

MICROFILM DIVIDER

OMB/RECORDS MANAGEMENT DIVISION

SFN 2053 (2/85) 5M



ROLL NUMBER

DESCRIPTION

1022

2007 HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS

HB 1022

2007 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Bill/Resolution No. HB 1022

House Appropriations Committee
Education and Environment Division

Check here for Conference Committee

Hearing Date: January 15, 2007

Recorder Job Number: 1140

Committee Clerk Signature

Shirley Branning

Minutes:

Chairman Wald opened the hearing on HB 1022, Seed Department.

Kenneth Bertsch, State Seed Commissioner (See attached handout 1-HB1022) Seed Department Budget focusing changes in 07-09 as compared to the 05-07. Budget. The budget development is guided by long range agency planning. The budget increase, for a total of \$236,111, is highlighted in the Power Point graph. Page 3 of the testimony includes further explanation of each line item.

Representative Klein: The operating budget for the biennium has decreased?

Ken Bertsch Yes, you are correct and page 3 you'll see that \$20,000 that was formerly planned IT expenditure into our capital line. Those are the only changes between those lines.

Chairman Wald Are there any questions? Hearing none, that concludes this hearing.

Do Pass motion made by Rep. Monson, seconded by Rep. Hawken.

Vote: 7 yes, 0 no, 0 absent

Carrier: Rep Gulleson

Hearing closed

2007 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Bill/Resolution No. 1022

House Appropriations Committee

Check here for Conference Committee

Hearing Date: 1/22/07

Recorder Job Number: 1535

Committee Clerk Signature

Kanya Voegell

Minutes:

Chairman Svedjan opened the hearing on House Bill 1022.

Rep. Gulleson reviewed the green fiscal sheet for the Seed Department.

Representative Kempenich: Do they use State Fleet vehicles?

Rep. Gulleson: I believe they are part of the State Fleet.

Rep. Nelson: Help me understand, I know there is another piece of legislation that is being considered to grant the State Seed Department some protection from liability. There was a lawsuit that they settled in the current biennium for a considerable amount of money. How does this department, a self funded department, make those agreements and where does that funding come from when it is settled out of court or through the court process and a judgment is rendered? How is that handled in the budget?

Rep. Gulleson: I am not familiar with how they handled that.

Rep. Wald: It is my understanding that all of the state agencies are covered by the Risk Management Fund. I don't think there is any special liability exposure. I don't recall hearing any testimony on a lawsuit when we heard the budget.

Chairman Svedjan: All agencies pay into the Risk Management Fund. Allen, is there anything you can provide in addition to this? Do you believe that the assumption is correct that it would be paid out of the Risk Management Fund?

Allen Knudson: I don't have anything to add but your assumption is correct.

Representative Skarphol: I am a little curious about the \$100,000 for extraordinary repairs, in looking at the budget detail that is the number they had this biennium as well but in the previous biennium it was \$30,884 and that is a rather significant change. I can understand if they had something come up. Did they give you anymore detail on that \$100,000 because that is a significant amount of money for this size of budget?

Rep. Gulleon: I think part of it is just that the building and maintenance. I don't know if there was any specific item other than the lab which was identified separately.

Representative Skarphol: I was asked to have a bill draft done that puts all extraordinary repairs and deferred maintenance into one bill. In doing some analysis of that the Governor did increase the total appropriation for deferred maintenance and extraordinary repairs by 75% over what the agencies requested. I do think it is something we need to keep track of in these budgets. One further issue on this particular budget is I see there is a \$300,000 line item for what is called non-operating expenses. I am curious to know what that means.

Allen Knudson: I know in the past they used to have what is called a contingency appropriation. That may be what it is, we will do some further checking if you like.

Representative Skarphol: It was zero in the 03-05 bienniums. It was \$300,000 in this current biennium and they are asking \$300,000 for the next biennium. It is a pretty vague line item.

Rep. Gulleon: That is consistent to what they had in the past in their contingency line item. They request it to be able to respond to any type of emergency type of problem such as cardinal blunt or any other related emergency testing that occurs within the seed processes during that biennium.

Representative Kempenich: Was that lawsuit regarding potatoes?

Rep. Nelson: Yes.

Chairman Svedjan: We know that other bill for extraordinary repairs is in. What you are proposing here is that we fund the request for extraordinary repairs. In your analysis, over in Government Operations, for that bill if you were to make changes to this I presume it would be the last piece passed that would prevail.

Allen Knudson: With appropriations if there is an appropriation in this bill and an appropriation in that bill, they would both be appropriated. So they would have \$100,000 from here plus \$100,000 from the other bill for a total of \$200,000 that they could spend.

Chairman Svedjan: As a practical matter, how do we best handle this because we don't know the outcome of that other bill?

Rep. Wald: In the past when we have adjusted salaries or other items, isn't there one fell swoop amendment that amends all of these bills that have in this case deferred maintenance in it?

Chairman Svedjan: It has been handled that way with other matters. I don't recall doing it with extraordinary repairs or deferred maintenance concept.

Allen Knudson: If you would pass the bill over to the Senate then we could no longer do that in the House until it would go to conference committee.

Rep. Gulleon: This bill provides for the authority for them to use it out of their special funds. The extraordinary repair bill does that separate it out by funds or is that all general fund appropriation?

