



ARS and the Agricultural Research Agenda

Chavonda Jacobs-Young

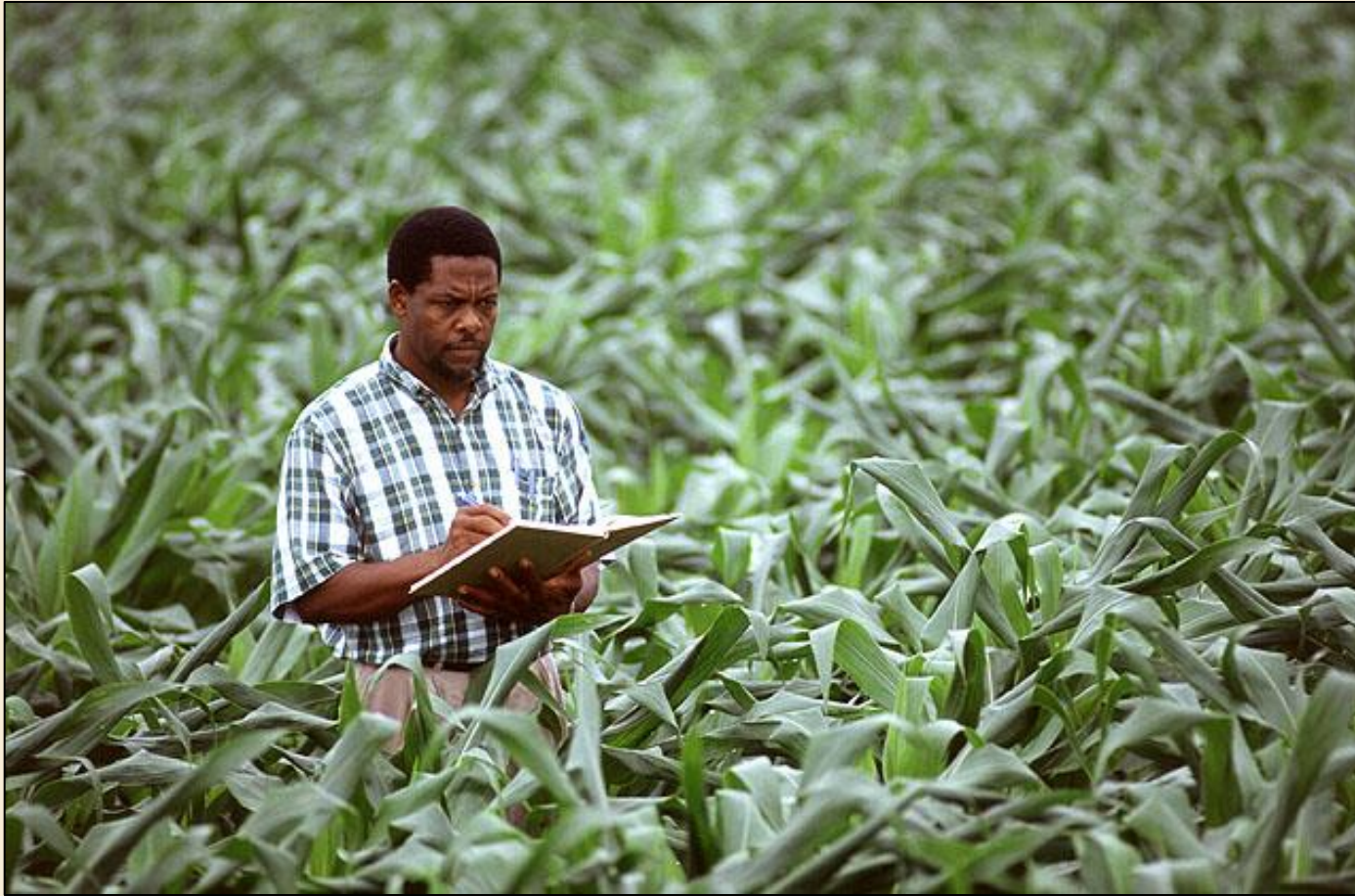
Administrator

USDA AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH SERVICE



A Year of Change for ARS

- New Administrator
- New funding increases
- New initiatives
- But same commitment to collaboration and research innovation



Evaluating corn grown in soil treated with alum in Maryland.

USDA and ARS

ARS is one of four agencies in the USDA Research, Education, and Extension mission area.

The others are:

- The National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA),
- The Economic Research Service (ERS), and
- The National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS).

