

A. Virts, 1988; William M. Allenberg, 1989; Roland Darcey, 1989; Simpson W. Dunahoo, 1989; Franklin E. Feeser, 1989; David Weitzer, 1989.

Ex officio: Raymond J. Miller, *University of Maryland*

Lynne C. Hoot, *Executive Secretary*

50 Harry S. Truman Parkway
Annapolis 21401 Telephone: 841-5769

The Maryland Agricultural Commission originally was formed in 1961 as the Agricultural Advisory Board (Chapter 470, Acts of 1961). The Board was renamed the Maryland Agricultural Commission in 1968 (Chapter 552, Acts of 1968). 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, with the principal administrative officer for agricultural affairs at the University of Maryland serving ex officio. The remaining sixteen members are appointed by the Governor for three-year terms. Two members represent the dairy segment; two 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; and one from the veterinary profession. The Maryland State Grange and the Maryland Farm Bureau each nominate one member, and three are appointed at large from services related to agriculture (Code Agriculture Article, secs. 2-201 through 2-205).

OFFICE OF ANIMAL HEALTH AND CONSUMER SERVICES

Richard H. Carter, *Assistant Secretary*

50 Harry S. Truman Parkway
Annapolis 21401 Telephone: 841-5782

The Assistant Secretary for Animal Health and Consumer Services provides administrative direction to five major sections: Animal Health, Grading Services and Egg Inspection, Meat and Poultry Inspection, Weights and Measures, and Grain

Laws. Also within the Office are the State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners, and the Board of Inspection of Horse Riding Stables. The Office furnishes administrative support to the Wholesome Meat Advisory Council.

ANIMAL HEALTH SECTION

Dr. Archibald B. Park, *State Veterinarian*

50 Harry S. Truman Parkway
Annapolis 21401 Telephone: 841-5810

The Animal Health Section is responsible for the control and eradication of those livestock and poultry diseases that are of significant economic importance to the producer. The Section also works to control and eradicate those contagious diseases of livestock and poultry that pose a threat to human health due to their transmissibility from animals to people (Code Agriculture Article, secs. 3-101 through 3-503).

GRADING SERVICES AND EGG INSPECTION SECTION

Thomas O. Meredith, Jr., *Administrator*

50 Harry S. Truman Parkway
Annapolis 21401 Telephone: 841-5782

This section inspects and grades fruit, vegetables, grain, soybeans, and poultry at their production sources. Graders carry out U.S. Department of Agriculture grading regulations and affix federal grading stamps to products that meet quality and condition standards (Code Agriculture Article, secs. 10-501 through 10-909).

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

In addition, the Section administers the licensing of grain dealers (Code Agriculture Article, secs. 13-201 through 13-215).