd or flock to prevent the spread of that disease to other premises.

## ***THOROUGHBRED RACING COMMISSION***

The Delaware Thoroughbred Racing Commission regulates and oversees the sport of thoroughbred and Arabian racing for the protection of the betting public. The Commission is also responsible for assuring that the State and the betting public receive their fair percentages of the wagering dollar by overseeing periodic accounting audits. In addition, the Commission oversees the conduct of the racing industry and may hold hearings to investigate any potential wrong doings.

## ***WEIGHTS AND MEASURES***

The Weights and Measures Laboratory was officially established on January 26, 1968, with the installation of the state standards donated by the National Bureau of Standards.

Training programs are also an important aspect of the Weights and Measures program. Since the adoption of the USDA rule requiring scales in federally inspected meat and poultry establishments to meet National Institute of Standards and Technology guidelines in-house and off site training for these scale technicians has been conducted. Since the establishment of the Commercial Weighing and Measuring Licensing Program, over 200 scale and liquid measurement people have been trained and licensed.

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## ***ADMINISTRATION***

***65-01-01***

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## **ACTIVITIES**

- Participate in and monitor strategies designed to protect agricultural lands in Delaware through the

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creation of Agricultural Districts and the purchase of development rights.

- Represent agriculture on councils and committees addressing natural resource projects, such as the Governor's Cabinet Planning Committee, the Open Space Council, and the Center for the Inland Bays.
- Oversee department budget development, presentation, and administration, as well as personnel management.
- Provide direction and leadership to the department and seek the input of the agricultural community in policy development. Act as a focal point for the discussion of topics from various groups and organizations representing segments of the agricultural community.
- Develop, present, and provide information for various legislative initiatives that affect agriculture in Delaware.
- Serve Delaware farmers and agribusiness with leadership and education in the areas of marketing and promotion, to increase the sales and value of their products.

### PERFORMANCE MEASURES

	FY 1998 Actual	FY 1999 Budget	FY 2000 Gov. Rec.
# days required to fill a vacancy	65	60	45
# teacher workshops held	25	25	28
# teachers using Ag in Classroom or Project Learning Tree	216	230	245

### ***AGRICULTURE COMPLIANCE*** ***65-01-02***

#### ACTIVITIES

- A total of 8,147 products were requested to be registered for Calendar Year 1997:
  - 2,440 Fertilizers and soil conditioners
  - 1,383 Livestock feeds
  - 4,280 Pet foods
  - 44 Liming materials
- During the course of official inspection of the Delaware marketplace, 684 samples were collected by the inspector and submitted to the laboratory for analysis for Fiscal Year 1998:
  - 233 Fertilizers
  - 122 Livestock feeds
  - 112 Pet foods
  - 7 Liming materials
  - 168 Frozen desserts

- Violations and Withdrawal from Distribution Orders are issued for non-registered products, misbranded labels, and nutrient deficiencies/excessives. The following numbers of violations were determined for Fiscal Year 1998:
  - 44 Fertilizers
  - 39 Feeds
  - 157 Pet food
  - 3 Frozen desserts
- Milk dealers who purchase milk from dairy farms across the state must be licensed each year. Licenses must also be obtained for employees who pickup and measure milk from the dairy farms and for those who test the milk for payment purposes. The following number of dairy licenses were issued in Fiscal Year 1998:
  - 2 Milk dealers licenses
  - 5 Weighers and samplers licenses
  - 4 Babcock testers licenses
- The general public submitted 26 fertilizers, 168 livestock feeds, 1 pet food, and 5 liming materials for testing by the laboratory in Fiscal Year 1998.

