

The Section cooperates with the U.S. Food and Drug Administration in the inspection of feed manufacturing facilities that produce medicated feeds. To implement the federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA), the Section also works with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Additionally, Section chemists analyze meat and toxicology samples for the Office of Animal Health and Consumer Services; test fruits, vegetables, commercial feeds, and soils for chemical residues; and make other determinations as required by the Department (Code Agriculture Article, secs. 5-101 through 5-114, 6-101 through 6-117, 6-201 through 6-220, 6-301 through 6-310).

TURF & SEED SECTION

Malcolm L. Sarna, *Chief*

841-5960

As early as 1888, the General Assembly enacted legislation to protect farmers from unscrupulous seed salesmen making fraudulent claims. Today, the Turf and Seed Section works to assure the availability of sufficient quantities of certified turf and seed. It directs and conducts certification programs by which turf and seed are produced to meet standards of purity, variety, germination, and other quality factors. From the evidence of field inspections or laboratory analysis, the Section rejects seed or sod not meeting certification standards.

The Section also regulates the labeling of seed and sod at the time of marketing to help consumers determine what to purchase. A State testing laboratory is operated for both service and regulatory testing to assure compliance with label claims. The regulatory phase involves inspection, testing, reporting results, and corrective actions for each turf and seed lot found not to comply with provisions of the Turf Grass Law or the Seed Law (Code Agriculture Article, secs. 9-101 through 9-110, 9-201 through 9-213).

WEED CONTROL SECTION

Jesse J. Crook, *Supervisor*

841-5871

The Weed Control Section administers the Maryland Noxious Weed Law. This law requires landowners or those who possess and manage land infested with Johnsongrass, shattercane, or thistles to eradicate or control these noxious weeds by practices prescribed by the Secretary of Agriculture. The noxious weed control program helps individuals manage noxious weeds through their own efforts and through a cooperative agreement between the State and participating counties. The Department encourages individuals to file a Noxious Weed Control Agreement, outlining methods and procedures for controlling noxious

weeds on their land. Regulatory action may be taken against those who fail to control noxious weeds. The Weed Control Section also investigates complaints of multiflora rose-infested land used for agricultural production.

The Secretary of Agriculture has authority to declare other weeds noxious and place them under a control program. The Section Supervisor serves as the State's authority on weed control matters (Code Agriculture Article, secs. 9-401 through 9-405, 9-701 through 9-705).

OFFICE OF RESOURCE CONSERVATION

Rosemary Roswell, *Assistant Secretary*

50 Harry S Truman Parkway
Annapolis, MD 21401

841-5865

In November 1989, the Soil Conservation Administration was reorganized by the Department to form the Office of Resource Conservation. The Office works to control soil erosion and agricultural nonpoint source water pollution through agricultural soil conservation and water quality programs. The Office also coordinates its efforts with other Department programs and with county, State and federal officials. This includes managing interagency cooperative agreements. Supporting the State Soil Conservation Committee, the Office consists of three main sections: Program Planning and Development, Resource Conservation Operations, and Conservation Grants.

STATE SOIL CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

George H. Godfrey, *Acting Chairperson*,
Queen Anne's County, 1992

Soil Conservation District Supervisors: Robert M. Davis, Wicomico County, 1991; Paul Spurrier, Frederick County, 1993; James B. Beavan, St. Mary's County, 1993; Jimmie Miller, Harford County, 1994.

Ex officio: Wayne A. Cawley, Jr., Secretary of Agriculture; Robert Perciasepe, Secretary of the Environment; Torrey C. Brown, Secretary of Natural Resources; Raymond J. Miller, Vice-Chancellor for Agriculture & Natural Resources, University of Maryland System; Simpson W. Dunahoo, designee of Chairperson, Maryland Agricultural Commission; Royden Powell III, President, Maryland Association of Soil Conservation Districts.

Advisory nonvoting members: Craig S. Oliver, Ph.D., Director, Cooperative Extension Service; Jerry Hammond, Acting State Conservationist, U.S. Dept. of Agriculture, Soil Conservation Service.