

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.

Maryland has preserved more farmland than any other state. By 1993, Maryland had saved 256,512 acres in agricultural preservation districts and acquired permanent development rights easements on 102,709 acres.

The Foundation is governed and administered by a twelve-member Board of Trustees. Nine at-large members are appointed by the Governor. At least five of these must be farmer representatives from different areas of the State, and one must be a nonfarm representative from the Office of Planning. Three members serve *ex officio*. The chairperson of the Board of Trustees is designated by the Governor from the at-large trustees. Upon recommendation of the Board of Trustees at large, the Secretary appoints the Executive Director (Code Agriculture Article, secs. 2-501 through 2-515).

OFFICE OF FOOD SAFETY & CONSUMER SERVICES

Archibald B. Park, D.V.M., *Assistant Secretary for Food Safety & Consumer Services*

50 Harry S Truman Parkway
Annapolis, MD 21401 (410) 841-5782

The Office of Food Safety and Consumer Services began in 1973 as the Division of Animal Industries within the Department of Agriculture. By 1978, the Division was renamed the Office of Animal Health and, by 1980, the Office of Animal Health and Consumer Services. The Office was reorganized under its present name in 1992.

The Assistant Secretary for Food Safety and Consumer Services directs four sections: Agricultural Statistics Service; Animal Health; Egg Inspection, Grading and Grain; and Weights and Measures.

AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

M. Bruce West, *State Statistician*
(410) 841-5740

The Agricultural Statistics Service originated as the Statistical Reporting Service in the mid-19th century and received its present name in 1986. The 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 agri-

business. 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 Service issues the following publications:

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

ANIMAL HEALTH SECTION

Roger E. Olson, D.V.M., *Acting State Veterinarian*
(410) 841-5810

Duties of the Animal Health Section originated in 1884 when the position of veterinary inspector first was created to suppress disease in livestock and prevent epidemics (Chapter 157, Acts of 1884). Today, the Section works to control and eradicate livestock and poultry diseases that have a significant economic impact on producers or pose a threat to human health due to their transmissibility from animals to people (Code Agriculture Article, secs. 3-101 through 3-503).

Within the Section are the State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners and the State Board of Inspection of Horse Riding Stables.

STATE BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICAL EXAMINERS

A. Cleveland Brown, V.M.D., *President*, 1994
Beverly A. Raymond, *Inspector*
(410) 841-5862

The State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners was formed in 1894 (Chapter 273, Acts of 1894). The Board examines candidates for licenses to practice veterinary medicine in the State and judges their qualifications. It registers veterinarians annually, inspects veterinary hospitals, and may conduct hearings and pass upon complaints of illegal or unethical practices or sanitary requirements. Court proceedings may be instituted by the Board against persons engaged in illegal practices.

The Board is composed of seven members. They are appointed to five-year terms by the Governor upon recommendation of the Secretary of Agriculture and with Senate advice and consent. Five members are licensed and registered veterinarians who have engaged in active practice for five years. Of the five members, two must have practices devoted predominantly to large animals. Two members of the Board must not be veterinarians. Authorization for the Board continues until July 1, 2001 (Code Agriculture Article, secs. 2-301 through 2-313).