

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	2015 Act.	2016 Act.	2017 Act.	2018 Act.	2019 Act.	2020 Est.	2021 Est.
Number of producers participating in Maryland Department of Agriculture (MDA) activities	400	464	522	421	475	400	400
Number of producers participating in Farmers' Market Nutrition Program (FMNP)	417	400	342	261	193	193	193
Amounts of FMNP checks redeemed by producers	\$530,684	\$579,688	\$530,000	\$468,905	\$488,770	\$488,770	\$488,770
Number of reported international sales	27	37	40	89	22	22	22

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, sirenix nachilio, walnut twig beetle, emerald ash borer, etc.).

Performance Measures	2015 Act.	2016 Act.	2017 Act.	2018 Act.	2019 Act.	2020 Est.	2021 Est.
Number of necropsies performed	812	791	842	730	803	800	800
Equine infectious anemia (EIA) tests performed in Maryland laboratories	12,018	11,281	10,455	9,302	9,449	9,400	9,400
Number of acres where protective treatment is environmentally and economically feasible (gypsy moth)	0	1,004	0	0	0	5,000	9,000
Number of acres of treatment completed (gypsy moth)	0	1,004	0	0	0	700	700
Total number of forest pest traps deployed	418	278	261	272	328	340	340

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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	2015 Act.	2016 Act.	2017 Act.	2018 Act.	2019 Act.	2020 Est.	2021 Est.
¹ Number of acres treated with insecticide for mosquito control	1,060,604	1,298,828	1,295,413	1,277,200	1,298,784	1,298,784	1,298,784
¹ Number of acres treated with biological insecticides to control mosquito larvae	5,270	5,956	26,629	5,323	7,015	7,000	7,000
¹ Percentage of acres treated with biological insecticide	0.5%	0.5%	2.0%	0.3%	0.5%	0.5%	0.5%
¹ Acres of water management	1,432	884	205	200	1,018	1,018	1,018
Percent of pesticide licensees and permittees in compliance with laws and regulations	71.8%	74.0%	72.2%	73.5%	74.2%	75.5%	76.3%
Percent of pesticide licensees and permittees inspected	53.4%	27.8%	48.5%	56.1%	60.1%	65.2%	67.2%

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	2015 Act.	2016 Act.	2017 Act.	2018 Act.	2019 Act.	2020 Est.	2021 Est.
Total number of easements, cumulative	2,187	2,207	2,243	2,302	2,347	2,392	2,437
Total acres under easements	296,682	299,234	304,858	312,787	318,215	320,607	323,044

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	2015 Act.	2016 Act.	2017 Act.	2018 Act.	2019 Act.	2020 Est.	2021 Est.
¹ Reduction in nitrogen loadings to Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries (pounds)	10,305,524	10,412,716	10,804,065	12,136,597	12,250,000	12,500,000	13,000,000
¹ Reduction in phosphorus loadings to Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries (pounds)	689,483	693,394	683,854	1,265,561	1,300,000	1,325,000	1,350,000
Number of new acres under conservation plans	24,211	13,802	14,505	14,750	0	0	15,000

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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	2015 Act.	2016 Act.	2017 Act.	2018 Act.	2019 Act.	2020 Est.	2021 Est.
Number of new BMPs installed	3,032	3,028	2,513	2,192	2,002	2,250	2,500
Acres of cover crops planted	427,458	499,531	558,918	359,873	359,702	490,000	490,000
Acres of land treated (BMPs)	1,643	2,517	1,490	495	1,490	1,500	1,500
Tons of soil saved per year	18,300	20,127	10,890	5,225	4,712	16,000	16,000
Total financial assistance paid to transport manure	\$1,260,852	\$1,402,182	\$1,627,727	\$1,486,570	\$1,443,174	\$3,050,000	\$3,350,000
Tons of manure transported	167,237	213,151	241,942	249,421	249,840	300,000	300,000
Cost per ton manure transported	\$7.54	\$6.58	\$6.73	\$5.96	\$5.78	\$10.17	\$11.17
Cumulative acreage of plan summaries filed with MDA as of June 30 each year	1,295,939	1,278,132	1,277,930	1,279,332	1,243,789	1,240,000	1,240,000
Compliance as percent of total eligible acreage	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Adequacy of plans based on plan consultant's review	98.0%	98.0%	98.0%	98.0%	98.0%	98.0%	98.0%
Number of urban site inspections and records reviews	344	197	244	207	192	275	350
Number of certified professional fertilizer applicators	1,507	1,697	1,862	1,550	1,536	1,600	1,600
Number of trained employees	1,248	1,855	1,582	1,550	1,543	1,600	1,600
Compliance percentage during urban review	98.0%	92.0%	88.0%	86.0%	77.0%	80.0%	80.0%

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.

