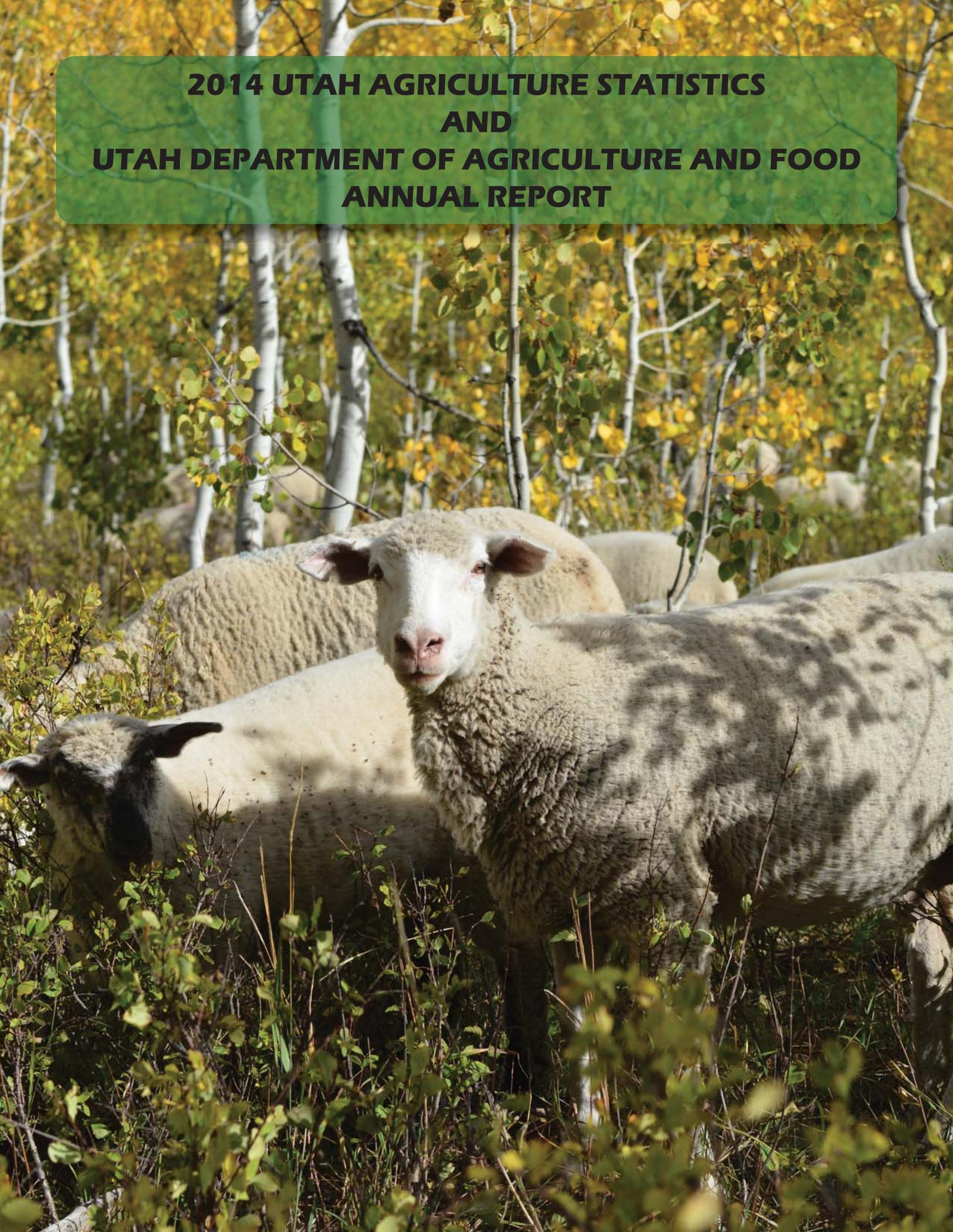


**2014 UTAH AGRICULTURE STATISTICS
AND
UTAH DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND FOOD
ANNUAL REPORT**





STATE OF UTAH

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH
84114-2220

GARY R. HERBERT
GOVERNOR

SPENCER J. COX
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

Dear Friends,

It is my pleasure to present the 2014 Annual Report on the status of Utah agriculture.

This has been an excellent year for many of our farmers and ranchers despite the inconsistent patterns of precipitation we have experienced. Some livestock operators report record prices for their cattle, and our dairy farmers have seen a positive turnaround as well. That is great news for the industry and consumers.

Agriculture and Food Commissioner LuAnn Adams is making strides in connecting Utahns with our local food producers through the *Utah's Own* program. By using a series of statewide economic summits, her department is expanding the number of *Utah's Own* companies and accelerating economic activity in Utah. These small to medium-sized employers are responsible for as many as 10,000 jobs, and they are adding nearly 175 new jobs each year.

I believe the best is yet to come for our state and the thousands of family-run farms in Utah. After traveling throughout our state and meeting hundreds of farmers and ranchers, it is clear to me Utah's agricultural success is ascribed to our people. Their dedication to the land and their communities is what makes Utah agriculture the great industry it is.

Thank you for supporting Utah agriculture and recognizing the important role this industry plays in our state's future.

Sincerely,

Gary R. Herbert
Governor

UTAH DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND FOOD ANNUAL REPORT



Utah Department of Agriculture and Food

Administration

LuAnn Adams	Commissioner
Scott Ericson	Deputy Commissioner
Larry Lewis	Public Information Officer
Kathleen Mathews	Administrative Assistant
Melissa Ure	Policy Analyst
Wayne Bradshaw	Policy Analyst

Division Directors

Stephen Ogilvie, Director	Administrative Services
Jed Christenson, Director	Marketing Econ./Development
Cody James, Director	Animal Industry
Dr. Warren Hess	Acting State Veterinarian
Dr. Weston Judd, Director & State Chemist	Laboratory Services/Chemistry
Robert Hougaard, Director	Plant Industry & Conservation
Travis Waller	Regulatory Services
Dr. Chris Crnich, Director	Homeland Security

Agricultural Advisory Board

Chairman	Leland Hogan Utah Farm Bureau
Vice Chairman	Kent Bushman Utah Farmers Union
Ron Stratford.....	Utah Dairymens Association
Tom Boyer	Utah Wool Growers Association
Don Anderson	Utah Cattlemens Association
Ron Stratford.....	Utah Dairymens Association
Dolores Wheeler	Food Processing Industry
Rusty Bastian	Food Supplement Manufacturers
Stuart Sprouse	Utah Horse Industry
Wendell Stembridge	Utah Assn. of Conservation Districts
Scott Robins	Utah Livestock Marketing Association
Marilyn K. Albertson	Consumers' Representative
Dr. Roger Rees	Utah Veterinary Medical Association
Haven Hendricks	Utah Pork Producers Association
Cliff Lillywhite	Egg & Poultry Representative
Matt Cook	Utah Turkey Industry
Robert McMullen.....	Fruit and Vegetable Association

Department Phone Directory - Area Code (801)

For information and numbers not listed below.....538-7100

Internet: <http://ag.utah.gov> - email: larrylewis@utah.gov

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Commissioner.....	538-7101
Deputy Commissioner.....	538-7102
Administrative Assistant	538-7103
Public Information Officer	538-7104
Policy Analyst	538-4976
Policy Analyst	538-7190
Administrative Services	
Director.....	538-7110
Budget and Accounting	538-7032
GIS	538-9904
Marketing and Development	
Director.....	538-7108
Deputy Director	538-7141
Marketing Specialist.....	538-4913
Livestock & Market News	435-230-0402
Animal Industry	
Director/	538-7166
State Veterinarian	538-7162
Assistant State Veterinarian.....	538-4910
Animal Health (import permits).....	538-7164
Animal Health Desk	538-7161
Brand Bureau Chief.....	538-7166
Animal Identification (brands)	538-7137
Aquaculture	538-7046
Elk Farming	538-7166
Meat Inspection	538-7117
Chemistry Laboratory	
Director.....	538-7128
Bacteriology Laboratory	538-4928
Feed & Fertilizer Laboratory.....	538-7133
Meat Laboratory	538-7132
Pesticide Residue Laboratory.....	538-7135
Plant Industry	
Director.....	538-7180
Entomology	538-7184
Fresh Fruit & Vegetable Inspection.....	435-757-3726
Seed, Organic & Fertilizer.....	538-7187
Grain Grading Lab (Ogden UT).....	1-801-392-2292
Insect Infestation Emergency Control.....	538-7184
Noxious Weeds & Feed	538-7186
Pesticides	538-7183
Seed Laboratory	538-7182
Groundwater	538-9905
Grazing Improvement Program (GIP).....	435-279-3603
Utah Conservation Commission	
Executive Dir.....	538-7120
Ag Resource Development Loans (ARDL)	538-7172
Ag. Certificate Environmental Stewardship (ACES).....	538-7120
Regulatory Services	
Director.....	538-7150
Bedding, Quilted Clothing, & Upholstered Furn.	538-7151
Dairy Compliance	538-7145
Egg & Poultry Compliance	538-4943
Food Compliance	538-7149
Meat Compliance	538-7149
Metrology (measurement) Laboratory	538-7153
Motor Fuels Testing Laboratory	538-7154
Weights & Measures	538-7158

*Commissioner of Agriculture
and Food
LuAnn Adams*



Greetings.

As my first year as your Commissioner of Agriculture and Food comes to an end I have the privilege to report to you that agriculture continues to do well in The Beehive State. I am a life-long farmer/rancher who grew up on an Idaho sugar beet farm and married a Box Elder County cattle rancher where our family continues to work the range. I have had the privilege of working with a variety of interests that support agriculture in Utah. I am encouraged that we all seek only the best for this important industry.

Utah agriculture is moving forward. The number of farms and ranches stands at more than 18,000, an increase over the past five years. Our farmers are also more productive as yields of crops and livestock have been trending upward for the last few years. I am especially impressed with our citizen's support for Utah agriculture. In our latest Wasatch Front public opinion poll, a whopping 95% of Utahns think farming and ranching are important to the future of the state. And 84% think farmers are responsible stewards of the land.

It's clear they feel the way I do, that our local farmers and ranchers produce the most nutritious, safest and most abundant supply of food in the land. Utahns, as well as people around the country, value locally grown foods. More than 8 out of 10 consumers say they want their foods to come from within the United States. Food isn't the only thing being harvested on our farm; jobs and positive economic numbers are produced by the bushel. Utah State University reports that our industry's production and processing segments contribute more than \$17 billion to our economy and generate 78,000 jobs.

Our Utah's Own Program is helping farmers and ranchers by directing consumers to products that are made from locally grown and raised ingredients. We calculate that if Utahns shifted one percent of their food dollar to purchase Utah grown products instead of national brands, we'd generate \$63 million for our state's economy.

I thank you for your interest in Utah agriculture and I invite you to review our annual report to read more about our agency and our agriculture industry.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "LuAnn Adams". The signature is fluid and cursive, matching the printed name below it.

LuAnn Adams
Utah Commissioner of Agriculture and Food

Mission Statement

The mission of the Utah Department of Agriculture and Food is to “Promote the healthy growth of Utah agriculture, conserve our natural resources and protect our food supply.”

It is also believed that a safe food supply is the basis for health and prosperity. The Department's **Vision Statement** is: To be the recognized guardian of Utah's food supply and sustainable agriculture.

The Department values:

- Integrity and respect
- Service and hard work
- Stewardship and accountability
- Growth and achievement
- People and partnerships
- Heritage and culture

Food safety, public health and consumer protection is a critical and essential function of state government. In order to accomplish this mission, with increased population and industry growth, we are identifying ways and means to fund the regulatory functions of the Department. In addition, we continue to educate the public about the importance of agriculture and the value of maintaining a viable agriculture industry.

We will promote the responsible stewardship of our state's land, water and other resources through the best management practices available. We will promote the economic well-being of Utah and her rural citizens by adding value to our agricultural products. We also aggressively seek new markets for our products. And we will inform the citizens and officials of our state of our work and progress.

In carrying out that mission, Department personnel will take specific steps in various areas of the state's agricultural industry, such as the following:

Regulation

Department operations help protect public health and safety as well as agricultural markets by assuring consumers of clean, safe, wholesome, and properly labeled and measured or weighed products. This includes products inspected by UDAF's animal industry, plant industry, weights and measures, and food and dairy inspectors, compliance officers and field representatives. It involves chemical analysis by the state laboratory, which is part of the Department. It also includes other consumer products such as bedding, quilted clothing and upholstered furniture.

This inspection also protects legitimate producers and processors by keeping their markets safe from poor products and careless processing.

Conservation

Through its variety of programs in this area, the Department will work to protect, conserve and enhance Utah's agricultural and natural resources, including water and land, and to administer two low-interest revolving loan funds aimed at developing resources and financing new enterprises.

Marketing and Development

UDAF marketing section strengthens Utah's agriculture and allied industries financially by expanding present markets and developing new ones for Utah's agricultural products, locally, in the United States, and overseas as well. It also helps develop new products and production methods and promotes instate processing of Utah agricultural products for a stronger state economy.

This annual report is available on the Internet at:
www.ag.utah.gov

Visit our website on your mobile device by scanning this Quick Response code.

Also visit: facebook.com/utahagriculture/
twitter.com/utagandfood/



Commissioner's Office

The Utah Senate confirmed Governor Gary R. Herbert's appointment of LuAnn Adams of Box Elder County as the State's 7th, and first female, Commissioner of Agriculture and Food in February. Commissioner Adams is a life long farmer/rancher who works with her husband and five sons and daughters running their cattle ranch west of Brigham City, Utah.