### PERFORMANCE MEASURES

	FY 1998 Actual	FY 1999 Budget	FY 2000 Gov. Rec.
# annual label reviews (%total)	--	4,150 50%	4,150 50%
# days turnaround time from sample collection to final laboratory report:			
Official Samples	45	34	23
Submitted Samples	7	5	4
Number of Products Tested for Contaminants			
Official Samples	0	50	100

### ***FOOD PRODUCTS INSPECTION*** ***65-01-03***

#### ACTIVITIES

- A total of 6.6 million pounds of meat and poultry products were inspected in Fiscal Year 1998:
- 5.7 million pounds of processed meat products.
  - 818.7 thousands pounds of carcasses.
  - 124.2 thousands pounds of processed poultry products.
  - 29.9 thousand pounds condemned.
  - During the course of inspection, there were 510 samples taken by the inspection staff and submitted to the laboratory for analysis in Fiscal Year 1998.

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- 24 salmonella samples.
- 22 E.coli samples.
- 24 compliance samples.
- 428 check samples.
- 3 noncompliance samples.
- Compliance officers conducted systematic statewide monitoring of businesses in food marketing and distribution of both domestic and imported products for wholesomeness, adulteration, and labeling.
- 24 compliance samples in retail stores.
- 3 positive E.coli samples.
- 6 species identification samples.
- Graders performed their work throughout the State at point of origins grading various commodities.
- 258.2 billion pounds of processed poultry.
- 4.24 million pounds of eggs.
- 99.3 million pounds of fruits and vegetables.
- 492 retail shell egg inspection.
- 27 retail violations.

- Through the Natural Resource Education Program, the DDA Forest Service staff provides, upon request, educational programs which address all aspects of forest management to school children, civic groups, and other organizations.
- The Wildland Fire Program consists of prevention and suppression activities. Prevention activities include educational (Smokey Bear) programs for first-grade students and programs at various events and fire company open houses. Forest Service staff also work with the Delaware Fire School, fire companies, and the U.S. Forest Service to provide specialized wildland fire suppression training to firefighters. In Fiscal Year 1998, the DDA Forest Service also trained and assembled Delaware's first nationally-qualified wildland fire crew. This crew is available for fire fighting assignments in Delaware as well as large scale incidents across the country.
- The Forest Landowner Assistance Program encompasses a wide variety of services to help non-industrial forest landowners improve their woodlands. Forest Service staff in each county provide advice, recommendations, and supervision to these landowners for such activities as reforestation, timber stand improvement, forest management plans, and timber harvests.
- Through the Urban and Community Forestry (U&CF) Program, the Forest Service works to improve the health of community forests. Staff provide tree planting and tree care recommendations to cities, towns, communities, and homeowners throughout Delaware. The Urban Forestry Coordinator, in cooperation with the Delaware Community Forestry Council, also oversees the competitive grant program, funded through the U.S. Forest Service, for tree planting and tree care on public property. The program recently expanded to help planners, engineers, and developers incorporate urban forestry issues into the land use planning and development process.
- The Forest Service manages three State Forests totaling over 10,000 acres: Blackbird Forest near Smyrna, Taber Forest near Harrington, and Redden Forest near Georgetown. The Forest Service manages these demonstration forests for a variety of objectives including: timber production, wildlife habitat enhancement, and recreational opportunities. Blackbird and Redden contain the northern and southern field offices, outdoor educational trails, and wildland fire suppression equipment. Redden Forest also contains the

## PERFORMANCE MEASURES

	FY 1998 Actual	FY 1999 Budget	FY 2000 Gov. Rec.
Meat and poultry products inspected/condemned**: (millions lbs.) inspected	6.6	6.9	7.0
(thousands lbs.) condemned	29.9	30.2	30.4
Compliance enforcement, trucking companies, retail stores, state agencies**: # reviews	612	640	660
(thousands lbs.) product condemned	106	108	110
Laboratory samples**: # compliance	510	550	600
# non-compliance	3	4	7
Processed poultry and shell eggs graded* (billion lbs.)	258.2	260.0	264.0
Fruit and vegetables inspected/graded (million lbs.)	99.3	100.0	105.0
Retail shell egg inspection and violations** # reviews	492	507	522
# violations	27	28	29

\* Voluntary

\*\* Mandatory

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## **FOREST SERVICE**

**65-01-04**

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### ACTIVITIES

The DDA Forest Service's activities are divided among eight programs. While the responsibilities and services of these programs overlap, they are each unique and help the organization achieve its objectives.