Thomas Vilsack
USDA Secretary

Dr. Catherine Woteki
Under Secretary, Research,
Education, and Economics (REE)

Dr. Chavonda Jacobs-Young
Administrator
Agricultural Research Service



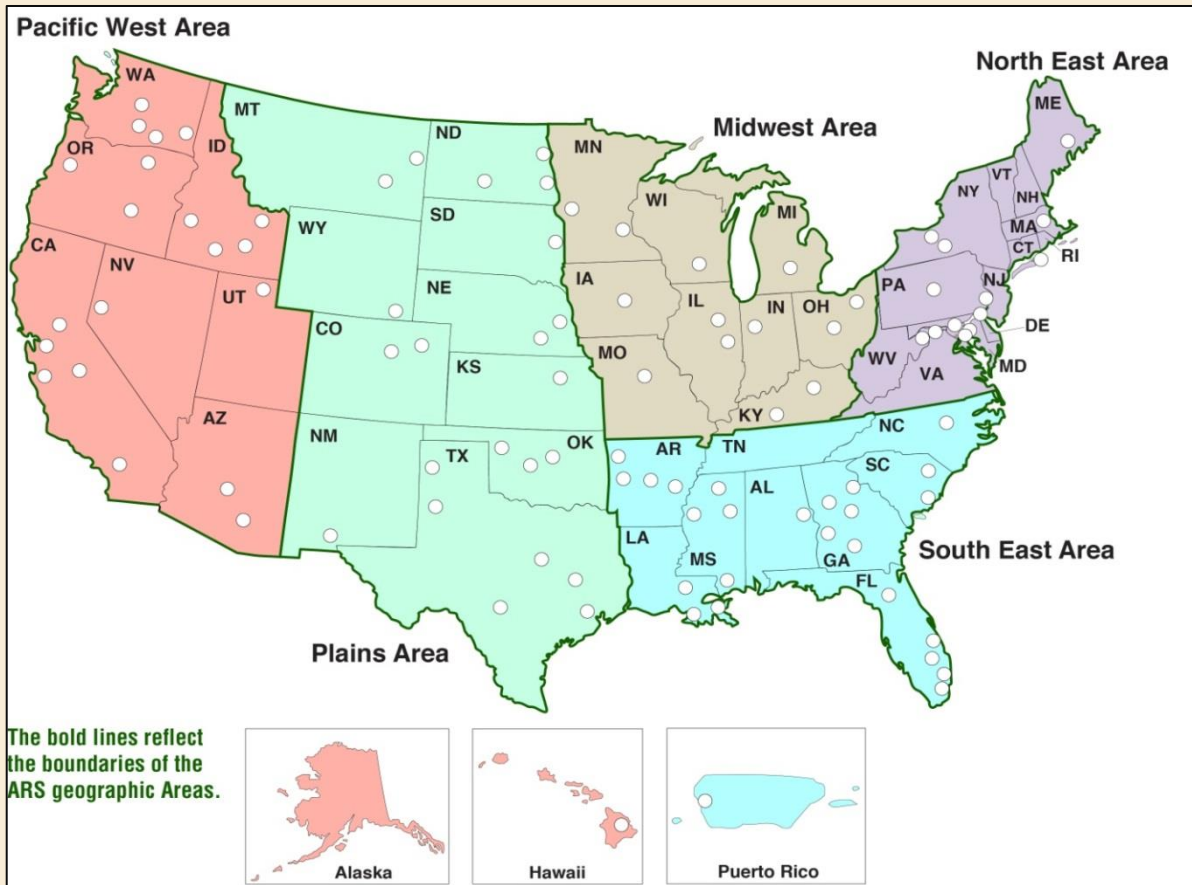
Dr. Steven Shafer
Associate Administrator
National Programs

Dr. Andrew Hammond
Associate Administrator
Research Operations
(Acting)



USDA's principal intramural research agency

- 8,000 employees
- 2,100 Ph.D. scientists
- 800+ research projects
- About 90 U.S. locations and labs in Argentina, Australia, China, and France



ARS Research Priorities

- Food Security and Hunger
- Sustainable Energy and Bioproducts
- Food Safety
- Climate Change/Sustainability
- Human Nutrition and Obesity



Monitoring weather equipment used in Jornada Range climate change studies.

