

# The 2023 Farm Bill and the State of Ag Policy

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# Farm Bill Title Breakdown

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## **Title I Commodities**

Covers price and income support for farmers and disaster assistance programs

## **Title II Conservation**

Covers programs that help farmers implement natural resource conservation efforts

## **Title III Trade**

Covers food export subsidy programs and international food aid programs



## **Title IV Nutrition**

Covers the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program [SNAP] as well as a variety of smaller nutrition programs

## **Title V Credit**

Covers federal loan programs designed to help farmers access financial credit

## **Title VI Rural Development**

Covers programs that help rural economic growth through rural business and community development, rural housing, and infrastructure

# Farm Bill Title Breakdown (cont.)

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## **Title VII Research, Extension, and Related Matters**

Covers farm and food research, education, and extension programs

## **Title VIII Forestry**

Covers forest-specific conservation programs that help farmers, ranchers and rural communities be stewards of forest resources

## **Title IX Energy**

Covers programs that encourage growing and processing crops for renewable fuels, helps agribusiness owners install renewable energy systems, and supports research related to energy



## **Title X Horticulture**

Covers farmers market and local food programs, funding for fruit/vegetable research and infrastructure, and support for organic farming and certification programs

## **Title XI Crop Insurance**

Covers premium subsidies to farmers and crop insurance companies to protect against losses in yield, crop revenue, or whole farm revenue

## **Title XII Miscellaneous**

Covers advocacy and outreach areas, including beginning, socially disadvantaged, and veteran farmers and ranchers, agricultural labor safety and workforce development, and livestock health

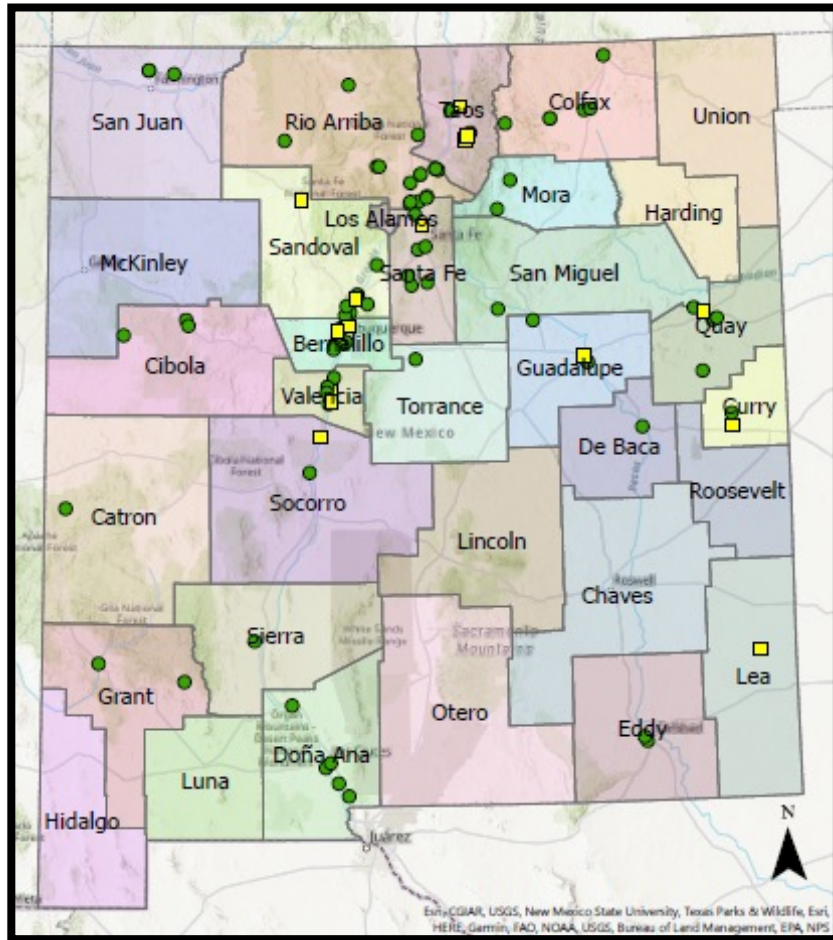
# Farm Bill End-of-Year Expiration Consequences

