Agricultural Research Service
Outline

- ARS structure & process
- Specialty Crops Research Initiative
- ARS/NGWI Workshop 2007
Profile of the Agricultural Research Service

- Scientific research arm of USDA
- Farm-to-table research scope
- Information and technology transfer
- National Programs
- 1,100+ projects

- FY07 Budget—$1.1 billion
- 9,000+ employees
- 2,500+ scientists
- 100+ laboratory locations
- International collaboration
- Partnerships with other Federal agencies, universities and industry
ARS Mission

ARS conducts research to develop and transfer solutions to agricultural problems of high national priority and provide information access and dissemination to:

- ensure high-quality, safe food, and other agricultural products
- assess the nutritional needs of Americans
- sustain a competitive agricultural economy
- enhance the natural resource base and the environment, and
- provide economic opportunities for rural citizens, communities, and society as a whole.
How Do We Meet Our Mission?

- Through National Programs
  - A National Program is a set of research projects directed toward common goals to solve agricultural problems of high National priority.
    - National Programs are outcome driven, e.g., “A safer food supply”
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<th>Human Nutrition</th>
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Grape Research

30+ projects  $14.5M
ARS National Program Cycle (5 year)

Input

Assessment

Planning

Implementation

RELEVANCE

IMPACT

QUALITY
USDA-ARS Input

Executive and Legislative Branch

Customers, Partners & Stakeholders (Workshops)

ARS Program & Budgeting Priorities

Scientific Communities

Agency Scientists & Managers
Budget Process

- NPS budget proposal to ARS Administrator
- ARS budget proposal to Under-Secretary
- Dept level Budget & Planning to Secretary
- Secretary of Agriculture to OMB
- OMB passback - what can be put forward to President
- President’s Budget – 1st Tues of Feb.
USDA- ARS Planning

- Action Plan (input from customer workshops)
- Program Direction and Resource Allocation Memo (PDRAM)
- Project Plan
- Office of Scientific Quality Review
ARS - Implementation

ADMINISTRATOR

AREA DIRECTOR
Managing funds, personnel, facilities

Research Leader
Lab Director

Scientist

OFFICE OF
TECHNOLOGY
TRANSFER
Managing intellectual property

NATIONAL
PROGRAM
STAFF
National planning and coordination to meet Congressional directives
**ARS - Implementation**

### NATIONAL PROGRAM STAFF
- Judy St. John
- Peter Bretting
- Molly Kretsch
- Sally Schneider
- Kevin Hackett
- Rick Bennett
- Ken Vick
- Dave Klurfeld
- Frank Flora
- Mark Weltz

### AREA DIRECTORS
- Dwayne Buxton – Pacific West
- Wilda Martinez – North Atlantic
- Will Blackburn – Northern Plains
- Dan Upchurch – Southern Plains
- Steve Shafer – Midwest
- Ed King – Mid-South
- Darrell Cole – South Atlantic
- Phyllis Johnson - Beltsville
ARS – Implementation
Key Personnel Changes since 2005

• New Research Leaders
  – Parlier, CA - Jim Leesch – Commodity Protection & Quality
  – Parlier, CA - Drake Stenger – PD/GWSS

• New National Program Leader
  – Sally Schneider
USDA-ARS Assessment

- Review Panel
  - Scientists, industry
  - Did we accomplish what we had planned 5 years earlier?
  - Have those accomplishments had significant impact?
- Assessment Summary presented at Customer/Stakeholder Workshop
Process begins again
Farm Bill - 2007
Specialty Crops Research Initiative
FY08 and Beyond

- USDA proposal
  - $100 million/year for 10 years

- House Ag Committee mark-up
  - Authorized $100M/year for 5 years
  - + $215M over 5 years from CCC
What are “Specialty Crops”?

- Fruits
- Nursery Crops (including Floriculture)
- Tree Nuts
- Dried Fruits
- Vegetables
National Agricultural Research Extension, Education, and Economics (NAREEE) Advisory Board

Specialty Crop Committee

• Authorized by Congress in the Specialty Crops Competitiveness Act of 2004

• Charge is to study the scope of research, extension, and economics programs affecting the Specialty Crops industry
Purpose of the Workshop

- present an update on changes in industry needs and priorities
- present an update on ARS accomplishments in Grape/Wine research
- build collaborative relationships for integrated research projects that span disciplines, locations and sectors
- develop a strategy for future research.
Expected Outcomes

- Learned about the current ARS grape/wine research efforts and developed a better understanding of issues important to the Grape/Wine Industry.

- Identified and prioritized areas for increased research emphasis, emerging issues and critical “gaps” as well as those issues that may be de-emphasized.

- Begun building or expanding collaborative research projects across disciplines, locations, and sectors and strengthened professional and interpersonal relationships with other meeting participants.

- Acquired knowledge, understanding, and contacts that will lead to increased research productivity and relevance to industry needs.
Very brief overview of ARS efforts in each topic area

Primary Focus - Update on ARS research efforts since the 2005 workshop

More details in the breakout session

Discussion
Breakout Sessions

- The meat of the workshop
- 8 Topic Areas
- Identify research needs
- Begin or continue to build teams – build strength on strength
- Logistics after lunch
Caveat

- Some research areas (nutrition, quality) are primarily covered by university researchers – what, if any, is the need or niche for research by ARS?

- In some cases, ARS is conducting research on other commodities
  - Not likely that this work would be re-directed to grape

- Bottom Line – new efforts will need new funds
Tuesday Evening

- Reception
  - Opportunity to continue informal discussions while sampling grapes and grape products
  - Many thanks to Washington Association of Wine Grape Growers for donating the wine for tonight’s reception
Wednesday Morning

- Report outs from the breakout sessions
- Lively Discussion
- Identify next steps
Wednesday Afternoon

- Field Tour
  - ARS and WSU research
  - Buses will leave at 12:15pm SHARP!
    - Directly from the Convention Center
    - No time to return to hotel before buses leave
    - Come dressed for field tour on Wed. morning
    - Remember sun screen, sun glasses, hat
  - Lunch at IAREC – many thanks to Washington State University
- Video Clips
Wednesday Evening

- Reception and Dinner
  - After field tour and Before returning to hotel
  - Desert Wind winery
- Many thanks to Washington Association of Wine Grape Growers and Ste Michelle Wine Estates
What ARS Wants
(researchable questions to solve important problems)

What Industry Needs
(solutions to problems)

Communication

Partnership
On to the Highlights!
Thank You!

Sally Schneider
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