Representative Skarphol: The bill number is 1459. What Legislative Council did was pull all of the extraordinary repairs out of all of the budgets the exact same numbers that are in the budgets and put it all into one bill. I think you are correct Mr. Chairman in your assessment that last pass would prevail. What I am suggesting is that if subcommittees feel it appropriate to change that number they would Government Operations so we could change that number to

correspond. If there is something that we think needs to be investigated in a particular budget we will bring it to that subcommittee.

Rep. Gulleon: We recommended the \$100,000 amount which is consistent with what they requested so we didn't recommend an increase nor a decrease.

Chairman Svedjan: We have a couple of options here. We could take action on the bill today and dispose of it. I could hold it before we bring it up to the floor to see what the outcome of that other bill is in the event that there might be a suggested change to the amount of extraordinary repairs. We can proceed on the bill today if that is the wish of the committee.

Rep. Wald: I think we should because the most recent bill to pass would have precedent.

A motion was made by Rep. Gulleon, seconded by Rep. Wald to DO PASS House Bill 1022 and send to the House Floor. The committee vote was 22 Yeas, 0 Nays, 2 Absent and Not Voting. The bill will be carried by Rep. Gulleon.

Date: 1/22/07
 Roll Call Vote #: 1

2007 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE ROLL CALL VOTES
BILL/RESOLUTION NO. 1022

House Appropriations Full Committee

Check here for Conference Committee

Legislative Council Amendment Number

Action Taken No Pass - no amend.

Motion Made By Gulleson Seconded By Weid

Representatives	Yes	No	Representatives	Yes	No
Chairman Svedjan	✓				
Vice Chairman Kemperich	✓				
Representative Wald	✓		Representative Aarsvold	✓	
Representative Monson	✓		Representative Gulleson	✓	
Representative Hawken	✓				
Representative Klein	✓				
Representative Martinson	✓				
Representative Carlson	✓		Representative Glassheim	✓	
Representative Carlisle	✓		Representative Kroeber	✓	
Representative Skarphol	✓		Representative Williams	✓	
Representative Thoreson	✓				
Representative Pollert	✓		Representative Ekstrom	✓	
Representative Bellew	✓		Representative Kerzman	✓	
Representative Kreidt	✓		Representative Metcalf	✓	
Representative Nelson	✓				
Representative Wieland	✓				

Total (Yes) 22 No 0

Absent 2

Floor Assignment Gulleson

If the vote is on an amendment, briefly indicate intent:

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE (410)
January 23, 2007 11:36 a.m.

Module No: HR-14-1009
Carrier: Gulleson
Insert LC: . Title: .

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

HB 1022: Appropriations Committee (Rep. Svedjan, Chairman) recommends DO PASS
(22 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 2 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). HB 1022 was placed on the
Eleventh order on the calendar.

2007 SENATE APPROPRIATIONS

HB 1022

2007 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Bill/Resolution No. 1022

Senate Appropriations Committee

Check here for Conference Committee

Hearing Date: 02-26-07

Recorder Job Number: 3834

Committee Clerk Signature

Janet Pinker

Minutes:

Chairman Holmberg opened the hearing on HB 1022 with roll call.

Ken Bertsch, State Seed Commissioner, Administrator, State Seed Department, presented written testimony on HB 1022. He discussed an overview of the programs and the budget request.

Chairman Holmberg asked about the potato checkoff and if it has anything to do with this budget. The response was no.

Senator Tallackson asked how big a board the commissioner has. The response was 9 members.

Senator Bowman moved a do pass on HB 1022, **Senator Krauter** seconded. There was no discussion and a roll call vote was taken resulting in 13 yes, 0 no, 1 absent. The motion passed. **Senator Bowman** will carry the bill.

Chairman Holmberg closed the hearing on HB 1022.

Date: 2/24
Roll Call Vote #: 1

2007 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ROLL CALL VOTES
BILL/RESOLUTION NO. 1022

Senate Appropriations Committee

Check here for Conference Committee

Legislative Council Amendment Number _____

Action Taken Do Pass

Motion Made By Bowman Seconded By Krauter

Senators	Yes	No	Senators	Yes	No
Chairman Ray Holmberg	✓		Senator Aaron Krauter	✓	
Vice Chairman Bill Bowman	✓		Senator Elroy N. Lindaas	✓	
Vice Chairman Tony Grindberg	✓		Senator Tim Mathern	✓	
Senator Randel Christmann			Senator Larry J. Robinson	✓	
Senator Tom Fischer	✓		Senator Tom Seymour	✓	
Senator Ralph L. Kilzer	✓		Senator Harvey Tallackson	✓	
Senator Karen K. Krebsbach	✓				
Senator Rich Wardner	✓				

Total (Yes) 13 No 0

Absent 1

Floor Assignment Bowman

If the vote is on an amendment, briefly indicate intent:

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE (410)
February 26, 2007 3:46 p.m.

Module No: SR-36-3936
Carrier: Bowman
Insert LC: . Title: .

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

HB 1022: Appropriations Committee (Sen. Holmberg, Chairman) recommends DO PASS
(13 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 1 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). HB 1022 was placed on the
Fourteenth order on the calendar.