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## *So what happens?*

- For programs with mandatory funding that is provided by the farm bill and have provisions that expire at the end of FY2023, authority to operate may cease.
- For programs with a fiscal year authorization funded with discretionary appropriations, or for programs with mandatory spending authorized but not appropriated by the farm bill—such as the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)—an appropriations act or continuing resolution could allow operations to continue.
- For the farm commodity and dairy support programs that expire after the 2023 crop year, the consequences of expiration begin on January 1, 2024, when inactive and outdated laws—commonly called “permanent law”—would be restored for dairy, the first commodity affected in the new crop year.
- Some programs had their expiration dates extended beyond the expiration of the farm bill by other legislation. The Inflation Reduction Act of 2022, extended some—but not all—conservation programs through FY2031.
- Some programs, such as crop insurance, are permanently authorized, do not expire, and would not be affected by farm bill expiration

# On-the-ground projects funded through NMDA's Healthy Soil Program, FY20-23



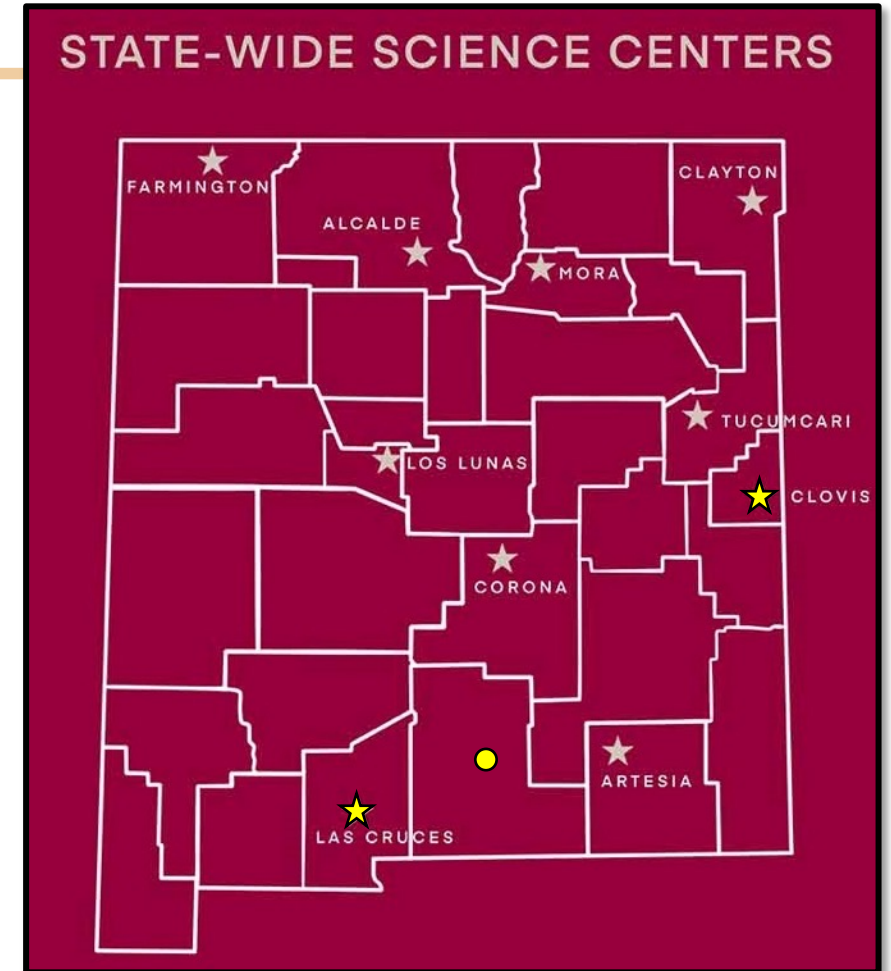
Projects shown (at left) by applicant/grantee type:

- **Eligible Entities** (pueblos, tribes, and nations; acequias; land grants; soil and water conservation districts (SWCDs); NMSU—Cooperative Extension Service; and other **local governmental entities that manage/work on land**)
- **Individual Applicants** (farmers, ranchers, and other land managers whose projects are **sponsored by their SWCD or tribal nation**)

