



# NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Animal Industry



Consumer Equitability



Food & Nutrition



Plant Industry



## 2014-15 BIENNIAL REPORT For the Nevada Legislature



### CONTACT

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## About the Department of Agriculture

The Nevada Department of Agriculture (NDA) promotes sustainable agriculture and natural resources, which work to protect food, fiber, human health and safety and the environment through effective service, regulatory action and agricultural literacy. NDA was established in 1915 by Chapter 561 of the Nevada Revised Statutes. It includes the divisions of:

- Administration,
- Animal Industry,
- Consumer Equitability,
- Food and Nutrition, and
- Plant Industry.

## Agency History

The State Board of Stock Commissioners, NDA's predecessor agency, was created by the 1915 Nevada Legislature. Chapter 268 of the Nevada Statutes (later changed to NRS 561) established the State Board of Stock Commissioners, consisting of three members, all experienced stockmen, appointed by the Governor. The Board had control of all matters pertaining to the cattle, horse, and hog industries. Sheep were regulated by a newly established State Board of Sheep Commissioners.

The Commissioners, in conjunction with the State Veterinary Control Service department of the University of Nevada, adopted on behalf of the state, rules and regulations of the U.S Bureau of Animal Industry related to control and suppression of diseases in livestock. They were given the power to inspect, quarantine, and condemn cattle, horses, and hogs affected by infections or contagious diseases. To carry out this work, the Commission was empowered to appoint inspectors as needed, who were paid from a Livestock Inspection Fund created by assessments from county taxes.

In addition to disease control, the Commission was authorized to offer and pay bounties for killing livestock predators: coyotes, wildcats/lynxes, and mountain lions.

The State Department of Agriculture as it exists today was created in 1961. The Board of Agricultural Commissioners consists of 11 members appointed by the Governor, all from different aspects of Nevada's agricultural industry. The duties of the board members are to:

- Report to the Governor and Legislature on all relevant matters,
- Advise the Governor and Legislature of recommended policies concerning livestock and agriculture,
- Establish policies of the Department,
- Adopt regulations as necessary, and
- Carry out provisions of laws and programs administered by the Department.

NDA is headquartered in Sparks, Nevada, with satellite offices in Las Vegas and Elko, and is housed in a state-of-the-art facility constructed in 2009. The building is named in honor of Assemblyman John Marvel and his wife Willie Marvel. The Marvels were staunch advocates for all forms of Nevada agriculture for more than 60 years.

NDA was reorganized by the 2013 Legislature. The bulk of NDA's funding comes from user assessments and administrative money included in various grants and other federal programs.



# Introduction

The Nevada Department of Agriculture (NDA) has had some significant changes since our last report to the Nevada Legislature. This 2014-15 Biennial Report will reflect those changes and include NDA's accomplishments in the past two years. This report will also highlight NDA's divisions and their performance measures—how we measure whether we're serving the needs of the state and Nevadans through our many programs. This report will also show how we encompass Nevada's rich and diverse farming and ranching activities with our food processing and manufacturing, consumer and marketplace protection, child nutrition and commodity foods programs.

A few high-points:

- In 2013, we completed the merger of the Food and Nutrition Division into NDA. The merger has allowed for increased program efficiencies and publicity about the division's programs and important services to the state, such as the summer food distribution program, which had a banner year in 2014 in the number of sites participating and the number of people fed through the program.
- We held the first Governor's Conference on Agriculture in November 2014. More than 200 attendees from throughout the industry were able to hear from over 40 expert speakers on topics such as public lands, grazing, GMOs and energy incentives for agriculture producers. Participants ranked the conference positively in attendee surveys.
- In 2014, our customer satisfaction survey identified that the public and constituents who work directly with the NDA are overwhelmingly satisfied with the service they receive. We are continuing this survey annually to ensure our customers have an opportunity to tell us how we are doing.
- Our employee surveys have identified areas for improvement within NDA, and we are streamlining many processes, enhancing communications about our programs to the public and we have restructured some divisions to increase efficiencies. In addition, we held an all-staff meeting that further increased staff engagement and feedback to administrators.
- NDA launched the Buy Nevada state brand program for businesses that make, grow and sell food and agriculture products. More than 100 businesses and non-profits have joined in the first year, and businesses are starting to sell their products with the Buy Nevada label.

I hope you find this report informative about what NDA has accomplished in the past two years. Please contact me should you have any questions or feedback on our programs.

—JIM BARBEE, Director



## CONTACT

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Director  
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The value of Nevada beef and veal exports was \$22.9 million, the total value of processed and fresh vegetables exported was \$32.2 million and the value of dairy products exported to international markets was \$17.3 million.

# Nevada Agriculture

## FACTS

There were 4,137 Nevada farms and ranches in 2012 with 5.9 million acres of land dedicated to farming and ranching operations. The state's farms and ranches are relatively large in terms of land by national standards. The average size of a Nevada farm in 2012 was 1,429 acres – more than twice the national acreage (421 acres).

