



New Mexico Agriculture: *Challenges and Opportunities*

Economic and Rural Development and Policy Committee
September 11, 2024

NMDA

NEW MEXICO DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

2022 Ag Stats Bulletin Summary

- In 2022, New Mexico's total value of agriculture production was \$3.71 billion (17% above 2021) .
- New Mexico chile and pecan production ranked in the top two spots in the nation in 2022.
- Onions ranked 5th in the nation at \$153 million.
- Milk ranked 9th in the nation at \$1.67 billion.
- Cattle and calves ranked 21st at \$1.16 billion.



Challenges in New Mexico

Significant Challenges

- Labor
- Water
- Supply chain
- Market
- Development
- Rural veterinarians
- Cybersecurity



Agricultural Emergency Response

- NMDA officials were notified Saturday, March 16, 2024, about the discovery of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza A (HPAI) H5N1 virus in some dairy cattle, including in New Mexico
- Within two hours of the notification, NMDA brought together officials from the NM Livestock Board, NM Department of Health, USDA, and the dairy industry to begin coordinating a response
- NMDA assisted the State Veterinarian and USDA with sample collection, disposal and decontamination
- Information was disseminated to consumers and producers as it was available
- NMDA continues to monitor the animal health situation and remains committed to protecting consumers and producers





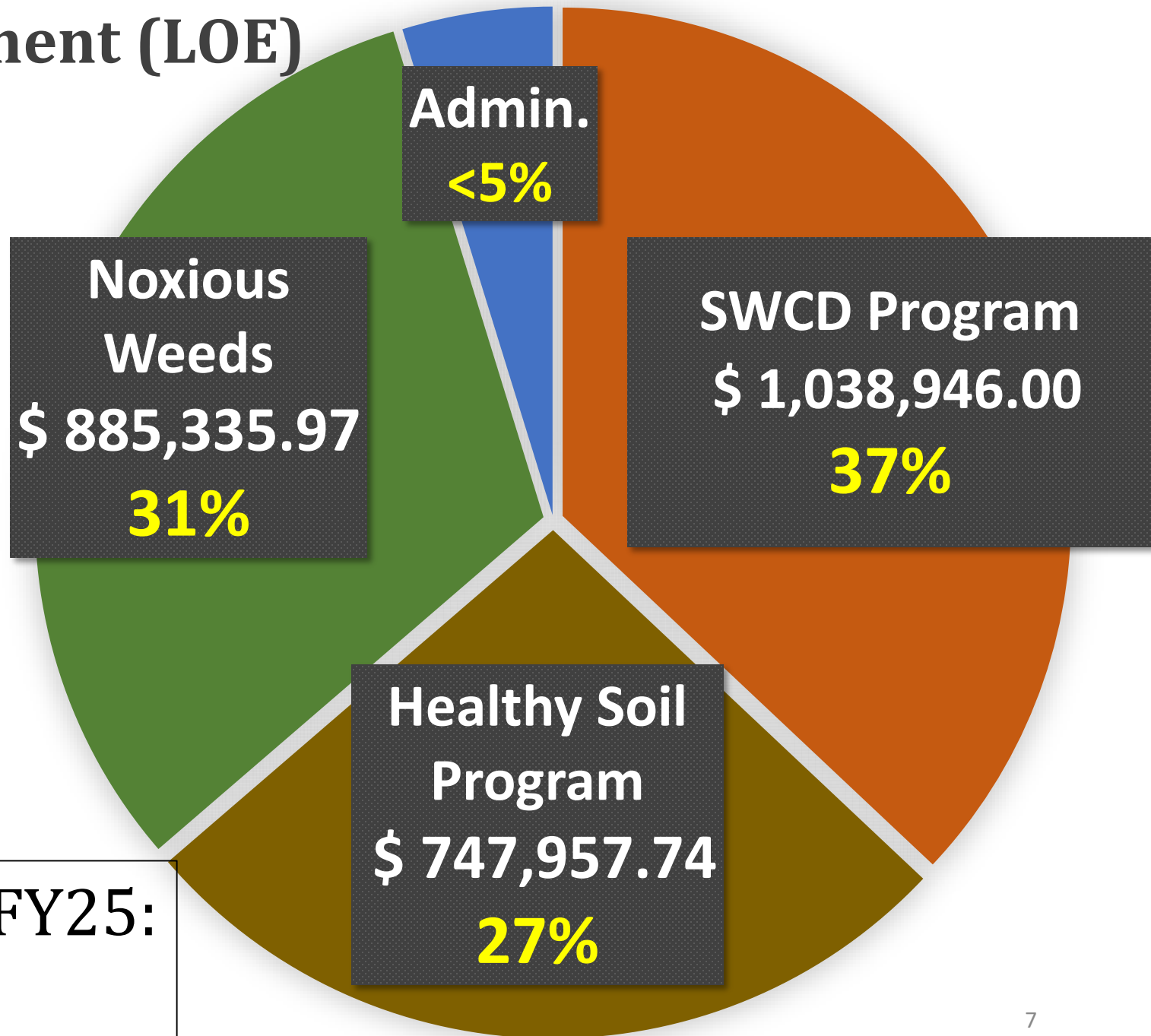
Opportunities in New Mexico

NMDA Land of Enchantment (LOE) Legacy Fund Programs Allocations FY25

NMDA receives 22.5% of annual LOE Legacy Fund disbursement and allocates funding between three programs:

- Healthy Soil Program
- SWCD Program
- Noxious Weeds Program

NMDA Disbursement in FY25:
\$ 2,812,500.00



	FY25 Program Funding		What is funded by LOE in FY25?
Healthy Soil Program	LOE Funds	\$ 747,957.74	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 95% for existing grant program: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 11 Eligible Entities projects ▪ 32 Individual Application projects • 5% for statewide study on compost generation and use
