

Maryland Department of Agriculture

MISSION

To provide leadership and support to agriculture and the citizens of Maryland by conducting regulatory, service, and educational activities that ensure consumer confidence, protect the environment, and promote agriculture.

VISION

To achieve excellence in programs and services that preserve and protect agricultural resources and the environment, promote profitable agriculture and consumer confidence, and enhance the quality of life for all Marylanders.

KEY GOALS, OBJECTIVES, AND PERFORMANCE MEASURES

Goal 1. To promote profitable production, use, and sale of Maryland agricultural products.

- Obj. 1.1** Create new markets and support existing market opportunities for Maryland farmers and agribusinesses.
- Obj. 1.2** Increase international sales by Maryland agribusinesses and the export of Maryland agricultural products to international markets.
- Obj. 1.3** Continued recognition by the United States Department of Agriculture of Maryland's highest official status in all Cooperative Animal Disease Control/Eradication or other programs in which the Animal Health Program participates.

Performance Measures	2012 Act.	2013 Act.	2014 Act.	2015 Act.	2016 Act.	2017 Est.	2018 Est.
Number of producers participating in MDA activities	412	424	380	400	464	400	400
Number of producers participating in Farmers' Market Nutrition Program (FMNP)	375	401	411	417	400	417	415
Amounts of FMNP checks redeemed by producers	\$510,000	\$321,386	\$532,159	\$530,684	\$579,688	\$530,000	\$530,000
Number of reported international sales	16	16	45	27	37	30	35

Goal 2. To protect the health of the public, plant, and animal resources in Maryland.

- Obj. 2.1** Maintain robust laboratory output and timely reporting results.
- Obj. 2.2** Successfully complete gypsy moth and hemlock woolly adelgid pest management activities where economically and environmentally feasible.
- Obj. 2.3** Successfully deploy monitoring/survey traps for various forest pests (pine beetle, sirex nachilio, walnut twig beetle, emerald ash borer, etc.).

Performance Measures	2012 Act.	2013 Act.	2014 Act.	2015 Act.	2016 Act.	2017 Est.	2018 Est.
Number of necropsies performed	1,053	1,022	991	812	791	900	900
Equine infectious anemia (EIA) tests performed in Maryland laboratories	15,270	14,417	12,075	12,018	11,281	11,000	11,000
Number of acres where protective treatment is environmentally and economically feasible (gypsy moth)	2,530	12,289	5,594	0	1,004	9,000	9,000
Number of acres of treatment completed (gypsy moth)	2,530	11,994	5,164	0	1,004	700	700
Total number of forest pest traps deployed	N/A	372	371	418	278	250	250

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Obj. 2.4 Maintain the adult mosquito population below the level that causes unacceptable annoyance to humans.

Obj. 2.5 75 percent of inspected licensees, permittees and certified applicators will be in compliance with pesticide laws and regulations.

Performance Measures	2012 Act.	2013 Act.	2014 Act.	2015 Act.	2016 Act.	2017 Est.	2018 Est.
Number of acres treated with insecticide for mosquito control	1,810,081	1,352,866	1,544,682	1,060,604	1,298,828	1,413,412	1,334,078
Number of acres treated with biological insecticides to control mosquito larvae	7,433	6,234	6,447	5,270	5,956	6,268	6,035
Percentage of acres treated with biological insecticide	0.4%	0.5%	0.4%	0.5%	0.5%	0.4%	0.5%
Acres of water management	640	283	456	1,432	884	739	759
Percent of pesticide licensees and permittees in compliance with laws and regulations	70.4%	60.5%	62.2%	71.8%	74.0%	72.2%	73.5%
Percent of pesticide licensees and permittees inspected	42.7%	37.6%	52.7%	53.4%	27.8%	48.5%	48.7%

Goal 3. To preserve adequate amounts of productive agricultural land and woodland in Maryland in order to provide for the continued production of food and fiber, to limit random development, and to protect agricultural land and woodland as open space.

Obj. 3.1 By the year 2022, preserve 1,030,000 acres of farmland, woodland and open space land in Maryland through the purchase of permanent easements, local government land preservation programs, local Transfer of Development Rights (TDRs), and similar programs.

Performance Measures	2012 Act.	2013 Act.	2014 Act.	2015 Act.	2016 Act.	2017 Est.	2018 Est.
Total number of easements, cumulative	2,078	2,102	2,154	2,187	2,207	2,233	2,282
Total acres under easements	282,957	286,239	292,357	296,682	299,234	302,805	309,405

Goal 4. To provide and promote land stewardship, including conservation, environmental protection, preservation and resource management.

Obj. 4.1 Provide financial and human resources through a combination of voluntary and regulatory programs to improve the management of agricultural production in Maryland so as to reduce the potential for non-point source losses of nitrogen and phosphorus from Maryland farms.

Obj. 4.2 Develop and promote soil conservation and water quality plans and best management practices to meet local water quality goals for nitrogen and phosphorus.

Performance Measures	2012 Act.	2013 Act.	2014 Act.	2015 Act.	2016 Act.	2017 Est.	2018 Est.
¹ Reduction in nitrogen loadings to Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries (pounds)	9,424,500	#####	9,499,457	#####	#####	#####	#####
¹ Reduction in phosphorus loadings to Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries (pounds)	482,369	526,006	627,609	689,483	630,000	650,000	670,000
Number of new acres under conservation plans	37,350	43,224	29,785	24,211	13,802	13,000	13,000

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Obj. 4.3 Increase by 50 percent (to 3,000 per year) the number of best management practices (BMP) installed to meet nutrient reduction goals.

