



**Subd. 2. Protection Services**

	<u>Appropriations by Fund</u>	
	<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>
<u>General</u>	<u>19,384,000</u>	<u>19,610,000</u>
<u>Remediation</u>	<u>399,000</u>	<u>399,000</u>

(a) \$399,000 the first year and \$399,000 the second year are from the remediation fund for administrative funding for the voluntary cleanup program.

(b) \$175,000 the first year and \$175,000 the second year are for compensation for destroyed or crippled livestock under Minnesota Statutes, section 3.737. The first year appropriation may be spent to compensate for livestock that were destroyed or crippled during fiscal year 2021. If the amount in the first year is insufficient, the amount in the second year is available in the first year. The commissioner may use up to \$5,000 each year to reimburse expenses incurred by university extension educators to provide fair market values of destroyed or crippled livestock. If the commissioner receives federal dollars to pay claims for destroyed or crippled livestock, an equivalent amount of this appropriation may be used to reimburse nonlethal prevention methods performed by federal wildlife services staff.

(c) \$155,000 the first year and \$155,000 the second year are for compensation for crop damage under Minnesota Statutes, section 3.7371. If the amount in the first year is insufficient, the amount in the second year is available in the first year. The commissioner may use up to \$10,000 of the appropriation each year to reimburse expenses incurred by the commissioner or the commissioner's approved agent to investigate and resolve claims, as well as for costs associated with training for approved agents. The commissioner may use up to \$20,000 of the appropriation each year to make grants to producers for measures to protect stored crops from elk damage.

If the commissioner determines that claims made under Minnesota Statutes, section 3.737 or 3.7371, are unusually high, amounts appropriated for either program may be transferred to the appropriation for the other program.

(d) \$225,000 the first year and \$225,000 the second year are for additional funding for the noxious weed and invasive plant program.

(e) \$50,000 the first year is for additional funding for the industrial hemp program for IT development. This is a onetime appropriation and is available until June 30, 2023.

(f) \$110,000 the first year and \$110,000 the second year are for additional meat and poultry inspection services. The commissioner is encouraged to seek inspection waivers, matching federal dollars, and offer more online inspections for the purposes under this paragraph.

(g) \$825,000 the first year and \$825,000 the second year are to replace capital equipment in the Department of Agriculture's analytical laboratory.

(h) \$274,000 the first year and \$550,000 the second year are to maintain the current level of service delivery.

**Subd. 3. Agricultural Marketing and Development**

4,200,000

4,205,000

(a) \$186,000 the first year and \$186,000 the second year are for transfer to the Minnesota grown account and may be used as grants for Minnesota grown promotion under Minnesota Statutes, section 17.102. Grants may be made for one year. Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes, section 16A.28, the appropriations encumbered under contract on or before June 30, 2023, for Minnesota grown grants in this paragraph are available until June 30, 2025.

(b) \$50,000 the first year is to expand international marketing opportunities for farmers and value-added processors, including in-market representation in Taiwan. This is a onetime appropriation and is available until June 30, 2023.

(c) \$634,000 the first year and \$634,000 the second year are for continuation of the dairy development and profitability enhancement programs including dairy profitability teams and dairy business planning grants under Minnesota Statutes, section 32D.30.

(d) \$50,000 the first year and \$50,000 the second year are for additional funding for mental health outreach and support to farmers and others in the agricultural

community, including a 24-hour hotline, stigma reduction, and educational offerings. These are onetime appropriations.

(e) The commissioner may use funds appropriated in this subdivision for annual cost-share payments to resident farmers or entities that sell, process, or package agricultural products in this state for the costs of organic certification. The commissioner may allocate these funds for assistance to persons transitioning from conventional to organic agriculture.

(f) \$100,000 the first year and \$100,000 the second year are for the farm safety grant and outreach programs under Minnesota Statutes, section 17.1195. These are onetime appropriations.

(g) \$54,000 the first year and \$109,000 the second year are to maintain the current level of service delivery.

