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2 An act relating to hurricane impacts on
3 specified agricultural programs; providing
4 legislative findings with respect to the impact
5 of the hurricanes and tropical storm of 2004 on
6 the department's citrus canker eradication and
7 compensation programs, the spread of an
8 infestation of soybean rust resulting in the
9 need to conduct surveys to determine the extent
10 of such infestation, and a projected shortfall
11 in revenues of the Plant Industry Trust Fund;
12 requiring the department to provide a report on
13 citrus canker eradication to the Governor and
14 the Legislature; providing appropriations;
15 requiring the department to maximize available
16 federal funds for certain programs; requiring
17 that the Executive Office of the Governor
18 provide prior notice to the Legislative Budget
19 Commission of allocations from lump-sum
20 appropriations to appropriation categories;
21 providing an effective date.

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23 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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25 Section 1. (1) The Legislature finds that the Citrus
26 Canker Eradication and Tree Compensation programs, soybean
27 crops, and the Caribbean Fruit Fly Certification Program were
28 affected by Hurricanes Charley, Frances, Jeanne, and Ivan and
29 by Tropical Storm Bonnie, which struck the state during 2004.
30 In order to stop further spread of the citrus canker disease
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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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