

Maryland Agriculture



SERVING YOU SINCE YOU WERE BORN



FARM FUN ACTIVITY BOOK





Want to keep coloring and testing your agriculture knowledge?

The book is **NOT** copyrighted and you are welcome to make copies as needed. It is also available from our website at

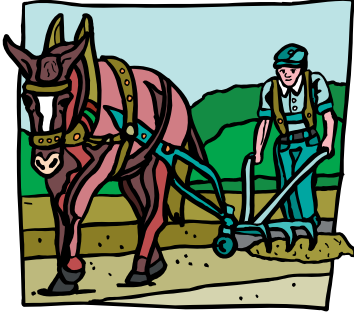
http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/Maryland/publications/miscellaneous/md_ag_book.pdf
where you can print selected pages or the entire book. You can find links to other agriculture-related sites, including Ag for Teachers!



Maryland Agriculture is all around you. Everything you eat comes from agriculture. Agriculture is the production of food and fiber and it is caring for the land, air and water that we all enjoy so much! The seafood, meat and vegetables that you eat are all part of the agricultural world. This activity booklet will help you better understand agriculture and just how important it is to us!



THE HISTORY OF FARMING



Back in the old days, farmers did not have tractors or any kind of machinery. Everything was done by hand. The first tractor was not built until 1868 and that was powered by steam. Animals were used to operate any type of manual equipment they had, before the invention of tractors. Even cows were milked by hand. Can you imagine milking hundreds of cows twice a day by hand? Think about planting and harvesting without tractors. Horses pulled small implements around to do the job. That is a lot of labor and time for the farmer, especially if there were many acres of land. Today in Maryland, the average farm is 170 acres. Think how long it would have taken in the old days to plant crops, when a horse was pulling a plow.

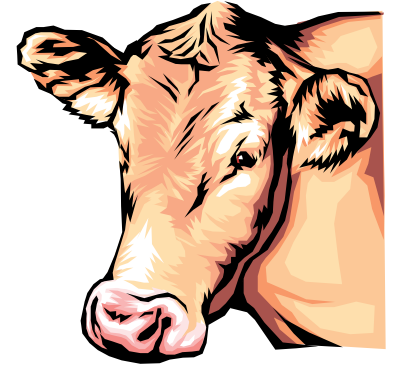


In this day and age, tractors have air conditioning, radios and high performance electronics. Farming is still a lot of hard work and takes a lot of time and patience, but the way farmers work has completely changed. Some farmers are using computers to keep their records, while others are using special programs to determine what to plant and how much to plant. Most dairy farmers no longer need to milk by hand. They now have automatic milking machines that do all of the work. It is amazing how much has changed in the last 150 years of farming!



GOT MILK?

Got Smarts? Quiz



Answer the questions to test your dairy skills.

Write **TRUE** or **FALSE** in the blank.

- 1) _____ A cow has 4 stomachs.
- 2) _____ A brown cow makes chocolate milk.
- 3) _____ There are more than 200 breeds of cows in the world.
- 4) _____ Milk comes in many different flavors including vanilla, chocolate, cookies and cream, strawberry and peaches and cream.
- 5) _____ Soda is better for you than milk.
- 6) _____ Milk contains lots of calcium, which will make your bones and teeth healthy and strong.

Maryland has about 60,000 dairy cows throughout the state. These cows produce over 1 billion pounds of milk each year. That's about 50 pounds of milk per day per cow. This is close to 128 million gallons of milk every year! Can you imagine that much milk?

