

Greenbook

LBO Analysis of Enacted Budget

Department of Agriculture

Gavin Enseleit, LSC Fellow
August 2025

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Quick look...	1
Agency overview	1
Appropriation summary.....	1
Budget highlights	2
Continuation of water quality initiatives	2
Fee changes.....	2
Ohio Pork Council.....	3
Analysis of FY 2026-FY 2027 budget	4
Introduction	4
Category 1: Animal and Food Safety.....	6
C1:1: Animal Health Programs (ALI 700401).....	6
C1:2: Dairy Division (ALIs 700403 and 700637)	6
C1:3: Laboratory Services (ALIs 700406 and 700634).....	7
C1:4: Food Safety (ALIs 700407 and 700610)	7
C1:5: Meat Inspection (ALIs 700499 and 700618)	8
C1:6: Poultry Inspection (ALIs 700415 and 700611)	8
C1:7: Livestock Regulation (ALIs 700418, 700424, and 700604)	9
C1:8: Dangerous Wild Animal Program (ALIs 700426 and 700659)	10
C1:9: Commercial Dog Breeders Program (ALIs 700427 and 700658)	10
Category 2: Plant Health	11
C2:1: Plant Industry (ALI 700410)	11
C2:2: Pesticide and Fertilizer Regulation (ALIs 700605, 700648, and 700635)	12

C2:3: Hemp Program (ALIs 700674 and 700671)	13
C2:4: Federal Cooperative Contracts (ALI 700601).....	14
C2:5: Federal Plant Industry (ALI 700614)	14
Category 3: Soil and Water	15
C3:1: Soil and Water Division (ALI 700428)	15
C3:2: Soil and Water Conservation District Support (ALIs 700509 and 700661).....	15
C3:3: Heidelberg Water Quality Lab (ALI 700660)	16
C3:4: Watershed Assistance (ALI 700653)	16
C3:5: H2Ohio (ALI 700670).....	17
Category 4: Commodities and Marketing.....	17
C4:1: Ohio Proud (ALI 700636).....	17
C4:2: Commodities (ALIs 700612 and 700627).....	18
Pork Marketing Program.....	18
C4:3: Ohio Grape Industries (ALI 700626)	18
C4:4: License Plates – Sustainable Agriculture (ALI 700651)	19
Category 5: Other Agriculture Services.....	19
C5:1: Weights and Measures (ALIs 700412 and 700608)	19
C5:2: Auctioneers (ALIs 700629 and 700609).....	20
C5:3: Amusement Ride Safety (ALIs 700511 and 700620).....	20
C5:4: County Agricultural Societies (ALI 700501)	20
Category 6: Farmland Preservation	21
C6:1: Farmland Preservation (ALI 700632)	21
C6:2: Ohio Farm Loan (ALI 700617)	21
Category 7: Administration	21
C7:1: Utility Radiological Safety (ALI 700606).....	22
C7:2: Laboratory Administration Support (ALI 700644)	22
C7:3: Administrative Support (ALI 700655)	22
C7:4: Federal Administrative Programs (ALI 700607).....	23

Attachment:

Appropriation Spreadsheet

LBO Greenbook

Department of Agriculture

Quick look...

- H.B. 96 appropriates \$349.6 million for the FY 2026-FY 2027 biennium.
- Of this total, \$107.2 million across the biennium is for water quality initiatives overseen by the Department of Agriculture (AGR) under the H2Ohio Program.
- The enacted budget changes fees in the areas of pesticide and fertilizer regulation, livestock dealer and broker licensing, apiary oversight, and certain other areas.

Fund Group	FY 2025 Actual	FY 2026 Appropriation	FY 2027 Appropriation
General Revenue (GRF)	\$60,448,779	\$48,231,500	\$48,625,900
Dedicated Purpose (DPF)	\$179,828,683	\$90,683,400	\$90,872,800
Internal Service Activity (ISA)	\$8,497,353	\$8,914,000	\$9,329,000
Capital Projects (CPF)	\$53,791	\$512,000	\$515,000
Federal (FED)	\$23,899,844	\$26,663,000	\$25,246,000
Total	\$272,728,451	\$175,003,900	\$174,588,700
% change	--	-35.8%	-0.3%
GRF % change	--	-20.2%	0.8%

Agency overview

The Ohio Department of Agriculture (AGR) safeguards the health of Ohio's food supply to protect consumers, promotes environmental stewardship, and maintains the health of the state's animals and plants. The Department also promotes Ohio's agricultural products by creating economic opportunities for Ohio's farmers, food processors, and agribusinesses. Overall, there are ten operating divisions corresponding to these responsibilities, as well as department-wide staff for support and management oversight. As of August 2025, the Department's headcount is 499 people, 461 of whom are full time.

Appropriation summary

H.B. 96 provides AGR with funding of \$175.0 million in FY 2026 and \$174.6 million in FY 2027. The table below shows the enacted appropriations for the FY 2026-FY 2027 biennium by the categories used in this Greenbook. Funding for soil and water programs (\$165.0 million) and animal and food safety (\$92.3 million) make up about 75% of the amount appropriated for AGR's operations over the biennium.

Enacted Budget by Functional Category (in \$ millions)				
Category	FY 2026	FY 2027	Biennial Total	% of Total
Animal and Food Safety	\$45.7	\$46.6	\$92.3	26.4%
Plant Health	\$27.6	\$26.2	\$53.8	15.4%
Soil and Water	\$82.4	\$82.6	\$165.0	47.2%
Commodities and Marketing	\$1.9	\$1.9	\$3.7	1.1%
Other Agriculture Services	\$5.5	\$5.1	\$10.6	3.0%
Farmland Preservation	\$0.8	\$0.7	\$1.5	0.4%
Administration	\$11.1	\$11.5	\$22.6	6.5%
Total	\$175.0	\$174.6	\$349.5	100.0%

Note: Figures may not add to totals due to rounding.

Budget highlights

Continuation of water quality initiatives

As shown in the table above, \$165.0 million (47.2%) of AGR's budget for the FY 2026-FY 2027 biennium will support functions of the Division of Soil and Water Conservation. Of that, \$107.2 million is continuation funding for AGR's responsibilities under the state's H2Ohio initiative to reduce harmful algal blooms, improve wastewater infrastructure, and address lead contamination. The responsibility for carrying out these initiatives lies with AGR, the Department of Natural Resources, Ohio Environmental Protection Agency, and the Lake Erie Commission. Fund 6H20 is funded by a transfer of GRF surplus revenue.

In addition to H2Ohio, H.B. 96 earmarks \$12.5 million in each fiscal year for soil and water conservation districts (SWCDs) in priority regions identified by the AGR Director. These earmarks are found under GRF appropriation line item (ALI) 700509, Soil and Water District Support. This funding may be used locally for staffing costs and to assist in soil testing and nutrient management plan development, including manure transformation and manure conversion technologies, enhanced filter strips, water management, and H2Ohio Program support.

Fee changes

H.B. 96 contains a series of fee changes that affect programs involving plant health, food safety, pesticide regulation, and other areas. The most significant are changes in pesticide and fertilizer regulation. Adjustments to fees in that area are estimated to yield gains of approximately \$1.7 million annually for the Pesticide, Fertilizer, and Lime Program Fund (Fund 6690). Additionally, adjustments to fees in the food safety area are expected to increase revenue \$117,300 annually for the Food Safety Fund (Fund 4P70). Apiary fee changes will result in additional annual revenue of \$105,000 for the Plant Pest Program Fund (Fund 5FC0). Commercial Feed and Seed fee restructuring is expected to result in an increased revenue of about \$56,000 annually for the Commercial Feed and Seed Fund (Fund 4C90). Changes regarding livestock brokers and dealers are expected to result in a net increase in annual revenue of about \$57,000 for the Animal and Commercial Feed and Seed Fund (Fund 4C90).

Ohio Pork Council

H.B. 96 allows for the creation of the Ohio Pork Council and permits the Council to charge producers an assessment, but only if the National Pork Checkoff Program ceases operation. The allowable assessment would be the lesser of 0.25% of pork product sold or an amount established by the Ohio Pork Council, with the receipts to be placed in a bank account determined by the Ohio Pork Council and used to promote pork and pork products. Should the Ohio Pork Council be created, then AGR would incur some costs for overseeing elections and other operations of the Council.

