

Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services  
Charles H. Bronson, Commissioner



OFFICE OF AGRICULTURAL LAW ENFORCEMENT

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## 2008 DOMESTIC MARIJUANA ERADICATION PROGRAM

The Office of Agricultural Law Enforcement (AgLaw) partnered with the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), the Florida National Guard (FNG), and the Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE) in 2005 to promote and coordinate the outdoor portion of the Domestic Marijuana Eradication (DME) Program in the State of Florida. We were excited about the opportunity to utilize our resources in conjunction with our state and federal partners to assist local law enforcement agencies in their eradication efforts as it related to outdoor marijuana eradication.

Please be advised that effective **January 1, 2008**, **AgLaw has assumed the administration of the Indoor DME Program**. In addition to the Outdoor DME Program, AgLaw will now be the central point of collection for all DME related statistics and process all reimbursement requests for local law enforcement agencies.

Florida's share of the funding received from the Department of Justice is dependant upon the statistics collected from local law enforcement agencies. Your agency is eligible to receive funding for your participation in this program. Money disbursed will be based on the number of grow sites/plants eradicated and reported.

Orientations are scheduled for March 2008 and will be held in seven areas around the state to inform law enforcement agencies about the benefits of the program, provide details regarding the necessary documentation required for disbursement of funds, and to answer any questions that may arise. Information regarding these orientations can be found at our website. We encourage your employees to attend any of these orientations; however, if you are unable to send any staff to attend, you may contact our office for additional information.

In addition to disbursing funds to local law enforcement agencies, the program also provides two in-depth training courses each year, free to law enforcement officers. The Indoor Grow Investigations School will be held in July, and the Outdoor Investigations/Spotter School will be held in August. Attendees are responsible for transportation costs to and from the schools; all other expenses (lodging and meals) are provided free of charge. Registration information for these schools will be distributed as soon as the final details are set.

For additional information about the submission of DME Field Summaries or Disbursement Requests, you may contact Judith Ivester, DME Program Support, at telephone (850) 245-1326. For operational information or assistance related to DME investigations, please contact Investigator Allen Davis, DME Operational Support, at telephone (941) 915-9108. We look forward to working with your agency in continuing this important program.