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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR: Ponce DATE TYPED: 1/28/03 HB 94

SHORT TITLE: Cotton Bollworm Control SB _____

ANALYST: Baca

APPROPRIATION

Appropriation Contained		Estimated Additional Impact		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY03	FY04	FY03	FY04		
	\$750.0			Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Relates to HB 99 AND SB 56

Relates to Appropriation for New Mexico State University in the General Appropriation Act

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC files

Responses Received From

New Mexico Department of Agriculture (NMDA) at New Mexico State University (NMSU)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

House Bill 94 appropriates \$750.0 from the general fund to the Board of Regents of New Mexico State University for the New Mexico Department of Agriculture (NMDA) to match expenditures for the eradication of boll weevil by cotton boll weevil control districts established pursuant to the provisions of the federal Boll Weevil Control Act.

Significant Issues

NMDA reports that the cotton boll weevil has infested an estimated 70,000 acres of cotton throughout New Mexico and that growers in established control districts in the nine major cotton producing counties in New Mexico contributed approximately \$1.3 million in crop year 2002 for eradication. NMDA further reports that cotton producers will contribute an estimated \$1.9 million toward eradication during crop year 2003.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$750.0 contained in this bill is a recurring expense to the general fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of fiscal year 2004 shall revert to the general fund.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

NMDA will administer the program and funding will pass through to established cotton boll weevil control districts. Administrative impact on NMDA will be minimal.

RELATES TO:

HB 99

SB 99

The two bills cited above request funding for the control and eradication of pink boll worms.

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

This request for funding was submitted to and approved by the NMSU Board of Regents. However, it is not recommended for funding by the CHE.

POSSIBLE QUESTIONS

1. Is it possible to address the eradication of the two species of boll weevils utilizing one program instead of two programs and two requests for separate funding?
2. Will NMDA coordinate the two programs if they are funded ?
3. Boll weevil control districts are established pursuant to federal statutes. Does the federal government provide any funding for these programs ?

LB/lb/njw