



2018-2019  
FUNDING REPORT

# The Grain Store

## FROM THE PRESIDENT ... BOBBY GUY

Our goal is simple. We strive to utilize the investment of every Maryland grain grower to bring greater success to every farm.

Maintaining relationships and expanding markets has been critical in this time of building new agreements with our foreign buyers. We are thankful for our affiliate national grain and marketing organizations who work on our behalf to grow markets. As you will see in the market development section of this report, great strides are being made to open new markets and grow sales with existing buyers. We also appreciate our local farmers who so willingly contribute our Maryland voice to this national conversation. Whether in meetings, on farm trade visits or trips to Capitol Hill, their participation is helping to build strong alliances that make a positive difference to our success as Maryland grain farmers.

Supporting the development of ethanol sales in partnership with the USDA Biofuels Infrastructure Grant has yielded significant growth in stations selling higher-blends of ethanol. As the infrastructure developed over the past three years, corn demand has steadily increased. For 2019, ethanol sales in Maryland are expected to increase corn demand by nearly 600,000 bushels.

The growth in consumer understanding of agriculture in Maryland can be directly attributed to education projects supported by our checkoff grants. The *Maryland Farm & Harvest* program was initiated by the board and it now reaches over six million viewers monthly. There have been many opportunities this year for the exchange of information on the environmental front and I am proud that the grain producers organization has been a leader in fostering



the discussion of critical issues among stakeholders to ensure the voice of the farmer is heard.

At the core of this program is our support of research. Last August we met with researchers from Delaware, Maryland and Virginia to discuss how projects can best meet the needs of farmers so that projects are designed to come up with applicable, on-farm practices that result in more efficient and profitable farms. While summaries of research are included in this report, explore details further on their websites and join us at the Maryland Commodity Classic on July 25th to hear more on the checkoff-funded projects and enjoy a day with fellow farmers.

We are dedicated to providing resources and services to growers that are well-researched, unbiased and based on the goals and direction of your board of directors. If you have any questions or suggestions, please reach out to me or any of your representatives on our board. We look forward to growing with you.



*The MARYLAND GRAIN PRODUCERS UTILIZATION BOARD implements the Maryland Grain Checkoff Program, collecting funds and providing grants focused on market development, research and education for the collective benefit of Maryland farmers.*

## EVALUATION OF THE USE OF POULTRY LITTER ON SOILS WITH HIGH PHOSPHORUS CONCENTRATION

University of Delaware | [www.udel.edu](http://www.udel.edu),  
University of Maryland, Plant Science  
[www.psla.umd.edu/extension/md-crops](http://www.psla.umd.edu/extension/md-crops)

The goal of this long-term project was to continue building understanding of the behavior of phosphorus (P) during drawdown by grain and forage crop rotations when no additional P is applied. This long-term study was established in 1995 and restructured in 2001 to evaluate P drawdown of high P soils by standard grain and forage crop rotations. Field sites are located at three Maryland locations. This is one of the few regionally-relevant “long-term” studies that evaluate the changes in soil test P under build-up and drawdown scenarios. As these long-term field sites are maintained, data is added to the invaluable dataset of soil P concentrations over time. Through continued research on these field plots (and companion P build-up plots maintained by University of Delaware researchers), the intent is to provide a more complete picture of soil P dynamics under P build-up and draw-down scenarios.

After three additional site-years evaluating the use of starter P fertilizers to increase corn yield, researchers are yet unable to demonstrate a significant increase in corn yield with its use, even when soil test P concentrations were near the agronomic critical level.

**The University currently does not recommend the financial investment in starter P fertilizer.**

With the continuation of the long-term draw-down study, the predicted rates of declining soil P concentrations can be confirmed. *2018 Funding \$10,410, 2019 Grant \$5,000*

## SOIL TEST PHOSPHOROUS AND SORPTION CAPACITY FOLLOWING APPLICATION OF POULTRY LITTER AND COMMERCIAL FERTILIZERS

University of Delaware | [www.udel.edu](http://www.udel.edu)

Field sites receiving long-term applications of manure and/or inorganic P fertilizer at Georgetown, DE and Chestertown, MD were planted in corn; P treatments were applied. Despite past significant treatment effects on yields, we report no effect of poultry litter or triple superphosphate application on 2018 corn yields, which was likely due to poor yields resulting from wet weather or deer damage. Fall 2017 routine soil samples showed continued increases in soil test P with increasing rate of P. Soils receiving the 6 and 8 ton/A poultry litter rates exceed the 150 FIV threshold that triggers P risk assessment. There was a trend for flat or decreasing soil test P since 2014 for plots receiving manure at the 0 or 2 ton/A rates. Small increases in soil test P over time with the 4 ton/A poultry litter rate were likely due to higher P content in manures and lower than historical corn yields in 2016. Yet, the historical data suggests that soil test P can be reduced by cropping when total P applied is less than P removal, even when soil test P is above the agronomic optimum. These historic sites will continue to be maintained, allowing researchers to educate Maryland farmers about the chemistry and fate of P in soils with a long-term history of manure or fertilizer applications. *2018 Funding \$3,750, 2019 Grant \$4,500*

## IMPROVEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT OF BARLEY FOR USE IN FEED, MALT AND FUEL

VA Polytech Institute  
[www.pubs.evt.vt.edu](http://www.pubs.evt.vt.edu)