Shortly after taking office, Commissioner Adams accelerated and broadened the Department's Utah's Own Program that stimulates the economy and helps farmers and ranchers by encouraging consumers to buy products that are made from locally grown and raised ingredients. New for the program this year was a series of 14 Utah's Own economic summits held in: Brigham City, Tooele, Kanab, Richfield, Logan, Monticello, Helper, St. George, Kaysville, Cedar City, Manila, Vernal, Orem, and Heber City.

The summits are coordinated with local Small Business Development Centers (SBDCs) with the goal of acquainting local food-oriented companies with the benefits of the Utah's Own program. Participants heard from industry experts on how to market and grow their businesses. For example, Apple Beer, is now being sold in most Walmart stores after a Walmart buyer discovered the product at a Utah's Own economic summit. The Utah's Own brand is working to expand its products into many other retail outlets including Maverik Convenience stores, Utah State Parks' food and gift shops and other locations. [See a video of a Utah's Own summit here.](http://bit.ly/1yx6IRV) <http://bit.ly/1yx6IRV>



Kevin Jones, Owner of Snap Daddy's Barbecue Sauce, tells participants in a Utah's Own economic summit how joining Utah's Own has helped him improve his marketing and profitability.

The UDAF made significant progress in working with members of the Utah Conservation Commission, Conservation Districts, and the Utah Association of Conservation Districts to adopt a number of recommendations made by a June 2014 Legislative audit of the Conservation Districts. A three-day work session helped participants understand the concerns expressed in the audit, and find ways to restructure the UCC/CD/UACD/UDAF relationship that will assure efficient spending and make the best use of general fund dollars

Our Egg Inspection Program received the Governor's Award of Excellence this year. The Egg & Poultry staff were recognized for consistently demonstrating outstanding contributions to the egg and poultry producers and consumers of Utah. This staff of graders diligently arrive at Utah's egg and poultry plants in the early morning hours each day to insure that the products purchased by Utah consumers are of the best quality possible.

The County Seat television show focused its June 22nd show on Utah's war against weeds and the Invasive Species. The focus was on Emery County and their Russian Olive tree removal program. The half hour show included a summary of the project, shot during a recent tour of

the rea, and a roundtable discussion about the war on weeds. See the show at: <http://bit.ly/1nxgrCT/>

The USDA completed its audit of our Meat Compliance Program and was very impressed with our methods and collaboration with the local USDA Compliance Officer. Our Meat Program earned the "Equal To" status which is a significant accomplishment.

The State Veterinarian's Office issued an Emergency Order making all livestock shows and fairs "terminal" events to help prevent the spread of PED virus into the state's swine population. Despite the emergency step, swine at the state's largest hog farm tested positive for PEDv in September.

The Velvet Longhorned Beetle was discovered in Utah and threatens Utah cherry trees. The insect came from contaminated packing material from China.

Efforts are underway to confirm the presence of the Emerald Ash Borer which will be a threat to ornamental ash trees in Utah.



Egg inspection team: (l-r) Supervisory Cary Wise, Stephanie Jacobs, Sharisa Vodopich, Carlotta Foitzick, Adel Young, with Commissioner, LuAnn Adams

Deputy Commissioner

Scott Ericson
Deputy Commissioner



Scott Ericson is responsible for and coordinates all of the day to day Department activities and works with each division on their program budgets and goals. Scott oversees and coordinates the Department's SUCCESS Program that focuses on measurable results that drive operations and the budgeting process. He also oversees the Utah Horse Racing Commission and the promulgation of all Department administrative rules. He coordinates the collection of predator assessment head tax and is the Treasurer for the Agriculture in the Classroom Program. He is the Department's representative on the state Farmland Evaluation Advisory Committee (Greenbelt).

Communications Office

The Communications office is an important link between the public, industry, employees, and other state agencies. The office publishes videos, brochures, articles, newsletters, web pages, as well as create displays and computer presentations. The office also writes news releases and responds to news media enquires about agriculture and the UDAF. In addition to the printed medium, the office uses video-tape to produce video news releases and video clips that can be viewed at youtube.com/utahagriculture/. The Department is also active in social media, using Facebook and Twitter. (facebook.com/utahagriculture and twitter.com/utagandfood).

The Department launched a redesigned Internet website in 2013. The website is organized to better serve the needs of the thousands of visitors who use the Internet to do business with the State, or simply learn how the historic agency is serving their needs. The website features easy-to-access online services, the latest livestock auction or commodity trading news, pesticide ap-

plicator training information, and dozens of other services.

The Communications Office also interacts with local schools, offering students lessons on the connection between the farm and our food. A complete list of UDAF news releases is available at: ag.utah.gov/news.html

Agriculture Mediation Program

The Department continues to provide services to the agriculture community through its USDA Certified Mediation Program. (ag.utah.gov/markets-finance/utah-agriculture-mediation-program.html) The program assists farmers and ranchers who face adverse actions in connection with USDA programs. Utah is one of 34 certified programs in the country.

Utah farmers and ranches who rely on the Certified State Agriculture Mediation Program to help them through difficult economic times have had that valuable service extended after the passage of the Agriculture Mediation Bill. The program helps farmers and ranchers seek confidential advice and counsel to address loan problems and disputes before they grow to be too much for the producer to handle. The legislation will continue to authorize funding of the Certified State Agriculture Mediation Program for five years. Mediation provides a neutral, confidential forum to discuss complex issues and build strong working relationships with producers, lenders and government agencies.

Agriculture in the Classroom

The mission of AITC is to increase agricultural literacy in Utah by developing a program that improves student awareness about agriculture and instills in students an appreciation for our food and fiber system. This program is necessary because agriculture affects our quality of life and our environment.

The AITC program receives funds from private donors, state funding sources, and grants. These funds are leveraged to meet the programs mission through teacher training, and classroom materials that effectively and efficiently meet the need to increase agricultural literacy.

Administrative Services Division

The Division of Administrative Services provides support to all divisions within the department to insure state policies and procedures are implemented to meet audits conducted throughout the year by state finance and the state auditor's offices. We have added new federal grants each year and to date we are tracking more than 30 federal grants. We are responsible for processing more than 450 state grants and contracts annually. Purchasing cards are being used by the majority of the field staff, and few requests for petty cash reimbursements are being requested by employees



www.facebook.com/utahagriculture

The Department's Facebook page is a good source for the latest interesting videos and articles about Utah agriculture.

Animal & Wildlife Damage Prevention



Mike Linnell
Federal Program Director

The Utah Wildlife Services (WS) program is a cooperative effort between the Utah Department of Agriculture and Food and the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Protecting Utah's agriculture includes protecting livestock, with the majority of the program's effort directed at adult sheep, lambs, and calves from predation.

Funding for the program comes from a number of sources, including Federal appropriations and State General fund. Livestock producers also contribute through a livestock assessment nicknamed the "head tax" because it is assessed per head of livestock. Individual producers, livestock associations, and counties also make voluntary contributions to the program to pay for contract helicopter flying.

Coyotes remain the most problematic predator species in Utah, both in terms of population size and in the amount of livestock they kill. Calves are vulnerable to coyote predation for a short period just after birth, and the majority of the calf protection is concentrated in the spring calving season. In the absence of predator management, calf losses would be expected to exceed 5%, however, with predation management in place, losses are kept to well below 1%. Sheep and lambs remain vulnerable to predation throughout the year and the WS program works with sheep producers to provide protection on spring lambing range, summer mountain range, and on winter range in the desert. In the absence of protective efforts, it is estimated that lamb losses could be as high as 30%, but the WS program in Utah keeps predation losses to less than 5% on a statewide basis.

Cougars and bears are also a significant predator of sheep, especially in the summer when sheep and cattle are grazed in the mountains. Of the predation on lambs reported to WS, about 40% are by these two predators. Predation management for cougar and bear is implemented on a corrective basis, and does not begin until kills are discovered and confirmed by WS. In order to limit losses caused by cougars or bears, the WS program must be prepared to respond quickly when killing occurs.

A significant amount of predation management is necessary to improve wildlife populations, and the WS program works with the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources (UDWR) to provide protection where wildlife populations are below objective. To accomplish this, the program utilizes a combination of 39 full time and seasonal staff, four agency fixed-wing aircraft, two agency helicopters, and eight helicopter contractors. In 2014 the program worked in 14 deer units, 11 sage grouse areas, five bighorn sheep areas, five pronghorn areas, and eight waterfowl nesting areas, specifically for the protection of native wildlife resources. WS also provided protection for endangered black-footed ferrets and Utah prairie dogs in transplant areas, and conducted feral swine monitoring and removal in specific locations within Utah.

To assure that the WS program has no negative environmental consequences, Environmental Assessments (EA's) have been completed to assess the impacts of the program. While the program is very successful at protecting livestock and selected wildlife resources, there are no adverse impacts to predator popu-

lations, wetlands and watersheds, or other parts of the environment. Annual monitoring of our program is conducted to assure that the analyses in the EA's are complete and remain valid. Personnel from the WS program have participated in wolf training as the State prepares for dispersing wolves from recovering populations in adjacent States. A significant amount of time and effort is necessary to ensure that programs are in place to deal with wolves as they arrive. Per direction from the Utah Legislature, a wolf management plan has been put in place and the Agriculture and Wildlife Damage Prevention Board has adopted the role prescribed by the plan for the WS program. WS personnel will be primary responders when livestock are killed by wolves, as well as assist in the capture, radio collaring, and monitoring of non-depredating wolves. WS personnel are widely recognized as the experts in dealing with predator-related problems, and our skills are needed to assure professional management of wolves as federally protected wildlife and through the transfer of authority to a State managed species.

The WS program plays a critical role in the early detection and management of wildlife-borne diseases. WS is conducting surveillance for early detection of highly pathogenic Avian Influenza. The WS program has assisted the UDWR in the removal and testing of mule deer where the potential transmission of Chronic Wasting Disease is a concern. WS has collected samples for plague, tularemia, avian influenza, West Nile virus, raccoon roundworm, and other zoonotic disease monitoring around the State, and responds to mortality events in wild birds to assist in detection of diseases. WS has a full-time wildlife disease biologist position to coordinate rapid response and sampling efforts within WS and other agencies. Because our personnel are located throughout the State and are experts in back-country work from horseback, our help is often solicited in recovery of disease samples and even in human search and rescue missions.

The WS program also deals with other wildlife related damage throughout the State, such as wildlife hazards to commercial aviation. In 2014 WS received the National Migratory Bird Stewardship Award from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service primarily for our role in protecting raptors at airports. WS staff trapped and relocated over 600 raptors (birds of prey such as hawks, falcons, and owls) from Utah airports in 2014 so they would not be struck by aircraft and threatened human safety. WS also provides technical assistance and training to the public on problems related to urban wildlife involving skunks, raccoons, birds, and other animals. WS continues to conduct disease monitoring in the urban program and responds to human safety cases involving cougars or bears statewide when assistance is requested by the UDWR.

The public, including farmers and ranchers, place a high intrinsic value on wildlife. In order to maintain healthy populations of wildlife and concurrently sustain productive agriculture, a professional wildlife damage management program must be in place to mitigate the damage while protecting wildlife populations. In Utah the cooperative Wildlife Services program fills that need.

Animal Industry



Cody James
Director

The Animal Industry Division of the Utah Department of Agriculture and Food has six main programs:

- 1) Animal Health – focused on prevention and control of animal diseases, with special attention to diseases that can be transmitted to humans.
- 2) Meat and Poultry Inspection — to assure wholesome products for consumers.
- 3) Livestock Inspection (brand registration and inspection) — to offer protection to the livestock industry through law enforcement.
- 4) Fish Health — protecting the fish health in the state and dealing with problems of fish food production and processing.
- 5) Elk Farming and Elk Hunting Parks – Regulating this domestic livestock industry with an emphasis on protecting our wild elk population
- 6) Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratories - for disease diagnosis and surveillance.

Major accomplishments in these areas during the past year are as follows:

Animal Health

During the past year, disease free status was maintained for the following diseases:

- Brucellosis
- Tuberculosis
- Pseudorabies
- Salmonella pullorum
- Mycoplasma gallisepticum

Disease monitoring for heartworm, equine encephalitis (Eastern, Western, and West Nile), equine infectious anemia, rabies, brucellosis, tuberculosis, pseudorabies, Salmonella sp., Mycoplasma sp., BSE (Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy), CWD (Chronic Wasting Disease), trichomoniasis, etc. has continued during the past year.

More than 17,600 bulls were tested in the trichomoniasis testing program from October 1, 2013 to April 30, 2014. An additional 3,600 bulls were tested after the end of the official trichomoniasis test year. Testing identified 23 infected bulls - up from the previous year of 19 positive cases. Pooling was implemented this past trich year, pooling up to 5 samples per test.

The division responded to a report of Q Fever (*Coxiella burnetii*) in Salt Lake County. An adult male was diagnosed by the local health department. It was identified that there were 4 goats that he cared for. The goats were tested and one of the goats was euthanized due to a positive result

Monitoring for avian influenza is continuing in Utah. Serological samples for avian influenza are taken from each egg laying flock of chickens in the State and tested quarterly. A minimum of 60 serological samples are taken at the turkey processing plant per month and monitored for avian influenza. The results of these tests are reported to the state veterinarian.

The division also administers the National Poultry Improvement Plan (NPIP) in the State. This is a voluntary testing program wherein a flock may be certified disease free in several important disease categories. Participants in the program enjoy significant benefits when shipping birds, eggs, and products in commerce.

