The University of Maryland Extension (UME) conducted an agricultural needs assessment for the nine counties on the Eastern Shore of Maryland in 2015. This survey will help UME understand the issues concerning the Eastern Shore agriculture, identify agricultural and educational needs and to focus UME agricultural training and resources.

### Respondents
- **101-500 Acres**
- **Average Farm Size:** 101-500 Acres
- **Average Age:** 55-64 Years (34%)
- **79% Male**
- **98% White**
- **21% Female**
- **61% Full Time Farming**
- **Farming More Than 20 Years:** 73%
- **92% High Speed Internet (Includes Mobile Access)**
- **Field Crops Top Crop**

### Farm Viability Categories
Farms asked to rank the amount of importance to the future viability of farms and the agriculture industry:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Regulations &amp; Legislation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Agriculture Production</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Farm Management</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food Safety</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### Priorities
Farmers asked to rate the top three priorities for services that UME would provide farms and the agriculture industry in the next 10 years:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Priority</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Research Data from Field &amp; Variety Trials</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interpretation &amp; Assistance with Agricultural Regulations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agriculture Promotion &amp; Education to Consumers &amp; Non-Farmers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>On-Farm Consulting</td>
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<tr>
<td>Source of Educational Workshops</td>
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<tr>
<td>Source of Educational Material</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Farm Management Advice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agribusiness Training</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Research & Education Needs
Farmers asked to indicate the amount knowledge and training desired in a variety of topics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Crops</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Finance Skills</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Technology Skills</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Management &amp; Leadership Skills</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Family Relations</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Marketing Skills</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Food Safety</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Livestock</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Labor Relations</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Eastern Shore Offices

**Caroline County**
9194 Legion Road, Suite 4
Denton, MD 21629
Phone: (410) 479-4030
www.extension.umd.edu/caroline-county

**Cecil County**
200 Chesapeake Blvd., Suite 1500
Elkton, MD 21921
Phone: (410) 996-5280
www.extension.umd.edu/cecil-county

**Dorchester County**
501 Court Lane, Room 208
Cambridge, MD 21613
Phone: (410) 228-8800
www.extension.umd.edu/dorchester-county

**Kent County**
709 Morgnec Road, Suite 202
Chesterstown, MD 21620
Phone: (410) 778-1661
www.extension.umd.edu/kent-county

**Queen Anne’s County**
505 Railroad Avenue, Suite 4
Centreville, MD 21617
Phone: (410) 758-0166
www.extension.umd.edu/queen-annes-county

**Somerset County**
30730 Park Drive
Princess Anne, MD 21853
Phone: (410) 651-1350
www.extension.umd.edu/somerset-county

**Talbot County**
28577 Mary’s Court, Suite 1
Easton, MD 21601
Phone: (410) 822-1244
www.extension.umd.edu/talbot-county

**Wicomico County**
28647 Old Quantico Rd.
PO Box 1836
Salisbury, MD 21801
Phone: (410) 749-6141
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**Worcester County**
305 Bank Street
PO Box 219
Snow Hill, MD 21863
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