

I) AGENCY SUMMARY & REVENUE SOURCES

MISSION

The board samples and analyzes agricultural production for quality assurance; performs inspections, testing and grading to protect against harmful insects, plant diseases and noxious weeds; provides enforcement of quarantines and regulations; enforcement of pest control, nursery, and apiary rules and regulations; and checks the accuracy of commercial weighing and measuring devices.

TOTAL BIENNIAL BUDGET

Agency administers total base budget of approx. \$18.2 million.

FUNDING SOURCE

The Agency is funded by General Revenues (approx. 13%), Federal Revenue (approx. 6%), Special Revenues (approx. 40%) and Cash and Other funds (approx. 49%).

II) CHANGES/APPROPRIATIONS

- Increase in Capital Outlay of \$53,500 in FY08 and \$59,000 in FY09 in Capital Outlay to replace Metrology Laboratory equipment.
- Provides increase in Capital Outlay of \$313,900 in FY08 and \$396,700 in FY09 for replacement of vehicles and equipment.
- Provides additional appropriation and general revenue of \$7,923 each year in Operating Expenses for increases in rent and travel expenses.

The Executive Recommendation provides for the consolidation of all operations and appropriations of the State Plant Board into the Arkansas Agriculture Department.

III) ADDITIONAL POSITIONS

Total positions for FY 2007-2009 Biennium: 148

Total budgeted positions for FY 2007: 148

IV) SPECIAL LANGUAGE

- TRANSFER PROVISION-PEST ERADICATION - Appropriation may be transferred from the Pest Eradication Program special line item to Reg. Salaries, Extra Help, Overtime, and Pers. Svcs. Matching if the Board determines that pest eradication efforts require additional personnel expenses, with the approval of the Chief Fiscal Officer and review by the Legislative Council.
- FUND BALANCES. PLANT BOARD FUND. - Provides that, should fund balances fall below \$1,173,309 disbursing officer notifies agency head who requests and justifies future expenditures to the Chief Fiscal Officer who approves or disapproves such expenditures after seeking review by the Legislative Council; agency head also files a plan indicating the impact of such expenditures on the fund balance, measures to be taken or programs to be cut to restore the balance, extent to which expenditures are for one-time purchases, and a statement that expenditures will not permanently deplete the fund or jeopardize the health of the agency.