ARS' Budget in FY 2014

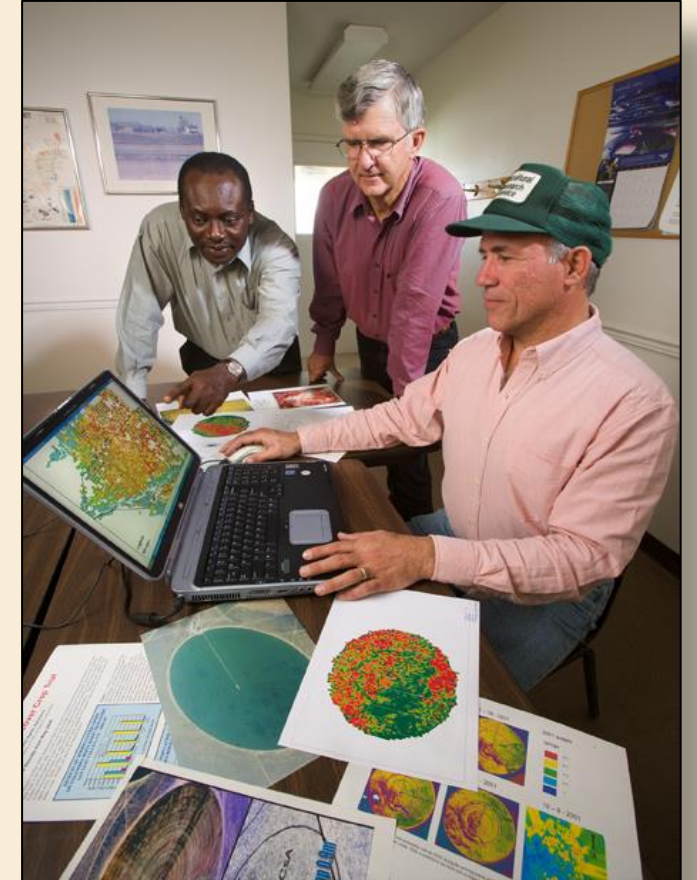


Testing sanitizers to enhance the microbial safety of spinach.

- Current level: \$1.12 billion
- Net \$105 million increase (9.4%) from FY 2013
- Funding below FY 2010 level, but higher than FY 2012 & FY 2013
- First employee pay increase (1%) since 2010.

