



February 20, 2017



Senator Frederick, Co-Chair
Representative Witt, Co-Chair
Joint Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee on Natural Resources
900 Court Street NE, Room H 178
Salem, Oregon 97301

Dear Co-Chair Frederick and Co-Chair Witt:

Thank you for the opportunity to continue the discussion of the Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA) and the department's programs.

Below is the department's response to two questions raised during Day 1 of the agency's budget presentation. Please also find enclosed a copy of ODA's Key Performance Measures Report.

Regarding the number of Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCDs) with a tax base.

ODA would like to correct the record regarding the number of SWCDs with a tax base. There are 13 SWCDs with a tax base, not 11 that was reported during the presentation on February 20, 2017.

Regarding the number of inspectors at the Oregon Department of Agriculture.

Below, by Program Area, is a list of programs and corresponding number of staff that have an inspection role within the corresponding program. It is important to note that some programs may not have formal 'inspectors' per se but staff provides on-the-ground/in-the-field work that supports the program's work. This work has been included below.

- Market Access and Certification Program Area
 - Shipping Point Program: 25 - 30
 - Certification Program: 2

- Food Safety and Animal Health and ID Program Area
 - Food Safety Program: 39 inspector and specialist positions (36 currently filled)
 - Brand Inspection Program: 65
 - The program area also has two field veterinarians and one commercial feed specialist. These three individuals perform some inspections and/or investigations.



- Plant Protection and Conservation Program Area
 - Inspect Pest Prevention Management Program: 12 entomologists, 40 seasonal workers (trapping work)
 - Noxious Weed Program: 5
 - Nursery Program: 11 (6 are currently filled)

- Natural Resource Program Area
 - Agricultural Water Quality Program: 14 which includes 6 specialists
 - Confined Animal Feeding Operation: 6
 - Fertilizer Program: 3
 - Pesticide Program: 9 (7 currently filled)

- Internal Services and Consumer Protection Program Area
 - Weights and Measures Program: 20 inspector and supervisor positions (2 field supervisors have small technical caseloads and complete inspections when there is a program vacancy)

Thank you for this opportunity to respond to your questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alexis M. Taylor". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Alexis" being the most prominent part.

Alexis M. Taylor, Director
Oregon Department of Agriculture

Enclosure