Performance Measures	2015 Act.	2016 Act.	2017 Act.	2018 Act.	2019 Act.	2020 Est.	2021 Est.
Percentage of eggs sold in Maryland sampled by inspectors	0.3%	0.2%	0.1%	0.0%	0.2%	0.2%	0.2%
Percentage of samples examined that are found to be in full compliance with the Maryland Egg Law	82.5%	83.0%	80.8%	84.9%	90.0%	90.0%	90.0%
Percent of prepackaged commodities inspected and labeled accurately	79.2%	78.4%	77.3%	84.3%	83.4%	85.8%	85.8%
Percentage of retail gasoline meters that meet performance	93.5%	92.2%	92.8%	90.7%	92.0%	92.8%	92.8%

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- Obj. 5.4** Maintain the accuracy compliance rate for initial inspections of small capacity scales at a minimum of 94 percent.
- 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 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	2015 Act.	2016 Act.	2017 Act.	2018 Act.	2019 Act.	2020 Est.	2021 Est.
Percentage of small capacity scales found within applicable tolerances	93.9%	94.5%	94.6%	92.2%	93.2%	94.0%	94.0%
Percent of seed lots found to be correctly labeled	82.0%	85.0%	94.0%	89.6%	87.0%	90.0%	90.0%
Percent of collected pesticide samples in conformance	100.0%	99.0%	98.0%	99.5%	93.8%	97.5%	100.0%
Percent of collected disinfectant samples in conformance	100.0%	100.0%	98.0%	100.0%	97.1%	100.0%	100.0%
Percent of fertilizer, soil amendments and liming material samples in conformance	49.0%	57.0%	88.0%	92.4%	81.4%	90.0%	100.0%
Percent of feed samples tested in conformance with law	94.0%	95.0%	91.5%	98.0%	93.8%	97.5%	100.0%
Registrations issued for veterinarians	2,602	2,667	2,871	2,871	2,853	2,865	2,800
Registrations issued for veterinary hospitals	527	548	595	610	599	630	635
Percent of hospitals passing inspection	98.0%	97.0%	94.0%	95.0%	96.0%	90.0%	90.0%
Determination of cases within 120 days (percentage)	50.0%	39.0%	8.0%	39.3%	30.0%	35.0%	35.0%

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Goal 6. The goal of the Rural Maryland Council (RMC), an independent agency within MDA, is to bring together citizens, community-based organizations, federal, state, county and municipal government officials as well as representatives of the for-profit and nonprofit sectors to collectively address the needs of Rural Maryland communities.

Obj. 6.1 Encourage healthy, connected communities throughout Rural Maryland through convening of stakeholders, education, public relations and advocacy.

Obj. 6.2 Support the development and growth of vibrant economies in Rural Maryland.

Obj. 6.3 Foster stewardship of Maryland's natural resources.

Obj. 6.4 Maximize RMC outreach, resources and mission through financial and organizational development.

Performance Measures	2015 Act.	2016 Act.	2017 Act.	2018 Act.	2019 Act.	2020 Est.	2021 Est.
Rural Population	1,715,055	1,720,988	1,742,147	1,687,624	N/A	N/A	N/A
Rural per capita income	31,193	31,782	33,736	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Number of grant applications received	54	57	138	172	175	200	N/A
Private sector dollars leveraged for rural development projects	2,581,872	582,629	14,772,377	17,870,185	5,636,990	13,765,432	N/A
Number of attendees at biennial Rural Summit	230	N/A	350	N/A	350	N/A	N/A
Rural unemployment rate	7%	7%	N/A	4%	N/A	N/A	N/A
Rate of broadband access in rural communities	N/A	64%	81%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Health care providers per 100K rural population	4,712	4,712	4,407	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Number of people trained/served/reached through RMC grants	N/A	N/A	6,902	22,356	18,755	N/A	N/A
Number of loans made with RMC grants	N/A	N/A	6	0	1	N/A	N/A
Total RMC funds invested in capital items	N/A	N/A	\$183,675	\$689,276	\$1,147,389	N/A	N/A
Number of research and tools created and executed through RMC	N/A	N/A	6	9	9	N/A	N/A

NOTES

¹ 2019 data is estimated.