

Subject Agriculture Policy

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## Overview

This is the 2023 omnibus agriculture policy bill for the Minnesota House of Representatives. In addition to H.F. 1587's provisions concerning the regulation of Eurasian wild pigs, the bill also includes the contents of H.F.s 1314, 1497, 1585, 1638, 1678, and 1799.

## Summary

Section	Description
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| 1 | <p><b>Restricted species.</b></p> <p>Requires a person to notify a Department of Natural Resources (DNR) conservation officer and the Board of Animal Health within 24 hours of any intentional or accidental release of a Eurasian wild pig or Eurasian-domestic hybrid pig. Eliminates an existing permit exemption for those who possess a Eurasian wild pig or hybrid for up to two days before slaughtering the animal for human consumption. Modifies insurance/bonding requirements for permit holders. Grants the Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA) authority to determine whether to charge a fee for Eurasian wild pig permits. Authorizes MDA (in addition to the DNR) to enforce these requirements.</p> |
| 2 | <p><b>Agricultural contracts.</b></p> <p>Regulates carbon storage contracts between farmers and other parties. Specifically, for any carbon storage contract entered into, renewed, or amended after June 30, 2023, this section would prohibit language that prevents the farmer from disclosing any of the contract's terms, conditions, or prices to others.</p>  |
| 3 | <p><b>Administrative penalties; citation.</b></p> <p>Removes MDA's authority to issue administrative citations for state dairy law violations under Minnesota Statutes, chapter 17.</p>  |

Section	Description
4	<p><b>Control of purple loosestrife and nonnative Phragmites.</b></p> <p>Authorizes the DNR to control or eradicate nonnative Phragmites in the same manner that the agency manages purple loosestrife under the Minnesota Noxious Weed Law. In part, this means that the DNR would be responsible for the control and eradication of nonnative Phragmites in most public waters and wetlands and could cross private land to investigate, control, or eradicate nonnative Phragmites after notifying the owner or occupant of the land. The DNR’s responsibility to manage nonnative Phragmites and authority to enter private lands would end ten days after a landowner assumes full responsibility for controlling and eradicating these weeds.</p>
5-9	<p><b>Genetically modified organisms.</b></p> <p>Collectively, these sections eliminate MDA’s duty to issue state permits for any release of a genetically engineered crop or other genetically engineered agricultural organism in Minnesota. Instead, MDA would accept, or review and add additional requirements to, a permit issued by a federal agency that is part of the federal government’s Coordinated Framework for the Regulation of Biotechnology (i.e., the United States Department of Agriculture, the United States Environmental Protection Agency, and the United States Food and Drug Administration). MDA could request that a federal agency not issue a permit if MDA believes the proposed release would create a hazard to the state’s general environmental quality or its agricultural, forest, or horticultural interests.</p>
10-63	<p><b>Nurseries and plant protection.</b></p> <p>Collectively, these sections: modify various definitions and other provisions in Minnesota Statutes, chapters 18G (Plant Protection and Export Certification) and 18H (Nursery Law); require certain nonprofit organizations, individuals, and municipalities that sell certified plants, trees, shrubs, or other nursery stock to obtain a free nursery stock certificate or live plant dealer certificate from the MDA; and modify under what circumstances plants and other nursery stock treated with a systemic pesticide may be labeled or advertised as pollinator-friendly.</p>
64-66	<p><b>Dairy law enforcement.</b></p> <p>In combination with section 3 and subdivision 3 of section 67, these sections would modify MDA’s enforcement of state dairy laws. In general, MDA would enforce the state’s chapter 32D dairy laws using the same powers and authority granted to MDA under chapter 34A, which governs MDA’s enforcement of state food laws generally.</p>
67	<p><b>Repealer.</b></p> <p>Eliminates current-law provisions as described below.</p> <p><b>Subd. 1. Genetically engineered organisms.</b> Repeals existing definitions of “agency” and “unreasonable adverse effects on the environment,” and a</p>

**Section**   **Description**

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requirement that MDA adopt rules governing the agency's issuance of permits authorizing the release of genetically engineered crops and other agricultural organisms.

**Subd. 2. Plant protection and nurseries.** Repeals existing definitions of "harmful plant pest," "nursery stock," "pest," "preclearance," "regulated nonquarantine pest," "container-grown," "dormant," "public nuisance," "regulated nonquarantine pest," "sold," and "tree spade," and an existing nursery-stock-dealer-certificate exemption that applies to certain nonprofits and individuals who use the sale proceeds for charitable, educational, or religious purposes.

**Subd. 3. Dairy law.** Repeals MDA's chapter 17 authority to enforce chapter 32D dairy law via inspections and by administering oaths, issuing subpoenas, and petitioning courts to compel compliance. Repeals MDA's authority to take enforcement action against a bulk milk hauler and sampler license holder under MDA's general food law administrative actions statute.



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