Fiscal Year	Grant Applications for On-the-Ground Projects		Approx. Dollars (in thousands)	
	Received	Selected	Requested	Awarded
2020 (pilot)	84	19	\$1,370.0	\$178.0
2021	49	26	\$513.0	\$237.0
2022	49	17	\$404.0	\$185.0
2023	77	50	\$1,405.5	\$1,092.8

# Ongoing soil health research funded through NMDA's Healthy Soil Program

- Complementary to the on-the-ground projects, **NMDA's Healthy Soil Program funds several soil health research projects** carried out in partnership with NMSU's College of Agricultural, Consumer, and Environmental Sciences (ACES).
- **These research efforts aim to identify:**
  - The optimum mix of **cover crops and organic amendments** on cropland (★ *Las Cruces*)
  - The best soil health practices to guard against erosion, noxious weeds, and other **problems on temporarily fallowed cropland** (★ *Las Cruces*)
  - The best soil health practices to **ease the transition from irrigated to dryland** production on cropland (★ *Clovis*)
  - New ways to **measure and protect soil health on rangeland** where multiple species graze (● *Otero County*)



Map courtesy NMSU

# Thank you!

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Jeff Witte

Secretary

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New Mexico Livestock Board

Meat & Poultry Inspection  
(MPI) Program



# USDA

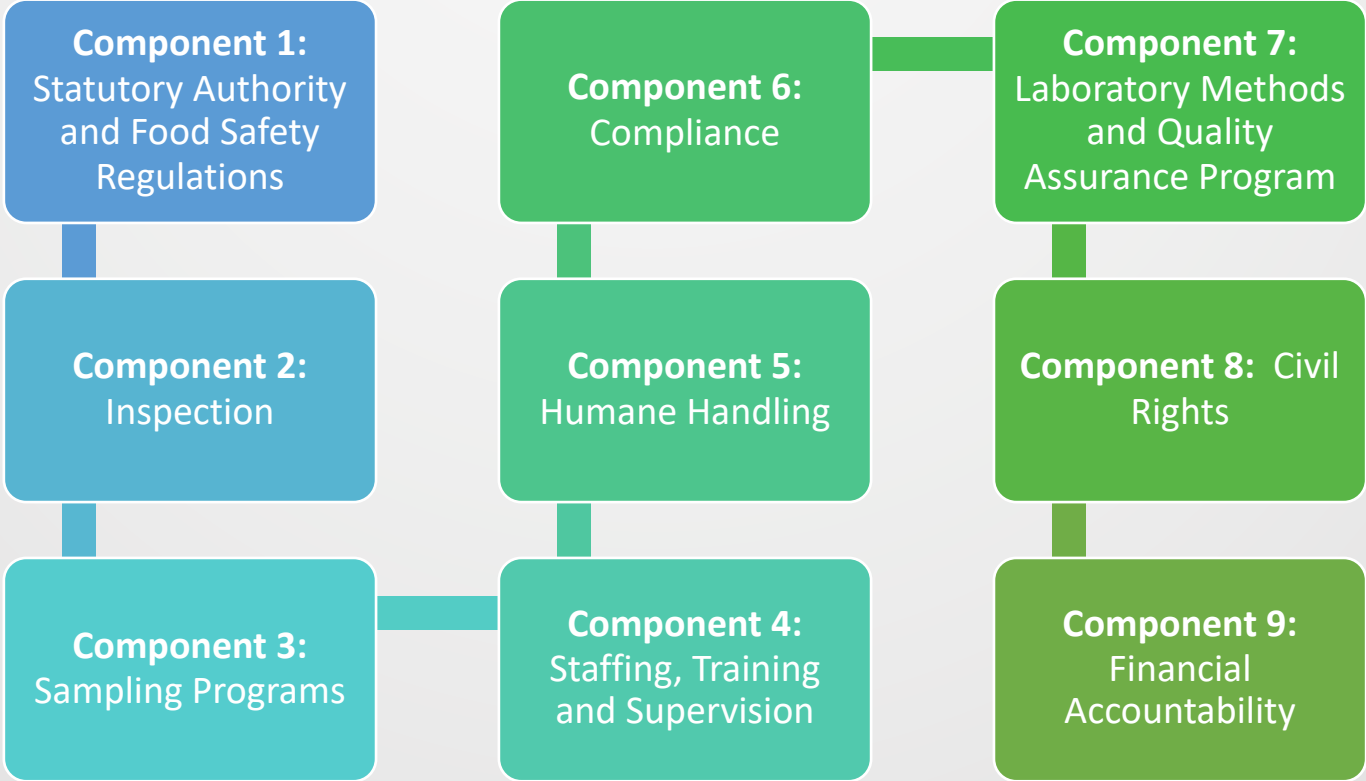
## FSIS (Food Safety Inspection Service)

