

R. Franklin Burris, Executive Secretary

Parole Plaza Office Building, Annapolis 21401 Telephone: 267-1332

The Maryland Agricultural Commission, created by Chapter 552, Acts of 1968, succeeded the Agricultural Advisory Board established by Chapter 470, Acts of 1961. The Commission has as its chief function the advancement of Maryland agriculture and by serving as an advisory body to the Secretary of Agriculture on all matters pertaining to agriculture, the Commission formulates and makes proposals for the advancement of agriculture, assists in the promotion of Maryland agricultural industries and products and advises the Department of Natural Resources on proposed wetland regulations.

The Commission consists of seventeen members of whom the principal administrative officer for agricultural affairs of the University of Maryland serves *ex officio*. The remaining sixteen members are appointed by the Governor for three-year terms as follows: two representing the dairy segment; two representing the poultry segment; two the livestock segment; two the tobacco segment; one the nursery segment; one the horticulture segment; one the field crop segment; one the vegetable segment; one from the veterinary profession; one nominated by the Maryland State Grange; one nominated by the Maryland Farm Bureau; and three appointed at large from services related to agriculture. No appointed person may serve more than two consecutive terms. The Board selects its own officers and is responsible for liaison between segments of the agricultural industry and the executive and the legislative branches of the State and Federal governments (Agriculture Article, secs. 2-201 to 2-205).

Appropriations	1973	1974
General Funds	\$33,047	\$35,457
Staff: 2.		

MARYLAND STATE APPLE COMMISSION

Chairman: William C. Main, 1976

Andrew H. Lohr, Jr., 1974; Theodore Stegmaier, 1974; Richard M. Allen, 1975; Raymond K. Gardenhour, 1975; Edward W. Hepburn, 1977; Evan B. Milburn, 1977.

Secretary: Joseph F. Cox

P. O. Box 417,

Hancock (Washington County) 21750

Telephone: 678-6770

The Maryland State Apple Commission was created by Chapter 628, Acts of 1947. The seven-man Commission is appointed to four-year terms by the Governor from a list of fruit growers approved by the Executive Committee of the Maryland State Horticultural Society. The Commission raises funds for publicity and advertising, sales promotion, education, and research to increase the demand for, and consumption of, Maryland apples. All apples of U. S. Number 1 Canner Grade or better, grown in Maryland and sold in commercial trade, are subject to a tax of one cent a bushel. However, the first five hundred bushels sold by any producer are tax-exempt. Commercial growers must report all apples sold during the crop season by December 31 each year. Apples sold after the season must be reported by the close of the following May. The Commission deposits the funds received from these sources with the State Treasurer in a Merchandising Fund, and none of this money may be used for any other purpose, operating expenditures excepted (Agriculture Article, secs. 10-401 to 10-406).