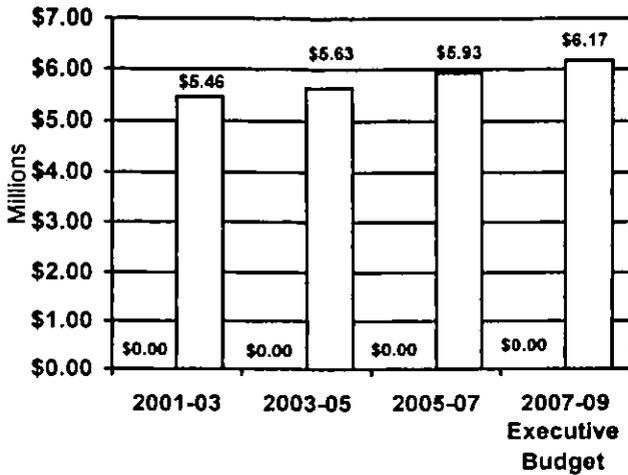
2007 TESTIMONY

HB 1022

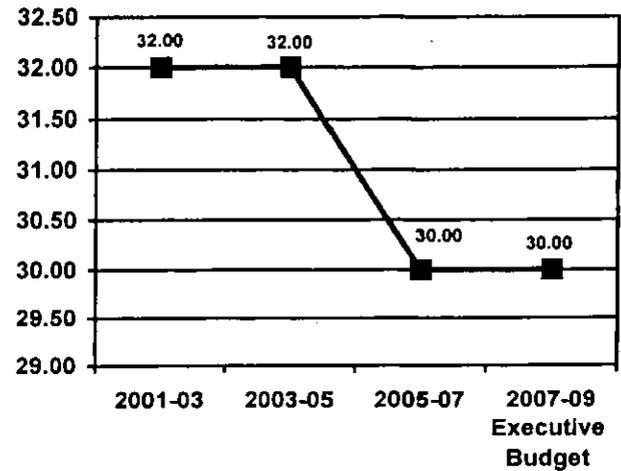
**Department 616 - Seed Department
 House Bill No. 1022**

	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
2007-09 Executive Budget	30.00	\$0	\$6,169,502	\$6,169,502
2005-07 Legislative Appropriations	30.00	0	5,933,391	5,933,391
Increase (Decrease)	0.00	\$0	\$236,111	\$236,111

Agency Funding



FTE Positions



■ General Fund □ Other Funds

Executive Budget Highlights

1. Provides special funds spending authority for extraordinary repairs relating to general maintenance and repairs to building
2. Provides special funds spending authority for laboratory testing equipment over \$5,000
3. Decreases special funds spending authority for information technology costs

	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
		\$100,000	\$100,000
		\$40,000	\$40,000
		(\$10,000)	(\$10,000)

Continuing Appropriations

No continuing appropriations for this agency

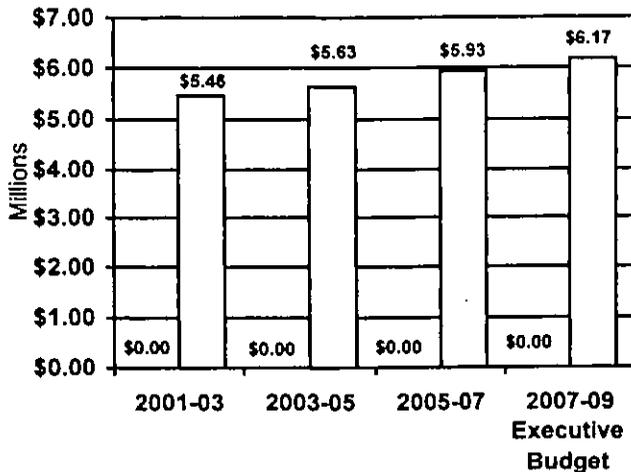
Major Related Legislation

At this time, no major legislation has been introduced affecting this agency.

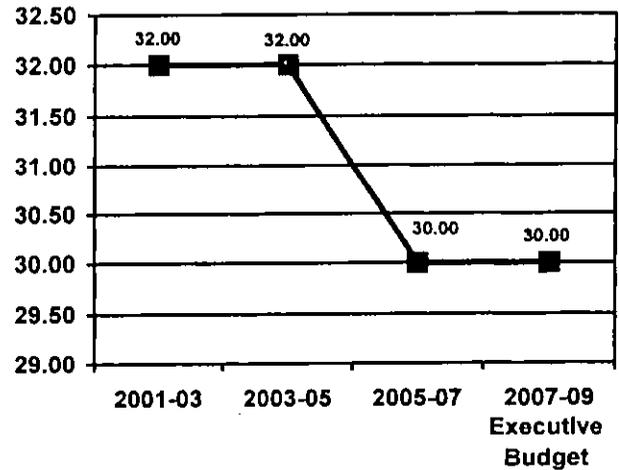
Department 616 - Seed Department
House Bill No. 1022

	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
2007-09 Executive Budget	30.00	\$0	\$6,169,502	\$6,169,502
2005-07 Legislative Appropriations	30.00	0	5,933,391	5,933,391
Increase (Decrease)	0.00	\$0	\$236,111	\$236,111

Agency Funding



FTE Positions



■ General Fund □ Other Funds

First House Action

The House did not change the executive budget recommendation for the Seed Department.