	Other State Funds	\$ 464,499.47	
	Federal Funds	\$ 490,000.00	
	TOTAL	\$ 1,702,457.21	
SWCD Program	LOE Funds	\$ 1,038,946.00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 100% for new SWCD grant program • 4 types of grants: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Capacity Building: 9 projects ▪ Conservation Planning: 7 projects ▪ Community Education/Outreach: 8 projects ▪ Landscape Scale Conservation: 7 projects
	TOTAL	\$ 1,038,946.00	
Noxious Weeds Program	LOE Funds	\$ 885,335.97	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 81% for new grant program <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 13 grants awarded to local partners • 19% for statewide noxious weeds mapping contract
	Federal Funds	\$ 30,000.00	
	TOTAL	\$ 915,335.97	

GRAND TOTAL: \$3.66m in FY25 funding for 3 programs

Food and Agriculture Initiatives

NMDA serves as the backbone agency for state and federally-funded initiatives aimed at increasing the production, marketing, distribution, and consumption of New Mexico foods, including:

- Double Up Food Bucks and Senior/WIC Farmers Market Program
- Farmers' Market Development and Promotion
- Farm to School
- On-farm education
- Value-added market development, including the Approved Supplier Program
- Regional Farm to Food Bank
- Resilient Food Systems Infrastructure Program



International Marketing

In FY24, NMDA facilitated:

- Four new international trade activities through the US Livestock Genetics Export Program
- Two Bilateral Mexico Trichomoniasis Seminars
- One Director's Mission to Italy
- One Emerging Market Program: Indonesia Dairy Project
- Seven new international trade activities through the Western U.S. Agricultural Trade Association (WUSATA)
- Two “Taste of the States” tradeshow through National Association of State Departments of Agriculture (Americas Food and Beverage- Miami and National Restaurant Association- Chicago)



