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Historic Milestone for CFC

Cupcake sales, auctions, walkathons, and more—the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) fundraising season is in full swing. In spite of the tough economy, ARS is reaching out with help and hope to millions of people in need.

President Kennedy established CFC 50 years ago as a national giving program for Federal employees. Now comprised of over 200 local campaigns across the United States and abroad, it's become the largest and most successful workplace philanthropic fundraiser in the world! Since 1961, Federal employees have raised nearly \$7 billion.

You can choose from thousands of local, national, or international charities. Make a one-time gift using your credit card, debit card, or electronic check...or arrange a monthly payroll deduction for as little as \$1 a pay period. Seventy percent of CFC's revenue comes from small donations, so every gift counts.

This year's campaign ends on December 15. Act now! Ask your CFC keyworker for more information. ❀

Around ARS



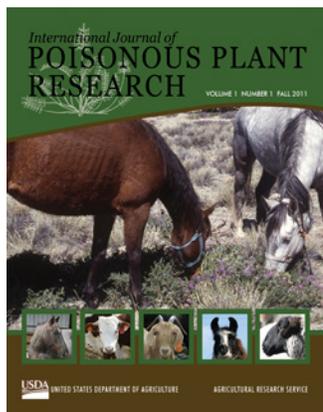
www.ars.usda.gov/yourtwocents

Your Two Cents (Y2C) continues to be an effective feedback tool for ARS employees to reach out to ARS leadership with issues that affect ARS employees. Most recently, Y2C has been used to keep agency employees up-to-date on the FY 2012 budget. Keep visiting Y2C and check the Bulletin Board or the topic buttons on the main page to stay informed! As part of our continued cultural transformation efforts, the [R3 \(Review, Refresh, Reform\) Web site](#) will feature a new theme at the end of November. Visit the site to see what new topics and items are of interest to help you engage! ❀

Researchers at ARS' U.S. Horticultural Research Laboratory in Fort Pierce, FL, have developed and released a new seedless tangerine, called US Early Pride. ARS Plant Physiologist **Greg McCollum** led the research, which was partially funded by New Varieties Development & Management Corporation in Lakeland, FL., a not-for-profit company that works

Please submit story ideas and national award items to Tara T. Weaver-Missick, tara.weavermissick@ars.usda.gov or call 301-504-1663.

to help Florida citrus growers. ARS has filed for patent protection on the new variety. ❖



This month, ARS launched its new online peer-reviewed journal, the *International Journal of Poisonous Plant Research*. It covers the broad field of poisonous plant research, including original studies, case reports, and reviews. The journal, led by an international editorial board drawn from scientists from govern-

ment and academia, is scheduled to be released twice a year in the spring and fall. The editorial board is chaired by Supervisory Research Animal Scientist **Kip Panter** and Research Rangeland Management Specialist **James Pfister**, both with the ARS Poisonous Plant Research Laboratory, Logan, UT. ❖



One of the first scientists in WMRU, Irrigation Engineer **Ralph Parshall** (deceased), demonstrating his Parshall Water Measurement Flume, now used worldwide.

ARS' Water Management Research Unit (WMRU) in Fort Collins, CO, celebrated its 100th anniversary on September 29–30, 2011. The Irrigation Investigations Unit in Fort Collins began in 1911 through a cooperative agreement between the USDA Office of Experiment Stations and the Colorado Agricultural Experiment Station, then part of Colorado Agricultural College (now Colorado State University). The research effort has continued uninterrupted ever since and has resulted in 100 years of Innovation in Irrigation Water Management, the theme of the celebration. More than 100 people attended the celebra-

tion. John Stulp, Special Advisor to the Governor of Colorado, gave the keynote address on anticipated water and agricultural challenges over the next 100 years. ❖



Peter Vadas talks with students about his research.



John Bleier collects samples from a cow.



Heathcliffe Riday talks with a student and his teacher.

Twenty-eight of 37 students said they were more likely to consider a career in agricultural or scientific research after attending the “Scientist for a Day” program organized by the ARS Dairy Forage Research Center, Madison, WI, on October, 11, 2011. Students and teachers participated in hands-on activities presented by Research Dairy Scientist **Mary Beth Hall**; Research Plant Geneticist **Heath-**

cliffe Riday; Research Biochemist/Molecular Geneticist **Mike Sullivan**; Research Agronomist **Geoff Brink**; Research Systems Analyst **Peter Vadas**; Research Agricultural Engineer **Matt Digman**; Mechanical Engineer **Mike Boettcher**; Research Associate **Antonio Faciola**; and Biological Science Lab Technicians **Wendy Radloff**, **Jan Pitas**, **Lisa Koch**, **Jon Bleier**, and **Jim Richmond**. ❖



Ursula Hymes-Fecht scores an FFA student's quiz.