Executive Budget Highlights

	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
1. Provides special funds spending authority for extraordinary repairs relating to general maintenance and repairs to building		\$100,000	\$100,000
2. Provides special funds spending authority for laboratory testing equipment over \$5,000		\$40,000	\$40,000
3. Decreases special funds spending authority for information technology costs		(\$10,000)	(\$10,000)

Continuing Appropriations

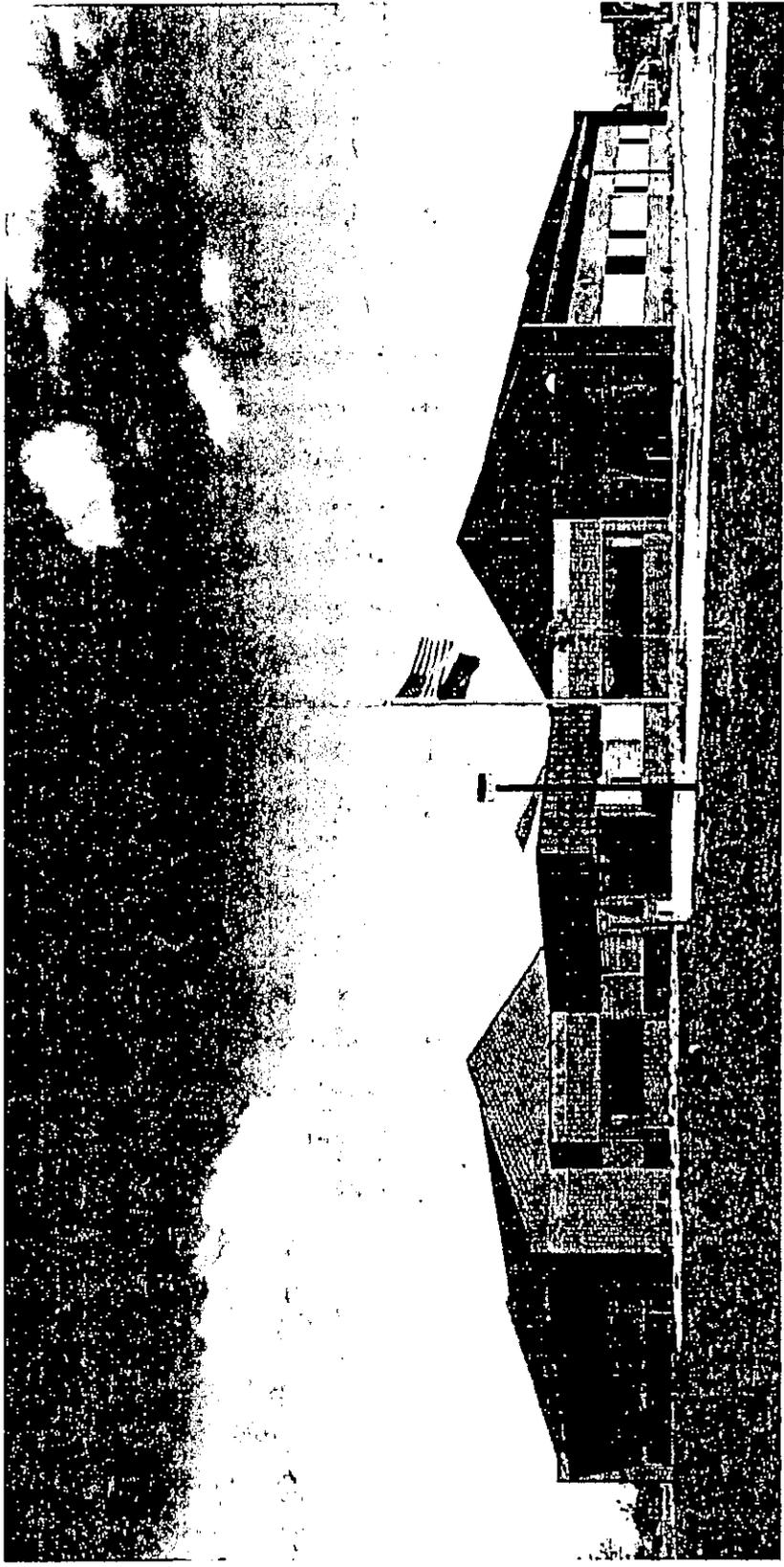
No continuing appropriations for this agency.

Major Related Legislation

House Bill No. 1459 - This bill provides a \$100,000 other funds appropriation to the Seed Department for extraordinary repairs for the same purpose as provided in House Bill No. 1022.

