



# Agricultural Emergency Account

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*Annual Report*

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Pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 3.197, the cost of preparing this report was approximately \$200.00.

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# Executive Summary

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The 2016 Minnesota Legislature established the Agricultural Emergency Account in the agriculture fund for emergency response and preparedness activities for agricultural emergencies affecting producers of livestock, poultry, crops and other agricultural products. A onetime transfer of \$1 Million was appropriated to the agriculture emergency account in the agricultural fund.

This report is submitted in accordance with Minnesota Statute 17.041 Subd.3: *No later than February 1 each year, the commissioner must report activities and expenditures under this section to the legislative committees and divisions with jurisdiction over agriculture finance.*

## Introduction

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The 2015 outbreak of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza in Minnesota, with an estimated \$650 Million in economic loss in Minnesota, underscored both the strengths and weaknesses in our state's ability to plan, prepare for and respond to food and agricultural emergencies. To meet these challenges, the MDA is leading the effort to collaborate and coordinate with federal and state agencies, Minnesota counties, academia and our food and agriculture production systems; food, crop, livestock, poultry and allied industries to better organize, prepare for and respond to large scale food, crop, livestock or poultry emergencies.

## Background

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Palmer amaranth, also known as Palmer pigweed, is an extremely aggressive, fast-growing species (commonly reaching heights of 6–8 feet and occasionally 10 feet or more), that has become a serious weed problem in row crops in the southern half of the United States. Over the past 10 years, numerous reports have been published on Palmer amaranth documenting severe crop losses, and resistance to glyphosate and other herbicides.

Palmer amaranth was first identified in southwest Minnesota in August of 2016. The Department initiated an aggressive eradication campaign. Commissioner Frederickson activated the Department Incident Management Team to manage initial emergency response actions.

<b>Minnesota Department of Agriculture</b>	
Agriculture Emergency Account	
Palmer Amaranth Response Total	\$100,000.00
<b>Expenditures</b>	
Incident Management Team	\$13,878.36
Supplies	\$142.95
Minnesota Conservation Corps	\$10,725.00
Genetic Seed Analysis	\$20,000.00
Palmer Amaranth Seed Grow-out	\$5,000.00
Total	\$49,746.31