

Subject Agriculture

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Summary

This bill would appropriate \$20,000,000 on a onetime basis to the Minnesota Department of Agriculture for grants to the University of Minnesota to fund the University's Forever Green Initiative. Of this total, the University could use up to \$5,000,000 for equipment and infrastructure that supports the breeding and agronomic activities necessary to develop perennial and winter-annual crops.

According to the University of Minnesota, the Forever Green Initiative is developing and improving winter-hardy annual and perennial crops and cropping systems that protect soil and water while providing new economic opportunities for growers, industry, and Minnesota communities across the state.