



GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

GARY MCDOWELL
DIRECTOR

March 2, 2022

NOTICE OF MEETING

**MICHIGAN COMMISSION OF AGRICULTURE
AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT**

March 16, 2022

The regular meeting of the Michigan Commission of Agriculture and Rural Development will be held on Wed., March 16, 2022. The business session is scheduled to begin at 9:00 a.m. The meeting is open to the public and this notice is provided under the Open Meetings Act, 1976 PA 267, MCL 15.261 to 15.275. The Commissioners will be meeting at AgroLiquid, 3055 West M-21 (GPS address is 1130 S. DeWitt Road, St. Johns). This meeting is also being conducted electronically to allow for greater remote public attendance and participation. To join the meeting, dial by telephone: **1-248-509-0316** and enter the Conference ID: **217 672 62#**.

In accordance with the Commission's Public Appearance Guidelines, individuals wishing to address the Commission may pre-register to do so during the Public Comment period as noted below and will be allowed up to three minutes for their presentation. Documents distributed in conjunction with the meeting will be considered public documents and are subject to provisions of the Freedom of Information Act. The public comment time provides the public an opportunity to speak; the Commission will not necessarily respond to the public comment.

To pre-register to speak virtually during this meeting, individuals should contact the Commission Assistant **no later than Fri., March 11, 2022**, via email at MDA-Ag-Commission@michigan.gov and provide their name, organization they represent, address, and telephone number, as well as indicate if they wish to speak to an agenda item. You may also contact the Commission Assistant at that email address to provide input or ask questions on any business that will come before the Commission at the meeting. The Commission Chair will call upon each person by name and telephone number when it is time for them to speak and there will be a meeting moderator facilitating participation. All others wishing to speak will be provided two minutes to do so. Instructions on how to be recognized will be provided at the beginning of the meeting.

Those needing accommodations for effective participation in the meeting should contact the Commission Assistant at 800-292-3939 one week in advance, or may use the Michigan Relay Center by calling 711 for deaf, hard of hearing, or speech-impaired persons.

Gary McDowell
Director

MICHIGAN COMMISSION OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

AgroLiquid
3055 West M-21
(GPS: 1130 S. DeWitt Rd., St. Johns, MI
St. Johns, Michigan 48879

Option to Join via Remote Technology
Dial: 1-248-509-0316; Conf. ID 217 672 62#

MARCH 16, 2022 TENTATIVE AGENDA

- | | | |
|-----------|-----|--|
| 9:00 a.m. | 1. | Call to Order and Roll Call |
| | 2. | Approval of Agenda (action item) |
| | 3. | Approval of Minutes from the February 7, 2022, Commission of Agriculture and Rural Development Meeting (action item) |
| | 4. | Next Scheduled Meeting (information only) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• May 18, 2022, Location: TBD |
| 9:05 a.m. | 5. | Commissioner Comments and Travel (action item) |
| 9:15 a.m. | 6. | Commissioner Issues (action item) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Retirement Resolution – John Bock• Retirement Resolution – Mike Bryan• Retirement Resolution – Brenda Smith |
| 9:20 a.m. | 7. | Director's Report |
| 9:30 a.m. | 8. | Public Comment on Agenda Items <p>In accordance with the Public Appearance Guidelines in the Commission Policy Manual, individuals wishing to address the Commission must complete a Public Appearance Card and will be allowed up to three minutes for their presentation. Documents distributed at the meeting will be considered public documents and are subject to provisions of the Freedom of Information Act. The public comment time provides the public an opportunity to speak; the Commission will not necessarily respond to the public comment.</p> |
| 9:40 a.m. | 9. | USDA Michigan Staff Introduction and Update: Tim Boring, State Executive Director, USDA Farm Service Agency (information only) |
| 9:50 a.m. | 10. | MSU Staff Introductions: Patrick I. Cudney, Director of Government and Stakeholder Relations, MSU College of Agriculture and Natural Resources (CANR); CANR Interim Dean Kelly Millenbah; CANR MSU Extension Director Quentin Tyler; CANR AgBioResearch Director George Smith; and Kim Dodd, Director, MSU Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory, MSU College of Veterinary Medicine (information only) |

- 10:20 a.m. 11. **Michigan Agriculture for Schools:** Lori Yelton, Nutrition-Food Management Consultant, Food and Dairy Division, and Jaime K. Malnar, School District Consultant, Food Distribution Unit, Office of Health and Nutrition Services, and Wendy K. Crowley, Farm to Program Consultant, Child Nutrition Programs, Michigan Department of Education.
- 10:40 a.m. **Break**
- 10:50 a.m. 12. **Public Acts with Commission Role:** Brad Deacon, Director of Legal Affairs and Emergency Management (information only)
- 11:10 a.m. 13. **Evaluation of Seed Quality and Compliance 15 Years after Deregulation:** Mike Philip, Division Director, and Andria McCubbin, Nursery and Seed Specialist, Pesticide and Pest Plant Management Division (information only)
- 11:30 a.m. 14. **Food and Agriculture Investment Fund Request:** Jamie Zmitko-Somers, Division Director, Agriculture Development Division (**action item**)
- 11:50 a.m. 15. **Budget Update:** Sylvia Renteria, Director of Finance and Budget (information only)
- 12:05 p.m. 16. **Legislative Update:** Ashley Steffen, Legislative Liaison (information only)
- 12:15 p.m. 17. **Public Comment**
In accordance with the Public Appearance Guidelines in the Commission Policy Manual, individuals wishing to address the Commission must complete a Public Appearance Card and will be allowed up to three minutes for their presentation. Documents distributed at the meeting will be considered public documents and are subject to provisions of the Freedom of Information Act. The public comment time provides the public an opportunity to speak; the Commission will not necessarily respond to the public comment.
- 12:25 p.m. 18. **Adjourn (action item)**

SPECIAL MEETING

MICHIGAN COMMISSION OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

**AgroLiquid
3055 West M-21
St. Johns, MI 48879**

and

**Remote Technology via Microsoft Teams
Dial: 1-248-509-0316, Conference ID 909 052 171#**

MEETING MINUTES February 7, 2022

PRESENT:

Charlie Meintz, Vice Chair, Michigan Commission of Agriculture and Rural Development
Patricia Bergdahl, Michigan Commission of Agriculture and Rural Development
Andy Chae, Michigan Commission of Agriculture and Rural Development
Juliette King-McAvoy, Michigan Commission of Agriculture and Rural Development
Monica Wyant, Michigan Commission of Agriculture and Rural Development
Gary McDowell, Director, Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Vice Chairperson Meintz called the meeting of the Commission of Agriculture and Rural Development to order at 10:05 a.m. on February 7, 2022. Commissioner Meintz called the roll with Commissioners Bergdahl, Chae, King-McAvoy, Meintz, and Wyant, and Director McDowell present.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: COMMISSIONER CHAE MOVED TO APPROVE THE MEETING AGENDA FOR FEBRUARY 7, 2022. SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER BERGDAHL. MOTION CARRIED.

APPROVAL OF NOVEMBER 10, 2021, MEETING MINUTES

MOTION: COMMISSIONER CHAE MOVED TO APPROVE THE NOVEMBER 10, 2021, MEETING MINUTES. SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER BERGDAHL. MOTION CARRIED.

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING

The next scheduled meeting is March 16, 2022, to be held at AgroLiquid in St. Johns.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS AND TRAVEL

Commissioners each briefly shared details around their background, information relative to their farm operations, and agriculture in their respective areas. Concerns were expressed on the challenges currently facing the agriculture industry, including issues

around prices and inflation, transportation, crop failures, seasonal worker housing, and the ability to secure fertilizer products.

Commissioners Bergdahl, Chae, King-McAvoy, Meintz, and Wyant traveled to attend today's meeting. There was no other travel submitted for approval.

MOTION: COMMISSIONER BERGDAHL MOVED TO APPROVE THE COMMISSIONERS' TRAVEL. SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER KING-McAVOY. MOTION CARRIED.

COMMISSIONER ISSUES

Commissioner Meintz advised the Commission is needing to fill its positions of Secretary, Vice Chair, and Chair for 2022.

MOTION: COMMISSIONER CHAE MOVED TO NOMINATE COMMISSIONER MEINTZ AS CHAIR OF THE COMMISSION FOR 2022. COMMISSIONER BERGDAHL SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION: COMMISSIONER MEINTZ MOVED TO NOMINATE COMMISSIONER CHAE AS VICE CHAIR OF THE COMMISSION FOR 2022. COMMISSIONER WYANT SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION: COMMISSIONER CHAE MOVED TO NOMINATE COMMISSIONER BERGDAHL AS SECRETARY OF THE COMMISSION FOR 2022. COMMISSIONER MEINTZ SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED.

Commissioner Meintz reviewed retirement resolutions before the Commission recognizing Carla McCarrick and Tom Young. Mr. Young expressed his appreciation, adding he has thoroughly enjoyed his time with the department.

MOTION: COMMISSIONER CHAE MOVED THE RESOLUTIONS FOR CARLA McCARRICK AND TOM YOUNG BE ADOPTED WITH BEST WISHES FOR THEIR LONG AND HEALTHY RETIREMENT. COMMISSIONER BERGDAHL SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Director McDowell shared details of his recent food and agriculture business tours, in which local legislators and the media also participated. Agriculture tours will continue monthly throughout 2022. He also participated in the Michigan Agri-Business Winter Conference, and will be in Washington, D.C., next week for the National Association of State Departments of Agriculture Winter Policy Conference.

The Director shared details around the upcoming Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD) Sampling Team Exercises, the newly created Office of Rural Development, the Farm Innovation Grant Program, the one-year anniversary of MDARD's Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) effort, and the department's plans for return to office and remote work.

He also reviewed 2022 priorities for the department, which are focused on MDARD doing its part to move the needle for the agriculture industry and keep the momentum going for future generations.

In response to question from Commissioner King-McAvoy, the Director advised MDARD's DEI efforts have been expanded externally to the Soil Conservation Districts and plans of offering opportunities to other stakeholder groups will be pursued in the future.

In response to inquiry from Commissioner Wyant, the Director advised Governor Whitmer's roundtable discussion on the new Office of Rural Development brought considerable excitement and enthusiasm. This represents a concerted effort to focus solely on rural development and ensure rural areas share in the prosperity going forward with Michigan's new economy.

Commissioner Meintz complimented the Director on the recent Michigan Farm Bureau news article, noting it was very representative of MDARD. The Director noted the department is taking a hard look at the many challenges currently affecting the agriculture industry. To assist in that effort, he and Chief Deputy Director McFarlane have been reaching out to commodity group leaders to gain a more complete awareness of the challenges and issues their segment of the industry is facing.

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE INVESTMENT FUND REQUESTS: Jamie Zmitko-Somers, Division Director, Agriculture Development Division

Ms. Zmitko-Somers advised four Food and Agriculture Investment Program project requests are being presented for Commission consideration today, noting the projects are not able to move forward until they have been reviewed by the Commission.

The first project is Fry Krisp Food Products, which is a family-owned business located in Jackson, Michigan, since 1950. Due to change in the meeting date, they are unable to join us today. The company is under new ownership and is aggressively seeking new markets to be supported by expansion efforts for increased efficiency and production capabilities. She reviewed details around their \$3,041,125 expansion project, its positive impacts for Michigan agriculture, renewable energy efforts, and unique employment opportunities.

MDARD is recommending a Food and Agriculture Investment Fund performance based grant of \$75,000 for Fry Krisp.

MOTION: COMMISSIONER BERGDAHL MOVED TO APPROVE A FOOD AND AGRICULTURE INVESTMENT FUND PERFORMANCE BASED GRANT OF \$75,000 FOR FRY KRISP FOOD PRODUCTS. COMMISSIONER WYANT SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED.

Ms. Zmitko-Somers advised the next request is Cooperative Elevator Company, which is a farmer-owned cooperative established in 1915 currently supplying 1,110 member-owners across Michigan. They are investing in several high-capacity processing and wash lines to triple production capacity of processed and washed edible dry beans at the Pigeon facility.

Chuck Squires, Risk and Government Relations Manager for Cooperative Elevator Company provided additional background on the company. He shared details around this \$8,000,000 project, its positive impacts for their members and the agriculture industry, and improvements for their company and its employees. Additionally, he mentioned the Commissioners are welcome to tour their facility should they be traveling in the Thumb area of the state.

Ms. Zmitko-Somers advised MDARD is recommending a Food and Agriculture Investment Fund performance based grant of \$90,000 for Cooperative Elevator.

MOTION: COMMISSIONER CHAE MOVED TO APPROVE A FOOD AND AGRICULTURE INVESTMENT FUND PERFORMANCE BASED GRANT OF \$90,000 FOR COOPERATIVE ELEVATOR COMPANY. COMMISSIONER KING-McAVOY SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED.

Ms. Zmitko-Somers advised the third project presented today is Marrow Detroit Provisions (MDP), Detroit's only hybrid butcher shop and restaurant focused on whole-animal butchery. MDP is focused on an expansionary project to become a USDA-certified meat processor specializing in value-added meat products for sale to wholesalers, food service accounts, and retail customers. Their training program and employment goals will prioritize equality and diversity, and support for overlooked segments of the workforce.

Ping Ho, CEO/Co-Founder for Marrow Detroit Provisions reviewed details of their \$3,373,000 project, noting it will be housed in Detroit's Eastern Market and will create a "Partner Farm Strategy," that will continually evolve. MDP aims to succeed in sustainable production using processes that are non-polluting, energy conserving, and safe and healthful for workers.