**Cow
Count**



**How
many
cows
do you
see?**



AQUACULTURE

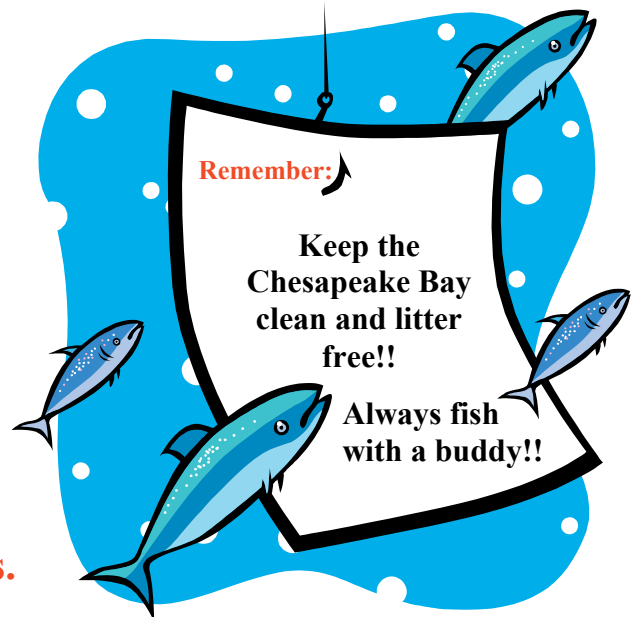


WORD SCRAMBLE

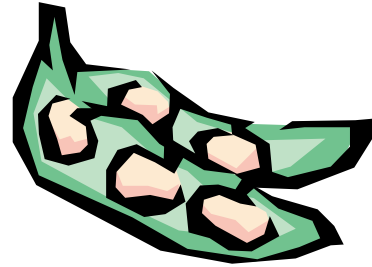
LBUE RBCA	These have a hard shell and are good to eat during the summer!	_____
MLCA	These are in a white shell and range in size.	_____
SOETYR	These are in a long, white shell. (Sometimes you can find a pearl in it!)	_____
FCRKSIOH	This fish is also called a striped bass. It is the State Fish!	_____
SABS	This fish can be caught in a river, the bay or even a pond.	_____
TSFCAHI	This fish is caught in ponds and has the name of an animal in it.	_____
PATRRIEN	This is the state reptile. It is also the University of Maryland mascot!	_____
YLLI	This is a beautiful flower that varies in size, shape and color.	_____
FOTS BRCA	This is the soft version of #1. It is in the process of growing.	_____
SDOHILGH	This fish is found in fish ponds and in aquariums.	_____
DRO	This is the tool used to catch the fish.	_____
ATBO	This is what you ride on when you go fishing on the water.	_____
OKOH	This is what catches the fish and holds the bait.	_____
NMINWO	This is a baby fish and can also be used for bait.	_____
YAB SESSRAG	These grow in the bay and are an important part of the bay's ecosystem.	_____
SHPCKAEA YBA	This is where most of Maryland's aquaculture lives.	_____



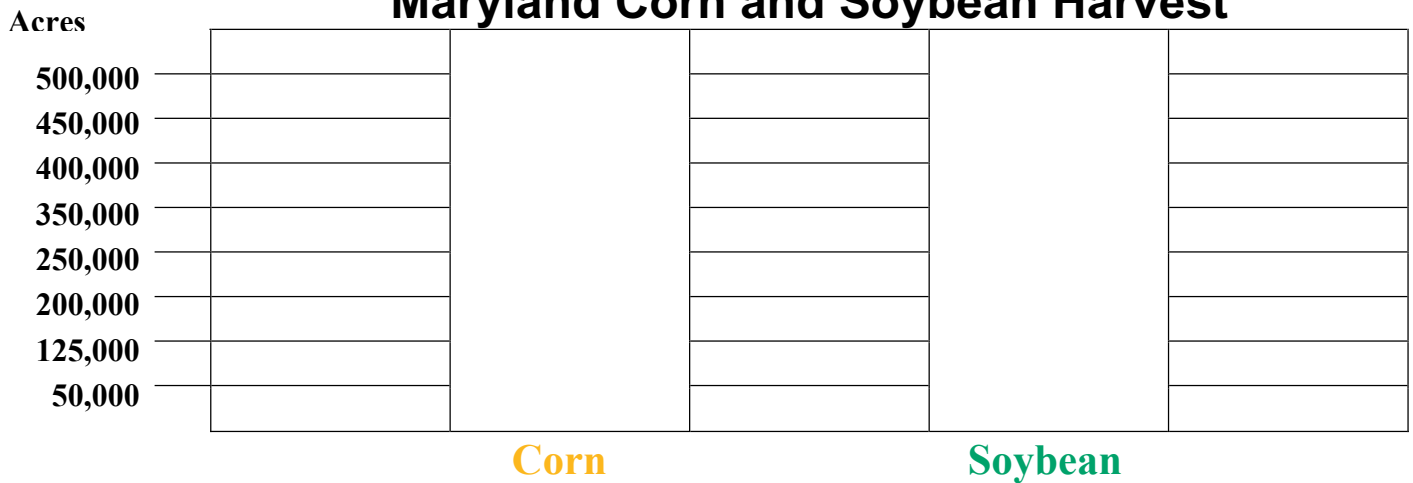
Maryland has a large aquaculture industry. There are many varieties of fish and seafood that we eat. The fresh blue crabs we eat during the summer and the wonderful fish we eat year round are all part of aquaculture and most of them come from the beautiful Chesapeake Bay. According to the 2002 Census of Aquaculture, Maryland accounts for about \$7.3 million in sales.