The Virginia Tech breeding program will continue to accelerate the development of high yielding, improved and higher quality barley cultivars for use in animal feed, malting, and human consumption. Meanwhile, as interest continues to grow in locally-produced ingredients from the craft brewing industry in the mid-Atlantic and eastern U. S., the breeding program will continue to develop winter malt barley cultivars that are valuable to local producers and the malting and brewing industries. In the interim, cultivars from the Winter Malt Barley Trial (WMBT) along with cultivars from other breeding programs possessing good agronomic characteristics and malt quality will be identified and evaluated in yield tests. If results are favorable, these malt barley cultivars will be recommended for production in the eastern U.S. As a result, three elite winter malting barley varieties (Violetta, Calypso, and Flavia) evaluated in the WMBT are currently being grown in the mid-Atlantic and southeastern United States. To accelerate development of superior, widely adapted, high yielding winter barley cultivars, Virginia Tech's breeding program in collaboration with Oregon State University continues to

develop pure lines using double-haploid techniques. Last fall (2018), four malt barley double-haploid populations from crosses made between a Virginia variety (Nomini), four experimental lines (VA11B-141, VA11B-143, VA11B-102 and VA09B-34) and superior two-row winter malt barley varieties (Violetta, KWS Scala and Endeavor) from the WMBT for FHB resistance, superior malt quality and high yield were evaluated in progeny rows. The breeding program hopes this research project will benefit barley researchers, farmers all over the eastern United States, and investors in corn deficit regions near malting and brewing markets, the American consumers who want high quality beer, feeders of poultry, swine, and cattle (a good malt barley is a good feed barley), and all Americans who want malt barley independence. *2018 Funding \$5,000, 2019 Grant \$5,000*



*Research is fundamental to the success of the Maryland grain industry as new products and practices are developed to increase production while protecting our valuable land and water resources.*



#### **YIELD GRAINS, TARGET PESTS MANAGED, AND SECONDARY PESTS ASSOCIATED WITH PYRETHROID INSECTICIDE USE**

University of Maryland, Plant Science  
[www.hambylab.weebly.com](http://www.hambylab.weebly.com)

Pyrethroid insecticides can be applied in-furrow at planting or mixed in the tank when trips are made through the field to apply other agrichemicals. However, these applications may not pay off in Maryland, where there may not be sufficient pest pressure, or the timing may not be correct for the pests targeted. In corn, other insect management strategies, such as Bt and neonicotinoid seed treatments, control some of the pyrethroid's targets. In addition, pyrethroids may flare secondary pests and/or interfere with biological control. Therefore, target pest populations were evaluated and determined yield gains from pyrethroid insecticide use at three timings: at planting in furrow (Capture LFR), 4 weeks after planting tank mixed with a herbicide, and at tasseling tank mixed with fungicide. In 2018, pyrethroid insecticides did not provide yield gains at any of the timings evaluated. In addition, at planting Cruiser 250 seed treatment did not improve yield over a fungicide seed treatment alone. Repeating this study will provide a better understanding of seasonal insect pest pressure and yield gains associated with pyrethroid insecticides to allow producers to maximize profits and potentially reduce insecticide usage. *2018 Funding \$15,000, 2019 Grant*

#### **A REGIONAL SURVEY OF SOIL AND TISSUE TESTS TO OBSERVE CRITICAL NUTRIENT LEVELS**

University of Delaware  
[www.udel.edu](http://www.udel.edu)

Corn tissue tests are a gauge of in season nutrient uptake, but current critical nutrient levels are based on older hybrids and may need updating. In July 2018, corn ear leaf samples were obtained from University of Maryland and Delaware Variety trials and analyzed for their nutrient content. Most tissue samples had macronutrient (P, K, S) concentrations that were within published sufficiency ranges. Most tissue micronutrients (Mn, Zn, Cu, and Fe) were also above critical tissue concentrations, except for boron (B). N concentrations in tissue often fell below sufficiency ranges, possibly be due to rainfall in the early summer of 2018. Calcium and magnesium also had many samples that fell below critical values, but those values may need updating. Positive trends were observed for both K and B with yield, indicating that farmers in the Mid-Atlantic could benefit from either nutrient. However, the actual need by soil type and region still needs to be determined. Soils with acidic pH may have experienced toxic effects from Mn and Al, as more uptake was observed with low soil pH. *2018 Funding \$2,842, 2019 Grant \$7*

#### **DEVELOPMENT AND TESTING OF SMALL GRAINS IN MARYLAND FOR SCAB RESISTANCE, YIELDS, QUALITY AND REDUCED DISEASE**

University of Maryland, Plant Science  
[www.psla.umd.edu/extension/md-crops](http://www.psla.umd.edu/extension/md-crops)

In preparation for the 2017–18 cropping year, Researchers Wight, Costa, Rawat and Thorne, continued the advancement of wheat crosses made by Dr. Jose Costa. Investigators collaboratively planted with Dr. Vijay Tiwari at UMD and over 15 public breeding programs; participating in five regional breeding nursery field tests, published the results of the 2018 Maryland State Wheat and Barley Trials, and planted the Trials for 2019. To improve options available to growers, four elite wheat lines were licensed to Limagrain Cereal Seeds. Another high yielding line, “Luisa” was released as a public variety that producers can save for cover crop, or yield under higher input management systems. Further, to assist producers in choosing lines which will help them meet reduced wheat DON goals, the research group performed an inoculated scab nursery, which stress-tested all entries in the statewide trials for fusarium resistance. *2018 Funding \$16,000, 2019 Grant \$21,863*

#### **EVALUATING THE APPLICATION WINDOW FOR WHEAT USING SYNGENTA AS A NEW FUSARIUM HEAD BLIGHT FUNGICIDE “MIRAVIS”**

University of Maryland, Plant Science  
[www.psla.umd.edu/extension/md-crops](http://www.psla.umd.edu/extension/md-crops)

Currently used Triazol fungicides are effective at early anthesis (Feeke's 10.5.1). Miravis was also found to provide good control of FHB and DON at early anthesis. However, it also provided some control at early spray times (Feeke's 10.3) than the current fungicides. It is interesting to note that even late anthesis (Feeke's 10.5.3) spray of Miravis provided some control in terms of FHB severity and DON content. Spraying Miravis after completion of flowering was found to be ineffective. However, it is just one year of data, and head scab incidences are highly variable year to year. Therefore, at least one more year of replication of the experiments will be conducted for making robust recommendations to farmers. *2018 Funding \$15,000, 2019 Grant \$15,000*