Analysis of FY 2026-FY 2027 budget

Introduction

This section provides an analysis of the enacted funding for each appropriation line item (ALI) in the Department of Agriculture's (AGR) budget. For organizational purposes, these ALIs are grouped into seven major categories based on their funding purposes.

To aid the reader in locating each ALI in the analysis, the following table shows the category in which each ALI has been placed, listing the ALIs in order within their respective fund groups and funds. This is the same order the ALIs appear in the AGR section of the budget bill.

In the analysis, each appropriation item's expenditures for FY 2025 and appropriations for FY 2026 and FY 2027 are listed in a table. Following the table, a narrative describes how the appropriation is used and any changes affecting the appropriation in the budget bill. If the appropriation is earmarked, the earmarks are listed and described.

Categorization of AGR's Appropriation Line Items for Analysis of FY 2026-FY 2027 Budget				
Fund	ALI	ALI Name		Category
General Revenue Fund Group				
GRF	700401	Animal Health Programs	1:1	Animal and Food Safety
GRF	700403	Dairy Division	1:2	Animal and Food Safety
GRF	700406	Consumer Protection Lab	1:3	Animal and Food Safety
GRF	700407	Food Safety	1:4	Animal and Food Safety
GRF	700410	Plant Industry	2:1	Plant Health
GRF	700412	Weights and Measures	5:1	Other Agriculture Services
GRF	700415	Poultry Inspection	1:6	Animal and Food Safety
GRF	700418	Livestock Regulation Program	1:7	Animal and Food Safety
GRF	700424	Livestock Testing and Inspections	1:7	Animal and Food Safety
GRF	700426	Dangerous and Restricted Animals	1:8	Animal and Food Safety
GRF	700427	High Volume Breeder Kennel Control	1:9	Animal and Food Safety
GRF	700428	Soil and Water Division	3:1	Soil and Water
GRF	700499	Meat Inspection Program – State Share	1:5	Animal and Food Safety
GRF	700501	County Agricultural Societies	5:4	Other Agriculture Services
GRF	700509	Soil and Water District Support	3:2	Soil and Water
GRF	700511	Ride Inspection	5:3	Other Agriculture Services
GRF	700674	Plant Testing	2:3	Plant Health
Dedicated Purpose Fund Group				
4900	700651	License Plates – Sustainable Agriculture	4:4	Commodities and Marketing
4940	700612	Agricultural Commodity Marketing Program	4:2	Commodities and Marketing
4960	700626	Ohio Grape Industries	4:3	Commodities and Marketing

Categorization of AGR's Appropriation Line Items for Analysis of FY 2026-FY 2027 Budget				
Fund	ALI	ALI Name		Category
4970	700627	Grain Warehouse Program	4:2	Commodities and Marketing
4C90	700605	Commercial Feed and Seed	2:2	Plant Health
4D20	700609	Auction Education	5:2	Other Agriculture Services
4E40	700606	Utility Radiological Safety	7:1	Administration
4P70	700610	Food Safety Inspection	1:4	Animal and Food Safety
4R00	700636	Ohio Proud Marketing	4:1	Commodities and Marketing
4R20	700637	Dairy Industry Inspection	1:2	Animal and Food Safety
4T60	700611	Poultry and Meat Inspection	1:6	Animal and Food Safety
5780	700620	Ride Inspection	5:3	Other Agriculture Services
5B80	700629	Auctioneers	5:2	Other Agriculture Services
5BV0	700660	Heidelberg Water Quality Lab	3:3	Soil and Water
5BV0	700661	Soil and Water Districts	3:2	Soil and Water
5FC0	700648	Plant Pest Program	2:2	Plant Health
5H20	700608	Metrology Lab and Scale Certification	5:1	Other Agriculture Services
5L80	700604	Livestock Management Programs	1:7	Animal and Food Safety
5MR0	700658	Commercial Dog Breeding	1:9	Animal and Food Safety
5MS0	700659	Animal and Consumer Protection	1:8	Animal and Food Safety
5QW0	700653	Watershed Assistance	3:4	Soil and Water
5WJ0	700671	Hemp Program	2:3	Plant Health
6520	700634	Animal, Consumer, and ATL Labs	1:3	Animal and Food Safety
6690	700635	Pesticide, Fertilizer, and Lime Inspection Program	2:2	Plant Health
6H20	700670	H2Ohio	3:5	Soil and Water
Internal Service Activity Fund Group				
5DA0	700644	Laboratory Administration Support	7:2	Administration
5GH0	700655	Administrative Support	7:3	Administration
Capital Projects Fund Group				
7057	700632	Clean Ohio Agricultural Easement Operating	6:1	Farmland Preservation
Federal Fund Group				
3260	700618	Meat Inspection Program – Federal Share	1:5	Animal and Food Safety
3360	700617	Ohio Farm Loan – Revolving	6:2	Farmland Preservation
3820	700601	Federal Cooperative Contracts	2:4	Plant Health
3J40	700607	Federal Administrative Programs	7:4	Administration
3R20	700614	Federal Plant Industry	2:5	Plant Health

Category 1: Animal and Food Safety

This category of ALIs provides funding for AGR's animal and food-related services. This includes all ALIs funding animal diseases, food safety and inspections, dairy, livestock, and poultry inspections, as well as ALIs that fund AGR's labs. This category also includes funding for the Dangerous and Wild Animal Program and Commercial Dog Breeders Program. Funding for all ALIs in this category totals \$45.7 million in FY 2026 and \$46.6 million in FY 2027, or about one-quarter of the funding for the agency provided in H.B. 96.

C1:1: Animal Health Programs (ALI 700401)

Fund/ALI	FY 2025 Actual	FY 2026 Appropriation	FY 2027 Appropriation
GRF ALI 700401, Animal Health Programs	\$7,888,468	\$8,683,000	\$8,893,400
% change	--	10.1%	2.4%

This ALI is the primary funding source for the Division of Animal Health. It funds field and laboratory staff, as well as costs for laboratory supplies and equipment maintenance contracts for the Animal Disease Diagnostic Laboratory (ADDL). The testing services offered by ADDL include avian serology, bacteriology, histology, immunohistochemistry, molecular diagnostics, pathology, serology, and virology. The laboratory's regulatory responsibilities include oversight of animal disease control and eradication efforts through quarantine, vaccination verification, movement permits, and tracing animal identification. Additionally, ADDL can provide diagnostic testing to respond to emerging and emergency animal disease situations at the state, regional, and national level.

C1:2: Dairy Division (ALIs 700403 and 700637)

Fund/ALI	FY 2025 Actual	FY 2026 Appropriation	FY 2027 Appropriation
GRF ALI 700403, Dairy Division	\$1,513,559	\$1,569,000	\$1,613,000
% change	--	3.7%	2.8%
Fund 4R20 ALI 700637, Dairy Industry Inspection	\$1,440,074	\$1,751,000	\$1,787,000
% change	--	21.6%	2.1%

GRF ALI 700403, Dairy Division, is used in conjunction with the Dairy Inspection Fund (Fund 4R20) ALI 700637, Dairy Industry Inspection, to administer the state's milk inspection program, applying to both producers and processors. Fund 4R20 is supported by licensing and milk inspection fees. Generally, all the licensing fees for dairy producers are \$15, but milk inspection fees vary depending on data contained in reports that each licensed producer is required to file with the Department. Together, the ALIs are used to cover payroll and maintenance expenses necessary to license and inspect dairy producers and dairy processors.

C1:3: Laboratory Services (ALIs 700406 and 700634)

Fund/ALI	FY 2025 Actual	FY 2026 Appropriation	FY 2027 Appropriation
GRF ALI 700406, Consumer Protection Lab	\$1,724,358	\$1,880,000	\$1,906,000
% change	--	9.0%	1.4%
Fund 6520 ALI 700634, Animal, Consumer, and ATL Labs	\$8,166,070	\$8,483,900	\$8,328,000
% change	--	3.9%	-1.8%

These two ALIs, GRF ALI 700406, Consumer Protection Lab, and Fund 6520 ALI 700634, Animal, Consumer, and ATL Labs, are used to operate the Consumer Protection Laboratory (CPL). The lab performs chemical analysis and microbiological surveillance testing for food, livestock, and poultry feed to assure food product safety and verify the accuracy of product labeling. Increases in these ALIs are to cover higher costs for materials, equipment, personnel (including an additional full-time equivalent (FTE)), and significant increases in testing volumes. Fees received for laboratory services are deposited into the Animal and Consumer Analytical Lab Fund (Fund 6520).

