2027 USDA EXPLANATORY NOTES – AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH SERVICE

Table of Contents

This page was intentionally left blank.

PREFACE

This publication summarizes the fiscal year (FY) 2027 Budget for the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). Throughout this publication any reference to the "Budget" is in regard to the 2027 Budget, unless otherwise noted. All references to years refer to fiscal year, except where specifically noted. The budgetary tables throughout this document show actual amounts for 2024 and 2025; Working Families Tax Cut Act; Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agency Appropriations Act, 2026, and the President's Budget request for 2027. Amounts for 2026 estimated levels include: non-enacted amounts such as Full-Time Equivalent levels, fleet levels, information technology investment levels, recovery levels, transfers in and out, balances available end of year, and obligation levels.

Throughout this publication, the Working Families Tax Cut Act is used to refer to the Public Law 119-21.

Pursuant to the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, sequestration is included in the numbers for mandatory programs in 2024, 2025, 2026 and 2027.

In tables throughout this document, amounts equal to zero (0) are displayed as dashes (-). Amounts less than 0.5 and greater than zero are rounded and shown as a zero (0). This display treatment is used to prevent the masking of small non-zero amounts that do not round up to one (1). Due to rounding, some tables may not sum exactly.

AGENCY-WIDE

PURPOSE STATEMENT

The Agricultural Research Service (ARS) was established on November 2, 1953, pursuant to authority vested in the Secretary of Agriculture by 5 U.S.C. 301 and Reorganization Plan No. 2 of 1953, and other authorities.

ARS is the principal in-house research agency of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). Congress first authorized Federally supported agricultural research in the Organic Act of 1862, which established what is now USDA. That statute directed the Commissioner of Agriculture "to acquire and preserve in his department all information he can obtain by means of books and correspondence, and by practical and scientific experiments." The scope of USDA's agricultural research programs has been expanded and extended more than 60 times since the Department was created.

ARS research is authorized by the Department of Agriculture Organic Act of 1862 (7 U.S.C. 2201 note); Act of June 29, 1935 (7 U.S.C. 427); Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946, as amended (7 U.S.C. 1621 note); Food and Agriculture Act of 1977 (P.L. 95-113), as amended (7 U.S.C. 1281 note); Food Security Act of 1985 (P.L. 99-198) (7 U.S.C. 1281 note); Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990 (P.L. 101-624) (7 U.S.C. 1421 note); Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996 (FAIR) (P.L. 104-127); and Agricultural Research, Extension, and Education Reform Act of 1998 (P.L. 105-185). ARS derived most of its objectives from statutory language, specifically the "Purposes of Agricultural Research, Extension, and Education" set forth in Section 801 of FAIR.

The ARS mission is to deliver scientific solutions to national and global agricultural challenges.

The agency's research programs – New Products/Product Quality/Value Added; Livestock Production, Crop Production; Food Safety; Livestock Protection, Crop Protection; Human Nutrition; and Environmental Stewardship – are described under the "Status of Program" section.

ARS' Headquarters Offices are located in the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area. The agency's research is organized under 15 national programs. Research is conducted at field locations in the United States, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, and several foreign countries. Much of the work is conducted in direct cooperation with State Agricultural Experiment Stations, other State and Federal agencies, and private organizations.

As of September 30, 2025, there were 5,241 permanent full-time employees including 569 in the Headquarters offices and 4,672 in field offices.

ARS activities contribute to the success of USDA's overall mission to provide leadership on food, agriculture, natural resources, rural development, nutrition, and related issues based on public policy, the best available science, and effective management. USDA is currently developing the FY 2026 – 2030 Strategic Plan. A detailed FY 2027 performance plan, including Key Performance Indicators, can be found at https://www.usda.gov/our-agency/about-usda/performance.