Obj. 4.4 Reduce soil erosion by 15,000 tons per year, and increase the amount of animal waste managed by 2,500 tons per day/per year.

Obj. 4.5 To ensure all applicable Maryland farmers have and implement their nutrient management plan developed by certified consultants, keep records pertaining to their plan, update their plan as needed, and file a copy of their plan with the Department.

Performance Measures	2012 Act.	2013 Act.	2014 Act.	2015 Act.	2016 Act.	2017 Est.	2018 Est.
Number of new BMPs installed	3,775	3,775	1,438	3,032	3,028	2,962	2,962
Acres of cover crops planted	402,222	413,826	415,550	427,458	499,531	490,000	490,000
Acres of land treated (BMPs)	928	2,978	1,248	1,643	2,517	2,000	2,000
Tons of soil saved per year	14,677	16,703	13,857	18,300	20,127	17,700	19,000
Total financial assistance paid to transport manure	\$724,710	\$906,360	\$1,307,155	\$1,260,852	\$1,402,182	\$2,500,000	\$2,500,000
Tons of manure transported	35,380	52,481	118,995	167,237	213,151	330,000	330,000
Cost per ton manure transported	\$20.48	\$17.27	\$10.98	\$7.54	\$6.58	\$7.58	\$7.58
Cumulative acreage of plan summaries filed with MDA as of June 30 each year	1,291,912	1,349,925	1,298,200	1,295,939	1,278,132	1,293,000	1,295,000
Compliance as percent of total eligible acreage	90.0%	99.8%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Adequacy of plans based on plan consultant's review	98.0%	97.0%	98.0%	98.0%	98.0%	98.0%	98.0%

Goal 5. To provide health, safety and economic protection for Maryland consumers.

Obj. 5.1 Conduct shell egg facility inspections, sampling of product, outreach activities and enforcement actions that increase the compliance rate to 92 percent.

Obj. 5.2 Improve the net contents compliance rate of commodities prepackaged in Maryland stores to 90.5 percent.

Obj. 5.3 Maintain the accuracy compliance rate for initial inspections of retail gasoline meters at a minimum of 94 percent.

Obj. 5.4 Maintain the accuracy compliance rate for initial inspections of small capacity scales at a minimum of 94 percent.

Performance Measures	2012 Act.	2013 Act.	2014 Act.	2015 Act.	2016 Act.	2017 Est.	2018 Est.
Percentage of eggs sold in Maryland sampled by inspectors	0.7%	0.4%	0.3%	0.3%	0.2%	0.5%	0.5%
Percentage of samples examined that are found to be in full compliance with the Maryland Egg Law	86.0%	85.4%	80.6%	82.5%	83.0%	90.0%	90.0%
Percent of prepackaged commodities inspected and labeled accurately	80.5%	83.6%	82.7%	79.2%	78.4%	80.2%	80.2%
Percentage of retail gasoline meters that meet performance requirements	92.1%	93.7%	93.5%	93.5%	92.2%	94.0%	92.8%
Percentage of small capacity scales found within applicable tolerances	94.0%	94.8%	94.4%	93.9%	94.5%	94.0%	94.2%

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- Obj. 5.5** Ensure that 90 percent of seed lots offered for sale in Maryland are labeled correctly.
- Obj. 5.6** Ensure that 99 percent of randomly sampled pesticide products, including disinfectants, and 95 percent of disinfectant products conform with Maryland law relating to quality and safety with respect to active ingredient content and toxic material.
- Obj. 5.7** Ensure that 90 percent of randomly sampled fertilizer, soil amendments and liming materials are conform with Maryland laws relating to quality and safety with respect to the active ingredient content and toxic materials and at least 95 percent of livestock feed and pet food sampled conform with Maryland law relative to nutrition (as per standards established by the Association of American Feed Control Officials).
- Obj. 5.8** To maintain the processing of completed registration applications, including all necessary supporting documents, and issue registrations within 30 days of receipt.
- Obj. 5.9** 100 percent of all veterinary hospitals licensed in the State will pass inspection annually.
- Obj. 5.10** For the State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners to make a determination on 90 percent of cases within 120 days from obtaining knowledge of an alleged violation of the Veterinary Practice Act.

Performance Measures	2012 Act.	2013 Act.	2014 Act.	2015 Act.	2016 Act.	2017 Est.	2018 Est.
Percent of seed lots found to be correctly labeled	84.0%	85.8%	87.4%	82.0%	85.0%	85.0%	85.0%
Percent of collected pesticide samples in conformance	98.0%	100.0%	98.0%	100.0%	99.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Percent of collected disinfectant samples in conformance	94.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Percent of fertilizer, soil amendments and liming material samples in conformance	51.0%	69.0%	56.0%	49.0%	57.0%	60.0%	63.0%
Percent of feed samples tested in conformance with law	90.0%	88.0%	93.0%	94.0%	95.0%	95.0%	97.0%
Registrations issued for veterinarians	3,652	2,679	2,789	2,602	2,667	2,700	2,700
Registrations issued for veterinary hospitals	651	582	540	527	548	545	545
Percent of hospitals passing inspection	97.0%	99.0%	98.0%	98.0%	97.0%	98.0%	98.0%
Determination of cases within 120 days (percentage)	87.0%	88.0%	99.0%	50.0%	39.0%	50.0%	50.0%

NOTES

¹ 2016 data is estimated.