Division veterinarians continue to monitor livestock imports into the state by reviewing incoming Certificates of Veterinary Inspection (CVI) and issuing livestock entry permits to animals that meet Utah entry requirements. Violations of Utah import regulations were investigated and citations issued. CVI from other states were monitored, filed, and forwarded to our animal health counterparts in the states of destination.

Animal health has the responsibility of providing veterinary supervision and service to the livestock auction markets in Utah in the continued oversight of the Division's disease control and monitoring plan. This program is administered by the division of Animal Industry, using private veterinarians on contract with the State. Six livestock auctions that hold weekly sales were serviced under this program. Division veterinarians also served at several junior livestock shows around the State to verify the health of the livestock prior to being admitted to the show.

The Animal Disease Traceability rule from the United States Department of Agriculture became effective March 11, 2013. This rule requires individual official identification of each animal that moves across state lines. The Division is in the process of updating our programs and software to be able to better track animals both moving into and out of the state.

Livestock Inspection

The Livestock (Brand) Inspection Bureau is designed to deny a market to potential thieves and detect the true owners of livestock. The Bureau consists of 15 full-time employees, which include 10 special function officers and one law enforcement officer, and 41 half-time or part-time inspectors. The inspectors verify proper ownership of livestock before they are sold, shipped out of state or sent to slaughter. The Bureau also has a strong presence at each of the six weekly auctions inspecting all cattle and horses.

During 2013, a total of 739,717 individual cattle, horses and elk were inspected. This represents a total of 26,074 inspection cer-

tificates issued. The entire team of livestock inspectors helped to return 2,999 animals to their rightful owners. In today's economy the number of animals returned amounts to over \$2.5 million.

Three years after the brand renewal was held in 2010, we continue to have people register brands for their livestock. Each brand owner receives a plastic wallet sized "proof of ownership" card. The ownership card is intended for use during travel and when selling animals at auctions. Utah has a total number of 15,504 registered cattle/horse brands, cattle earmarks and sheep brands and earmarks. A brand book and CD are available for purchase that has the latest information. It is also found on the department web site (www.ag.utah.gov). The Brand Bureau is also involved with tying the existing brand inspection program to the new Federal Animal Disease Traceability Program, where each livestock owner is required to identify his livestock before moving interstate.

During the year, brand inspectors collected \$911,947 in Beef Promotion payments. Beef Promotion helps with any action aimed at advancing the image and desirability of beef and beef products with the express intent of improving the competitive position and stimulating sales of beef and beef products in the marketplace. Among the activities in the check off programs are: consumer advertising; retail and food service marketing; food-media communications; veal marketing; new-product development; beef recipe development; and other culinary initiatives.

The Brand Bureau started collecting the cattlemen's part of predator control money in 1996. During 2013, livestock inspectors continued to collect predator control money. This money, like the beef promotion money, is used for the protection of the states livestock producers. The money is forwarded to the Wildlife Services Program for its use where it is used in an effort to safeguard adult sheep, lambs, and calves from predation. Sheep owners will continue to have their allotment collected by the wool houses and forwarded to the department.

In an effort to assist and give training to the state's port of entry personnel, a livestock inspector is assigned to work monthly in each port of entry. These inspectors are authorized and equipped to chase down those livestock transporters who ignore the signs requiring all livestock hauling vehicles to stop. This is an effort to help prevent diseased animals from entering the state and stolen animals from leaving the state.

The Livestock Inspection Bureau has stepped up education and enforcement action. The education sessions have been, and will continue to be held on a request basis and conducted by the local livestock inspector. It is up to a host association or group to request the session and set up the meeting.

Inspectors have also used education opportunities during local rodeos, horse shows, and sales; where the livestock inspectors have attended without any enforcement action to be taken. Inspectors should have brochures and contact information with them and will be open to answering any questions participants might have.

Enforcement measures have also been a priority. The Livestock Inspection Bureau will be performing traffic stops, working with Ports of Entry, placing temporary ports throughout the state, and working with shows and rodeos. All of this is to verify proof of ownership of livestock moving interstate and intrastate. In September, 2005 a range rider/investigator was hired to travel from county to county in an effort to prevent intentional and acci-

dental taking of another's animals as they forage and are removed from open range situations. He has been actively involved in several cases of theft and loss of livestock with 42 of 53 cases having been resolved or cleared during the current year.

Elk Farming

The Department has 25 elk farms and 11 hunting parks licensed with a total of 2,873 domestic elk on inventory. Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) tests were performed on all domestic elk that died or were harvested in 2013. No positive samples were found. One elk was reported to have escaped from captivity in 2012 but was captured or harvested prior to it making it to the wilds. The majority of the animals are sold to hunting parks as trophy animals or sent to packing plants for processing of a "leaner" meat product.

Meat Inspection

The Meat and Poultry Inspection program is considered "equal to" the Federal Meat Inspection program. We currently have two State harvesting plants, 10 State harvesting and processing plants, seven State processing only plants, with one Talmadge Aiken (T/A) harvesting plant, five T/A harvesting and processing plants and 8 T/A processing only plants which gives us a total of 33 official plants. We also have 38 custom exempt plants and 32 Farm Custom Slaughter permittee's (Tri-Pod mobile Harvesting rigs) for an overall total of 103 establishments throughout Utah.

The Utah Meat and Poultry Inspection program received a federal "in-plant" audit this year. The federal audit team selected six state harvesting and processing facilities to audit. There were no significant findings this year.

Once a year between August 15 and November 15 we submit to the federal/state audit branch a comprehensive State assessment that covers nine components in which we must comply. 1: Statutory Authority; 2. Inspection; 3. Product Sampling; 4. Staffing and Training; 5. Humane Handling; 6. Non-Food Safety Consumer Protection; 7. Compliance; 8. Civil Rights, and 9. Financial Accountability.

We test for four major pathogens: 1. Salmonella; 2. E coli 0157: H7; 3. Non 0157:H7 STEC; and 4. Listeria Monocytogens. We also test for biological residue in cattle. Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE) continues to be an issue in the regulatory environment. Each establishment that harvests and/or handles beef carcasses are required to have a written plan on how they would handle Specified Risk Materials (SRM) from these carcasses. This is just one of many federal rules and regulation that the small and very small establishment owner must comply with to remain in business. The Utah Meat and Poultry Inspection Program personnel have assisted these small and very small business owners as much as possible to make sure they understand what is required to remain in compliance.

We have 25 dedicated meat inspectors in the program, including one Enforcement Investigation Analysis Officers (EIAO). They perform Food Safety assessments in all State inspected facilities. An assessment takes from 4 to 6 weeks to complete. We have two trainers that perform training activities throughout the

State and one custom exempt specialist that perform sanitation inspections in all the custom plants throughout the State of Utah. Our Meat Inspection program received a top rating for 2014 due to the help of our three frontline supervisors. We also have three public health veterinarians, who perform sanitation reviews and all of our harvesting establishments along with performing dispositions on all suspect animals.

Fish Health

The fish health program controls the spread of disease among the Utah commercial aquaculture facilities and prevents the entry of fish pathogens and aquatic invasive species into Utah. This is done through regulation, prevention, inspection, licensing, approving in-state aquaculture facilities and out-of-state facilities for live sales and entry permits. Also, the program works closely with other state agencies in disease prevention and control to include the Utah Fish Health Policy Board and the State mercury working group.

Licensed facilities included 16 commercial aquaculture facilities, 87 fee fishing facilities, 4 mosquito abatement districts, and 4 fish processing plants. The fee-fishing facilities are licensed for 20 species of aquatic animals including channel catfish, diploid and sterile rainbow trout, bluegill, largemouth bass, diploid and sterile brook trout, diploid and sterile brown trout, cutthroat trout, fathead minnow, smallmouth bass, triploid grass carp, black crappie, arctic char, mosquito fish, tiger trout, kokanee salmon, tiger muskie, wipers, bullhead catfish, hybrid striped bass and cutbows.

During the fiscal year 29 fish health approvals were provided for 7 in-state facilities, 8 out-of-state private growers, 10 state fish hatcheries, 4 federal fish hatcheries, which allowed for the live importation of 15 species of game fish. These included sterile and diploid rainbow trout, cutthroat, kokanee, grayling, brown trout, lake trout, triploid grass carp, hybrid striped bass, walleye, saugeye, tiger musky, bluegill, largemouth bass, channel catfish. A total of 181 entry permits were issued for these fish species during this period.

Twelve water quality tests were conducted at various aquaculture facilities and fee fishing sites. Water quality parameters tested for include total dissolved gas, pH, nitrates, nitrites, dissolved oxygen, carbon dioxide, alkalinity and hardness. Annual fish health inspections were conducted at the aquaculture facilities. Inspected species included fathead minnows, rainbow trout, brown trout, brook trout, tiger trout, and channel catfish. Of these, pathogen assays were conducted for 11 pathogens at two nationally approved accredited labs. Pathogens inspected included IHN virus, IPN virus, VHS virus, *Aeromonas salmonicida* bacterium, *Yersinia ruckeri* bacterium, *Renibacterium salmoninarum* bacterium, *Myxobolus cerebralis* parasite, SVC virus, OM virus, EHN virus, and channel catfish virus, CCV. Disease-free status was maintained at all in-state facilities for all of the above tested pathogens. All Utah aquaculture facilities tested for whirling disease were negative. Two new producers were fish health approved for the production of channel catfish.

Utah Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory (UVDL)

Personnel

In 2013, Utah Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory (UVDL) personnel consisted of nine veterinary specialists and 11 support staff divided between two laboratories, a main laboratory in Logan (Cache County) and a central Utah branch (CUB) laboratory in Nephi (Juab County).

Total accessions (cases)

Laboratory accessions (a case submission that requires one or more tests) in 2013 totaled 8,725, up 1,179 (15.6%) from 2012. The main laboratory accessed 6,328 (72.5%) cases while the branch laboratory accessed 2,397 (27.5%). During 2013, accession numbers at the main laboratory increased by 1,053 (20%) and at the branch laboratory by 126 (5.5%). Accessions at each laboratory for the past 5 years are provided graphically on the following page.

UVDL accessions by state

In 2013, the UVDL accessioned cases from 34 different states. Accessions originating in Utah are, as expected, the most numerous at 7,192 (82.4%), followed by Idaho (521; 6.0%), Iowa (263; 3.0%), New York (201; 2.3%) and California (117; 1.3%). Cases from Iowa originate from the National Veterinary Services Laboratory (Ames, IA).

Within Utah, submissions from eight counties (Cache, Salt Lake, Weber, Utah, Box Elder, Uintah, Sanpete and Washington – listed in order of decreasing number) account for 5,481 or 76% of all Utah accessions.

Total laboratory tests (assays)

Laboratory assays performed in 2013 totaled 249,388, up 96,788 (63.4%) from 2012. This is primarily due to increases in serologic and molecular diagnostic testing.

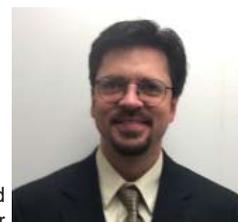
Support/laboratory revenue and expenditures, 2013

The UVDL is funded by a combination of public resources (state and federal) and laboratory user fees (revenue), as shown below. State funds route through the (1) Utah Agricultural Experiment Station (UAES) housed within Utah State University (USU), (2) School of Veterinary Medicine at USU and (3) Utah Department of Agriculture and Food (UDAF).

Monies received from USU support personnel, while funds from UDAF support personnel, facilities (lease, operation and maintenance), equipment purchases, laboratory supplies and operating expenses. Federal dollars originate from the National Animal Health Laboratory Network (NAHLN) and support personnel and operating expenses (indirect costs).

Chemistry Laboratory

Dr. Weston Judd
Director



The Laboratory Services Division operates as a service for various divisions within the Department of Agriculture and Food. The division laboratories provide chemical, physical, and microbiological analyses. All samples analyzed in the laboratories are collected and forwarded by various field inspection personnel from the divisions of Plant Industry, Conservation and Resource Management, Regulatory Services, and Animal Health. Most of these samples are tested for specific ingredients as stated by the associated label guarantee. Some products are also examined for the presence of undesirable materials, such as filth, insects, rodent contamination, adulterants, inferior products, and pesticide residues.

The Dairy Testing Laboratory is responsible for testing Grade Raw Milk and finished dairy products. The laboratory also administers an industry laboratory certification program. Our laboratory is certified by FDA to perform the following tests: standard plate and coliform counts; microscopic and electric somatic cell determinations; antibiotic residues; and ensuring proper pasteurization. The laboratory is also certified as the FDA Central Milk Laboratory for the State of Utah. Our microbiologists serve as the State Milk Laboratory Evaluation Officers (LEOs) who have jurisdiction over the certified milk labs within the state. The LEO is responsible for on-site evaluation and training of all certified analysts throughout the state. The laboratory personnel administer a yearly proficiency testing program for all industry analysts. We also test finished products for label compliance (protein, %SNF, water, and fat). Raw milk testing for pathogens is also done when requested. The laboratory works closely with the division of Regulatory Services inspectors to ensure safe and wholesome dairy products.

The Meat Laboratory analyzes meat and meat product samples obtained during inspections of plant and processing facilities in Utah. Tests are performed to measure fat, moisture, protein, sulfites, and added non-meat products to ensure label compliance of these products. Antibiotic residues and cross-contamination from other species are also monitored. We also analyze samples from the Montana Department of Agriculture when requested. Samples (meat, carcass, and surface swabs) from processing facilities are also tested for the presence of Salmonella, E. coli O157:H7, non-O157:H7 STEC, and Listeria on a regular basis.

