

**Department 602 - Agriculture Department
House Bill No. 1009**

	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
2001-03 Schafer Executive Budget	55.50	\$4,640,283	\$6,638,291	\$11,278,574
1999-2001 Legislative Appropriations	<u>55.50</u>	<u>4,479,271</u>	<u>4,596,441</u>	<u>9,075,712¹</u>
Increase (Decrease)	<u>0.00</u>	<u>\$161,012</u>	<u>\$2,041,850</u>	<u>\$2,202,862</u>

2001-03 Hoeven Executive Budget	<u>55.50</u>	<u>\$4,440,283</u>	<u>\$6,838,291</u>	<u>\$11,278,574</u>
Hoeven Increase (Decrease) to Schafer	<u>0.00</u>	<u>(\$200,000)</u>	<u>\$200,000</u>	<u>\$0</u>

¹The 1999-2001 appropriation amounts include \$27,134, \$17,909 of which is from the general fund, for the agency's share of the \$5.4 million funding pool appropriated to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for special market equity adjustments for classified employees. The 1999-2001 appropriation amounts do not include \$462,825 of additional spending authority resulting from Emergency Commission action during the 1999-2001 biennium.

Major Schafer Recommendations Affecting Agriculture Department Budget

	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
1. Provides funding for salary equity adjustments effective January 1, 2002 based on the Central Personnel Division's salary market study. The proposed increase is \$166.26 per month for the commissioner and \$151.67 per month for the deputy commissioner. The total increase required for the biennium, including benefits, is \$6,682 or \$6,287 less than the executive recommendation. (The House reduced this amount by \$6,287 for the market equity adjustment.)	\$12,969		\$12,969
2. Replaces general fund moneys with special funds from the environment and rangeland protection fund for the noxious weed program. The following schedule presents the total funding recommended for agriculture programs from the ERP fund:	(\$80,000)	\$80,000	\$0
Noxious weeds	\$1,404,602		
Pesticide	314,620		
Pesticide disposal (Safe Send)	596,842		
Compensation package	<u>25,751</u>		
Total	<u>\$2,341,815</u>		
3. Replaces general fund moneys with special funds from the anhydrous ammonia storage inspection fund for the Pesticide Anhydrous Division.	(\$25,000)	\$25,000	\$0
4. Replaces general fund moneys with special funds from the game and fish fund for wildlife services (\$200,000) and Board of Animal Health (\$23,000). The following schedule presents the total funding recommended for the game and fish fund:	(\$223,000)	\$223,000	\$0
Wildlife services	\$200,000		
Waterbank program	200,000		
Board of Animal Health	<u>68,000</u>		
Total	<u>\$468,000</u>		
5. Increases funding for the waterbank program from the game and fish fund.		\$200,000	\$200,000
6. Restores funding for the meat inspection program which was removed in the hold-even budget and increases the funding by \$257,964 from the 1999-2001 level (including salaries and benefits package). (The House removed funding of \$80,214 for one meat inspector position.)	\$340,082	\$371,882	\$711,964

7. Adds funding from the environment and rangeland protection fund to the noxious weed line item for control of Canada thistle.	\$170,000	\$170,000
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**Major Hoeven Recommendations Affecting Agriculture Department 2001-03 Budget
Compared to the Bill as Introduced (Schafer Budget)**

	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
1. Replaces general fund moneys with special funds from the game and fish fund for wildlife services. The total amount from the game and fish fund for wildlife services is \$400,000. (The House authorized the replacement of \$200,000 of general fund moneys with game and fish funds.)	(\$200,000)	\$200,000	\$0

Major Legislation Affecting the Agriculture Department

Section 2 of House Bill No. 1009 includes the statutory changes necessary to increase the Agriculture Commissioner's salary as follows:

Annual salary authorized by the 1999 Legislative Assembly:

July 1, 1999	\$58,262
July 1, 2000	\$59,428
January 1, 2001	\$64,569

Proposed annual salary recommended in the 2001-03 executive budget:

July 1, 2001	\$66,509
January 1, 2002	\$68,504
July 1, 2002	\$69,874

House Bill No. 1009 includes estimated income to the Agriculture Department from the following funds:

Environment and rangeland protection fund	\$2,341,815
Anhydrous ammonia storage inspection fund	\$139,775
Game and fish fund	\$468,000

House Bill No. 1052 provides a sales and use tax exemption for used farm machinery, farm machinery repair parts, and used irrigation equipment used exclusively for agriculture purposes. (This bill has passed the House.)

House Bill No. 1286 provides a continuing appropriation of certain inspection fee revenues to the Agriculture Department for agricultural product inspections.

House Bill No. 1349 provides a general fund appropriation of \$150,000 to the Agriculture Commissioner for expanding and developing agriculture in the classroom criteria.

House Bill No. 1445 provides a continuing appropriation to the Agriculture Commissioner of moneys in the chemical and rebate equity fund to give rebates to persons who apply pesticides.

Senate Bill No. 2109 provides for continuing education requirements and annual license requirement and fee for meat processing and slaughtering establishments.

Senate Bill No. 2110 continues the agriculture pesticide and pesticide container disposal program (Safe Send) through July 31, 2003. (This bill has passed the Senate.)

Senate Bill No. 2216 eliminates the sunset provisions for the agriculture mediation service program.

Summary of Legislative Changes Resulting From First House Action

See Statement of Purpose of Amendment (attached).