# MARKET DEVELOPMENT

## USGC FOSTERS COMMERCE WITH TRADE TEAMS

US Grains Council | [www.grains.org](http://www.grains.org)

*Chip Councill, Maryland representative, served as the Council's 2017 Chair.*

The Council works toward its mission of developing markets, enabling trade and improving lives by bringing buyers and sellers together. One of the many ways the Council works to fulfill the mission is by hosting conferences to facilitate trade by putting the buyer and seller together and educating international customers on the value and expansiveness of the US supply chain. Export Exchange is a biennial event co-sponsored by the USGC, Growth Energy and the Renewable Fuels Association. In October 2018, more than 200 international buyers and end-users of coarse grains and co-products from 35 countries traveled to Minneapolis to network and meet with upwards of 200 domestic suppliers. In a survey with buyers and end-user attendees, they reported that



around 2.1 million metric tons of feed grains were either traded at the conference or immediately around it, an estimated value of \$360 million. Included in the total volume were more than 618,000 metric tons of corn and 1,305,150 metric tons of DDGS. In addition, most of the international attendees participated in activities pre- and post-conference tours through trade teams visiting farms, major export

terminal and processing and inspection facilities in various states. Trade servicing programs and trade team experiences such as these are making buyers comfortable with purchasing U.S. coarse grains and co-products. In 2018, the Council has escorted upwards of 40 trade teams to the United States to receive a comprehensive overview of U.S. agricultural production. *2018 Funding \$75,000, 2019 Grant \$78,750*

## DEVELOPING EXPORT MARKETS FOR MARYLAND'S WHEAT PRODUCERS

US Wheat Associates | [www.uswheat.org](http://www.uswheat.org)

*Jason Scott, 2017 National Chair, represents Maryland at USW.*

In 2018, U.S. Wheat Associates (USW) used its grant from MGPUB and 16 other state wheat commissions to continue demonstrating to overseas buyers the functional performance of soft red winter (SRW) wheat and the value of blending SRW with standard Canadian high protein wheat to reduce costs and improve end-product quality. Activities included: evaluating and reporting on 2018 SRW quality; baking seminars in Ecuador; technical support to millers and bakers in Brazil and Peru; a training workshop helping millers in Mexico and Central America learn how to evaluate SRW flour for cookies and cakes, including in-plant support by an expert cookie consultant. USW also worked effectively to encourage U.S. negotiators to address the threat to SRW exports from the trade dispute with Mexico. With support from more competitive prices, 2017/18 SRW export sales of 2.51 MMT stayed about level with sales the previous year. *2018 Funding \$55,000, 2019 Grant \$53,400*

## PROMOTING FAVORABLE WHEAT POLICY

National Association of Wheat Growers | [www.wheatworld.org](http://www.wheatworld.org)

*Eric Spates represents Maryland on the NAWG Board.*

The National Association of Wheat Growers' (NAWG) past fiscal year was busy working on behalf of our state wheat associations on federal farm policy. Wheat was at the forefront of Farm Bill debates on issues including trade, agriculture appropriations, environmental regulations, tax reform, and the regulatory framework for new breeding technologies. NAWG worked to maintain a strong crop insurance program, improve ARC and PLC, increase funding for the Market Access Program (MAP) and Foreign Market Development (FMD) program, and prioritize working lands conservation programs. NAWG's efforts led to several wheat research programs receiving funding increases in the FY 2018 agriculture appropriations bill. NAWG's Foundation has conducted several leadership training programs, continued its National Wheat Yield Contest, and undertaken TV features about wheat. Additionally, NAWG has continued to work with its states to ramp up communications activities. *2018 Funding \$13,000, 2019 Grant \$13,000*



*From hosting foreign delegations to serving on national grain organizations, Maryland farmers are creating opportunities for foreign buyers to learn the quality and care of Maryland grown crops. These visits and national involvement builds trust and expands markets globally.*

### GROWING OPPORTUNITIES IN BARLEY

National Barley Growers Association  
www.nationalbarley.com

Jennie Schmidt is the Maryland representative to NBGA.

The National Barley Growers Association represents the interests of U.S. barley growers with regards to government relations at the federal level. Issues relevant to our work include: Research, Domestic Farm Programs and Policy, Regulations, Grain Quality, Trade Policy, Farm Labor, Energy, Conservation, Crop Insurance / Risk Management, Transportation, Environmental Impact including Sustainability, and Taxes. Specific issues of focus this past year include the 2018 farm bill, annual agriculture appropriation bills, and free trade agreements. The NBGA's Board of Directors meets twice a year; typically late winter in Washington, DC and then again in late June at various venues in or near the major barley producing states. *2018 Funding \$1,992, 2019 Grant \$1,915*