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historic, recently renovated, Redden Lodge, which is available to the public at a nominal cost.

- The Forest Health Program strives to ensure that Delaware's rural and urban forests are vigorous and as free from pests as possible. Forest Service staff diagnose forest pest problems and recommend treatments to landowners and homeowners. Staff monitors forest pest populations through annual aerial surveys and plot measurements, as well as periodic ground inspections. In Fiscal Year 1999, the DDA Forest Service will publish Delaware's first comprehensive forest health report.
- The Watershed Protection Program assists loggers and landowners to help ensure forest management activities do not degrade water quality, and thus comply with the Forest Practices Erosion and Sedimentation Law (Title 7, Chapter 29, Subchapter VI). This program also monitors timber harvests for compliance with Delaware's Seed Tree Law (Title 7, Chapter 29, Subchapter V). The program provides educational programs and individual assistance as the means to ensure that Best Management Practices (BMPs), such as forested buffers along water bodies, are properly installed in order to protect water quality. Forest Service staff also inspect active forest management sites, such as timber harvests, to ensure water quality is maintained.
- The Biomass Utilization Program strives to ensure that all wood and other biomass resources are properly utilized and recycled. The DDA Forest Service maintains and updates a directory of Delaware's wood processors (loggers, sawmills, timber buyers, etc.) every three years. A steering committee comprised of representatives from public and private organizations helps to direct efforts within the biomass program.

## PERFORMANCE MEASURES

	FY 1998 Actual	FY 1999 Budget	FY 2000 Gov. Rec.
% increase in # of participants in Forest Service educational programs (8,000 participants in FY 1998)	--	5	7.5
% fire company districts provided wildland fire assistance (equipment, training, suppression assistance, etc.) (62 fire districts total)	63	65	70
% timber harvests on non-industrial privately-owned lands which follow a forest management plan (acreage basis) (Annual harvest approx. 4,500 acres)	28	30	33
% communities provided urban forestry assistance (ed. activity, technical assistance, financial assistance, etc.) (82 communities total)	32	55	60

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## HARNESS RACING COMMISSION

65-01-05

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### ACTIVITIES

- In accordance with the Delaware Harness Racing Commission and United States Trotting Association guidelines, 2351 licenses were issued during Fiscal Year 1998.
- The Commission held one public hearing to discuss proposed changes to the Delaware Rules of Racing. The Commission also heard 37 appeals of judges' or the state steward's rulings during the year.

## PERFORMANCE MEASURES

	FY 1998 Actual	FY 1999 Budget	FY 2000 Gov. Rec.
% accredited stewards	66	100	100
% completion of computerized information system	50	75	100
% revenue deposited within two working days	75	90	100

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## PESTICIDES

65-01-06

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### ACTIVITIES

- Administer a licensing program for commercial pesticide applicators; provide certification and

# AGRICULTURE

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training for restricted use pesticide users; issue permits to dealers of restricted use pesticides sold in Delaware; and register pesticide products sold or distributed in Delaware.

- Investigate complaints of pesticide use/misuse, agricultural operations (odor, dust, noise, etc.), and conduct routine monitoring inspections of pesticide sales and use.
- Provide educational assistance to consumers and homeowners and emphasize topics such as, personal safety, food safety, integrated pest management, ground water protection, and urban pesticide use. Increase the opportunities for the certification and training of maintenance applicators (around schools, day-care centers, hospitals, apartment complexes), and pest control service technicians. Revise the State Plan for Certification by the end of 1999.
- Provide compliance assistance to the regulated community, and, as necessary, prosecute violations of state and federal pesticide statutes.
- Reduce the potential for adverse exposure and environmental impact from the improper disposal of unused pesticides and empty pesticide containers by providing inspection and logistical support of a pesticide container recycling program.
- Monitor and assess the State's ground water quality with respect to pesticide contaminants. Expand the Pesticides Ground Water State Management Plan to include additional monitoring wells and pesticide analytes. Prevent and mitigate potential pesticide contamination of the state's ground water resources.
- Provide laboratory analytical support for pesticide residue and formulation samples collected by field inspectors (soil, water, plant, animal, etc.); and samples collected for the enforcement of standards (food safety, soil termiticides, etc.). Maximize the number of samples collected and minimize the sample turn-around times.
- Cooperate with USDA in the enforcement of the federal pesticide record keeping requirements.
- Petition U.S. EPA for special local need registrations for pesticides and for emergency exemptions to control pest outbreaks.

