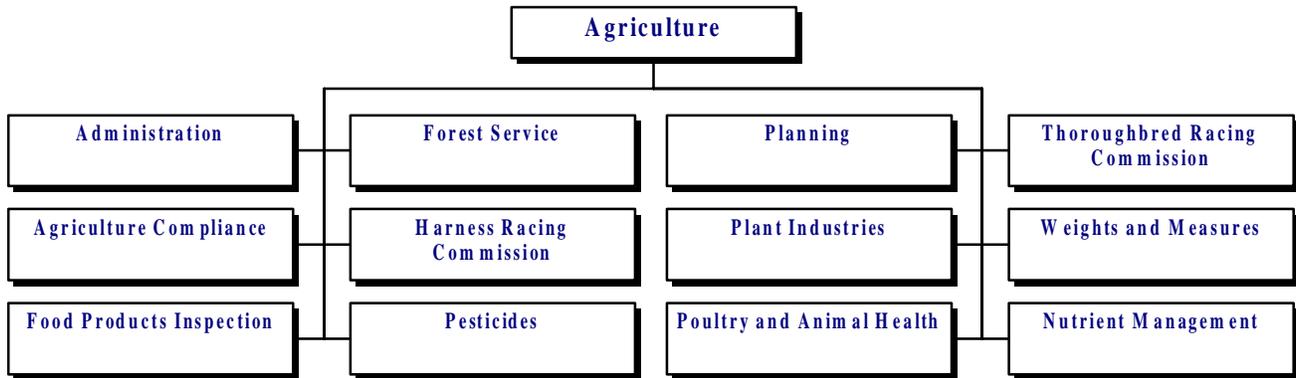


AGRICULTURE

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MISSION

To sustain and promote the viability of food, fiber, and agricultural industries in Delaware through quality services that protect and enhance the environment, health and welfare of the general public.

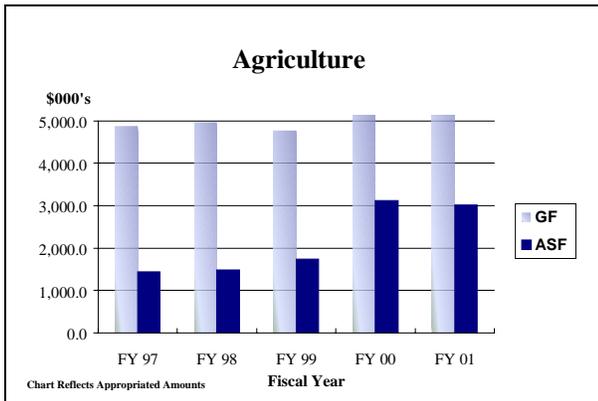
KEY OBJECTIVES

The most efficient use of limited resources to carry out mandated responsibilities that include, but are not limited to:

- Regulate those activities involving the generation and application of nutrients and maintain the quality of Delaware's ground and surface waters and meet or exceed federally mandated water quality standards, in the interest of the overall public welfare.
- Preserve permanently 51,600 acres of Delaware farmland by the year 2001.
- Participate in statewide land use planning and growth management efforts in order to enhance agricultural production and preserve open space.
- Continue to be the primary resource for agricultural and environmental education for Delaware educators.
- Protect consumers and provide equity in the marketplace for all transactions involving weight, measure or count.
- Promote the export and statewide consumption of food and fiber crops grown or processed in Delaware.
- Conserve, manage, and enhance Delaware's rural and urban forest resources through education, demonstration, analysis and technical assistance.
- Administer a regulatory program for livestock feeds, pet foods, fertilizers, liming materials, soil conditioners and frozen desserts.
- Protect the health and viability of livestock and poultry in Delaware and prevent the introduction and spread of infectious diseases, including those transmissible to humans.
- Control both domestic and foreign plant and insect threats to the food and fiber industries or to the environment.
- 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.
- Maintain regulatory and educational programs for the safe and effective use of pesticides.
- Provide the Delaware Thoroughbred and Harness Racing Commissions with support so the commissions can effectively and efficiently regulate the racing industries in a competent and impartial manner.