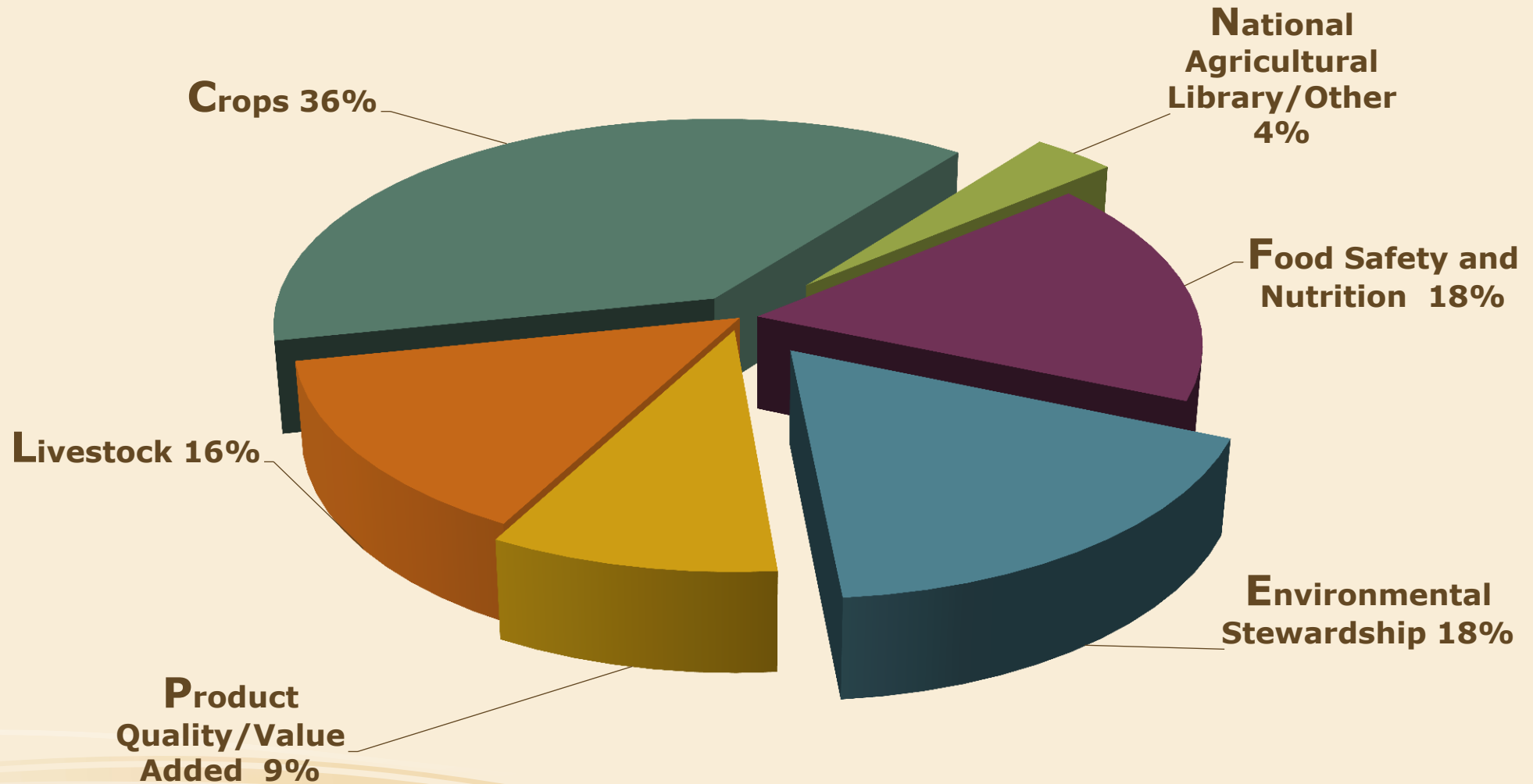
New Funding Initiatives in FY 2014

- Big Data
- Antimicrobial resistance
- Long-Term Agro-ecosystem Research (LTAR) network
- Genetic resources and information



Using a nitrogen loss model to assess nitrogen management.

ARS Program Distribution



USDA 2014 Farm Bill

- Most research grant programs extended and funding levels increased
- New Emergency Citrus Disease Research and Extension Program added - \$24 million/year
- Federal funding now considered part of grant match requirement.
- New cooperative funding opportunities for ARS-University collaborations

USDA 2014 Farm Bill

- Establishes new non-profit Foundation for Food and Agriculture Research; Private/Public partnership
- \$200 million from USDA with match from industry
- Leverages Federal investment in agricultural research to supplement USDA research activities

President's FY 2015 Proposed Budget

- Continuing resolution to Dec. 15 at FY 2014 levels
- FY 2015 proposed funding level – \$1.10 billion
- Net \$18 million reduction (1.6%) from FY 2014
- \$155 million for Southeast Poultry Disease Research Lab



Testing food samples for contaminants.

President's FY 2015 Proposed Budget



Inspecting honey bees for mites and brood disease in Maryland

FY 2015 Budget proposes two new crosscutting, multidisciplinary program initiatives:

- Climate Resilient Land, Crop, Grazing, and Livestock Production Systems, \$44 million.
- Advanced Crop and Livestock Genetic Improvements and Translational Breeding for Enhanced Food Production, \$25.9 million.

In addition, ARS is requesting \$4 million for pollinator health and additional research on Colony Collapse Disorder.

The Future ...

- Develop technology platforms to help us stay connected and work better together, within ARS and with outside partners
- Value excellence; Be proactive in seeking high-quality science and innovations
- Streamlining business processes; Consolidating administrative functions and Areas
- Succession planning – bringing in the next generation of scientists



Pointing out bluetongue virus proteins on autoradiographic film to student researcher.