C1:4: Food Safety (ALIs 700407 and 700610)

Fund/ALI	FY 2025 Actual	FY 2026 Appropriation	FY 2027 Appropriation
GRF ALI 700407, Food Safety	\$1,670,029	\$1,705,000	\$1,752,000
% change	--	2.1%	2.8%
Fund 4P70 ALI 700610, Food Safety Inspection	\$444,676	\$1,353,000	\$1,396,000
% change	--	204.3%	3.2%

These two ALIs support the Food Safety Division. GRF ALI 700407, Food Safety, is used to cover payroll and maintenance costs. The Division conducts surveillance, random sampling, facility inspections, consultations, technical assistance, and training. The Food Safety Division has a contract for facility inspections through the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), and contracts with the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) to conduct pesticide program and microbiological program sampling. The Division is also responsible for implementing rules under the Federal Food Safety Modernization Act. The Division inspects food manufacturing facilities annually, registers home bakeries, collects food samples annually, and distributes food defense self-assessment guides and informational brochures to retail food establishments.

Spending under Food Safety Fund (Fund 4P70) ALI 700610, Food Safety Inspection, is supported through testing fees charged by local health departments for food sampling, and license fees from wholesale bakeries, soft drink bottlers, canneries, frozen food establishments, cold storage warehouses, and syrups and extracts manufacturers. It also consists of license fees collected by local health departments from retail food establishments that are transmitted to the Department.

Fee changes

H.B. 96 includes fee changes affecting Fund 4P70. In particular, the changes replace current fees that apply to frozen food storage (\$50) and bakery registration fees (which are based on production volume) with a \$200 flat fee. H.B. 96 also eliminates the \$100 syrup and extract license fee. The expected net increase to Fund 4P70 from these changes is \$145,000 annually.

C1:5: Meat Inspection (ALIs 700499 and 700618)

Fund/ALI	FY 2025 Actual	FY 2026 Appropriation	FY 2027 Appropriation
GRF ALI 700499, Meat Inspection Program – State Share	\$7,799,342	\$8,080,000	\$8,304,000
% change	--	3.6%	2.8%
Fund 3260 ALI 700618, Meat Inspection Program – Federal Share	\$5,355,152	\$5,891,000	\$6,133,000
% change	--	10.0%	4.1%

These two ALIs support the Meat Inspection Program. GRF ALI 700499, Meat Inspection Program – State Share, is used to provide the 50% state match required to operate the federally approved meat inspection program. The federal share from the USDA is appropriated under ALI 700618, Meat Inspection Program – Federal Share.

The Meat Inspection Division may inspect any animal or bird at the time of harvest for the presence of harmful pathogenic microorganisms. It regulates meat and poultry establishments statewide – most are fully inspected facilities and provide slaughtering and processing services for resale. The remaining establishments operate under a “custom exempt” status and provide a “not-for-sale” service to individuals who wish to have their own animals slaughtered.

C1:6: Poultry Inspection (ALIs 700415 and 700611)

Fund/ALI	FY 2025 Actual	FY 2026 Appropriation	FY 2027 Appropriation
GRF ALI 700415, Poultry Inspection	\$854,746	\$1,597,500	\$1,619,500
% change	--	86.9%	1.4%
Fund 4T60 ALI 700611, Poultry and Meat Inspection	\$83,277	\$113,500	\$117,000
% change	--	36.3%	3.1%

These two ALIs support various poultry inspection functions. GRF ALI 700415, Poultry Inspection, provides funding for poultry laboratory testing, sample collection, and veterinary inspection of live birds transported into the state. These activities help prevent and combat avian influenza through testing, inspection, and surveillance programs. ALI 700415 also supports the Ohio Egg Quality Assurance Program, which focuses on controlling the threat of salmonella. ADDL conducts all of the testing associated with these activities.

ALI 700611, Poultry and Meat Inspection, pays for the costs related to licensing and regulating poultry establishments. The Division of Meat Inspection requires establishments to be relicensed annually. The cost is \$100 for all licenses. These fees, as well as fines and penalties, are deposited into the Poultry and Meat Inspection Fund (Fund 4T60).

C1:7: Livestock Regulation (ALIs 700418, 700424, and 700604)

Fund/ALI	FY 2025 Actual	FY 2026 Appropriation	FY 2027 Appropriation
GRF ALI 700418, Livestock Regulation Program	\$1,453,285	\$1,600,000	\$1,649,000
% change	--	10.1%	3.1%
GRF ALI 700424, Livestock Testing and Inspections	\$133,710	\$135,000	\$138,000
% change	--	1.0%	2.2%
Fund 5L80 ALI 700604, Livestock Management Program	\$102,834	\$186,800	\$189,800
% change	--	81.7%	1.6%

These ALIs support the Department's livestock regulation efforts throughout the state. GRF ALI 700418, Livestock Regulation Program, pays for the operating expenses associated with the Livestock Environmental Permitting Program, which oversees and permits large animal feeding facilities. These activities include issuing guidelines and rules for operating procedures, compliance monitoring, ground water quality, manure handling and containment, as well as rodent, pest, and odor control.

The three primary licenses under the Livestock Environmental Permitting Program are the: (1) Permit to Install (PTI), (2) Permit to Operate (PTO), and (3) Certified Livestock Manager. The PTI is a one-time fee of \$1,250 that is paid before construction of a livestock facility begins. The PTO fee is \$750 and must be renewed every five years. The Certified Livestock Manager fee is \$30 and must be renewed every three years. These license fees are deposited into the Livestock Management Fund (Fund 5L80).

GRF ALI 700424, Livestock Testing and Inspections, pays for the supplies necessary to collect urine, blood, or tissue samples from livestock exhibited at county, independent, and state fairs. These funds also help to support the analytical and toxicology laboratory testing section of CPL. This ALI does not directly fund any employees, as separate GRF funding pays those costs.

Fund 5L80 ALI 700604, Livestock Management Program, covers the cost of abating problems associated with concentrated animal feeding facilities (CAFFs). Specifically, the funding is used to administer emergency remediation for any water quality problems that cannot be quickly rectified through enforcement actions. The funding is supported by application and permit fees, and the proceeds of any fees and amounts recouped from abatement work. These amounts are also deposited into Fund 5L80.

C1:8: Dangerous Wild Animal Program (ALIs 700426 and 700659)

Fund/ALI	FY 2025 Actual	FY 2026 Appropriation	FY 2027 Appropriation
GRF ALI 700426, Dangerous and Restricted Animals	\$695,793	\$708,000	\$716,000
% change	--	1.8%	1.1%
Fund 5MS0 ALI 700659, Animal and Consumer Protection	\$120	\$8,400	\$8,400
% change	--	6,917.5%	0.0%

GRF ALI 700426 is used to cover the cost of administering the Dangerous Wild Animal Program, which regulates the possession of dangerous wild animals and restricted snakes. H.B. 96 eliminated Fund 5MA0 and requires the Office of Budget and Management (OBM) Director to transfer the remaining cash balance into the Animal and Consumer Protection Fund (Fund 5MS0), through which AGR will continue to pay for operations related to dangerous wild animals.

Fund 5MS0 ALI 700659 is currently used to fund the Captive Deer Program, a monitoring and testing program to protect the captive whitetail deer population from Chronic Wasting Disease. Specifically, the line item funds the administrative costs associated with enforcement of the program, licensing of captive deer propagating facilities and hunting reserves, disease testing, disease mitigation and elimination, investigations and inspections of the premises of whitetail deer licenses, and education and outreach to facility owners. The fund consolidation is an administrative restructuring to support personnel costs and growing demand for testing under ALI 700659, Animal and Consumer Protection.

