

## DRAFT

### 2003-2004 U.S./Mexico Work Plan

#### **Farm Labor**

Lead States: New York (Nathan Rudgers) and San Luis Potosi (Jesus Diaz Infante)

*Actions to Take:*

- Mexico to share information on the Mexico-Canada Agricultural Season Worker Program
- Draft of labor survey will be completed by May 1 (AMSDA and NASDA to write such surveys which will likely be different for each country).
- Once draft survey is completed, survey will be sent to all states with responses to be returned by July 1.
- Begin developing concepts for a pilot program similar to Mexico-Canada program for U.S. and Mexico

#### **Consultative Committee on Agriculture (CCA)**

Lead States: Texas and Coahuila (working group co-chairs)

*Actions to Take:*

- The U.S.-Mexico Working group will be advisory group to U.S.-Mexico CCA. USDA has requested that the working group submit issues of interest for CCA to work on. Initially, this work plan will be sent with other issues of concern added to the list as needed.

#### **Animal Health**

Lead States: Texas, California, Arizona, Florida, New Mexico, Kansas, Chihuahua, Sonora, Nuevo Leon, Baja California

*Actions to Take:*

- Maintain the Border Governors Agriculture Work Table's Animal Health Technical Committee as the lead on these issues as they are actively engaged. However, this group's activities will continue to be shared with U.S.-Mexico Working Group.

#### **Organic Foods**

Lead States: Texas, Baja California

*Actions to take:*

- United States will share information on the new U.S. organic program and National Organics Program website.
- United States will share information on upcoming U.S. organics meetings.
- Mexico will work toward developing its own national organic program.

#### **Country of Origin Labeling (COOL)**

Lead States: Texas

*Actions to Take:*

- Monitor and report on COOL regulation progression.
- The United States will provide information to Mexico.

### **Dry Bean Trade**

Lead States: AMSDA

*Actions to Take:*

- AMSDA to send an official letter to NASDA on current situation with the U.S. dry bean exports by the April 11, 2003.

### **Citrus Trade**

Lead States: AMSDA

*Actions to Take:*

- AMSDA to send an official letter to NASDA on current situation with U.S. citrus exports to Mexico.

### **Farm Bill**

Lead States: NASDA/AMSDA

*Action to Take:*

- NASDA/AMSDA will request USDA and SARGARPA to conduct a study on what farm subsidies occur in both the United States and Mexico to include what size farms are who receive subsidies and what commodities receive subsidies.
- NASDA/AMSDA will request that USDA and SAGARPA present the report at the next Tri-National Accord Meeting.
- The United States will share the recent Wall Street Journal article on Mexico farm subsidies and will share the reports recommended by Lloyd Day, USDA.

### **Rural Economic Development**

Lead States: NASDA/AMSDA

*Actions to Take:*

- NASDA/AMSDA will request USDA and SAGARPA to conduct an historical analysis of economic systems in each country specifically targeted to rural areas and agriculture.
- NASDA and AMSDA Rural Economic Development Committees key players need to be identified and the two committees should begin direct communications regarding issues impacting the health of rural areas.
- States in both countries should begin collecting data on resources available in their states for rural economic activities as well as “success” stories in increasing rural economic vitality.
- At the next Tri-National Accord meeting a day will be added to convene a special summit on this matter. At this time, the economic analysis can be presented as well as any state information collected.

### **North American Development Bank (NADBank)/Border Environment Cooperation Commission (BECC)**

Lead States: Texas

*Actions to Take:*

- The United States will send information to Mexico on how the NADBank and BECC function.

### **Cross Border Marketing**

Lead States: Jalisco and California

Actions to Take:

- Develop a working group to evaluate the formation of seasonal cross border marketing schemes for specific products.

**Others Issues to monitor only:** Potato Trade, Biotechnology, Electronic Data