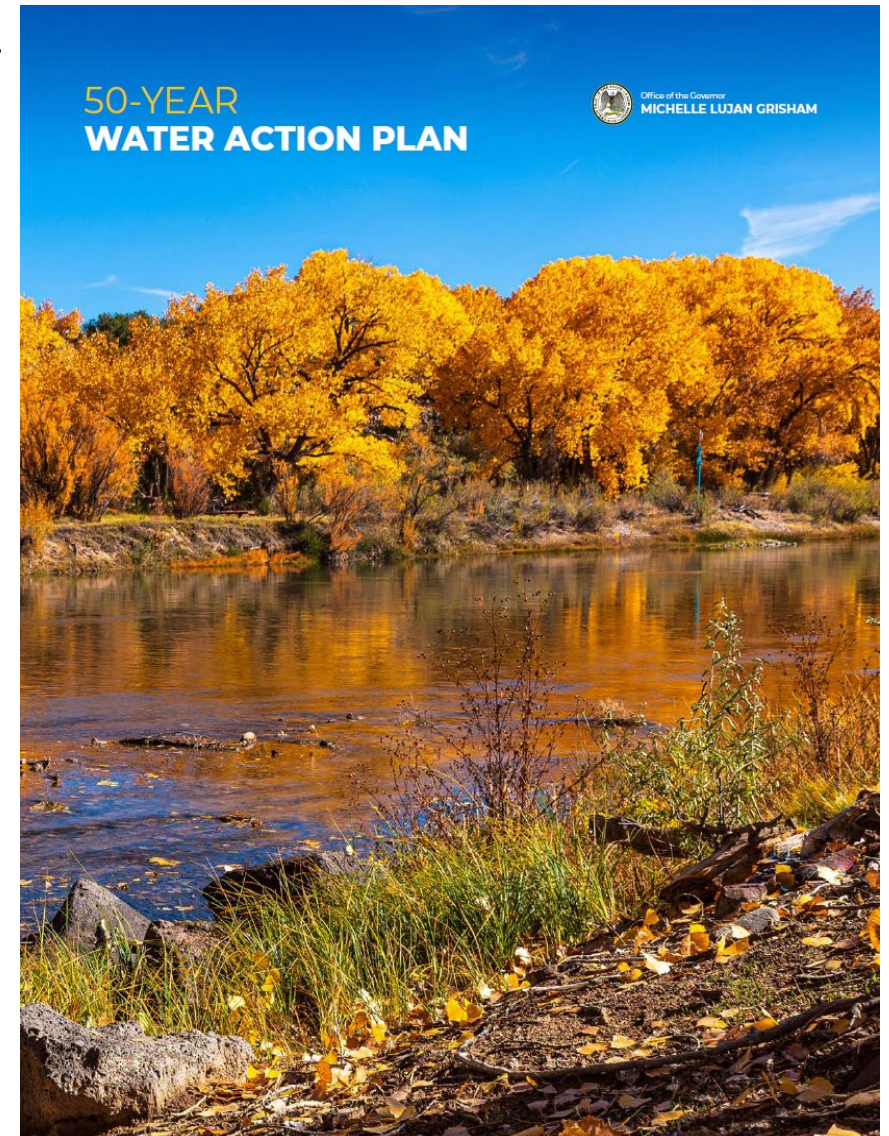
AgriFuture Educational Institute

- **The 2024 AgriFuture Educational Institute will be held October 14th and 15th in Las Cruces.**
- AgriFuture aims to connect, inform and inspire the next generation of farmers, ranchers and all people involved in agriculture.
- NMDA and a dozen other New Mexico agencies and agriculture organizations host AgriFuture in even-numbered years geared toward anyone interested in being a part of the future of agriculture.
- Current producers of any age are highly encouraged to join alongside future producers to learn and share insights.
- Veterans are encouraged to attend.
- This year's conference will consist of onsite ranchland and cropland tours, a networking reception and dinner at a local winery, and an NMSU football game tailgate.



Governor's 50-Year Water Action Plan: Agricultural Water Conservation

- **Problem:** How to preserve agriculture with a projection of ~25% less water available in 2070?
- **Action A2:** Develop policy tools and incentives to support agricultural water resilience
 - Specifically promotes voluntary adoption of high-efficiency irrigation technology and drought tolerant crops
- **Implementation:** NMDA is collaborating with OSE/ISC to convene an agricultural stakeholder roundtable in October
 - Stakeholder input will inform potential development of new state policies and initiatives
- **Budget Request:** 1 FTE for Agricultural Water Policy Advisor





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