Ms. Zmitko-Somers advised MDARD is recommending a Food and Agriculture Investment Fund performance based grant of \$80,000 for Marrow Detroit Provisions.

Commissioner Chae advised he supports Marrow's project. However, because of his business relationships with Ms. Ho and Marrow Detroit Provisions, he recused himself from voting on the project.

MOTION: COMMISSIONER WYANT MOVED TO APPROVE A FOOD AND AGRICULTURE INVESTMENT FUND PERFORMANCE BASED GRANT OF \$80,000 FOR MARROW DETROIT PROVISIONS. COMMISSIONER KING-McAVOY SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED.

Ms. Zmitko-Somers advised the final project presented today is Youngblood Vineyard, which is a family-owned fifth generation farm that is now home to 23,000 cold-hardy wine grape vines planted on 25 acres. The proposed project will expand the processing facility and add an indoor event space. Of special note, they are part of Michigan State University's "Vets to Ag" program, offering hands-on training and education to military veterans who have experienced multiple barriers to employment.

Jessica Youngblood, Co-Owner/Operator for Youngblood Vineyard, shared details on their background and the \$1,257,000 project. As the only commercial vineyard in Metro Detroit, they have the monumental opportunity to offer custom crush to local wineries who do not grow grapes or make their own wine. The farm is Michigan Agriculture Environmental Assurance Program (MAEAP) verified in both Cropping and Farmstead systems. The event space will allow them to continue providing workshops, seminars, and conferences for the community and new grape growers/winemakers/wineries.

Ms. Zmitko-Somers advised MDARD is recommending a Food and Agriculture Investment Fund performance based grant of \$55,000 for Youngblood Vineyard.

MOTION: COMMISSIONER BERGDAHL MOVED TO APPROVE A FOOD AND AGRICULTURE INVESTMENT FUND PERFORMANCE BASED GRANT OF \$55,000 FOR YOUNGBLOOD VINEYARD. COMMISSIONER CHAE SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED.

BUDGET UPDATE: Sylvia Renteria, Director of Finance and Budget

Ms. Renteria noted the Finance and Budget Unit recently welcomed two new staff members who replaced retired and transferred employees. They Buyer Brandon Colby and Federal Coordinator Clara Borieo.

She shared details around the enacted Supplemental, PA 133 of 2021, which was signed in December. It provides appropriation for the Horse Racing Advisory Commission.

The department continues to work with the State Budget Office to finalize the Fiscal Year 2023 budget. The Governor's budget recommendation will be released this Wednesday and the legislative budget process will continue through spring. The Revenue Estimating Conference will occur in May, with larger budget discussions following. As the department is informed, the Commission will be apprised.

In response to question from Commissioner Meintz, Ms. Renteria advised MDARD anticipates the new budget will bring positive opportunities to move the agriculture industry forward.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE: Ashley Steffen, Director of Policy Development and Legislative Affairs

Ms. Steffen referred to the MDARD Legislative Update provided to the Commissioners and reviewed status and activity around bills of interest to the department. She noted the MAEAP legislation was recently signed into law and Executive Directive 2022-1 created the Office of Rural Development.

Details were reviewed around various bills that have been moving, including 5588-89 relative to dog tattoos and Certificate of Free Sale legislation, both initiated by the department. Other bills of interest to MDARD in the Legislature include updates to the Cottage Food Law, a bill proposing reciprocity for aerial pesticide sprayers with other states, and the consumable hemp bills that would amend the Food Law.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment was requested.

ADJOURN

**MOTION: COMMISSIONER CHAE MOVED TO ADJOURN THE MEETING.
COMMISSIONER BERGDAHL SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED.**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:38 a.m.

Attachments:

- A) *Agenda*
- B) *Agriculture and Rural Development Commission Meeting Minutes November 10, 2021*
- C) *Retirement Resolutions for Carla McCarrick and Thomas Young*
- D) *Director February 7, 2022 – Issues of Interest Report*
- E) *Food and Agriculture Investment Program Project Briefing Memos:*
 - a. *Cooperative Elevator Company*
 - b. *Fry Krisp Food Products, Inc.*
 - c. *Youngblood Vineyard*
 - d. *Marrow Detroit Provisions*
- F) *MDARD Budget Update Presentation – February 7, 2021*
- G) *MDARD Summary of 2021-2022 Michigan Legislature – Jan. 27, 2021*

MICHIGAN COMMISSION OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT
RESOLUTION COMMENDING

JOHN WILLIAM BOCK

The Michigan Commission of Agriculture and Rural Development is pleased to honor John William Bock's retirement from the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development on March 31, 2022.

John was born in Maquoketa, Iowa, and moved to Michigan in 1960. He graduated from Saint Joseph High School, class of 1974. He pursued his college education at Michigan Technological University, completing a Bachelor of Science degree in Forestry in 1978, and the University of Montana, receiving a bachelor's degree in Business Management in 1982.

John began his career with the department as a Nursery Inspector for the Pesticide and Plant Pest Management Division in 1999. In 2001, he was promoted to Lead Nursery Inspector.

During his 22 years of service to the state, John has been recognized for many awards and achievements. He was a key contributor on a team that helped eradicate Plum Pox Virus from Michigan and which received the MDARD Team Excellence Award in 2009. And his work in the blueberry industry has led to modifications in Michigan's Fruit Tree and Blueberry Virus certification programs. John is a member and huge proponent of the Horticultural Inspection Society (HIS), holding multiple positions within the organization from Secretary to President. In 2012, he received the Robert McAdams Award, which is presented yearly to honor a nursery inspector for their service and professionalism to both their state and HIS (Central Chapter). In 2014, John was awarded the Carl Carlson Award by the National Plant Board, which recognizes and honors individuals that have distinguished themselves in the field of regulatory plant protection through service and contributions made at the field level. John was awarded an MDARD governors coin for Leadership in 2018 and was voted "Nicest Man in the World" by his Plant Health colleagues in 2021.

John takes pride in volunteering for the Trinity Lutheran Church in St. Joseph, which includes secretary of church council, chairman of the stewardship committee, communion server, soundboard operator, and many others. John has three sons, Ryan, Sean, and Brennan, and he works hard helping to take care of his parents, Bill and Jinny who are in their 90's.

John loves to hike and camp and is a voracious reader of historical fiction and mysteries. He has traveled to Austria and Germany to visit his sister, spent time in Denali National Park and other areas of Alaska, climbed to the top of Mount Rainier in Washington, and spent time in many national and state parks throughout the country.

In his retirement, John will be doing a lot of reading and hopes to get a camper and tour the U.S., visiting as many National Parks as possible. His bucket list also includes a trip to New Zealand.

The Michigan Commission of Agriculture and Rural Development commends John William Bock for 22 years of dedicated service to the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development and the people of the State of Michigan. The Commission joins his family, friends, and colleagues in wishing him a long and happy retirement.



Adopted March 16, 2022
St. Johns, Michigan

Charlie Meintz, Chair

MICHIGAN COMMISSION OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT
RESOLUTION COMMENDING

MIKE BRYAN

The Michigan Commission of Agriculture and Rural Development is pleased to honor Mike Bryan upon his retirement from the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD) on May 12, 2022.

Mike was born the son of a poor dirt farmer on March 17, 1951, in Tecumseh, Michigan. He attended Michigan State University (MSU) where he completed a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences and later completed post-graduate work in Systems Science, Entomology, and Plant Pathology at MSU and Montana State University.

Mike came to MDARD from USDA-APHIS and with him came a wealth of knowledge regarding plant-based regulatory programs. Mike began his career with MDARD's Pesticide and Plant Pest Management Division in 1998 as the Pest Survey Manager in the Lansing office where he took on management of Cooperative Agricultural Pest Program activities for a brief period and then became the Nursery Program Manager that fall. Eventually, he became the Export and Quarantine Compliance Program Specialist where he remained until his retirement. Mike has gone by several names over the years in the division, but has been known most fondly as Pookie, Sparky, and often Obi-wan for his vast wisdom on many things.

Mike served as an invited member of the national working groups on Export Certification, Japanese Beetle Harmonization Plan review, the U.S.-Canada Greenhouse Program review, and the U.S. Grain and Oilseed Strategic working group. In 2017, Mike received the prestigious USDA-APHIS Administrator's Award during the 2017 National Plant Board Meeting in Savannah, GA. In 2018, Mike received the USDA Under Secretary's Award for "creativity, dedication, and perseverance to maintain the \$12 billion market for U.S. soybeans to China by developing the U.S. soybean systems approach solution." In addition, Mike is recognized for his development of a Quarantine Manual for the State of Michigan in 2017, which has been adopted by Central Plant Board states to promote uniformity and consistency among the states. In addition to these awards, Mike has been nominated numerous times by his peers for MDARD's Everyday Hero Award.

Mike's contributions to MDARD have been many. He will always be remembered for his kindness, his humor, his depth of knowledge, his often humorous but always relevant quotes, and his tireless work to assist the plant-based industries export their plant products safely and efficiently.

Mike and his wife, Willye, were married on July 3, 1992, in Niles, MI. They have three sons, Colin, Damon, and Marcus. In addition, they have six wonderful grandchildren Max, Ainsley, Eli, Fletcher, Brittany, and Quinn of whom Mike is very proud. Mike looks forward to spending time with his family, to visiting their second home in Mississippi, and of course, enjoying many trips to islands around the world!

The Michigan Commission of Agriculture and Rural Development thanks Mike Bryan for his 24 years of dedicated and loyal service to the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development, the food and agriculture industry, and to the people of the State of Michigan. The Commission joins Mike's family, friends, and colleagues in wishing him a long and happy retirement and great success with future endeavors.

Adopted March 16, 2022
St. Johns, Michigan



Charlie Meintz, Chair

MICHIGAN COMMISSION OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT
RESOLUTION COMMENDING
BRENDA SMITH

Brenda Smith is retiring from the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development with nearly 36 years of service – all with MDARD. She began working for the department in 1986 in the Pesticide and Plant Pest Management Division performing pesticide certification duties, then as secretary to the division director. In 1995, she was promoted to Executive Assistant for MDARD's Deputy Director.

For the last 19 years, Brenda proudly served as the Senior Executive Management Assistant to the Director where she had the privilege of serving under 11 directors; working directly for seven of them: Dan Wyant, Mitch Irwin, Don Koivisto, Keith Creagh, Jamie Clover Adams, Gordon Wenk, and Gary McDowell. While each one brought a unique style and different perspective to the job, each one also afforded a personal bond and cherished friendship for years to come.

Brenda brought a sense of continuity and calmness to a fast-paced work environment. She worked tirelessly to ensure deadlines were met and preparations for various meetings and events were properly organized -- whether it be for the Governor's Office, department initiatives, stakeholder engagements, national presentations, the Employee Awards Ceremony, or juggling multiple hectic schedules. She has prevented and put out more fires than anyone really knows or fully appreciates, and she could write a book about adaptability. Her work ethic, historical knowledge and problem-solving skills have been an incredible asset to this department. In 2007 Brenda was the recipient of the Everyday Hero Award; and in 2019 she received the department's Leadership Award.

Brenda also served on numerous committees throughout her tenure and was a valued member of MDARD's Executive Office and Leadership Team. That same passion mimics her personal life where she is involved in numerous community functions, as well as a member of the Portland St. Patrick School Board and church lector.

Brenda looks forward to chasing new adventures and spending more time with her husband Doug and their four children Nikole, Kelsey, Riley, and Graham, along with their four grandchildren.

The Michigan Commission of Agriculture and Rural Development commends Brenda Smith for 35 years of dedicated service to the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development and the people of the State of Michigan. The Commission joins her family, friends, and colleagues in wishing her a long and happy retirement.



Adopted March 16, 2022
St. Johns, Michigan

Charlie Meintz, Chair

DIRECTOR'S UPDATE
March 16, 2022 - Ag Commission Meeting

Food & Ag Business Tours

The following food and ag visits are scheduled for March, which is also Michigan Food & Ag Month:

- Cravings Gourmet Popcorn (Old Town) – unveiling of the new *Ag Magazine*
- The General Store (Old Town)
- MEAT BBQ (Old Town)
- McDonald's/Mr. Chips – pickle/beef event (Saginaw)
- Gleaners Community Food Bank of Southeast Michigan
- Eastern Market (Detroit)

Additionally, Director McDowell will visit food and ag businesses in conjunction with our upcoming Sampling Team Exercises.

Senior Environmental Strategist for WLEB

This position was posted on February 14 with a closing date of March 6. Interviews are tentatively scheduled for the end of March with the intent of having the successful candidate on board by middle of April. This position will report directly to the Director of the Environmental Stewardship Division.

NASDA Meeting

Director McDowell participated in NASDA's Winter Policy Meeting on Feb. 13-16 in Washington DC. Supply chain issues, USDA grant funding, invasive species and diseases, infrastructure, and climate change were the main topics of discussion. The collaboration among colleagues from other states is always beneficial to seek new and innovative solutions.

Office of Rural Development

Interviews for the Deputy of ORD are now complete. We are going through the final process in selecting the successful candidate to lead this new office, with the intent of having this individual on board by mid-April. The Office of Rural Development will focus on urgent issues impacting rural Michigan including economic and workforce development, infrastructure, housing, public health and environmental sustainability.

SEMA 15 Position (Executive Assistant to the Director)

Interviews were conducted on February 23-24 for Brenda Smith's replacement who is retiring March 31. I'm happy to report that Cheri Ayers was the successful candidate. She will assume this new role effective March 21. This will allow time for Cheri to transition into this position while Brenda is still onboard to assist with training. Cheri's current position will be backfilled as quickly as possible. Congratulations, Cheri!