**Subd. 4. Agriculture, Bioenergy, and Bioproduct Advancement**

25,343,000

25,357,000

(a) \$9,300,000 the first year and \$9,300,000 the second year are for transfer to the agriculture research, education, extension, and technology transfer account under Minnesota Statutes, section 41A.14, subdivision 3. Of these amounts: at least \$600,000 the first year and \$600,000 the second year are for the Minnesota Agricultural Experiment Station's agriculture rapid response fund under Minnesota Statutes, section 41A.14, subdivision 1, clause (2); \$2,000,000 the first year and \$2,000,000 the second year are for grants to the Minnesota Agriculture Education Leadership Council to enhance agricultural education with priority given to Farm Business Management challenge grants; \$350,000 the first year and \$350,000 the second year are for potato breeding; and \$450,000 the first year and \$450,000 the second year are for the cultivated wild rice breeding project at the North Central Research and Outreach Center to include a tenure track/research associate plant breeder. The commissioner shall transfer the remaining funds in this appropriation each year to the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota for purposes of Minnesota Statutes, section 41A.14. Of the amount transferred to the Board of Regents, up to \$1,000,000 each year is for research on avian influenza, salmonella, and other turkey-related diseases. By

January 15, 2023, entities receiving grants for potato breeding and wild rice breeding are requested to report to the chairs and ranking minority members of the legislative committees with jurisdiction over agriculture and higher education regarding the use of the grant money and to provide an update on the status of research and related accomplishments.

To the extent practicable, money expended under Minnesota Statutes, section 41A.14, subdivision 1, clauses (1) and (2), must supplement and not supplant existing sources and levels of funding. The commissioner may use up to one percent of this appropriation for costs incurred to administer the program.

(b) \$16,028,000 the first year and \$16,028,000 the second year are for the agricultural growth, research, and innovation program under Minnesota Statutes, section 41A.12. Except as provided below, the commissioner may allocate the appropriation each year among the following areas: facilitating the start-up, modernization, improvement, or expansion of livestock operations including beginning and transitioning livestock operations with preference given to robotic dairy-milking equipment; providing funding not to exceed \$800,000 each year to develop and enhance farm-to-school markets for Minnesota farmers by providing more fruits, vegetables, meat, grain, and dairy for Minnesota children in school and child care settings including, at the commissioner's discretion, reimbursing schools for purchases from local farmers; assisting value-added agricultural businesses to begin or expand, to access new markets, or to diversify, including aquaponics systems; providing funding not to exceed \$600,000 each year for urban youth agricultural education or urban agriculture community development of which \$10,000 each year is for transfer to the emerging farmer account under Minnesota Statutes, section 17.055, subdivision 1a; providing funding not to exceed \$450,000 each year for the good food access program under Minnesota Statutes, section 17.1017; facilitating the start-up, modernization, or expansion of other beginning and transitioning farms including by providing loans under Minnesota Statutes, section 41B.056; sustainable agriculture on-farm research and demonstration; development or expansion of food hubs and other alternative community-based food distribution systems; enhancing renewable energy

infrastructure and use; crop research; Farm Business Management tuition assistance; and good agricultural practices and good handling practices certification assistance. The commissioner may use up to 6.5 percent of this appropriation for costs incurred to administer the program.

Of the amount appropriated for the agricultural growth, research, and innovation program under Minnesota Statutes, section 41A.12:

(1) \$1,000,000 the first year and \$1,000,000 the second year are for distribution in equal amounts to each of the state's county fairs to preserve and promote Minnesota agriculture;

(2) \$4,500,000 the first year and \$4,500,000 the second year are for incentive payments under Minnesota Statutes, sections 41A.16, 41A.17, 41A.18, and 41A.20. Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes, section 16A.28, the first year appropriation is available until June 30, 2023, and the second year appropriation is available until June 30, 2024. If this appropriation exceeds the total amount for which all producers are eligible in a fiscal year, the balance of the appropriation is available for other purposes under this paragraph;

