

Md. Ag Dept. to direct soil conservation

ANNAPOLIS, Md. — Wayne A. Cawley, Jr., Secretary of the Maryland Department of Agriculture (MDA) has announced the promotion of Ernest C. Shea to Assistant Secretary, Office of Agricultural Development and Resource Conservation. This is a new position created by the upgrading and renaming of the Department's former Division of Agricultural, Development and Marketing.

Shea, who is a graduate of Gettysburg College, served as Executive Secretary of the Maryland State Fair Board from 1977 until the Fall of 1979. At that time he assumed the position of Executive Secretary of the Maryland Agricultural Commission and served in that capacity until 1981 when Secretary Cawley appointed him Director of MDA's Division of Agricultural Development and Marketing.

Most activities previously carried on by the old Division will remain the same after the change is effective. All programs are of a non-regulatory nature and include marketing, land preservation, water quality cost share, state fairs, etc.

However, a major change will take place in the Soil Conservation Program area. Previously the

State's Soil Conservation Committee was responsible for all state soil conservation policy matters as well as for the administration of state funds and employee supervision. Under the reorganization the Department will direct and administer state soil conservation programs. The Committee will function primarily as a policy

advisory board to the Secretary of Agriculture. It will also continue to be responsible for coordinating state, federal and district programs and for appointing supervisors to district boards.

Cawley stated "This reorganization was implemented out of the need to more effectively administer the resources which the

State of Maryland is providing toward agriculture, soil and water conservation programs."

Should the administration's Chesapeake Bay Package be enacted by the Department's soil conservation activities will be expanded considerably. Forty-two new positions will be added in 1985 and 37 more by 1988.

The reorganization does not affect the districts structure as independent political subdivisions and, accordingly, they will continue to be responsible for implementing conservation programs at the local level. The reorganization will improve the manner in which state support is provided to districts.

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18RLX	6600	18"	1710	1/2	220	1.30	2975	2780	2600
24RLX	6291	24"	1625	3/4	220	1.90	5450	5100	4750

(1) Typical RPM as observed under "normal" operating conditions. (2) Air deliveries are for unit with all fixtures in place.

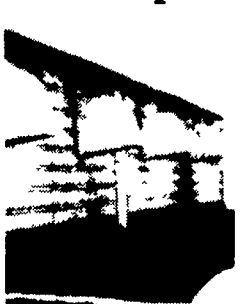
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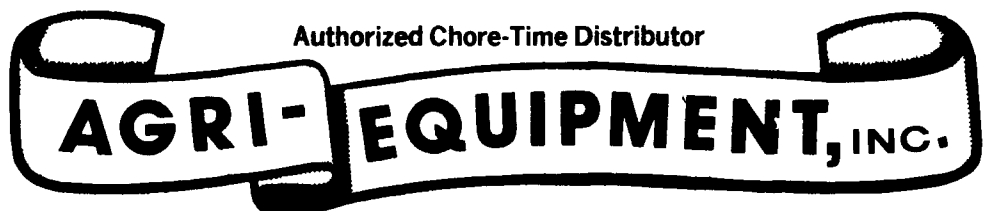
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