Farm Innovation Grant Program

Meetings were held in early March with stakeholders and universities/tech centers to roll out the draft guidelines for the Farm Innovation Grant Program with the dollars allocated in

our FY22 budget. Appropriate legislators will be updated as well. Priority areas will focus on the development and support of innovative solutions to immediate and future farm challenges facing Michigan's food and agriculture industry including:

- Climate Smart Practices
- Supply Chain Resiliency
- Food Processing and Farm Production Automation
- Rural Resiliency

EPA Region 5 Meeting

On February 23, EPA Regions 5 hosted its first annual State Department of Agriculture Meeting, a forum for EPA Region 5 leadership and state agriculture Commissioners, Directors and Secretaries to share issues and topics of interest to both the agriculture community and EPA. EPA senior leaders provided updates on policy issues, including pesticides, water quality, regional priorities.

Return to Office / Remote Work

The Office of the State Employer extended the return to office deadline to Monday, May 2. MDARD is finalizing its plan to transition back to the office at that time. Office staff will continue with a hybrid schedule. All employees have remote work agreements on file which reflects their approved remote/office schedule.

CANR Leadership

The leadership in the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources spans the college and academics, AgBioResearch and MSU Extension.

Statements from Leadership



Kelly Millenbah **Ph.D.**

Interim Dean for CANR; Director
of Academic and Student Affairs
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canr.msu.edu

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\$23M GREENHOUSE COMPLEX INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT

"If we're really going to do the kind of work that we need to do, which is to understand the impact of climate change and weather variability on crop production, we need to have the facilities needed to simulate those scenarios."

Doug Buhler, MSU AgBioResearch
Director and Assistant Vice President
of Research and Innovation
(Politico; 3-26-21)

As a leader in plant sciences since its founding in 1855, MSU has maintained a stronghold in agriculture and has consistently worked to enhance its teaching, research and outreach efforts. This has helped farmers worldwide become more resilient, more productive and more profitable while feeding a hungry world.

That pioneering journey, however, is in jeopardy.

While the MSU greenhouse and controlled environment complexes have met our needs for decades, they are no longer of the quality and quantity to deliver adequately on our mission. The world of plant sciences has changed and we need improved, unique simulated environments to continue to forge ahead and remain competitive.

Producing more food to meet the demands of an increasing worldwide population in light of climate change is no small feat. Much of that begins long before the field. Frequently it starts in greenhouses and growth chambers—the controlled environments where trial and error drive the future of food production by providing vital information on disease and pest control, temperature variability, soil balance and nutritional content among others.

Our facilities do not meet the demands of our world-class plant scientists. There isn't enough space and the space we have is outdated.

We are in the business of delivering agriculture research and outreach to where folks live. That requires controlling temperatures to simulate different geographical climates, increases in levels of carbon



The complex serves over **60 faculty researchers** and nearly **400 students** and **research staff from 8 departments** across MSU



\$1.26B annual economic impact of Michigan nursery and landscape



energy savings with the installation of light-emitting diode (**LED**) fixtures to replace high-pressure sodium (HPS) fixtures



of **MSU greenhouses** were built between 1955-1978 and **lack modern energy efficiency design**



dioxide and other gases to ultimately provide farmers with best practices. In Michigan alone that is extremely complex, given our many different microclimates.

MSU greenhouse and growth chamber facilities are no longer sufficiently equipped, they're obsolete and lack the capacity to meet the demands of modern research. They're impeding progress and preventing advancements for the second largest economic driver in our state.

In addition to agriculture, advancements in the nursery and landscape are also impacted.

\$23M State-of-the-science greenhouse improvements will significantly increase research capability and dramatically reduce our environmental footprint.

Maintaining global food security in the face of climate change requires crops that are regionally adaptive and resilient to future environmental conditions, including numerous stressors and greater variations in weather. Reliable, modern and energy-efficient greenhouse and growth chamber facilities are a must to meet these critical needs.

Together, we will improve our GREENhouses.



To learn more about MSU greenhouses and the advancement of plant research, visit:

canr.msu.edu/research/plant-science-greenhouse-expansion-renovation



**MICHIGAN STATE
UNIVERSITY**

INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT: MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY DAIRY RESEARCH, TEACHING AND OUTREACH FACILITIES

Outdated infrastructure poses serious setbacks for key economic engine of Michigan

Michigan State University's Dairy Cattle Teaching & Research Center does not meet the current needs of the industry, the animals or the students, staff and faculty. Our ability to deliver on MSU's teaching, research and outreach missions to the Michigan dairy industry, ranked **6th in the U.S. with 11.6 billion pounds of milk produced in 2020**, is severely hampered by the age of the facilities. In addition, a recent electrical fire has shown that the 60-year-old facility is a fire hazard for staff, animals and state property.

Combined expertise at the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, College of Veterinary Medicine, MSU AgBioResearch and MSU Extension has made MSU a world leader in dairy production expertise. However, that excellence is in jeopardy because of aging facilities in dire need of modernization.

A NEW FACILITY AND INCREASED HERD SIZE (THERE ARE NOT ENOUGH COWS TO CONDUCT CURRENTLY FUNDED PROJECTS) WILL:

- ✓ Identify feasible strategies to promote economic and environmental sustainability.
- ✓ Ensure the highest level of animal care and production with robust data-driven science.
- ✓ Enhance much-needed studies on nutrition, genetics and animal well-being.
- ✓ Create a pipeline of labor by introducing MSU students to modern, relevant dairy operations.
- ✓ Train dairy professionals for the College of Veterinary Medicine curriculum accreditation.



MICHIGAN DAIRY FACTS



supports
111,000+ jobs

\$24 billion Generated annually

IN THE LAST 20 YEARS, MICHIGAN'S DAIRY INDUSTRY HAS EXPERIENCED REMARKABLE GROWTH:



Improved milk processing with a new cheese plant, among the largest in the nation, in St. Johns.



¹ Revenue from sale of agriculture commodities and commodity insurance payments

MICHIGAN DESERVES A NEW FACILITY, DESIGNED FROM THE GROUND UP, TO BE FOCUSED ON MODERN SUSTAINABLE PRACTICES AND A SAFE AND EFFECTIVE VENUE FOR EDUCATING TOMORROW'S DAIRY INDUSTRY LEADERS.

MSU OFFERS DISTINCT ADVANTAGES:

- ✓ Land-grant mission provides critical teaching, research and outreach efforts in unison.
- ✓ World-renown faculty in dairy production, health, and environmental stewardship.
- ✓ Varying climate conditions, water availability and amenable soils throughout the state.

Building a State-of-the-Art Dairy Facility at MSU: Expand Existing Dairy Cattle Teaching & Research Center

Renovation of the existing facilities and new construction at the site, located on South Campus, are preferred by dairy faculty and University leaders due to the **physical proximity to the main campus** for research and teaching use, as well as serving as a visitor and outreach center. This also allows for the ongoing use of some **existing** infrastructure, including a high-capacity anaerobic digester -- an essential part of sustainable manure management on South Campus. The current location maximizes this investment.

A phased new construction and renovation approach will allow the current dairy herd to remain in place during construction, supporting critical teaching and research needs in the process.

Phase 1

enables expansion of the herd from 200 to 700 cows allowing for already funded research and coursework offerings to continue, and includes the additions of:

- A modern and efficient feed center (replacing the one destroyed by the recent fire)
- New animal housing facilities
- A milking parlor for 700 cows
- Office/lab complexes
- Manure nutrient recovery facilities

Additional cropland or additional funds to cover increased feed and nutrient management costs are necessary for this increased herd size to be feasible.

Phase 2

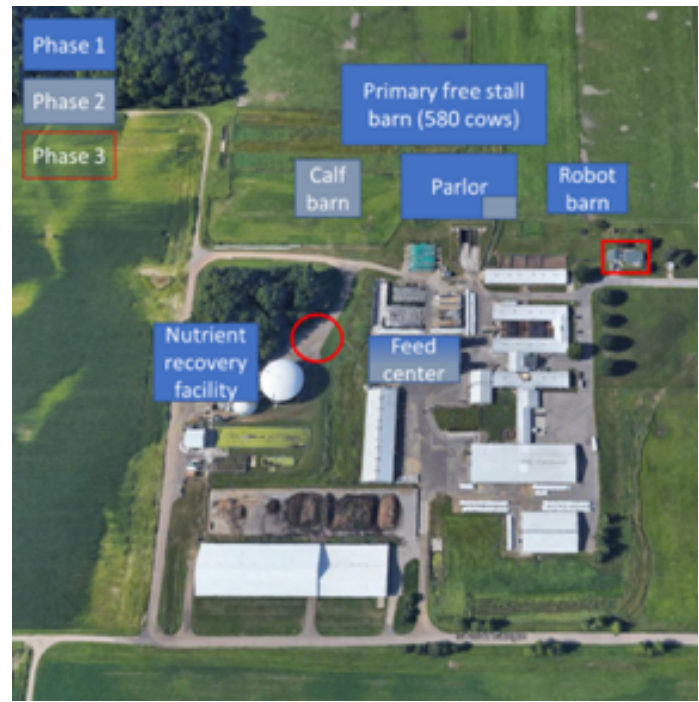
enhances the type of research, teaching and outreach capacity on South Campus with the addition of:

- A calf management and research barn
- Partial automation of the feed center
- A larger classroom for on-farm instruction of our students and visitors to the facility
- Short-term on-site housing for research team utilization during intensive experiments

Reinvestment in the **Kellogg Biological Station dairy facility** is also proposed to allow continuation of heifer development work conducted there and facilitate complementary work on grazing dairy operations, including environmental impact comparisons between this niche production model and the new state-of-the-art MSU South Campus operation.

Phase 3 includes installation of:

- A second anaerobic digester to generate additional renewable natural gas
- Cow-level methane measurement devices at both dairy sites
- Updates to the manager's residence on the South Campus site



Satellite view of the current MSU DCTRC with construction and renovation components (color-coded by project phase).

WE MUST ACT NOW

MSU MUST MAINTAIN ITS STRENGTH IN CUTTING-EDGE SCIENCE AND ADDRESS IMMEDIATE NEEDS OF THE DAIRY INDUSTRY IN PIVOTAL AREAS SUCH AS GENETICS, ANIMAL HEALTH, NUTRITION AND ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY.

Modern facilities and infrastructure will help to increase farming efficiency and profitability. Renovation and new construction of the MSU Dairy Teaching & Research Center infrastructure will support one of Michigan's most important and dynamic industries, and one that impacts nearly every one of the state's 83 counties.

\$32 million is requested from the State of Michigan for completion of phase I of this project. This investment will position MSU to expand and update its critical research, outreach and teaching capacities with new infrastructure necessary to address key challenges limiting industry growth and environmental sustainability.



MICHIGAN STATE
UNIVERSITY

2019 POINT COST ESTIMATES FOR NEW DAIRY FACILITIES (RENOVATION AND NEW CONSTRUCTION)

Phase 1 **\$32,000,000**

Infrastructure to address scale, safety, and industry standards **\$8,650,000**

Conventional free-stall barn, robotic milking barn, parallel parlor, feed center, and demolition.

Operational sustainability planning **\$9,575,000**

Additional crop ground, nutrient management operations, and heifer development to grow herd.

Environmental sustainability infrastructure **\$6,100,000**

Manure nutrient recovery system and data collection infrastructure.

Research capacity **\$4,750,000**

Automated cow feeding system for freestall research, small research pens, labs, offices, sensors.

Contingency (15% of facility cost, excluding operational costs) **\$2,925,000**

Phase 2 **\$5,682,500**

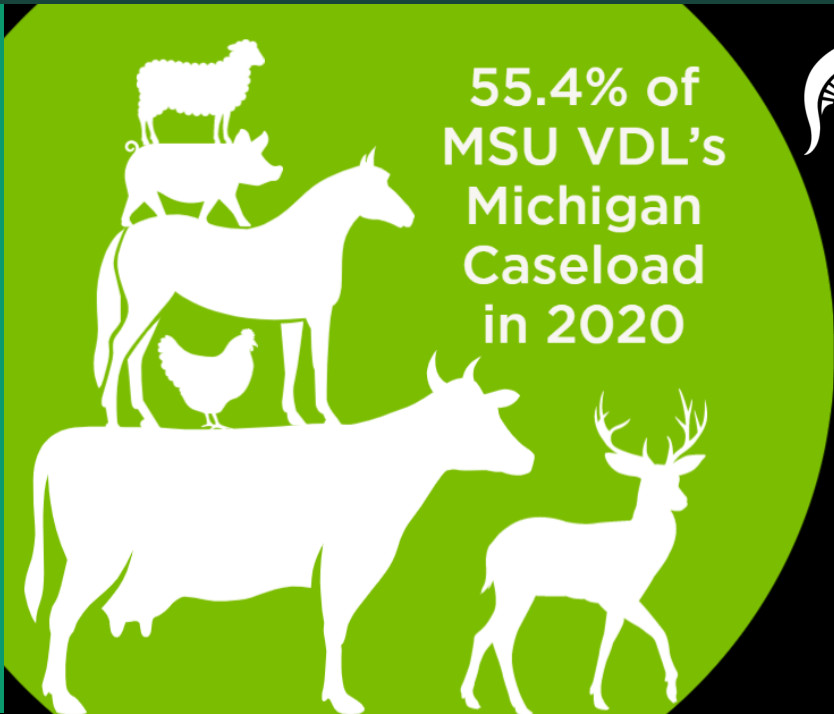
Milking robots and heifer facilities at KBS, calf barn, classroom, and visitor center at South Campus.