(3) \$3,000,000 the first year and \$3,000,000 the second year are for grants that enable retail petroleum dispensers, fuel storage tanks, and other equipment to dispense biofuels to the public in accordance with the biofuel replacement goals established under Minnesota Statutes, section 239.7911. A retail petroleum dispenser selling petroleum for use in spark ignition engines for vehicle model years after 2000 is eligible for grant money under this clause if the retail petroleum dispenser has no more than 10 retail petroleum dispensing sites and each site is located in Minnesota. The grant money must be used to replace or upgrade equipment that does not have the ability to be certified for E25. A grant award must not exceed 65 percent of the cost of the appropriate technology. A grant award must not exceed \$200,000 per station. The commissioner must cooperate with biofuel stakeholders in the implementation of the grant program. The commissioner, in cooperation with any economic or community development financial institution and any other entity with which it contracts, must submit a report on the biofuels infrastructure financial assistance

program by January 15 of each year to the chairs and ranking minority members of the legislative committees and divisions with jurisdiction over agriculture policy and finance. The annual report must include but not be limited to a summary of the following metrics: (i) the number and types of projects financed; (ii) the amount of dollars leveraged or matched per project; (iii) the geographic distribution of financed projects; (iv) any market expansion associated with upgraded infrastructure; (v) the demographics of the areas served; (vi) the costs of the program; and (vii) the number of grants to minority-owned or female-owned businesses;

(4) \$750,000 the first year and \$750,000 the second year are for grants to facilitate the start-up, modernization, or expansion of meat, poultry, egg, and milk processing facilities. A grant award under this clause must not exceed \$200,000. Any unencumbered balance at the end of the second year does not cancel until June 30, 2024, and may be used for other purposes under this paragraph. The appropriations under this clause are onetime; and

(5) \$1,400,000 the first year and \$1,400,000 the second year are for livestock investment grants under Minnesota Statutes, section 17.118. Any unencumbered balance at the end of the second year does not cancel until June 30, 2024, and may be used for other purposes under this paragraph. The appropriations under this clause are onetime.

Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes, section 16A.28, any unencumbered balance does not cancel at the end of the first year and is available for the second year, and appropriations encumbered under contract on or before June 30, 2023, for agricultural growth, research, and innovation grants are available until June 30, 2026.

The base amount for the agricultural growth, research, and innovation program is \$16,053,000 in fiscal year 2024 and \$16,053,000 in fiscal year 2025, and includes funding for incentive payments under Minnesota Statutes, sections 41A.16, 41A.17, 41A.18, and 41A.20.

(c) \$15,000 the first year and \$29,000 the second year are to maintain the current level of service delivery.

**Subd. 5. Administration and Financial Assistance** 9,977,000 9,839,000

(a) \$474,000 the first year and \$474,000 the second year are for payments to county and district agricultural societies and associations under Minnesota Statutes, section 38.02, subdivision 1. Aid payments to county and district agricultural societies and associations shall be disbursed no later than July 15 of each year. These payments are the amount of aid from the state for an annual fair held in the previous calendar year.

(b) \$387,000 the first year and \$337,000 the second year are for farm advocate services. Of these amounts, \$100,000 the first year and \$50,000 the second year are for a pilot program creating farmland access teams to provide technical assistance to potential beginning farmers. The farmland access teams must assist existing farmers and beginning farmers on transitioning farm ownership and operation. Services provided by teams may include but are not limited to providing mediation assistance, designing contracts, financial planning, tax preparation, estate planning, and housing assistance. Of this amount for farm transitions, up to \$50,000 the first year may be used to upgrade the Minnesota FarmLink web application that connects farmers looking for land with farmers looking to transition their land.

(c) \$47,000 the first year and \$47,000 the second year are for grants to the Northern Crops Institute that may be used to purchase equipment. These are onetime appropriations.

(d) \$238,000 the first year and \$238,000 the second year are for transfer to the Board of Trustees of the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities for statewide mental health counseling support to farm families and business operators through the Minnesota State Agricultural Centers of Excellence. South Central College and Central Lakes College shall serve as the fiscal agents.