Nevada's land use in 2007 consisted of pastureland (82.78%); crop land (12.85%); and the remaining 4.37% was designated for other uses.

Annual cash receipts from all agricultural commodities in Nevada in 2012 were \$716 million; 60% of cash receipts were from livestock and products, and the remaining 40% came from crops.

The largest livestock commodity in 2012 was cattle and calves with annual cash receipts value of \$283 million.

Alfalfa hay is Nevada's leading crop commodity, and the total value of production in 2012 was \$218 million.

**Source:** 2012 Census of Agriculture – State Data, USDA National Ag. Statistic Services

## ECONOMIC IMPACT

The total economic impact of Nevada's agriculture cluster is \$5.3 billion, and the direct impact of the agriculture cluster on the state economy is \$3.3 billion. Indirect impacts from business-to-business relationships are \$835 million, and the induced impact from household spending on goods and services is \$1.1 million.

## EMPLOYMENT IMPACT

The total employment impact of the Nevada agriculture cluster is 60,700 employees. 35,600 jobs are directly generated by the agriculture cluster. This number includes 5,700 jobs within the agriculture production sector, 4,800 jobs within the agriculture processing and packaging sector, 10,400 jobs within the agriculture distribution sector and 14,645 jobs within the agriculture support sector. 14,600 jobs are supported by direct and indirect household spending on goods and services.

**Source:** 2013 Nevada Agriculture – Analysis and Opportunities; GOED and NNDA.

## EXPORTS

The value of Nevada foreign food and agriculture exports in 2012 was \$160.5 million. The value of beef and veal exports was \$22.9 million, the total value of processed and fresh vegetables exported was \$32.2 million and the value of dairy products exported to international markets was \$17.3 million. \$46.9 million was the total value of other products sold on the foreign market that included other animal and poultry products, other grains and oilseeds, wine, beer, other beverages, coffee, chocolate, other horticulture products and prepared foods.

**Source:** *USDA Economic Research Service; USDA Foreign Agricultural Service (Global Agricultural Trade System).*

## TOP COMMODITIES

Despite Nevada's arid climate, excellent crops are produced where land can be irrigated. Alfalfa hay is the leading cash crop of the state. Much of the hay is sold to dairy operations in surrounding states. Significant quantities of alfalfa cubes and compressed bales are exported overseas each year. Alfalfa seed is another substantial crop. Additional crops produced in Nevada include potatoes, barley, winter and spring wheat, corn, oats, onions, garlic and honey. Smaller acreages of mint, and a variety of fruits and vegetables are grown throughout the state.

Nevada agriculture is directed primarily toward range livestock production. Cattle and calves are the leading agricultural industry. Cow-calf operations predominate with a few stocker operators and feedlots.

Dairy, sheep and lambs, and hogs are among Nevada's other livestock enterprises. The larger cattle and sheep ranches are in the northern half of the state. The greatest number of dairies are in northern Nevada, but the largest dairies are in the south.



◀ Beef cattle, dairy cows, sheep and lambs, and hogs are among Nevada's livestock enterprises.

# Administration

**MISSION:** NDA's mission is to promote a business climate that is fair, economically viable and encourages a sustainable environment that serves to protect food, fiber and human health and safety through effective service and education.

**NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES:** 17 full time

**RELEVANT NRS:** 561

## **BOARDS, COUNCILS AND COMMISSIONS**

- Board of Agriculture
- Nevada Junior Livestock Show Board
- Nevada Rangeland Resources Commission

**N**DA's administration provides oversight to the department through the Director and also related services for budgeting, financial and internal controls, accounting, facility maintenance, personnel, purchasing and inventory management. NDA's agricultural communications and promotions team works with a variety of organizations to promote awareness and education regarding Nevada agriculture. The Nevada Department of Agriculture was established in 1915 by Chapter 561, Nevada Revised Statutes.

## **Office of Communications and Promotions**

**BUY NEVADA:** This program promotes the state's entire agricultural industry, including livestock, hay production, vegetables, melons and dairy. This is in addition to growing urban agricultural and food movements. Similar to other states, the Buy Nevada program represents a state-led effort to promote these industries as a whole. Free memberships are available to qualified businesses.

**GLOBAL TRADE AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:** NDA's Global Trade and Economic Development program supports companies with financing, increased export sales, market research, education and company growth/expansion. The program offers export training, market research services, trade mission and trade show support and economic development support.

**AGRICULTURE LITERACY:** NDA's agriculture literacy position supports statewide agriculture education efforts, including public outreach, school-based agricultural literacy, and support for agricultural education and FFA.

**INFORMATION AND EDUCATION:** NDA's agriculture information and education position provides research expertise for Nevada agriculture. Services include survey development, data procurement, market research and publication of the annual agriculture report.