The Pesticide Residue Laboratory tests for the presence and subsequent levels of herbicide, insecticide, rodenticide, and fungicide residues in plants, fruits, vegetables, soil, water, and milk products. These samples are submitted when inspectors suspect there may be a misuse of the application of the pesticide. Milk samples are tested yearly for pesticide contamination in accordance with FDA regulations.

Commercial Feed (agricultural and pet) samples are tested for moisture, protein, fat, fiber, minerals, toxins, antibiotics, and vitamins in the Feed Laboratory. Seed moisture determinations are also performed for the state Seed Laboratory. The Fertilizer Laboratory tests solid and liquid fertilizer samples for nitrogen, phosphorus, potassium, and trace element content, and heavy metals. All feed and fertilizer results are compared to label guarantees to ensure compliance with state labeling laws.

Special Consumer Complaint samples are also examined for the presence of undesirable materials such as filth, insects, rodent contamination, and adulterations. The samples are checked to verify validity of complaint, and if found positive, the matter is turned over to departmental compliance officers for follow-up action.

Significant Events:

1. The Dairy Testing Laboratory successfully completed the FDA/LPET NCIMS triennial on-site State Central Milk Laboratory evaluation and was granted renewal of full status of accreditation for all applicable procedures.
2. An additional Laboratory Evaluation Officer (LEO) certification was granted to another of our UDAF microbiologists, providing two FDA-certified LEOs to serve Utah's milk labs.



Microbiologist, Sushma Karna, tests for coliform and bacteria in a sample of pasteurized milk taken from a local dairy. The UDAF lab tests hundreds of food samples every week in order to confirm the safety of our food supply.

The following is a breakdown of the number of samples and analyses performed in the various programs by the Laboratory Services Division for fiscal years 2012, 2013 and 2014.

FY	2012 Number of samples	2012 Number of tests	2013 Number of samples	2013 Number of tests	2014 Number of samples	2014 Number of tests
Retail Meat	231	526	393	1,100	542	1634
Grade A Dairy Products	3,236	21,112	3,253	9,963	2,843	8,308
Raw Milk (Pathogens)	81	824	38	172	8	20
Fertilizer	171	487	132	397	331	1,007
Feed	223	947	252	791	401	1,197
Pesticide Formulation & Residue	2	4	12	13	4	4
Special Samples	16	25	14	19	18	22
Ground Water	0	0	0	0	0	0
Milk Pesticide Residue	237	2,964	177	2,244	348	4,416
Federal Meat/Pathogens	389	389	194	201	158	167
TOTAL	4,586	27,278	4,465	14,900	4,653	16,775

The higher number of tests performed in FY2012 is a reflection of an increase in the number of quality control tests associated with the establishment and renewal of ISO accreditation. Discontinuation of the ground water testing and routine raw milk pathogen testing programs is also reflected in the table.



Chemist/Lab Manager, Mohammed Sharaf, Conducting a pesticide residue test using a GC/MS Gas Chromatography mass chromatography.

Homeland Security

Dr. Chris Crnich
Director



In recognition of the ever present potential threat of agricultural terrorism, the natural elements for emergency agricultural scenarios, and unintentional economic/production challenges, Commissioner of the Utah Department of Agriculture and Food (UDAF) has established a Division of Agriculture Homeland Security. The mission of this division is to organize, plan, mitigate, train, educate, maintain awareness, and respond to the potential/actual threats to Utah agricultural department personnel, state emergency providers, agricultural producers, and public consumers of agricultural products. The challenges of a threatening and changing world face all agricultural producers in the state and ultimately may affect every citizen in the state. Utah's agricultural economic base and our special Utah quality of life could be significantly impacted if there were a deliberate or naturally occurring animal or plant disease/event that would be intentionally or inadvertently be introduced into our state. The security of our food and fiber production resources is crucial to all the citizens of this great state and nation.

Preparation is one of the best methods to avert many of the debilitating aspects of any emergency. Efforts to maintain a prepared individual employee, division, and Department continue to make up the majority of this Division's energies. The Department demonstrated natural disaster preparation during a very successful earthquake exercise this year during the Great Utah Shakeout drill and table top exercise in April 2014. Following the initial simulated earthquake sheltering drill, each staff member and visitor to the building was evacuated from the building with their personal 72 hour kits in hand and accounted for by their respective Division Director. Training, discussion, practical exercises, and dedicated personnel form the foundation of a staff that is ready for many contingencies. Each exercise practice continues to bring more experience to our staff for the potential disaster events that may occur around us daily.

Citizen awareness and organization are also a significant part of the Division's goals and objectives. A national program to assist community awareness and preparation for agricultural emergencies has been developed through the national Extension Services. In Utah it is administered by our state extension veterinarian and extension service staff with the support of certified staff in the Utah Department of Agriculture and Food. The program is named Strengthening Community Agro-security Planning (S-CAP) and is designed to help local/regional emergency planning agencies prepare agricultural annexes to their current emergency response plans. Since each of the state's emergency management regions is unique in their agricultural production and commodity developments, local emergency plans must also be individually created to respond to those unique areas within the state. After a two day awareness and interactive training session, each region will be left with a template to create their specific agricultural annex. Communities will then have the opportunity to develop

what their regional area requires for an all-hazard response plan. Two training events in the state were presented in 2013/14.

As part of the continuing efforts to be prepared as a state agency, a coordinated effort to uniformly train all the key leadership of the Utah Department of Agriculture and Food is an ongoing program. All key positions have been introduced to the national emergency planning and operations concepts as outlined by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) by successfully completing a series National Incident Management System (NIMS) training modules found on-line and in classroom settings. A Department and Division specific Continuity of Operations Plan (COOP) has been developed for UDAF and each unique Division within the Department in conjunction with the Department of Public Safety, Division of Emergency Management. The COOP is organized to deliver maximum resources to the event or incident while minimizing the impact of the event to normal activities within the agency. The COOP provides a roadmap of predetermined actions to reduce decision-making during recovery operations, resume critical services quickly, and enable resumption of normal service at the earliest possible time in the most cost effective manner. This plan will help to establish, organize, and document risk assessments, responsibilities, policies and procedures, and agreements and understandings for the Utah Department of Agriculture and Food and/or any of the UDAF Divisions with other agencies and entities that will be responding to an emergency, directly involve with an incident, or involved in the collateral actions coordinated with an agricultural emergency event. Recent devastating wildfires and flooding continue to demonstrate the versatility of our Department personnel to respond to and protect Utah agriculture.

Commissioner Adams has committed resources and time to train all staff employees as well as provide timely and important training information and exercises for our customer base. When our employees are fully trained and prepared, they will be in a better position to serve our public customers following any disaster. This preparation will allow these valued agricultural personnel assets to be available during times of crisis when public service workers will be at a premium. The Commissioner's goals are to prepare our UDAF agricultural specialists to be aware and ready to respond with personnel, experience, and equipment to any emergency/disaster that may affect the agricultural community and ultimately the economic and social basis of our Utah culture, lifestyle, livelihood, and heritage. Regularly scheduled training days and times are an important part of our preparedness training. There are plans to continue to present awareness training to the general agriculture community, to target those special agricultural groups that produce food and fiber products throughout Utah, and maintain a highly motivated and educated agricultural work force within UDAF. Our agricultural production and emergency ethics will influence preparation and response throughout all sectors of Utah's growing future.

Marketing & Economic Development



Jed Christenson
Director

Marketing and Economic Development is a small Division but plays a major part in meeting the Department's mission to "Promote the healthy growth of Utah agriculture, conserve our natural resources and protect our food supply." The staff includes Director Jed Christenson, Deputy Director Seth Winterton, Marketing Specialist Tamra Watson, and Market News Reporter Michael Smoot. Our staff is committed to creating economic success for agriculture, rural Utah and the food industry through effective local, domestic and international marketing opportunities.

Local Marketing

The "Utah's Own" Program is the major focus to increase awareness and demand for Utah food and agricultural products. Utah's Own is designed to create a consumer culture to think of and purchase products made and grown in the State. The economic benefit is obvious as the dollars spent by Utah consumers stay in Utah. Not only does it increase profits for local producers and businesses, but it has a multiplying affect as those dollars are re-invested in the local economy.

After a few years of budget tightening, the Legislature authorized \$55,000 for Utah's Own in FY 2014 and an additional \$85,600 for FY 2015. Our goal is to demonstrate to the Legislature that Utah's Own is an economic engine that stimulates growth and job creation. Our priority is to use the new funds judiciously and appropriately to educate consumers while benefiting the largest number of businesses and producers we can. To leverage existing funding we have partnered with many entities over the years including Associated Food Stores, Smith's Food and Drug, Nicholas and Company, various popular restaurants, hotel chefs and media groups that meet the criteria for our targeted demographic, and/or have caught the vision of Utah's Own.

The most recent focus of the Division has been to partner local Small Business Development Centers around the state to conduct Summits designed to educate local agricultural producers and food entrepreneurs about the resources that are available to them, especially in rural Utah. Summits have been held in Brigham City, Tooele, Kanab, Richfield, Logan, Monticello, Price, St. George, Cedar City, Manila, Vernal, Morgan, Ogden, and Heber City for a total of 14 during the current calendar year. We will continue to develop new partnerships and explore new campaigns.

Promotional activities are conducted each year and may vary depending on what opportunities are available. However, each one is designed to reach and educate consumers about the benefits of buying local. Utah's Own companies participate on a voluntary basis showcasing their products in ads and sampling in grocery stores and at other venues. This exposure puts a name and

face on local products and increases sales for those companies. A new interactive Utah's Own website will provide ongoing contacts and links for communication and networking with Utah's Own companies. Consumers will also benefit from the website by accessing educational information, introduction of new local products, and directions to Farmers Markets and other direct market opportunities. Consumers will also be invited to interact with Utah's Own on various social media.

The Division seeks policy for the institutional purchase of Utah products—that state government agencies, institutions and school lunch programs are encouraged to purchase Utah food products whenever possible.

There is focus on helping agricultural producers explore new crops, value added and niche marketing possibilities to their existing operations. Adding value to agricultural commodities or products can help local producers and rural communities build economic sustainability through processing, packaging, marketing and distributing the products themselves. Creating value added jobs can improve the diversity of a rural economy, increase local income, and capture higher profits.

Marketing and Economic Development is working with local grain and oilseed growers to investigate the possibility of establishing a "Small Grains and Oilseed Marketing Order" for the state of Utah. A positive vote of more than 50% of responding producers is required to authorize the Commissioner to create the Order and seat a Board of Directors. A vote is scheduled for fall 2014.

The Division is working with farmers markets to help foster more direct marketing opportunities from producers to consumers. Utah is one of the most urbanized states in the country with close access to over two million consumers along the Wasatch Front that have shown a strong desire to purchase wholesome fresh locally grown produce and value added products. There is also a market for certified organic and natural products in Utah. Meeting this growing market provides new opportunities for local producers.

Wherever possible, the Division will partner with local commodity groups, farm organizations, associations and other agencies to promote Utah's Own, other local marketing efforts and value added projects.

Domestic Marketing

The goal of the Domestic Marketing Program is to increase awareness and demand for Utah food and agricultural products in regional and national markets. This can be accomplished by

implementing most of the programs discussed above and adding the opportunities of national food shows and regional advertising to promote Utah's agriculture and food.

The Division works with federal agencies and marketing groups such as USDA's Foreign Agricultural Service and the Western United States Agricultural Trade Association (WUSATA) to promote Utah's agriculture and food products whenever it is feasible and beneficial to showcase Utah's products at national food shows and events.

International Marketing

One of our goals is to increase the export sales of Utah grown and processed products. Utah companies interested in investigating international markets for their products can work with the Division to access USDA's Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) and Western United States Agricultural Trade Associations (WUSATA) programs.

WUSATA services and activities include export promotion, customized export assistance, a reimbursement funding program, international trade exhibitions, overseas trade missions, export seminars, in-country research, and point-of-sale promotions in foreign food chains and restaurants.

WUSATA's Generic Program supports industry-wide promotional projects that are managed by the Division or counter-parts in other western states such as inbound and outbound trade missions and exhibiting at international trade shows. As a participant in tradeshow, a company can receive valuable services at no cost such as interpreters, freight, trade appointments, arranged market tours and more. A project leader helps companies get ready for the show and is available during the show to assist with needs.

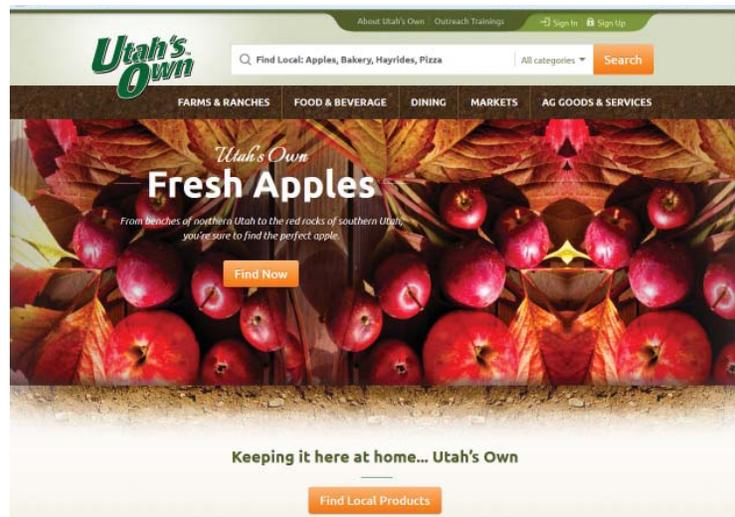
WUSATA's Branded Program is a marketing funds program that supports the promotion of your food or agricultural products in foreign markets. The program provides participants with 50% reimbursement for eligible marketing and promotional activities. The Division provides seminars to help educate Utah companies about the Branded Program so they can take advantage of available funding for their export activities.