Phase 3 **\$8,100,000**

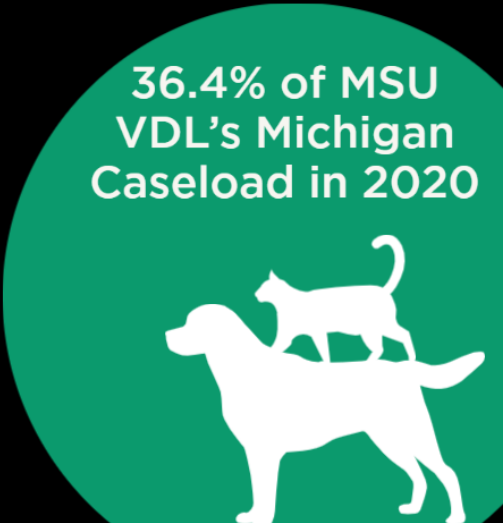
Second anaerobic digester, methane measurement system, updated manager housing.

Grand Total **\$45,782,500**

The Michigan State University Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory was founded as a result of an animal health disaster and the current facility was constructed as part of Michigan's response to bovine tuberculosis. Supporting and defending animal agriculture remains central to our mission of protecting human and animal health.



MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY
**VETERINARY DIAGNOSTIC
LABORATORY**

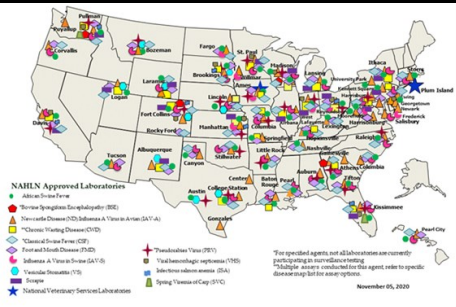


Biosafety Level 3

- SARS-CoV-2
- West Nile virus
- virulent Newcastle disease
- Bovine tuberculosis
- Chronic wasting disease
- Foot and mouth disease
- African swine fever

The MSU VDL has enhanced biosafety level three space to contain high-consequence threats to agriculture and to handle zoonotic diseases that pose a significant threat to human health.

Rapid Response and Surge Capacity as a member of the National Animal Health Laboratory Network (NAHLN)



As a member of several federal networks created to protect human and animal health throughout the United States, the Laboratory team performs testing for surveillance of high-consequence diseases and is specially trained to provide surge capacity as part of local, regional, or national disease outbreaks.



**The MSU VDL
services
clients across
Michigan.**



**The MSU VDL
has clients in
all 50 states
and U.S.
territories.**

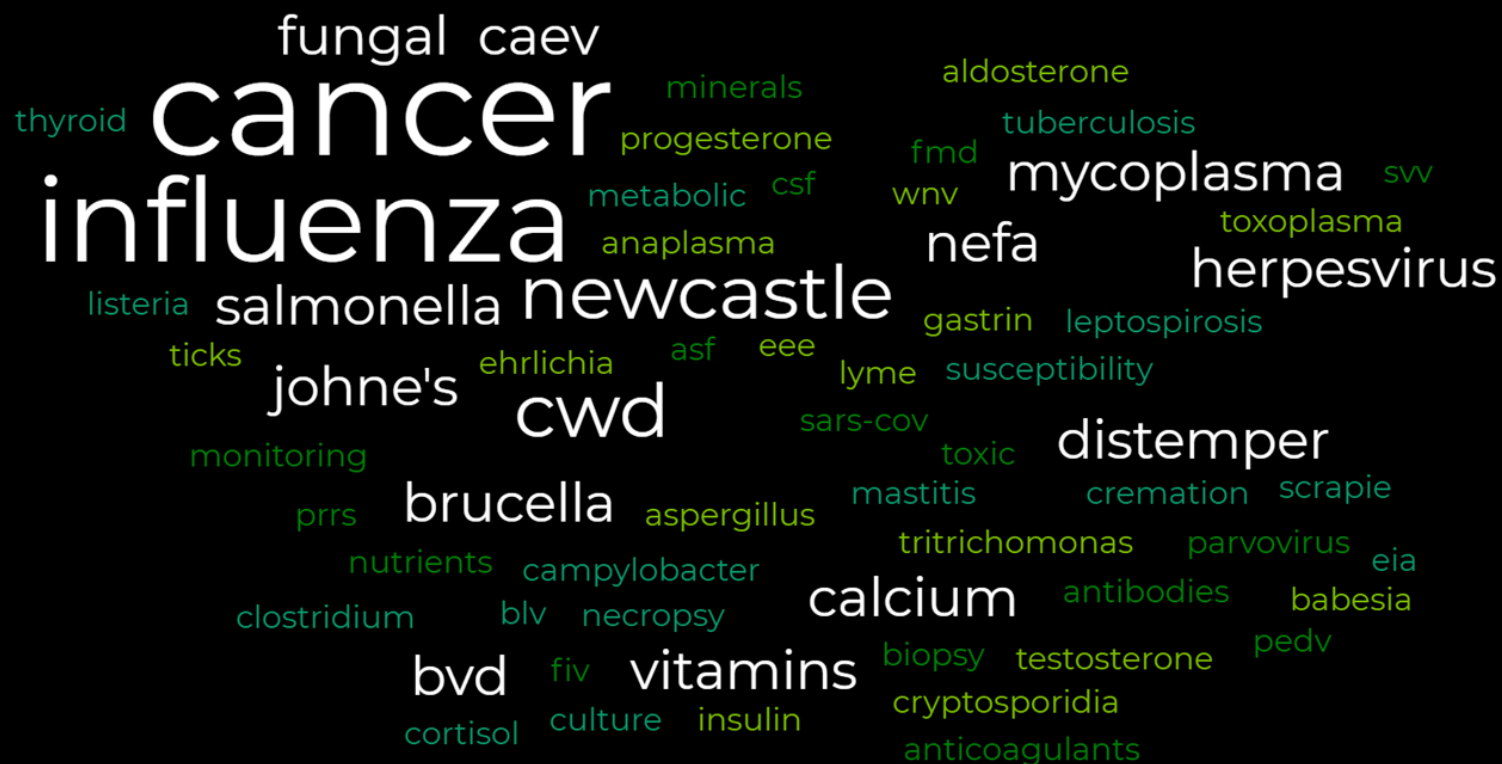


**The MSU VDL
has clients in
more than 25
foreign
countries.**

Our core diagnostics, expert service, and innovative solutions have earned us clients across the United States and beyond. Veterinarians routinely turn to the MSU VDL for trusted, quality, timely diagnostics to help them appropriately treat and manage the health of the animals entrusted to their care.

The MSU VDL has a broad and deep test catalog providing routine and specialty diagnostics for a wide variety of species and health conditions.

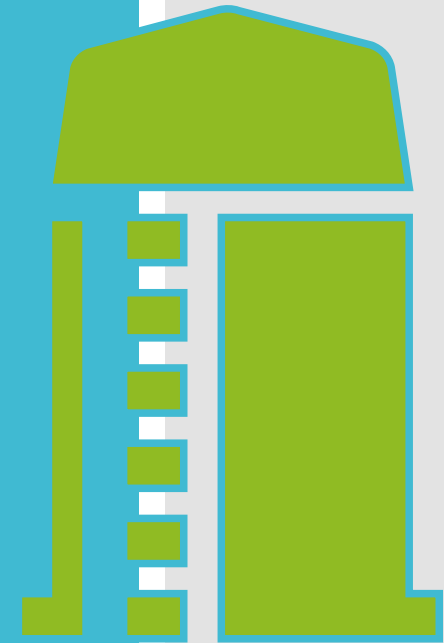
From wellness checks to medication monitoring to disease detection and post-mortem examinations, the MSU VDL can perform testing at every stage of an animal's life.



Michigan
Commission of
Agriculture and
Rural
Development
January 26, 2022

Michigan Farm
to School

Presented by:
Lori Yelton, MDARD
Jaime Malnar, MDE
Wendy Crowley, MDE



Farm to School in Michigan has a number of initiatives and benefits

Serving

- Serving Healthy local food in school meal programs
- Tasting new foods
- Providing good nutrition to early childcare and education centers and students

Creating

- Creating educational learning opportunities:
 - Where food comes from-farm to table/school
 - Growing plants in a science class
 - School gardens
 - Farm visits or farmers coming to the classroom



Additional Initiatives and Benefits

Economic benefits to farmers and communities

- Opportunity for farmers, fishers, ranchers, food processors and food manufacturers by opening doors to an institutional market
- Communities benefit with local purchasing by creating or sustaining jobs and strengthens the local economy

Nutrition and Academic benefits

- Learning at an early age to choose healthier options
- Consuming more and a greater variety of fruits and vegetables
- Academic benefits

Today's Goals



- ✓ Learn the basics about USDA Foods
- ✓ Learn about how these programs support Michigan Agriculture
- ✓ Learn about some other local food purchasing programs going on at Michigan Department of Education



Purpose of USDA Foods

- **Safeguard the health of the nation's children**
- **Expand and support domestic agriculture**
- **Supports both federal lunch and breakfast programs**
- **Provide foods that meet the Dietary Guidelines for Americans and National School Lunch Program Meal Pattern Requirements**



Entitlement

- Number of student lunches claimed the year prior
- Commodity Entitlement Rate (currently \$.2375)
- 12% Provision & Breakfast Commodities (Brings total rate up to \$.3625)
 - *Number of lunches x \$.3625 = Planned Assistance Level*

USDA Foods Consortia

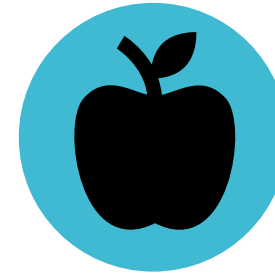
The three USDA Foods consortia within Michigan are responsible for the procurement, ordering, distribution, and warehousing of all USDA Foods. Visit their websites for full list of foods available to members, pricing information, PAL Reports, and cycle menus:



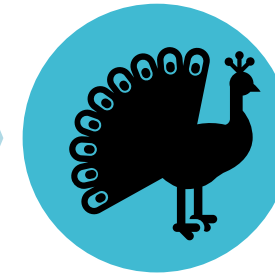
USDA Foods Programs



Unprocessed Fruit
& Vegetable Pilot

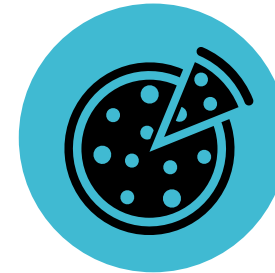


DoD Fresh Program



Brown Box

Processed



DoD Fresh

The Department of Defense (DoD) Fresh Produce Program offers fresh fruits and vegetables to schools utilizing USDA Foods entitlement dollars. Here are items currently available to Michigan school districts:

- * Apples/Apple Slices
- * Oranges/Orange Wedges
- * Carrots
- * Pears
- * Broccoli
- * Cauliflower
- * Celery
- * Grapes
- * Grape Tomatoes
- * Peppers
- * Radishes
- * and much more!!!



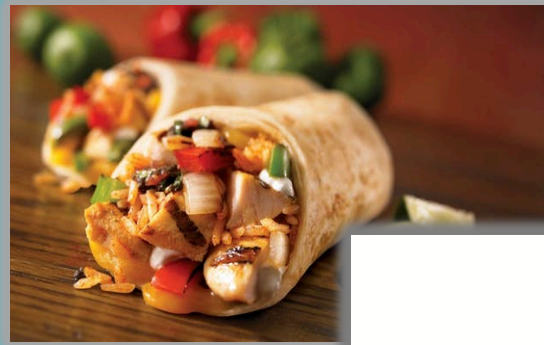
SCHOOL YEAR	TOTAL \$ ALLOCATED	TOTAL \$ SPENT	TOTAL LBS RECEIVED	Avg Per Pound	LOCAL \$	LOCAL %
School Year 2008-09	\$1,850,000	\$1,834,903	1,810,436	1.01	not tracked	
School Year 2009-10	\$2,000,000	\$1,973,204	2,376,183	0.83	not tracked	
School Year 2010-11	\$2,350,000	\$2,271,612	2,411,323	0.94	not tracked	
School Year 2011-12	\$2,550,000	\$2,549,991	2,509,342	1.02	not tracked	
School Year 2012-13	\$5,970,000	\$5,969,997	5,301,097	1.13	not tracked	
School Year 2013-14	\$5,215,000	\$5,201,877	4,830,555	1.08	\$1,665,560	32%
School Year 2015-16	\$5,240,000	\$5,117,063	4,696,467	1.09	\$1,998,000	39%
School Year 2017-18	\$8,570,000	\$8,287,015	6,902,216	1.20	\$3,142,997	38%
School Year 2018-19	\$8,185,000	\$7,963,810	6,802,501	1.17	\$2,978,151	37%
School Year 2019-20	\$8,960,000	\$8,770,520	6,925,235	1.27	\$1,961,073	22%
School Year 2020-21	\$13,600,000	\$12,808,748	7,818,674	1.64	\$4,125,798	32%
Summer 2021	\$1,220,975	\$1,216,774	1,871,903	0.65	\$482,565	40%

USDA Brown Box

Canned fruit (applesauce and diced peaches)
Frozen fruit (blueberries and diced strawberries)
Canned vegetables (diced tomatoes, beans, and sauces)
Frozen vegetables (peas, green beans, and carrots)
Dried fruit and beans
Beef, Pork, and Poultry
Various Grains - Rice, Pasta, Flour, Tortillas



USDA Processed Foods



Michigan Grown

\$103 Million dollars of Michigan foods were procured by the USDA for the USDA Foods program last year alone.