## **Programs**

**NEVADA BEEF COUNCIL OR "BEEF CHECK OFF DOLLAR":** NDA collects the "beef check-off" dollar per head each time cattle are sold on behalf of the Nevada Beef Council (NBC). At the end of each month, NDA forwards the funds collected during the month, less any fees for services rendered, to NBC.

**RANGELAND COMMISSION:** The Nevada Rangeland Resources Commission (NRRC) has the authority to research, advertise, make determinations, and take action to support and stabilize livestock industry on grazing lands. NDA provides administrative services to the NRRC.

# Administration's Performance Measures

	FY 13	FY 14	FY 15	FY 16	FY 17
OUTCOME	Actual	Estimated	Projected	Projected	Projected
Internal Administrative Services	0%	30%	85%	100%	100%
Number of employees who agree or strongly agree (5-7) that department performance/services is timely and effective.	0	85	240	282	282
Total number of surveyed employees	0	282	282	282	282

	Actual	Estimated	Projected	Projected	Projected
OUTCOME					
Percent of New Retail Outlets Recruited		0%	50%	53%	55%
Number of New Retail Outlets Recruited		0	5	8	11
Total Number of New Retail Stores that Promote Buy Nevada	0	5	10	15	20

	Actual	Estimated	Projected	Projected	Projected
OUTCOME					
Percent of Buy Nevada members that develop B2B partnership annually	0%	0%	50%	67%	80%
Buy Nevada members that developed B2B partnership in a current year	0	0	1	2	4
Number of Buy Nevada members that developed B2B partnership previous year	0	0	2	3	5

	FY 13	FY 14	FY 15	FY 16	FY 17
	Actual	Estimated	Projected	Projected	Projected
Estimated number of Nevada jobs created as a result of agriculture exporting activity	0	631	757	757	757

	Actual	Estimated	Projected	Projected	Projected
OUTCOME					
Annual rate of change of agriculture export value		20%	17%	14%	14%
Difference in Export Value over Prev Year's	\$-	\$22,700,000	\$22,700,000	\$22,700,000	\$22,700,000
Previous Year's Export Value	\$-	\$111,430,000	\$137,000,000	\$159,700,000	\$159,770,000

	Actual	Estimated	Projected	Projected	Projected
OUTCOME					
Percentage of Counties in Ag. Ed Training	0	0%	76%	100%	100%
Number of Participating Counties	0	17	13	17	17
Total Number of Counties	0	17	17	17	17

# Animal Industry

**MISSION:** The Division of Animal Industry is responsible for animal disease prevention, livestock identification and ownership, the protection of natural resources, and predator control.

**CONTACT:**

Flint Wright  
Administrator  
775-353-3708  
fwright@agri.nv.gov

**NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES:**

20 full time / 78 part-time brand inspectors

**RELEVANT NRS:** 561.035-

569-571-574-576.129-131 NAC  
441A.410-445, 567.010-567.090,  
561-565-566-569-571-573-575-  
576.

**BOARDS, COUNCILS AND COMMISSIONS**

- Predatory Animal and Rodent Committee

► Experts in the Division of Animal Industry test for rabies and other diseases that can have economic and health impacts.

**T**he Division of Animal Industry has three sections: Animal Disease and Food Safety, Livestock Identification, and Wildlife Services. The division is responsible for animal disease prevention, livestock identification and ownership, the protection of natural resources, and predator control in order to protect public safety and agricultural resources. The division also oversees the Predatory Animal and Rodent Committee (PARC) and the state's livestock import requirements.

## Programs

**ANIMAL DISEASE AND FOOD SAFETY:** The Animal Disease Lab's role is the diagnosis and eradication of quarantinable animal diseases in cooperation with federal agencies, private veterinarians and livestock owners. It is also responsible for the diagnosis and control of animal diseases that are of economic or public health significance. Veterinary medical services are offered for the implementation of regulatory veterinary programs and disease surveillance programs. The division also establishes protective health requirements for domestic livestock, poultry and companion animals in addition to wildlife moving into and within the state. The lab also monitors regulatory compliance, tests specimens and animals for diseases of economic and public health significance and conducts animal disease surveillance to provide information regarding known and emerging diseases in domestic and wild animals.







▲ Animal Industry staff monitor brands on all state livestock to ensure proper ownership.

**LIVESTOCK IDENTIFICATION:** Livestock Identification is responsible for protecting the livestock industry from theft or loss of livestock, the introduction of diseased animals and from unfair business practices. This is accomplished by enforcing the statues for the inspection and registration of brands, returning strays, processing estrays and licensing dealers, buyers, agents and public sale yards.

Livestock Identification also enforces livestock laws with a road interdiction program to prevent the ingress and egress of livestock that have not met the requirements of both animal health and livestock identification. Livestock Identification has certified peace officers in the Agriculture Enforcement Unit to enforce the above mentioned livestock laws, animal health requirements and certain regulated plant and agricultural commodities with the road interdiction program.