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BUDGET

	FY 1999 ACTUAL	FY 2000 BUDGET	FY 2001 GOV. REC.
GF	4,763.6	5,146.4	5,990.0
ASF	1,735.4	3,122.8	3,014.3
TOTAL	6,499.0	8,269.2	9,004.3

POSITIONS

	FY 1999 ACTUAL	FY 2000 BUDGET	FY 2001 GOV. REC.
GF	81.3	86.3	86.3
ASF	25.5	30.5	28.5
NSF	16.2	17.2	17.2
TOTAL	123.0	134.0	132.0

FY 2001 BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS

OPERATING BUDGET:

- ◆ Recommend enhancement of \$300.0 for Poultry Litter Transport. These funds are appropriated for alternative use projects that remove animal waste from the Delmarva peninsula and to fund transporting animal waste to locations where it will be used to enhance agricultural operations in compliance with nutrient management plans.
- ◆ Recommend enhancement of \$250.0 for Nutrient Management. These funds are appropriated for projects associated with the reduction of non-point source pollution including the development of a nutrient applicator certification program. Recommend funding for the planning and development of a Nutrient Management database in the Budget Office's Development Fund.
- ◆ Recommend enhancement of \$10.0 for postage, telephone and computer consulting services related to the administration of the Nutrient Management Commission.

- ◆ Recommend enhancement of \$7.2 for Information Systems Planner in Administration. Remainder of funding and position to come from a structural change transferring (\$36.7) and (1.0) FTE from 65-01-11. Also recommend structural change transferring (\$36.4) and (1.0) FTE Information Support Systems Specialist from Planning Section, 65-01-07. Recommend one-time funding of \$35.0 in the Budget Office's Contingency for replacement of the department's main server. These enhancements and structural changes are intended to centralize and enhance departmental information technology planning and administration.
- ◆ Recommend enhancement of \$5.0 for a metrology equipment calibration contract.
- ◆ Recommend enhancements of \$1.4 for vehicle maintenance; \$1.0 for work clothing; and \$1.1 for casual/seasonal employee costs for the Weights and Measures Section.

CAPITAL BUDGET:

- ◆ Recommend \$700.0 to complete renovations to the Agriculture Compliance Laboratory located at the Department of Agriculture facility in Dover.

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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 conducts 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 seeks to develop better lines of communication with those it regulates, 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 products under the authority of the 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 laws ensure that manufacturers label products with accurate, non-misleading information so that consumers are allowed to make well-informed decisions about the products they buy. The laws also authorize the inspection and testing of products to ensure that label claims are true and accurate. 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

The Food Product Inspection Section ensures that meat, poultry and egg products are safe for consumption and accurately labeled. 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

Forests, both rural and urban, are a vital resource of the state. Delaware is approximately 30 percent (350,000 acres) forested, and these rural forests provide numerous benefits to all Delawareans. Approximately 90 percent of these forests are privately owned. Community forests, those located within cities and towns, are equally important as they beautify the state, moderate temperatures, reduce storm water runoff, and conserve energy within the 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 offers programs to help citizens address these challenges.

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 30 percent (\$435,000 in federal FY 1999) 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. 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 monitors the conduct of the entire racing industry and holds investigative hearings.

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,

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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 a professional lawn care firm. Other constituents include farmers, pesticide dealers, commercial pesticide applicators (which includes 20 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 Office of 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 Section's statewide network for monitoring pesticides in shallow ground water consists of approximately 150 domestic and monitoring wells.

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. A May 1997 survey by the University of Delaware reported it as one of the four most serious concerns of Delawareans. Since March of 1996, the Delaware Agricultural Lands Preservation Foundation has received nearly 600 applications to preserve farmland. There are now 116,835 acres and 577 farms in Agricultural Preservation Districts and District expansions in Delaware. Almost 700 different families and organizations (titleholders) own these lands.