### ETHANOL MARKETING AND INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT

Sustainable Energy Strategies, Inc. | www.sesi-online.com

Maryland retail stations reported selling more than 2 million E85 gallons in 2018, an increased demand of 830,000 gallons compared to 2017. These sales directly increased corn demand by more than 250,000 bushels. Next year, this project is expected to increase E85 demand by an additional 720,000 gallons or another 220,000 bushels of added corn. In other words, in just three years, higher-blend ethanol sales will result in increased corn demand by nearly 600,000 bushels annually in Maryland alone. This growth is a direct result of the USDA Biofuels Infrastructure Grant and SESI's outreach efforts. In advocating for additional stations, SESI worked closely with Protec Fuel Management to apply for, and win, a 2018 Maryland Alternative Fuels Infrastructure Program grant. Protec was awarded \$175,000 (total project cost \$1.2 million) to install eight - E15/E85 dispensers at each of five Maryland locations. With the introduction of Royal Farms E85 in Maryland, other retailers such as Carroll Fuels, Petroleum Marketers Group, 7-Eleven and Sheetz, have begun asking questions about ethanol and how they can offer customers a choice in selling E85/E15. SESI educated consumers and retailers at public meetings (i.e. Maryland Petroleum Distributors Association, the Maryland Agriculture Leadership Program, Commodity Classic, Maryland State Fair). Staff also responded to technical and logistical issues weekly from retailers, consumers and fuel suppliers. SESI also monitored fuel E15 and E85 fuel pricing and station development. *2018 Funding \$26,904, 2019 Grant \$14,110*

### GROWING THE CORN INDUSTRY

National Corn Growers Association  
www.ncga.com

Chip Bowling, past National Chair, represents Maryland at NCGA.

In these challenging times, the National Corn Growers Association and its state corn organizations continue to lay the groundwork for future profitability in the corn industry. The Renewable Fuel Standard stands on firmer ground today than a year ago thanks to NCGA coordinated grower outreach to the Administration and Congress, strengthening the political support for renewable fuels at a critical time. With another near-record crop, NCGA continues to look beyond our borders to find new markets by supporting free trade agreements like protecting NAFTA, monitoring negotiations around the new USMCA, and expanding opportunities for meat exports. NCGA's "Consider Corn Challenge" highlights research and business proposals that will ultimately create new uses for corn and expand market opportunities for corn farmers. NCGA is also laying the groundwork for the sustainability of the corn industry. The Soil Health Partnership (SHP) has gained interest from all segments of food production. Other NCGA initiatives are working in partnership with state corn organizations to improve nutrient management, protect water quality and evaluate how corn can provide a new pathway for reducing carbon emissions. These efforts will help corn associations meet the future demands of our customers and consumers. *2018 Funding \$230,000, 2019 Grant \$230,000*



### NATIONAL WINNER

*Congratulations to Drew Haines from Middletown, who placed first nationally in the No-Till/Strip-Till Non-Irrigated Division of the Corn Yield Contest. DEKALB DKC60-88RIB brought him a winning yield of 366.2872 bushels per acre.*

### MARYLAND WINNERS

*Producer Yield/Hybrid*

#### IRRIGATED

Marion Wilson	292.0208
Centreville	DKC67-44RIB
Michael Bostic	286.6870
Church Hill	P1847AML™

#### NON-IRRIGATED

Brenda Walsh	272.8577
Hampstead	A6544 STXRIB
Edward Appenzeller	235.5863
Millington	DKC67-44RIB
Edward Appenzeller <i>*grower receives only highest award</i>	216.2366 62A58

#### NO-TILL / STRIP TILL IRRIGATED

Michael Bostic	287.9164
Church Hill	P1197AM™
Greg Turner	281.5856
Preston	217-07VT2PRIB
Dan Dulin	243.4765
Queen Anne	P1197AM™

#### NO-TILL / STRIP-TILL NON-IRRIGATED

Drew Haines	366.2872
Middletown	DKC60-88RIB
Drew Haines <i>*grower receives only</i>	324.9971 DKC67-44RIB
Drew Haines <i>*grower receives only</i>	294.2048 A647-90 STXRIB
William Willard	276.2069
Poolesville	DKC62-STXRIB
Tom Walsh	269.5768
Hampstead	P1197AM™

# CONSUMER EDUCATION

## ANSWERING CONSUMERS' FOOD AND FARMING QUESTIONS

MidAtlantic CommonGround  
[www.findourcommonground.com](http://www.findourcommonground.com)

The CommonGround volunteers really shined this past year, reaching millions in the Mid-Atlantic and eastern seaboard with positive messages about food and farming. 2018 saw expanded outreach in the field of dietetics and nutrition, to amplify the farm message to consumers through these professionals. Volunteers talked with consumers to relay the positive, factual story of agriculture with credible, third-party science and research to increase consumer trust. Information was presented following the CommonGround philosophy of being inclusive of all types of agriculture and farming methods, speaking with a positive attitude, providing credible information with science-based facts, and using real stories from the farm. Two exhibit themes encouraged visitors to stop and visit with a farmer. First, a photo booth allowed people to pick a farm background, take a photo, and then email the picture home; , and second, a "Food Game" where attendees spun a wheel to get a farm or food question to answer, with everyone receiving a prize. Handouts included a refrigerator magnet with food safety information, note pads with farm facts, soy crayons, and brochures answering the top questions asked of farmers, using vetted sources for answers. Materials included resources for further information and "Ask a Farmer" when food and farming questions arise. CommonGround volunteers participated in activities resulting in one-on-one conversations with 9,850 influencers, direct information sharing with 15,600 consumers through presentations and exhibits, and 13 million people through radio, television and digital media interviews – plus social media outreach that easily reaches thousands more with a positive ag message. *2018 Funding \$14,000, 2019 Grant \$12,000*

*Building a community that appreciates the work and challenges of farming creates a more supportive environment for farmers. Our education projects take on a variety of audiences in multiple settings to achieve a more knowledgeable community and build interest in young people to pursue agricultural careers.*



## MARYLAND FARM & HARVEST

Maryland Public Television | [www.mpt.org/programs/farm](http://www.mpt.org/programs/farm)

Many Marylanders have never visited farms, though they've driven by them many times without knowing it. To help showcase the industry that feeds Maryland - the state's number one industry - Maryland Public Television (MPT) in partnership with the Maryland Department of Agriculture, created *Maryland Farm & Harvest*, a multimedia series that puts a human face on farming. Hosted by Emmy® Award winning Host Joanne Clendining, *Maryland Farm & Harvest* took viewers around the state to see and experience what it's like to run a 21st century farm – from technological advances and conservation challenges to age-old complications such as weather hardships. *Maryland Farm & Harvest* also captured the number one reason why planters and growers dedicate themselves to it all: their simple love of farming.