**WILDLIFE SERVICES:** Nevada Wildlife Services' role is to protect Nevada's agriculture, natural resources, property and public safety from the threat of injury, damage or economic loss due to predatory animals, rodents or other wildlife. Wildlife Services controls predatory animals, crop destroying birds and rodents within Nevada in conjunction with USDA's Wildlife Services Program.

### LAB SERVICES

#### Animal Disease and Food Safety Laboratory Services

- Necropsies
- Rabies testing
- West Nile Virus testing (mosquito pools & horses)
- Bovigam (bovine tuberculosis)
- Trichomoniasis
- Bacterial Culture (includes plague and tularemia)
- Parasitology
- Baermann (lungworms)
- Brucellosis serology
- Equine Infectious Anemia

Samples are forwarded to other labs for further testing as needed.

# Animal Industry Performance Measures

	FY 13	FY 14	FY 15	FY 16	FY 17
OUTCOME	Actual	Estimated	Projected	Projected	Projected
Percentage of successfully completed brand inspections	97%	97%	98%	99%	99%
No. of brand inspections performed without mistake	10,040	10,040	10,143	10,296	10,395
Total number of brand inspections	10,350	10,350	10,350	10,400	10,500
OUTCOME	Actual	Estimated	Projected	Projected	Projected
Percentage of random site inspections in compliance	93%	93%	95%	97%	97%
No. of sites that passed random inspection	256	256	523	534	534
Total number of random inspections performed annually (base number of required sample)	275	275	550	550	550
OUTCOME	Actual	Estimated	Projected	Projected	Projected
Percentage of Health Certificates issued	98%	98%	98%	98%	98%
Number of Health Certificates issued annually	10,136	10,136	10,535	10,543	10,543
Total number of Health Certificates requested annually	10,350	10,350	10,750	10,750	10,750
OUTCOME	Actual	Estimated	Projected	Projected	Projected
Percentage of lab test samples for animal diseases that is submitted to NDA by different agencies	38%	40%	45%	45%	45%
Number of tests for zoonotic and non-zoonotic diseases performed on samples submitted by other state agencies	6,835	7,200	8,100	8,100	8,100
Total number of tests performed	18,000	18,000	18,000	18,000	18,000
OUTCOME	Actual	Estimated	Projected	Projected	Projected
Percentage of lab tests positive for animal disease	4%	4%	3%	3%	2%
No. of tests positive for diseases	720	720	540	540	360
Total number of tests performed	18,000	18,000	18,000	18,000	18,000

# Consumer Equitability

The Division of Consumer Equitability offers consumer and marketplace protection through two bureaus: the Bureau of Petroleum Technology and the Bureau of Weights and Measures. The division is a neutral third party in commercial transactions between buyers and sellers. The division strives to ensure that both consumers and businesses are represented fairly in the process of buying and selling goods and services. As most commodities are either weighed or measured at some point, this process affects Nevada consumers every day.

## Programs

**PETROLEUM TECHNOLOGY:** The Bureau of Petroleum Technology protects Nevada's air quality, protects the consumer's right to high quality fuels, and promotes a fair marketplace for suppliers, retailers, and customers. To enforce these standards, the Bureau conducts fuel sampling throughout the state and analyzes these samples, investigating any possible violations in fuel quality. The bureau places a high priority on consumer complaints. Upon receipt of a complaint, the bureau determines if a fuel quality issue exists at a retail location and works with the consumer and the station to correct the situation.

The bureau maintains two labs for analyzing fuel samples—one in the north and one in the south. Trained chemists analyze nearly 3,000 samples each year, including all fuel products available for retail sale. Gasoline represents most of the samples, but the labs also analyze diesel, aviation gasoline, jet fuel, kerosene, and alternative fuels such as biodiesel and E85.

**MISSION:** Ensure quality of fuel and lubricants as well as equality in all commercial transactions for the protection of Nevada's citizens and industry.

**CONTACT:**  
Bart O'Toole  
Administrator  
botoole@agri.nv.gov  
775-353-3726

**NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES:** 20 full time

**RELEVANT NRS:** 581,582,590



▲ All gas pumps in Nevada are inspected to ensure they are delivering the quantity and quality of fuel paid for by consumers.

## LAB SERVICES

### Petroleum Testing Lab

- Fuel testing
- Antifreeze testing
- Oil testing

### Metrology Laboratory

The calibration lab is accredited by the National Voluntary Laboratory Accreditation Program (one of just 17 states to receive this accreditation in 2014). Weights and scales sent for testing meet high standards of accuracy, resulting in higher consumer confidence for products sold by weight or volume.