- The Federal Meat Inspection Act (FMIA) gives the Federal Government Preemption over all Meat & Poultry Inspection across the United States.
- The Federal Meat Inspection Act (FMIA) (21 U.S.C. 661) and the Poultry Products Inspection Act (PPIA) (21 U.S.C. 454) authorize FSIS to cooperate with State agencies in developing and administering their own Meat and Poultry Inspection (MPI) programs.
- A cooperative agreement must be entered into upon the State MPI Program operating verifiably in accordance with “At Least Equal To” Federal Inspection Requirements.
- ***The “at least equal to” standard requires State MPI programs operate in a manner that is not less effective than those standards adopted for the Federal inspection program.***

# 2024 USDA BUDGET SUMMARY

- *“State Meat and Poultry Inspection (MPI) programs are an integral part of the nation’s food safety system; they help prevent supply-chain bottlenecks within a state ensuring American families have plentiful access to safe meat and poultry products.”*
- *“FSIS cooperates with state agencies in developing and administering the MPI and Cooperative Interstate Shipment (CIS) programs. These programs benefit small and very small establishments, and FSIS aids in the sustainment and expansion of these programs. With rising costs, and the anticipated entry of additional states and establishments into the programs in 2024, the budget requests \$6.1 million to cover the FSIS contribution to the program (up to 50 percent of the cost of the State MPI programs and 60 percent for the CIS programs). The state MPI and CIS programs’ growth are part of USDA’s priority to expand meat processing capacity and strengthen the resilience of the supply chain.”*

# Cooperative Agreement - Nine Components Must Be “At Least Equal To”



# Where Are We Now?

- Under the authority of 77-2-7 (I) the NMLB has adopted Rules that the New Mexico MPI Program may regulate In-State Meat & Poultry processing facilities.
- The Legislature has provided reoccurring funding for the MPI Program which meets the Financial Accountability requirement.
- The New Mexico Livestock Board (NMLB) has submitted an official letter of intent to initiate the NM MPI Program to the FSIS Administrator. FSIS has accepted the letter as the NM MPI Programs' formal application.
- The NMLB is working to introduce a bill at the 2024 Legislative Session to establish the required Statutory Authority for the New Mexico MPI Program.
- The NMLB is currently seeking applicants for the MPI Director and Deputy Director positions.

# Where Are We Now?

- On August 18, 2023, the NM State Personnel Board approved the following positions for the MPI Program:
  - MPI Director
  - MPI Deputy Director
    - Training Officer
    - Enforcement Investigative Analysis Officer
  - MPI Regional Operating Manager (ROM)
    - Compliance Officer
  - Meat & Poultry Inspector II
  - Meat & Poultry Inspector I



# Thank you!

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# **Farm Bill**

## **Title 2 Conservation**

# The Farm Bill: Title 2 Conservation

- Aids ag producers and landowners in adopting conservation activities on ag and forest land.
- The main programs include:
  - Conservation Reserve Program (CRP)
    - Provides yearly rental payments to producers who maintain cropland, marginal pasture, or grassland in grass or tree cover for 10-15 years. Producers enrolled in the program agree to remove environmentally sensitive land from production and plant species that will improve environmental health and quality.
  - Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP)
    - Help producers improve grazing conditions, increase crop yields, reduce production expenses, and improve scenic and wildlife values of the land.
  - Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)
    - Provides assistance to producers to install and maintain conservation practices on eligible ag and forest land that work to protect soil, water, plant, wildlife and other natural resources while ensuring sustainable production. Also works to help producers meet federal, state, tribal, and local environmental regulations.
  - Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP)
    - Addresses problems at a regional or watershed scale. RCPP encourages partners to join in efforts with producers to increase the restoration and sustainable use of soil, water, wildlife, and related natural resources on regional or watershed scales.





