

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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The Department of Agriculture is a consolidation of the duties and functions previously performed by the now-abolished Maryland State Board of Agriculture which was composed of the Board of Regents of the University of Maryland.

The Department of Agriculture consists of the following offices, boards, commissions, departments and agencies: the Inspector of Tobacco, the Tobacco Authority of the State of Maryland, the Maryland State Fair Board, the Maryland State Apple Commission, the State Superintendent of Weights and Measures, the State Chemist, the State Veterinarian, the State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners, the Wholesome Meat Advisory Council of Maryland, the State Soil Conservation Committee, the Board of Review of the Department of Agriculture and the Maryland Agricultural Commission.

In addition, the following agencies were abolished and their functions transferred to the Department of Agriculture: the State Horticultural Department, the State Entomologist, the State Pathologist, the State Horticulturist, the Department of Drainage, the State Drainage Engineer, and the Maryland State Department of Markets (Agriculture Art. 2-101 to 2-107).

Staff: 1975, 29; 1976, 33; 1977, 33.

BOARD OF REVIEW

Angelo F. Palmisano, *Chairman*, 1979

John C. Herbst, 1976; Margaret G. Prouty, 1976; Charles E. Brown, 1978; Roger K. Richardson, 1978; Edwin R. Fry, 1979; Floyd Raley, 1979.

(Agriculture Art., secs. 2-401 to 2-405).

DIVISION OF INSPECTION AND REGULATION

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FIELD INSPECTION SECTION

The Field Inspection Section is charged with sampling, inspection of labels and products, and removal from sale of products in violation of seed law, feed law, fertilizer law, pesticide law, soil conditioner law, lime law, egg law, Federal Egg Law, FDA Medicated Feed Mill Inspection, Environment Protection Agency, pesticides applicators law (Agriculture Art., secs. 4-301 to 4-312).

STATE CHEMIST SECTION

The State Chemist registers, examines the labels of and chemically tests and analyzes commercial fertilizers, feeds, pesticides, soil conditioners and liming materials sold in this State to determine if they conform to standards established under Maryland laws governing quality, content and labeling. Appropriate measures are taken to protect the consumer and the dealer from unscrupulous or careless manufacturers. The laboratory facilities are also utilized for the Division of Animal Industries in meat inspection, livestock health and in other activities of the Department which require chemical determinations (Agriculture Art., secs. 5-101 to 5-114; 6-101 to 6-117; 6-201 to 6-220; 6-301 to 6-310).

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES SECTION

The Weights and Measures Section has custody of, maintains and safeguards the State's primary standards and, in addition, secondary standards and equipment for the enforcement of Maryland's Weights and