

1 and soybean rust, additional work activities are necessary
2 throughout the citrus and soybean growing region of the state.

3 (2) The Legislature finds that soybean rust was spread
4 into Northwest Florida from South America by Hurricane Ivan,
5 storms of this strength can spread these fungal spores over
6 long distances, and soybean rust is one of the most serious
7 diseases affecting soybeans, with control costs estimated at
8 \$21 per acre. The Legislature further finds that surveys and
9 diagnostics are needed in order to determine the extent of
10 this infestation.

11 (3) The Legislature finds that there is a projected
12 shortfall of revenues in the Plant Industry Trust Fund for the
13 purpose of funding the Caribbean Fruit Fly Certification
14 Program, which allows citrus groves in this state to be
15 certified as free of the Caribbean fruit fly so that fruit can
16 be shipped to domestic and foreign markets, such as Japan,
17 China, Europe, California, and Texas. The Legislature finds
18 that personnel must continue to conduct activities needed to
19 meet the requirements of the state's trading partners and that
20 the acres remaining in the certification program are not
21 concentrated in one area of the state.

22 Section 2. The Department of Agriculture and Consumer
23 Services shall provide a report by February 11, 2005,
24 describing the progress made to date on the eradication of
25 citrus canker. The report must include the number of trees
26 cut, the number of trees for which compensation was paid, the
27 number of Shade Florida vouchers distributed, the amount of
28 state and federal funds spent, and the funding impacts on the
29 2005-2006 fiscal year budget. The report must be submitted to
30 the Executive Office of the Governor, the President of the
31 Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

1 Section 3. (1) For the 2004-2005 fiscal year only,
2 \$7.1 million is appropriated from the General Revenue Fund and
3 \$6 million is appropriated from the Contracts and Grants Trust
4 Fund to the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services in
5 lump sum to implement activities associated with citrus canker
6 eradication, citrus canker tree compensation, soybean rust
7 control, and Caribbean fruit fly certification, which were
8 adversely affected by the 2004 hurricanes and tropical storm.

9 (2) In planning the expenditure of funds appropriated,
10 the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services shall
11 maximize available federal funds for citrus canker eradication
12 and citrus canker tree compensation.

13 Section 4. Notwithstanding the provisions of section
14 216.177, Florida Statutes, requiring a 14-day notice for
15 interim budget actions, and pursuant to section 216.351,
16 Florida Statutes, the Executive Office of the Governor shall
17 provide notice of the allocation of the lump-sum
18 appropriations authorized by this act into traditional
19 appropriation categories to the chair and vice chair of the
20 Legislative Budget Commission at least 3 working days prior to
21 the effective date of such allocation.

22 Section 5. This act shall take effect upon becoming a
23 law.

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SENATE SUMMARY

Provides appropriations to the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services to implement activities associated with citrus canker eradication and tree compensation, the soybean rust program, and the Caribbean fruit fly eradication program, which were affected by the hurricanes and tropical storm of 2004. Requires that the department report to the Governor and the Legislature on its progress in eradicating citrus canker. Requires that the Executive Office of the Governor provide prior notice to the Legislative Budget Commission of transfers of appropriations.