

Formerly under the Department of Economic and Community Development, the Office of Seafood Marketing was transferred to the Department of Agriculture as Seafood Marketing Services in 1987. It was renamed Seafood Marketing Section in 1988. The Section promotes increased distribution and consumption of Maryland seafood. It also seeks efficient methods to reduce cost and improve the quality and marketability of seafood.

SEAFOOD MARKETING ADVISORY COMMISSION
Chairperson: Clare G. Vanderbeek, 1990

Appointed by Governor with Senate advice & consent and advice of Secretary of Agriculture: Francis Jack Russell, 1989; Bruce Lee Steinberg, 1989; William R. Woodfield, Jr., 1989; A. Arthur Oertel, 1990; Frederick C. Pomeroy, 1990; Levin F. Harrison III, 1991; Wallace D. Miller, 1991; Judith Ridinger Pugh, 1991; Henry D. Pezzetti, 1992; Andrew Todd Tolley, 1992.

Ex officio: William F. Sieling, *designee of Secretary of Agriculture*; W. Peter Jensen, *designee of Secretary of Natural Resources*.

841-5770

In 1987, the Seafood Marketing Advisory Commission was created within the Department of Agriculture in accordance with Chapter 308, Acts of 1987. The Commission assists the Seafood Marketing Section.

The Commission has thirteen members. The Governor appoints eleven members with Senate advice and consent and eight members with the advice of the Secretary of Agriculture. The Secretary of Agriculture or designee, and the Secretary of Natural Resources or designee are nonvoting ex officio members. Members serve four-year terms (Code Agriculture Article, sec. 10-1101).

GRADING SERVICES AND EGG INSPECTION SECTION

Thomas O. Meredith, Jr., *Administrator*

50 Harry S Truman Parkway
 Annapolis, MD 21401

841-5769

The Grading Services and Egg Inspection Section inspects and grades fruits, vegetables, grain, soybeans, and poultry at their production sites. Graders follow U.S. Department of Agriculture grading regulations and affix federal grading stamps to products that meet quality standards (Code Agriculture Article, secs. 10-501 through 10-909).

The Section also is 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 Section removes from sale any eggs that do not

meet federal and State standards (Code Agriculture Article, secs. 4-301 through 4-312).

GRAIN LAWS SECTION

Thomas O. Meredith, Jr., *Administrator*

50 Harry S Truman Parkway
 Annapolis, MD 21401

841-5769

The Grain Laws Section licenses grain dealers. All *bona fide* grain dealers in the State, as defined by law, are required to register and secure an annual license (Code Agriculture Article, secs. 13-201 through 13-215).

AGRICULTURAL STATISTICAL SERVICE

M. Bruce West, *Statistician in Charge*

50 Harry S Truman Parkway
 Annapolis, MD 21401

841-5740

Formerly the Statistical Reporting Service, the Agricultural Statistical Service collects, summarizes, and publishes data relating to the production and marketing of agricultural products, agriculture prices and income, and other statistics pertinent to agriculture and agribusiness. State statistics generally are available for acreage, yield, and production of major field crops, vegetables, fruits, livestock, and poultry; and monthly and seasonal or annual average prices, farm expenditures, and labor. For some commodities the Service also compiles county statistics. The following publications are available:

- Maryland Agricultural Statistics* (annual)
- Weekly Delmarva Broiler Report*
- Weekly Crop and Weather Report*
- Maryland Agri-Facts* (bi-monthly)

MARYLAND AGRICULTURAL FAIR BOARD

Chairperson: Joy G. Schwab, 1990

Appointed by Governor: Philip Brendel, 1989; Joseph C. Free, 1989; Robert T. Jarboe, 1989; Walter E. Buck III, 1990; William James Kimbles IV, 1990; John W. Barton, 1991; Frank C. Downey, 1991; Edna M. White, 1991.

Christine Bloom, *Executive Secretary*

50 Harry S Truman Parkway
 Annapolis, MD 21401

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The Maryland Agricultural Fair Board was established as the State Fair Board in 1937 (Chapter 463, Acts of 1937). It received its present name in 1980 (Chapter 85, Acts of 1980). The Board encourages and fosters agriculture through the promotion and assistance of *bona fide* agricultural fairs and exhibits. It extends financial assistance to qualifying organizations for premium awards to exhibitors of agricultural displays.