DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Wayne A. Cawley, Jr., Secretary of Agriculture

William M. Linton, Deputy Secretary of Agriculture

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The Department of Agriculture consolidates 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 Chief 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, the Maryland Agricultural Commission, and the Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation.

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 (Code Agriculture Article, secs. 2-101 through 2-107).

BOARD OF REVIEW

Angelo F. Palmisano, Chairperson, 1979

Edwin R. Fry, 1979; Floyd Raley, 1979; John C. Herbst, 1980; Margaret G. Prouty, 1980; Charles E. Brown, 1981; Roger K. Richardson, 1981.

(Code Agriculture Article, secs. 2-401 through 2-405).

DIVISION OF INSPECTION AND REGULATION

George E. Lechlider, Director

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EGG INSPECTION SECTION

The Egg Inspection Section is responsible for the quality of eggs produced, distributed, and sold in Maryland, and also for the Maryland Fresh and Maryland Fancy Egg Programs. The Egg Inspection Section is charged with enforcing the Federal Egg Law and removing from sale any eggs that do not meet the Federal and State standards (Code Agriculture Article, secs. 4-301 through 4-312).

STATE CHEMIST SECTION

The State Chemist registers, examines the labels of, samples, and chemically tests and analyzes commercial fertilizers, feeds, pesticides, soil conditioners, and liming materials sold in the State to determine if they conform to standards established under Maryland laws governing quality, contents, and labeling. Appropriate measures are taken to protect the consumer and the dealer from unscrupulous or careless manufacturers.

Telephone: 269-2161

The Section cooperates with the Federal Food and Drug Administration in the inspection of feed manufacturing facilities that produce medicated feeds and the Environmental Protection Agency in the implementation of the FIFRA. Additionally the laboratories analyze meat and toxicology samples for the Office of Animal Health, test fruits, vegetables, commercial feeds, and soils for chemical residues, and make other determinations as required by Departmental activities (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 AND SEED REGULATORY SECTION

The objective of this Section is to provide