Market News Reporting

Accurate and unbiased commodity price information is critical to agriculture producers and agribusinesses, especially in decision making. To provide this important service and insure the integrity of sales information, the Division monitors livestock auctions in Cedar City, Salina, Ogden, and Logan on a weekly basis. The market news reporter also compiles current hay sales information from alfalfa hay buyers and sellers weekly. The information is disseminated through the Department's website, print media, radio broadcast, and call-in service.

Junior Livestock Shows

The Division administers the legislative mandated and funded program that assists the State's junior livestock shows. Funds are allocated by an agreed upon formula to shows that promote youth involvement and offer a quality educational experience. The Utah Junior Livestock Shows Association has developed rules with which shows and youth participants must comply to qualify for State assistance. The funding must be used for awards to FFA and 4H youth participants and not for other show expenses. During the past year, 14 junior livestock shows were awarded funds based on the number of youth participants involved in each show.



www.utahsown.org/ A new interactive Utah's Own website is providing ongoing contacts and links for communication and networking with Utah's Own companies. Consumers can access educational information, introduction of new local products, and directions to Farmers Markets and other direct market opportunities. Consumers are also invited to interact with Utah's Own on various social media.

Plant Industry & Conservation



Robert Hougaard
Director

The Division of Plant Industry and Conservation is responsible for ensuring consumers disease free and pest free plants, grains, and seeds, as well as properly labeled agricultural commodities, and the safe application of pesticides and farm chemicals.

Invasive Species Mitigation (ISM) Program

The role of the Division is to allocate invasive species mitigation funding to projects which have management strategies with a high degree of success in the State of Utah.

Process for Approving Grants: Applications are submitted to the Director of the Division of Plant Industry and Conservation. The Grant Ranking Committee meets to rank projects based on project ranking criteria. The commissioner of agriculture and food, with input from the Utah Conservation Commission and the Department of Natural Resources approves projects to be funded.

Invasive Species Mitigation Funding

Utah statute requires the following ranking criteria be considered;

- Effectiveness of a project in preventing increasing encroachment of an invasive species.
- Damage to a local economy.
- Damage to habitat for wildlife or livestock.

Specific Ranking Criteria

- Priority given to projects which focus on a plan of species eradication in the first three years.
- Cooperative weed management areas which can demonstrate multiple stakeholder success.
- Ability to show previous project successes on similar projects.
- Local involvement of private land owners.
- Projects with matching funds.

Number of ISM Applications	80
Number of ISM Projects Funded	58
Number of Invasive Species Treated	16
Number of Counties with Project	25
Total Treated Acres	38,470

Noxious Weed Control Program

The state weed specialist administers the Utah Noxious Weed Control Act (Title 4, Chapter 17) and coordinates and monitors weed control programs throughout the state. The twelve compliance specialists located throughout the state make hundreds of visits and inspections each year. This includes visits and or direct contact with the agencies listed below:

- Retail and wholesale Establishments
- Nursery outlets and sod farms
- Weed Supervisors and other County Officials
- State Agencies

- Federal Agencies
- Utility Companies
- Private Landowners
- Hay and Straw Certification
- Cooperative Weed Management Areas (CWMA's)

Cooperative Weed Management

During the past several years, the UDAF has been working diligently with local land management agencies and counties to encourage the development of Cooperative Weed Management Areas (CWMA's). Weed management areas are designed to bring people together to form partnerships to control noxious or invasive weed species. CWMA's break down traditional barriers that have existed for years among agencies. The county weed departments and the local managers of state and federal lands, along with private land owners are now able to cooperate and collaborate on similar noxious weed issues. They share resources and help with weed control problems on lands that they do not administer. There are 25 organized cooperative weed management areas in Utah.

Control of Noxious Weeds

1. The division weed specialist coordinates weed control activities among the county weed organizations and the compliance specialists.
2. Surveys of serious weed infestations are conducted and control programs are developed through the county weed supervisors, county weed boards, and various landowner agencies.
3. The weed specialist and others continually work with extension and research personnel in encouraging the use of the most effective methods to control the more serious weeds.
4. Noxious Weed Free Hay Certificates.

Utah Grazing Improvement Program (UGIP)

UGIP is a broad based program focused on rangeland resource health. Our mission is to "improve productivity and sustainability of rangelands and watersheds for the benefit of all."

Goals:

- Strengthen Utah's Livestock Industry
- Improve Rural Economy
- Enhance the Environment

Additionally, a staff of range specialists located in six regions throughout the state offer the livestock industry information and assistance regarding grazing issues. The program supports grass-roots opportunities for livestock producers to provide program direction through six Regional Grazing Advisory Boards and a State Grazing Advisory Board.

The main focus of the program is to invest in and help facilitate improved resource management. Grants are provided for projects to enhance grazing management and rangeland resource health. Projects are planned and implemented at the regional level, where the advisory boards are involved in project prioritization. From 2006 to August 2014, more than \$10.479 million in UGIP funds have been obligated to 542 projects. More than \$23 million have been invested in the program from matching funds from producers, NRCS (Natural Resource Conservation Service), BLM (Bureau of Land Management), USFS (U.S. Forest Service), SITLA (State Institutional and Trust Lands Administration), DWR (Division of Wildlife Resources), and other resources. Most projects focus on improving grazing management by increasing water availability and building fences to enhance livestock control. In 2014 the program will have improved 2.7 million acres.

Projects funded by UGIP are monitored in several ways. Grantees may gather their own data by taking photos of the affected area before and after project completion, and keeping grazing records. UDAF biologists visit projects to gather more in-depth data, including vegetation species composition and cover. Some projects are also monitored using low-level aerial photography.

UDAF/UGIP worked with partners on three large-scale projects in Rich, Sevier/Piute and Box Elder Counties totaling over 1.5 million acres.

We believe in investing human and financial resources to create financial, social, and ecological wealth for the public and private rangelands of Utah elevating the lives of every citizen of the state.

Utah Conservation Commission

The Utah Conservation Commission (UCC) is authorized under the Utah Code. The Act's purpose as declared in code is: "The Legislature finds and declares that the soil and water resources of this state constitute one of its basic assets and that the preservation of these resources requires planning and programs to ensure the development and utilization of these resources and to protect them from the adverse effects of wind and water erosion, sediment, and sediment related pollutants." With this in mind, the Utah Legislature in 1937 created this unique state government entity and it has been active since, evolving to meet new environmental and social conditions. Today the commission consults with stakeholders as it strives to protect the natural resources within the state and administers the conservation district programs.

The mission of the Conservation Districts (CD) is to enable Utah's private land managers to protect and enhance their soil, water and related natural resources. This is done in cooperation with the UCC and Utah's 38 CD's. Conservation districts are authorized by state law. Together, they work with many other state and federal natural resource-oriented agencies and special interest organizations to bring about many short and long-term public benefits.

Districts are the local leaders that influence conservation on private, state and federal lands. Their efforts towards conservation improvements can be directed at a large scale watershed approach or assisting an individual landowner. It is through the

local leadership of conservation districts that brings positive change and sustainability of Utah's farm and range lands. The Department of Agriculture and Food provides staff support for the UCC, which is chaired by the commissioner of agriculture and food.

Conservation districts are using county resource assessments as a base for identifying concerns. Coordinated resource management plans are being developed to collaborate with the local citizens, city and county officials, and state and federal technical staff. Planning efforts and implementation of natural resource improvements are improving watershed health and Utah's natural resources. The UCC and CD's have continued to aid the Department in further implementation of the Grazing Improvement Program and the Invasive Species Mitigation Act (War-on-Weeds).

Low Cost Loan Programs

Several low interest loan programs are provided for farmers, ranchers and other agribusinesses. The loans have aided the agriculture community by providing funds when conventional loans are unavailable by:

- Providing project funding to assist operators to conserve resources and improve their efficiency.
- Assisting beginning farmers to purchase farm and ranch properties.
- Aiding financially distressed operators with long term funding. The portfolios are comprised of approximately 650 loans, and the combined assets of the programs as of July 2014 totaled more than \$53 million. Loans are funded from revolving funds that grow each year from the earnings of the programs. These programs benefit Utah's economy in numerous ways. Loss history has been minimal. The programs include:

Agriculture Resource Development Loan Program (ARDL)

The largest program in the Loans Section with 55 percent of its assets and nearly 600 loans, ARDL is administered by the Section for the UCC. Technical service and marketing of the program are provided by local conservation districts and the Utah Association of Conservation Districts (UACD) as well as other conservation partners, both federal and state. Examples of eligible projects include animal waste management, water usage management (irrigation systems and wells), rangeland improvement, on farm energy projects, wind erosion control and disaster mitigation and cleanup.

ARDL interest rates are fixed at 3.00%, 2.75% or 2.50% based on the amount of the loan. A term of either 7 or 15 years will be determined by the type of collateral taken to secure the loan. A four percent administration fee, is added to loan amounts and covers marketing and project planning costs.

Borrowers are encouraged to use these loans to help fund projects jointly with federal and state grants. They can also finance stand-alone projects.

The Division also works with the State Revolving Fund (SRF) under the Division of Water Quality to underwrite and book loans to finance projects for eliminating or reducing non-point source water pollution on privately owned lands. That program was recently expanded to include grants as well as loans. The loans are now included in the ARDL program with some modifications.

Rural Rehabilitation Loan Programs

The two programs, distinguished by whether they use federal or state monies, comprise the rest of the agriculture loans. They are administered by the Section for the Agricultural Advisory Board. Their various purposes are to:

- Provide assistance to producers with viable businesses who have need of long term financing in order to continue in business, and cannot obtain adequate financing from commercial lenders.
- Help beginning farmers to obtain farms and ranches. This includes providing financing for the transfer of ownership of family farms and ranches from one generation to another.

These are essentially loans of last resort requiring that applicants be declined by conventional commercial lenders. They are often granted in cooperation with other lenders such as the USDA Farm Service Agency. Terms range up to a maximum of 10 years with longer amortizations. Interest rates charged are four percent or less. These long term real estate loans have helped numerous Utah agricultural operations to remain in business. Maximum loan size is usually limited to \$350,000.

Petroleum Storage Tank Loan Program

Besides agriculture loans, the Loans Section has been working with DEQ's Division of Environmental Response and Remediation since 1996 to underwrite loans to property owners, mostly fuel retailers, who have underground storage tanks that require removal, replacement or other necessary procedures. The program has recently been expanded and the maximum loan size has been increased from \$45,000 to \$150,000. Loans are limited to a maximum of ten years at zero percent interest.

Agriculture Certificate of Environmental Stewardship (ACES)

ACES helps agricultural producers, of all sizes, evaluate their entire operation and make management decisions that sustain agricultural viability, protect natural resources, support environmentally responsible agricultural production practices, and promote positive public opinion. To become eligible, producers must complete three comprehensive steps:

1. Document completion of education modules
 2. Complete a detailed application to evaluate on-farm risk
 3. Participate in an on-farm inspection to verify program requirements applicable to state and federal environmental regulations.
- The certification will be for a five-year term, with renewal for an additional five years upon inspection.

Agricultural Sectors

Identified sectors include the farmstead, animal feeding operations, grazing lands, and cropping systems.

Protects Natural Resources

The ACES process ensures all participating agricultural producers are making decisions that balance production and environmental demands. Measures aimed at protecting soil, water, air, plants, animals, and other environmental factors mean ACES producers are committed to farming and ranching practices that protect Utah's natural resources.

Viable & Sustainable Agriculture

The production of food and fiber is essential to a healthy population. ACES's is based on scientific standards that allow

farmers to address environmental concerns while remaining economically viable.

Connects Farms & Public Opinion

Agriculture plays a vital role in Utah communities, and ACES strengthens the relationships between farmers and their neighbors. Producers who closely examine their operation's potential impact on soil, water, air, plants and animals understand the impact these practices can have on their neighbors.

ACES's is a collaborative effort of Utah producers, Department of Agriculture and Food, Utah Conservation Commission, Farm Bureau, local Conservation Districts, Department of Environmental Quality, commodity organizations, universities, and other state and federal agencies.

Benefits of ACES

The ACES will offer alternatives to regulatory permits, provide an extra level of protection against frivolous complaints, and help producers market their commodities.

Expectations of ACES

- Enable producers to evaluate their agricultural practices and make necessary adjustments.
- Recognize significant conservation goals that have already been achieved.
- Adopt land use practices that maintain or improve agricultural land, while sustaining natural resources.
- Create new opportunities to use conservation for income.

Activities in Hay and Straw Certification

Certification of hay and straw to be free from noxious weeds has become an important part of allowing these materials to be fed or utilized on public lands throughout Utah and other western states. Weed free certification is now required for all hay and straw used on public land. Plant Industry Compliance Specialists performed the following activities in connection with this program:

Inspections in 19 counties
Inspections for 96 producers
Number of Inspections: 145

Entomological Activities

The Utah Department of Agriculture and Food (UDAF), Entomology Program provides leadership to: Nursery, Insect, Phytosanitary, and Apiary Programs, with customers in diverse markets, including: horticulture, pest management, field crops, apiarists, government, academic, agriculture, public, conservation, forestry, natural resources and medical. The full-service approach combines broad-based project management capabilities and extensive value added services like insect and plant disease recognition, public outreach /education, current knowledge of national issues affecting stakeholders that produce effective regulatory programs that result in protecting and conserving Utah's lands and natural resources.