*Same testimony
given to the Senate*

North Dakota State
NDSSD
Seed Department



NORTH DAKOTA STATE SEED DEPARTMENT
HB 1022
2007-2009 BUDGET REQUEST



Kenneth J. Bertsch
State Seed Commissioner

Testimony

HB 1022
Seed Department Budget
House Appropriations Committee

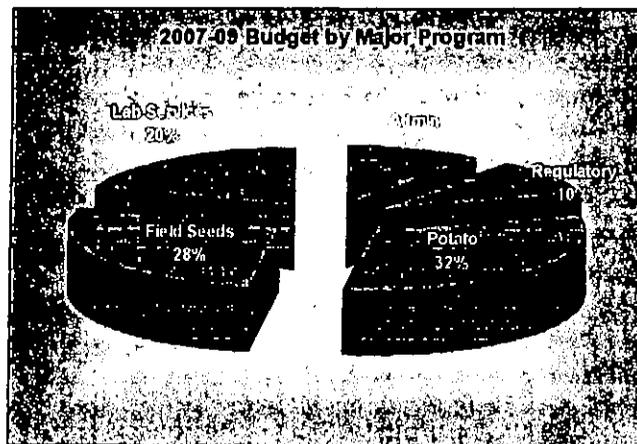
January 16, 2007

Good morning Mr. Chairman and members of the House Appropriations Committee. For the record, my name is Ken Bertsch and I serve as State Seed Commissioner and Administrator of the State Seed Department. I appreciate the opportunity to speak to you today on behalf of the State Seed Commission and to provide an overview of HB 1022, the Seed Department budget.

With the consent of the Committee, I will provide brief background of the budget request focusing on any change-areas in 07-09 as compared to the 05-07 budget. I would like to point out that the budget development process is guided by an **agency long-range plan** completed in late 2003 and updated in 2006, and is approved by the Seed Commission by virtue of their authority in state century code. The Commission is a nine-member board of directors appointed by associations throughout the state, which approves budgets, provides for policy changes and sets fees for the agency.

Overview of Programs

The Seed Department operates five major programs: Administration, Seed Regulatory, Field Seed Certification, Potato Certification and Laboratory Services. We have included a PowerPoint slide printout in this packet that provides additional information on Department programs. The graph below contains fiscal breakdowns of the various agency programs in 05-07 and 07-09 comparative format.



	<u>2005-07</u>	<u>2007-09</u>
Administration	631,258	631,258
Lab Services	1,150,487	1,216,443
Field Seeds	1,671,924	1,725,994
Potato Program	1,874,524	1,962,255
Seed Regulatory	<u>605,198</u>	<u>633,552</u>
Total	5,933,391	6,169,502

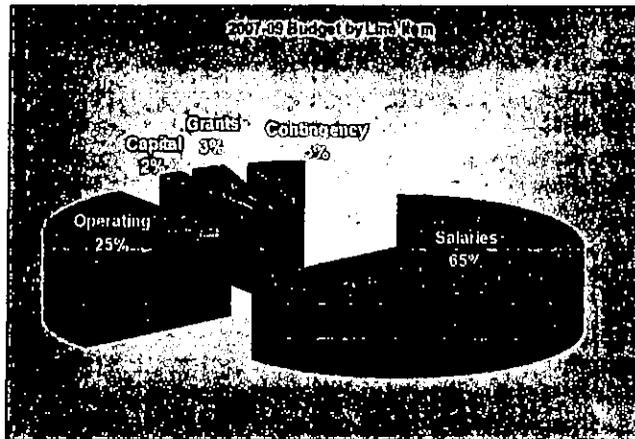
Section 1

Section 1 of HB 1022 provides the base level funding for the Seed Department 05-07 budget, which is the same as the 05-07 appropriation, and was rolled into a single line in the 2005 Legislative Session. Six line items have been traditionally used to describe the major operating functions of the budget. We will continue to outline the six major areas (salaries, operating, capital improvements, grants, contingencies) for purpose of comparison.

As you know, the Seed Department is a self-funded agency whose budget consists (in total) of special funds, and whose revenues are derived from service fees.

Section 2

Section 2 of HB 1022 shows a total increase of \$236,111 (4.0%) over 05-07, which is made up solely of the governor's recommended increase for compensation package adjustments.



	<u>2005-07</u>	<u>2007-09</u>
Salaries	3,722,854	3,958,965
Operating	1,590,537	1,570,537
Capital	120,000	140,000
Grants	200,000	200,000
Contingencies	<u>300,000</u>	<u>300,000</u>
Total	5,933,391	6,169,502

The chart above breaks down the line item changes between 05-07 and 07-09 requests. You will find additional information on each line item on page 3 of this testimony.

<u>Salaries</u>	05-07	07-09	Inc/Dec	%	Net Change
	\$3,722,854	\$3,958,965	\$236,111	6.3%	\$236,111

The entire of the net change is a result of the Governor's salary increase recommendation (4%-4%, compounded) impacting base salary and benefits package.

<u>Operating</u>	05-07	07-09	Inc/Dec	%	Net Change
	\$1,590,537	\$1,570,537	-\$20,000	-1.2	-\$20,000

Operating is reduced by 1.2%, due to a reduction of \$20,000 in planned IT expenditures, shifted to an increase in capital expenditures (see below).

<u>Capital</u>		Net Change
Capital expenditures increase by \$20,000 to allow for updating laboratory equipment to current industry standards.		\$20,000

<u>Grants</u>		Net Change
Remain static at 05-07 budget levels. The grants line is utilized to fund seed industry promotion efforts with revenues generated by final-certification fees.		\$0

<u>Contingency</u>		Net Change
Remains at the same level as the past five biennial budgets. The contingency line was designed to provide the Department with spending authorization to respond to emergency phytosanitary problems such as Kamal Bunt or agro-terrorism-related emergency testing should it become necessary.		\$0

Total Net Increase	\$236,111
Total Seed Department Special Funds Appropriation	\$6,196,502

We have provided information to Committee Counsel regarding the 05-07 budget and the 07-09 budget request as to budget utilization, variances and staffing. I would be happy to answer any questions the Committee may have on this budget information or on the operation of the State Seed Department. Thank you for the opportunity to present information on HB 1022.

