

National Agricultural Library

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Outline

- History/Structure
- Stakeholders/Customers
- Information Centers
- Databases/Resources
- Digital Collections
- Information Tools



NAL - History

- 150 years old in 2012
- Originated as part of the Secretary's Office in 1862 with 1,000 books
- 1920 – 150,000 books
- 1956 – 1.05 million books
- 1982 – 1.7 million books
- Named a National Library in 1962
- Re-located to Beltsville in 1969



The Library Today

- World's largest agricultural library since 1898
- An unparalleled body of knowledge
 - ~ 2.5+ million books
 - ~ 3.5+ million USDA reports
 - ~ 13,000 periodicals
 - ~ 5,500 electronic journals & newspapers
- Ranks 11th for uniqueness among 123 research libraries
 - 166,435 unique book and journal titles
 - ~ 9 times the ARL average of 19,000

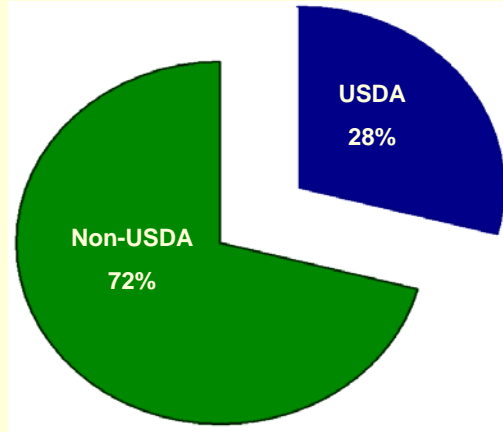


Stakeholders

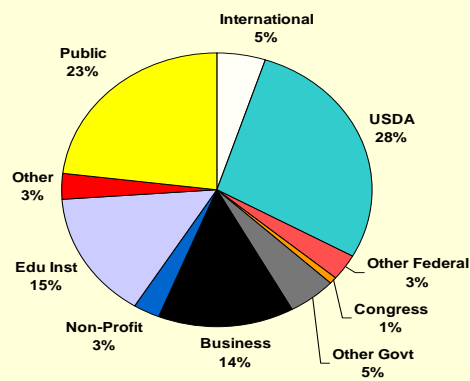
- Scientists & Researchers
 - Academia
 - Government
 - Private industry
- Practitioners
 - Attorneys
 - Dieticians / Nutritionists
 - Engineers
 - Food service professionals
 - Foresters
 - Librarians
 - Veterinarians
- Inspectors / Regulatory personnel
- Producers
 - Agribusiness
 - Farmers
 - Ranchers
- Policy makers
 - Federal
 - State
 - Local
- Educators & Students
 - Graduate
 - Undergraduate
 - K-12
- Consumers / General Public



Customer Questions



Source of Questions



Information Centers

- Alternative Farming Systems
- Animal Welfare
- Food and Nutrition
- Food Safety
- Invasive Species
- Rural
- Water Quality



Databases / Resources

- Tools & Information for the:
 - Professional and practitioner
 - Researcher
 - Consumer
- Subject Areas
 - Food - Nutrition & Safety
 - Rural Life & Farming
 - Natural Resources & Research



Food – Nutrition & Safety

- Nutrition <http://fnic.nal.usda.gov/>
 - www.nutrition.gov
 - SNAP-ED
 - Healthy Meals Resources
- Food Safety <http://fsrio.nal.usda.gov/>
 - Projects
 - Resources



Rural Life & Farming

- Rural Information (<http://ric.nal.usda.gov/>)
 - Links to grants
 - Assistance programs
 - Rural Development resources
- Alternative Farming <http://afsic.nal.usda.gov/>
 - Sustainable agriculture
 - Organic Agriculture
 - Specialty crops (non price support)



Natural Resources & Research

- Animal Welfare <http://awic.nal.usda.gov/>
 - Rules/resources for animals used in research and testing
 - Rules/resources for zoo animals
- Invasive Species <http://www.invasivespeciesinfo.gov/>
 - Database of invasive species
 - News, legal, and research related information
- Water Quality <http://wgic.nal.usda.gov/>
 - Watershed Research
 - Conservation Effects Assessment Project



AGRICOLA

- Index of Agriculture Articles
 - 5 million records
 - Implementing Automated Indexing to significantly increase annual production
- Catalog of NAL's Holdings
 - >1 million books and serials titles
- Access point to NAL's Collections
 - Digital
 - Print

<http://agricola.nal.usda.gov/>



NAL Digital Collections

- Strategic Goal is the mass digitization of our unique historic collections
- Current collection <http://naldc.nal.usda.gov/>
 - USDA authored scholarly articles >45K
 - Historic USDA publications
 - Yearbook of Agricultural
 - Technical Bulletins
 - Pomological Watercolors (7,000+ images)
 - Organic roots (Historic articles on organic farming)



Information Tools

- NAL Thesaurus
 - 49,000 base terms
 - 38,000 cross references
 - Glossary of technical terms
- Parallel version in Spanish
- Available as linked data
- Available in multiple formats
 - MARC, SKOS, PDF, TXT
- <http://agclass.nal.usda.gov/agt.shtml>



The Library's Mission



As the most complete Agricultural Library of the world it should be the mission of this Library to place at the disposal of the various agricultural investigators of this country the reference works which they are unable to obtain from any other institution, in so far as such a policy does not interfere with existing law.

W.P. Cutter, Librarian, (1893-1901)



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Advancing Access to Global
Information for Agriculture



Questions?



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