

registered and tested. Inspections made by inspectors from the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene are reviewed by the Section. The Section has developed the first program in the United States to trace eggs from flock to consumer, and now other states are copying the program.

The Section enforces the restricted egg sections of the federal Egg Law. Restricted eggs are those not suitable for consumption due to cracks, blood spots, leaks, or other problems. All restricted eggs removed from consumer packs of eggs must be documented as to disposition. The Section removes from sale any eggs that do not meet federal and State standards (Code Agriculture Article, secs. 4-201 through 4-312).

GRAIN LAWS SECTION

Thomas O. Meredith, Jr., *Administrator*
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).

MARYLAND AGRICULTURAL FAIR BOARD

Philip Brendel, *Chairperson*, 1994

Appointed by Governor with advice of Secretary of Agriculture: John W. Barton, 1991; Frank C. Downey, 1991; Edna M. White, 1991; Joseph C. Free, 1994; John L. Richards, 1994; David C. Daneker, 1995; A. A. Scott MacGlashan IV, 1995; Walter R. Mason, 1995.

Christine Bloom, *Executive Secretary*

50 Harry S Truman Parkway
Annapolis, MD 21401 841-5770

Forerunners of the Maryland Agricultural Fair Board include societies for the promotion of agriculture which flourished in Maryland, beginning in 1807 with the creation of boards of agriculture in twelve Maryland counties (Chapter 169, Acts of 1807). These boards were authorized to award premiums or medals for the promotion of agriculture. Other county societies and fair boards were created and, from time to time, the General Assembly appropriated money to them for agricultural fairs.

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.

Annually, the Board issues *Maryland Fair & Show Schedule*, available upon request.

The Board consists of nine members appointed by the Governor to five-year terms (Code Agriculture Article, secs. 10-301 through 10-303).

MARYLAND AGRICULTURAL LAND PRESERVATION FOUNDATION

Leonard E. Lowry, *Chairperson*, 1992

Appointed by Governor (who also designates chair): W. Max Buckel, 1991; George C. Fry, 1991; Ronald M. Kreitner, 1991; Dan C. Shortall, Jr., 1992; Lee F. Townsend, 1992; William F. Dixon, 1993; Lloyd C. Jones, 1993; Donald R. Stirn, 1993.

Ex officio: Lucille Maurer, State Treasurer; Louis L. Goldstein, Comptroller of the Treasury; Wayne A. Cawley, Jr., Secretary of Agriculture

Paul Scheidt, *Executive Director*

50 Harry S Truman Parkway
Annapolis, MD 21401 841-5860

The Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation was created in 1977 (Chapter 784, Acts of 1977). The Foundation implements the *Agricultural Land Preservation Program*. The Program's intent is to preserve productive agricultural land and woodland in Maryland, provide for the continued production of food and fiber, curb the extent of urban sprawl, and protect agricultural land and woodland as open space. The Program depends on the cooperation of county governments, which appoint local agricultural preservation advisory boards. Participation in the Program is voluntary on the part of landowners.

By agreement with the Foundation, landowners may initiate the creation of an Agricultural Preservation District in which subdivision and development are restricted for at least five years. The creation of such a district protects normal agricultural activities and enables landowners to make application to sell a development rights easement. Based upon the availability of funds allocated by the counties, the Foundation may acquire easements in accord with a competitive formula defined by law and subject to local recommendation and appraisal. Easements thus acquired are perpetual but may be repurchased after twenty-five years if certain procedures and requirements are met.

By gift, devise, bequest, or grant, the Foundation also may receive easements in gross or other rights to restrict the use of agricultural land and woodland.

In 1990, Maryland continued to lead the nation in the amount of land in agricultural preservation districts (194,388 acres) and on which permanent development rights easements have been acquired (91,448 acres).