PLANT INDUSTRIES

Plant Industries is the plant and plant pest regulatory enforcement authority in the State. Plant Industries principal mission is to safeguard the environment and plant resources of the state from introduced and established plant and honeybee pests while facilitating domestic and international trade of plants, plant products and agricultural commodities. The programs

conducted deal directly with various groups, private industry and people in the state.

Plant Protection and Regulatory Programs. The *Plant Pest Law* gives this section the responsibility to detect and suppress insects, diseases, weeds and other pests that threaten plants, crops, and the environment. Plant Industries has the authority to quarantine certain products, plants 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 in cooperation with USDA Plant Protection & Quarantine and the University of Delaware Cooperative Extension Service. Surveys are conducted for non-native 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. Through this voluntary program, landowners request assistance from the department by requesting a fall egg mass survey. DDA is currently surveying approximately 45,000 acres of forest lands 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. There are an estimated 200,000 acres of land infested with one or more of these weeds, and 565,000 acres of farmland are at risk to infestation by these noxious weeds. 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.

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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 two 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 the local situation, but also regionally and nationally as well. 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 entire racing industry and holds investigative hearings.

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

Since its establishment in 1968, the Weights and Measures Section inspects home fuel and propane delivery truck meters, price verification, home food delivery services, parking meters, grain moisture meters, motor truck scales and small scales. Training programs are an important aspect of the Weights and Measures Section. 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 225 scale and liquid measurement technicians have been trained and licensed.

NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT

Pursuant to provisions of the 1972 Clean Water Act, the Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control (DNREC) and the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) which set forth a plan to restore the quality of Delaware's impaired waters to achieve federal water quality standards. The MOU has made it necessary to develop and implement programs to reduce non-point source (NPS) water pollution to bring water quality into compliance with legal standards. Studies have indicated that excess nutrient loading of surface lands has a negative effect on the quality of both surface and ground water. In 1998, the Delaware Advisory Committee on Nutrient Management was appointed to study the issue and develop recommendations. Following the recommendations of the committee, legislation was enacted which resulted in the appointment of the Delaware Nutrient Management Commission. The Commission is charged with regulating those activities involving the generation and application of nutrients; establishing a certification program for best management practices (BMPs); and establishing a nutrient management program (NMP). DDA is designated as the agency with staff responsibility to accomplish the requirement.

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ADMINISTRATION
65-01-01

ACTIVITIES

- Participate in and monitor strategies designed to protect agricultural lands in Delaware through the 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, and provide opportunities to increase the sales and value of their products.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES

	FY 1999 Actual	FY 2000 Budget	FY 2001 Request
Number of teachers trained to use Ag in the Classroom and Natural Resources Education Program	259	270	275
Number of Delaware agribusinesses/ associations impacted by marketing programs/ services	1,900	2,100	2,300

AGRICULTURE COMPLIANCE
65-01-02

ACTIVITIES

- A total of 10,302 products were requested to be registered with the office for FY 1998:
 - 2,581 Fertilizers and Soil Conditioners
 - 7,674 Livestock Feeds and Pet Foods
 - 47 Liming Materials

- During the course of official inspection of the Delaware marketplace, 665 samples were collected by the inspector and submitted to the laboratory for analysis for Fiscal Year 1999:
 - 187 Fertilizers
 - 117 Livestock feeds
 - 158 Pet foods
 - 8 Liming materials
 - 195 Frozen desserts
- Violations and Withdrawal from Distribution Orders are issued for non-registered products, mislabeled products, and nutrient deficiencies/excessives. The following numbers of violations were determined for Fiscal Year 1999:
 - 71 Fertilizers
 - 24 Feeds
 - 22 Pet food
 - 0 Limes
 - 7 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, measure and test milk from the dairy farms for payment purposes. The following number of dairy licenses were issued in Fiscal Year 1999:
 - 2 Milk dealers licenses
 - 3 Weighers and samplers licenses
 - 5 Babcock testers licenses

The general public submitted 17 fertilizers, 107 livestock feeds, 8 pet foods and 1 liming material for testing by the laboratory in Fiscal Year 1999.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES

