



State Affairs Committee

Wednesday, December 5, 2012

9:00 AM

Morris Hall (17 HOB)

Will Weatherford
Speaker

Steve Crisafulli
Chair

Committee Meeting Notice

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

State Affairs Committee

Start Date and Time: Wednesday, December 05, 2012 09:00 am
End Date and Time: Wednesday, December 05, 2012 10:00 am
Location: Morris Hall (17 HOB)
Duration: 1.00 hrs

Presentation by the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services: Agency Overview and Discussion of Possible Legislative Issues

NOTICE FINALIZED on 11/28/2012 16:14 by Love.John



DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND CONSUMER SERVICES

ADAM H. PUTNAM, COMMISSIONER

State Affairs Committee

Department Overview
December 5, 2012

Grace Lovett, Director
Office of Legislative Affairs





Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services

Mission

Safeguard the Public and Support Agriculture

Goals

- Increase production and sale of Florida's agricultural products
- Ensure the safety and wholesomeness of food and other consumer products
- Conserve and steward the state's agricultural and natural resources
- Protect consumers from potential health and financial risks and unfair and deceptive trade practices



Divisions and Offices

- The Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (FDACS) has 15 divisions and offices dedicated to providing services to the citizens of the state and administering the statutes enacted by the Florida Legislature. Those divisions and offices under the purview of the House State Affairs Committee are:

- Agricultural Environmental Services
- Animal Industry
- Aquaculture
- Florida Forest Service
- Food, Nutrition and Wellness
- Food Safety
- Fruit and Vegetable
- Agricultural Law Enforcement
- Marketing and Development
- Plant Industry
- Agricultural Water Policy

**Other Divisions and Offices
not under the purview of this committee**

- Consumer Services
- Licensing
- Energy
- Administration
- Agriculture Technology Services
- General Counsel
- Policy and Budget



Animal Industry

Mission: To serve as the guardian of the health of Florida's livestock and poultry industries and other animal populations.

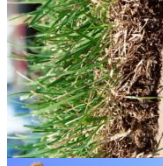
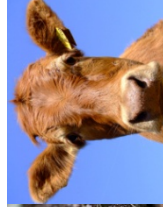
- Surveillance
- Control & Eradicate Diseases
- Coordinate with Wildlife and Public Health Officials
- Rapid & Accurate Diagnostic Services
- Emergency Response



Aquaculture

Mission:
Supporting
aquaculture
production and
growth for
economic
development while
protecting the
environment.

- Provide Technical Assistance
- Water Quality Monitoring
- Oyster Reef Restoration
- Assess Resources



Florida Forest Service

Mission: To protect and manage the forest resources of the state, ensuring they are available for future generations.

- Forest Protection
 - Wildland fire prevention, detection, suppression and mitigation
- State Forest Management
- Forestry Management Assistance
- Technical Assistance
- Forest Health



Food, Nutrition and Wellness

Mission: To ensure that every child in Florida has access to a nutritious meal that is full of fresh fruits and vegetables and is educated on the importance of making healthy choices through outreach, partnerships, education, and oversight to ensure quality and compliance, training and technical assistance.

- National School Lunch Program
- School Breakfast Program
- After School Snack
- Summer Food Services Program
- Farm to School



Food Safety

Mission: To assure the public of a safe, wholesome and properly represented food supply.

Division staff proactively monitors food from farm gate through processing and distribution to the retail point of purchase.

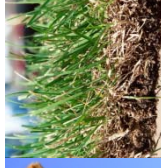
- **Food Establishment Inspections**
 - Manufacturers, Processors, distributors, Retailers
- **Laboratories**
 - Only state lab fully devoted to food safety analysis
 - Focus is on microbiological and pesticide contamination



Fruit and Vegetables

Mission: To meet the needs of Florida's fruit and vegetables industries through fiscally responsible quality assurance and technical assistance services.

- Inspects
 - Citrus
 - Peanuts
 - Tomatoes
 - Avocados
 - Potatoes
- Implements the Tomato Good Agricultural Practices program on farms and in packing houses
- Verifies “grade” and condition of produce received by buyers (brokers)



Agricultural Law Enforcement

Mission: To enforce laws which threaten the overall security and safety of the state's agriculture industry.

- AgLaw manages 23 agricultural interdiction stations
- Enforce civil and criminal laws on property owned, managed by the department (state forests, FDACS facilities, etc.) and any criminal violation involving farms or farm equipment, animals/livestock, poultry, horticulture, aquaculture or citrus products.
- Agricultural Emergency Preparedness
- Florida's Domestic Marijuana Eradication Program.



Marketing and Development

Mission: To drive awareness and sales of Florida's commodities by developing and expanding marketing opportunities for Fresh from Florida products and to ensure fair trade practices to reduce financial risk to the state's agribusiness community.

- **Fresh From Florida**
- **Marketing, Trade and Promotion**
- **Awareness**
 - **Chef and Culinary Ambassador**
 - **Children, Parents and Minority Groups**
- **Preserving Agriculture's Legacy & Advocating its Future**



Plant Industry

Mission: To protect Florida's native and commercially grown plants and the state's apiary industry from harmful pests and diseases

- First Line of Defense
- Exotic Invasives
- Fruit Fly Eradication
- Citrus Health Response Program
- Honeybee hive location, managed beekeeping
- Outreach
- Natural Solutions



Agricultural Water Policy

Mission: To help ensure the future of Florida Agriculture while preserving the state's natural resources

- Water Supply
- Mobile Irrigation Labs
- Water Quality Criteria
- Best Management Practices
- Regulatory Streamlining



Agricultural Environmental Services

Mission: To protect agriculture, the public, and the environment from unsafe and unethical products and services used for agricultural production or for managing pests.

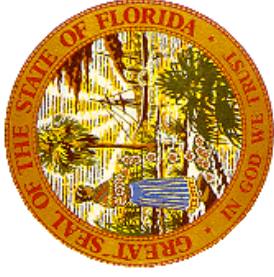
- Feed
- Seed
- Fertilizer
- Pesticides
- Mosquito Control
- Pest Control
- Emergency Response



2013 Legislative Priorities

- Proposing changes to fertilizer statute that reflect current fertilizer manufacturing capabilities and improvements in fertilizer laboratory technology
- Expanding Operation Outdoor Freedom program
- Re-vamping the distribution of state aid to the local mosquito control districts
- Eliminating archaic regulation, duplicative reporting, and inactive councils and Direct Support Organizations
 - Also asking for the ability to create DSOs





QUESTIONS?

**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
AND CONSUMER SERVICES
ADAM H. PUTNAM, COMMISSIONER**

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December 5, 2012

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