MAKE A GRAPH



Maryland Corn and Soybean Harvest

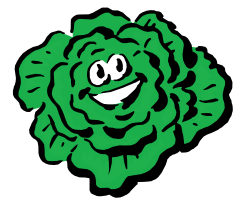
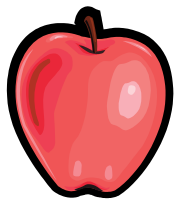


Make a bar chart showing the acres of corn and soybeans harvested in Maryland. Color the **corn** bar yellow and the **soybean** bar green.

There are about 425,000 acres of corn and 465,000 acres of soybeans harvested in 2006.



Fruits and Vegetables Word Search



Can you find the following words in the puzzle? Circle each word that you find.

APPLE

CUCUMBER

ONION

POTATO

CARROT

GRAPE

PEACH

PUMPKIN

CHERRY

LETTUCE

PEAR

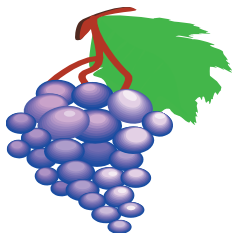
STRAWBERRY

CORN

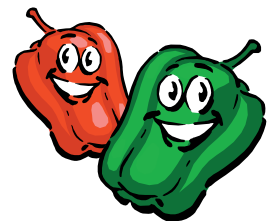
LIMA BEAN

PEPPER

TOMATO

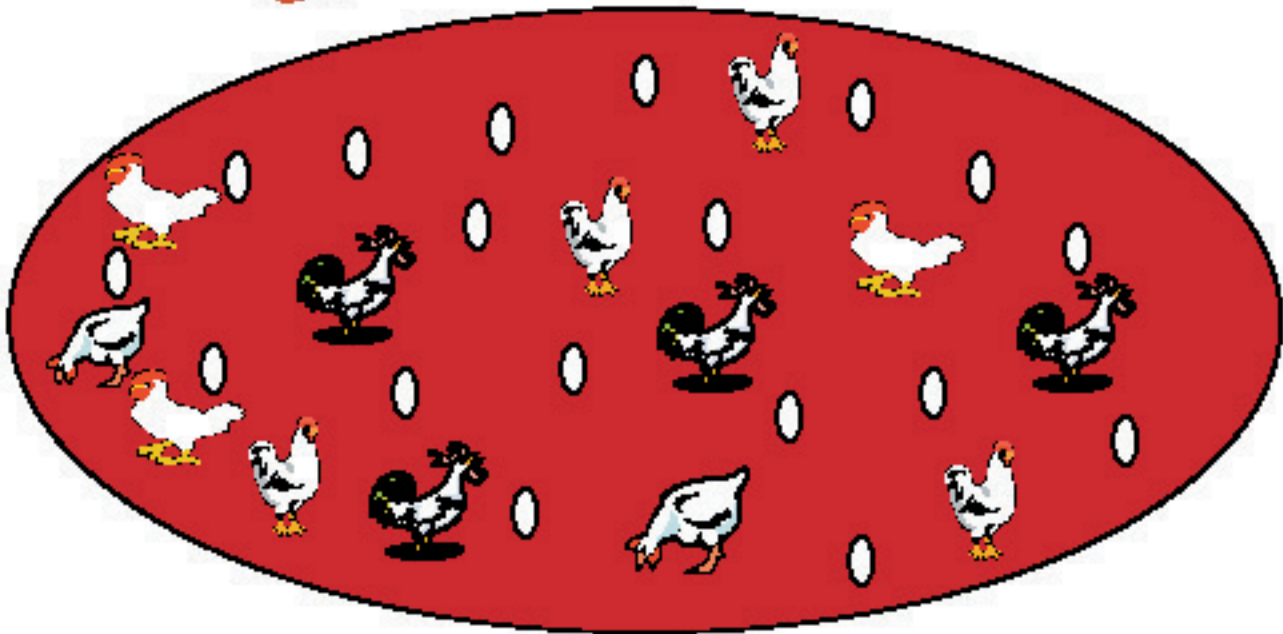


THERE ARE ABOUT 30,000 ACRES OF VEGETABLES AND ABOUT 3,300 ACRES OF FRUITS HARVESTED EACH YEAR. THE VEGETABLES INCLUDE FRESH POTATOES, DELICIOUS SWEET CORN, PLUMP PUMPKINS, AND JUICY WATERMELONS. THE FRUIT HARVESTED INCLUDES APPLES AND PEACHES. FRUIT PRODUCTION SALES TOTALED \$1.4 MILLION IN 2005. VEGETABLE PRODUCTION SALES TOTALED ABOUT \$65 MILLION.