Fee changes

H.B. 96 makes several fee changes affecting livestock dealers and brokers. First, it replaces the current fee range of \$25 to \$250 depending on herd size to a flat \$250. The annual license fee for small dealers increases from \$25 to \$50. The related late penalty fee increases from \$25 to \$100. The budget also increases the annual license fee for weighers from \$10 to \$30. Additionally, the budget creates an annual \$50 license and renewal fee for each captive deer facility. Finally, H.B. 96 eliminates the first degree misdemeanor penalty for violating laws that apply to livestock dealers and brokers under current law with a series of escalating civil penalties, from up to \$500 for a first violation to up to \$10,000 for subsequent violations. All of the fees, as well as the penalty revenue, would be deposited into the Commercial Feed and Seed Fund (Fund 4C90). These fee changes are expected to increase revenue by almost \$57,000 annually.

C1:9: Commercial Dog Breeders Program (ALIs 700427 and 700658)

Fund/ALI	FY 2025 Actual	FY 2026 Appropriation	FY 2027 Appropriation
GRF ALI 700427, High Volume Breeder Kennel Control	\$1,448,502	\$1,545,000	\$1,553,000
% change	--	6.7%	0.5%
Fund 5MR0 ALI 700658, Commercial Dog Breeding	\$227,956	\$450,000	\$465,000
% change	--	97.4%	3.3%

These two ALIs support the Commercial Dog Breeders Program. GRF ALI 700427, High Volume Breeder Kennel Control, is used to cover operating costs, including staff and inspections for the Commercial Dog Breeders Program and pet store regulations. In regard to the Commercial Dog Breeders Program, the Department annually inspects each facility that is registered as a high-volume breeder and inspects these operations if a complaint is filed. There has been a large increase in the number of licenses and permits issued due to industry growth which will increase the number of employees needed to complete inspections.

Fund 5MR0 ALI 700658, Commercial Dog Breeding, formerly High Volume Breeders and Kennels, consists of license fees received from high volume breeders. License fees depend on the number of puppies sold in a calendar year, ranging from \$150 to \$750 annually, depending on litter size. A portion of the license and registration fees are remitted to county dog and kennel funds to defray the costs that county auditors incur for licensing dogs and county dog wardens bear for their operations.

H.B. 96 abolished another fund that supports regulation in this area, the Pet Store License Fund (Fund 5PL0). With this change, the revenue from the annual \$500 pet store license and penalties will go into Fund 5MR0.

Category 2: Plant Health

This category of ALIs provides funds for the Division of Plant Health which includes the Grain Warehouse, Apiary, Feed and Seed, Pesticide and Fertilizer Regulation, and Plant Pest Control sections. Additionally, it contains appropriations for the Hemp Program that began in FY 2020. The Division conducts plant inspections and pesticide regulation activities. This includes consumer and farmer protection regulations, such as inspecting honey bee colonies, controlling the spread of gypsy moths and other pests, testing germination of packaged seeds, verifying label statements on feed and fertilizers, certifying fertilizer and commercial pesticide applicators, and regulating nursery stock. The appropriations in this area amount to about \$53.8 million over the FY 2026-FY 2027 biennium, or approximately 15.4% of AGR's budget under H.B. 96.

C2:1: Plant Industry (ALI 700410)

Fund/ALI	FY 2025 Actual	FY 2026 Appropriation	FY 2027 Appropriation
GRF ALI 700410, Plant Industry	\$489,000	\$542,000	\$594,000
% change	--	10.8%	9.6%

This item supports the Division of Plant Health and its oversight of the Apiary, Grain Warehouse, Feed and Seed, Pesticide and Fertilizer Regulation, and Plant Pest Control sections. The ALI supports the inspection of apiaries and monitoring and control of invasive plant pests and diseases. In addition, the ALI can be used to fund nursery stock certification inspection for import and export products such as lumber, logs, seed, fruit, and vegetables. As noted in the discussion of the other ALIs supporting these activities, H.B. 96 changes the fee structures that apply to apiaries, as well as operators in the pesticide and fertilizer business.

C2:2: Pesticide and Fertilizer Regulation (ALIs 700605, 700648, and 700635)

Fund/ALI	FY 2025 Actual	FY 2026 Appropriation	FY 2027 Appropriation
Fund 4C90 ALI 700605, Commercial Feed and Seed	\$1,793,418	\$2,273,000	\$2,329,000
% change	--	26.7%	2.5%
Fund 5FC0 ALI 700648, Plant Pest Program	\$1,068,754	\$1,200,000	\$1,200,000
% change	--	12.3%	0.0%
Fund 6690 ALI 700635, Pesticide, Fertilizer, and Lime Inspection Program	\$4,199,543	\$4,533,000	\$4,649,000
% change	--	7.9%	2.6%

These ALIs support the Plant Division's various responsibilities relating to testing germination of packaged seeds, verifying label statements on feed and fertilizers, and regulating nursery stock.

ALI 700605, Commercial Feed and Seed, is used to test feeds for medication, perform routine inspections of feed mills, perform BSE (mad cow) inspections, testing lime, fertilizer sampling, and inspections of fertilizer contaminants and anhydrous ammonia facilities. This funding is supported by various fees deposited into the Commercial Feed and Seed Fund (Fund 4C90).

ALI 700648, Plant Pest Program, is supported through various nursery stock fees that are deposited into the Plant Pest Program Fund (Fund 5FC0). This ALI is used to fund annual inspections of nursery stock producers and plant-based commodities entering commerce within the state. The program also registers apiaries and coordinates apiary inspections to monitor the health of the state's honey bee population. State and federal pest quarantines are also administered under funding in this ALI.

The Pesticide Program Fund (Fund 6690) ALI 700635, Pesticide, Fertilizer, and Lime Inspection Program, is used to register pesticides, license applicators, test applicators, perform routine pesticide inspections, investigate citizen complaints, and enforce pesticide laws. The ALI is also used to provide funding for the Fertilizer Applicator Certification Program which requires Ohio's farmers and commercial fertilizer applicators to complete training provided by OSU Extension. The funding is supported by license fees collected from dealers and applicators that are deposited into the Pesticide Program Fund (Fund 6690).

Fee changes

Seed labeler permit and commercial feed registration. Fund 4C90 is expected to see a gain in revenue of \$56,000 annually resulting from two fee changes under H.B. 96. The first change, estimated to yield a gain of \$16,000 annually, deals with the seed labeler permit, which is increased from \$10 to \$50.

The second change deals with commercial feed registration. H.B. 96 requires a manufacturer or distributor to pay an annual \$50 registration fee. This change is expected to yield approximately \$40,000 in additional revenue annually for Fund 4C90.

Nurseries and apiaries. Fund 5FC0 is expected to see a net revenue gain of about \$105,000 annually as a result of fee changes dealing with nursery inspections and apiaries. For nurseries, H.B. 96 increases the base annual inspection fee for producers, sellers, or distributors of woody nursery stock from \$100 to \$200. Correspondingly, it increases the additional per-acre inspection fee for growing woody nursery stock as follows: (1) in intensive production areas, from \$11 per acre, or fraction of an acre, to \$15 per acre, or fraction of an acre, or (2) in nonintensive production areas, from \$7 per acre, or fraction of an acre, to \$10 per acre, or fraction of an acre. Combined, these changes are expected to yield annual revenue gains of approximately \$100,000.

With regard to apiaries, H.B. 96 applies an annual \$50 certification fee for apiarists who sell or distribute packaged bees, nucs, or bee colonies and eliminates an existing \$5 apiary registration fee. The net result of changes to the apiary fees is an annual gain of approximately \$5,000 for Fund 5FC0.

Pesticide product registration. Fund 6690 is expected to see a revenue gain of between \$500,000 and \$1.7 million annually, depending on the way AGR assesses the product registration fees. Regarding these registration fees, H.B. 96 adjusts the amounts as follows: (1) increasing from \$150 to \$250 the annual registration for each product name and brand registered for the company whose name appears on the pesticide label, (2) increasing from \$75 to \$125 the penalty fee for late registration renewal, and (3) increasing from \$75 to \$125 the penalty fee for each product name and brand of a nonregistered pesticide that is distributed in Ohio before registration. Additionally, H.B. 96 establishes a \$30 examination fee for a pesticide applicator license applicant.