## FARM BILL – Local Delivery



- Conservation Programs benefit the overall Environment in NM.
- Soil and Water Conservation Districts (swcnds) were set up during the Dust Bowl days to assist USDA with local delivery of the Farm Bill.
- There are 47 SWCD in NM. They are political subdivisions governed by an elected board.
- SWCD are the only entity allowed by law to work in federal, state, local, and private property.
- SWCD need more state support to help build capacity for expanded workloads.

# Projected Infrastructure Reduction Act Allocations for NM

## Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)

FY 24: \$19,742,359

FY 25: \$34,199,102

FY 26: \$39,403,529

## Conservation Security Program (CSP)

FY 24: \$7,560,705

FY 25: \$15,221,485

FY 26: \$22,882,265

## Ag Conservation Easement Program (ACEP)

FY 24: \$7,616,055

FY 25: \$9,139,266



**The Inflation Reduction Act of 2022 (IRA)** was enacted in August 2022.

Among the IRA's **primary goals is to address climate change, with a specific focus on reducing greenhouse gas emissions and addressing the ongoing drought in western states.**

The IRA provides billions of dollars in new funding for farm bill conservation programs, specifically EQIP (\$8.45 billion), CSP (\$3.35 billion), ACEP (\$1.4 billion), and RCPP (\$4.95 billion), through 2026.

**SWCD are key to getting these dollars into the state and delivery on projects.**

# Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)



- EQIP was established in 1996 and provides “flexible technical and financial assistance” to private landowners and agricultural producers to address targeted environmental and natural resource issues – including water conservation measures – on their lands while keeping their lands in production.
- EQIP assistance is available to agricultural producers and owners of non-industrial private forestland, as well as tribal governments. Eligible lands under EQIP include cropland, rangeland, pastureland, non-industrial private forestland and other farm or ranch lands. EQIP participants work directly with NRCS to develop conservation plans and implement various conservation practices in their operations.
- **Landowners are eligible for reimbursement from USDA through a contracted cost-share agreement, which typically covers up to 75% of costs associated with planning, implementation, management and maintenance of approved practices.** EQIP is a competitive program
- **Approved conservation practices under EQIP generally include activities that address water and air quality, soil health and erosion, wildlife habitat and ground and surface water conservation.**
- . In FY2021, the EQIP program provided \$1.26 billion in funds through 34,054 contracts, covering 11.6 million acres. Approximately 30 percent of landowners who sign up rank high enough to receive funding each year.

# Regional Conservation Partnership Program

RCPP Title	RCPP Projects	Expiration	Lead Partner	Fed Funds	Partner Contribution
Canadian River	2015	Completed	Canadian River SWCD/NMACD	2,000,000	5,650,000
Acequia Restoration	2015	Completed	NMACD AFA	1,200,000	9,600,000
		4/30/2021	NMACD	4,000,000	7,600,000
North Central	2015	Completed	Claunch-Pinto SWCD	2,400,000	2,400,000
Acequia	2016	Completed	NMACD AFA	3,000,000	15,200,000
North Central	2016	Completed	Claunch-Pinto SWCD	500,000	500,000
Soil Health	2017		9/30/2022 NMACD	7,000,000	10,700,000
Chama	2017		East Rio Arriba 2/28/2023 SWCD	3,420,000	9,510,600
Canadian River	2017		Ute Creek 9/30/2022 SWCD/NMACD	3,600,000	4,233,125
Acequia	2017		2/28/2023 NMACD AFA	2,900,000	10,300,000
North Central	2017		Claunch-Pinto 9/30/2022 SWCD	970,000	970,000
NFWF	2018		8/31/2023 NFWF/NMACD	1,350,000	1,350,000
North Central	2018		Claunch-Pinto 8/31/2023 SWCD	3,420,000	3,420,000
Restoration	2019	Renewal	NMACD	4,000,000	9,320,000
North Central	2019	Renewal	Claunch-Pinto SWCD	2,400,000	2,400,000
Eastern Plains	2019	New	NMACD	2,030,000	10,369,200
San Juan	2019	New	San Juan SWCD	1,040,000	2,500,000
Ogalalla	2020	New	NMACD	6,911,311	15,000,000
<b>TOTALS</b>				<b>52,141,311</b>	<b>121,022,925</b>

ALL RCPPS REQUIRE AT LEAST A 1/1 MATCH TO APPLY FOR THE FUNDS

Thank you!