Maryland Poultry



Chicken Count....

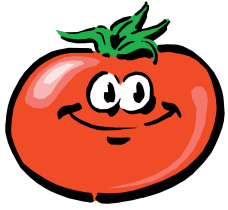
How many eggs do you see? _____

How many chickens do you see? _____

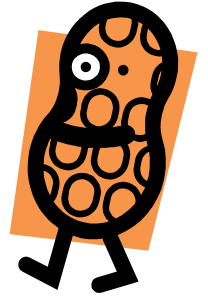
How many chickens are eating? _____



Maryland's poultry industry ranks 9th among the United States in the number of broilers produced. Maryland's chicken industry accounts for nearly \$565 million in income to farmers every year. This includes broilers, which are seen in the chicken houses and laying chickens, which produce the eggs. Laying chickens produce over 798 million eggs per year. That's 273 eggs per chicken per year!! Imagine that!



MATCHING



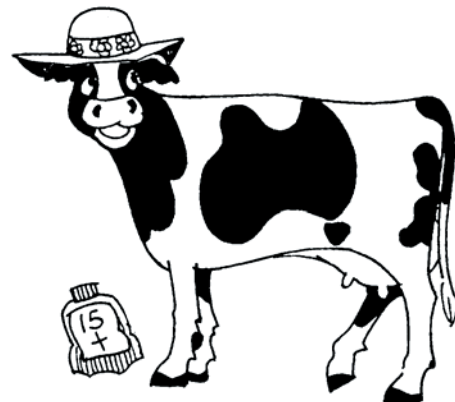
Match the products in column 1 with the animal or crop they belong to in column 2.
The items in column 2 may be used more than once.

