

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	2016 Act.	2017 Act.	2018 Act.	2019 Act.	2020 Act.	2021 Est.	2022 Est.
Number of producers participating in Maryland Department of Agriculture (MDA) activities	464	522	421	475	237	200	400
Number of producers participating in Farmers' Market Nutrition Program (FMNP)	400	342	261	193	191	191	200
Amounts of FMNP checks redeemed by producers	\$579,688	\$530,000	\$468,905	\$488,770	\$586,550	\$400,000	\$480,000
Number of reported international sales	37	40	89	22	17	10	20

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	2016 Act.	2017 Act.	2018 Act.	2019 Act.	2020 Act.	2021 Est.	2022 Est.
Number of necropsies performed	791	842	730	803	934	930	930
Equine infectious anemia (EIA) tests performed in Maryland laboratories	11,281	10,455	9,302	9,449	7,379	7,300	7,300
Number of acres where protective treatment is environmentally and economically feasible (gypsy moth)	1,004	0	0	0	168	5,000	5,000
Number of acres of treatment completed (gypsy moth)	1,004	0	0	0	168	1,000	1,000
Total number of forest pest traps deployed	278	261	272	328	446	400	400

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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	2016 Act.	2017 Act.	2018 Act.	2019 Act.	2020 Act.	2021 Est.	2022 Est.
¹ Number of acres treated with insecticide for mosquito control	1,298,828	1,295,413	1,277,200	1,405,597	1,405,597	1,405,597	1,405,597
¹ Number of acres treated with biological insecticides to control mosquito larvae	5,956	26,629	5,323	5,995	5,995	5,995	5,995
¹ Percentage of acres treated with biological insecticide	0.5%	2.0%	0.3%	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%
¹ Acres of water management	884	205	200	647	647	647	647
Percent of pesticide licensees and permittees in compliance with laws and regulations	74.0%	72.2%	73.5%	74.2%	70.7%	72.1%	72.9%
Percent of pesticide licensees and permittees inspected	27.8%	48.5%	56.1%	60.1%	52.1%	48.8%	48.9%

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	2016 Act.	2017 Act.	2018 Act.	2019 Act.	2020 Act.	2021 Est.	2022 Est.
Total number of easements, cumulative	2,207	2,243	2,302	2,347	2,413	2,459	2,505
Total acres under easements	299,234	304,858	312,787	318,215	326,651	332,181	337,711

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	2016 Act.	2017 Act.	2018 Act.	2019 Act.	2020 Act.	2021 Est.	2022 Est.
¹ Reduction in nitrogen loadings to Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries (pounds)	10,412,716	10,804,065	12,136,597	12,502,299	13,118,888	13,735,477	14,352,066
¹ Reduction in phosphorus loadings to Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries (pounds)	693,394	683,854	1,265,561	1,271,971	1,295,071	1,318,171	1,341,271
Number of acres managed under a current conservation plan	923,147	923,896	895,113	884,329	861,876	880,000	905,000

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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	2016 Act.	2017 Act.	2018 Act.	2019 Act.	2020 Act.	2021 Est.	2022 Est.
Number of new BMPs installed	3,028	2,513	2,192	2,002	2,140	2,200	2,250
Acres of cover crops planted	499,531	558,918	359,873	359,702	488,214	500,000	500,000
Acres of land treated (BMPs)	2,517	1,490	495	1,490	1,649	1,500	1,500
Tons of soil saved per year	20,127	10,890	5,225	4,712	13,148	14,000	14,000
Total financial assistance paid to transport manure	\$1,402,182	\$1,627,727	\$1,486,570	\$1,443,174	\$1,838,503	\$2,400,000	\$2,400,000
Tons of manure transported	213,151	241,942	249,421	249,840	309,374	400,000	400,000
Cost per ton manure transported	\$6.58	\$6.73	\$5.96	\$5.78	\$5.94	\$6.00	\$6.00
Cumulative acreage of plan summaries filed with MDA as of June 30 each year	1,278,132	1,277,930	1,279,332	1,243,789	1,242,798	1,242,500	1,242,500
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	197	244	207	192	223	260	270
Number of certified professional fertilizer applicators	1,697	1,862	1,550	1,536	1,435	1,550	1,550
Number of trained employees	1,855	1,582	1,550	1,543	1,476	1,550	1,550
Compliance percentage during urban review	92.0%	88.0%	86.0%	77.0%	79.0%	78.0%	78.0%

