

principal insect pest of this crop. The economic damage to soybeans by the Mexican bean beetle can be largely eliminated by making inoculative releases of a small wasp, *Pediobius foveolatus*, which is parasitic on the beetles. In addition to controlling the Mexican bean beetle, this energy-efficient method reduces the cost of control and also reduces the pesticide burden on the environment.

The Chief provides general supervision to the Program Supervisors and coordinates the activities of the office with other programs in the Department and with other local, State, and federal officials. In addition, he is responsible for managing active cooperative agreements with local, county, State, and federal agencies involving \$780,000 annually (Code Agriculture Article, 1975 Supp., secs. 5-301 through 5-312 and 5-401 through 5-405).

## STATE SOIL CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

*Chairperson:* Vernon R. Foster

*Ex officio members:* Wayne A. Cawley, Jr., *Secretary, Department of Agriculture*; Frank L. Bentz, Jr., *Vice President for Agricultural Affairs, University of Maryland*; Allie Messer, *Maryland Agricultural Commission*; Kenneth McElroy, *designee of the Secretary of the Department of Natural Resources*; William Sutton, *President of the Maryland Association of Soil Conservation Districts*.

*Appointed members:* C. Edward Holloway, *Supervisor, Wicomico Soil Conservation District, 1979*; Donald L. Spickler, *Supervisor, Washington County Soil Conservation District, 1980*; Wilbur F. Ward, Jr., *Supervisor, Calvert Soil Conservation District, 1981*; Vernon R. Foster, *Supervisor, Baltimore County Soil Conservation District, 1982*.

*Advisory non-voting members:* Dr. John M. Curtis, *Director, Cooperative Extension Service*; Gerald R. Calhoun, *State Conservationist, United States Department of Agriculture, Soil Conservation Service*; W. Mitchell Digges, *Supervisor, Charles County Soil Conservation District*; Dr. Lamar Harris, *Director, University of Maryland Agricultural Experiment Station*; James Voss, *Director, U.S.D.A. Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service*.

Arnold C. Hawkins, *Executive Secretary*

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The State Soil Conservation Committee, established by Chapter 436, Acts of 1937, and as amended from time to time since that date, consists of the Secretary of the Department of Agriculture or any employee of the Department of Agriculture whom he designates; the Secretary of Natural Resources, or any employee of the Department of Natural Resources whom he designates; the principal administrative official for agricultural affairs at the University of Maryland as designated by the President of the University; the Chairperson of the Maryland Agricultural Commission, or other member of the Commission he designates; the President of the Maryland Association of Soil Conservation Districts; and four soil conservation district supervisors, representing the four geographic areas of the State, appointed for four-year terms by the Secretary of Agriculture from recommendations made by the districts to be represented.

The State Soil Conservation Committee has organized Soil Conservation Districts in all counties of the State. The Committee coordinates the work of the twenty-four Soil Conservation Districts in Maryland to further the application of scientifically sound and practical conservation measures to the lands in Maryland, which will result in a retardation of erosion and the advancement of soil and water conservation. The Committee distributes to the districts such funds as are available for use in implementing the soil conservation district program.

The State Committee also assists Districts in securing the advice and help of State and federal agencies that have resources that can be brought to bear on soil and water problems and on certain phases of related land use programs and problems, including watershed protection and flood prevention, siltation of streams and reservoirs, shore erosion control, highway erosion control, forest and woodland conservation and development, the protection and development of wildlife, and the development of public land areas (Code Agriculture Article, secs. 8-101 through 8-601).

## STATE APPLE COMMISSION

*Chairperson:* Anthony J. Rubino, 1980

Richard M. Allen, 1979; John Rinehart, 1979; Robert Black, 1981; Edward W. Hepburn, 1981; Andrew H. Lohr, Jr., 1982; Theodore Stegmaier, 1982.

Joseph F. Cox, *Secretary*