Increased production costs, loss of markets, increased pesticide use, and ecological damage are effects often caused by newly in-

roduced invasive and native harmful insect species. Monitoring projects utilize traps and visual surveys to determine the presence of a wide variety of economic insect species. Invasive insects are most often associated with the global movement of plant material. In addition to the nursery plant trade, the hardwood or softwood packing material commonly used to transport tile, stone, glass, and machinery parts from Asia is the most active pathway.

During 2013, there were approximately 1,476 State and Federal Phytosanitary Certificates issued under the direction of the State Entomology Program. These certificates allow Utah agriculture to ship plants and plant products to other states and foreign countries. The State Entomology Program also responded to more than 500 public requests for professional advice and assistance. Such assistance includes insect identification, news releases, control recommendations and participation in various education meetings and workshops.

The State Entomologist administers the Utah Bee Inspection Act (Title 4, Chapter 11), the Insect Infestation Emergency Control Act, the Nursery Act, and various entomological services under authority of Title 4, Chapter 2. Major functions performed during 2013 are summarized below:

Newly Detected Invasive Insect Species

Velvet longhorn beetle: *Trichoferus campestris* (Faldermann)
Longhorn beetles are a widespread group of insects that bore into trees. The immature form of the longhorn beetle bores into the cambium layer of trees and shrubs, which contributes to the decline of the plant. There are many established species of longhorn beetles in Utah, including pine sawyers, twig girdlers, and root borers. Most recently, an invasive species, the Velvet longhorn beetle, was detected in South Salt Lake City (2010,2013), Murray City (2012), Salt Lake City (2013), East Millcreek (2013), Millcreek (2013), Alpine (2013), Pleasant Grove (2013), Orem (2013). To date 224 adult specimens of this exotic wood borer has been collected from 12 sites in two Utah counties. The sites where this beetle has been detected are orchards, riparian areas, and industrial sites. This exotic beetle species likely arrived via hardwood or softwood packing material commonly used to transport tile, stone, glass, and machinery parts from Asia is the most active pathway. The State Entomology Program is currently assisting research which will lead to a greater understanding of this pest and will aid in developing tools to help control and mitigate damage to Utah's commercial fruit producers.

Spotted wing *Drosophila*: *Drosophila suzukii* (Matsumura)
Vinegar flies are most commonly a nuisance to home-owners; they are attracted to rotten and fermenting fruit and are normally not considered a threat to agriculture. Also, *Drosophila* species are commonly used by researchers studying genetics at academic institutions. The spotted wing *Drosophila* was detected in California in 2008 and has quickly spread throughout North America. Spotted wing *Drosophila* are documented pests on soft skinned fruits including cherry, raspberry, blackberry, blueberry, strawberry, plums, nectarines, and recent evidence indicates that they may feed on wine grapes. This pest was detected at the Utah State University Extension: Kaysville Research Farm, in August - September, 2010. Detection of this pest continues in Davis County.

Rangeland Insects

Grasshoppers and Mormon crickets are native insects that can periodically adversely affect crop and rangeland habitats. Annual visual surveys are deployed to monitor populations of these insects. Priority is given to agricultural areas which are experiencing high populations of these insects. Typically, land owners organize and partner with state and federal agencies to conduct suppression projects. In 2013, approximately 24,000 acres were treated cooperatively in the following counties: Beaver, Box Elder, Iron, Millard, Sanpete, Tooele, Washington, and Wayne. These projects targeted several species of grasshoppers, post spray surveys indicate that grasshopper populations were reduced to sub-economic levels.

Honey Bee

Africanized honey bee (AHB) is visually identical to its European relative; however its aggressive nature has earned this honey bee the reputation of being a public hazard. Early detection, supported with information and education, will be a major defense mechanism against this devastating and alarming insect. Considerable education and public awareness activity has occurred since the AHB was discovered in Southern Utah in the summer of 2008. Our survey has expanded to include managed colonies and natural migration areas. AHB was detected in Washington, Iron and Kane Counties in 2008. In 2010 it was detected in San Juan County, although its prevalence and distribution remained unknown.

The Utah Bee Inspection Act provides for inspection of all apiaries annually in order to detect and prevent the spread of infectious bee diseases. Without a thorough inspection program, highly contagious diseases could spread rapidly, resulting in serious losses to the bee industry in Utah, with corresponding losses to fruit and seed crop producers who are dependent on bees for pollination. During 2013, approximately 4,200 colonies of bees were inspected, with the incidence of disease below 3.5 percent.

Quarantined Insects

Exotic orchard pests and their respective host plants, and are subject to quarantines of other states. The UDAF helps Utah's fruit growers meet export requirements by administering: a survey program, compliance agreements, and sampling. This program has successfully provided Utah's fruit industry access to out of state markets for their commodities. Since the apple maggot and cherry fruit fly were detected in 1985; UDAF assists property owners by advising orchard spray management techniques and recommending the removal of uncared for and abandoned orchards. Tree removal during 2013 exceeded 1,000 trees in abandoned orchards.

Cereal leaf beetle (CLB) is a pest of barley, oats and wheat. It can reduce crop yields up to 75%, and domestic grain markets require insect free shipments. CLB was discovered in Morgan County in 1984. It has since been found in seventeen of Utah's agricultural counties. UDAF assists a cooperative insectary program with Utah State University (USU) that provides beneficial parasitic wasps that prey on CLB. These beneficial parasites have now spread to all northern Utah counties helping to reduce populations significantly

Gypsy moth is a notorious pest of hard wood trees. The major benefits of this program are: cost effectiveness, public nuisance reduction, forest and natural resource protection. Gypsy moth was first found in Salt Lake City in the summer of 1988. Since that time, UDAF has been the lead agency in the administration of a successful eradication program. Eradication efforts have been successful and trapping programs will remain vigorous.

Japanese beetle (JB) is a pest of more than 300 different types of plants. In addition to being a public nuisance its presence would cause loss of markets and increased production costs for Utah's horticultural and fruit growing industries. In 2006, a small population of JB was detected in Orem City. Since then UDAF has successfully implemented an eradication program. This represents a 100% reduction relative to the number of beetles caught in 2007. The decrease in the population is due to the treatment activities starting in 2007. As of October, 2014, two beetles have been detected in a residential area in Salt Lake City

European corn borer (ECB) is a damaging insect of corn; Utah has a quarantine (R68-10) in place for products that could harbor ECB in order to keep this pest from entering the state. A state trapping program is annually conducted in major corn producing areas for this serious pest.

Red Imported Fire Ant (RIFA) is a public nuisance and a federally quarantined insect. The following activities take place annually: early detection survey, quarantine enforcements, port of entry inspection and public education. The Utah RIFA surveys indicate that Washington County is free from RIFA population.

Exotic Pest Survey

The Cooperative Agricultural Program is funded by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Animal Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) to provide a holistic framework for planning, preparedness, response and recovery from invasive pests of regulatory significance. In 201, UDAF cooperation with Utah State University (USU), is conducting early detection programs for exotic insect and pathogens that would pose a significant threat to Utah's agricultural economies.

Due to the increase of international traffic and the shipment of containerized cargo into the State of Utah, there is a need to monitor for the presence of exotic insects, such as wood-boring long-horned beetles and bark beetles. UDAF has selected 20 sites throughout the State where such insects may be introduced or first detected. In the four years this program has been in operation, eight new insect records have been established for the State of Utah.

Asian defoliators pose a significant threat to the economic viability of Utah's forest product and ornamental industries. Economic potential is high risk because these organisms attack hosts or products with significant commercial value (such as timber, pulp, or wood products). The organism directly causes tree mortality or predisposes host to mortality by other organisms. Damage by an organism causes a decrease in value of the host affected; for instance, by lowering its market price, increas-

ing cost of production, maintenance, or mitigation, or reducing value of property where it is located. Organisms may cause loss of markets (domestic or foreign) due to presence and quarantine significant status. In 2013 UDAF has targeted 100 sites with pheromone traps where the possible introduction of these insects would likely occur. No introductions of these insects have been detected in the state of Utah.

The exotic alfalfa and corn pest survey targets five different exotic insects. There is a substantial risk of introduction of several insect pests of regulatory concern, especially along the I-15 corridor where many of these operations are located. The risk is amplified because all of these pests have multiple hosts that are present in Utah. If any of the pests were to become established, it would severely impact the agricultural industries, which yield over \$550 million annually. Monitoring for all of these target species is of high importance for the continued success of Utah growers. In 2013, Utah State University monitored 50 farms for exotic alfalfa and corn pests.

The UDAF is actively investigating for the presence of the emerald ash borer (EAB) According to the 2006 GAO report on invasive forest pests the emerald ash borer (EAB) can kill all 16 types of ash trees. As of 2005, the pest had killed an estimated 15 million trees (GAO 2006). Due to increased international traffic and the shipment of containerized cargo into the State of Utah, there is a need to monitor for the presence of exotic insects, including EAB. Exotic forest insects have the potential to kill trees and disrupt native forest ecosystems. The monitoring program will assist in detecting the presence of EAB. In 2013, USDA APHIS PPQ, deployed purple sticky panel traps baited with Manuca oil to 42 sites throughout the State of Utah. Currently no EAB has been detected in the state of Utah.

Biological Control

Cereal Leaf Beetle Biological Control. USU, sampled forty-five grain fields in northern for CLB from early May through mid-July. Beginning in mid- June, CLB larvae were collected from fields for dissection in the laboratory to determine parasitism by the larval parasitoid *Tetrastichus julis*. Very cool, wet spring conditions delayed the appearance of CLB eggs and the development of the larval beetle populations. Infestation levels by CLB were low in a large number of fields, moderate (but not of economic significance) in some fields, and high (and economically threatening) in a few fields. Initial dissections indicate that large percentages of CLB larvae were parasitized in most fields sampled in June.

Assessing the success of weed biocontrol in Utah. In collaboration with APHIS and the Forest Service, USU, visited rangeland sites infested with Dalmatian Toadflax in May-July throughout northern Utah. These were sites at which the weevil *Mecinus janthinus* had previously been released. The vegetation (including toadflax) at these sites was censused by Daubenmire quadrats (following standardized monitoring procedures for the weed and associated vegetation). Stem samples were also collected at the sites and have been brought to the laboratory, where they are now being dissected and processed to determine rates of infestation by the weevil.

The Utah Weed Supervisors Association in cooperation with APHIS, provides grant monies to county weed districts. The funding is used purchase, collect, and disperse biological control agents for control of invasive weeds.

Nursery Inspection Program

The Utah Department of Agriculture and Food regulates perennial plants sold within the state. The Nursery inspection program ensures consumer protection by maintaining high standards of plants and decreases the spread of plant pathogens and insects.

The Nursery Program facilitated four compliance agreements and reviewed approximately 1,500 interstate plant shipments for quarantine compliance from 21 states and 6 foreign countries. These shipments included an estimated 1,300,000 individual plants which resulted in 34 inspections, 7 Hold Orders, and 6 notice of violations. In 2013, 815 commercial nurseries were registered with Utah Department of Agriculture and Food of which 652 were inspected for compliance to the applicable rules and regulations.

Colorado River Basin Salinity Control Program:

The Department currently receives approximately \$2 million per year from the Bureau of Reclamation to reduce salt that enters the Colorado River. These funds come from the Basin States fund and their use is directed by the 7 basin states Forum/Advisory Council. Historically these funds have been allocated solely to improve irrigation practices; however, the Forum is considering improvements on rangelands to reduce saline erosion. The irrigation projects installed through the salinity program are an economic benefit to the agriculture in eastern Utah. The new irrigation systems increase watering efficiency, decrease water use, and improve crop production and uniformity for Utah while improving water quality for lower basin states. This year UDAF, using Basin States salinity dollars, funded a \$2.98 million pressured pipeline for irrigators in the Cedar Hollow area of Manila. The new irrigation system became operational during May 2013. During FY14 UDAF also secured funding for two new irrigation projects: one in the Uintah Basin and the other in Emery County. These projects will be funded using Basin States funds and cost just under \$500,000.

Pesticide Programs

Pesticide Enforcement Programs Cooperative Grant Agreement With the EPA

The UDAF administers the Utah Pesticide Control Act, which regulates the registration and use of pesticides in Utah. This Act authorizes pesticide registration requirements and the pesticide applicator certification program. The Department has primacy for pesticide use enforcement under the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA) in Utah. The Department administers sections of FIFRA under which programs are developed and implemented by cooperative grant agreements with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). These programs include the Worker Protection Program, Endangered Species Program, Ground Water/Pesticide Protection Program, Certification Program, and Pesticide Enforcement.

Worker Protection Program

This program provides general training, worker and handler pesticide safety training, "train the trainer" program, training verification, outreach and communication efforts, reporting and tracking, and performance review actions. UDAF has adopted the national Worker Protection Standards (WPS) Verification Program and distributes WPS Worker and Handler Verification cards to qualified WPS trainers and performs WPS training as necessary.

Endangered Species Pesticide Program

Utah has an Endangered Species Pesticide Plan that allows the state to provide protection for federally listed species from pesticide exposure while tailoring program requirements to local conditions and the needs of pesticide users. Utah's plan focuses on the use of pesticides as they relate to the protection of threatened and endangered species on private agricultural land and lands owned and managed by state agencies. UDAF is the lead state authority responsible for administering the plan as it relates to the use of pesticides. Through an interagency review committee, special use permits or landowner agreements can be established to allow for the continued use of certain restricted pesticides for those locations that contain threatened and endangered species.