North Dakota State

NDSSD

Seed Department

North Dakota State **NDSSD** Seed Department



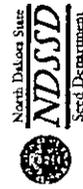
State Seed Department Agency Background and History

- ◆ Established 1931, ND Legislative Assembly
- ◆ State "Designated Authority"
 - Seed certification
 - State Seed Laboratory
 - State/Federal cooperative programs
 - Regulatory
- ◆ Unique structure/mission among peers
 - "One-Stop" function
 - Board Directed (Citizen)
 - Self Funded- Service Fees

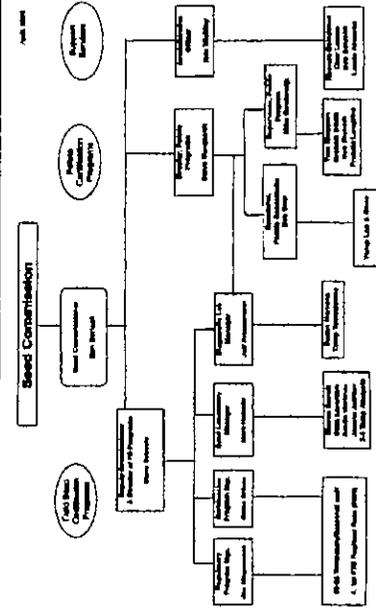


ND State Seed Commission

- | | |
|---|---|
| Jeff Weispenning , Chairman
ND Dept. of Agriculture | Ken Bartsch , Commissioner
ND State Seed Department |
| Kim Alberty , West Fargo
ND Agriculture Association | Myron Uttermark , Leeds
ND Grain Dealers Assn. |
| Richard Fugleberg , Portland
ND Dry Edible Bean Assn. | Bob Moe , West Fargo
ND Potato Council |
| Mike Gartner , Mandan
ND Crop Improvement Assn. | Brad Nilson , Hoople
Northern Plains Potato Assn. |
| Dr. Ken Gratton
NDSU Ag Exp Station | John Thiela , St. Thomas
ND Cert. Seed Potato Growers |



Agency Organizational Chart



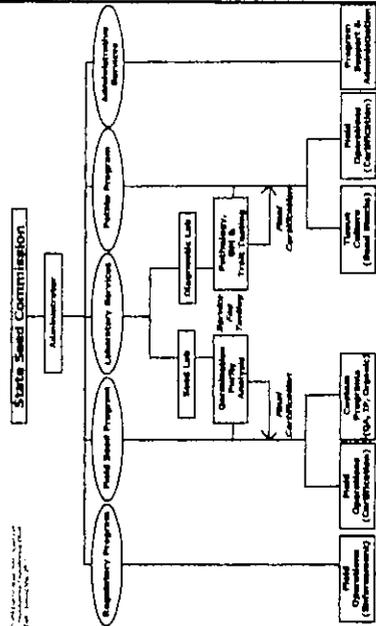


Major Programs

- Field Seed Certification
- Potato Certification
- Laboratory Services
- Seed Regulatory
- Administration



Program Flowchart



Field Seed Certification Program

- Field Seed Inspection
- Seed Final Certification
- Custom Programming
- Seed Promotion
- Technical Assistance
- Seed Conditioner & Facility Approval



Program Director: Steve Sebesta, MS+
NDCC 4-08, 4-42

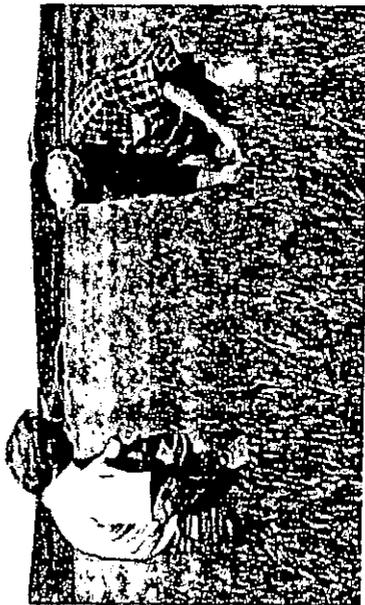


Field Seed Certification Program

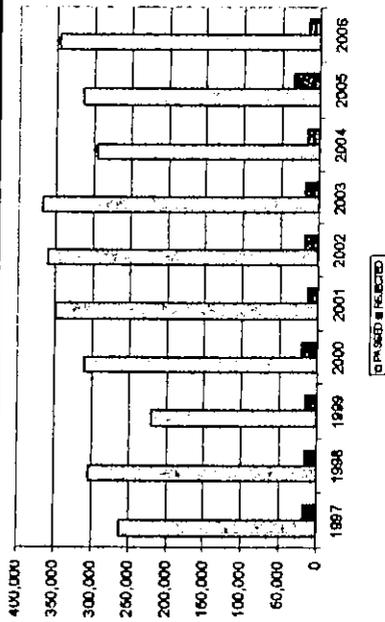
- ◆ Purpose: Product certification and assurance of quality factors
- ◆ Association of Official Seed Certification Agencies (AOSCA)
- ◆ Largest field crop certification program in U.S.
- ◆ Field Cert. Standards - NDAC 74-03