## PERFORMANCE MEASURES

	FY 1998 Actual	FY 1999 Budget	FY 2000 Gov. Rec.
# investigations initiated	70	80	80
# samples submitted and analyzed	112	125	150
Sample turn-around (days)	20	17	15
% licensees in compliance	85	90	95
# education events	224	250	260

## PLANNING

65-01-07

### ACTIVITIES

- Review all development projects in Delaware, assess the impacts to agriculture, and advocate for mitigation of negative impacts.
- Operate the Farmland Preservation Program of Agricultural Districts and the Purchase of Development Rights.
- Provide computer network and communications services for the department.

### PERFORMANCE MEASURES

	FY 1998 Actual	FY 1999 Budget	FY 2000 Gov. Rec.
# acres prime Delaware farmland permanently preserved	7,274	7,000	7,000
Technical life cycle for all Department PCs (in years)	6	5.5	5
% zoning and subdivision proposals affecting agriculture reviewed	90	95	100

## PLANT INDUSTRIES

65-01-08

### ACTIVITIES

- Provide ongoing public education activities for all of Plant Industries programs.
- Administer biological control programs for invasive pest species.
- Administer gypsy moth survey and suppression program and maintain the infrastructure during the current low population cycles so DDA is prepared for any new outbreaks.
- License and inspect all nursery businesses and conduct certification inspections for nursery stock shipped interstate or to foreign countries.
- Detect and control noxious weed infestations through implementation of compliance agreements. Provide specialized spray equipment to the public for the application of herbicides.
- Register and inspect all honeybee colonies for diseases, mites, and Africanized bees. Assist the beekeeping industry with promotion and education programs. Provide inspections as needed by beekeepers for out-of-state shipments.

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- Assist and cooperate with USDA Plant Protection and Quarantine regarding: Export Certification of plants and plant products, processing permits for the interstate movement of plant pests, inspections of fields and facilities for agricultural biotechnology permits, post-entry quarantine inspections, processing permits for the interstate movement of soil, enforcement of federal and state quarantines, and administer the Cooperative Agricultural Pest Survey program.
- Survey and monitor other insect and plant disease pests that threaten Delaware's agricultural, horticultural, forestry, and environmental resources.
- Maintain federal grain inspection standards for granaries that have contracted with the Plant Industries Seed Laboratory for grain inspection services.
- Operate the seed certification program.
- Enforce the Federal Plant Varietal Protection Act.
- Test all types of seed offered for sale to determine compliance with the Seed Law.
- Examine and license operators of moisture testing devices.

- Review and revise the *Noxious Weed Law* and Regulations by Fiscal Year 2001.

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## *POULTRY AND ANIMAL HEALTH*

**65-01-09**

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### ACTIVITIES

- To prevent the spread of infectious and contagious diseases, including those transmitted from animal to man, 334 rabies and three encephalitis specimens were received and prepared for testing.
- To protect the health status of the state's multimillion dollar poultry industry, 612 avian influenza monitoring samples were taken at live poultry auctions.
- To safeguard the public from the dangers of exotic pet animals, 56 permits were issued after complying with state requirements.
- To assure the safety of the milk supply from Delaware dairy herds, 6437 brucellosis tests were performed by the diagnostic laboratory. In order to help safeguard the public from salmonella contamination, 1796 bacteriology samples were completed.
- To assist Delmarva broiler companies in placing healthier and less contaminated baby chicks in the field, 28,208 hatchery sanitation samples were collected and completed.
- In an effort to provide competent diagnostic services for the detection of animal and poultry disease, 38,895 procedures were completed in the diagnostic lab during Fiscal Year 1998.