	FY 1999 Actual	FY 2000 Budget	FY 2001 Request
Manure and fertilizer samples tested for nutrient content (number of samples)	0	0	1,000
Turnaround time for final reports (number of days)	N/A	N/A	7
Annual label reviews (number of reviews)	4150	5,151	5,151
(percent of total)	50	50	50
Turnaround time from sample collection to final report:			
Official samples (number of days)	26	13	7
Submitted samples (number of days)	7	4	2
Products tested for contaminants (number of samples)	11	22	40

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FOOD PRODUCTS INSPECTION 65-01-03

ACTIVITIES

A total of 5.5 million pounds of meat and poultry products were inspected in Fiscal Year 1999. During the course of inspection, there were 561 samples taken by the inspection staff and submitted to the laboratory for analysis in Fiscal Year 1999. Compliance officers conducted systematic statewide monitoring of businesses in food marketing and distribution of both domestic and imported products for wholesomeness, adulteration and labeling. Graders perform their work throughout the state at point of origins grading various commodities.

- 4.9 million pounds of processed meat products
- 641.3 thousand pounds of carcasses
- 64.4 thousand pounds of processed poultry products
- 39.2 thousand pounds condemned
- 16 salmonella samples
- 2 E.coli samples
- 22 compliance samples
- 500 check samples
- 22 compliance samples in retail stores
- 0 positive E.coli samples
- 6 species identification samples
- 234.2 million pounds of processed poultry
- 4.2 million pounds of eggs
- 646 thousand pounds of fruits and vegetables
- 546 retail shell egg inspections

PERFORMANCE MEASURES

	FY 1999 Actual	FY 2000 Budget	FY 2001 Request
Food service safety training programs.*	16	20	20
Meat and poultry products inspected/condemned**: (millions lbs.) inspected	5.5	6.1	6.6
(Thousands lbs.) condemned	39.2	40.0	40.2
Compliance enforcement, trucking companies, retail stores, state agencies**: # reviews	580	610	640
product condemned (thousands lbs.)	103.0	105.0	109.0
Laboratory samples**: #compliance and HACCP	0	3	6
Processed poultry and shell eggs graded* (million lbs.)	234.2	241.2	248.4
Fruit and vegetables inspected/graded (thousands lbs.)	646	646	646
Retail shell egg inspection and violations** #reviews	546	562	578
#violations	10	0	0

* Voluntary

** Mandatory

FOREST SERVICE 65-01-04

ACTIVITIES

The DDA Forest Service's various activities are grouped among three program areas—Forest Conservation, Forest Protection, and Forestry Education. While the responsibilities and services of these programs overlap, they are each unique and help the organization to achieve its objectives.

The Forest Conservation Program helps private forest landowners and communities to better manage their forest resources. DDA Forest Service staff in each county provide advice, recommendations and supervision, free of charge, to landowners for such activities as reforestation, timber stand improvement, forest management plans and timber harvests. Through the Forest Conservation Program, the Forest Service improves the health of community forests. Staff provide tree planting and tree care recommendations to cities, towns, communities, homeowners, planners, engineers and developers 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 Forest Protection Program attempts to monitor, maintain, and when possible, improve the health of Delaware's forests through wildfire prevention and suppression, forest health monitoring, and forest watershed protection. Wildfire prevention activities include educational (Smokey Bear) programs for first-grade students as well as programs at various public 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 train firefighters in wildland fire suppression techniques. In Fiscal Year 1999, the DDA Forest Service dispatched Delaware's nationally-qualified wildland fire crew for the first time. This crew is specially trained for large-scale firefighting assignments across the country. The DDA Forest Service assists with wildfire suppression by providing staff and specially equipped bulldozers to establish fire breaks (lines) and by loaning wildland fire suppression tools to volunteer fire companies.