**WEIGHTS AND MEASURES:** The Bureau of Weights and Measures tests and inspects commercially used devices, regulates fuel sampling, inspects product packages, verifies product pricing, and oversees Registered Service Agents. The bureau is responsible for:

- Annual inspection and testing of supermarket scales, gas pumps, truck scales, concrete plants, liquefied petroleum gas meters, large capacity petroleum meters, etc.,
- Regulation of product advertising and labeling,
- Investigation of consumer complaints of gasoline sales,
- Hearings for petroleum violations before the Board of Agriculture,
- Licensing, auditing, and inspection of Public Weighmaster truck and platform scales,
- Registration of weighing and measuring device sales and repair personnel, and
- Routine surveillance of prepackaged consumer products.

The agency also maintains the metrology lab that houses the state standards for mass, length, and volume.



▲ Livestock scales are tested annually by NDA staff to ensure the scales accurately weigh cattle for market sales.

## Consumer Equitability Performance Measures

	FY 13	FY 14	FY 15	FY 16	FY 17
OUTCOME	Actual	Estimated	Projected	Projected	Projected
Percentage of Measurement Devices Inspected	77%	80%	98%	99%	100%
Number of commercial weighing and measuring devices inspected.	29,500	30,923	36,000	38,500	38,600
Total number of registered commercially used weighing and measuring devices in the state.	38,400	38,481	38,500	38,600	38,600
	Actual	Estimated	Projected	Projected	Projected
Percent of Compliant Gas Stations	80%	82%	99%	99%	100%
Compliant Gas Stations	740	759	774	789	804
Total number of registered gas stations in the state	930	930	945	960	975
OUTCOME	Actual	Estimated	Projected	Projected	Projected
Percentage of fuel samples that meet or exceed standards	97%	97%	98%	99%	100%
Number of fuel standard violations reported	3,400	3,400	3,425	3,475	3,500
Total Number of fuel sample analyzed	3,500	3,500	3,500	3,500	3,500

# Food and Nutrition

**MISSION:** Helping Nevadans embrace a healthier life.

**CONTACT:**

Donnell Barton  
Administrator  
775-353-3625  
dbarton@agri.nv.gov

**NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES:** 30  
full time

**RELEVANT NRS:** NRS 387.070, NRS 387.075, NRS 387.080, NRS 387.090, NRS 387.100, NRS 387.105 NRS 561.485, NRS561.489, NRS 561.495, Chapter 584 Dairy Products and Substitutes

**BOARDS, COUNCILS AND COMMISSIONS**

- Food Security Council
- Nevada Dairy Commission

**T**he Food and Nutrition Division was established during the 2013 Nevada Legislature by combining the USDA Child Nutrition Programs, Commodity Food Distribution Programs, and the Nevada Dairy Commission. The division administers numerous programs designed to ensure the availability of wholesome, nutritious food to Nevada’s children and recipients of the division’s commodity food programs. The division assures the availability of quality dairy products and promotes a business climate that is economically viable for those who produce, process, or market dairy products in Nevada.

## Programs

**CHILD AND ADULT CARE FOOD PROGRAM (CACFP):** USDA’s Child and Adult Care Food Program plays a role in improving the quality of day care and making it more affordable for low-income families. Each day, 2.6 million children receive nutritious meals and snacks through CACFP. The program also provides meals and snacks to 74,000 adults who receive care in nonresidential adult day-care centers.

**CHILD NUTRITION COMMODITY SUPPORT:** The program provides basic and processed commodity foods for the National School Lunch Program (NSLP), School Breakfast Program (SBP), Summer Food Service Program (SFSP), and the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP). All recipient agencies must be tax exempt and must meet USDA’s nutritional standards. Commodities are allocated according to a fair-share basis based on eligible reimbursable meals served.

**COMMODITY SUPPLEMENTAL FOOD PROGRAM (CSFP):** The CSFP works to improve the health of low-income elderly persons, at least 60 years of age, by supplementing their diets with nutritious USDA Foods. Through CSFP USDA distributes both food and administrative funds to participating state and Indian tribal organizations.

**DAIRY COMMISSION:** The Nevada Dairy Commission assures the availability of wholesome, nutritious dairy products and promotes a business climate that is economically viable for those who produce, process, or market dairy products in Nevada. The Nevada Dairy Commission is funded from fees collected through license and permit fees and assessments on regulated dairy products.

**DISASTER FEEDING:** The Disaster Feeding program provides USDA commodities to disaster organizations for distribution in the event of a disaster.

**THE EMERGENCY FOOD ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (TEFAP):** TEFAP provides non-profit distribution sites with commodities for redistribution to low-income families. This food is for household consumption and is free, but recipients must meet state and federal guidelines. Soup kitchens and other non-profit organizations that prepare and serve meals for needy individuals can also receive food at no cost.



**FOOD DISTRIBUTION PROGRAM ON INDIAN RESERVATIONS (FDPIR):** FDPIR provides commodity foods to low-income households residing on Indian reservations. This is an alternative to the Food Stamp Program because many households do not have easy access to food stores.