Fertilizer manufacturer and distributor licenses. Concerning fertilizer manufacturers and distributors, H.B. 96 increases the annual license for the Pork Marketing Program from \$5 to \$50, along with increasing the late license renewal fee, which would go from \$10 to \$25. These changes are expected to yield a gain of just under \$45,000 annually for Fund 6690.

C2:3: Hemp Program (ALIs 700674 and 700671)

Fund/ALI	FY 2025 Actual	FY 2026 Appropriation	FY 2027 Appropriation
GRF ALI 700674, Plant Testing	\$250,309	\$247,000	\$218,000
% change	--	-1.3%	-11.7%
Fund 5WJ0 ALI 700671, Hemp Program	\$242,957	\$367,000	\$375,000
% change	--	51.1%	2.2%

These ALIs are used to administer and enforce the Hemp Law which was created by S.B. 57 of the 133rd General Assembly. Together, they support the Hemp Program, including personnel, testing and collecting hemp or cannabidiol (CBD) products, and equipment. The Department began accepting and approving licenses to allow for the cultivation of hemp in CY 2020, although

demand for hemp as a crop has subsequently been lower than anticipated by the industry and therefore less profitable than expected.

Possible transfer of Hemp Program to the USDA

Hemp is a relatively new commercial crop in the United States. However, since federal law was relaxed to allow for commercial production under the 2014 Farm Bill, and subsequently the 2018 Farm Bill, industry growth has been weaker than anticipated. Long-term trends are uncertain due to lack of markets, international competition, and other factors. Under Ohio's hemp program, receipts from licenses and other sources deposited into the Hemp Program Fund (Fund 5WJ0) have fallen in successive fiscal years while expenses have exceeded the licensing income generated. Consequently, H.B. 96 permits the AGR Director to transfer jurisdiction for the hemp cultivation licensure program to the USDA. If so, there would be cost savings.

C2:4: Federal Cooperative Contracts (ALI 700601)

Fund/ALI	FY 2025 Actual	FY 2026 Appropriation	FY 2027 Appropriation
Fund 3820 ALI 700601, Federal Cooperative Contracts	\$9,877,842	\$11,612,000	\$9,669,000
% change	--	17.6%	-16.7%

This ALI receives revenues from federal agencies for grants and contracted services provided by the Department. These federal awards are deposited into the Cooperative Contracts Fund (Fund 3820) to facilitate cash flow where revenue from these various federal sources is intermittently received. There are approximately 40 various federal grants and contracts under the federal Plant and Animal Disease, Pest Control and Animal Care, and Food Safety programs. Additionally, this ALI includes federal grants for the Agricultural Soil and Water Conservation Program. Once the Department receives federal funding for these purposes, the required sums of cash are then transferred to the appropriate program-specific fund. In some cases, the costs related to the above programs are paid directly from Fund 3820.

C2:5: Federal Plant Industry (ALI 700614)

Fund/ALI	FY 2025 Actual	FY 2026 Appropriation	FY 2027 Appropriation
Fund 3R20 ALI 700614, Federal Plant Industry	\$6,380,391	\$6,843,000	\$7,189,000
% change	--	7.3%	5.1%

This ALI also is used to distribute funding from federal grants and cooperative agreements and is used for cost sharing in the operation of the Gypsy Moth Program as well as for operating the Pesticide Program and performing pest and disease surveys for the USDA. Additionally, this ALI is used for Asian Longhorned Beetle and Spotted Lantern Fly eradication efforts. Both of these invasive insects pose a threat to Ohio's timber crop.

Category 3: Soil and Water

This category of funding includes ALIs within the Department's budget that fund AGR's soil and water conservation responsibilities. The Division of Soil and Water Conservation is charged with (1) providing support to Ohio's 88 soil and water conservation districts (SWCDs), (2) implementing statewide agricultural and nonpoint source water pollution control programs, (3) supporting local development of watershed management and protection action plans, and (4) administering conservation programs and cost share for Agricultural Pollution Best Management Practices. Altogether, the funding in this area amounts to \$165.0 million over the FY 2026-FY 2027 biennium, or 47.2% of the budget for AGR.

C3:1: Soil and Water Division (ALI 700428)

Fund/ALI	FY 2025 Actual	FY 2026 Appropriation	FY 2027 Appropriation
GRF ALI 700428, Soil and Water Division	\$4,258,913	\$4,679,000	\$4,857,000
% change	--	9.9%	3.8%

This ALI is the primary source of operating support for the Division of Soil and Water Conservation. Altogether, the Division oversees implementation of the state's H2Ohio Water Quality Program, provides technical and financial support to the state's 88 SWCDs, runs the Agricultural Pollution Abatement Program, and operates the Statewide Watershed Planning and Management Program. Division staff consists of nutrient management specialists, professional engineers, program specialists, and soil scientists. The nutrient management specialists within the Division implement statewide agricultural and nonpoint source water pollution control programs and assist SWCDs and local watershed groups in implementing these types of programs. The Division's professional engineers provide engineering services to help install equipment and practices for pollution reduction as well as train SWCD staff, including administrative, financial, organizational, and strategic planning assistance. In addition, Division staff assists the Ohio Soil and Water Conservation Commission with its oversight responsibilities. Lastly, the Division's soil scientists update and maintain soil information based on data collected in county-based soil survey projects.

C3:2: Soil and Water Conservation District Support (ALIs 700509 and 700661)

Fund/ALI	FY 2025 Actual	FY 2026 Appropriation	FY 2027 Appropriation
GRF ALI 700509, Soil and Water District Support	\$16,337,500	\$12,527,000	\$12,533,000
% change	--	-23.3%	<0.1%
Fund 5BV0 ALI 700661, Soil and Water Districts	\$20,043,249	\$10,507,000	\$10,509,000
% change	--	-47.6%	<0.1%

The Division of Soil and Water Conservation uses these two ALIs to provide direct assistance to Ohio's 88 county SWCDs for the planning, design, and construction of conservation projects to reduce soil erosion and protect local water resources. A portion of these funds are also used to provide technical assistance, support local watershed coordinators, implement pollution control programs, and related activities. SWCDs are required to match state assistance pursuant to a formula adopted by the Ohio Soil and Water Conservation Commission. For more information on SWCDs' funding structure, Chapter 5 of the [SWCD Administrative Handbook](#) provides additional detail.

Funding for this direct assistance under ALI 700661, Soil and Water Districts, is supported by the Soil and Water Districts Assistance Fund (Fund 5BV0). Fund 5BV0 receives revenue from (1) a disposal fee of 25¢ per ton of construction and demolition debris, (2) 25¢ per ton of municipal solid waste, and (3) 50¢ per tire on the sale of new tires. Additionally, ALI 700661, Soil and Water District Support, can be used to pay any SWCD an annual amount not to exceed \$40,000 upon receipt of request and justification from the district and approval by the Ohio Soil and Water Conservation Commission.

Earmark for SWCDs

In addition to the direct assistance explained above, H.B. 96 earmarks funding for SWCDs in priority regions, as defined by the AGR Director, under GRF ALI 700509, Soil and Water District Support. Specifically, \$4.2 million in both FY 2026 and FY 2027 under this ALI is earmarked for local staffing costs and to assist in soil testing and nutrient management plan development, including manure transformation and manure conversion technologies, enhanced filter strips, water management, and H2Ohio Program support.

C3:3: Heidelberg Water Quality Lab (ALI 700660)

Fund/ALI	FY 2025 Actual	FY 2026 Appropriation	FY 2027 Appropriation
Fund 5BV0 ALI 700660, Heidelberg Water Quality Lab	\$275,000	\$275,000	\$275,000
% change	--	0.0%	0.0%

This ALI supports the National Center for Water Quality Research at Heidelberg University in Tiffin. The laboratory performs research on soil and water issues, including studying agricultural impacts on soil and water resources and conducting water quality analyses. Funding for this ALI is provided by the solid waste, construction and demolition debris, and tire sale fees credited to Fund 5BV0.