10 Cents a Meal for Michigan's Kids and Farms

- Michigan State Aid Budget
- Pilot turned Statewide Program
- \$5 Million
- September 1, 2021 – August 30, 2022

Goals

- Invest in Local Purchasing
- Community/Economic Development
- Build Farm to Institution Partnerships
- Provide Education and Marketing



A close-up photograph of several green pea pods. The pods are bright green and appear fresh. Some pods are open, revealing the round, green peas inside. The lighting is soft, highlighting the texture of the pods and the smooth surface of the peas. The background is dark, making the green vegetables stand out.

Participation

- Buy Michigan-grown fruits, vegetables and legumes
- Served in reimbursable child nutrition meals
- Include education and promotion
- Matching Grant

What does “minimally processed” mean?

- Minimally processed Michigan-grown fruits, vegetables and legumes
- Cutting, washing, freezing, dehydrated, repackaging is allowed.
- Cooked / canned items are not allowed



- **Motivators, barriers, challenges**
- **Michigan-grown foods purchased and served for the first time**
- **Promotional and educational activities to support 10 Cents**
- **Impacts and outcomes of participating**
- **Open-ended feedback**

Evaluation Surveys

SHOW ME THE NUMBERS

In the 2020-2021 grant year grantees purchased....



63 fruits, vegetables, and legumes

Grown by...



109 farms in **40** counties

SUCCESS STORIES

tencentsmichigan.org

SUCCESS STORIES ECONOMIC BENEFITS ACCESS TO LOCAL FOOD MARKETING & EDUCATION



TASTE TESTS BUILD FOOD LITERACY, CLASSROOM HARMONY

Traci Jackson's second graders can't stop talking about food. They are bragging about family recipes for asparagus and recommending potato salad instead of French fries. They are demanding succotash at school and at home. And Michigan farmers are to thank for the students' newfound fresh-food enthusiasm.

[CONTINUE READING](#)



SEED SOWING & STORYTELLING BRINGS TEACHERS, STUDENTS TOGETHER AROUND LOCAL FOOD

Neha Shah, a teacher at Burn Parks Elementary in Ann Arbor Public schools, shares a story with her students every year. It's Seedfolks, by Paul Fleischman, and it opens up to Kim, a 9-year-old Vietnamese American girl, trekking out in the early morning chill to plant lima beans in the vacant lot across from her apartment.

[CONTINUE READING](#)



TRY IT TUESDAYS BRINGS LOCAL FOOD TO THE CLASSROOM

Parents are stopping Beth Kavanaugh in the aisles of her local grocery store to get tips on how to help their kids try new foods. That's because Kavanaugh, food service director at Public Schools of Petoskey, has been successful in getting kids to try everything from black bean and corn salad to radish slaw at school.

[CONTINUE READING](#)

Social Media
@tencentsmichigan

Legislative Reports



News Media



Students at Whitehall District Schools, a 10 Cents a Meal grantee, participate in the Michigan Apple Crunch.

Lynn DeVlieg, courtesy Whitehall District Schools

Michigan offers "10 Cents a Meal" for all schools to serve healthy, local food

BY ESTELLE SLOOTMAKER | MONDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2020

The state recently reinstated and expanded the program, which aims to improve children's daily nutrition, build their healthy eating habits, and invest in Michigan's local food

Other Projects Worth Noting



Farm to School Video Series

Producer Trainings

Supply Chain Relief Dollars

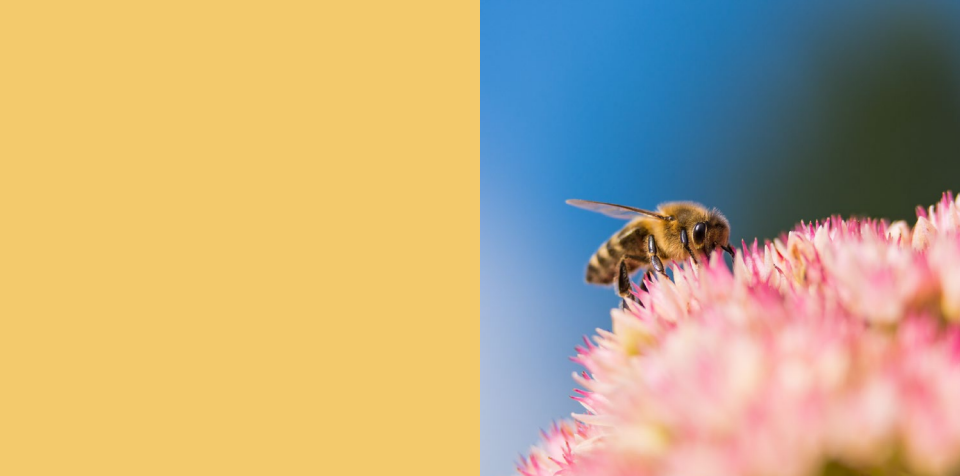
Local Food Assistance
Cooperative Agreement

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Public Acts with Commission Role

Brad Deacon

Director of Office of Legal Affairs and Emergency
Management

March 16, 2022





Foundation

- Department of Agriculture, Public Act 13 of 1921
- Executive Reorganization, Public Act 350 of 1965
- Executive Order 2009 – 45
- Executive Order 2009 – 54
- Executive Order 2011 – 2



Michigan Right to Farm Act

(1981 PA 93)

- Responsibility to define and review annually and revise as needed the Generally Accepted Agricultural and Management Practices; make recommendations to the Director when a review of a Livestock Siting Suitability Determination is requested
- Work with the Director to develop procedures for the investigation and resolution of farm-related environmental quality complaints

A photograph of several autumn leaves floating on a body of water with ripples. The leaves are in various shades of orange, yellow, and brown. The water is a deep blue with visible ripples and reflections.

Animal Industry Act

(1988 PA 466)

- When the Director is developing, implementing, or enforcing scientifically based orders for testing, record keeping, premovement documentation, or on-farm management practices, the proposed orders must be placed on the Commission's meeting agenda at least 1 month before adoption



Agricultural Commodities Marketing Act

(1965 PA 232)

- The Commission, along with the Director, provide consent and permission to reapportion the number of committee members, member districts, or both for check-offs organized under the Act



State Potato Industry Commission

(1970 PA 29)

- The Commission, along with the Director, provide consent and permission to reapportion the number of committee members, member districts, or both for the Potato Industry Commission



Beans

(1965 PA 114)

- The Commission, along with the Director, provide consent and permission to reapportion the number of committee members, member districts, or both for the Bean Commission



Michigan Renaissance Zone Act

(1966 PA 376)

- Make recommendations to the State Administrative Board on Renaissance Zones for agricultural processing and renewable energy



Insect Pest and Plant Disease Act

(1931 PA 189)

- Approve adjustments to fees for licensed nurseries



Michigan Agricultural Processing Act

(1998 PA 381)

- Define and annually review and revise as needed generally accepted agricultural processing practices



Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act (1994 PA 451)

The Commission may:

- Define agricultural purpose related to water discharge fees under Part 31
- Approve conservation practices under Part 82
- Define agricultural purpose related to water use under Part 327
- Develop and approve water conservation measures under Part 327, as part of GAAMPs
- Set normal agricultural practices (as part of GAAMPs) related to wildlife and conservation under Part 401
- By order add to or delete a species from the list of prohibited species or restricted species under Part 413



Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act

(1994 PA 451)

The Commission must:

- Approve the pesticide container recycling program under Part 83
- Review proposed local ordinances for pesticides under Part 83 and fertilizers under Part 85
- Set voluntary practices to prevent fertilizer contamination of groundwater under Part 87
- Approve members to Conservation Species Advisory Panel under Part 93



Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act

(1994 PA 451)

The Commission must:

- Approve selection criteria and scoring system for purchase of development rights and conservation easements under Part 361
- Approve and promote the implementation of Michigan Agriculture Environmental Assurance Program standards under Part 87
- Identify jointly with Michigan Department of Environmental Quality 2,500 acres for cranberry production under Part 303 (completed 2009)



Food Law

(2000 PA 92)

- If a local health department no longer conducts a food service program, the department, in consultation with the Commission, shall set the food sanitation fees to be imposed for the department's services



Michigan Seed Law

(1965 PA 329)

- Local ordinances prohibited unless reviewed and approved by Commission
- Local governments can propose an ordinance that is not laid out in this Act
- If denied, the Commission must provide a detailed explanation within 30 days



Pseudorabies and Swine Brucellosis Control and Eradication Act

1992 PA 239

- Determine the fee for testing of swine for pseudorabies and brucellosis



Horse Racing Law of 1995

(1995 PA 279)

- Promulgate rules establishing which premiums are eligible for payment and a dollar limit for all eligible payments
- Regulation 811. Premium Allocation to Fairs and Expositions (Last Updated 2004)



Julian-Stille Value Added Act

(2000 PA 322)

- No funding appropriated to the fund created in the Act
- Responsibility to act on value added grants from the Agriculture Development Fund
- Select the Joint Evaluation Committee, with parameters
- Conflict of interest provisions



Anhydrous Ammonia Security Act

(2006 PA 417)

- The Commission was required to and did issue Anhydrous Ammonia Safety and Security Practices (AASSPs) in 2006
- In creating AASSPs they had to coordinate with Michigan State University



Michigan Organic Products Act

(2000 PA 316)

- Responsibility to determine registration fees
- Program no longer active



Note: Executive Order 2009-54 also included duties under the Seal of Quality Act, which has since been repealed.

Also, Commission approval for expenditures from the Agriculture Preservation Fund under Part 362 is no longer required.



Thank you!



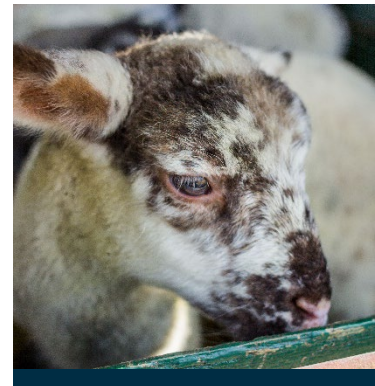
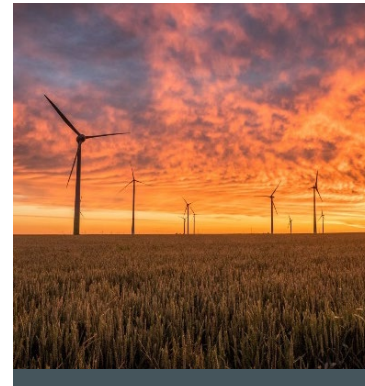
@MichDeptofAg



[Linkedin.com/company/MichDeptofAg](https://www.linkedin.com/company/MichDeptofAg)



EVALUATION OF SEED PURITY AND GERMINATION 15 YEARS AFTER DEREGULATION



Andria McCubbin, Nursery and Seed Specialist
Pesticide and Plant Pest Management Division

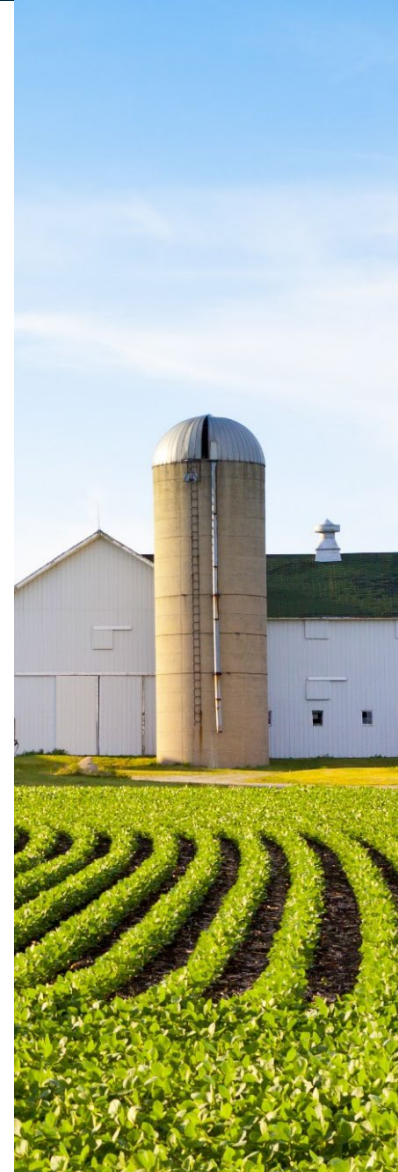
Background

- In ca. 2006, MDARD's seed lab closes and routine seed sampling ends
- PPPMD continues to investigate complaints
- Anecdote suggests Michigan has become “dumping ground” for bad seed



Background

- PPPMD performs “seed blitz” in 2021
- Led by Andria McCubbin, Nursery and Seed Specialist
- Goal is to test “dumping ground” hypothesis
- 85 samples collected
 - 47 turf
 - 28 forage / cover crop
 - 10 vegetable
- All seed originated out of state
- Samples analyzed by USDA



Violations

- Turf
 - 19% labeling
 - 15% purity
 - 2% germination
 - 2% noxious weeds
- Forage / cover crop seed
 - 54% labeling
 - 11% germination
 - 4% purity
 - 4% noxious weeds
- Vegetable
 - No violations



Violations

- Overall, 41 of 85 samples (48%) were violative
- USDA issued Warning Letters for all 41 violations
- PPPMD issued Stop Sale Notices at eight locations for noxious weeds, poor germination, and serious purity violations
- USDA levied eight included fines



Summary and Future Efforts

- This small blitz suggests Michigan *is* a dumping ground for bad seed/improper labeling of seed.
- Planning another blitz in March/April 2022
- Considerations:
 - Mission
 - Value
 - Competing priorities
 - Endgame



Questions?



