

MEXICAN BEAN BEETLE PARASITE PROGRAM

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

DIVISION OF MARKETING

Ronald L. Johnson, *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: market improvement projects to improve quality and presentation of agricultural commodities and enhance consumer acceptance; international marketing; 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).

MARYLAND AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION

Chairperson: H. George Kemp, *nursery*, 1982

Vice-Chairperson: Donald A. Wilber, *poultry*, 1981

Ex officio member: Frank L. Bentz, Jr., *University of Maryland*

Appointed Members: Melvin E. Leppo, *member at large*, 1981; F. Grove Miller, *Farm Bureau*, 1981; Frederick O. Mitchell, *member at large*, 1981; C. Rodman Myers, *Grange*, 1981; J. Walter Hastings, Jr., *veterinary*, 1982; Leon B. Enfield, *dairy*, 1982; Donald E. Lippy, *field crops*, 1982; Warren McWilliams, *vegetables*, 1982; William E. Sylvester, *member at large*, 1982; Roy V. Beauchamp, *poultry*, 1983; Harry G. Black, *horticulture*, 1983; John L. King, Jr., *dairy*, 1983; William I. King, *livestock*, 1983; Guy H. Hall, *tobacco*, 1983.

Ernest C. Shea, *Executive Secretary*

Parole Plaza Office Building
Annapolis 21401 Telephone: 269-2332

The Maryland Agricultural Commission, created by Chapter 552, Acts of 1968, succeeded the Agricultural Advisory Board established by Chapter 470, Acts of 1961. The Commission has as its chief function the advancement of Maryland agriculture and serves as an advisory body to the Secretary of Agriculture on all matters pertaining to agriculture. The Commission formulates and makes proposals for the advancement of agriculture, assists in the promotion of Maryland agricultural industries and products, and advises the Department of Natural Resources on proposed wetland regulations.

The Commission consists of seventeen members of whom the principal administrative officer for agricultural affairs of the University of Maryland serves *ex officio*. The remaining sixteen members are appointed by the Governor for three-year terms as follows: two representing the dairy segment; two representing the poultry segment; one the livestock segment; one the tobacco segment; one the nursery segment; one the horticulture segment; one the field crop segment; one the vegetable segment; one from the veterinary profession; one nominated by the Maryland State Grange; one nominated by the Maryland Farm Bureau; and three appointed at large from services related to agriculture. No appointed person may serve more than two consecutive terms. The Commission selects its own officers (Code Agriculture Article, secs. 2-201 through 2-205).

MARYLAND AGRICULTURAL FAIR BOARD

Chairperson: Frank Donaldson Brown, Jr., 1982

Gordon Warfield, 1981; John M. Crum, 1981; Richard N. Wills, 1981; Gerald B. Truitt, Jr.,