OIG AND GAO REPORTS

Table ARS-1. Closed, Implemented OIG Reports

ID	Date Opened	Date Closed	Title	Result
02801-0001-21	03/18/2024	09/02/2025	Agricultural Research Service Midwest Area Facility Condition and Security	OIG provided six Recommendations to enhance the ARS Midwest Area Facility Conditions and Security. ARS addressed all six recommendations to include developing policies, writing security systems plan, conducting a comprehensive assessment of the physical security and designating an employee with the official responsibility to manage the facility's physical security.
50801-0010-12	12/06/2023	11/21/2024	USDA's Security Controls Over Industrial Control System	OIG provided two recommendations. ARS developed, documented, and implemented procedures for inventorying its ICS devices to ensure compliance with USDA directives and NIST requirements. ARS develop, document, and implement procedures for vulnerability management of its ICS devices to ensure vulnerabilities are timely mitigated or reported in accordance with USDA policy.
50601-0011-31	02/14/2024	09/24/2025	USDA's Implementation of the National Bio and Agro-Defense Facility	OIG provided nine Recommendations in response to the Implementation of the National Bio and Agro-Defense Facility. ARS addressed all nine recommendations to include developing policies, providing training, in-depth reviews, and reassessing contract requirements.

Table ARS-2. Closed, Implemented GAO Reports

ID	Date Opened	Date Closed	Title	Result
GAO-25-107328	05/21/2024	12/19/2025	Cloud Seeding Technology: Assessing Effectiveness and Other Challenges	GAO did not provide any recommendations
Job code -107148	12/18/2023	10/17/2024	2022 National Biodefense Strategy	GAO closed this engagement without a published product and did not provide any recommendations.

AVAILABLE FUNDS AND FTES

Table ARS-3. Available Funds and FTEs (thousands of dollars, FTEs)

Item	2024 Actual	FTEs	2025 Actual	FTEs	2026 Enacted	FTEs	2027 Estimated	FTEs
Salaries and Expenses:								
Discretionary Appropriations...	$1,788,563	5,816	$1,788,563	5,599	$1,793,563	4,663	$1,699,044	4,663
Offsetting Collections	1,118	-	1,119	-	-	-	-	-
Buildings and Facilities:								
Discretionary Appropriations...	57,164	-	42,500	-	60,650	-	-	-
Total Discretionary Appropriations.....	1,845,727	5,816	1,831,063	5,599	1,854,213	4,663	1,699,044	4,663
Total Offsetting Collections	1,118	-	1,119	-	-	-	-	-
Total Adjusted Appropriation ..	1,846,845	5,816	1,832,182	5,599	1,854,213	4,663	1,699,044	4,663
Balance Available, SOY	148,407	-	123,802	-	129,443	-	84,317	-
Recoveries, Other	55,573	-	9,201	-	-	-	-	-
Total Available.....	2,050,825	5,816	1,965,185	5,599	1,983,656	4,663	1,783,361	4,663
Lapsing Balances.....	-2,209	-	-6,313	-	-	-	-	-
Balance Available, EOY.....	-123,802	-	-129,443	-	-84,317	-	-21,725	-
Total Obligations.....	1,924,814	5,816	1,829,429	5,599	1,899,339	4,663	1,761,636	4,663
Total Obligations, ARS.....	1,924,814	5,816	1,829,429	5,599	1,899,339	4,663	1,761,636	4,663
Other USDA:								
Agricultural Marketing Service, AMS	1,836	4	-	-	-	-	-	-
Animal & Plant Health Inspection Service, APHIS ...	29,247	59	29,602	49	29,602	49	29,602	49
Commodity Credit Corporation, CCC	792	2	403	1	403	1	403	1
Departmental Administration..	681	1	679	1	679	1	679	1
Economic Research Service, ERS.....	6,410	13	6,526	11	6,526	11	6,526	11
Food & Nutrition Service, FNS.....	926	2	757	1	757	1	757	1
Food Safety & Inspection Services, FSIS	5,497	11	6,217	10	6,217	10	6,217	10
Foreign Agricultural Service, FAS.....	842	2	100	-	100	-	100	-
Forest Service, FS.....	2,268	5	938	2	938	2	938	2
National Agricultural Statistics Service, NASS	9,001	18	9,165	15	9,165	15	9,165	15
National Institute of Food and Agriculture, NIFA	44,095	89	33,435	55	33,435	55	33,435	55
Natural Resources Conservation Service, NRCS	24,313	49	17,347	29	17,347	29	17,347	29