C3:4: Watershed Assistance (ALI 700653)

Fund/ALI	FY 2025 Actual	FY 2026 Appropriation	FY 2027 Appropriation
Fund 5QW0 ALI 700653, Watershed Assistance	\$608,745	\$857,000	\$832,000
% change	--	40.8%	-2.9%

This ALI supports Ohio's watersheds and is funded by various grants, fees, and contributions made directly to it. Specifically, this ALI funds the Muskingum Water District Program and SWCD Staff Technical and Administrative Development programs. The Muskingum Watershed Conservancy District provides funding to local SWCDs to cost share with landowners for projects that conserve and manage natural resources and ecosystems within the Muskingum River and Duck Creek watersheds. The Staff Technical and Administrative Development programs are training programs for newly hired SWCD staff.

C3:5: H2Ohio (ALI 700670)

Fund/ALI	FY 2025 Actual	FY 2026 Appropriation	FY 2027 Appropriation
Fund 6H20 ALI 700670, H2Ohio	\$136,634,845	\$53,600,000	\$53,600,000
% change	--	-60.8%	0.0%

This ALI is used to support the H2Ohio Program, the Governor's water quality initiative aimed to reduce phosphorous in waterways, creating wetlands, addressing failing septic systems, and preventing lead contamination through programs implemented by the departments of Agriculture, Natural Resources, and the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency. Historically, AGR has used this ALI to provide multi-year incentive payments to farmers for implementing any of the seven best conservation practices proven to reduce phosphorous runoff on farmland and into the waterways. Incentive payments depend on the best conservation practice implemented by landowners.

The H2Ohio Fund (Fund 6H20) supports seven particular activities: (1) agricultural water projects, which focuses on agricultural practices, (2) community water projects, which involve a public water system operated by a political subdivision, (3) nature water projects, which involve a natural water system, (4) awarding or allocating grants or money, issuing loans, or making purchases for the development and implementation of projects and programs that are designed to address water quality priorities, (5) funding cooperative research, data gathering and monitoring, and demonstration projects related to water quality priorities, (6) encouraging cooperation with and among leaders from state legislatures, state agencies, political subdivisions, business and industry, labor, agriculture, environmental organizations, institutions of higher education, and water conservation districts, and (7) other purposes, policies, programs, and priorities identified by the Lake Erie Commission in coordination with the state agencies or boards responsible for water protection and water management.

Category 4: Commodities and Marketing

This category is used to fund the Department's marketing activities, which seek to increase consumer purchasing and awareness of Ohio-based foods and other agricultural products.

C4:1: Ohio Proud (ALI 700636)

Fund/ALI	FY 2025 Actual	FY 2026 Appropriation	FY 2027 Appropriation
Fund 4R00 ALI 700636, Ohio Proud Marketing	\$13,817	\$25,000	\$25,000
% change	--	80.9%	0.0%

This ALI is used to fund Ohio Proud, a domestic marketing program to promote Ohio food and agricultural products within the state and throughout the country. Companies may be involved in the Ohio Proud Program and Ohio Proud Logo Program, in which the Ohio Proud logo is placed on domestic products sold by the participating company. Companies pay an initial \$50 fee to join Ohio Proud which is deposited into the Ohio Proud Marketing Program Fund (Fund 4R00). Additionally, AGR may sell merchandise that promotes the Ohio Proud Program and deposit any of those proceeds into Fund 4R00.

C4:2: Commodities (ALIs 700612 and 700627)

Fund/ALI	FY 2025 Actual	FY 2026 Appropriation	FY 2027 Appropriation
Fund 4940 ALI 700612, Agricultural Commodity Marketing Program	\$80,837	\$125,000	\$125,000
% change	--	54.6%	0.0%
Fund 4970 ALI 700627, Grain Warehouse Program	\$418,505	\$500,000	\$500,000
% change	--	19.5%	0.0%

ALI 700612, Agricultural Commodity Marketing Program, consists of voluntary assessments from the producers of agricultural commodities to cover the operating costs for marketing those commodities. The Department provides oversight for five marketing programs: (1) small grains, (2) beef, (3) corn, (4) small fruit and vegetable, and (5) propane.

ALI 700627, Grain Warehouse Program, is used to pay the costs of licensing and regulating grain warehouses and handlers, including inspection of grain elevators to determine the quantity of grain stored and financial status of the facility. The Commodity Handlers Regulatory Fund (Fund 4970) consists of inspection fees paid by commodity handlers, and interest transferred in from a related indemnity fund. Examination fees range from \$50 to \$1,200 depending on the size of the facility.

Pork Marketing Program

H.B. 96 also allows for the creation of a Pork Marketing Program, overseen by an operating committee of 12 members, to promote the sale and use of pork products. But it allows for the program to operate only if the National Pork Checkoff Program is no longer in operation. If the national program ceases and the state program is created, H.B. 96 funds the Pork Marketing Program by allowing the operating committee to levy an assessment of up to 0.25% of the market value of the porcine animal, pork, or pork product sold or imported with increases of up to 0.1% per year. None of this revenue would flow to the state and instead would be held in a bank. If the Pork Marketing Program is established, the Department would incur new costs for overseeing it, in line with its responsibilities for overseeing other commodity marketing programs in the state.

C4:3: Ohio Grape Industries (ALI 700626)

Fund/ALI	FY 2025 Actual	FY 2026 Appropriation	FY 2027 Appropriation
Fund 4960 ALI 700626, Ohio Grape Industries	\$1,413,362	\$1,200,000	\$1,200,000
% change	--	-15.1%	0.0%

This ALI funds the Ohio Grape Industries Program, which promotes the sale and production of grape products within the state by providing new information on growing techniques, marketing strategies, research, and identification of grape varieties suitable for cultivation in Ohio. This program is funded through a 5¢ per gallon tax on all wine sales in Ohio that is deposited into the Ohio Grape Industries Fund (Fund 4960). H.B. 96 revises the makeup of the Ohio Grape Industries Committee by removing the AGR Chief of the Division of Markets and adding two Ohio residents appointed by the AGR Director.

C4:4: License Plates – Sustainable Agriculture (ALI 700651)

Fund/ALI	FY 2025 Actual	FY 2026 Appropriation	FY 2027 Appropriation
Fund 4900 ALI 700651, License Plates – Sustainable Agriculture	\$0	\$16,800	\$16,800
% change	--	N/A	0.0%

This ALI is used to promote agriculture awareness and sustainability programs through the issuance of license plates. Of these fees, \$20 goes to the Agro Ohio Fund (Fund 4900).

Category 5: Other Agriculture Services

This category encompasses ALIs that fund other agricultural services not directly related to food or plant regulation.

C5:1: Weights and Measures (ALIs 700412 and 700608)

Fund/ALI	FY 2025 Actual	FY 2026 Appropriation	FY 2027 Appropriation
GRF ALI 700412, Weights and Measures	\$792,037	\$825,000	\$849,000
% change	--	4.2%	2.9%
Fund 5H20 ALI 700608, Metrology Lab and Scale Certification	\$1,082,057	\$1,194,000	\$1,240,000
% change	--	10.3%	3.9%

These two ALIs support the operating expenses of the Division of Weights and Measures. Specifically, GRF ALI 700412, Weights and Measures, is used to pay the operating costs of the Division, most of which is payroll. The Division annually inspects measuring devices, processes device permits, registers service persons, issues calibration certificates in the Metrology Lab, and provides training for state and local jurisdiction inspectors.

Funding for this program under ALI 700608, Metrology Lab and Scale Certification, is derived from fees paid by private companies for calibration and measuring device certification services which are deposited into the Metrology and Scale Certification Fund (Fund 5H20). The funding is used to certify and ensure the accuracy of secondary weights and measures standards.

C5:2: Auctioneers (ALIs 700629 and 700609)

Fund/ALI	FY 2025 Actual	FY 2026 Appropriation	FY 2027 Appropriation
Fund 5B80 ALI 700629, Auctioneers	\$174,703	\$230,000	\$236,000
% change	--	31.7%	2.6%
Fund 4D20 ALI 700609, Auction Education	\$25,911	\$53,000	\$54,000
% change	--	104.6%	1.9%

These two ALIs are used to pay the operating expenses related to the regulation of the auctioneer industry, including the licensing of auctioneers, and providing continuing education. ALI 700629, Auctioneers, is used to pay the operating expenses of licensing auctioneers. Auctioneers are required to renew their license biennially, which includes a fee of \$200 that is deposited into the Auctioneers Fund (Fund 5B80).