**FRESH FRUIT AND VEGETABLE PROGRAM (FFVP):** The FFVP exposes children to a variety of fresh fruits and vegetables to encourage healthy eating habits. Elementary schools that have greater than 50-percent eligible free and reduced lunch students are eligible to apply annually for this program.

**NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM (NSLP):** The NSLP provides nutritious lunches and the opportunity to practice skills learned in classroom nutrition education. Meal cost is determined by household income. This program also offers after-school snacks at sites that meet eligibility requirements.

**NUTRITION SERVICE INCENTIVE PROGRAM:** The Nutrition Service Incentive Program offers commodity foods provided as an option to cash to the Meals-On-Wheels program, operated by senior citizen centers throughout the state as part of the federal Older Americans Act.

**SCHOOL BREAKFAST PROGRAM:** The School Breakfast Program provides nutritious breakfasts to promote learning readiness and healthy eating behaviors.

▲ NDA Staff help package Nevada produce for the Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program.

## LAB SERVICES

### Food Safety Lab

The NDA Food Safety Lab detects:

- Antibiotic residues in raw and finished milk
- Bacterial counts in raw and finished milk
- Coliform counts in finished milk
- Fat levels in finished milk
- Listeria, E. coli, and salmonella in cheese
- Bacterial and coliform counts in dairy packaging
- Bacterial and coliform counts in source water and re-circulated dairy waters

The lab is accredited by the FDA's Laboratory Proficiency Evaluation Team (LPET) as the state central milk lab, and personnel hold Certification by FDA LPET as the State Laboratory Evaluation Officer.

**SENIOR FARMER'S MARKET NUTRITION PROGRAM (SFMNP):** The SFMNP provides low-income seniors with coupons that can be exchanged for eligible foods at participating Nevada farmers' markets and roadside farm stands. The purpose of this program is to increase the consumption, production, and distribution of fresh, locally grown fruits and vegetables and to supplement the nutritional needs of Nevada seniors.

**SPECIAL MILK PROGRAM (SMP):** The SMP provides milk to children, who do not participate in other federal meal service programs, in schools and in childcare institutions. Schools in the National School Lunch or School Breakfast Programs may participate in the SMP to provide milk in pre-kindergarten and kindergarten where children do not have access to the school meal program.

**STATE PROCESSING PROGRAM:** The State Processing Program has the authority to convert raw bulk USDA foods into more convenient, processed end products, such as chicken nuggets, by entering into agreements with commercial food processors. Recipient agencies can provide more varied and higher quality meals at a reduced cost, and most of these products go to schools participating in the National School Lunch Program.

**SUMMER FOOD SERVICE PROGRAM (SFSP):** Funded through the USDA and administered by FND the SFSP offers summer food to children, regardless of income. Children may receive up to two meals, one meal and a snack, or two snacks every day during the summer. Program sponsors combine a feeding program with a summer activity program. Sponsors can be public or private schools, government entities, Native American tribal entities, private nonprofit organizations, universities or colleges, or community and faith-based organizations. During the summer of 2014, the program saw record number of meals served—more than 560,000—at nearly 250 sites around the state.

► The National School Lunch Program provides lunches and the opportunity to practice skills learned in classroom nutrition education. Meal cost is determined by household income.





# Food & Nutrition Performance Measures

	FY 13	FY 14	FY 15	FY 16	FY 17
OUTCOME	Actual	Estimated	Projected	Projected	Projected
Percentage of eligible K-12 students participating in the School Lunch Program:	48%	50%	52%	55%	58%
Students Participating	215,821	226,180	235,227	248,798	262,369
Number of Eligible Students	452,360	452,360	452,360	452,360	452,360
OUTCOME	Actual	Estimated	Projected	Projected	Projected
Percentage of K-12 students participating in the National School Breakfast Program	22%	27%	33%	36%	39%
Students Participating	92,738	114,934	140,474	153,245	166,015
Number of Eligible Students	425,680	425,680	425,680	425,680	425,680
OUTPUT	Actual	Estimated	Projected	Projected	Projected
Number of meals served in the Summer Food Service Program	488,845	537,730	591,502	650,653	715,718
OUTPUT	Actual	Estimated	Projected	Projected	Projected
Number of clients served by The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP)	137,093	148,590	156,013	163,813	172,004
OUTPUT	Actual	Estimated	Projected	Projected	Projected
Number of clients served by Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR)	488	599	629	659	689
OUTPUT	Actual	Estimated	Projected	Projected	Projected
Number of clients served by the Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP)	7,328	6,985	6,985	6,985	6,985