Rebecca Dow  
Executive Assistant  
New Mexico Association  
of Conservation Districts

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Dr. Allen Malone

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Cooperative Extension Service



**College of Agricultural, Consumer  
and Environmental Sciences**  
Cooperative Extension Service

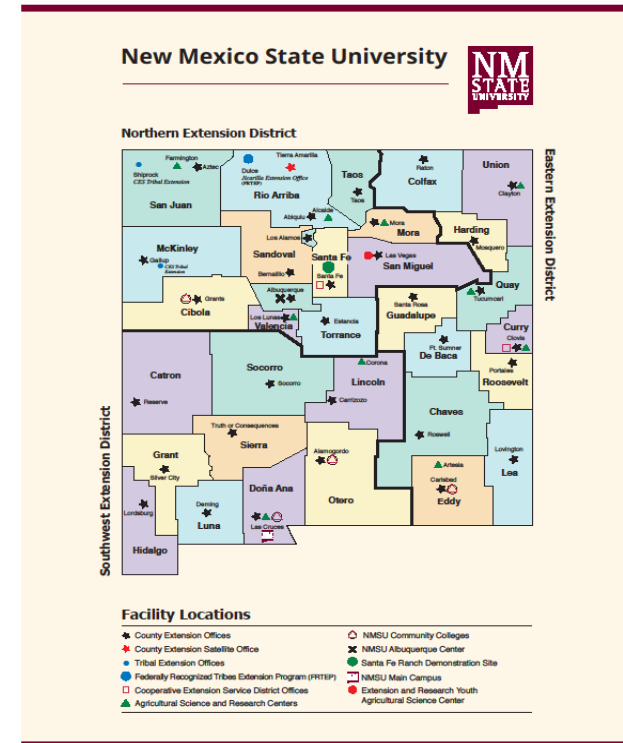
# NMSU Agricultural Experiment Station

- AES is the principal research unit of the College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences (ACES) at New Mexico State University.
- AES was defined and created by the **Federal Hatch Act of 1887** and is a **State Constitutionally Mandated** program to research problems and find solutions to improve the lives and livelihoods of citizens.
- **Mission of AES** is to provide “fundamental and applied science and technology research to **benefit New Mexico’s citizens in the economic, social, and cultural aspects of agriculture, natural resources management and family issues.**”
- The AES system consists of scientists from NMSU’s main campus in the College of ACES and 12 agricultural science and research centers throughout the state.
- AES is a core unit upholding the land-grant mission at NMSU by supporting research that directly benefits the state of New Mexico and works directly with the Cooperative Extension Service to ensure information is disseminated to the public.



# New Mexico Cooperative Extension Service

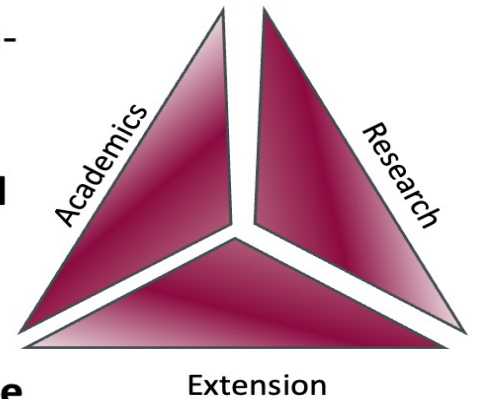
- Community education arm of New Mexico State University.
- Unique federal, state and county partnership enabled by the **Smith-Lever Act of 1914** and a **State Statutory Program** under Section 76.
- **Mission of CES** is to “provide the people of New Mexico with practical, research-based knowledge and programs to improve their quality of life”.
- **CES has evolved and adjusted to the changing needs** of New Mexico stakeholders, balancing the continuing need for updated information on traditional agricultural subjects as well as addressing innovations in newer subject areas.
- Extension faculty on average reach over 550,000 New Mexicans (~ 1/4 of the state’s population) annually with non-formal educational programs that extend the knowledge of the land-grant university system.

