

NOTE: As provided in LFC policy, this report is intended only for use by the standing finance committees of the legislature. The Legislative Finance Committee does not assume responsibility for the accuracy of the information in this report when used for other purposes.

The most recent FIR version (in HTML & Adobe PDF formats) is available on the Legislative Website. The Adobe PDF version includes all attachments, whereas the HTML version does not. Previously issued FIRs and attachments may be obtained from the LFC in Suite 101 of the State Capitol Building North.

FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR: Papen DATE TYPED: 1/24/03 HB _____

SHORT TITLE: Pink Bollworm Control SB 56

ANALYST: Baca

APPROPRIATION

Appropriation Contained		Estimated Additional Impact		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY03	FY04	FY03	FY04		
	\$400.0			Recurring	GF

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Duplicates HB 99

Relates to HB 94

Relates to Appropriation for New Mexico State University (NMSU) in the General Appropriation Act.

Responses Received From
New Mexico Department of Agriculture at NMSU

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

Senate Bill 56 appropriates \$400.0 from the general fund to the Board of Regents of New Mexico State University for the NMDA to match expenditures by pink bollworms districts for the control and eradication of pink bollworms pursuant to the provisions of the state's Pink Bollworm Act.

Significant Issues

In its analysis of SB 56, the NMDA reports that "Pink bollworms are trapped annually in all cotton production areas of New Mexico, approximately 70,000 acres, but currently infests cotton acreage at an economic threshold in Dona Ana, Luna, Sierra, Chaves and Eddy counties, or approximately 24,000 acres of cotton. Timely eradication of this pest in these counties may prevent economic pink bollworm populations from developing in other areas of the state. Producers in Dona Ana, Luna and Sierra counties have voted to create a pink bollworm control district and

are working in conjunction with the United States Department of Agriculture, Animal Plant Health Inspection Service (USDA APHIS), cotton producers in west Texas, and northern Mexico in an area wide pink bollworm eradication program. Eradication efforts in south central New Mexico have decreased pink bollworm populations by 91% in the first year of eradication with the estimated three-year eradication cost to cotton producers at over \$1,300,000. Pink bollworm eradication programs have been successful in Arkansas, Louisiana, Tennessee, Missouri, and California.”

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$400.0 contained in this bill is a recurring cost 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

The NMDA would administer the program and pass the funding through to the established pink bollworm control districts.

CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP

DUPLICATES HB 99

RELATES TO HB 94. HB 94 appropriates funds for the control and eradication of boll weevils.

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

This request for funding was submitted to and approved by the board of regents of NMSU. However, the Commission on Higher Education did not recommend it for funding.

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. What might happen if this request is not funded ?

LRB/lr