Tune in:

Tuesday, 7PM, Thursday, 11:30PM,  
Sunday 6AM and Friday, 7:30PM on MPT2 HD.

The series continues to be MPT's #1 rated regional show, attracting an audience of over six million viewers in its first 5 seasons! *Maryland Farm & Harvest* pulled back the curtain to reveal the true character of the Farmer while taking their story directly to the public. Have a question or comment for the *Maryland Farm & Harvest* team? Email [farm@mpt.org](mailto:farm@mpt.org). *2018 Funding \$150,000, 2019 Grant \$100,000*



## ENGAGING THE PUBLIC THROUGH OYSTER REEF RESTORATION

Oyster Recovery Partnership | [www.oysterrecovery.org](http://www.oysterrecovery.org)

The Marylanders Grow Oysters program is conducted on the Eastern Shore by the Oyster Recovery Partnership. The program provided the public a hands-on opportunity to learn about oysters and participate in local oyster restoration. *2018 Funding \$10,000*

# INVESTING IN OUR FUTURE

## FARM STEWARDSHIP CERTIFICATION AND ASSESSMENT PROGRAM

Maryland Association of Soil Conservation Districts  
[www.mascd.net/FSCAP](http://www.mascd.net/FSCAP)

The Farm Stewardship Certification and Assessment Program (FSCAP) recognizes farmers who go above and beyond when it comes to conservation. A farmer who is fully compliant with their nutrient management plan and has a fully implemented conservation plan addressing all resource concerns on their farm is eligible to be certified. This year, FSCAP is working with the Maryland Department of Agriculture and the conservation districts to assist with reviews in order to keep consulting costs to a minimum and focus on just certifying farms and recognizing farmers. **2018 Funding \$10,000, 2019 Grant \$7,500**

## CULTIVATING LEADERS

MD FFA Foundation  
[www.mdffaoundation.org](http://www.mdffaoundation.org)

The development of agricultural leaders is vital to the future of agriculture. Maryland FFA provides young men and women with a premier agricultural career and leadership development program. In 2018, the Maryland FFA Association had 2,384 members, representing 40 Chapters. Ninety-two career development events were held, giving members numerous opportunities to demonstrate their learned knowledge and skills. At the state convention, 530 members participated in leadership workshops. At the national level, Maryland members competed in 26 Career Development Events. Teams received 10 Silver and 11 Bronze awards. Individual CDE placings were: nine Gold Awards, 22 Silver Awards, and 41 Bronze Awards, with one 9th place in the Nation. During the National Convention, eight Maryland FFA members were awarded the American Agriculturalist Degree, the highest degree awarded to an active member. **2018 Funding \$13,000, 2019 Grant \$13,000**

## NEW 2019 GRANTS

Kids Growing with Grains - Frederick University of Maryland Extension, Frederick County | \$2,500

Youth Education in Grain Production Clear Spring High School | \$400

Assisting County and State Officials to Understand the Impacts of Agriculture | University of Maryland | \$4,461

Growing for Good: Farming & Forestry in Maryland | Harry R. Hughes Center for Agro Ecology | \$5,000

Evaluation of the Use of Poultry Litter on Soils with High Phosphorous Concentration | University of Maryland | \$10,410

Modified Fertilization Strategies to Increase Protein Content of Soft Red Winter | University of Maryland | \$4,225

Assessing the Efficacy and Cost Effectiveness of Fungicides applied through Irrigation in Corn Production | University of Delaware | \$8,550

Developing Improved Soft Red Winter Wheat Cultivars | University of Maryland | \$20,000

## LEAD MARYLAND

LEAD Maryland Foundation, Inc. | [www.leadmaryland.org](http://www.leadmaryland.org)

The LEAD Maryland Foundation (LEAD) works to increase the numbers and capacity of leaders serving agriculture. In 2018, LEAD Fellows completed a series of four multi-day seminars, learning through lectures, tours, discussions, trainings, and a group project. Seminars were held in Annapolis, Baltimore City, Washington DC, and Talbot/Caroline Counties. Included in the 2018 curriculum was a case study of the grain industry. Fellows left the seminar with a greater understanding of the importance of the grain industry, and greater appreciation of leaders working to strengthen Maryland and USA agriculture. Fellows learned new perspectives of issues, innovation, and leadership from a summer study tour to Poland. As a group project, the class planned and hosted "Passport to LEAD," a celebration event, in April 2019, marking the 20th anniversary of the start of the LEAD Maryland Program. LEAD provides public issues education, skills building, leadership development, and personal growth. Fellows become more equipped and confident to solve problems, identify resources, educate the public, and to influence public policy. As a nonprofit, LEAD relies on grants, donations, tuition, and events to support educational programming delivered to LEAD Fellows **2018 Funding \$20,000, 2019 Grant \$20,000**



## CLOSE ENCOUNTERS WITH AGRICULTURE

University of Maryland Extension, Montgomery County | [www.extension.umd.edu/montgomery-county](http://www.extension.umd.edu/montgomery-county)

Close Encounters with Agriculture (CEWA) promotes and increases the understanding of agriculture. This program demonstrates the inter-relationships and positive aspects of production agriculture, nutrition and the environment. A total of 3,521 fourth grade students, and 579 teachers and chaperones participated in the program in October 2018. Direct program costs averaged \$3.49 per student. Students scored an average of 29% correct on the pre-test. After participating in the program, students test scores rose to 91% correct on the post-test. Audience Response Electronic Clicker technology was utilized as part of the Nutrition Track to continue learning and provide immediate evaluation. Overall teacher evaluation scores averaged 4.98 with 5.00 being the highest score. Ninety-eight per cent of teachers rated the program a four or five on a scale of 1 to 5. Teachers responded overwhelmingly (93.5.0%) that their children had a much better understanding of agriculture after participating in this program. *2018 Funding \$5,000, 2019 Grant \$6,500*