The funding under ALI 700609, Auction Education, is used to provide continuing education to licensed auctioneers. The ALI is funded by the proceeds from \$7.50 collected from each initial or renewed auctioneer's license in Ohio. This amount is then deposited into the Auction Education Fund (Fund 4D20).

C5:3: Amusement Ride Safety (ALIs 700511 and 700620)

Fund/ALI	FY 2025 Actual	FY 2026 Appropriation	FY 2027 Appropriation
GRF ALI 700511, Ride Inspection	\$749,000	\$779,000	\$801,000
% change	--	4.0%	2.8%
Fund 5780 ALI 700620, Ride Inspection	\$1,162,536	\$1,245,000	\$1,273,000
% change	--	7.1%	2.3%

These ALIs support the Division of Amusement Ride Safety in overseeing and enforcing safety requirements for the operation of amusement rides, games, and concessions.

Fund 5780 ALI 700620, Ride Inspection, is supported by fees for licenses, inspections, reinspections, and fines for amusement ride operators that are deposited into the Amusement Ride Inspection Fund (Fund 5780).

C5:4: County Agricultural Societies (ALI 700501)

Fund/ALI	FY 2025 Actual	FY 2026 Appropriation	FY 2027 Appropriation
GRF ALI 700501, County Agricultural Societies	\$475,745	\$1,130,000	\$630,000
% change	--	137.5%	-44.2%

This ALI is used to reimburse part of the expenses incurred by county and independent agricultural fairs for youth activities. The amount received through reimbursement depends on the number of fairs seeking reimbursement and the amount available. Reimbursements are issued after agricultural societies provide a report listing junior fair expenses that they have incurred.

Category 6: Farmland Preservation

This category includes ALIs used to fund initiatives and programs aimed at the preservation of agricultural farmland in Ohio.

C6:1: Farmland Preservation (ALI 700632)

Fund/ALI	FY 2025 Actual	FY 2026 Appropriation	FY 2027 Appropriation
Fund 7057 ALI 700632, Clean Ohio Agricultural Easement Operating	\$53,791	\$512,000	\$515,000
% change	--	851.8%	0.6%

ALI 700632, Clean Ohio Agricultural Easement Operating, is used to administer agricultural easements in relation to the Clean Ohio bond initiative. The Clean Ohio Agricultural Easement Fund (Fund 7057) collects interest from the Clean Ohio Fund.

C6:2: Ohio Farm Loan (ALI 700617)

Fund/ALI	FY 2025 Actual	FY 2026 Appropriation	FY 2027 Appropriation
Fund 3360 ALI 700617, Ohio Farm Loan – Revolving	\$370,311	\$317,000	\$200,000
% change	--	-14.4%	-36.9%

This ALI is used to award grants for rural rehabilitation of farmland that benefit rural residents and has a long-term impact on the community. The grant can be used to acquire land; to construct, reconstruct, remodel, renovate, rehabilitate, enlarge, or improve buildings to be used for agricultural purposes; or to buy stationary equipment and fixed assets. Additionally, the ALI is used to award grants for organizations pursuing youth-focused agricultural interest. Specifically, this ALI supports the Agriculture and Rural Community Outreach Program administered by the Ohio Future Farmers of America organization. Lastly, this ALI supports the Department's costs related to administering farmland programs. This program is funded with liquidated assets of the Ohio Rural Rehabilitation Corporation. The remaining funds are targeted toward eligible work. To the extent practical, the Department is moving away from recurring expenses toward one-time projects, as there are no new revenues for this program.

Category 7: Administration

This category consists of ALIs appropriated across various agency programs, largely for centralized administrative purposes not directly attributable to any of the categories described in this analysis.

C7:1: Utility Radiological Safety (ALI 700606)

Fund/ALI	FY 2025 Actual	FY 2026 Appropriation	FY 2027 Appropriation
Fund 4E40 ALI 700606, Utility Radiological Safety	\$124,456	\$136,000	\$142,000
% change	--	9.3%	4.4%

This ALI is used to pay AGR's share of all necessary operating costs to ensure nuclear power plants are operated safely and that contingency plans are followed in case of a nuclear accident. The departments of Agriculture, Commerce, and Health; the Emergency Management Agency; the Environmental Protection Agency; and the Public Works Commission have developed a comprehensive policy for the state in case of a nuclear accident. The Utility Radiological Safety Fund (Fund 4E40) consists of sums paid by the Ohio Radiological Preparedness Board of the Public Utilities Commission for AGR's role under Ohio's nuclear safety plan.

C7:2: Laboratory Administration Support (ALI 700644)

Fund/ALI	FY 2025 Actual	FY 2026 Appropriation	FY 2027 Appropriation
Fund 5DA0 ALI 700644, Laboratory Administration Support	\$1,278,644	\$1,300,000	\$1,339,000
% change	--	1.7%	3.0%

This ALI is used solely to pay the operational expenses of the Ohio Department of Health/Environmental Protection Agency laboratory building on the Department of Agriculture's Reynoldsburg campus. The funding is supported by quarterly payments from the Department of Health and the Environmental Protection Agency for their share of utility, supply, and repair costs for the facility that are deposited into the Laboratory Administration Fund (Fund 5DA0).

C7:3: Administrative Support (ALI 700655)

Fund/ALI	FY 2025 Actual	FY 2026 Appropriation	FY 2027 Appropriation
Fund 5GH0 ALI 700655, Administrative Support	\$7,218,709	\$7,614,000	\$7,999,000
% change	--	5.5%	4.9%

This ALI funds central services and administrative costs related to the operations of each division. AGR uses an indirect cost-funding strategy to charge a given portion of the agency's payroll expenses, periodically depositing the proceeds into the Central Support Indirect Cost Fund (Fund 5GH0).

C7:4: Federal Administrative Programs (ALI 700607)

Fund/ALI	FY 2025 Actual	FY 2026 Appropriation	FY 2027 Appropriation
Fund 3J40 ALI 700607, Federal Administrative Programs	\$1,916,149	\$2,000,000	\$2,055,000
% change	--	4.4%	2.8%

This ALI is used to meet Statewide Cost Allocation Plan (SWCAP) requirements and pay the overhead costs of the agency that are attributable to federal grant activities. Expenses that are paid from this source of funding include utility billings as well as the cost of salaries that are typically applied to federal grants, such as administrative staff. The Indirect Cost Fund (Fund 3J40) consists of federal grant moneys for cooperative agreements with Ohio for such activities as meat and poultry inspections and pesticide enforcement.