@MIDeptofAgriculture



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Michigan Department
of Agriculture & Rural
Development



@MichiganAgriculture



Michigan Department
of Agriculture & Rural
Development



GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

GARY MCDOWELL
DIRECTOR

DATE: March 16, 2022

TO: Michigan Commission of Agriculture and Rural Development

FROM: Jamie Zmitko-Somers, Director, Agriculture Development Division

SUBJECT: Iron Fish Distillery LLC – Food and Agriculture Investment Program

Background

Iron Fish Distillery is Michigan's first farm distillery, growing grain and distilling spirits, as well as barrel finishing sourced whiskey. The MAEAP certified working farm and distillery attracts over 100,000 guests annually to agricultural end destination, reborn on a long time abandoned 120-acre farm, located in rural Springdale Township in Manistee County.

Project Description

The project includes two interrelated parts. First, expansion of the spirits distillery to meet demand that is outpacing current capacity, and second, investments in the agricultural end destination facilities and property to accommodate more visitors and expand menu offerings showcasing farm-to-table food and spirit offerings. These two parts are intertwined in the breakout success of the brand. The project will include an upgrade to the spirits production that will include a new still, six fermentation tanks, a larger boiler, and a mash tank that will increase production from 5,000 cases to 19,000 cases. The second part of the project will include investment in the facility to meet demand from the growing number of visitors, including a kitchen expansion and enhancement to the RV camping area. This supports increased capital investment and job creation at Iron Fish in manufacturing, marketing, sales, production, and hospitality. The total capital investment in the project is \$827,500 and will create six new jobs.

Impact on Michigan's Agriculture Industry

As the business grows, so too does the company's ability to forge partnerships that aim to build capacity in the surrounding rural communities, not to mention economic impacts, like contracting with additional farmers, growers, and makers throughout Michigan to grow and harvest grain, purchase more barrels made in Michigan, contracting with dozens of service providers and local suppliers, and offer family-sustaining jobs to rural residents while employing more people. The project more than doubles the amount of grain Iron Fish will purchase from Michigan farms to 725,000 pounds annually, increasing the number of growers supplying Iron Fish from 6 to 10 farms, including Michigan's Upper Peninsula where they currently contract rye grain production. Investing in the agricultural end destination fuels consumer interest in Michigan craft spirits is primarily responsible for driving demand for Iron Fish spirits sold by retailers across Michigan and other states. Another key input, unique to Iron Fish Distillery, is local maple syrup purchased in substantial volumes and barrel aged. Maple barrels are used to age bourbon, and barrel aged syrup is sold as a specialty food item. Today, Iron Fish is Michigan's third largest craft distillery

located in the state by case volume sold in the state and is growing its export volume to other states in a significant way.

Additional Impacts

Iron Fish Distillery's sustainability pledge embraces carbon offsets, organic farming practices, use of onsite solar power and providing customers EV vehicle charging. The largest waste product, which is spent grain, is completely upcycled and organic waste generated from the food and beverage program is 100 percent composted on the farm. Iron Fish proactively hires from our nearby region and has a demonstrated track record of providing employment to former recipients of federal and state benefits. They provide health care coverage that is 50 percent employer funded and dental coverage that is fully employer funded to full-time non-seasonal team members. They provide meals, uniforms, employee discounts, paid time off, and staff trainings throughout the year. Training on a variety of topics is conducted on a regular basis to enhance job skills and highlight safety.

MDARD Staff Recommendation

Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development staff recommend the Michigan Commission of Agriculture and Rural Development approve a Food and Agriculture Investment Fund performance-based grant of \$55,000 for Iron Fish Distillery LLC.



Department of
AGRICULTURE
& Rural Development

Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE INVESTMENT PROGRAM
TERMS SHEET

Company Information

Company Legal Name Iron Fish Distillery LLC

Address 14234 Dzuibanek Rd.
Thompsonville, MI 49683

Project Overview

Project Title Production and End Destination Business Expansion

Project Location 14234 Dzuibanek Rd.
Thompsonville, MI 49683

Total Project Investment \$ 827,500

Total Jobs Created 6

MDARD Project Support

Type of Project Performance Based Grants

Grant Amount \$ 55,000

Milestones

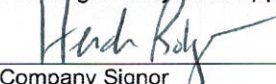
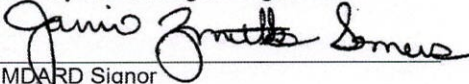
1. Complete building renovations to restrooms, hospitality space, kitchen addition, service bar and RV camping site improvements at the Thompsonville, Michigan facility, and;
2. Purchase, installation and operation of new machinery and equipment at the facility in Thompsonville, Michigan, and;
3. Documentation of any necessary state and federal food processing permits and local building occupancy permits for the facility in Thompsonville, Michigan.

Acknowledgement of Terms of Support for Project

All milestones must be completed prior to receiving a disbursement of the performance-based grant.

If the terms of this Letter of Intent for a grant are accepted, the project will be taken to the Agriculture and Rural Development Commission for approval. If approved by the Commission, a grant agreement will be signed between the company and MDARD incorporating the terms included in this term sheet.

Funding is subject to appropriations provided and authorized by the Michigan Legislature.

 Date 3/21/2022  Date 2/28/2022

Company Signor

Date

MDARD Signor

Date

Print Name

Title

Jamie Zmitko-Somers

Director, Agriculture Development

Print Name

Title

Print Name

Title



GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

GARY MCDOWELL
DIRECTOR

DATE: March 16, 2022

TO: Michigan Commission of Agriculture and Rural Development

FROM: Jamie Zmitko-Somers, Director, Agriculture Development Division

SUBJECT: Walters Gardens, Inc. – Food and Agriculture Investment Program

Background

Walters Gardens (WG) is a family-owned business that started in 1946 with five acres of bare root perennials. In 1976, they added a tissue culture lab and in 2001, they started a breeding program. WG supplies genetics for the Proven Winners (PW) brand and for the generic market. WG offers over 1,000 perennial varieties in its catalog, which are sold as bare root plants and plug trays. WG currently farms 1,500 acres of land, operates 13 acres of greenhouse, and employs at peak 370 workers. WG sales have averaged \$35 million over the past 10 years, with an annual growth rate of 10.2 percent over the same period.

Project Description

Walters Gardens (WG) will construct a 40,000 square-foot production facility with four acres of automated greenhouses. The new address is 257 76th Street, Zeeland, Michigan. The site is being prepared for a total of 20 acres of greenhouses over 10 years in three construction phases. In the past 2.5 years, Walters Gardens (WG) has averaged \$48 million in sales with a growth rate of 18.1 percent. WG greenhouses are currently at capacity, and this expansion, will allow WG to maintain an average growth rate of 10 percent for the next 10 years. It will also allow WG to hire up to 50 new employees in various skill levels. It will supply larger quantities of WG and PW perennials to local markets across the country and into Canada. This is a capital investment of \$7,052,000 creating 50 new jobs.

Impact on Michigan's Agriculture Industry

Walters Gardens (WG) has seen exponential growth in the last 2.5 years. Because of current greenhouse capacity, WG had to limit purchase orders in the fall of 2021 and spring of 2022 both locally and nationally. WG is building the expansion project to accommodate for future growth and will be able to resume purchase increases in the fall of 2022 to supply availability for spring of 2023. Since WG is a PW partner, increasing brand presence will benefit other PW partners in Michigan, including shrub and annual growers. Walters Gardens was awarded the Michigan Ag Exporter of the Year Award in 2008, when Canadian exports were \$2.3 million. Since then, Canadian exports have grown to \$6.58 million in 2021, almost a three-fold increase over 13 years. Current 2022 sales for Canadian customers are \$7.92 million, a 20 percent increase over last year, and represents 11.8 percent of overall sales.

Additional Impacts

WG is planning to construct fully automated greenhouses with a Priva environmental controls system, including thermal curtains, automatic irrigation booms, and automatic heating and venting controls. Surface water will be contained in two new retention ponds, one of which will supply irrigation to WG perennial fields. WG will follow all SESC standards for erosion control during and after excavation. The new building construction will use all LED lighting fixtures, reducing overall power consumption. WG currently works with local 70x7 and New Day employment agencies to employ people with a history of incarceration. WG also allows employees to work part time, so working parents can care for their children before and after school hours.

MDARD Staff Recommendation

Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development staff recommend the Michigan Commission of Agriculture and Rural Development approve a Food and Agriculture Investment Fund performance-based grant of \$95,000 for Walters Gardens, Inc.



Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE INVESTMENT PROGRAM

TERMS SHEET

Company Information

Company Legal Name Walters Gardens, Inc.

Address 1992 96th Ave.
Zeeland, MI 49464

Project Overview

Project Title Cedar Break Expansion: Phase 1

Project Location 257 76th St.
Zeeland, MI 49464

Total Project Investment \$ 7,052,000

Total Jobs Created 50

MDARD Project Support

Type of Project Performance Based Grant

Grant Amount \$ 95,000

Milestones

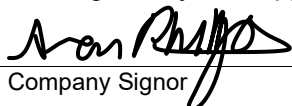
1. Complete site improvements and construction of production facility and greenhouse at the Zeeland, Michigan facility, and;
2. Purchase, installation and operation of new machinery and equipment at the new greenhouse in Zeeland, Michigan, and;
3. Documentation of necessary state and federal permits and local building occupancy permits for the facility in Zeeland, Michigan.

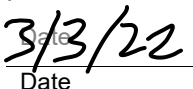
Acknowledgement of Terms of Support for Project

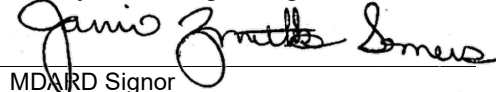
All milestones must be completed prior to receiving a disbursement of the performance-based grant.

If the terms of this Letter of Intent for a grant are accepted, the project will be taken to the Agriculture and Rural Development Commission for approval. If approved by the Commission, a grant agreement will be signed between the company and MDARD incorporating the terms included in this term sheet.

Funding is subject to appropriations provided and authorized by the Michigan Legislature.