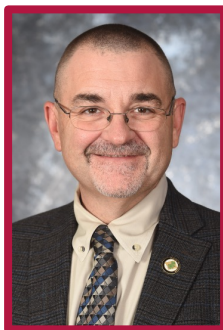




# Farm Bill Vital to Supporting Land-Grant University Mission

- Farm Bill is pivotal to NMSU College of ACES ability to uphold our promise to New Mexico communities and our mission as a land-grant university.
- Farm bill authorizes federal capacity funds to land-grant universities, which includes Hatch, Hatch Multistate, McIntire-Stennis, Animal Health, and Smith-Lever Funds. **These funding sources support research & Extension projects and faculty across New Mexico.**
- **Agricultural Experiment Station utilizes Hatch funding through the Farm Bill to conduct applied research programs addressing critical issues for New Mexico.** Federal investment in AES is **matched nearly 1:12** through state and grants & contracts funding.
- **New Mexico Cooperative Extension utilizes Smith-Lever funding through the Farm Bill to provide practical, research-based knowledge and programs to serve the citizens of New Mexico.** Federal investment in CES is **matched nearly 1:11** through state, county, and grants & contracts funding.
- As the NMSU College of ACES continues to serve the state by fostering excellence in research innovation and provide practical education to our communities. **These federal funding resources are as important to the success of our mission as they were more than a 100 years ago.**





# Contact Information

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**BE BOLD.** Shape the Future.



**Farm**  
to**Table**



NM Food & Agriculture  
Policy Council

**Farm Bill Priorities**



**NEW MEXICO**  
Food & Agriculture  
**POLICY COUNCIL**

## **Pam Roy**

Coordinator, New Mexico Food and Agriculture Policy Council, and Executive Director, Farm to Table

## NM Food & Ag Policy Council Strives to Ensure Equity in All Policies

The 2023 Farm Bill must confront the hard reality of past discrimination in communities that have historically been marginalized. We advocate for **ensuring equity in all policies** as a way to offset this marginalization.

Farmers in communities of color, Tribal Nations, and immigrants add immeasurable knowledge and value to our food and farm systems, and are essential to their economic and environmental viability.

# Strengthen Nutrition Programs and End Hunger In Our Communities

In New Mexico **one in four families and individuals do not know where their next meal may come from.**

To create greater food security, the Farm Bill must protect and strengthen food assistance programs to ensure sufficient resources and access to nutritious food for all people who struggle against hunger and food insecurity, particularly among elder populations.

The Farm Bill must **improve nutrition security** through consistent and equitable access to healthy, safe, affordable foods essential to optimal health and well-being for all while strengthening agricultural economies.

## What we can do:

- Double the **Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition Program** and make it equitable for all states to apply based on low-income senior eligibility.
- Increase the **GusNIP "Double Up Food Bucks" Program**, one of the best ways to address food security and provide economic opportunities for farmers. New Mexico has one of the most effective programs in the country.
- Increase the **USDA Farm to School Grant Program**. More than \$2.5 million has been invested in NM school programs advancing the NM Grown Program, school outdoor education, and leveraging millions in state funds for NM grown in school meals and the Healthy Universal School Meal Program.
- Double funding for the **Healthy Food Financing Initiative** and prioritize underserved, rural and Tribal communities. Federal funds now pair up with the Healthy Food Financing state program.
- Increase funding for the **Local Agriculture Marketing Program** including the Farmers' Market Promotion Program, Local Food Promotion Program, Value Added Producer Grants and Regional Food Systems Program.



# HOMEGROWN SOLUTIONS FOR FEEDING NEW MEXICO



## Key Farm Bill Nutrition-Related Program Priorities



USDA NIFA GusNIP  
SNAP Double Up Food  
Bucks

**\$8.8 million over 4 years**  
(\$3.3 million federal +  
\$5.5 million leveraged)

Served over 4 years: (est.)