Column 1

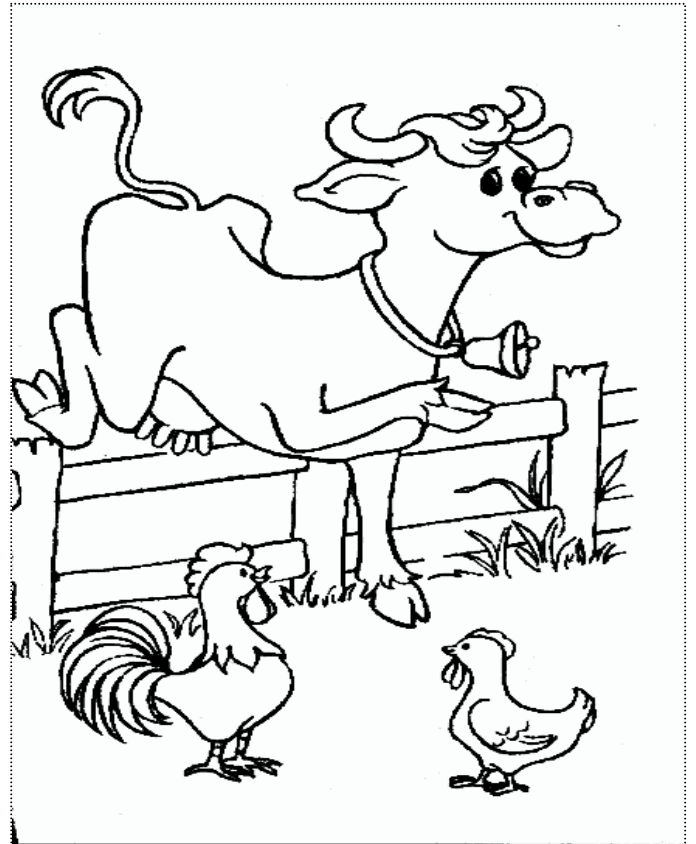
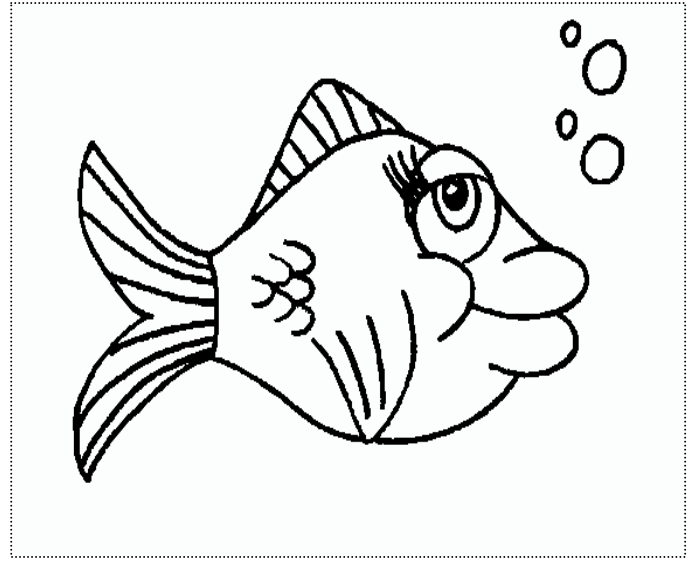
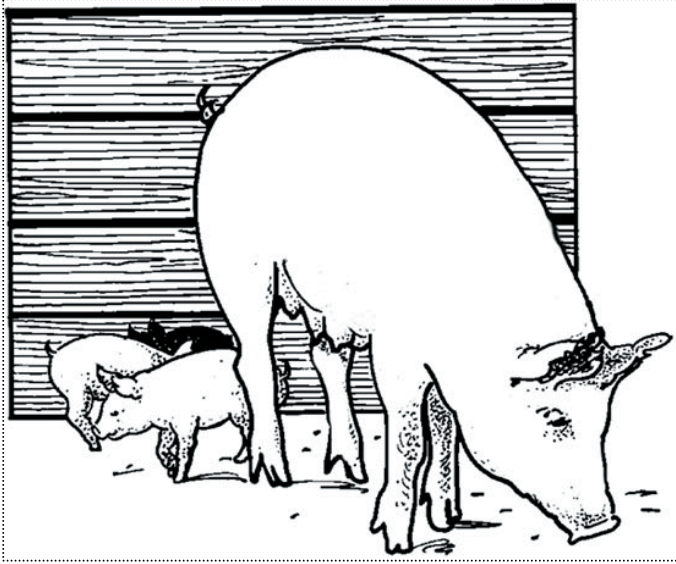
1. egg _____
2. milk _____
3. peanut butter _____
4. french fries _____
5. ketchup _____
6. chips _____
7. ice cream _____
8. apple sauce _____
9. wool sweaters _____
10. clam chowder _____
11. steak _____
12. flour _____
13. clothes _____
14. pork chops _____
15. plastic _____
16. jelly _____
17. pearl _____
18. cheese _____
19. ink _____
20. roast beef _____

Column 2

- a. sheep
- b. clams
- c. soybeans
- d. pig
- e. cow
- f. grapes
- g. oyster
- h. chicken
- i. wheat
- j. tomatoes
- k. potatoes
- l. apples
- m. peanuts
- n. cotton
- o. milk

