

regulatory controls to assure accurate and complete labeling of seed and sod at the time of marketing, thus enabling the consumer to determine what he is purchasing prior to planting or installation. 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 to be in noncompliance with the provisions of the seed law (Code Agriculture Article, secs. 9-101 through 9-110; 9-201 through 9-213).

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES SECTION

The Weights and Measures Section has custody of, maintains, and safeguards the State's primary standards as well as secondary standards and equipment for the enforcement of Maryland's Weights and Measures Law. It maintains supervision over weighing and measuring devices, weights and measures, and packaged commodities offered for sale, sold, or in use in the State. This supervision is extended to the methodology employed in obtaining accurate measurement and providing a means for value comparisons.

This Section is also charged with the supervision and licensing of personnel engaged in the handling and transportation of fluid dairy products as it relates to accurate and proper measurement. It is charged with the administration and enforcement of Title II, Agriculture Article, Annotated Code of Maryland, which is designed to ensure accuracy and equity in the sale and measurement of commodity and similar transactions (Code Agriculture Article, secs. 11-101 through 11-509).

DIVISION OF MARKETING

Richard P. Parson, *Director*

Parole Plaza Office Building
Annapolis 21401 Telephone: 269-2181

The Marketing Division provides programs and services designed to serve all segments of the economy through the market system from producer to consumer. Programs include: Federal-State market improvement projects, inspection and grading of agricultural commodities, market news and statistical reporting service in conjunction with the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and an active consumer marketing information program (Code Agriculture Article, secs. 10-101 through 10-204; 10-501 through 10-504; 10-601 through 10-606; 10-701 through 10-708; 10-801 through 10-807; 10-901 through 10-909).

DIVISION OF PLANT INDUSTRIES

Ronald L. Johnson, *Director*

Parole Plaza Office Building
Annapolis 21401 Telephone: 269-2325

PLANT PROTECTION SECTION

This Section is responsible for administering programs relating to nursery inspection, plant protection and quarantine programs, integrated pest management, nuisance bird control, forest pest management, certified plant production, inspection and registration of honey bee colonies, and administration of the Interstate Pest Control Compact.

The Chief of this Section provides general supervision to the programs and currently serves as the State Plant Pathologist. Personnel in this Section serve as the State's authority on plant pests and agricultural quarantines and provide liaison for the Department with other state and federal regulatory officials (Code Agriculture Article, secs. 5-301 through 5-313; 5-501 through 5-507; and 1976 supplement secs. 5-701 through 5-716, and 1977 supplement secs. 5-801 through 5-805).

WEED CONTROL SECTION

The primary goal of the Weed Control Section is to control and prevent the spread of the noxious weed Johnsongrass within the state. The Johnsongrass Control Program is basically designed to assist landowners in bringing Johnsongrass under control through their own efforts and through the joint efforts of the county and State as provided in Cooperative Agreements with the various counties. Landowners are encouraged to file Johnsongrass Control Plans with the Department outlining methods and procedures for controlling Johnsongrass on their land. The Department is authorized to take regulatory actions against landowners who allow Johnsongrass to set seed on their property.

The Secretary of Agriculture has legislative authority to declare other noxious weeds and place them under a control program.

The program supervisor serves as the State's authority on weed control matters (Code Agriculture Article, secs. 9-401 through 9-405).

TURF AND SEED CERTIFICATION SECTION

The objective of this Section is to assure the availability of sufficient quantities of certified turf