

**Agriculture Commissioner
Budget 602
House Bill No. 1009; Senate Bill No. 2146**

	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
2013-15 legislative appropriation	77.00	\$9,519,217	\$15,754,591	\$25,273,808
2011-13 legislative appropriation	<u>77.00</u>	<u>8,196,746</u>	<u>14,801,251</u>	<u>22,997,997</u>
2013-15 appropriation increase (decrease) to 2011-13 appropriation	0.00	\$1,322,471	\$953,340	\$2,275,811

Item Description

Accrued leave payments - In Section 1 of House Bill No. 1009, the Legislative Assembly identified \$237,295, of which \$132,719 is from the general fund and \$104,576 is from other funds, for accrued leave payments.

Transfer from the environment and rangeland protection fund to the minor use pesticide fund - In Section 2 of House Bill No. 1009, the Legislative Assembly directed the Agriculture Commissioner to transfer \$325,000 from the environment and rangeland protection fund to the minor use pesticide fund.

Grape and Wine Advisory Committee - In Senate Bill No. 2146, the Legislative Assembly directed the Agriculture Commissioner to appoint a Grape and Wine Advisory Committee. The bill appropriated \$80,000 from the general fund for the purpose of awarding grape and wine industry grants.

Agriculture wetland credit program - In 2013 House Bill No. 1247, the Legislative Assembly directed the Agriculture Commissioner to create and maintain an electronic database of wetland credits that are available for purchase by an agricultural landowner.

Status/Result

The Department of Agriculture has expended \$23,260 for accrued leave payments through February 2014. The department anticipates using funds from the accrued leave payments line item for salaries and wages but does not have an estimate of the amount of funds that will be transferred.

The Department of Agriculture completed the transfer in November 2013.

The Grape and Wine Advisory Committee has met and selected two projects for research grant awards totaling \$68,500, of which \$66,500 is for a research project at North Dakota State University. The grants will be processed by the Department of Agriculture. The Department of Agriculture anticipates the remaining \$11,500 will be used for marketing grants.

The Department of Agriculture has created an electronic database of wetland credits available for purchase.