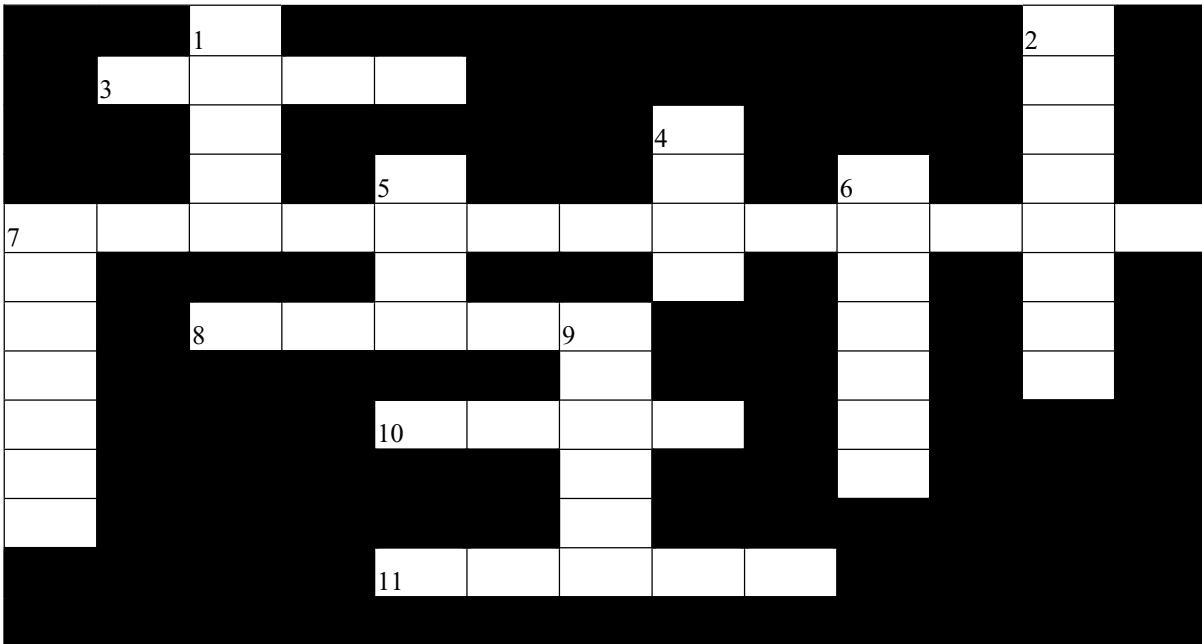


Color the Animals!