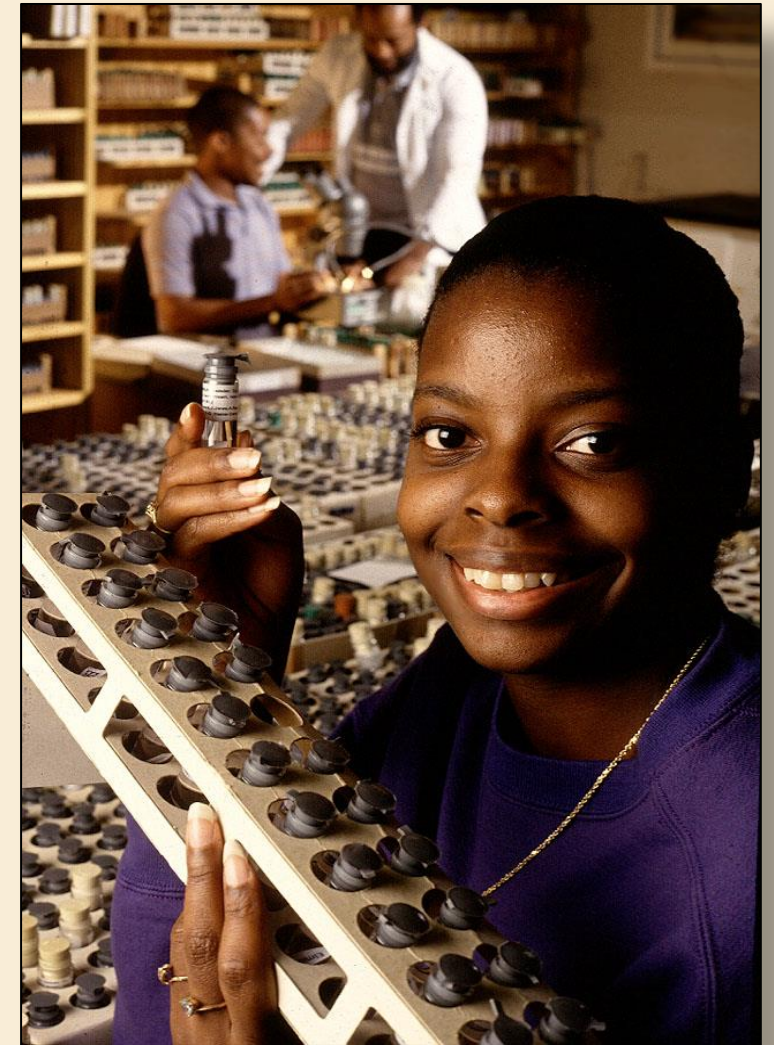
- Food Security and Hunger
- Sustainable Energy
- Food Safety
- Climate Change
- Nutrition and Health

Our Challenges for the Future

Training the Next Generation

ARS involvement in training and mentoring – 2013

Pathways Interns	360
Graduate Students	850
Undergraduate Students	960
Post-Docs	335
Adjunct Appointments	1,137
Scientists serving as Student Advisors	714



Sorting aquatic insects for biological monitoring of water quality in Florida.

Research with ARS Land-Grant Partners



Students sample blood from hybrid striped bass grown on diets containing high levels of flax oil and probiotics.

ARS Cooperative Research Funding – 2014

Number of Projects	359
Participating Universities	46
Number of States	43
Total Funding	\$30.45 million



Research with ARS Land-Grant Partners

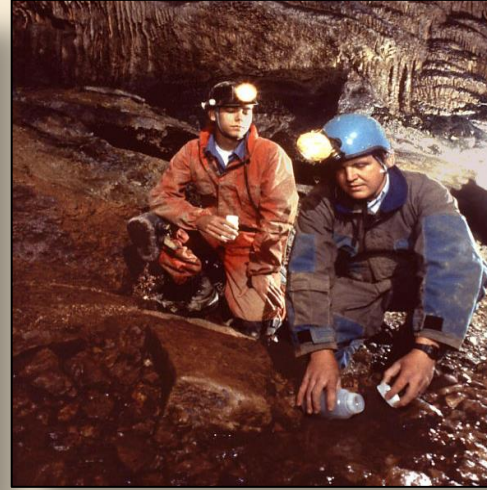
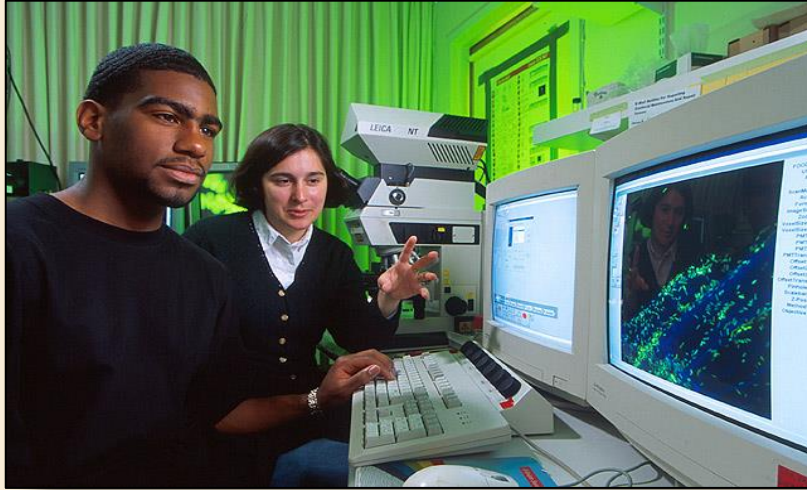
ARS Cooperative Research Funding from University Partners – 2014

Number of Projects	270
Participating Universities	42
Total Funding	\$22.8 million



Measuring arsenic levels in water samples from the Eastern Shore area of Maryland.

Meeting the Future Challenges at ARS



Leading America towards a better future through agricultural research and information.



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