Geoffrey Brink explains the quiz to FFA students.

Members of the ARS USDFRC's Outreach, Diversity, and Equal Opportunity committee recently organized a special event at the World Dairy Expo, held on October 4–8, 2011, in Madison, WI. The staff created interactive activities designed to reach out to the 3,000-plus FFA (also known as Future Farmers of America) members who attended the Expo. More than 800 students took the "FFA Dairy Forage Quiz" and learned about careers in agricultural research. ❀



SoSA volunteers.

The Society of St. Andrew (SoSA), a nonprofit organization (Combined Federal Campaign #12046), received special permission to coordinate a volunteer event on October 7, 2011, to glean the apple orchards at **ARS' Appalachian Fruit Research Station (AFRS)**, Kearneysville, WV. SoSA volunteers from West Virginia and Virginia, and AFRS participated in the event. As a result, approximately 4,000 pounds of apples were gleaned and donated to local food pantries. ❀



Photo Corner



After collecting research data, pumpkins taken from the field were offered to students at area schools.



ARS Biological Technician Diann Baze (standing) provides students with information about pumpkin production.



Lorena Carrasco, USDA's 2011 CFCNCA Campaign Manager; Edith Blackwell, ARS 2011 CFCNCA Campaign Manager; ARS Administrator Ed Knippling; and Sherry Panzer, ARS 2010 CFCNCA Campaign Manager.

Notable Awards



Jonathan Lundgren.

President Obama named Research Entomologist **Jonathan Lundgren**, ARS North Central Agricultural Research Laboratory, Brookings, SD, a recipient of the Presidential Early Career Awards for Scientists and Engineers (PECASE). This is the highest honor bestowed to government science and engineering professionals at this stage in

their careers. He was one of three scientists in the agricultural sciences to receive this prestigious honor. "It is inspiring to see the innovative work being done by these scientists and engineers as they ramp up their careers—careers that I know will be not only personally rewarding, but also invaluable to the Nation," President Obama said in a press release issued on September 26, 2011.

Lundgren has also been awarded the Entomological Society of America's (ESA) Early Career Innovation Award. This award honors outstanding early career entomologists who have demonstrated innovation through contributions in research, teaching, extension, product development, or public service. ❖



The European Corn Borer Team won the ESA Entomological Foundation's Integrated Pest Management Team Award.

Research Entomologist **Rick Hellmich**, ARS Corn

Insects and Crop Genetics Research Unit, Ames, IA, is a member of the team. The award recognizes team effort involving private and public sector scientists that results in a successful Integrated Pest Management approach to controlling an agricultural pest problem. The team documented a \$6.9 billion cumulative benefit to U.S. corn producers resulting from 14 years of areawide suppression of the European corn borer following the adoption of *Bacillus thuringiensis* (Bt) corn. ❖

Acting Center Director and Research Leader **Steven E. Naranjo**, ARS Pest Management and Biological Control Research Unit, Maricopa, AZ, received ESA's Recognition Award in Entomology, sponsored by Syngenta Crop Protection. This award recognizes entomologists who are making outstanding contributions to agriculture. ❖

Postdoctoral Associate **Christelle Guédot**, ARS Yakima Agricultural Research Laboratory, Wapato, WA, received ESA's Henry and Sylvia Richardson Research Grant. This grant provides research funds to postdoctoral ESA members who have at least 1 year of work experience, are undertaking research in selected areas, and have demonstrated a high level of scholarship. Her current research focuses on identifying attractants to control pest insects. ❖

All of the ESA award winners were recognized at ESA's Annual Meeting held on November 13–16, in Reno, NV. ❖

Minority Access, Inc., awarded Research Agronomist **Reginald Fletcher**, ARS Integrated Farming and Natural Resources Research, Weslaco, TX, one of its National Role Model Awards. He is being recognized for training faculty and students from Virginia State University, Elizabeth City State University, Southern University, and Delaware State University, in using geospatial technologies. The award was given at the group's 12th National Role Models Conference in Washington, DC, held on September 30–October 2, 2011. ❖



Kenneth L. Deahl.