Agriculture

Word Puzzle



Across

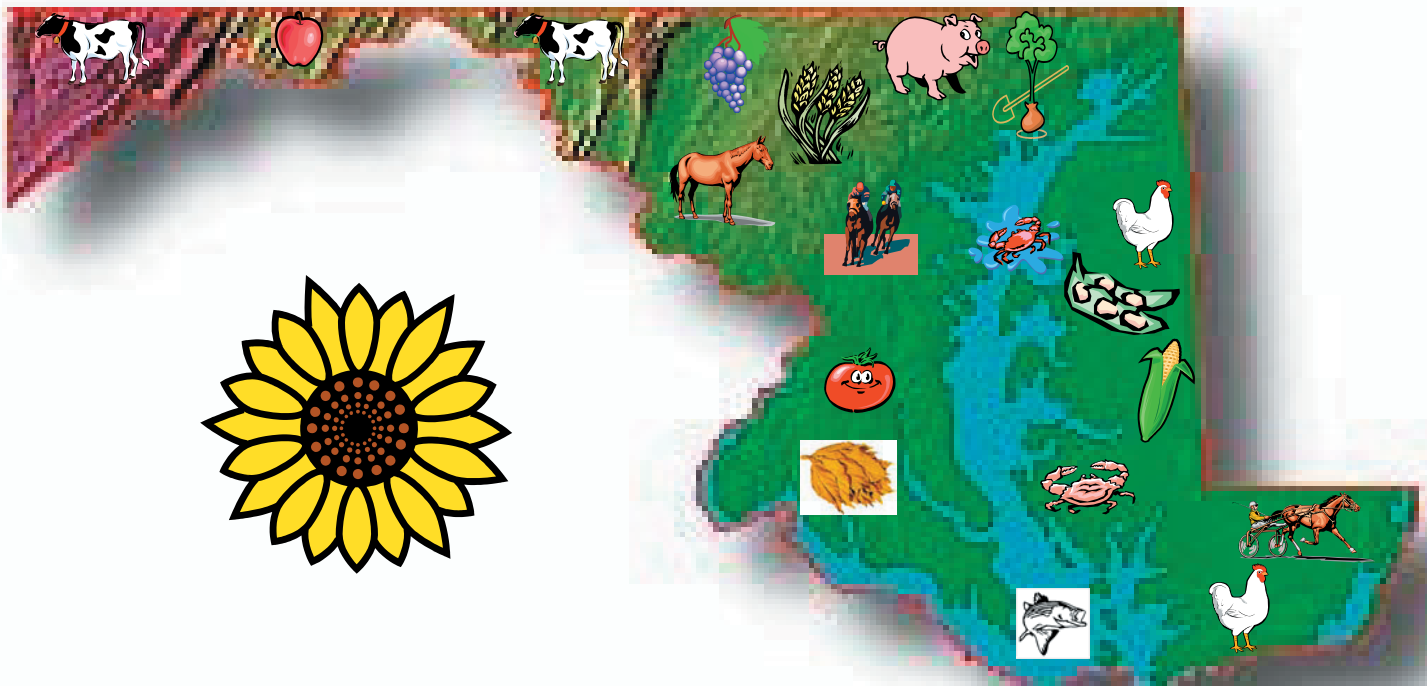
3. ___ on the cob
7. Where Maryland
aquaculture lives
8. Used to make flour
10. Mary had a little ____
11. These grow in a field

Down

1. Used for racing, show
and pleasure
2. Maryland's state reptile; also
the University of MD mascot
4. A crustacean in bay
that has 2 claws
5. A female horse
6. Used to make a salad
7. Lays edible eggs
9. Used to make ketchup and
spaghetti sauce

Taking a Survey

A survey is a count. The National Agricultural Statistics Service counts livestock (cows, pigs, horses, etc.) and crops (corn, soybeans, fruits, etc.). You are going to conduct a survey and determine the different farm items that you see and how many of each there are on the Maryland map!



HOW MANY DIFFERENT CROPS AND ANIMALS DO YOU SEE?

NUMBER OF LIVESTOCK: _____

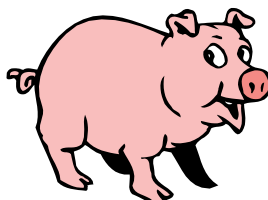
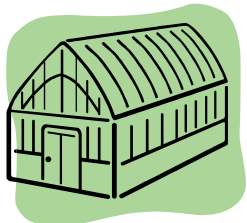
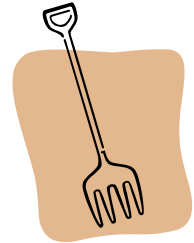
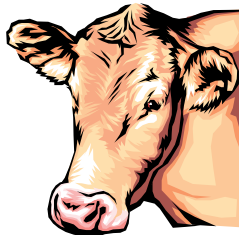
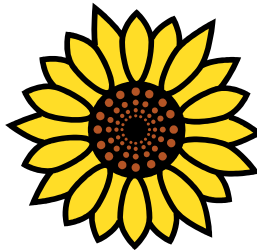
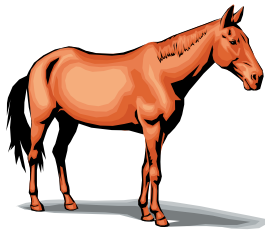
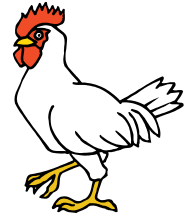
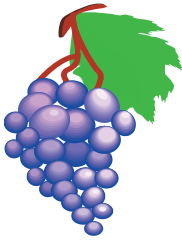
NUMBER OF CROPS: _____

NAMES OF ITEMS ON MAP: _____

.....
.....

