



LEGISLATIVE
BUDGET
COMMISSION

**Committee Meeting Packet
for
Tuesday, January 22, 2002**

**(Please bring this packet to the committee meeting.
Duplicate materials will not be available.)**

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET COMMISSION AGENDA

**January 22, 2002
8:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.
Room 412, Knott Building**

Members:	Senator Lisa Carlton	Representative Randy John Ball
	Senator Victor Crist	Representative Paula Dockery
	Senator Daryl Jones	Representative Ronald A. Greenstein
	Senator Jim King	Representative Carlos A. Lacasa
	Senator Jack Latvala	Representative Evelyn J. Lynn
	Senator Tom Rossin	Representative Sandy Murman
	Senator Ronald A. Silver	Representative Rob Wallace

I. Consideration of the following budget amendments:

- A. Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services**
 - 1. EOG B2002-0424**
 - 2. EOG B2002-0591**

United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)

- Medfly Facility \$ 1,000,000
To join with the USDA to set up a new sterile medfly rearing facility. Due to the temporary structures which currently houses this activity, the DACS anticipates eviction from MacDill Air Force Base.

- Detection Dogs \$ 350,000
To provide six (6) dog teams to assist law enforcement officers at DACS inspection stations, ports, and other facilities to inspect semi trucks and other shipments for unlawful content and heighten inspection and seizure efforts. In addition, to enhance the Department's efforts at Florida's various ports of entry in conjunction with USDA's protection efforts.

Florida Fruit & Vegetable Research and Education Foundation, Inc.

- Research on Methyl Bromide \$ 1,000,000
To look at alternative methods to combat nematodes and termite infestation, to avoid a potential reduction in various specialty crop production.

- Food Safety Research and Education \$ 1,000,000
To provide a cost share program to assist growers in developing and implementing food safety plans. Due to a recent increase of food-borne illnesses from fruit and vegetable consumption related to imported produce, growers are being required to develop a food safety plans (GAP/GMP's) for their operations.

- Research Foundation Grant Fund \$ 320,000
Research and education to be determined by a Committee of specialty crop representatives to be awarded to projects most beneficial in these areas.

University of Florida, IFAS

- Foreign Trade & Policy Center \$ 1,000,000
To focus on trade and policy issues important to competitiveness of Florida and southeastern agriculture, with emphasis on specialty crops unique to Florida's environment; To evaluate key trade and policy issues in 3 stages over a 3-year period: (1) to develop an assessment of specialty crop competitiveness, (2) to define the issues that need to be further evaluated to improve competitiveness, and (3) to focus on developing programs that will keep Florida and southeastern specialty crops competitive and develop information necessary to monitor competitiveness.

Department of Citrus

- Fresh Cut Commercialization (Peeler) \$ 1,000,000
 To assist in development and implementation of producing fresh cut fruit to the market, in an effort to provide a new outlet for fresh Florida citrus.
- Sectioning Machine \$ 150,000
 To allow final stages of implementation, transfer of technology, and approval of the sectioning machine for a commercial state.
- Pectin Study \$ 30,000
 To study utilization of citrus fiber by-products.

Total – Section 7(b) - Value of Production Grant \$ 16,860,000

Section 8 of the federal law provides for additional funds for eligible recipient agencies that distribute federal commodities under the Emergency Food Assistance Act of 1983. The State of Florida’s portion of these funds is **\$489,237**.

The Department does not have current budget authority to expend the federal funds received.

Agency Request: The Department is requesting an increase of \$17,849,237 in Contract and Grants Trust Fund budget authority in the Agriculture Economic Development Program for the three federal grants, which includes \$12,849,237 for Agricultural Products Marketing and \$5,000,000 for Plant Pest and Disease Control.

Governor’s Recommendation: Recommend approval to increase budget authority for the Contracts and Grants Trust Fund by \$17,849,237 for federal grants received for agricultural promotion and specialty crop producers.

Commission Staff Comments: Recommend approval by the Legislative Budget Commission as recommended by the Governor’s Office.

Senate Subcommittee: General Government
Senate Analyst: Jamie DeLoach
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House Committee: General Government Appropriations
House Analyst: Marsha Bekcher
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Line Item No.	Budget Entity / Fund / Appropriation Category Title LAS/PBS Account Number	CF	REQUESTED BY AGENCY	RECOMMENDED BY GOVERNOR	APPROVED BY THE LEGISLATIVE BUDGET COMMISSION
			Appropriation	Appropriation	Appropriation
Agriculture and Consumer Services					
N/A	Agricultural Economic Development Agricultural Products Marketing <u>Contracts and Grants Trust Fund</u> Special Categories Federal Value of Production Specialty Crop Grant 42170200-100262-00-2133		11,860,000	11,860,000	
N/A	Special Categories Federal Support for Fl Ag Promotions 42170200-100264-00-2133		500,000	500,000	
1463	Special Categories Grants and Aids - Emergency Feeding Organizations 42170200-102878-00-2133		489,237	489,237	
1495	Plant Pest and Disease Control <u>Contracts and Grants Trust Fund</u> Special Categories Citrus Canker Eradication 42170600-100443-00-2133		4,000,000	4,000,000	
1490	Special Categories Agr. Emergency Medfly Program 42170600-100101-00-2133		1,000,000	1,000,000	

Department: Agriculture & Consumer Services

EOG Number: 0591

Problem Statement: Additional spending authority is needed in the amount of \$2,324,207 to expend federal funds received for the Citrus Canker Tree Replacement Program. Funds enable the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (DACS) to provide a \$100 award to eligible non-commercial property owners to replace citrus canker trees that have been destroyed. Property owners are provided a \$100 Wal-Mart card to purchase new trees or related garden supplies. The Citrus Canker Tree Replacement program is federally funded and administered by the Department and Wal-Mart through a public/private agreement.

Currently, DACS has two invoices from Wal-Mart pending payment for tree replacement and garden supplies claimed by Florida residents for trees removed, additional payments needed for trees removed in December 2001 and for trees to be removed throughout the fiscal year. The Department was appropriated \$7 million in FY 99-00 and \$8 million in FY 00-01 in federal funds to support this program. Due to invoice receipt delays and tree removal occurring in December, the agency was unable to spend all of the appropriations prior to the 12-31-2001 deadline and, therefore, a portion of the appropriation reverted.

Agency Request: This is to request \$2,324,207 in additional federal spending authority for the Tree Replacement Program administered by the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.

Current invoices:	\$1,049,206.85
Trees removed prior to 12/31/01:	\$ 300,000.00 (3,000 properties cut prior to 12/31/01 that have not been invoiced @ \$100 per property = \$300,000)
Estimated additional trees to be removed:	\$ 975,000.00 (75 properties @5 days a week for 26 weeks (1/1/02-6/30/02) @ \$100 per property = \$975,000)
TOTAL	\$2,324,207.00

Governor's Recommendation: Recommend approval to increase budget authority by \$2,324,207 from the Contracts and Grants Trust Fund to cover obligations incurred and to be incurred in the Tree Replacement Program.

Commission Staff Comments: Recommend approval by the Legislative Budget Commission as recommended by the Governor's Office.

Senate Subcommittee: General Government
Senate Analyst: Jamie DeLoach
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House Committee: General Government Appropriations
House Analyst: Marsha Belcher
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	<p>Agriculture and Consumer Services</p> <p>Agricultural Economic Development Plant Pest and Control</p> <p>Contracts and Grants Trust Fund</p> <p>Tree Replacement Program 42170600-103998-00-2133</p>		2,324,207	2,324,207	