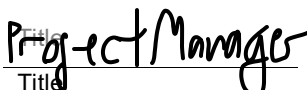

Company Signor


Date


MDARD Signor

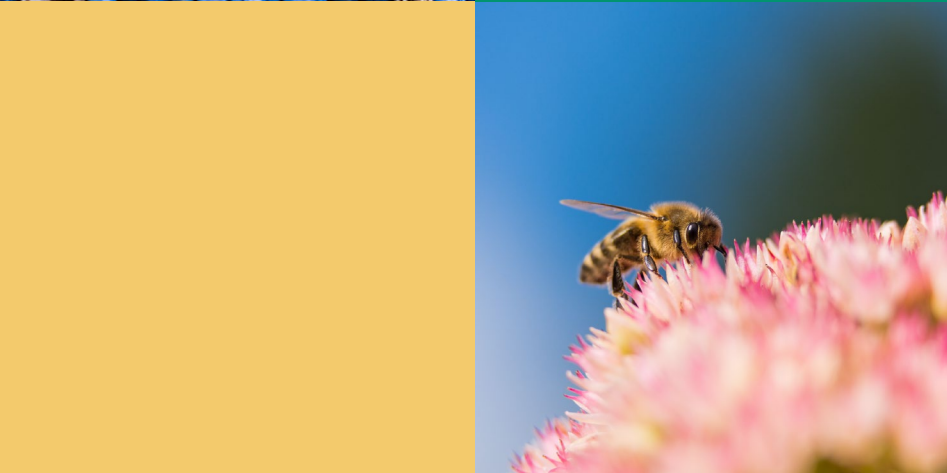
2/28/2022
Date


Print Name


Title

Jamie Zmitko-Somers
Print Name

Director, Agriculture Development
Title



Fiscal Year 2023 Budget Overview

Sylvia Renteria, Director of Finance and Budget

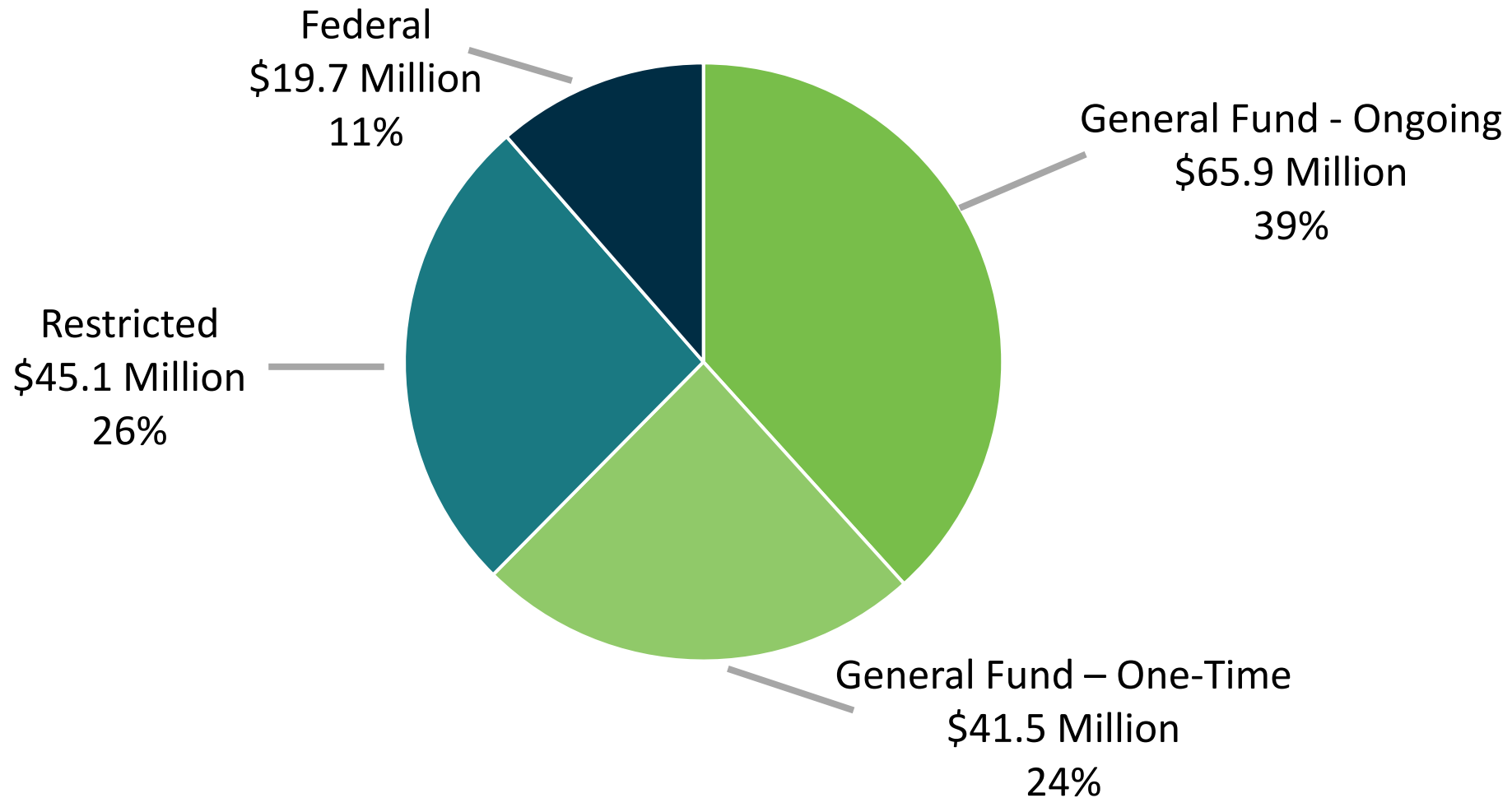
March 16, 2022



Putting Michigan First: 2023 Priorities

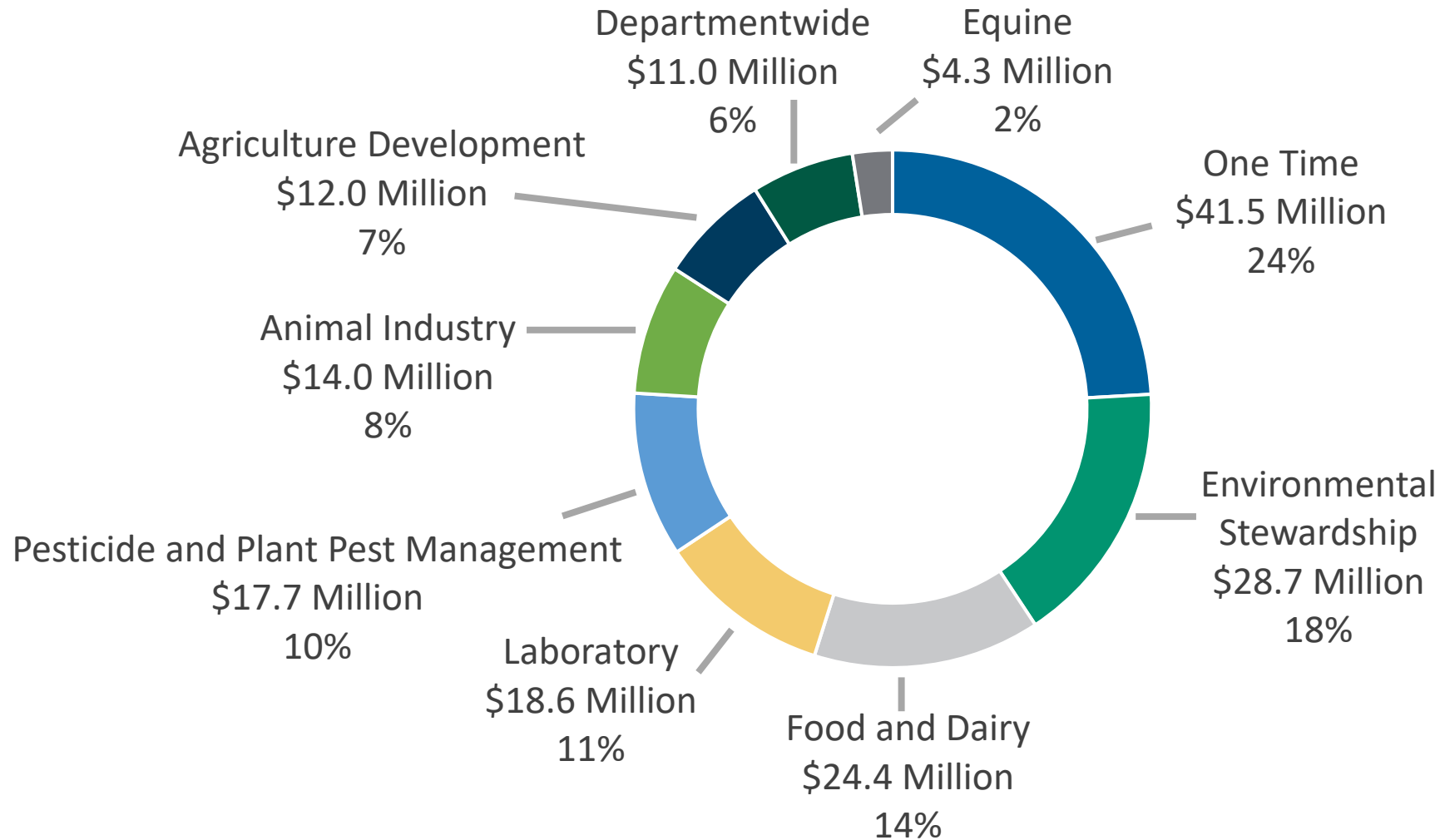
- Education: Putting students first
- Road, Bridge, and Infrastructure Improvements
- Workforce and economic development
- Healthy families
- Safe communities

2023 Executive Recommended Budget



Total: \$172.2 Million

2023 Budget by Program Area



Total: \$172.2 Million



One-Time General Fund Investments



Economic Development for Food and Agriculture Industries

- Food supply chain
- Food security
- Environmental risk
- Infrastructure improvements
- **\$30.0 million in one-time general funds**

Office of Rural Development Engagement and Support

- Rural communities
- Workforce, education, infrastructure, and connectivity
- **\$10.0 million in one-time general funds**





Buy Michigan Campaign

- Clear and unified message
- Michigan grown and produced products
- **\$1.0 million in one-time general funds**



Community Supported Agriculture Program

- Fresh fruits and vegetables
- Community organizations
- **\$500,000 in one-time general funds**

A close-up photograph of several woven baskets filled with ripe, red strawberries. The strawberries have green leaves and are arranged in a way that shows the texture of the fruit and the structure of the baskets.

Ongoing General Fund Initiatives



Pesticide Safety for Underserved and Vulnerable Populations

- Integrated pest management plans
- Daycares, hospitals and schools
- **\$1.2 million and 6 FTE in ongoing general funds**



Food and Agriculture Preparedness, Readiness, and Response

- Emergency response, preparedness, and readiness
- Identified gaps
- **\$1.6 million and 4 FTE in ongoing general funds**



Animal Welfare and Veterinary Care Program

- Animal care resources
- Veterinary services
- Education and outreach
- **\$650,000 in ongoing general funds**



Technical Adjustments



Horse Racing Advisory Commission

- Govern and promote horse racing
- PA 133 of 2021
- **\$125,000 ongoing restricted funds**



Federal Authorizations

- Climate action and reforestation in Northern Michigan \$5.4 million
- Animal health \$500,000
- **Total federal \$5.9 million**



Thank you!



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[Linkedin.com/company/MichDeptofAg](https://www.linkedin.com/company/MichDeptofAg)

MDARD Summary of 2021-2022 Michigan Legislature (Prepared 3/8/2022)

Type	Bill #	Subject	Date of Last Action	Last Action	Primary Sponsor	Position (if applicable)	Notes
House Bill	5617	Agriculture: industrial hemp; requirements for industrial hemp added to food or dietary supplement; modify.	2/17/2022	Referred to House Regulatory Reform	Pat Outman	Neutral	Passed House, Referred to Senate Reg Reform
House Bill	5804	Health occupations: veterinarians; veterinarian-client-patient relationship; require under certain circumstances.	2/23/2022	Referred to Rules and Competitiveness	Alexander	N/A	LARA most likely lead
House Bill	5058	Food: adulterated; adulteration of food containing industrial hemp;	2/17/2022	Referred to Regulatory Reform	TC Clements	Neutral	Passed House, Referred to Senate Reg Reform
House Bill	5061	Agriculture: industrial hemp; certain activities under a processor-handler license and definition of industrial hemp commodity and product;	2/17/2022	Referred to Regulatory Reform	Postumus	Neutral	Passed House, Referred to Senate Reg Reform
House Bill	5060	Agriculture: industrial hemp; limit liability for growers under certain circumstances; modify.	2/17/2022	Referred to Regulatory Reform	Outman	Neutral	Passed House, Referred to Senate Reg Reform
House Bill	5704	Food: cottage food operation; certain requirements for cottage food operations and cottage food products; modify. A	2/16/2022	Referred to House Agriculture	Glenn	Opposed	Hearing on 2/16 in House Ag
House Bill	5705	Food: other; third-party food delivery safety training; create.	2/16/2022	Referred to House Agriculture	Steenland	Opposed	Hearing on 2/16 in House Ag
House Bill	5671	Food: cottage food operation; cottage food operations; allow to sell, offer for sale, and accept payment for cottage food products over the internet.	2/16/2022	Referred to Committee on Agriculture	Julie Alexander	Opposed	Hearing on 2/16 in House Ag
House Bill	5742	Agriculture: pesticides; issuance of certificates of free sale for pesticides; provide for.	2/16/2022	Referred to Agriculture	Cambensy	Support	Dept. initiated

House Bill	5743	Agriculture: fertilizer; issuance of certificates of free sale for fertilizer; provide for.	2/16/2022	Referred to Agriculture	Steenland	Support	Dept. initiated
House Bill	5744	Food: other; issuance of certificates of free sale in food law; provide for.	2/16/2022	Referred to Agriculture	Alexander	Support	Dept. initiated
House Bill	5745	Agriculture: other; issuance of certificates of free sale in feed law; provide for.	2/16/2022	Referred to Agriculture	Borton	Support	Dept. initiated
House Bill	5746	Agriculture: diseases and pests; issuance of certificates of free sale in insect pest and plant disease act;	2/16/2022	Referred to Agriculture	Bezotte	Support	Dept. initiated
House Bill	5747	Food: milk; issuance of certificates of free sale in manufacturing milk law of 2001; provide for.	2/16/2022	Referred to Agriculture	Posthumus	Support	Dept. initiated
House Bill	5748	Food: milk; issuance of certificates of free sale in grade A milk law; provide for.	2/16/2022	Referred to Agriculture	Filler	Support	Dept. initiated
House Bill	5588	Animals: dogs; provision related to tattooing of certain dogs under the dog law of 1919; repeal.	2/15/2022	Referred to House Judiciary	TC Clements	Support	Passed Judiciary unanimously 2/15
House Bill	5599	Animals: dogs; provision related to tattooing of dangerous dogs; repeal.	2/15/2022	Referred to House Judiciary	Puri	Support	Passed Judiciary unanimously 2/15
Senate Bill	864	Drains: other; provision related to drain inspections; modify.	2/9/2022	Referred to Local Government	Kevin Daley	In progress	
Senate Bill	865	Drains: other; definition of per diem and compensation for drainage boards	2/9/2022	Referred to Local Government	Jeremy Moss	In progress	
Senate Bill	866	Drains: districts; drainage district boundaries; revise under certain circumstances.	2/9/2022	Referred to Local Government	Rick Outman	In progress	
House Bill	5700	Agriculture: pesticides; inspection requirements for aerial applicators; modify for out-of-state aircraft.	1/27/2022	Referred to House Agriculture	Lightner	Still formulating position	Hearing on 2/2 in House Ag
House Bill	5524	Appropriations: supplemental; general; provide for 2021-2022. Creates appropriation act.	1/27/2022	Appropriations	Albert	N/A	Passed House 96-6 on 1/27. \$5 million included for FDD

