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AUDITOR GENERAL

STATE OF ARIZONA  
OFFICE OF THE  
AUDITOR GENERAL

WILLIAM THOMSON  
DEPUTY AUDITOR GENERAL

May 24, 2002

The Honorable Roberta L. Voss, Vice Chairman  
Joint Legislative Audit Committee

The Honorable Ken Bennett, Chairman  
Joint Legislative Audit Committee

Dear Representative Voss and Senator Bennett:

Our Office has recently completed an 18-month followup with the Arizona Department of Agriculture—State Agricultural Laboratory regarding the implementation status of the five audit recommendations (including sub-parts of the recommendations) presented in the performance audit report released in September 2000 (Auditor General Report No. 00-14). As the attached grid indicates:

- 5 of the 5 recommendations have been implemented.

Since all of the audit recommendations have been implemented, and unless otherwise directed by the Joint Legislative Audit Committee, this report concludes our followup work for the Arizona Department of Agriculture—State Agricultural Laboratory.

Sincerely,

Debbie Davenport  
Auditor General

Attachment

cc: Mr. Sheldon R. Jones, Director  
Arizona Department of Agriculture

JLAC Committee Members

Senate Natural Resources, Agriculture  
and Environment Committee Members

House Natural Resources and  
Agriculture Committee Members

Ms. Kerri Morey  
Senate Committee Analyst

Ms. Kathi Knox  
House Committee Analyst

Ms. Nadine Sapien  
Senate Research Analyst

Ms. Tami Stowe  
House Research Analyst

**ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**  
**State Agricultural Laboratory**  
**18-Month Follow-Up Report To**  
**Auditor General Report No. 00-14**

**FINDING I: The Department Should Pursue An Agreement To Shift Most Brucellosis Testing To the USDA**

<b>Recommendation</b>	<b>Status of Implementing Recommendation</b>	<b>Explanation for Recommendations That Have Not Been Implemented</b>
<p>1. The Department should seek an agreement with the USDA and a cooperative state/federal agricultural laboratory to conduct brucellosis tests on slaughtered cattle while continuing to conduct brucellosis testing for live animals. Further, the agreement should indicate that the USDA will pay shipping costs for samples, and continue to provide the State Agricultural Laboratory with brucellosis testing supplies for live animals.</p>	<p><b>Implemented at 6 months</b></p>	
<p>2. Once the agreement is in place, the Department should use the FTE savings to assist with food safety and/or other testing activities.</p>	<p><b>Implemented at 12 months</b></p>	

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**FINDING II: The Department Does Not Recover Pesticide Testing and Training Costs**

Recommendation	Status of Implementing Recommendation	Explanation for Recommendations That Have Not Been Implemented
1. The Department should annually identify its costs for performing the various analyses requested by the Commission, determine an accurate cost per analysis, and incorporate this cost per analysis into the service agreement with the Commission.	<b>Implemented at 6 months</b>	
2. The Department should establish a fee-for-service agreement with the Commission for pesticide tests and bill the Commission each month based on the actual number of tests performed.	<b>Implemented at 6 months</b>	
3. The Department should identify its actual costs for the training services it provides to the Commission and the continuing professional training its laboratory staff receive and ensure the service agreement accurately reflects and reimburses the Department for these costs.	<b>Implemented at 18 months</b>	