The Lower Eastern Shore Research and Education Center (LESREC) is connected to the University of Maryland College Park through the College of Agriculture & Natural Resources. Maryland Agricultural Experiment Station (MAES) and University of Maryland Extension (UME) faculty and staff are located at LESREC. The Center includes two facilities — Salisbury and Poplar Hill, with Frank Allnutt as the Center Director and David Armentrout as the facility manager.

LESREC got its start as the University of Maryland Vegetable Research Farm (VRF) in the late 1940s. The purpose and intent of VRF was to help Lower Eastern Shore farmers with commercial vegetable problems. It formally became LESREC in 1987.

Approaching Salisbury from the west, take Business Route 50, turn right onto Nanticoke Road (State Route 349) and proceed approximately 2 miles. The Salisbury Facility is on the right.

For more information about our programs, contact:
Lower Eastern Shore Research and Education Center
27664 Nanticoke Road
Salisbury, MD 21801
Phone: 410-742-1178
Fax: 410-742-1922
E-mail: soscar@umd.edu
The Lower Eastern Shore Research and Education Center (LESREC) is located on Maryland’s Delmarva Peninsula and is comprised of two facilities. The Salisbury Facility has 124 acres and the Poplar Hill Facility consists of 214 acres. The facilities are managed by the Maryland Agricultural Experiment Station.

The College of Agriculture and Natural Resources’ departments of Plant Science & Landscape Architecture and Animal and Avian Sciences, University of Maryland Extension (UME), as well as the Entomology Department have active research projects at LESREC. These projects include small grain breeding, field-crop variety comparison trials, crop management, fungicide, insecticide, and herbicide efficacy, small fruit and viticulture testing, nutrient and fertility management, soil amendments, nematology, fruit and vegetable screening, organic-based farming trials, and Integrated Pest Management (IPM).

The Center Director coordinates the facility, equipment, and seven staff members to provide resources for the more than thirty scientists and/or industry representatives conducting research at LESREC annually. In addition to University of Maryland researchers, projects are also carried out with cooperating agencies such as USDA and Maryland Department of Agriculture.

**IR-4 Project — Marylee Ross (mross@umd.edu)**
LESREC is home to Maryland’s IR-4 Center. IR-4 is a federal program established to obtain registrations for pesticide use on specialty crops or a special use on a major crop. Specialty crops include all fruits, vegetables, herbs, nuts, and nursery crops. The work at LESREC includes both field and greenhouse trials and focuses primarily on vegetables and herbs, but IR-4 addresses the needs of all food and feed use crops and ornamentals. The focus is on reduced risk and biopesticides. We encourage growers to contact us about their crop needs so that we can submit requests to conduct the research necessary to solve pest control problems.

**Small Grains Breeding — Aaron Cooper (acooper@umd.edu)**
The Department of Plant Science and Landscape Architecture uses the Poplar Hill Facility to evaluate agronomic systems, which help farmers of the Eastern Shore become more efficient with inputs for increased profits, production, and environmental safety.

**Vegetable Plant Pathology — Dr. Kate Everts (keverts@umd.edu)**
The program conducts extension and research on vegetable crop diseases that impact Maryland and Delaware farms. Research focuses on epidemiology and management of diseases of watermelon caused by *Fusarium oxysporum* f. sp. *niveum* and other pathogens, white mold of lima beans caused by *Sclerotinia sclerotiorum*, and the impact of cover crops on suppression of vegetable diseases. The extension program develops and disseminates disease control recommendations, educational resources, and other technical information such as the fungicide scheduling program Melcast, which provides forecasts in seven locations for anthracnose, gummy stem blight, and Alternaria leaf blight on watermelon and muskmelon.

**Vegetable Food Safety — Dr. Sasha Marine (scmarine@umd.edu)**
Conducts microbiological and extension surveys of small- and medium-sized conventional and organic vegetable farms in the Mid-Atlantic region.

**Extension Poultry Specialist — Dr. Jonathan Moyle (jmoyle@umd.edu)**
Provides Maryland’s poultry industry and growers with general practical knowledge about poultry production practices in order to continue to develop, maintain, and operate economically viable and environmentally responsible poultry operations in the state. Current and future research includes helping growers find alternatives for bedding, improving nutrient management and helping small flock owners improve biosecurity.