(e) \$1,700,000 the first year and \$1,700,000 the second year are for grants to Second Harvest Heartland on behalf of Minnesota's six Feeding America food banks for the following:

(1) to purchase milk for distribution to Minnesota's food shelves and other charitable organizations that



are eligible to receive food from the food banks. Milk purchased under the grants must be acquired from Minnesota milk processors and based on low-cost bids. The milk must be allocated to each Feeding America food bank serving Minnesota according to the formula used in the distribution of United States Department of Agriculture commodities under The Emergency Food Assistance Program. Second Harvest Heartland may enter into contracts or agreements with food banks for shared funding or reimbursement of the direct purchase of milk. Each food bank that receives funding under this clause may use up to two percent for administrative expenses;

(2) to compensate agricultural producers and processors for costs incurred to harvest and package for transfer surplus fruits, vegetables, and other agricultural commodities that would otherwise go unharvested, be discarded, or sold in a secondary market. Surplus commodities must be distributed statewide to food shelves and other charitable organizations that are eligible to receive food from the food banks. Surplus food acquired under this clause must be from Minnesota producers and processors. Second Harvest Heartland may use up to 15 percent of each grant awarded under this clause for administrative and transportation expenses; and

(3) to purchase and distribute protein products, including but not limited to pork, poultry, beef, dry legumes, cheese, and eggs to Minnesota's food shelves and other charitable organizations that are eligible to receive food from the food banks. Second Harvest Heartland may use up to two percent of each grant awarded under this clause for administrative expenses. Protein products purchased under the grants must be acquired from Minnesota processors and producers.

Of the amount appropriated under this paragraph, at least \$600,000 each year must be allocated under clause (1). Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes, section 16A.28, any unencumbered balance the first year does not cancel and is available in the second year. Second Harvest Heartland must submit quarterly reports to the commissioner and the chairs and ranking minority members of the legislative committees with jurisdiction over agriculture finance in the form prescribed by the commissioner. The reports must include but are not limited to information on the expenditure of funds, the

amount of milk or other commodities purchased, and the organizations to which this food was distributed.

(f) \$250,000 the first year and \$250,000 the second year are for grants to the Minnesota Agricultural Education and Leadership Council for programs of the council under Minnesota Statutes, chapter 41D.

(g) \$1,437,000 the first year and \$1,437,000 the second year are for transfer to the agricultural and environmental revolving loan account established under Minnesota Statutes, section 17.117, subdivision 5a, for low-interest loans under Minnesota Statutes, section 17.117. The base for appropriations under this paragraph in fiscal year 2024 and thereafter is \$1,425,000. The commissioner must examine how the department could use up to one-third of the amount transferred to the agricultural and environmental revolving loan account under this paragraph to award grants to rural landowners to replace septic systems that inadequately protect groundwater. No later than February 1, 2022, the commissioner must report to the legislative committees with jurisdiction over agriculture finance and environment finance on the results of the examination required under this paragraph. The commissioner's report may include other funding sources for septic system replacement that are available to rural landowners.

(h) \$150,000 the first year and \$150,000 the second year are for grants to the Center for Rural Policy and Development. These are onetime appropriations.

(i) \$150,000 the first year is to provide grants to Central Lakes College for the purposes of designing, building, and offering credentials in the area of meat cutting and butchery that align with industry needs as advised by local industry advisory councils. Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes, section 16A.28, any unencumbered balance does not cancel at the end of the first year and is available for the second year. The commissioner may only award a grant under this paragraph if the grant is matched by a like amount from another funding source. The commissioner must seek matching dollars from Minnesota State Colleges and Universities or other entities. The appropriation is onetime and is available until June 30, 2024. Any money remaining on June 30, 2024, must be transferred to the agricultural growth, research, and innovation

program under Minnesota Statutes, section 41A.12, and is available until June 30, 2025. Grants may be used for costs including but not limited to:

- (1) facility renovation to accommodate meat cutting;
- (2) curriculum design and approval from the Higher Learning Commission;
- (3) program operational start-up costs;
- (4) equipment required for a meat cutting program; and
- (5) meat handling start-up costs in regard to meat access and market channel building.

No later than January 15, 2023, Central Lakes College must submit a report outlining the use of grant money to the chairs and ranking minority members of the legislative committees and divisions with jurisdiction over agriculture and higher education.

(j) \$2,000 the first year is for grants to the Minnesota State Poultry Association. This is a onetime appropriation. Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes, section 16A.28, any unencumbered balance does not cancel at the end of the first year and is available for the second year.