Ground Water/Pesticide Protection Program

The UDAF has a Ground Water/Pesticide State Management Plan to prevent pesticide contamination of the nation's ground water resources. The Utah Ground Water/Pesticide State Management Plan is a state program that has been developed through cooperative efforts of UDAF with various federal, state, and local resource agencies. The plan includes an assessment of risks posed to the state's ground water by a pesticide and a description of specific actions the state will take to protect ground water resources from potentially harmful effects of pesticides.

Certification Program

The UDAF has a cooperative agreement with EPA to undertake the following as part of the department's Pesticide Certification program: maintaining state certification programs, state coordination with Utah State University (USU) Extension, state evaluation and participation in training programs, conduct certification activities, maintain records for certified pesticide applicators, and monitor certification program efforts. UDAF works with USU Extension to develop pesticide applicator certification manuals and test questions and administers examinations as part of the licensing requirements of the state.

Pesticide Enforcement Program

The UDAF enforcement activities include the following: cancellation and suspension of pesticide products, general compliance monitoring, tracking, sample collection and analysis, enforcement response policy, ground water and endangered species pesticide enforcement activities, and FIFRA Section 19 (f) enforcement actions.

Number of Commercial Pesticide Businesses	1,074
Number of Commercial, Non-Commercial and Private Applicators:	7,135
Number of pesticide dealers:	116

Number of pesticide investigations:	645
Number of applicator & dealer record audits	37
Number of documentary pesticide samples collected:	1,464
Number of physical pesticide samples collected:	28
Number of pesticide violations:	87
Number of pesticide applicator training sessions:	32

Pesticide Product Registration

Number of pesticide manufacturers or registrants:	1,106
Number of pesticide products registered	11,456
Number of product registration requests by Compliance Specialists:	32

Fertilizer Program

Administration of the Utah Commercial Fertilizer Act (Title 4, Chapter 13) regulates the registration, distribution, sale, use, and storage of fertilizer products. UDAF regulates and licenses fertilizer blenders; monitor the applicators that spray or apply fertilizer, and take samples for analysis.

Major functions performed in this program in 2013:

Number fertilizer manufacturers/registrants	398
Number of products received and registered	4,368
Number of products registered because of investigations	47
Number of fertilizers sampled, collected, and analyzed	230
Number of samples that failed to meet guarantee	15
Violation percentage	6.52
Guarantee analysis corrected	10

Commercial Feed Program

Administration of the Utah Commercial Feed Act, (Title 4, Chapter 12) involves inspection, registration, and sampling of commercial feed products. Activities performed during this program in 2013 are summarized below:

Number of feed products registered:	12,881
Number of feed samples collected and tested:	778
Number of violations:	57
Number of Custom Formula Feed licenses	46

Organic Food Program

The organic food program certified over 50,190 acres of production farm and pasture ground in 2013. This includes such commodities as wheat, safflower, barley, oats, corn and grass. The newest addition to Utah organics is the dairy industry for the production of organic milk and cheese. With the growth of organic livestock production, there is a need to increase the production of feed grains for cattle. Utah has a strong organic process/handling program. The wheat that is grown in Utah is made into high protein organic flour. There is garden produce sold at farmers markets that is certified organic. There is a need for more organic row crop farmers to fill the slots at local farmers markets with their fresh local products. The demand for organic exceeds the supply and organic products are bringing a premium at the local markets.

Utah was accredited in 2002 as a certifying agent for the United States Department of Agriculture National Organic Program,

and continues to provide services to the residents of our great state. The organic program continues to offer educational opportunities for the local producers and processors in order to upgrade and modify system plans to meet the requirements of the regulations. There are also opportunities for consumers to learn about organic foods and the requirements for organic food production.

Organic Participants in Utah

Program	Number Participants
Organic crops	26
Organic livestock	3*
Organic processing	28
Total organic participants	57

*Dual Scope

Seed Inspection and Testing

Administration of the Utah Seed Act (Title 4, Chapter 16) involves the inspection and testing of seeds offered for sale in Utah. The Seed Control Official issues letters of violation on all lots of seed that are in violation of the seed act. The labelers of seed have 15 days to correct the violation. Inspectors make an inspection of the seed lots to determine if the violation has been properly corrected. Seed lots are withheld from sale until the violation is corrected.

Seed analysis work performed in 2013 is summarized below

Number of official samples submitted by Inspectors	450
Number of samples in violation	61
Percent violations	13.55
Number of service samples submitted by industry	945
Number of seed samples tested:	1,395

Seed Testing and Seed Law Enforcement

The seed analysts conduct tests on seed samples submitted by agricultural inspectors, seed companies, and other interested parties. Most common tests include percent germination, purity, and presence of noxious weeds; although a number of other tests are performed upon request. Inspectors monitor the seed trade by collecting representative samples for testing and by checking for proper labeling of all seed offered for sale and for the presence of noxious weeds and other undesirable factors.

Grain Inspection

The Federal Grain Inspection Service provides, under authority of Title 4, Chapter 2, Section 2, and under designated authority, grain inspection services. Following is a summary of work performed during the past fiscal year under dedicated credit provisions, with expenses paid by revenue received for grading services:

Total number of inspections performed:	13,288
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NOTE: Volume of work is influenced each year by a number of factors, among which are weather conditions, governmental crop programs, and marketing situations.

Regulatory Services



Travis Waller
Director

Protecting the safety and integrity of the food supply is one of the Utah Department of Agriculture and Food's (UDAF) core functions. The UDAF Food Program functions as a regulatory agency and therefore has many tools to protect the consumers and promote agriculture. The Food Program currently has 4,098 registered food facilities which is an increase from the 3,825 in the previous year. Our food inspectors completed a total of 3,359 inspections in 2013. We continue to face employee turnover as three of our newly trained inspectors left us last year.

Our inspectors are well trained in Food Safety and they are Licensed Environmental Health Scientists (LEHS). They use their expertise on inspections to evaluate risks to the food supply during the processing, storage and transportation of Food in Utah. Our inspectors are also knowledgeable in accessing and evaluating the safety of high risk food processes. When Priority violations are noted, our inspectors will follow up with these facilities on timely manner to confirm corrections to the problems. During the calendar year 2013, there were 13 Voluntary Destructions and Hold Orders involving 213 pounds of food for a total of \$19,528.

Cottage Food Program

The Cottage Food Program continues to grow rapidly and this growth tends to correlate with the popularity of outdoor, farmers markets. We now have 265 cottage food facilities registered with the Division, a notable increase from 209 the previous year and about 30 which are currently in application and review process. Product review and label review along with extensive consulting make oversight of this program very challenging. Some of the more simple and easy to review applicants are being streamlined back to the inspectors for quicker processing.

Farmers Market Program

The Regulatory Division has experienced unprecedented growth in both the number farmers markets in the State of Utah and the number of entrepreneurs utilizing farmers markets as the primary venue to market their products. With such tremendous growth and interest in farmers markets, Regulatory Services continues to partner with Utah's Own program to regulate and promote farmer and outdoor markets in the State of Utah. This partnership has been a tremendous benefit for market operators and market vendors by regulating through food safety education and promoting Utah's locally grown and processed foods. Both divisions worked together to plan, organize and execute three outreach events throughout the State. The Regulatory Division will continue in this cooperative effort for year 2015.

Manufactured Food Regulatory Program Standards (MFRPS) The Manufactured Food Regulatory Program Standards (MFRPS) are a set of standards developed by the FDA,

along with selected state program managers, that can be used by the states as a guide for continuous improvement for state food manufacturing programs. The goal of the standards is to leverage resources and share common successes to build systems within state regulatory food programs. The standards promote development of a high-quality state manufactured food regulatory program and include a process for continuous improvement. Gaps are identified, improvement plans are developed and strategic goals are identified. The areas of focus include regulatory foundation, training, inspection programs, auditing, food defense, enforcement and compliance, stakeholder outreach and laboratory services. The Utah Department of Agriculture & Food continues to implement the Manufactured Food Regulatory Program Standards (MFRPS) as an option under their state food inspection contracts. The Division of Regulatory Services was awarded a grant to implement the Manufactured Food Regulatory Program Standards within a 5 year time frame. Currently the division is in year 2 and will undergo an 18 month progress audit in August 2014.

Food Inspection Contract Program

Under this program inspections are performed by UDAF Regulatory Division food inspectors who are credentialed by FDA. FDA Denver District Office provides inspection assignments in selected food manufacturers/processors to determine compliance with the Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic (FD&C) Act, state law, or both; The major emphasis is placed upon determining significant GMP, unsanitary conditions and practices which may render food injurious to health, particularly those involving the introduction, lack of controls, and/or growth promotion of pathogenic organisms and other conditions which may cause food to become filthy, putrid, decomposed or contaminated with foreign objects which present a reasonable possibility of causing the contamination of food. For year 2014 the UDAF Regulatory Division contracted with FDA to conduct 113 food inspections. The division will continue in this effort for year 2015 conducting the same amount of inspections. These contract inspections not only provide a funding source but also benefits UDAF with technical training, familiarity with federal requirements and more uniform enforcement of consumer laws through cooperation and coordination with FDA. The contract programs benefit FDA by enlarging coverage of the federal Official Establishment Inventory (OEI) and also to redirect resources to other priorities.

Retail Food Program Standards

The Regulatory Division is now going into its 5th year of enrollment in the FDA Voluntary Retail Food Program Standards. We have completed Standard 1 and 7. We completed a self-assessment of Standard 2 which is Training and Standardization. Training and Standardization is an ongoing process and a work

plan has been developed to satisfy completion of this Standard. This past year we completed Standard 3 which relates to our inspection program being based on HACCP Principles. It was audited and completed successfully. In 2014 we will be completing the Standard 9 Risk Analysis Study. We applied for the grant money for \$2,000 Retail training and this will be used to send two employees to the FDA Southwest Regional Conference.

Food Recalls

The Regulatory Division continues to monitor a large number of Class I food product recalls. Class I recalls involve food products that pose a public health threat and these are a priority for the Division. Our compliance and enforcement officer has stepped into a larger role in this monitoring. He has written new policies and procedures concerning recalls and monitors the recalls on a tracking spreadsheet. FDA and USDA are the lead agencies and we are notified by email. Each recall is investigated as to whether or not the products are in the state by using a group email involving the Recall Coordinators for the industry firms. Faster means of communication has resulted in our ability to communicate and check recalls in a much more timely and effective manner. Most of the recalls have been related to food allergen issues. Our local food establishments have been doing an excellent job in following strict recall procedures.

Consumer Complaints

In 2013/14 UDAF responded to 128 consumer complaints. Many of the complaints were concerning foreign objects in food ranging from fungal objects to insects. Complaints of non-service dogs in stores are still a common issue. The Division issued a warning letter to one firm in regards to the increasing number of complaints with regards to this issue. "I got sick from this and that," is also a common complaint. The Health Department's website called "I Got Sick" has been a helpful tool for gathering information. We also have concerned customers who are reporting issues they have seen in food establishments.

Collaboration Efforts

The Regulatory Division continues to focus on improving our relationship with state and local Health departments. The Division has assigned staff whose function is to serve as a liaison in regards to UEHA and participates on the Education Board. MOU's have been updated in some counties. The MOU with the State Health Department has been going very well. We have been communicating with all parties in regards to recalled food products and foodborne illness outbreaks. Updates are in place to coincide with requirements to the FDA MFRPS.

National Shellfish Sanitation Program (NSSP)

The National Shellfish Sanitation Program (NSSP) is the federal/state cooperative program recognized by the U. S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and the Interstate Shellfish Sanitation Conference (ISSC) for the sanitary control of shellfish produced and sold for human consumption. The purpose of the NSSP is to promote and improve the sanitation of shellfish (oysters, clams, mussels and scallops) moving in interstate commerce through federal/state cooperation and uniformity of State shellfish programs. Participants in the NSSP include agencies from shellfish producing and non-producing States, FDA, EPA, NOAA, and the

shellfish industry. Utah adopts by reference the NSSP Model Ordinance by rule to ensure safe shellfish consumption in Utah. UDAF Regulatory Division inspected 6 Utah shellfish dealers for year 2014 and certifies these firms to be in compliance with the NSSP.

Meat Compliance

The meat compliance program completed a few hundred meat reviews across the State. Meat reviews are conducted at assigned food establishments in order to verify inspected sources and proper labeling. These retail meat facilities are also audited regarding any hotel, restaurant or institution accounts which may fall under their retail exemptions. We also have Planned Compliance reviews assigned to each inspector. Many of these facilities have had prior violations which we follow up on. Restaurants are also reviewed in order to verify safe meat sources. We had a busy year with Meat Compliance investigations involving illegal slaughter, misbranding and sale or distribution of uninspected meat products.

Country of Origin Labeling (COOL)

The Regulatory Division continues to maintain a contract with the U.S. Department of Agriculture / Agricultural Marketing Service to audit retailers for Country of Origin Labeling compliance. This year, the agency requested nine additional follow up reviews on establishments who continue to struggle with compliance and five additional reviews on establishments who have never been inspected.

Certificates of Free Sale (CFS)

Certificates of Free Sale are a component of the Food Compliance Program which has become a significant trade and marketing tool for Utah's food manufactures. Certificates of Free Sale serve to verify compliance with Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP). The Division continues to experience marked growth in this service, as more and more Utah companies continue to market and promote their products within the globalized market place.

Dairy Compliance Program

The downward trend continues as far as numbers of dairy farms in Utah. The number of Utah dairy farms has dropped by 24 over the past year, while cow numbers continue to grow. The larger operations continue to grow in cow numbers as the small farms drop out. However, the trend will hopefully change as milk prices rose and feed prices dropped toward the end of 2013. The trend toward becoming more efficient continues as producers attempt to make up lost ground in profits over the past years. Raw for Retail operations continue to grow slowly with only one additional Raw for Retail goat dairy joining the program in 2013.