Item	2024 Actual	FTEs	2025 Actual	FTEs	2026 Enacted	FTEs	2027 Estimated	FTEs
Office of the Chief Economist, OCE	138	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Office of the Chief Financial Officer, OCFO	23,553	47	13,188	22	13,188	22	13,188	22
Office of the Chief Information Officer, OCIO	323	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Office of the Secretary	1,301	3	872	1	872	1	872	1
Patent Collections	198	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Quarters and Subsistence	129	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Revocable Permits and Easements	1,124	2	964	2	964	2	964	2
Sale of Animals & Personal Property (Proceeds)	15,326	31	13,888	23	13,888	23	13,888	23
Misc., Other USDA Funds	231	1	293	1	293	1	293	1
Total, Other USDA	168,231	340	134,374	221	134,374	221	134,374	221
Total, Agriculture Available	2,219,056	6,156	2,099,559	5,820	2,118,030	4,884	1,917,735	4,884
Other Federal Funds:								
Agency for International Development	235	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Department of Defense, DOD	1,287	3	533	1	533	1	533	1
Department of Energy, DOE	413	1	759	1	759	1	759	1
Department of Health & Human Services, DHHS	3,016	6	2,193	4	2,193	4	2,193	4
Department of Homeland Security, DHS	366	1	309	1	309	1	309	1
Department of the Interior, DOI	2,318	5	2,267	4	2,267	4	2,267	4
Environmental Protection Agency, EPA	448	1	474	1	474	1	474	1
Federal Emergency Management Agency, FEMA	-	-	371	1	371	1	371	1
National Aeronautics & Space Administration, NASA	616	1	122	1	122	1	122	1
National Gallery of Art	-	-	120	-	120	-	120	-
Misc., Other Federal Funds	117	-	87	-	87	-	87	-
Total, Other Federal	8,817	18	7,233	12	7,233	12	7,233	12
Non-Federal Funds:								
Aarhus University	216	1	200	-	200	-	200	-
Binational Agricultural Research & Development (BARD)	101	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cal Fire	103	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
California Agriculture Export Commission	154	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
California Department of Food & Agriculture	249	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
California Department of Pesticide Regulation	129	-	138	-	138	-	138	-
California Department of Social Services	-197	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
California, State of	1,612	3	1,153	2	1,153	2	1,153	2
California, University of	4,040	8	2,901	5	2,901	5	2,901	5
California Walnut Board	115	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Center for Produce Safety	430	1	107	-	107	-	107	-
Citrus Research & Development Foundation	370	1	432	1	432	1	432	1