	FY 13	FY 14	FY 15	FY 16	FY 17
OUTCOME	Actual	Estimated	Projected	Projected	Projected
Percentage of inspections, evaluations and sampling conducted within federal/state timeframes to maintain compliance with the Interstate Milk Shippers program to ensure that dairy farms and milk plants may sell their products across state lines	99%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Number of inspections, evaluations and sampling conducted within federal/state timeframes	969	967	975	975	975
Total number of inspections, evaluations and sampling conducted	979	967	975	975	975
OUTCOME	Actual	Estimated	Projected	Projected	Projected
Percentage of compliance with the directives of the Public Health Service/Food & Drug Administration Milk Safety Program to ensure a safe and wholesome supply of dairy products to the general public	95%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Number of inspections and evaluations of dairy farms, milk plants, bulk milk haulers/samplers that are in compliance	138	158	160	160	160
Total number of inspections and evaluations of dairy farms, milk plants, bulk milk haulers/samplers conducted	145	158	160	160	160
OUTCOME	Actual	Estimated	Projected	Projected	Projected
Percentage of Compliant Audits	0%	92%	96%	100%	100%
Compliant Audits	-	230	240	250	250
Total Number of Audits	-	250	250	250	250

# Plant Industry

**T**he Division of Plant Industry conducts cooperative programs with many different agencies of the U.S.D.A., U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and state, county and city. The division, through rangeland health, crop and pest, and pesticide sections, protects Nevada's agriculture, public and the environment. Division goals include: preventing the entry and establishment of economically damaging pests; ensuring a safe, prescribed supply and application of pesticides and fertilizers; and coordinating and encouraging protection and conservation of rangeland health.

## Programs

**ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES:** NDA and the EPA entered into an agreement in 1975 to maintain a comprehensive pesticide enforcement, surveillance, sampling, and pesticide laboratory analysis program and to certify individuals who use or supervise the use of restricted use pesticides. The division's Chemistry Lab is responsible for all fertilizer and pesticide registration for products sold in the state.

**ENTOMOLOGY:** The entomology program identifies, surveys, and in some cases controls native and exotic invertebrate pests. The program also enforces applicable quarantines and regulations.



**MISSION:** Safeguarding Nevada's agriculture, public, and environment

**CONTACT:**  
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**NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES:** 33 full time

**RELEVANT NRS:** 552, 554, 555, 556, 576, 583, 586, 587, 588

### BOARDS, COUNCILS AND COMMISSIONS

- Nevada Alfalfa Seed Advisory Board
- Nevada Garlic and Onion Advisory Board
- Nevada Organic Advisory Council

◀ NDA Staff help inspect all nurseries throughout the state, like this one in Incline Village.



▲ NDA's Environmental Services Program and Chemistry Laboratory test groundwater for pesticide residue.

▼ NDA's entomology program annually places thousands of insect monitoring traps throughout Nevada in search of new infestations of invasive insects, such as this one monitoring for Gypsy moth.

**EXPORT CERTIFICATION:** NDA assists farmers and exporters by providing mandatory inspection and export certification for plants and plant products being exported out of state in order to verify that a shipment meets a destination country or state's import requirements. Export certification seeks to prevent the spread of invasive pests from one part of the world to another by inspecting agricultural products before they are shipped.

**GOOD AGRICULTURAL PRACTICES (GAP):** The Plant Industry division offers voluntary independent audits on GAP and Good Handling Practices (GHP) to verify that fruits and vegetables are produced, packed, handled, and stored in the safest manner possible to minimize risks of microbial food safety hazards.

**NOXIOUS WEEDS:** The noxious weed program's mission is to coordinate resources and efforts toward proactive prevention, control, and management of invasive weed species in order to benefit the state's land users.

**NURSERY PROGRAM:** The Nursery Program monitors, intercepts, and prevents the spread of pests on nursery stock, as well as ensuring pest-free and viable plant materials are offered for sale to the public.

**ORGANIC PROGRAM:** The Nevada Organic Certification Program provides assurance to consumers who purchase organic products by verifying that products were grown and handled according to USDA National Organic Program standards. The program also benefits Nevada's agricultural producers and handlers by providing an in-state organic certification service allowing eligible operations to market agricultural products as organic.

**PEST CONTROL:** The Pest Control Program licenses and monitors pest control companies and individuals for compliance with applicable pesticide laws and regulations. The program tests pesticide applicators and ensures the safe handling and application of pesticides.



**PLANT PATHOLOGY:** The Plant Pathology Program helps industries achieve plant health goals through early detection, eradication, surveillance, and management of plant diseases and disorders. The Plant Pathology Laboratory serves as a scientific resource, providing timely and reliable diagnostic and testing services to the state and federal plant health programs and statewide clientele.

**PRODUCER CERTIFICATION:** Producer certificates are issued by NDA to facilitate direct sales between farmers and local buyers. Depending on the location in Nevada, state and/or county health divisions may require a farmer



to have a producer certificate to sell at farmers markets or to restaurants or schools. Managers of certified farmers markets may request that a farmer obtain a producer certificate to sell their farm products in their market.

**RANGELAND HEALTH PROGRAM:** The Rangeland Health Program provides assistance to landowners in the development of projects and land management that encourages economically viable and sustainable practices.

