In 1978 Mr. Arthur A. Houghton, Jr. gifted the University of Maryland the famous Wye Angus herd of Black Angus Cattle. The private, nonprofit University of Maryland Foundation was created to accept and hold the gift for use by the University. The Maryland Agricultural Experiment Station was charged with managing the herd on a daily basis, and does so today. With the acceptance of the herd, the University agreed to make any animals deemed excess to research needs available for the general public in some equitable fashion, which is done through the annual Wye Angus cattle auction held the first Saturday in April.

The LEAD Maryland Foundation, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit dedicated to developing leadership for agriculture, natural resources, and rural communities.

www.leadmaryland.org

The Harry R. Hughes Center for Agro-Ecology, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) affiliated foundation with the University of Maryland College Park that funds research, develops policy, educates and engages stakeholders who are interested in retaining agricultural and forested lands as “working lands” in Maryland.

https://agresearch.umd.edu/agroecol

The Wye Institute, the Wye Plantation and Maryland Agricultural Experiment Station have been cooperating in agriculture research and related activities for more than 40 years.

Cooperative research has been conducted by Maryland agricultural research scientists since 1966, when Wye Institute made available 100 acres of Institute land for use by Maryland Agricultural Experiment Station

In May, 1979, a plan was developed for research and related activities on land purchased from the Wye Institute in 1973. This plan would provide a blueprint for the future development of the experiment station’s field unit at Wye Institute and for providing the most efficient use of their resources.

In 1982, the Maryland Agricultural Experiment Station formally established the Wye Research and Education Center and in 1991, officially opened the Arthur A. Houghton, Jr. Laboratory.

Today, the Wye Research and Education Center’s research and extension programs utilize nearly 800 acres of land on the shores of the Wye River focused on preserving the health of the Chesapeake Bay, sustaining agriculture productivity, product diversity and maintaining Maryland’s valued quality of life.
University of Maryland Extension (UME) is a statewide, non-formal education system within the college of Agriculture and Natural Resources and the University of Maryland Eastern Shore. UME education programs and problem-solving assistance are available to all citizens and are based on research and experience of land grant universities such as the University of Maryland, College Park.

Brad Paleg
Acting Assistant Director of Operations
http://extension.umd.edu

Aquaculture
The Aquaculture Program provides support for developing water-based businesses or managing existing operations and also provides assistance for soft crab production, pond management and aquatic weed control methods through individual consultations and group programs.

Commercial Horticulture
Ongoing programs include Organic Production of Aronia in Maryland, Sustainable Green Roof Media Development, and Moisture Sensor Controlled Irrigation, in partnership with Carnegie Mellon University’s Robotics Laboratory and Decagon Devices, Inc.

Forestry Programs
The Forestry Stewardship Program offers workshops on sustainable forest and woodland management.

The MD/DE Master Logger Program helps forest harvest professionals stay at the top of their profession with workshops and training sessions.

The web-based and notebook General Forestry Course is aimed at providing forest landowners with the tools they need to create a framework for their own forest management plan.

The Watershed Restoration and Protection Program is a partnership between UMD Sea Grant Extension and the Watershed Assistance Collaborative, part of the MD DNR, which works to build partnerships, identify funding sources, and to plan, implement, and monitor restoration projects to facilitate measurable improvements in water quality.

Sea Grant
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Horticultural Crops
The Horticultural Crops Program provides research for MAES and University of Maryland faculty in horticultural crops including vegetables, tree, small fruit, forestry, and ornamental grasses.

Field Crops Program/ Agronomic Projects
The program utilizes about 300 acres of crop land to conduct both small plot and large plot research and rotational crop production, facilitating research for UMCP faculty, MDA and USDA researchers in wheat, barley, corn, and soybeans, variety testing, pesticide trials, fertility experiments and water quality.

Environmental Toxicology

Aquatic Toxicology
Aquatic toxicology research includes ecological risk assessment of pesticides, metals, and organometallics, exposure characterization and trends analysis of pesticides, triad studies assessing the impact of point source pollution, along with development and implementation of biological and physical habitat indices and bioassessment protocols.

Current research on contaminants in aquatic ecosystems, such as endocrine disruption and antibiotic/antibiotic resistance from poultry litter/ biosolids usage, ballast water discharge, toxicity of contaminated sediments, and contaminated matrices on fish and amphibians is also underway.

Research is conducted on the flow of nutrients and energy in Coastal Plain watersheds needed for the development of agricultural production systems that maximize nutrient and energy use efficiency and minimize environmental degradation at the field and system level.

Ecohydrology/Biofuels

Projects
The program utilizes about 300 acres of crop land to conduct both small plot and large plot research and rotational crop production, facilitating research for UMCP faculty, MDA and USDA researchers in wheat, barley, corn, and soybeans, variety testing, pesticide trials, fertility experiments and water quality.

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