

Plant Pest Control

The State Entomologist and the State Plant Pathologist are responsible for the control of insects and plant diseases. Their programs seek to prevent the introduction of any injurious insect and plant disease into Maryland and to control and eradicate insects and disease within the state. Major activities include Nursery Inspection, Japanese Beetle Retardation and Quarantine Inspection, Apiary Inspection, Mosquito Control, Oak Wilt Eradication, White Pine Blister Rust Control, Dutch Elm Disease Control and Potato Seed Inspection (Code 1957, Art. 48, secs. 70-110, 190-99).

State Department of Markets

The State Department of Markets carries on a number of programs designed to serve the every day needs of the farmer in marketing his products and to insure an equitable flow of these products in the marketing channels. The Department offers a grading and inspection service, market price reporting, and a marketing service and information program. In some of this work it cooperates with the United States Department of Agriculture. The Department enforces the Egg Grade, Size and Labeling Law, the Weights and Measures Law, and Cantaloupe Maturity Law and issues licenses required under the Poultry Sale and Transportation Law (Code 1957, Art. 66C, secs. 65-83, 104-10; Art. 48, secs. 160-66, 184-89; Art. 97, secs. 1-70).

State Inspection and Regulatory Service

The State Inspection and Regulatory Service enforces the State Laws relating to feed, fertilizer, agricultural liming material and agricultural pesticides. These laws are classified as the "Correct Labeling Acts." The agency's work consists of registration of brand names; collection, chemical analysis, and examination of samples; publication of results of tests; and prosecution of violators (Code 1957, Art. 48, secs. 116-47; Art. 66C, secs. 471-85).

Dairy Inspection Service

The Dairy Inspection Service administers the dairy inspection laws. It issues permits to dairy plants and operators of bulk milk tank trucks; examines and licenses milk and cream weighers, samplers and testers; calibrates the glassware used in testing milk and cream; check-tests milk and cream samples of plants and commercial laboratories; checks accuracy of weighing and measuring devices in dairy plants; and checks calibrations of farm milk tanks (Code 1957, Art. 43, secs. 569-97).

Seed Inspection Service

The Seed Inspection Service enforces the Maryland Seed Law. All seeds sold within the state must be properly labeled and inspected, sampled, and analyzed to insure compliance with label declaration. The Service checks samples for purity, noxious weed seed and germination. It also analyzes seeds on request of firms and individuals (Code 1957, Art. 48, secs. 148-59).