Item	2024 Actual	FTEs	2025 Actual	FTEs	2026 Enacted	FTEs	2027 Estimated	FTEs
Citrus Research Board	198	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Clemson University	703	1	223	1	223	1	223	1
Connecticut, University of	551	1	167	-	167	-	167	-
Cornell University	643	1	305	1	305	1	305	1
Cotton Incorporated	801	2	619	1	619	1	619	1
Ducks Unlimited	269	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Earth School Educational Foundation	118	-	123	-	123	-	123	-
Florida Department of Agriculture & Consumer Service	102	-	112	-	112	-	112	-
Florida Department of Citrus	106	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Florida Fish and Wildlife	375	1	243	1	243	1	243	1
Florida, University of	351	1	218	1	218	1	218	1
Georgia, University of	609	1	231	1	231	1	231	1
Idaho, University of	632	1	174	-	174	-	174	-
Illinois, University of	125	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
International Fresh Produce Association	329	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Iowa State University	292	1	195	-	195	-	195	-
Kansas State University	310	1	338	1	338	1	338	1
Maryland, University of	116	-	261	1	261	1	261	1
Massachusetts, University of	23	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Miami Dade County	-	-	234	1	234	1	234	1
Michigan State University	570	1	400	1	400	1	400	1
Minnesota, University of	246	1	127	-	127	-	127	-
Mississippi State University	414	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Missouri, University of	121	-	384	1	384	1	384	1
Monell Chemical Senses Center	979	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
Montana Department of Agriculture	127	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Montana State University	431	1	210	1	210	1	210	1
Montana, State of	113	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
National Pork Board	167	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nebraska, University of	200	1	136	-	136	-	136	-
New Mexico State University	284	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
New Varieties Development & Management	162	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Noble Research Institute	449	1	122	-	122	-	122	-
North Carolina State University	510	1	266	1	266	1	266	1
North Carolina, University of	115	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
North Dakota State University	-	-	144	-	144	-	144	-
Ohio State University	514	1	308	1	308	1	308	1
Oklahoma State University	128	-	109	-	109	-	109	-
Oregon State University	148	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pennsylvania State University	584	1	133	-	133	-	133	-
Pennsylvania, University of	653	1	611	1	611	1	611	1
Purdue University	-	-	121	-	121	-	121	-
Raisin Administrative Committee	148	-	151	-	151	-	151	-
Root Applied Sciences	158	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Smith Bucklin Corporation	1,691	3	2,063	3	2,063	3	2,063	3
South Florida Water Management District	991	2	570	1	570	1	570	1
Southern California,	-	-	119	-	119	-	119	-

Item	2024 Actual	FTEs	2025 Actual	FTEs	2026 Enacted	FTEs	2027 Estimated	FTEs
University of								
Southern Mississippi, University of	127	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Southwest Florida Water Management	107	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Synergistic Hawaii Agric Council	174	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tennessee State University	-	-	142	-	142	-	142	-
Texas A&M University (TAMU)	410	1	242	1	242	1	242	1
Texas Tech University	173	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
United Soybean Board	959	2	730	1	730	1	730	1
Virginia Polytechnic Institute	310	1	115	-	115	-	115	-
Virginia State University	113	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Washington, State of	-	-	160	-	160	-	160	-
Washington State Department of Agriculture	253	1	495	1	495	1	495	1
Washington State University	725	1	733	1	733	1	733	1
Western Illinois University	157	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Winrock International	112	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wisconsin, University of	175	1	190	-	190	-	190	-
Woman's Texas University	126	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Misc., Non-Federal Funds	2,507	5	2,116	3	2,116	3	2,116	3
Total, Non-Federal	30,306	62	19,268	32	19,268	32	19,268	32
Miscellaneous Contributed Funds:	19,060	49	16,047	37	16,047	37	16,047	37
Total Available, ARS	2,277,238	6,285	2,142,109	5,901	2,160,580	4,965	1,960,285	4,965

PERMANENT POSITIONS BY GRADE AND FTES

Table ARS-4. Permanent Positions by Grade and FTEs

Item	2024 Actual			2025 Actual			2026 Enacted			2027 Estimated		
	HQ	Field	Total	HQ	Field	Total	HQ	Field	Total	HQ	Field	Total
SES	11	20	31	14	19	33	13	16	29	13	16	29
GS-15	53	712	765	133	628	761	120	517	637	120	517	637
GS-14	74	374	448	98	377	475	88	311	399	88	311	399
GS-13	186	357	543	148	456	604	133	376	509	133	376	509
GS-12	149	401	550	124	390	514	112	321	433	112	321	433
GS-11	68	431	499	110	460	570	99	379	478	99	379	478
GS-10	-	4	4	-	2	2	-	2	2	-	2	2
GS-9	44	967	1,011	101	969	1,070	91	798	889	91	798	889
GS-8	11	304	315	30	302	332	27	249	276	27	249	276
GS-7	46	496	542	64	501	565	58	413	471	58	413	471
GS-6	9	188	197	17	144	161	15	119	134	15	119	134
GS-5	7	92	99	9	75	84	8	62	70	8	62	70
GS-4	3	20	23	2	11	13	2	9	11	2	9	11
GS-3	-	10	10	-	10	10	-	8	8	-	8	8
GS-2	-	4	4	1	3	4	1	2	3	1	2	3
GS-1	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Graded	5	-	5	79	397	476	71	327	398	71	327	398
Ungraded	-	491	491	15	31	46	14	26	40	14	26	40
Total Permanent	666	4,872	5,538	945	4,775	5,720	852	3,935	4,787	852	3,935	4,787
Unfilled, EOY	103	51	154	376	103	479	377	105	482	377	105	482
Total Perm. FT EOY	563	4,821	5,384	569	4,672	5,241	475	3,830	4,305	475	3,830	4,305
FTE	690	5,595	6,285	502	5,399	5,901	408	4,557	4,965	408	4,557	4,965