Field Inspection



Field Inspection Acres 10 Year History



Field Seed Program 2006 Statistics

368,669	Total acres inspected
4,344	Total fields inspected
23	Crops inspected
306	Varieties inspected
933	Seed growers
165	Bulk retail facilities
171	Approved seed conditioners
34	Field inspectors
4	States inspected in
7.4	Million bushels certified



Final Certification

- ◆ Laboratory analysis of quality factors
 - Germination standards
 - Purity standards
 - Presence/absence of noxious weeds
 - Presence/absence of disease
 - Presence of known traits (herbicide resistance)
- ◆ Annual volume typically exceeds 7 million bushels
- ◆ NDAC 74-03



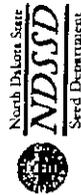
Custom Programs

- ◆ **Identity Preserved (IP) Inspections**
 - "Traceability" of product
 - Movement to food chain
- ◆ **Move toward Quality Assured (QA) processes**
 - Internal or 3rd party inspections, company criteria or standards
- ◆ **AOSCA Customer Specific Audit Programs**
 - Seed Conditioner Intellectual Property Training
 - Corn IRM audits



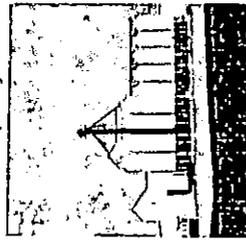
Promotion and Technical Support

- ◆ **Seed Industry Promotion (NDCISA partners)**
 - Certified seed promotion
 - PVP education
 - Statewide and regional trade shows
 - Print, radio and TV medias
- ◆ **Technical Support & Partnerships**
 - NDCISA (other commodity/seed groups)
 - NDSU Foundation Seed Project, Breeders
 - AOSCA - Regional & National committee assignments
 - AOSA - National committee assignments

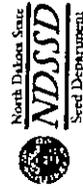


Conditioner and Retail Facility Approval

- ◆ **Annual Inspection and Approval process**
 - Ensuring ability to generate and market quality seed products
- ◆ **Technical Support**
 - New facility construction
 - Facility improvements
 - Conditioning processes
 - Compliance with standards



- ◆ **Facility standards, NDAC 74-03**



Seed Regulatory Program

- ◆ **Primary objective: Consumer Protection**
- ◆ **Responsibilities**
 - Enforcement of state and federal seed laws
 - Regulation of seed labeling and sales
- ◆ **Compliance Measures**
 - Sampling, testing, auditing..... "Stop Sale"
- ◆ **Regulatory rules, NDAC 74-02**

Program Manager: Joe Magnusson
NDCC 4-09, 4-24, 4-25



Seed Regulatory Program

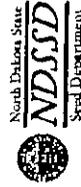
- ◆ Plant Variety Protection (PVP)
 - Evolution of "Joint Ownership" of seeds
 - Owner of seed germplasm
 - Owner of trait
 - Technology agreements vs variety protection
- ◆ Evolution of "Seed Disputes"
 - Impact on state regulators (see: NDCC 4-24-13, "Nelson Law")



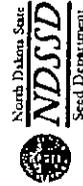
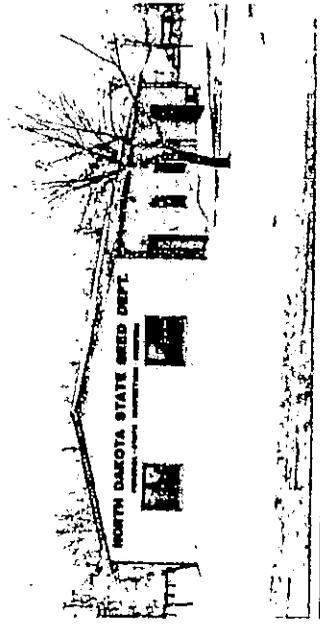
Potato Certification Programs

- ◆ Potato Field Inspection
- ◆ Shipping Point Inspection
- ◆ Post Harvest Testing
- ◆ Potato Seedstocks Production

Program Director: Steve Marquardt, MS+
NDCC 4-09, 4-10, 4-28



Grafton Office



Potato Field Inspection

- ◆ Product Certification, to a different degree
- ◆ Based on visual factors, plant analysis
 - Intensive (3 inspection minimum)
 - Criteria: nearly invisible to untrained eye
 - Disease/virus factors are primary
- ◆ Limited Generation systems (nationwide)
 - Perishable commodity, high liability levels
- ◆ Potato Cert./Grade standards, NDAC 74-04

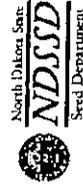


Potato Field Inspection



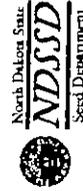
Shipping Point Inspection

- ◆ Visual analysis of physical quality factors
 - rots
 - hollow heart
 - size/weight etc.
- ◆ USDA-AMS/NDSSD Cooperative Agreement
 - USDA Commodity Grade standards for vegetable inspection
 - Examine internal and external defects
- ◆ Applies to both seed and commercial production
 - at request of grower.