(k) \$17,000 the first year and \$17,000 the second year are for grants to the Minnesota State Horticultural Society. These are onetime appropriations.

(l) \$18,000 the first year and \$18,000 the second year are for grants to the Minnesota Livestock Breeders Association. These are onetime appropriations.

(m) The commissioner shall continue to increase connections with ethnic minority and immigrant farmers to farming opportunities and farming programs throughout the state.

(n) \$25,000 the first year and \$25,000 the second year are for grants to the Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation to promote local foods through an annual event that raises public awareness of local foods and connects local food producers and processors with potential buyers.

(o) \$75,000 the first year and \$75,000 the second year are for grants to Greater Mankato Growth, Inc., for

assistance to agriculture-related businesses to promote jobs, innovation, and synergy development. These are onetime appropriations.

(p) \$75,000 the first year and \$75,000 the second year are for grants to the Minnesota Turf Seed Council for basic and applied research. The Minnesota Turf Seed Council may subcontract with a qualified third party for some or all of the basic or applied research. No later than January 15, 2023, the Minnesota Turf Seed Council must submit a report outlining the use of the grant money and related accomplishments to the chairs and ranking minority members of the legislative committees with jurisdiction over agriculture. These are onetime appropriations. Any unencumbered balance does not cancel at the end of the first year and is available for the second year.

(q) \$150,000 the first year and \$150,000 the second year are to establish an emerging farmer office and hire a full-time emerging farmer outreach coordinator. The emerging farmer outreach coordinator must engage and support emerging farmers regarding resources and opportunities available throughout the Department of Agriculture and the state. For purposes of this paragraph, "emerging farmer" has the meaning provided in Minnesota Statutes, section 17.055, subdivision 1. Of the amount appropriated each year, \$25,000 is for translation services for farmers and cottage food producers.

(r) \$222,000 the first year and \$286,000 the second year are to maintain the current level of service delivery.

Sec. 3. <b><u>BOARD OF ANIMAL HEALTH</u></b>	<b><u>\$</u></b>	<b><u>5,980,000</u></b>	<b><u>\$</u></b>	<b><u>6,081,000</u></b>
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(a) \$200,000 the first year and \$200,000 the second year are for agricultural emergency preparedness and response.

(b) \$103,000 the first year and \$204,000 the second year are to maintain the current level of service delivery.

Sec. 4. <b><u>AGRICULTURAL UTILIZATION RESEARCH INSTITUTE</u></b>	<b><u>\$</u></b>	<b><u>4,543,000</u></b>	<b><u>\$</u></b>	<b><u>4,043,000</u></b>
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(a) \$150,000 the first year and \$150,000 the second year are for a meat scientist.

(b) \$500,000 the first year is for grants to organizations to acquire, host, and operate a mobile slaughter unit. The mobile unit must coordinate with Minnesota state two-year colleges that have meat cutting programs to accommodate training as it relates to animal slaughter. The mobile unit may coordinate with livestock producers who desire to provide value-added meat products by utilizing the mobile slaughter unit. The mobile unit may be used for research, training outside of the two-year colleges, and other activities that align with industry needs. The Agricultural Utilization Research Institute may only award a grant under this paragraph if the grant amount is matched by a like amount from another funding source. The Agricultural Utilization Research Institute must seek matching dollars from Minnesota State Colleges and Universities or other entities for purposes of this paragraph. The appropriation under this paragraph is onetime and is available until June 30, 2024. Any money remaining on June 30, 2024, must be transferred to the commissioner of agriculture for the agricultural growth, research, and innovation program under Minnesota Statutes, section 41A.12, and is available until June 30, 2025. By January 15, 2023, the institute must report to the chairs and ranking minority members of the legislative committees with jurisdiction over agriculture regarding the status of the project, including the status of the use of any state or matching dollars to complete the project.

Sec. 5. Minnesota Statutes 2020, section 17.055, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 1a. **Emerging farmer account.** An emerging farmer account is established in the agricultural fund. The account consists of money appropriated by law and any other money donated, allotted, transferred, or otherwise provided to the account. Money in the account, including interest, is appropriated to the commissioner for the purposes of this section and must be used to further the objectives of the emerging farmer working group.