Research Plant Pathologist **Kenneth L. Deahl**, ARS Genetic Improvement of Fruits and Vegetables Laboratory, Beltsville, MD, was awarded a Distinguished Alumnus Award by Fairmont State University, Fairmont, WV. He was recognized for his many achievements, especially his international research on vegetable crop diseases. Deahl recently received recognition for 40 years of service to USDA-ARS. ❖



From left to right: Incoming IA President Phil Burkart, Betty Heermann, Tom Trout, Sharon Dedrick, and past IA President Mark Huntley.

The Irrigation Association (IA) selected the **ARS Water Management Research Unit (WMRU)**, Fort Collins, CO, as the recipient of the association's 2011 National Water and Energy Conservation Award. This honor recognizes significant achievement in conserving water and energy relating to irrigation procedures, equipment, methods, and techniques. Research Leader **Thomas Trout** accepted the award on behalf of the unit, along with Betty Heermann, wife of Dale Heermann (deceased), a former WMRU Research Leader; and Sharon Dedrick, wife of Allen Dedrick (deceased), a former ARS Deputy Administrator. The award was presented at the 2011 Irrigation Show in San Diego, CA, on November 7. ❀

Did You Know?

Cranberries are not just popular at holiday time; this berry makes a recurring appearance in many meals year-round. Whether fresh, frozen, dried, canned, or juiced, cranberries can be a complement to your favorite salad, an addition to your main course, or on its own as a dried snack or juice. One thing for sure, this berry has staying power. The cranberry itself has changed little over the last 400-plus years since Americans began mass harvesting it as a crop. Native Americans originally discovered its multiple uses as food, fabric dye, and medicine.

Many people like cranberries' interestingly complex sweet and tangy taste. But this berry, high in vitamin C and loaded with antioxidants, is also a touted medicinal giant. Recent studies have linked cranberry juice with fighting and preventing urinary tract infections in women (Worcester Polytechnic Institute in Massachusetts, 2011). It is also believed to have other health-related benefits due to its high antioxidant content.

However, the American variety that we eat has less "available" antioxidants. Researchers at the ARS Genetic Improvement of Fruits and Vegetables Laboratory and collaborators from the Philip E. Marucci Center for Blueberry and Cranberry Research and Extension in Chatsworth, NJ, are on track for developing a new cranberry variety that may have higher amounts of available antioxidants, like anthocyanins. Anthocyanins are what give cranberries their deep, rich red to burgundy color. So far, ARS' new experimental hybrid, made from traditional breeding, contains 50% more available anthocyanins. The researchers are still trying to perfect an acceptable variety that can be used for wide-scale commercial production.

The U.S. cranberries that grace our tables are grown in cranberry bogs in small pockets of the country—Massachusetts, New Jersey, Oregon, Washington, and Wisconsin. Last year, these cranberry-farming operations combined yielded approximately 6.8 million barrels of cranberries, and this year's crop is projected to yield a record high of 7.5 million barrels.

Love cranberries? Try this recipe this holiday season, and remember to thank an ARS scientist for their efforts!

Happy eating!

Written by [Tara T. Weaver-Missick](#), ARS Information Staff.

Cranberry Bread (Servings: 1 Loaf)

Ingredients:

1/2 C. Butter
 1 Tbs. Grated Orange Peel
 3 Large Eggs, Beaten
 2 1/2 C. Flour
 1 Tsp. Baking Soda
 2 C. Fresh or Frozen Cranberries, Chopped
 1 C. Sugar
 1 Tsp. Vanilla
 3/4 C. Buttermilk
 1/4 Tsp. Salt
 3/4 C. Pecans, Chopped

Method:

Preheat oven to 350°. Spray bottom only of 9" X 5" loaf pan with cooking spray. Beat butter, sugar, orange peel and vanilla in a large bowl until light and fluffy. Add eggs, mixing well. Combine flour, baking soda and salt, add to creamed mixture alternately with buttermilk, beating at low speed just until blended. Fold cranberries and nuts into batter. Turn into prepared pan, spreading evenly. Bake until wooden pick inserted in center comes out clean, about 50 to 60 minutes. Cool slightly in pan. Remove from pan and cool completely on wire rack.

Source: Used with permission from the [Cape Cod Cranberry Growers' Association](#).

