

and seed by directing and conducting certification programs in which turf and seed are produced to meet certain standards such as purity, variety, germination, and other quality factors. Seed or sod not meeting certification standards is rejected as a result of field inspections or laboratory analysis.

The program is conducted in cooperation with the Maryland Foundation Stocks Program through the Maryland Crop Improvement Association. The supervisor of this program serves as the State's authority on certified turfgrass and seed (Code Agriculture Article, secs. 9-101 through 9-110; 9-201 through 9-213; 9-301 through 9-307).

### PESTICIDE REGULATION SECTION

This Section is responsible for regulating the use of pesticides in the State. The program provides for the licensing of businesses engaged in the commercial application of pesticides, training and certification of certain pesticide applicators, the enforcement of the Pesticide Applicators Law and Regulations, and for providing technical information relating to the proper and effective use of pesticides.

The supervisor of this program provides overall guidance and serves as the State's authority on matters relating to pesticide use and application (Code Agriculture Article, secs. 5-201 through 5-211).

### OFFICE OF ANIMAL HEALTH

Dr. Hugh E. Binks, *State Veterinarian*

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The Office of Animal Health is responsible for the control and eradication of those diseases of livestock and poultry that are of significant economic importance to the producer as well as those contagious diseases of livestock and poultry that pose a significant threat to the human population of Maryland due to their transmissibility from animals to humans (Code Agriculture Article, secs. 3-101 through 3-503).

### OFFICE OF MEAT AND POULTRY INSPECTION SECTION

Dr. Robert J. Lee, D.V.M., *Chief*

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The Office of Meat and Poultry Inspection has the responsibility of assuring the Maryland consumer of a wholesome supply of meat and poultry products, properly labeled and prepared

under sanitary conditions. This is accomplished with a staff of fifty-eight inspectors, supervisors, and administrative personnel. Inspection personnel are assigned to ninety-four slaughtering and/or processing plants located throughout the State. Fifty percent of the cost of the State meat and poultry inspection is provided by the Federal government (Code Agriculture Article, secs. 4-101 through 4-131; 4-201 through 4-230).

### OFFICE OF PEST MANAGEMENT

Dr. Robert M. Altman, *Chief*

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The Office of Pest Management conducts three major programs throughout the State. Other plant pest problems are monitored closely and plans are developed for managing other pest problems as the need develops.

### MOSQUITO CONTROL SECTION

A State-wide cooperatively funded program is conducted out of the College Park Office that provides routine services to 1,400,000 residents in 1,600 communities in 20 counties. Branch offices are located in Salisbury and Clements. Environmentally compatible temporary (adulticiding and larvaciding) and permanent (water management) methods are used to control the mosquitoes. In addition to implementing control measures, efforts are also directed toward determining the environmental impact of the program, developing more efficacious control methods, and conducting epidemiological investigations of mosquito borne diseases.

### GYPSY MOTH CONTROL SECTION

The gypsy moth is the most destructive forest pest of the Eastern United States. In addition, it causes serious problems in wooded residential areas, parks, and recreation areas, and is the subject of a national and international quarantine program. This pest has been present in Maryland since 1971, but as a result of effective control measures there has been no damage to date in the State. A cooperative local, State, and federal program to manage the gypsy moth is coordinated out of the College Park Office.

### MEXICAN BEAN BEETLE PARASITE PROGRAM

Soybeans are the second most important crop in Maryland. The Mexican bean beetle is the