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	2016 Act.	2017 Act.	2018 Act.	2019 Act.	2020 Act.	2021 Est.	2022 Est.
Percentage of eggs sold in Maryland sampled by inspectors	0.2%	0.1%	0.0%	0.2%	0.0%	0.1%	0.1%
Percentage of samples examined that are found to be in full compliance with the Maryland Egg Law	83.0%	80.8%	84.9%	90.0%	88.0%	90.0%	90.0%
Percent of prepackaged commodities inspected and labeled	78.4%	77.3%	84.3%	83.4%	81.3%	80.0%	82.0%
Percentage of retail gasoline meters that meet performance	92.2%	92.8%	90.7%	92.0%	90.7%	90.0%	92.0%

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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** Inspect all veterinary hospitals at least once every 24 months.
- Obj. 5.9** Resolve 90 percent of complaints received by the Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners within the goal time period (Level Green: 120 days, Level Yellow: 12 months, Level Red: 24 months.)

Performance Measures	2016 Act.	2017 Act.	2018 Act.	2019 Act.	2020 Act.	2021 Est.	2022 Est.
Percentage of small capacity scales found within applicable tolerances	94.5%	94.6%	92.2%	93.2%	92.2%	90.0%	92.0%
Percent of seed lots found to be correctly labeled	85.0%	94.0%	89.6%	87.0%	95.6%	90.0%	90.0%
Percent of collected pesticide samples in conformance	99.0%	98.0%	99.5%	93.8%	98.0%	98.5%	99.0%
Percent of collected disinfectant samples in conformance	100.0%	98.0%	100.0%	97.1%	98.0%	98.5%	99.0%
Percent of fertilizer, soil amendments and liming material samples in conformance	57.0%	88.0%	92.4%	81.4%	97.0%	98.0%	99.0%
Percent of feed samples tested in conformance with law	95.0%	91.5%	98.0%	93.8%	95.0%	97.0%	99.0%
Percentage of hospitals inspected during the fiscal year	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	51.0%	50.0%	50.0%
Percentage of hospitals failing inspection that have a follow-up inspection completed within 6 months of the failed inspection	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	65.0%	75.0%	100.0%
Percent of all complaints received that are resolved within goal time period	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	77.0%	80.0%	90.0%

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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	2016 Act.	2017 Act.	2018 Act.	2019 Act.	2020 Act.	2021 Est.	2022 Est.
Rural Population	1,720,988	1,742,147	1,687,624	1,750,097	N/A	N/A	N/A
Rural per capita income	\$31,782	\$33,736	\$34,887	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Number of grant applications received	57	138	172	175	178	175	176
Private sector dollars leveraged for rural development projects	\$582,629	\$14,772,377	\$17,870,185	\$5,636,990	\$11,233,271	\$11,580,149	\$9,483,470
Number of attendees at biennial Rural Summit	N/A	350	N/A	350	N/A	400	N/A
Rural unemployment rate	6.6%	N/A	4.1%	N/A	7.7%	N/A	N/A
Rate of broadband access in rural communities	64.0%	81.0%	81.0%	81.0%	N/A	N/A	N/A
Health care providers per 100K rural population	4,712	4,407	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Number of people trained/served/reached through RMC grants	N/A	6,902	22,356	18,755	44,728	28,613	30,699
Number of loans made with RMC grants	N/A	6	0	1	19	10	10
Total RMC funds invested in capital items	N/A	\$183,675	\$689,276	\$1,147,389	\$6,549,225	\$2,795,297	\$3,497,304
Number of research and tools created and executed through RMC grants	N/A	6	9	9	42	20	24

NOTES

¹ 2020 data is estimated.