Through the Forestry Education Program, the DDA Forest Service educates Delawareans about the

AGRICULTURE

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importance of our forests through activities on the State Forests and visits to schools and other organizations. 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—for a variety of objectives including: timber production, wildlife habitat enhancement, forest management demonstration and recreational opportunities. Blackbird and Redden contain the northern and southern field offices, outdoor educational trails, and wildland fire suppression equipment. The department is working with the Division of Facilities Management to complete a new office at Blackbird and convert Redden’s historic carriage house into a natural resources educational facility. Redden Forest also contains the historic, recently renovated, Redden Lodge, which is available to the public at a nominal cost. To further increase public knowledge of forestry issues, staff provide educational programs which address all aspects of forest management to school children, civic groups and other organizations. Examples are fire prevention (Smokey Bear) programs for first graders, an Arbor Day poster contest for grades K-5, forestry programs for landowners, and Project Learning Tree (PLT), which provides teachers with environmental lessons that they incorporate into their students’ curriculum.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES

	FY 1999 Actual	FY 2000 Budget	FY 2001 Request
% of the timber harvests on non-industrial privately-owned lands which follow a forest management plan (acreage basis) (FY 1999 harvest approx. 4,000 acres)	16	20	25
% of communities provided urban forestry assistance (ed. activity, technical assistance, financial assistance, etc.) (82 communities total)	37	50	60
% of fire company districts provided wildland fire assistance (equipment, training, suppression assistance, etc.) (62 fire districts total)	68	70	70
% increase in the number of participants in Forest Service educational programs compared to FY 1999. (11,500 participants in FY 1999)	--	10	15

HARNESS RACING COMMISSION 65-01-05

ACTIVITIES

- In accordance with the Delaware Harness Racing Commission and United States Trotting Association guidelines, 3,113 licenses were issued during Fiscal Year 1999 in order to maintain a complete database on all participants at Delaware harness racing meets.
- In order to better serve the harness racing industry, and to keep abreast of current racing changes, the Commission held 12 public meetings to discuss proposed changes to the Delaware Rules of Racing and the operation of Harness Racing at the State’s two harness tracks.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES

	FY 1999 Actual	FY 2000 Budget	FY 2001 Request
Investigative cases	<than 50	>than 75	>than 100
% of Background investigations	35	80	100

PESTICIDES 65-01-06

ACTIVITIES

- Administer a licensing program for commercial pesticide applicators; provide certification and training for restricted use pesticide users; issue permits to dealers of restricted use pesticides sold in the State of Delaware; and register pesticide products sold or distributed in the State of 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 as needed 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. Maintain an active role in the EPA Urban Initiative to ensure safe pesticide use in urban environments.

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- Provide compliance assistance to the regulated community, and, as necessary, prosecute violations of state and federal pesticide statutes. Cooperate with the U.S. EPA on pesticide cancellations; enforcement of 40 CFR, Part 170, Worker Protection Standards, producer establishment inspections; and other federal pesticide program initiatives.
- 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. Prevent and mitigate potential pesticide contamination of the state's ground water resources.
- Provide dynamic 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 1999 Actual	FY 2000 Budget	FY 2001 Request
Number of monitoring well samples collected in support of Nutrient Management program	0	0	70
Number of pesticide use investigations	50	60	70
% of total laboratory analyses supporting soil monitoring	10	10	15
% of total laboratory analyses supporting investigations	20	25	30
% licensees in compliance	85	90	95
Public Outreach Events	10	12	18
Certified Pesticide Applicator training events monitored	323	350	360

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 1999 Actual	FY 2000 Budget	FY 2001 Request
Acres of prime, Delaware farmland permanently preserved	13,531	12,110	4,264
Percent of 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 of this pest so that 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.
- Assist and cooperate with USDA Plant Protection & Quarantine regarding: export certification of plants

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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.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES

	FY 1999 Actual	FY 2000 Budget	FY 2001 Request
Pest Detection & Control Programs			
Biological Control Projects in Progress	1	1	2
Commodity Certification & Inspection Programs			
# of shipments certified for export by DDA rejected by importing entity	0	0	0
Nursery Certification & Inspection Program			
% of retail nursery locations inspected	50	65	100
% of greenhouses inspected twice	0	50	80
Noxious Weed Control Program			
% of acres infested with noxious weeds treated or under a control program	60	65	70
Apiary Inspection & Registration Program			
% of registered honey bee colonies inspected	62	60	60
Regulatory Permits Program			
% 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

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

plan is currently being prepared in conjunction with the Delaware Invasive Species Council.