**FY 2026 - FY 2027 Final Appropriations
All Fund Groups - Detail**

H.B. 96 - Main Operating Appropriations Bill

Detail by Agency			FY 2024	FY 2025	Appropriation FY 2026	Appropriation FY 2027	FY 2025 to FY 2026 % Change	FY 2026 to FY 2027 % Change
AGR Ohio Department of Agriculture								
GRF	700401	Animal Health Programs	\$7,338,687	\$7,888,468	\$8,683,000	\$8,893,400	10.07%	2.42%
GRF	700403	Dairy Division	\$1,447,969	\$1,513,559	\$1,569,000	\$1,613,000	3.66%	2.80%
GRF	700404	Ohio Proud	\$130,057	\$244,484	\$0	\$0	-100.00%	N/A
GRF	700406	Consumer Protection Lab	\$1,676,307	\$1,724,358	\$1,880,000	\$1,906,000	9.03%	1.38%
GRF	700407	Food Safety	\$1,554,968	\$1,670,029	\$1,705,000	\$1,752,000	2.09%	2.76%
GRF	700409	Farmland Preservation	\$524,000	\$550,000	\$0	\$0	-100.00%	N/A
GRF	700410	Plant Industry	\$494,610	\$489,000	\$542,000	\$594,000	10.84%	9.59%
GRF	700412	Weights and Measures	\$760,154	\$792,037	\$825,000	\$849,000	4.16%	2.91%
GRF	700415	Poultry Inspection	\$899,371	\$854,746	\$1,597,500	\$1,619,500	86.90%	1.38%
GRF	700417	Soil and Water Phosphorus Program	\$10,699,999	\$6,420,000	\$0	\$0	-100.00%	N/A
GRF	700418	Livestock Regulation Program	\$1,413,231	\$1,453,285	\$1,600,000	\$1,649,000	10.10%	3.06%
GRF	700424	Livestock Testing and Inspections	\$138,590	\$133,710	\$135,000	\$138,000	0.96%	2.22%
GRF	700426	Dangerous Animals and Emergency Management	\$703,144	\$695,793	\$708,000	\$716,000	1.75%	1.13%
GRF	700427	High Volume Breeder Kennel Control	\$1,370,141	\$1,448,502	\$1,545,000	\$1,553,000	6.66%	0.52%
GRF	700428	Soil and Water Division	\$3,547,877	\$4,258,913	\$4,679,000	\$4,857,000	9.86%	3.80%
GRF	700499	Meat Inspection Program - State Share	\$7,476,409	\$7,799,342	\$8,080,000	\$8,304,000	3.60%	2.77%
GRF	700501	County Agricultural Societies	\$476,048	\$475,745	\$1,130,000	\$630,000	137.52%	-44.25%
GRF	700509	Soil and Water District Support	\$9,131,484	\$16,337,500	\$12,527,000	\$12,533,000	-23.32%	0.05%
GRF	700511	Ride Inspection	\$716,002	\$749,000	\$779,000	\$801,000	4.01%	2.82%
GRF	700512	Local Fairs	\$0	\$4,700,000	\$0	\$0	-100.00%	N/A
GRF	700674	Plant Testing	\$250,433	\$250,309	\$247,000	\$218,000	-1.32%	-11.74%
General Revenue Fund Subtotal			\$50,749,481	\$60,448,779	\$48,231,500	\$48,625,900	-20.21%	0.82%
4900	700651	License Plates - Sustainable Agriculture	\$15,869	\$0	\$16,800	\$16,800	N/A	0.00%
4940	700612	Agricultural Commodity Marketing Program	\$104,187	\$80,837	\$125,000	\$125,000	54.63%	0.00%
4960	700626	Ohio Grape Industries	\$1,379,649	\$1,413,362	\$1,200,000	\$1,200,000	-15.10%	0.00%

**FY 2026 - FY 2027 Final Appropriations
All Fund Groups - Detail**

H.B. 96 - Main Operating Appropriations Bill

Detail by Agency			FY 2024	FY 2025	Appropriation FY 2026	Appropriation FY 2027	FY 2025 to FY 2026 % Change	FY 2026 to FY 2027 % Change
AGR Ohio Department of Agriculture								
4970	700627	Grain Warehouse Program	\$375,564	\$418,505	\$500,000	\$500,000	19.47%	0.00%
4C90	700605	Commercial Feed and Seed	\$2,118,548	\$1,793,418	\$2,273,000	\$2,329,000	26.74%	2.46%
4D20	700609	Auction Education	\$50,092	\$25,911	\$53,000	\$54,000	104.55%	1.89%
4E40	700606	Utility Radiological Safety	\$119,744	\$124,456	\$136,000	\$142,000	9.28%	4.41%
4P70	700610	Food Safety Inspection	\$1,058,585	\$444,676	\$1,353,000	\$1,396,000	204.27%	3.18%
4R00	700636	Ohio Proud Marketing	\$15,186	\$13,817	\$25,000	\$25,000	80.94%	0.00%
4R20	700637	Dairy Industry Inspection	\$1,442,435	\$1,440,074	\$1,751,000	\$1,787,000	21.59%	2.06%
4T60	700611	Poultry and Meat Inspection	\$103,691	\$83,277	\$113,500	\$117,000	36.29%	3.08%
5780	700620	Ride Inspection	\$1,038,868	\$1,162,536	\$1,245,000	\$1,273,000	7.09%	2.25%
5B80	700629	Auctioneers	\$201,290	\$174,703	\$230,000	\$236,000	31.65%	2.61%
5BV0	700660	Heidelberg Water Quality Lab	\$275,000	\$275,000	\$275,000	\$275,000	0.00%	0.00%
5BV0	700661	Soil and Water Districts	\$9,363,670	\$20,043,249	\$10,507,000	\$10,509,000	-47.58%	0.02%
5FC0	700648	Plant Pest Program	\$824,386	\$1,068,754	\$1,200,000	\$1,200,000	12.28%	0.00%
5H20	700608	Metrology Lab and Scale Certification	\$999,464	\$1,082,057	\$1,194,000	\$1,240,000	10.35%	3.85%
5L80	700604	Livestock Management Program	\$159,368	\$102,834	\$186,800	\$189,800	81.65%	1.61%
5MA0	700657	Dangerous and Restricted Animals	\$8,208	\$984	\$0	\$0	-100.00%	N/A
5MR0	700658	Commercial Dog Breeding	\$140,524	\$227,956	\$450,000	\$465,000	97.41%	3.33%
5MS0	700659	Animal and Consumer Protection	\$463	\$120	\$8,400	\$8,400	6,917.54%	0.00%
5QW0	700653	Watershed Assistance	\$443,586	\$608,745	\$857,000	\$832,000	40.78%	-2.92%
5WJ0	700671	Hemp Program	\$344,826	\$242,957	\$367,000	\$375,000	51.06%	2.18%
6520	700634	Animal, Consumer, and ATL Labs	\$6,666,230	\$8,166,070	\$8,483,900	\$8,328,800	3.89%	-1.83%
6690	700635	Pesticide, Fertilizer, and Lime Inspection Program	\$4,058,184	\$4,199,543	\$4,533,000	\$4,649,000	7.94%	2.56%
6H20	700670	H2Ohio	\$34,845,548	\$136,634,845	\$53,600,000	\$53,600,000	-60.77%	0.00%
Dedicated Purpose Fund Group Subtotal			\$66,153,167	\$179,828,683	\$90,683,400	\$90,872,800	-49.57%	0.21%
5DA0	700644	Laboratory Administration Support	\$1,125,767	\$1,278,644	\$1,300,000	\$1,339,000	1.67%	3.00%

**FY 2026 - FY 2027 Final Appropriations
All Fund Groups - Detail**

H.B. 96 - Main Operating Appropriations Bill

Detail by Agency	FY 2024	FY 2025	Appropriation FY 2026	Appropriation FY 2027	FY 2025 to FY 2026 % Change	FY 2026 to FY 2027 % Change
AGR Ohio Department of Agriculture						
5GH0 700655 Administrative Support	\$6,530,313	\$7,218,709	\$7,614,000	\$7,990,000	5.48%	4.94%
Internal Service Activity Fund Group Subtotal	\$7,656,080	\$8,497,353	\$8,914,000	\$9,329,000	4.90%	4.66%
7057 700632 Clean Ohio Agricultural Easement Operating	\$172,337	\$53,791	\$512,000	\$515,000	851.83%	0.59%
Capital Projects Fund Group Subtotal	\$172,337	\$53,791	\$512,000	\$515,000	851.83%	0.59%
3260 700618 Meat Inspection Program - Federal Share	\$5,238,046	\$5,355,152	\$5,891,000	\$6,133,000	10.01%	4.11%
3360 700617 Ohio Farm Loan - Revolving	\$190,141	\$370,311	\$317,000	\$200,000	-14.40%	-36.91%
3820 700601 Federal Cooperative Contracts	\$8,030,388	\$9,877,842	\$11,612,000	\$9,669,000	17.56%	-16.73%
3J40 700607 Federal Administrative Programs	\$1,689,819	\$1,916,149	\$2,000,000	\$2,055,000	4.38%	2.75%
3R20 700614 Federal Plant Industry	\$5,319,703	\$6,380,391	\$6,843,000	\$7,189,000	7.25%	5.06%
Federal Fund Group Subtotal	\$20,468,097	\$23,899,844	\$26,663,000	\$25,246,000	11.56%	-5.31%
Ohio Department of Agriculture Total	\$145,199,161	\$272,728,451	\$175,003,900	\$174,588,700	-35.83%	-0.24%