

is composed of eight members appointed by the Governor for three-year terms. The Authority elects its own chairperson.

The Authority may investigate and study any phase of tobacco marketing or production in the State, provide information about the tobacco price structure, and make recommendations for legislation to provide more effective handling of tobacco. Along with the buyers and commission agencies, it has a voice in fixing marketing periods, and it assures the accuracy of weights and measures used by tobacco commission selling agencies. The Authority also licenses commission agencies and purchasers, and collects a fee from the owners of tobacco sold at a commission agency.

From time to time a representative of the Tobacco Authority visits manufacturers in foreign countries, as well as in the United States, to develop markets for Maryland tobacco (Code Agriculture Article, secs. 7-201 through 7-209, 7-401 through 7-418).

DIVISION OF PLANT INDUSTRIES AND PEST MANAGEMENT

Dr. Charles W. Puffinberger, *Assistant Secretary*
 50 Harry S. Truman Parkway
 Annapolis 21401 Telephone: 841-5870

The Assistant Secretary for Plant Industries and Pest Management supervises all phases of those programs related to plants, plant pests, pest management, and pesticides for which the Department is responsible.

The Assistant Secretary also supervises the section chiefs and coordinates Division activities with other Department programs and with local, State, and federal officials. In addition, the Assistant Secretary manages active cooperative agreements with local, county, State, and federal agencies.

GYPSY MOTH CONTROL SECTION

Robert H. Tichenor, Jr., *Chief*
 50 Harry S. Truman Parkway
 Annapolis 21401 Telephone: 841-5922

The gypsy moth is the most destructive forest pest of the eastern United States. It causes serious problems to trees in wooded residential areas, parks, and recreation areas, and is the subject of a State and national quarantine program. This pest has been present in Maryland since 1971, but as a result of effective control measures there has been limited damage to trees in the State. A

cooperative local, State, and federal program to manage the gypsy moth is coordinated out of the Annapolis Office.

MOSQUITO CONTROL SECTION

Stanley R. Joseph, *Chief*
 50 Harry S. Truman Parkway
 Annapolis 21401 Telephone: 841-5870

A statewide cooperatively funded program is conducted out of the Annapolis Office to provide mosquito control services for more than 1,500,000 residents in 1,800 communities in 22 counties. Branch offices are located in College Park, Salisbury, and Clements. Environmentally compatible temporary (adulticiding and larvaciding) and permanent (water management) methods are used to control the mosquitoes. In addition to implementing control measures, this Section determines the environmental impact of the program, develops more efficacious control methods, and conducts epidemiological investigations of mosquito borne diseases (Code Agriculture Article, secs. 5-401 through 5-405).

PESTICIDE APPLICATORS LAW SECTION

David Shriver, *Chief*
 50 Harry S. Truman Parkway
 Annapolis 21401 Telephone: 841-5710

This Section regulates the use of pesticides in the State. The program provides for licensing of businesses engaged in commercial application of pesticides; training and certification of commercial and private pesticide applicators; enforcement of the Pesticide Applicators Law and Regulations; and providing technical information on the proper and effective use of pesticides.

The Chief provides overall guidance and serves as the State's authority on matters relating to pesticide use and application (Code Agriculture Article, secs. 5-201 through 5-211).

PLANT PROTECTION SECTION

William F. Gimpel, Jr., *Chief*
 50 Harry S. Truman Parkway
 Annapolis 21401 Telephone: 841-5920

This Section is responsible for administering programs relating to nursery inspection, plant protection and quarantine programs, integrated pest management, nuisance bird control, forest pest management, certified plant production, in-