- **650,000 SNAP customers**
- **\$9 million sales** to NM farmers
- **90 retail outlets** including farmers' markets, grocery stores, farm stands, and CSAs
- **30 counties** receiving food security and economic benefits



USDA NIFA GusNIP  
Produce Prescriptions

**\$2 million over 4 years**  
(\$1 million leveraged)

Served over 4 years: (est.)

- **2,000 low-income customers**
- **\$450,000 sales** to NM farmers
- **30 health clinics**, including 95% federally qualified health clinics and Native American health sites
- **40 outlets**, including farmers' markets and food hubs
- **18 counties**



NEW MEXICO  
WIC & SENIOR  
FARMERS' MARKET PROGRAMS

Senior Farmers' Market  
Nutrition Program

During FY 2022

- **7,048 seniors** served
  - **975 authorized farmers**
  - **285 eFMNP authorized farmers**
  - **51 farmers markets**
  - **27 farm stands**
  - **1 mobile grocery**
- \$119,755 sales** to NM farmers



USDA AMS  
Specialty  
Crop  
Block  
Grants

USDA AMS  
Farmers  
Market  
Promotion  
Grants

USDA AMS  
Regional  
Food  
System  
Partnership  
Grants



# The Emergency Food Network

## TEFAP

The Emergency Food Assistance Program

USDA-Funded Food Program administered by NM  
Human Services, Food & Nutrition Contract with the 5  
NM Food Banks for Storage and Distribution

Fiscal Year 2023

\$18,415,439 Food Funds

\$1,484,141 in Administrative Funds (Distribution  
Expenses)

36,104 Households Monthly on Average

384,968 Total Households Served

## Regional Farm 2 Food Bank or LFPA/LFPA+

- 100% federally funded
- \$6.3 Million to be spent through June 2025
- Designed to reform procurement to prioritize farmers who have historically been excluded from TEFAP contracts.

**So far:**

-Procured food from 27 New Mexico producers and aggregators

-Distributed food to over 71 unique zip codes state wide



New Mexico Farmer Innovation Program  
Farm to Table NM in partnership with the USDA  
Urban Agriculture and Farmer Innovation  
Program



Farm to Table New Mexico was selected by The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), as one of one of the key organizations to support its broad effort in urban agriculture through the New Mexico Farmers Innovation Program (NMFIP). Farm to Table in received a USDA Urban Agriculture and Innovation Cooperative Agreement to implement the NMFIP.

Farm to Table is one of seventeen pilot organizations in the country which are supporting the new Urban Service Centers and Urban County Committees, both key to delivering programs to producers who supply urban areas. Through this four-year cooperative agreement Farm to Table NMFIP will focus on expanding urban agricultural opportunities in the Albuquerque area, surrounding Bernalillo, Sandoval and Valencia counties (including tribal communities)and in Las Cruces and Doña Ana County.





Farm to Table will establish a customer base for these new Urban Service Centers, through outreach, education and technical assistance. This effort will help to raise awareness of USDA programs and resources available and help urban producers enroll in USDA programs, which will support increased supply chain resiliency in local food systems by improving the sustainability and long-term viability of urban area farms.

Farm to Table will also be conducting more outreach throughout the state to work with rural, tribal and urban farmers that may be interested in practical and or innovative options, like season extension, water efficiency tools, and marketing opportunities.

The logo for 'Farm to Table' is located in the top left corner. It features the word 'Farm' in a green, sans-serif font, 'to' in a smaller, red, lowercase font, and 'Table' in a larger, brown, sans-serif font, all contained within a white rectangular box.

**Farm  
to Table**

The logo for the 'NM Food & Agriculture Policy Council' is located in the top center. It consists of the text 'NM Food & Agriculture Policy Council' in a white, sans-serif font, set against a background of dark brown soil with rows of small green seedlings.

**NM Food & Agriculture  
Policy Council**

**Farm Bill Priorities**

The logo for the 'New Mexico Food & Agriculture Policy Council' is located in the top right corner. It features the text 'NEW MEXICO Food & Agriculture POLICY COUNCIL' in a white, sans-serif font, with 'NEW MEXICO' in a larger font size. The text is set against a background of dark brown soil with rows of small green seedlings.

**NEW MEXICO  
Food & Agriculture  
POLICY COUNCIL**

**Thank you!**

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