## KIDS GROWING WITH GRAINS

Washington County Extension Advisory Council | [www.extension.umd.edu/washington-county](http://www.extension.umd.edu/washington-county)

The Washington County 4-H Youth Development Program presented Kids Growing with Grains, an agricultural education program that is offered as a field trip to all schools in Washington County, and targets primarily fourth grade students. The field trip is held at the Western Maryland Research and Education Center (WMREC) and was offered in September 2018. The program was also offered as an in-school program in November. A total of 321 students from five area schools took part in the field trip during the four days of programming. The program is designed to meet the needs and interests of the schools, and offer hands on, experiential learning through a variety of lessons, including Grains and Agriculture, Grain Nutrition, Grain Food Demonstration, Animal Science, and Corn Science. Each lesson is presented by a team of UME Faculty and Staff, WMREC Faculty and Staff, UME volunteers, and 4-H/FFA youth. Participants learn about the health benefits of grains, the use of grain in livestock production, and develop a connection between themselves and agriculture in their community. *2018 Funding \$1,000, 2019 Grant \$1,000*

## AG-VENTURE PROGRAM

University of Maryland Extension, Carroll County | [www.extension.umd.edu/carroll-county](http://www.extension.umd.edu/carroll-county)

The Ag-Ventures Program is designed to target fourth grade students to further their knowledge of Maryland agriculture with a focus on grain through STEM education. Ten schools in Carroll County were selected to participate in AgVenture in 2018. Students had an opportunity to rotate through stations consisting of Grain Production, Grain Identification, Grain Nutrition, Livestock Production and Watersheds which were taught by University of Maryland Extension Faculty with support from local agricultural producers and businesses. Students cycled through each station every 35 minutes and participated in a variety of hands-on lessons. Students had the opportunity to identify grains while making grain jars, identify whole grain foods, see farm equipment, plant seeds and sample vegetables, experience land use best management practices, experiment with milk, and interact with livestock. Based on pre and post-test evaluations where conducted with all schools, where a significant increase was indicated in knowledge gained. *2018 Funding \$1,500, 2019 Grant \$2,000*

## MOBILE SCIENCE LABS

Maryland Agricultural Education Foundation [www.maefonline.com](http://www.maefonline.com)

The mobile science labs are normally available to elementary schools in Maryland for a fee of \$1,800 for each week-long visit, representing about 40% of the actual cost. MAEF promoted this opportunity to schools and county farm bureaus across the state to help publicize the availability of the grant. Just two schools took advantage of the \$1,000 grant opportunity in 2018, Church Hill Elementary School in Queen Anne's County and Greenview Knolls Elementary in St. Mary's County. MAEF launched its new "Amazing! Maryland Agriculture Showcase" to inform the public about Maryland agriculture in October of 2017, making 2018 the first full year of service to fairs and festivals in Maryland. The new traveling exhibit includes activities like "The Great Grain Grab." MAEF is frequently asked to attend events that cannot pay the service fee of \$575/day. The fee nearly covers the hauling fee



with the staffing and resources expenses being paid from other sources. MAEF used the balance of the 2018 MG PUB grant to help underwrite the expense to exhibit at several events throughout the growing season. After experiencing the mobile lab and Showcase visits, the schools, their PTAs, and community service organizations recognize the full

value of the program to their students and communities. These organizations and people become advocates for the programs and, where possible, make plans for future bookings. The benefits of the MG PUB's initial investments facilitated over 8,000 direct contacts with visits to the student labs and Showcase. *2018 Funding \$1,000*



# TEEN EXPLORATION

## MARYLAND ENVIROTHON

Maryland Association of Soil Conservation Districts  
[www.mdenvirothon.org](http://www.mdenvirothon.org)

Educating tomorrow's decision-makers on the importance of conservation is vital to the health of our natural resources and the Chesapeake Bay. The 2018 Envirothon helped students become more involved in protecting natural resources by challenging their problem-solving skills and instilling a sense of stewardship in these future leaders. Statewide, over 1,000 students participated in local county envirothons leading up to the state event, held June 14-15 at the Western Maryland 4H Center in Garrett County. Many of the students (and teachers) participating in the Envirothon are from urban areas and have no connection to the farming community and agriculture in general. As part of the state competition, students received training from resource professionals in five areas; aquatics, forestry, soils, wildlife, and the current environmental issue, "Pasture and Rangeland Management". This hands-on training, followed by the next day's hands-on competition, is what makes the Envirothon a unique environmental education program. *2018 Funding \$5,000, 2019 Grant \$5,000*

## FFA CHAPTER FIELD TRIP

Queen Anne's County FFA  
[www.qacffa.theaet.com](http://www.qacffa.theaet.com)

Queen Anne's County FFA and Queen Anne's County High School agriculture students were able to explore and further their knowledge in the poultry industry. The first stop was Perdue Feed Mill where students learned the process of extracting oils and got to see a one million bushel grain tank. In addition, students visited Perdue Farms Innovation Center where new products are formulated, tested and test packaged. Students were able to learn the background of the business side of Perdue products and everything that is taking in account for one product to be sold and profited while keeping everyone happy. The last stop of the day was at an organic chicken farm. Students got to go inside the house and learn about chicken care, nutrition, technology and how there are differences between regular chicken house and a organic chicken house. *2018 Funding \$400, 2019 Grant \$400*



## AGRICULTURE AWARENESS DAY

Queen Anne's County Farm Bureau | [www.mdfarmbureau.com/queen-annes](http://www.mdfarmbureau.com/queen-annes)