2013 Cow Statistics	
Item	Numbers
Total dairy farms in Utah	201 dairies
Total milk cows in Utah	92,000 cows
Average herd size	462 cows
Total milk production	2.036 billion pounds
Average per cow	22,130 lbs./cow/ year

Bedding, Upholstered Furniture & Quilted Clothing

The purpose of the Bedding, Upholstered Furniture, and Quilted Clothing Program is to protect consumers against fraud and product misrepresentation, to assure Utahans hygienically clean products, to provide allergy awareness before purchase of these articles and to help maintain equality in the marketplace for manufacturers. This enables consumers to make informed buying decisions based on price, value, and performance. Utah law requires manufacturers, supply dealers, wholesalers, and repairers of these products and their components to obtain an annual license before offering items for sale within the state. Products in retail markets are inspected to ensure compliance and Utah's manufacturing sites are inspected for cleanliness and truthful labeling. Application forms, and other program information as well as helpful links to other regulatory jurisdictions are available at the following URL: <http://ag.utah.gov>.

In 2013, Utah issued 3,642 licenses which generated over \$382,000 in revenue. Annual license fees make the program self-sustaining and allow laboratory-testing of suspect products to determine whether their contents are accurately labeled and free from filth and other contaminants. Despite the downturn in the economy over the last several years the number of active licenses has more than tripled since 2001. Two full time staff members are currently employed.

Egg & Poultry Grading

The Utah Department of Agriculture & Food administers the Poultry and Egg Grading Program through a State Trust Fund Agreement with the USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service. The Egg and Poultry Grading Program provides employees licensed by USDA/AMS and performs grading and certification services throughout the state of Utah.

Grading provides a standardized means of describing the marketability of a particular product. Through the application of uniform grade standards, both eggs and poultry can be classified according to a range of quality characteristics. Buyers, sellers and consumers alike can communicate about these characteristics through a common language. The use of the official USDA Grade Shield certifies that both eggs and poultry have been graded under the continuous inspection of grading personal

The staff of the Egg and Poultry Section provided 19,299 hours of needed grading service to the consumers of Utah, and the egg and poultry industry in 2013.

Program activities include:

- Shell Egg Grading
- Egg Products Inspection
- Shell Egg Surveillance
- Poultry Grading
- School Lunch Commodities

Shell Egg Grading

During the 1970's and 80's, great improvements were made in the processing and merchandising of shell eggs. More efficient processing machines were developed. With the introduction of the polystyrene foam egg carton, by Jon M. Huntsman Sr., eggs were being merchandised better. Today eggs are processed on large computerized machines, and packaged in a variety of different types and sizes of containers. Even with all of these improvements, USDA grading is still an important marketing tool. It allows the Utah egg industry to market eggs all over the world. During 2013, USDA licensed Egg Graders graded 2,155,509 cases (30 dozen eggs per case). Of these cases: 40,784 cases were Jumbo, 305,781 cases were Extra Large, 1,529,291 cases were Large, 260,057 cases were Medium, and 19,596 cases were Small. This is a slight decrease over last year's total of 2,337,785 / 30 dozen cases USDA graded in Utah. Exports to various counties totaled 28,991 / 30 dozen cases.

Egg Products Inspection

The term "egg products" refers to eggs that have been removed from their shells for processing. Basic egg products include whole eggs, whites, yolks and various blends, with or without non-egg ingredients, that are processed and pasteurized. They may be available in liquid, frozen and dried forms.

The Egg Products Inspection Act provides for the mandatory continuous inspection of the processing of liquid, frozen and dried egg products. Egg products are inspected to ensure that they are wholesome, otherwise not adulterated, properly labeled, and packaged to protect the health and welfare of consumers. Egg Products are used extensively in the food industry in the production of bakery items, pasta products, ice cream, eggnog, etc. and by restaurants and institutions in meals.

Nationally during calendar year 2013, shell eggs broken totaled 1,962 million dozen, up 1 percent from the comparable period in 2012. During the year 2013, 920,665 (30 dozen per case) cases of shell eggs were processed into liquid or frozen egg products in Utah.

Shell Egg Surveillance

Most eggs are bought and sold as shell eggs. Shell eggs that are undesirable for human consumption are called restricted eggs. The U.S. Standards for shell eggs limit the number of restricted eggs that are permitted in consumer channels, and there are mandatory procedures for the disposition of restricted eggs. At least four times each year, a State shell egg surveillance inspector visits each registered packing plant to verify that shell eggs packed for consumer use are in compliance, that restricted eggs are being disposed of properly, and that adequate records are being maintained. During 2013, State surveillance inspectors graded and inspected 437 samples associated with the USDA Surveillance Program.

The UDAF Egg Inspection Program received the 2014 Governor's Award for Excellence.



Egg inspection team: (l-r) Supervisor, Cary Wise, Stephanie Jacobs, Sharisa Vodopich, Carlotta Foitzick, Adel Young, with Commissioner, LuAnn Adams

Poultry Grading

Utah's Sanpete valley is home to one of the oldest turkey producing cooperatives in the country. Moroni Feed Co. was established in 1938. The Utah Egg and Poultry staff members provide this cooperative with USDA grading services. Moroni Feed Co. processes turkey and turkey products, many of which are USDA graded and then distributed to consumers worldwide. The USDA licensed Poultry Graders of Utah graded 33,742,553 lbs. of turkey and turkey products in the year 2013.

School Lunch

The National School Lunch Program provides cash and commodity assistance to assist schools in providing nutritious lunches to school children. USDA provides states with commodities for use in preparing school lunches. Every dollar's worth of donated commodities used in a school menu frees up money that a school would otherwise have to spend on food purchases. On an average day, commodities make up about 15 to 20 percent of the product served on the school lunch line. Utah receives approximately \$15 million in USDA commodities annually. Utah schools prepared 54,742,142 meals in school year 2013

Utah egg and poultry graders inspect these commodities as they arrive in Utah. The process involves checking the trailer temperature, breaking the official seals, selecting samples of frozen product, and drilling the product in order to obtain the temperature. An organoleptic inspection is done and a USDA certificate is prepared. The USDA licensed graders of Utah inspected 373,050 lbs. of USDA commodities delivered to various Utah destinations during 2013.

Weights & Measures

The Weights and Measures Program involves all weights and measures of every kind and any instrument or device used in weighing or measuring application. The purpose of the program is to ensure that equity prevails in the market place and that commodities bought or sold are accurately weighed or measured and properly identified. A goal of the program is to prevent fraud by routinely conducting unannounced inspections. Weights and Measures also respond to consumer complaints.

Eleven weights and measures inspectors are strategically located throughout the state to ensure equity in the marketplace prevails throughout Utah. There were 4,774 businesses registered in Utah with 48,695 weighing and measuring devices for the year 2013. There are many more establishments that should be added to the database.

Almost every commodity imaginable is traded in some form of measurement, whether by weight, measure, count, length, etc. To ensure fairness from producer to consumer the Utah Weights and Measures Program is involved in almost every consumer transaction. The program assures consumers that the weight or measure of food and nonfood products, services, or commodities purchased in Utah is correct.

Our inspectors routinely examine many types of scales that are used in commercial applications. Other devices the program inspects include diesel and gasoline pumps, vehicle tank meters,

rack meters, high volume petroleum meters and propane meters. Fuel quality is checked to verify that the consumer is getting the quality that is stated on the pump. Our inspectors also verify the price at the checkout register assuring that price scans correctly and the customer is paying the advertised price. Inspectors check the net quantity statement on packaged goods and verify that the item contains the amount that is stated on the label.

The state of Utah's Metrology Laboratory maintains the legal standards of mass, length, and volume. This lab is operated and maintained by one person. Our metrologist checks the accuracy of our weights and measures field standards. The accuracy of equipment that is used by repair service companies is also verified by the programs metrologist. These calibration services are provided using standards for mass, length, and volume that are traceable to the National Institute of Standards and Technology.

Accomplishments

Inspected and tested weighing and measuring devices that are used commercially include gasoline pumps, propane meters, high volume gasoline meters, rack meters, vehicle tank meters, scales, etc. These inspections are unannounced to help both the business and the consumer receive an accurate measurement. These devices are checked to make sure they are operating correctly, legal for trade, and free from fraud and misuse. Utah helps assure that the market place is fair and equitable for both the business and the consumer.

A total of 617 gas stations and 13,714 gasoline pumps and 1,880 fuel storage tanks at Utah's gas stations were inspected during the 2013 calendar year. Twenty three percent of all gas stations inspected had something fail the inspection. Increased focus was placed upon gas stations that had not been inspected in three years or more. The inspections were related to: unit pricing, security seals intact, advertised price, product labeling, storage tanks labeling, water testing, adequately labeled pumps, octane posting, automatic shut off valve, money calibration, hose conditions, fill caps and covers, readable displays, display function, anti-drain valve, computer jump and accurate calibration.

Weights and measures inspectors and the motor fuel specialist, Motor Fuel Quality Lab routinely screen gasoline to verify ethanol presence and octane levels. This included reviewing fuel delivery documentation, labeling of the fuel dispensers, and testing fuel storage tanks for water content.

Fuel analysis was performed on fuel samples that were taken for routine inspections and were a response to consumer complaints. Octane testing was performed identifying stations that have a lower octane than what was posted on the gasoline pump.

Our metrology lab continues to maintain recognition from the National Institute of Standards and Technology by meeting all Echelon III parameters. Consumers rely on the services of this facility to certify equipment used for weight, length or volumetric measurement in commercial business.

Our Metrologist participates in Inter-laboratory comparisons. This verifies the labs accuracy and precision by comparing me-

trology programs throughout the country. The Metrology Lab successfully completed all requirements. The metrologist makes sure that the Weights and Measures Program field staff standards are accurate. Repair service personnel also rely on the lab for testing the accuracy of equipment used to calibrate measuring devices.

A total of 2,761 artifacts from industry and 75 artifacts from our Weights and Measures Program were tested for a certificate of calibration using standards that are traceable to the National Institute of Standards and Technology.

The Utah Metrology Laboratory is currently recognized under a Certificate Measurement Assurance Program provided by the NIST Office of Weights and Measures. During the year we sent our Metrologist to the Western Regional Assurance Program yearly training meeting. The state Metrologist received and met all criteria for the Certificate of Measurement Traceability through NIST.

A total of 159 wheel load weigher scale inspections were conducted. These scales are used for law enforcement of weight limits on Utah highways.

Our Weights and Measures program has remained active in the National Conference on Weights and Measures (NCWM). The NCWM is the nation's consensus body that develops model weights and measures regulations adopted by Utah and the rest of the United States. This conference acts as a source of information and a forum for debate in the development of consensus standards for weighing and measuring devices and commodities sold by weight, measure or count, in promoting the use of uniform laws and regulations, and administrative procedures.

A total of 853 establishments that have small capacity scales (0lb – 1,000lbs) received a routine inspection. This included 5,092 small capacity scales.

A total of 283 price verification inspections of retail check-out scanners were conducted. Our inspection program helps the consumer be confident that the price at which a product is advertised or displayed is the price they will be charged at the check-out counter. These inspections include but are not limited to grocery, hardware, general merchandise, drug, automotive supply, convenience, and warehouse club stores.

Inspectors verify the net quantity of contents of packages kept, offered, or exposed for sale, or sold by weight, measure or count. Routine verification of the net contents of packages is important to facilitate value comparison and fair competition. Consumers have the right to expect packages to bear accurate net content information. Those manufacturers whose products are sold in such packages have the right to expect that their competitors will be required to adhere to the same standards. 14,674 packaged items were inspected for net content.

Our weights and measures LPG inspector provides inspections to all Utah vendors dispensing LPG, either through dispensers or

delivery trucks. 283 propane meters were inspected throughout the state. These inspections included checking appropriate installation and calibration of propane dispensers and meters.

Inspections are conducted on airport fuel trucks, fuel delivery trucks, cement batch plant water meters and other large meters. 181 vehicle tank meter, 42 rack meter, and 45 water meter inspections were conducted.

Large-scale capacities include 1,000 lbs. and up. These devices may include scales used for weighing livestock, coal, gravel, vehicles, etc., within inspections conducted at auction yards, ranches, ports of entry, mine sites, construction sites, gravel pits and railroad yards, etc. A total of 677 establishments that have large capacity scales were inspected. 1,571 large scales received an inspection. Our heavy capacity scale inspections trucks had continuous breakdowns for extended periods of time.

Complaints

In addition to routine inspections, Weights and Measures Inspectors investigated approximately 105 consumer complaints in 2013. Complaints were related to motor fuel quality and quantity, scale accuracy, product packaging and labeling requirements, net contents of packaged goods, and getting charged an incorrect price at the retail cash register scanner.

The registered serviceperson has continued to be an important part of the Weights and Measures Program. During the 2013 calendar year, training continued for the service technician for retail motor fuel devices. Additional service technicians including those from out of state have been becoming registered and getting a certificate of registration. These individuals have become aware of the requirements of the program which includes taking a class, passing a basic knowledge exam, registering a security seal, having calibration equipment with a current certificate from a NIST recognized laboratory, and sending in placed in service reports. Registered Servicepersons are required to send a placed in service report when placing a weighing and measuring device into service. During the 2013 calendar year 463 placed in service reports were submitted by servicepersons. This program helps protect the consumer and business owner by improving the security and the accuracy of the gas pump.

Applying uniform weights and measures standards to commercial transactions is important to a strong economy. As population and industry growth continues, so does the need for business and the associated industry. Along with that comes the need to provide weights and measures inspection service to those affected.

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