

FDLC 2008: The NAL Update

We're still alive and kicking!



NATIONAL
AGRICULTURAL
LIBRARY

FDLC Update 10/08 A Pindell

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News Items

- Peter Young, Director leaves NAL on October 31, 2008 to return to the Library of Congress and serve as Head of the Asian Division
- Karl Debus-Lopez, Head, Acquisitions and Collection Development Branch & Chief Collection Development Officer leaves NAL to go to the Library of Congress and serve as Chief of the European Latin American Division of the Acquisitions & Bibliographic Control Directorate

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The Resiliency Advantage!



Definition:

Verb for resilience: Resile

Latin translation: To leap back

Able to recover quickly from misfortune; able to return to original form after being bent; compressed or stretched out of shape. A human ability to recover quickly from disruptive change, or misfortune without being overwhelmed or acting in dysfunctional or harmful ways.

7 Key Skills and Qualities to Strengthen

1. Expect things to work out well

FY 2008 NAL Appropriation

- FY 2009 \$22.410 million permanent; \$513K temporary; Total \$22.922 million.
- USDA Digital Desktop Library (DigiTop) usage increases
- downloaded articles in FY 2008 (7 893,026 in FY 2007)

Budget cut: 0.7% recission from FY 2007 level

Facilities

- NAL achieves energy conservation savings for gas, fuel oil, & electricity

7 Key Skills and Qualities that NAL Continues to Strengthen to Be Resilient

2. Learn, develop, grow

InfoFarm – NAL's Web Blog

- Launched Oct 1, 2007, InfoFarm offers lively conversation on topics of current interest in agriculture
<http://weblogs.nal.usda.gov/infotfarm>

New 2008 NAL Thesaurus

<http://agclass.nal.usda.gov/agt/download.shtml>

- Parallel English and Spanish language versions
- Updated terms, new glossary definitions
- Available in formats (PDF, ASCII, SKOS, MARC, XML)

New terms are welcome! Submit to:

<http://agclass.nal.usda.gov/agt/contact.shtml>

3. Learn from experience constantly

NAL and Biofuels Energy & USDA Energy Research, Education and Extension Strategic Plan

- NAL involved with developing action plans for inventorying systems, models and technologies and is looking for AgNIC, land-grant library partners

7 Key Skills and Qualities that NAL Continues to Strengthen

4. Adapt quickly

AGRICOLA Index

(Focused on USDA-generated information and core agricultural titles)

AGRICOLA has now passed the 5,000,000 record mark

Rearrange Personnel to reflect new work flow

Increase income for public services by partnering with other organizations to create and build information products

Charge back for services and documents to help support NAL

7 Key Skills and Qualities that NAL Continues to Strengthen

5. Have good friendships and relationships

Agriculture Network Information Center (AgNIC) Alliance

- AgNIC member institutions total 65
- Over 150 million combined web hits in FY 2007
- Funded 4 new digitizing projects in FY 2007, continued with 5 from 2006
- AgNIC holds annual meetings
- AgNIC welcomed new member, University of Vermont and adopted a new strategic plan

Maryland AskUsNow! www.askusnow.info virtual reference service – NAL joined March 2008

ALA & SLA Councils pass resolutions in support of the National Agricultural Library

7 Key Skills and Qualities that NAL Continues to Strengthen

6. Use intuition, creative hunches

NAL's Digital Initiatives

AgSpace:

- Over 14,000 USDA-authored articles loaded to AgSpace repository
 - Review by USDA OGC regarding Federal Register notice prior to public launch
- NAL Digital Repository (NAL-DR)
<http://naldr.nal.usda.gov>
 - 337,892 digital reformatted pages of USDA publications
 - Links to full text in AGRICOLA index = 17,956

7. Defend ourselves well

Stakeholder and Partnership Activities:

- NAL working with National Agricultural Research Alliance – Beltsville
- NAL joined International Council for Scientific and Technical Information (ICSTI), www.icsti.org
- NAL issues Blueprint for Success staff discussion paper



ACTION: Continue to be more resilient

NAL has learned to use to the best all skills and opportunities that present themselves. The struggle to bounce back from setbacks has increased the development of our strengths and coping ability.



Doing a lot with a little

NAL has a variety of services, products and activities created to enable better access and use of agricultural information.

The Public Services Division has chosen an entrepreneurial approach to survival. Through collaboration, they are able to provide innovative web sites and services maximizing the dollars and expertise of all involved.

Consequently, 1/3 of the Public Services Division is funded by resources external to NAL's appropriated funds.



Each Center is Unique

- Established to meet specific needs using available resources
 - Size and scope of operation
 - Budget and source of funding
 - Audience and clientele
- Staffed by individuals committed to serving customers



NAL's Information Centers

- Provide unique in-depth access to key agricultural information
 - Comprehensive
 - Customized services
 - Produce information products that both respond to and anticipate customer needs
 - Establish working partnerships/collaborations
 - Educate users through training and outreach
- Enlarge NAL's foundation collection

The National Agricultural Library Information help 24/7

Reference Desk: agref@nal.usda.gov (301) 504-5755

Information Centers:

Alternative Farming:	afsic@nal.usda.gov	504-6559
Animal Welfare:	awic@nal.usda.gov	504-6212
Food & Nutrition:	fnic@nal.usda.gov	504-5414
Food Safety:	fsic@nal.usda.gov	504-5360
Invasive Species	invasivespeciesinfo.gov	504-5510
Rural Information:	ric@nal.usda.gov	1-800-633-7701
Water Quality:	wqic@nal.usda.gov	504-6212

Navigating the NAL Web Offerings

Yvette Alonso is going to share the background of our web presence so that you can use it to the fullest and **Susan Wilzer** will share the secrets of AGRICOLA and our plans for the USDA repository.