Agriculture is an industry that is misunderstood by many residents. In 2016, a coalition of educators, researchers, agencies, and grassroots organizations was formed to educate students in Queen Anne's County. The importance of agriculture and its 235+ career options would be introduced to all students. The partners created "Agriculture Awareness Day" for all seventh graders across the county. The Board of Education and school principals had been informed and were interested for their students to be educated about the importance of agriculture and the many career opportunities. The following aspects of agriculture in a day-long structured program were covered; technology, equipment, crops, aquaculture, nursery, produce, greenhouses, forestry, farm animals, and dispelled numerous agricultural myths. There are four middle schools in Queen Anne's County with 700 students, making this a two day event. The partners believe that seventh graders are the perfect age to learn about Maryland's number one industry and the numerous career options. The seventh graders were excited to be out of the classroom and complete hands-on structured lessons, while allowing the students to understand agriculture's importance in feeding the world and the truths of our industry. Lastly, the students were educated about the 235 careers related to agriculture, which opened their eyes to the agriculture career pathway before high school. The awareness day opens the door for the students to join 4-H and FFA, which will encourage them to join other agriculture organizations after graduation. As Queen Anne's County is transforming to a more urban population, the goal is to provide a venue to develop agriculture literate citizens. Each of the project partners has their own diverse expertise and by joining together the goal can be accomplished. Achieving the first Agriculture Awareness Day in 2017, this has become an annual event. *2018 Funding \$5,000*



## SERVING MARYLAND GRAIN FARMERS

Maryland Grain Producers Association | [www.marylandgrain.com](http://www.marylandgrain.com)

Communication with farmers and stakeholders continues to expand. The biweekly e-newsletter has had a very positive response, averaging an over 40% open rate, nearly double the industry average. Additional email notices were sent to keep farmers informed of breaking news on grain issues. Over 7,000 farmers and stakeholders received the Grain Store annual report, providing details on checkoff-funded projects as well as issues effecting growers. Staff and members of MGPA exhibited at farm meetings throughout the year, including the Commodity Classic, Farm Bureau Convention, and seasonal Extension Meetings. MGPA also branched out to talk to 4H groups, the Eastern Shore Land Conservancy, local Farm Bureaus and the Chesapeake Bay Program at their meetings. To strengthen relationships with associated national organizations and further develop the Association, MGPA staff attended the NCGA State and National Staff Summit, and State Presidents and Executives meeting.

Reaching the consumer with a positive and factual message about the Maryland farmer is a priority for the Association. MGPA staff and directors participated in a variety of initiatives to achieve an improved image of grain producers. The MGPA Facebook page has been updated almost daily in 2018 and is reaching over 4,000 people a month on average, which is over a 1,000 person increase. An Instagram page was launched this year to share pictures and stories, which has over 300 followers. The website is seeing great reach as well, with over 30,000 unique visitors.

The “My Maryland Farmer” campaign was continued through digital media and at the Maryland State Fair. A series of farm blogs to connect consumers with farm life were featured on the website

and promoted through social media, reaching an audience of over one million people monthly. Fairgoers saw farmer photos with facts on banners, posters, and cutouts, plus infographics about agriculture technology, careers and conservation at the Innovation Station. The MGPA exhibit featured an “Ethanol for Cleaner Air” theme, where visitors made kites with ethanol messaging. The State Fair attracts over 400,000 people, primarily from urban markets.

MGPA promoted the college scholarship program and the selection committee approved four recipients for the \$2,500 scholarships. Recipients were announced at the Maryland Commodity Classic. The press, including the Delmarva Farmer and Lancaster Farming, recognized MGPUB for the awards and provided publicity on the winners.

MGPA conducted the twentieth annual Maryland Commodity Classic jointly with the Maryland Soybean Board and the Mid-Atlantic Soybean Board. The event was held on Thursday, July 26, 2018, at the Queen Anne’s 4-H Park. A morning research presentation featured four MGPUB- and MSB-funded researchers showcasing their work. Booth space was provided for grant recipients to discuss the results of their research and activities to attendees. A new feature added this year was a “passport” to encourage farmers to visit grantee and sponsor booths, which received positive feedback. Elections were held for MGPUB board members. Under Secretary of USDA, Bill Northey, provided the keynote speech about trade and other federal issues. Presentations were also given on current issues and public policy impacting grain farmers, including the value of the Maryland Grain Checkoff Program.

*2018 Funding \$75,000, 2019 Grant \$75,000*

## Join us—we work for you!

If you are a grain producer, your dues are free!

Your checkoff assessment will pay your MGPA membership.

Members also receive a complimentary Maryland Commodity Classic ticket.

For Membership Form, visit: [marylandgrain.com/member\\_benefits.htm](http://marylandgrain.com/member_benefits.htm)

## Questions?

<< Contact the office or your regional rep listed to the right >>

## MARYLAND GRAIN PRODUCERS

Regional directors serve on both Utilization and Association Board of Directors. Meetings are held quarterly with a funding meeting in January.

### REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVES

**Region 1:** *Somerset, Wicomico, Worcester*  
John Bruning 443-783-4833

Bobby Guy 410-546-9191

**Region 2:** *Caroline, Dorchester, Talbot*  
Jim Saathoff 410-634-2678

Hank Spies 410-924-2308

**Region 3:** *Cecil, Kent, Queen Anne's*  
Lewis McDonald 410-991-7817

Evan Miles, Jr. 410-708-0032

**Region 4:** *Baltimore, Carroll, Harford, Howard*  
Melvin Baile, Jr. 410-848-3174

Mike Harrison 410-382-1196

**Region 5:** *Anne Arundel, Calvert, Charles, Prince George's, St. Mary's*

Syd Moreland 301-769-2480

Donnie Tennyson 301-872-5612

**Region 6:** *Allegany, Frederick, Garrett, Montgomery, Washington*

Eric Spates 301-428-8033

James Weddle 301-573-8305

## MARYLAND GRAIN PRODUCERS UTILIZATION BOARD

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Vice President	John Bruning
Treasurer	Allen Davis
Secretary	James Weddle
NAWG Director	Eric Spates
NBGA Director	Jennie Schmidt
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USGC Director	Chip Councill
USW Director	Jason Scott

### ADVISORY

MD Dept. of Ag	Mark Powell
University of MD	Nicole Fiorelino
Industry	April Cheesman
MD Ag Commission	Donald Maring

## MARYLAND GRAIN PRODUCERS ASSOCIATION

President	Lenny “Evan” Miles
Vice President	Melvin Baile
Treasurer	Donnie Tennyson
Secretary	James Weddle
At Large	John Hughes

### ADVISORY

MD Dept. of Ag	Steve Connelly
University of MD	Nicole Fiorelino

### OFFICE

123 Clay Drive, Queenstown MD 21658  
443-262-8491 | [lindsay.mdag@gmail.com](mailto:lindsay.mdag@gmail.com)

Executive Director	Lindsay Thompson
Programs & PR	Danielle Bauer
Administration	Marguerite Guare
Communications	Laurie Adelhardt

# AWARDING EXCELLENCE

The Dr. James R. Miller award is given to an individual for contributions to the grain industry by the Maryland Grain Producers Association. The 2018 recipient was Sandy Davis, serving the soy and grain industry for over 40 years.

Presenting the award to Sandy below, left to right: Evan Miles, MGPA President, Travis Hutchison, Maryland Soybean Board Chair, and Jennie Schmidt, MGPA President.



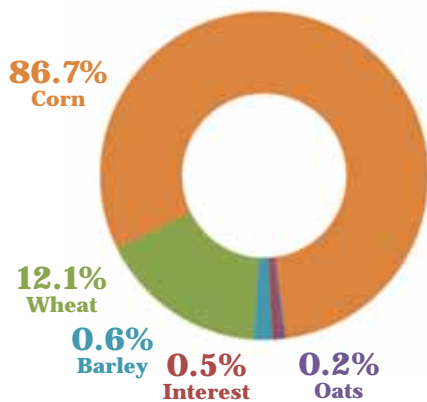
Four students were awarded 2018 Maryland Grain Producers Utilization Board college scholarships at the Maryland Commodity Classic. Pictured above, left to right, Jennie Schmidt, MGPA President, Jenell Eck of Queen Anne's County, Grace Brinsfield of Dorchester County, Ethan Miller of Kent County, and Cody Morris of Wicomico County.

"The Maryland Grain Producers Utilization Board is committed to recognizing college students for academic and community achievements and their interest in making an impact to Maryland agriculture," stated Jennie Schmidt. "We are excited to see these young people wanting to make a contribution to our industry."

## MGPA FINANCIAL REPORT

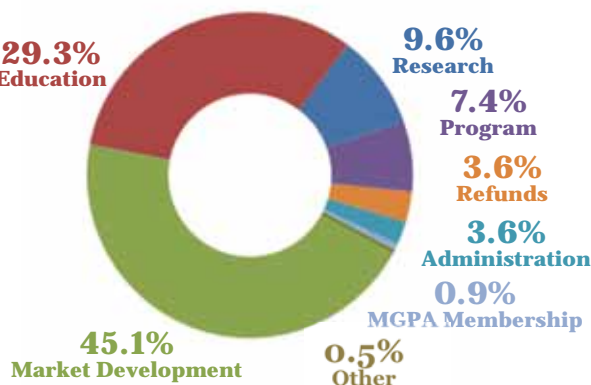
ALTA CPA Group, LLC, audited the Maryland Grain Producers Utilization Board and determined the accounts to be in order. A copy of the report is available by calling 443-262-8491.

### MGPA INCOME



Corn	\$ 907,433
Wheat	\$ 126,238
Barley	\$ 5,802
Oats	\$ 1,602
Interest/Other	\$ 5,200

### MGPA EXPENSES



Market Development	\$ 412,492
Education	\$ 267,850
Research	\$ 88,196
Program	\$ 67,434
Refunds	\$ 32,569
Administration	\$ 32,571
MGPA Membership	\$ 8,550
Other	\$ 5,000



123 Clay Drive  
Queenstown MD 21658

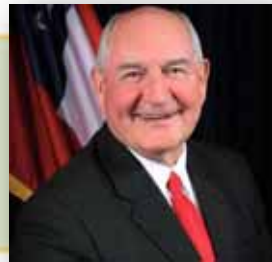
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**Thursday, July 25, 2019**  
Queen Anne's 4-H Park

9:00 am Grain Bin Safety  
10:30 am Checkoff Project & Commercial Exhibits Open  
1:30 pm Program and Awards Ceremony  
USDA Secretary Sonny Perdue (invited)  
4:00 pm Chicken & Pork Barbecue and Crab Feast



- ✓ Tickets are \$10 prior to 2:30 pm, \$20 after 2:30 pm, no entry after 3:30 pm.
- ✓ Grain farmers can receive complimentary tickets if a member of MGPA.  
See page 10 on how to join or call the MGPA office at 443-262-8491

*Start the morning at 9:00 am with a grain bin safety demonstration presented by Nationwide and grain bin safety planning by Maryland Occupational Safety and Health.*

Thank you to our sponsors who help bring the latest ag news and research to the Commodity Classic!

- Ag Leader Technology
- Atlantic Tractor, LLC
- Augusta Seed Company
- Blue Drop, LLC
- Daisey Insurance, Inc.
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- Perdue AgriBusiness
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