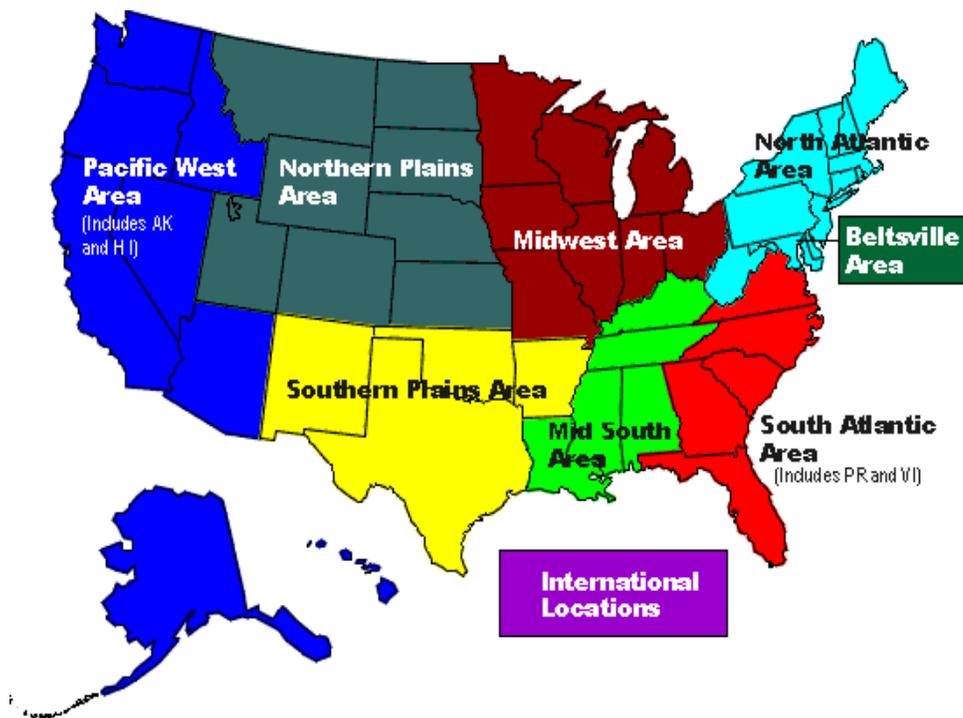


Agricultural Research Service



AREAS

Beltsville Area
Mid-South Area
Midwest Area
North Atlantic Area
Northern Plains Area
Pacific West Area
South Atlantic Area
Southern Plains Area

MISSION

The ARS mission is to develop new knowledge and technology needed to solve technical agricultural problems of broad scope and high national priority in order to ensure adequate production of high-quality food and agricultural products to meet the nutritional needs of the American consumer, to sustain a viable food and agricultural economy, and to maintain a quality environment and natural resource base.