

**Agricultural Research Service  
Environmental Management System  
Davis Location Policy Statement**

August, 2007

The Crops Pathology/Genetics Research Unit mission is to develop information on and to solve issues involving the 1) etiology and biology of diseases affecting deciduous fruit/nut trees, grapevine, and strawberry, and development of improved disease management approaches that do not rely on methyl bromide or other pesticides; 2) rice genetics and germplasm enhancement for temperate environments; 3) sustainable management of grapevine diseases and weeds; and 4) sustainable floriculture production systems.

The Western Human Nutrition Research Center strives to improve the health of all Americans by: creating and testing nutrition interventions to improve health; assessing how an individual's environment and genetics affect nutrient metabolism; and providing reliable and reproducible research results for the development of national nutrition policies.

The mission of the National Clonal Germplasm Repository is to collect, preserve, evaluate, and distribute the genetic resources of the crops assigned to us as part of the US National Genetic Resources Program. These resources are preserved to ensure that crop diversity in these species will be available for future generations and to support research efforts in variety development and other areas of plant research.

In conjunction with the missions of the individual Units, the ARS Davis Location is committed to protecting human health and the environment, to meeting or exceeding Federal, State, and local laws, regulations, codes, and guidelines, and to employing sustainable pollution prevention practices. Whenever possible, the Location will utilize pollution prevention initiatives as the means for achieving compliance. We will strive to minimize impacts by considering use of energy saving technologies that come up, by recycling in all areas that are feasible, and continually improve our environmental performance.

This will be achieved by:

- Maintaining a policy of commitment to environmental excellence.
- Developing annual goals, objectives, and targets to advance our program performance in terms of both regulated and unregulated impacts.
- Considering environmental impacts when making policy, planning, purchasing, and operating decisions.
- Identifying and complying with pertinent requirements in Federal, State, and local laws and regulations; permits; Department of Agriculture and ARS policies and procedures; and industry codes that we must adhere to.
- Requesting the necessary resources to successfully carry out our goals, objectives, and targets.
- Making personnel aware of their environmental roles and responsibilities, providing appropriate training, and holding employees accountable for their performance and actions, including recognizing, them for outstanding performance.
- Effectively communicating with employees, partners, stakeholders, customers, and the general public, our commitment to the environment and soliciting their input in developing and achieving our goals and objectives.
- Routinely monitoring our environmental operations and conducting periodic inspections, audits, and reviews to ascertain that we meet applicable standards and to evaluate our program effectiveness.
- Correcting identified deficiencies in a timely manner and taking appropriate steps to prevent their recurrence.
- Clearly documenting and reporting the progress and achievements related to this policy.

**Certifying Official:**  
**Daniel Kluepfel, Location Coordinator**

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**Contact:**  
**Giovanni Bartolini, EMS Coordinator**

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