Sec. 6. **[32D.30] DAIRY DEVELOPMENT AND PROFITABILITY ENHANCEMENT.**

Subdivision 1. **Program.** The commissioner must implement a dairy development and profitability enhancement program consisting of dairy profitability enhancement teams and dairy business planning grants.

Subd. 2. **Dairy profitability enhancement teams.** (a) Dairy profitability enhancement teams must provide one-on-one information and technical assistance to dairy farms of all sizes to enhance their financial success and long-term sustainability. Teams must assist dairy producers in all dairy producing regions of the state and may consist of farm business management instructors, dairy extension specialists, and other dairy industry partners. Teams may engage in activities including comprehensive financial analysis, risk

management education, enhanced milk marketing tools and technologies, and facilitating or improving production systems including rotational grazing and other sustainable agriculture methods.

(b) The commissioner must make grants to regional or statewide organizations qualified to manage the various components of the teams. Each regional or statewide organization must designate a coordinator responsible for overseeing the program and submitting periodic reports to the commissioner regarding aggregate changes in producer financial stability, productivity, product quality, animal health, environmental protection, and other performance measures attributable to the program. The organizations must submit this information in a format that maintains the confidentiality of individual dairy producers.

Subd. 3. **Dairy business planning grants.** The commissioner may award dairy business planning grants of up to \$5,000 per producer to develop comprehensive business plans. Producers must not use dairy business planning grants for capital improvements.

Subd. 4. **Funding allocation.** Except as specified in law, the commissioner may allocate dairy development and profitability enhancement program dollars among the permissible uses specified in this section, including efforts to improve the quality of milk produced in the state, in the proportions that the commissioner deems most beneficial to the state's dairy farmers.

Subd. 5. **Reporting.** No later than July 1 each year, the commissioner must submit a detailed accomplishment report and work plan detailing future plans for, and the actual and anticipated accomplishments from, expenditures under this section to the chairs and ranking minority members of the legislative committees and divisions with jurisdiction over agriculture policy and finance. If the commissioner significantly modifies a submitted work plan during the fiscal year, the commissioner must notify the chairs and ranking minority members.

#### Sec. 7. **CANCELLATIONS.**

(a) \$916,553 of the fiscal year 2021 general fund appropriation for protection services under Laws 2019, First Special Session chapter 1, article 1, section 2, subdivision 2, is canceled.

(b) \$136,000 of the fiscal year 2021 general fund appropriation for agricultural marketing and development under Laws 2019, First Special Session chapter 1, article 1, section 2, subdivision 3, is canceled.

(c) \$120,000 of the fiscal year 2021 general fund appropriation for agriculture, bioenergy, and bioproduct advancement under Laws 2019, First Special Session chapter 1, article 1, section 2, subdivision 4, as amended by Laws 2020, chapter 89, article 4, section 34, and Laws 2020, chapter 101, section 3, is canceled.

(d) \$157,500 of the fiscal year 2021 general fund appropriation for administration and financial assistance under Laws 2019, First Special Session chapter 1, article 1, section 2, subdivision 5, as amended by Laws 2020, chapter 74, article 1, section 3, is canceled.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

## **ARTICLE 2**

### **BROADBAND**

#### Section 1. **BROADBAND DEVELOPMENT APPROPRIATIONS.**

The sums shown in the columns marked "Appropriations" are appropriated to the agency and for the purposes specified in this article. The appropriations are from the general fund, or another named fund, and

are available for the fiscal years indicated for each purpose. The figures "2022" and "2023" used in this article mean that the appropriations listed under them are available for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022, or June 30, 2023, respectively. "The first year" is fiscal year 2022. "The second year" is fiscal year 2023. "The biennium" is fiscal years 2022 and 2023.

**APPROPRIATIONS**

**Available for the Year**

**Ending June 30**

**2022**

**2023**

**Sec. 2. DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT AND  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

**\$**

**350,000** **\$**

**350,000**

\$350,000 each year is for the Office of Broadband  
Development.

Presented to the governor June 24, 2021

Signed by the governor June 26, 2021, 10:52 a.m.