Post-Harvest Testing

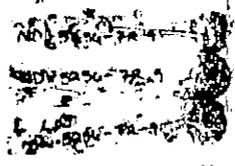
- ◆ Objective: Determination of virus carryover
- ◆ Requirement for re-certification of seed (all programs nationwide)
- ◆ ND Winter Test: Homestead, Florida
- ◆ ND Cert. Seed Potato Growers Assn.: Land, production costs, testing
- ◆ NDSSD: Technical inspection services



Potato Seedstocks

- ◆ Production of Foundation class, disease-free seed under controlled, sterile conditions
- ◆ Quarantine environment, tissue culture lab
- ◆ Tissue culture/variety bank
 - 75-100 distinct varieties
 - 3-4 clones, each variety
- ◆ Main supplier of early generation seed to ND Potato Industry

Seedstocks Production Manager:
Debra Baer, MS





Promotion and Technical Support

- ◆ NDSU Potato Breeding Project
- ◆ ND Certified Seed Potato Growers Assn.
- ◆ Potato Association of America (Committees)
- ◆ USDA/Agricultural Marketing Service
- ◆ Natl. Potato Council (Seed Cert. Committee)
- ◆ Northern Plains Potato Growers Assn.
- ◆ Regional/National trade shows/publications



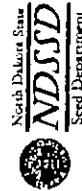
Laboratory Service Programs



Seed Laboratory
Seed Lab Manager
Mark Hafstahl, BS, RST

Diagnostic Laboratory
Diagnostic Lab Manager
Jeff Prischmann, MS, RGT

NDCC: 4-08, 4-09, 1, 4-10, 4-42



Seed Laboratory

- ◆ Statutory designation ("State Seed Laboratory", Ch. 4-09)
- ◆ Primary support
 - Field Seed Program, final certification
 - Regulatory Program testing
- ◆ Seed purity and germination
- ◆ Herbicide trait tolerance, bioassay methods
- ◆ Seed vigor testing
- ◆ AOSA: Association of Official Seed Analysts



Diagnostic Laboratory

- ◆ Primary support for Potato Program
 - Potato virus/pathogen testing
- ◆ Variety identification (Electrophoresis)
- ◆ GM trait/event testing
 - Protein based: ELISA
 - DNA based: PCR
- ◆ Test development/Regulatory support
- ◆ AOSA
- ◆ SCST (Society of Commercial Seed Technologists)



Potential for Growth

- ◆ Commodity grading
- ◆ Plant health testing
- ◆ Seed/commodity trait testing
 - DNA
 - Herbicide tolerance
- ◆ Variety identification
- ◆ "High-end" technologies



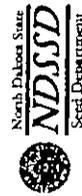
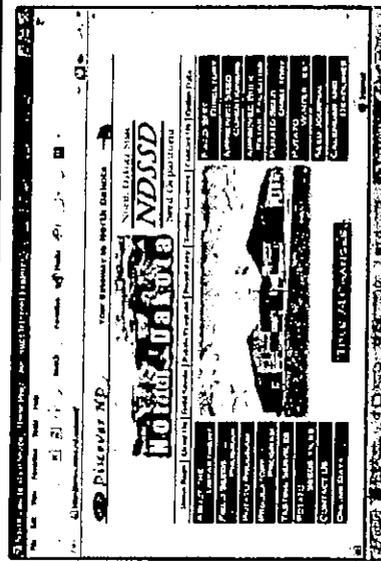
Administration

- ◆ Coordination of administrative functions
- ◆ Technology (ITD, vendors)
- ◆ Human resources
- ◆ Budget administration
- ◆ Legal
- ◆ Equipment and capital improvements
- ◆ Support services

Administrative Officer, Kris Nicklay
 NDCC 4-09, 4-09.1, 4-10, 4-11, 4-24, 4-25, 4-26, 4-42



Web-Based Information



Web-Based Information

- ◆ Secure customer access
 - Field data
 - Lab test results
 - Seed certificates
- ◆ Improved business services
 - On-line application forms
 - Potato recertification forms
 - Seed Sampler's Report
- ◆ Information resources
 - Seed directories
 - Rule changes

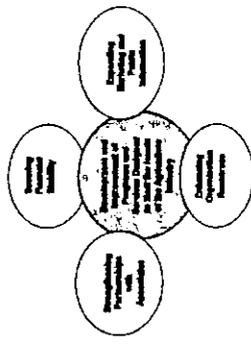


Future Impact Areas

- ◆ **Industry Evolution**
 - Movement toward QA, Process Certification
 - Consolidation: Public vs Private breeding
 - PVP, intellectual property protection
- ◆ **Food Security**
 - Product traceability
 - Source verification

NDSSD Long-Range Plan

Vision: The North Dakota State Seed Department is a recognized leader in services for the seed industry



Mission: To assure the integrity of the seed industry through commitment to client service and product quality



Summary

- ◆ **Challenges**
 - Versatility: recognizing needs, building services
 - Flexibility is critical: response time
 - Creating partnerships and cooperative ventures
 - Ensuring financial stability
 - Implementing "ahead of the curve" philosophy



The Seed Commission Thanks You!