**SEED CERTIFICATION:** The Seed Program provides regulatory support to seed growers and other business entities by offering seed certification services, conducting phytosanitary inspection of crops destined for export and enforcing state and federal seed laws intended to protect the interests of Nevada's seed industry. The seed laboratory, in conjunction with the State Plant Pathology Laboratory, provides testing services for seed identity, viability, purity and seed-borne diseases.

**SPECIALTY CROP BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM:** Under the 2008 Farm bill, NDA receives grant funding from the USDA to enhance the competitiveness of Nevada's specialty crops (fruits, vegetables, tree nuts, dried fruits, horticulture and nursery crops). In order to seek out program enhancing projects, NDA conducts an annual competitive application process to award grant funds to eligible and top scoring candidates.

## LAB SERVICES

### Chemistry

- Registers, renews fertilizers and pesticides
- Performs regulatory testing programs for agriculture related ground and surface water
- Analyzes pesticide use/misuse residue in a variety of matrices (water, soil, plant, etc.)

### Entomology

- Provides identifications for public, departmental programs and other state and federal agencies

### Plant Pathology

- Conducts plant disease surveys to prevent new disease introduction
- Provides scientific support for state and federal disease quarantine
- Promotes awareness of plant health and management
- Is a member of the National Plant Diagnostic Network

### Seed Certification

- Preserves the genetic purity and identity of seed
- Develops requirements for producing certified seed and meeting specified standards based on lab analysis
- Provides seed buyers with assurance that seed has met purity standards across seed lots and years of production

# Plant Industry Performance Measures

	FY 13	FY 14	FY 15	FY 16	FY 17
OUTCOME	Actual	Estimated	Projected	Projected	Projected
Percent of pesticides of interest managed for reduction	70%	80%	80%	80%	80%
No. of pesticides of concern managed	7	8	8	8	8
No. of pesticides of concern identified	10	10	10	10	10
OUTCOME	Actual	Estimated	Projected	Projected	Projected
Percentage of pesticide use violations in compliance after violation	89%	88%	89%	90%	90%
No. of verified compliance actions	99	98	99	97	97
No. of enforcement actions	111	111	111	108	108
OUTCOME	Actual	Estimated	Projected	Projected	Projected
Percentage of tests processed by the Plant Pathology Lab tested positive	23%	22%	25%	25%	25%
Number of tests processed by the Plant Pathology Lab tested positive for diseases	422	520	500	500	500
Total number of samples processed by Plant Pathology Lab	1,864	2,356	2,000	2,000	2,000
OUTCOME	Actual	Estimated	Projected	Projected	Projected
Percent of economic pests identified	34%	41%	41%	41%	41%
Number of economic pests identified	3985	5,325	5,325	5325	5325
Total number of identifications	11,620	13,040	13,040	13,040	13,040
OUTCOME	Actual	Estimated	Projected	Projected	Projected
Percentage of other certificates issued to producers	99%	99%	99%	99%	99%
Number of issued certificates	671	671	671	671	671
Number of requested certificates	678	678	678	678	678
OUTCOME	Actual	Estimated	Projected	Projected	Projected
Percentage of acres grown for seed that are inspected and are in compliance	99.66%	99%	99%	99%	100%
Number of acres grown for seed inspected and in compliance	7,602.45	8,927.18	9,000.00	9,000.00	9,000.00
Total number of acres grown for seed that are inspected	7,628.45	9,023.18	9,000.00	9,000.00	9,000.00

	FY 13	FY 14	FY 15	FY 16	FY 17
OUTCOME	Actual	Estimated	Projected	Projected	Projected
Percentage of organic certified producers in compliance with organic standards for certification.	95%	95%	97%	99%	100%
Total number of organic producers or handlers that apply for certification and are successful in meeting program requirements	42	42	43	44	45
Total number of applicants	44	44	44	44	45
OUTCOME	Actual	Estimated	Projected	Projected	Projected
Percentage of nursery stock dealers that are in compliance with state laws and regulations	96%	94%	97%	97%	97%
Number of nursery stock dealers that are inspected and found to be in compliance with Nevada's nursery laws and regulations	317	346	358	358	358
Total number of licensed nursery stock dealers inspected	331	369	369	369	369
OUTCOME	Actual	Estimated	Projected	Projected	Projected
Percentage of noxious weed seed free certifications issued	97%	95%	98%	98%	98%
Number of inspections that received certification	36	58	62	63	65
Total number of inspections performed	37	61	63	64	66
OUTCOME	Actual	Estimated	Projected	Projected	Projected
Percentage of weed reports verified to be noxious weed infestations	89%	92%	89%	85%	80%
Total number of reports verified by site visit to be new noxious weed infestations in the state.	33	46	80	85	100
Total number of reports received by NDA Noxious Weed Program	37	50	90	100	125



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