

Please provide a 1-3 sentence description of your organization.

National Association of Wheat Growers (NAWG) is a nonprofit partnership of U.S. wheat growers with a mandate to represent the interests of producers of wheat and biomass energy crops in Congressional legislation, trade and transportation issues, and research related to biotechnology, value-added, and variety improvement. NAWG works with 20 state wheat grower organizations at the state and national levels.

Relative to bioenergy, what are your top problems and which research products (or researchable questions to which you need answers) would help you solve these problems?

Maximizing ethanol production per acre through biomass crops that are adapted to the growing regions of our members at a net income level that supports quality of life for the farm family and the rural community.

What do you think ARS's top bioenergy research priorities should be (no more than five, please)?

- ◆ Develop annual and perennial dedicated biomass crops adapted to a variety of growing regions.
- ◆ Determine the best management practices for the establishment, maintenance, harvesting, and transportation of biomass energy crops.
- ◆ Determine the potential impact of proposed biorefineries on water quality and water quantity
- ◆ Research alternative processing technologies that would allow the farmer to convert his biomass crop into energy at the farm level.

Additional customer service questions:

What might ARS do to serve its customers/stakeholders better?

Continue a dialogue with stakeholders both formally on the 5-year schedule and informally on a more frequent basis so the stakeholders are informed about research projects, progress, and anticipated outcome.

What, in particular, about ARS would lead you to recommend ARS to someone else looking for similar research products?

ARS expertise and ability to assemble multidisciplinary research from both in-house and university scientists.