- Develop by Fiscal Year 2001 a Plant Industries Health and Safety Plan that encompasses all of the section's Standard Operating Procedures.

POULTRY AND ANIMAL HEALTH

65-01-09

ACTIVITIES

- To prevent the spread of infectious and contagious diseases, including those transmitted from animal to man, 294 rabies and five encephalitis specimens were received from the public and prepared for testing.
- To protect the health status of the state's multimillion dollar poultry industry. 420 avian influenza monitoring samples were taken at live poultry auctions.
- To safeguard the public from the dangers of exotic pet animals, 60 permits were issued after complying with state requirements.
- To assure the safety of the milk supply from Delaware dairy herds, 3,098 brucellosis tests were performed by the diagnostic laboratory. To help safeguard the public from Salmonella contamination, 1712 bacteriology samples were completed.
- To assist Delmarva broiler companies in placing healthier and less contaminated baby chicks in the field, 22,520 hatchery sanitation samples were collected and completed.
- To provide competent diagnostic services for the detection of animal and poultry disease, 29,895 procedures were completed in the diagnostic laboratory during Fiscal Year 1999.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES

	FY 1999 Actual	FY 2000 Budget	FY 2001 Request
# of inspectors and lab personnel receiving additional training this year	5	6	7
# of species monitored to the 95% confidence level	6*	7**	8**
% of 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

- To better serve the thoroughbred racing industry, and to keep abreast of current racing changes, eleven public meetings were held by the Commission to discuss proposed changes to the Delaware Rules of Racing and the operation of Thoroughbred Racing at Delaware Park.
- The commission heard 17 appeals of the stewards' rulings during the year.
- In accordance with recently passed legislation, 5,790 licenses were issued during the Fiscal Year 1999. Every effort is being made to enter all license into a complete data base system for retrieval, when necessary, by the Commission.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES

	FY 1999 Actual	FY 2000 Budget	FY 2001 Request
Investigative cases	< than 50	>than 75	> than 100
% of Background investigations	75	100	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.
- Commercial Used Small and Medium Capacity Scale Testing Program: Inspectors are responsible for approving all commercial scales for accuracy, proper tolerance, and digital segment lights. These types of scales are found at supermarkets, convenience stores, hardware stores etc.
- Commercial Vehicle Scale Testing Program: Inspectors are responsible for approving the accuracy of vehicle, live stock and vehicle poultry scales. These scales have a capacity of up to 200,000 lbs.
- Commercial Fuel Oil and Propane Home Delivery Meter Testing Program: Inspectors check vehicle tank meters to verify that the delivered amount is within tolerance and that ticket printers operate in the proper manner.

- Investigation of Consumer Complaints: Throughout the year, this agency receives inquiries from citizens who believe that they encountered a problem or have been shortchanged 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 1999 Actual	FY 2000 Budget	FY 2001 Request
Consumer education presentations	10	20	30
All scales tested	3,209	3,300	3,500
% of total	100	100	100
Petroleum Devices			
Tested	8,000	8,163	8,300
% of total	97	97	100
Fuel Oil/Propane			
Tested	462	477	500
% of total	100	100	100

NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT **65-01-12**

ACTIVITIES

- Coordinate the Nutrient Plan preparation.
- Develop education, awareness and certification programs for nutrient users.
- Develop NMP and animal waste management plan requirements.
- Establish a certification program that encourages the implementation of best management practices in the generation, handling or land application of nutrients in Delaware.
- Develop a list of entities and industries required to become certified.
- Develop an application process and form for certification.
- Establish process/procedures for investigation of complaints.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES

	FY 1999 Actual	FY 2000 Budget	FY 2001 Request
# of educational events	N/A	32	64
% nutrient handlers with approved nutrient management plans	N/A	5	10
% of nutrient handlers certified	N/A	5	10