House Bill	4982	Food: other; labeling as meat a laboratory-grown meat substitute; prohibit.	1/26/2022	Referred to Agriculture	Beau LaFave	No Position-written testimony provided	Hearing on 1/26/2022
Senate Bill	4031	Labor: health and safety; violations of reports of injuries and death; modify	1/18/2022	Referred to Agriculture	Kahle	MIOSHA is opposed	Passed Senate 29-9 on 1/18/2022
House Resolution	205	A resolution urging the U.S. Congress, federal agencies, and state departments to address the ongoing fertilizer price increases and shortages that are impacting Michigan farmers.	1/18/2022	Referred to Committee on Agriculture	Steve Carra	N/A-Dept. does not take positions on Resolutions	
Senate Bill	802	State: symbol; wild rice; designate as the official native grain. Creates new act.	1/12/2022	Referred to Senate Agriculture	Hollier	Pending	
Senate Bill	814	Individual income tax: credit; credit for certain motor fuel retail dealers; provide for. Amends 1967 PA 281	1/11/2022	Referred to Senate Agriculture	Kevin Daley	N/A	Unsure of lead agency (most likely Treasury)
Senate Bill	494	Agriculture: other; certain reporting requirements for environmental assurance advisory council and funding and standards for the MAEAP; modify, and eliminate water quality protection fee sunset.	12/16/2021	Referred to Senate Agriculture. Re-referred to Senate Appropriations	Daley	Support with Budget Deal	Assigned PA 123 of 2021
Senate Bill	7	A concurrent resolution to approve a designated open space land application for property in Kent County.	12/15/2021	Referred to the Committee on Agriculture	Thomas Albert	Support	Adopted by Full House and Senate-referred to the Clerk for record
House Bill	5595	Liquor: licenses; license to sell spirits or mixed spirit drink at a farmer's market; provide for.	12/2/2021	Referred to Committee on Regulatory Reform	Pauline Wendzel	N/A	LARA is lead agency
House Bill	4703	Crimes: animals; restitution for care and treatment of certain forfeited animals; impose penalty on ownership of animal to person convicted of certain crimes against animal.	11/10/2021	Referred to Judiciary	Wozniak	Neutral	Passed House 91/14 on 11/10-Referred to Senate Judiciary

House Bill	4704	Animals: care and treatment; restitution for care and treatment of certain forfeited animals; impose penalties upon owner.	11/10/2021	Referred to Judiciary	Wozniak	Neutral	Passed House 91/14 on 11/10-Referred to Senate Judiciary
Senate Bill	697	Individual income tax: credit; beginning farmer tax credit; provide for.	10/21/2021	Referred to Senate Finance	LaSata	N/A	Treasury is lead-opposed
House Bill	4801	Public utilities: public service commission; registration procedure for electric vehicle charging stations; provide for.	10/19/2021	Referred to House Energy	Schroeder	No stance in committee/MDARD opposed going forward	Passed the House 85-18- Sent to Senate Energy
House Bill	4802	Public utilities: public service commission; licensing of electric vehicle charging station operators; provide for.	10/19/2021	Referred to House Energy	Kuppa	No stance in Committee from MPSC	Passed the House 88-15 - Sent to Senate Energy
House Bill	5412	Housing: landlord and tenants; allocation of responsibilities; provide for with respect to prevention and management of bedbug infestation.	10/19/2021	Referred to House Regulatory Reform	Alex Garza	N/A	MSHDA/Legal are leads, MDARD 3PM provided comments
House Bill	5406	Creates the office of Rural Development	10/14/2021	Referred to House Gov Ops	Witwer	Support with changes	Companion bill to McBroom's
Senate Bill	682	Creates the office of Rural Development	10/7/2021	Referred to Senate Appropriations	McBroom	Support with changes	Pending hearing- Office was created via ED 2022-1
House Bill	4561	Food: licensing; licensing fees for certain food establishments; make refundable.	10/6/2021	Referred to Committee on Regulatory Reform	Roth	Opposed	Passed House 97-10 on 6/17, Passed Senate Reg Reform
House Bill	5374	Food: other; lead leachate levels for dinnerware; regulate. Amends sec. 6101 of 2000 PA 92	10/6/2021	Referred to House Health Policy	Julie Rogers	to be completed with n	MDARD is lead

Senate Bill	258	Communications: newspapers and magazines; publication of public notices in newspapers; include requirements for publication by electronic means.	10/5/2021	Referred to Senate Local Government	VanderWall	Gov. Legal is lead/watching for CDs	Gov Legal is lead
House Bill	5059	Agriculture: industrial hemp; restrictions under the industrial hemp growers act; modify.	9/20/2021	Referred to Regulatory Reform	Mueller	Pulled	
House Bill	5285	Natural resources: nonnative species; advisory council to combat the online sale of aquatic invasive species; establish.	8/18/2021	Referred to Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation	Sarah Anthony	N/A	EGLE/DNR leads (MDARD contributed to analysis)
Senate Bill	591	Food: other; use of PFAS, bisphenols, and phthalates in food packaging; prohibit.	7/15/2021	Referred to Environmental Quality	Jeff Irwin	to be completed with n	MDARD is lead
House Bill	4603	Civil rights: open meetings; circumstances permitting public meetings of certain public bodies to be held electronically by telephonic or video conferencing; modify.	7/13/2021	Referred to the Committee on Agriculture	Joe Bellino	Legal took over as lead	Signed by the Governor on 7/13/21- PA 54'21 with immediate effect
House Bill	4516	Marihuana: liability; sale of marihuana to an individual who is younger than 21 years of age or visibly intoxicated; prohibit, and create cause of action for harm that the individual causes.	7/13/2021	Referred to the Committee on Reg Reform	Hauck	LARA/MRA	Signed by the Governor on 7/13/21- PA 55'21
Senate Bill	4517	Marihuana: other; definition of industrial hemp; modify	7/13/2021	Referred to the Committee on Reg Reform	Rabhi	LARA/MRA	Signed by the Governor on 7/13/21- PA 56'21
House Bill	5250	Food: other; use of PFAS, bisphenols, and phthalates in food packaging; prohibit.	7/1/2021	Referred to House Agriculture	Rabhi	Pending	MDARD is lead, other bill is Irwin's which will be EGLE
House Bill	5250	Food: other; use of PFAS, bisphenols, and phthalates in food packaging; prohibit.	7/1/2021	Referred to House Agriculture	Yousef Rabhi		
House Bill	4842	Liquor: spirits; markup on spirits; revise based on distiller's use of Michigan distillate.	6/30/2021	Referred to Reg Reform	Outman	LARA opposed	Passed House on 6/30/21: 90-7-3

Senate Bill	582	Animals: care and treatment; conducting of research or training activities on dogs in a manner that causes pain or distress, and certain related activities, by an affiliate of a public body; prohibit. Creates new act.	6/30/2021	Referred to Agriculture	Paul Wojno		
House Bill	5128	Medical marihuana: other; smoking medical marihuana in public places; expand prohibition against to include food service establishments.	6/29/2021	Referred to Reg Reform	Calley	N/A	LARA/MRA is lead
House Bill	5129	Marihuana: other; smoking marihuana in public places; expand prohibition against to include food service establishments.	6/29/2021	Referred to Reg Reform	Calley	N/A	LARA/MRA is lead
House Bill	565	Appropriations: supplemental; drinking water and water infrastructure improvements supplemental; provide for. Creates appropriation act.	6/24/2021	Referred to Appropriations	Bumstead	N/A	Multiple agencies are included in this supplemental which appropriates \$2.5 B Federal relief
House Bill	4912	Health occupations: veterinarians; veterinarian-client-patient relationship; require and provide for other amendments to the regulation of veterinary medicine.	6/16/2021	Referred to House Agriculture	Bezotte	N/A	LARA is lead agency, MDARD is watching, hearing on 6/16 in House Ag
House Bill	4823	Removes allocation of revenue cap under the lawful internet gaming act to the Michigan agriculture equine industry development fund.	5/27/2021	Referred to Agriculture	Alexander	Unclear of lead agency	Passed House Ag 8-3 on 5/19-on third reading
House Bill	4824	Removes allocation of revenue cap under the lawful sports betting act to the Michigan agriculture equine industry development fund.	5/27/2021	Referred to Agriculture	Hertel	Unclear of lead agency	Passed House Ag 8-3 on 5/19-on third reading
Senate Bill	493	Trade: business regulation; requirements for advertising of reduced gasoline prices; modify.	5/27/2021	Referred to Economic and Small Business Development	Jim Stamas		

Senate Bill	4895	Agriculture: pesticides; use of neonicotinoid pesticides; regulate.	5/25/2021	Referred to House Agriculture	Kuppa	N/A	Not moving
Senate Bill	4896	Agriculture: plants; classification of milkweed as a noxious or exotic weed by local governments; prohibit.	5/25/2021	Referred to House Agriculture	Steckloff	N/A	Not moving
House Bill	439	Environmental protection: permits; denial or imposition of additional conditions on; provide for when projects are located in environmentally overburdened communities.	5/25/2021	Re-referred to Transportation and Infrastructure	Runestad	N/A	MDOT/SBO are leads
House Bill	4599	Gaming: horse racing; breeders' awards; increase. Amends secs. 8, 19 & 20 of 1995 PA 279	5/11/2021	Referred to Agriculture	Alexander	Neutral	Passed House 106-1 on 5/11
HCR	4600	Gaming: horse racing; references to horse racing law of 1995 in 1951 PA 90; update. Amends sec. 2 of 1951 PA 90	5/11/2021	Referred to Agriculture	Cherry	Neutral	Passed House 106-1 on 5/11
House Bill	4394	Appropriations: zero budget; department of agriculture and rural development; provide for fiscal year 2021-2022.	5/11/2021	Appropriations	Allor	Opposed	Passed House 57-50 on 5/11
Senate Bill	77	Appropriations: zero budget; department of agriculture and rural development; provide for fiscal year 2021-2022. Creates appropriation act.	5/11/2021	Referred to the Committee on Appropriations	Roger Victory	N/A	Passed the Senate 20-15 on 5/11
House Bill	353	Food: licensing; waiver for licensing and registration fees for certain food establishments, water bottlers, and water dispensing machine owners for the 2021 to 2022 licensing year; provide for.	5/6/2021	Referred to the Committee on Regulatory Reform	Curtis VanderWall	Opposed	Passed out of the Senate 20-16 on 5/6. Referred to House Reg Reform
House Bill	354	Health: local health departments; waiver for licensing fees for certain food establishments for the 2021 to 2022 licensing year; provide for.	5/6/2021	Referred to the Committee on Regulatory Reform	Curtis VanderWall	Opposed	Passed out the Senate 20-16 on 5/6. Referred to house Reg Reform

House Bill	4784	Animals: care and treatment; definition of shelter for animals; modify.	5/5/2021	Referred to the Committee on Judiciary	Brann	Pending	No hearing
Senate Bill	4785	Crimes: animals; cross-reference in revised judicature act; update.	5/5/2021	Referred to Senate Agriculture. Re-referred to Senate Appropriations	Brann	Pending	No hearing
House Bill	4786	Crimes: animals; cross-reference in animal welfare fund act; update	5/5/2021	Referred to Senate Agriculture. Re-referred to Senate Appropriations	Brann	Pending	No hearing
House Bill	4420	Appropriations: zero budget; multi-department supplemental appropriations; provide for fiscal year 2021-2022.	4/29/2021	Appropriations	Albert	N/A	Reported from Full Appropriations on 4/29/21
House Bill	370	Environmental protection: hazardous products; glyphosate herbicide; prohibit certain residential uses of.	4/21/2021	Referred to the Committee on Environmental Quality	Rosemary Bayer	N/A	MDARD is lead agency, won't likely move
Senate Bill	4611	Animals: birds; issuance of carrier pigeon permits; require compliance with local ordinances and regulations, and prohibit the enactment of local ordinances that prohibit the keeping of carrier pigeons.	4/13/2021	Referred to Committee on Agriculture	Tulio Liberati	N/A	Watching: Probably won't move
House Bill	186	Agriculture: industrial hemp; regulations for growing industrial hemp; modify.	3/25/2021	Referred to the Committee on Agriculture	Dan Lauwers	Support	PA 4 of 2021 signed on 3/25/2021
House Bill	4550	Courts: juries; postponement of jury service; allow for farmers during certain months.	3/23/2021	Referred to the Committee on Agriculture	Postumus	O/Legal are lead ager	Awaiting first hearing
House Bill	229	food: licensing; licensing fees for food establishments; provide waiver for 2021 to 2022 licensing year.	3/11/2021	Referred to the Committee on Regulatory Reform	Curtis VanderWall	N/A	Replaced with SB 353&354
House Bill	4497	Health; other; aerial spraying of pesticides to prevent and control diseases and environmental health hazards; require department of health and human services to provide notice to the public before implementation.	3/11/2021	Referred to Committee on Health Policy	Brad Paquette	N/A	Watching: DHHS is lead agency and is opposed

House Bill	4881	Animals: research facilities; certain research facilities to offer certain laboratory animals for adoption before euthanization; require.	2/22/2021	Regulatory Reform	Hertel	No Position	Hearing on 2/22 in Reg. Reform
House Bill	4882	Animals: research facilities; reporting requirements and penalties for noncompliance; provide for.	2/22/2021	Regulatory Reform	Brann	No Position	Hearing on 2/22 in Reg. Reform
House Bill	5477	Food: other; sale of food items represented to be kratom products; regulate. Creates new act.	2/22/2021	Referred to House Regulatory Reform	Laurie Stone	Pending	MDARD/LARA co-leads
Senate Bill	4246	Trade: business practices; gas tax rates posted at gas pumps; require.	2/16/2021	Referred to the Committee on Transportation	Beau LaFave	Opposed	
Senate Bill	136	Agriculture: pesticides; registry of individuals seeking to be notified in the event of the emergency use or application of pesticides on or adjacent to their property; provide for. Amends	2/16/2021	Referred to the Committee on Environmental Quality	Rick Outman	N/A	The Department worked with Sen. Outman to create an alert system outside of the legislative process.
House Bill	4186	Animals: exotic; applicability of certain provisions of the large carnivore act based on residency; modify.	2/9/2021	Referred to the Committee on Agriculture	Thomas Albert	Opposed	No hearing
House Bill	4165	Highways: bridges; tractors and farm equipment to cross the Mackinac Bridge; allow under certain conditions. Amends sec. 12 of 1952 PA 214 (MCL 254.322).	2/9/2021	Referred to the Committee on Transportation	Steven Johnson	N/A	MDARD/MDOT are co-leads