

# Maryland Federal Facilities Profile

## Department of Agriculture (USDA)



1400 Independence Ave., S.W.  
Washington, DC 20250  
202-720-2791  
[www.usda.gov](http://www.usda.gov)

**Secretary:** Tom Vilsak

**Maryland Employees:** 3,323

**History & Mission:** In 2012, USDA commemorated and celebrated its 150th anniversary. Founded in 1862, President Abraham Lincoln signed into law an act of Congress establishing the United States Department of Agriculture, later calling it "The People's Department." At that time, about half of all Americans lived on farms, compared with about 2 percent today. But through our work on food, agriculture, economic development, science, natural resource conservation and a host of issues, USDA still fulfills Lincoln's vision - touching the lives of every American, every day.

The Department of Agriculture supports farm income, expands global markets for U.S. products, and combats poverty, hunger, and malnutrition. It protects natural resources by aiding landowners in soil, water, and forest conservation, and ensures food quality through inspection services. The Department aims to foster economic opportunity, nourish Americans and others worldwide, and preserve our natural resources through innovation and conservation efforts.

### Mission Areas

| Maryland Facilities                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
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| Henry A. Wallace Beltsville Agriculture Research Center (BARC) (Prince George's County)*<br>Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) (Prince George's County)*                                                                                                                                        | Foreign Disease-Weed Science Research Unit (FDWSRU) (Frederick County)<br><br>*Separate profile available                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Contacts                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Business Resources                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Office of the Secretary    Thomas J Vilsack, Secretary<br>202-720-3631<br><br>Office of Communications<br>202-690-4750<br><br>Office of Small &    George Sears<br>Disadvantaged Business    Director<br>Utilization    (202) 720-7117<br><a href="mailto:george.sears@usda.gov">george.sears@usda.gov</a>      | <a href="#">Contracting with USDA</a><br><a href="#">Procurement Forecast</a><br><a href="#">Small Business Specialists Directory</a><br><a href="#">Vendor Capability Submission Portal</a><br><br><a href="#">USDA Priorities</a><br><a href="#">USDA Strategic Plan</a><br><a href="#">USDA Science &amp; Research Strategy</a> |
| Foreign Disease-Weed Science Research Unit (FDWSU)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Foreign Disease-Weed Science Research Unit (FDWSU) provides responsive high-containment research that secures the nation's food supply, agricultural economy, and environmental health against the threat of invasive foreign plant diseases and weeds.<br><br><b>Department:</b> USDA<br><b>Employment:</b> 44 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| 1301 Ditto Avenue<br>Ft. Detrick, MD 21702<br>Frederick County                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Dr. Jo Anne Crouch, Research Leader<br>240-505-6225<br><a href="mailto:joanne.crouch@usda.gov">joanne.crouch@usda.gov</a>                                                                                                                                                                                                          |