Farm Identification

Have you ever seen any of these animals or crops? Write yes or no under the pictures and where you have seen them.



ANSWER KEY:

Got Smarts? Quiz

- 1) True 4) True
- 2) False 5) False
- 3) True 6) True

Cow Count: 16 cows

Aquaculture: Word Scramble

- Blue Crab
- Clam
- Oyster
- Rockfish
- Bass
- Catfish
- Terrapin
- Lily
- Soft Crab
- Goldfish
- Rod
- Boat
- Hook
- Minnow
- Bay Grasses
- Chesapeake Bay

Fruits and Vegetables: Word Search

C + + + S G + + P + + + + L +
 U + + + R T + + + O + + I + N
 C + + A + + R + + + T M + R O
 U + P H + + + A + + A A E + I
 M E + + C + + + W B + P T + N
 B + + + + A + + E B P + + O O
 E + + + + E A + E E + + + C
 R E L P P A N P P + + R Y + A
 N I K P M U P E R + + R + R
 + C O R N + + A C + + + R Y R
 + + + + + E + + U + + E + O
 + + + + + P + + + + T + H + T
 + + + T O M A T O + + T C + +
 + + + + + + + + + + + E + +
 + + + + + + + + + + + L +



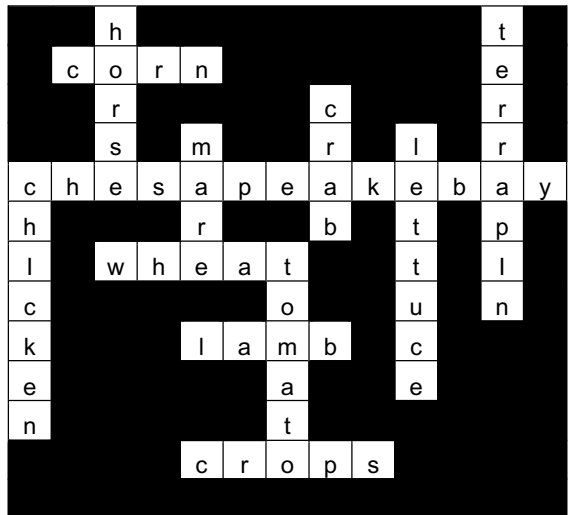
Chicken Count:

- Number of eggs: 18
- Number of chickens: 13
- Number of eating chickens: 2

Matching:

- 1) h 11) e
- 2) e 12) i
- 3) m 13) n
- 4) k 14) d
- 5) j 15) c
- 6) k 16) f or l
- 7) o 17) g
- 8) l 18) o
- 9) a 19) c
- 10) b 20) e

Agriculture: Word Puzzle



Taking a Survey:

- Number of Livestock: 11
- Number of Crops: 10
- Types on Map: Cow, Hay, Apple, Grapes, Wheat (oats/barley), Horse, Pig, Tree, Race Horse, Crab, Chicken, Corn, Soybean, Tomato, Tobacco, Rockfish



Maryland Agricultural Statistics

*A field office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service
United States Department of Agriculture*



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Annapolis, MD 21401

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Fax: (410) 841-5755

Junior Ag Stats:

We hope you enjoyed the Farm Fun workbook. We are proud of Maryland's agriculture. We are grateful to our Maryland farmers and their families for the food they produce. They provide delicious meats, fresh Fruits and Vegetables and wholesome milk for us to enjoy every day!

We are also grateful to them for completing our surveys throughout the year. This is how we gather our information and statistics about agriculture. Many people learn from the important statistics like.....



THE FARMERS, THEMSELVES



MAGAZINES, NEWSPAPERS AND RADIO



FARM BUSINESSES



FARM ASSOCIATIONS



BANKS AND LENDERS



SCHOOLS AND UNIVERSITIES



FARM COOPERATIVES



GOVERNMENT AGENCIES



LEGISLATURES

**WE HOPE YOU HAVE LEARNED A LOT ABOUT AGRICULTURE
AND ALL IT HAS TO OFFER.**

**MARYLAND AGRICULTURE IS A
VERY IMPORTANT PART OF OUR DAILY LIVES!**