### PERFORMANCE MEASURES

	FY 1998 Actual	FY 1999 Budget	FY 2000 Gov. Rec.
% of USDA Biotechnology Notifications meeting DDA requirements and reviewed within 10 days	100	100	100
% of approved regulatory permits meeting DDA requirements and reviewed within 10 days	100	100	100
Biological Control Projects in Progress	1	2	3
# of shipments certified for export by DDA rejected by importing entity	0	0	0
% of retail nursery locations inspected	50	55	60
% of greenhouses inspected twice	0	50	80
% of acres infested with noxious weeds treated or under a control program	55	60	65
% of registered honeybee colonies inspected	62	60	60
Certified acres inspected in seed certification program	10,781	10,900	11,000

#### Explanatory Performance Measures:

- Develop a state policy and plan to deal with non-indigenous invasive pest species by Fiscal Year 2001.

### PERFORMANCE MEASURES

	FY 1998 Actual	FY 1999 Budget	FY 2000 Gov. Rec.
# inspectors and lab personnel receiving additional training	4	5	6
# species monitored to 95% confidence level	5*	6**	7***
% human exposure rabies specimens with same-day turn around time	100	100	100

\*Poultry, cattle, swine, horses, dairy goats

\*\* Sheep

\*\*\*Aquaculture

# AGRICULTURE

65-00-00

## ***THOROUGHBRED RACING COMMISSION*** ***65-01-10***

### ACTIVITIES

- The Commission held three public hearings to discuss proposed changes to the Delaware Rules of Racing.
- The commission heard seven appeals of the stewards' rulings during the year.
- In accordance with recently passed legislation, 4105 licenses were issued during the Fiscal Year 1998.

### PERFORMANCE MEASURES

	FY 1998 Actual	FY 1999 Budget	FY 2000 Gov. Rec.
% accredited stewards	66	100	100
% completion of computerized information system	50	75	100
% revenue deposited within two working days	75	90	100

## ***WEIGHTS AND MEASURES*** ***65-01-11***

### ACTIVITIES

- **Commercial Petroleum Device Testing Program**  
Inspectors are responsible for checking commercial gas, diesel, and kerosene pumps for accurate delivery and price calculation. Inspectors also check for missing and burned out digital lights.
- **Commercially Used Small and Medium Capacity Scale Testing Program**  
Inspectors are responsible for approving all commercial scale for accuracy, proper tolerance, and digital segment lights. These types of scales are found at supermarkets, convenience stores, hardware stores etc. Over 2,900 scales are tested annually.
- **Commercially Used Vehicle Scale Testing Program (Feed, Fertilizer, Grain, Livestock, Poultry, Landfill, Logging, Salvage, etc.)**  
The accuracy of these scales, which usually have a capacity of 100,000 lbs., must be checked by applying known weights to each section of the scale platform. The known weights are transported by the Large Capacity Scale vehicle. There are currently 200 Vehicle scales in use.

- **Commercial Fuel Oil and Propane Home Delivery Meter Testing Program**

Inspectors check meters to verify that the delivered amount is within tolerance and that ticket printers operate in the proper manner. There are presently 462 meters in use.

- **Investigation of Consumer Complaints**

Throughout the year, this agency receives inquiries from citizens who believe that they encountered a problem or have been short-changed during some type of transaction. Inspectors personally visit the establishment, test the device in question for accuracy, and reply the findings to complainant.

- **Commercial Weighing and Measuring License Training Programs**

Training seminars are provided throughout the year for people in the trade industry to become commercially licensed in Delaware.

### PERFORMANCE MEASURES

	FY 1998 Actual	FY 1999 Budget	FY 2000 Gov. Rec.
# packages tested	34,412	35,000	38,000
Cash register scanner tests	13,701	14,000	14,500
% of total scales tested	97	100	100
% of total petroleum devices tested	89	94	100
% of total fuel oil/propane meters tested	92	100	100