VEHICLE FLEET

Motor Vehicle Fleet

The 2027 Budget Estimates propose two planned replacements of owned passenger motor vehicles. Passenger motor vehicles are defined as sedans and station wagons.

Professional research and technical personnel primarily use the ARS motor vehicle fleet in conjunction with research studies and technical assistance. To conduct daily work, research personnel travel between agricultural research sites, state agricultural experiment stations, farms, ranches, commercial firms, and others. Most of these sites are in rural locations and require a high degree of mobility through various types of terrain and weather conditions. Use of common carriers is not feasible. Studies of cost requirements between private and government vehicles show that it is more economical to use government vehicles than to reimburse employees for the use of private vehicles.

It is ARS policy to pool vehicle use to keep the number of vehicles to a minimum. In FY 24 ARS conducted a utilization study resulting in a decrease in fleet size. Not all vehicles identified for disposal were removed from the fleet before the end of the fiscal year therefore we continued to see additional decreases in FY25. ARS implemented Fed Ramp compliant telematics devices in FY 24 and early FY 25 which captures utilization data in real time and will improve data accuracy. ARS will continue to perform periodic surveys to help identify underutilized vehicles that may no longer be needed for the mission. During the biennial physical inventory process, ARS works to ensure inactive vehicles are removed from the inventory according to Federal property management regulations. ARS program managers are responsible for managing budgets and program needs to fulfill the agency's research mission. Vehicle replacement is based on program management, vehicle mileage/age, and funding. By Federal regulation, minimum replacement standards for passenger vehicles are three years or 60,000 miles, and light duty trucks are six years or 50,000 miles.

The composition of the ARS fleet is primarily work trucks which include sport utility vehicles, vans, and pick-up trucks. These multi-purpose type vehicles enable research personnel to move equipment and transport personnel. Past practices have allowed ARS to decrease the number of passenger vehicles by relying on multi-purpose type vehicles. ARS will continue to review its fleet for opportunities to reduce vehicles no longer required for the mission, realign vehicles where it is necessary without affecting the mission and control operating costs. The agency continues to review inventory information to accurately classify the fleet.

Replacement Criteria

ARS replaces vehicles based on utilization, maintenance costs, operating costs, and mission needs. ARS evaluates the vehicle being turned in against the proposed replacement to compare gains in fuel efficiency, increased safety features, and to ensure like for like replacement or a for a valid justification for an upgrade in size or capabilities.

Reductions to Fleet

ARS plans to reduce the vehicle fleet by five in 2027. This reduction is made possible by the reduced maintenance requirements of the vehicles acquired over the past four years.

Table ARS-5. Size, Composition, and Annual Costs of Motor Vehicle Fleet

Item	Sedans and Station Wagons	Vans	SUVs	Light Trucks 4X2	Light Trucks 4X4	Medium Duty Vehicles	Buses	Heavy Duty Vehicles	Total Vehicles	Annual Operating Costs
2018 End of Year Operating Inventory.....	**205**	**245**	**738**	**438**	**596**	**722**	**3**	**163**	**3,110**	**$4,628**
2024 End of Year Operating Inventory.....	**126**	**151**	**664**	**326**	**613**	**736**	**1**	**150**	**2,767**	**4,850**
2025 Actual Acquisitions.....	5	6	30	10	43	20	-	7	121	
2025 Actual Disposals	16	7	63	37	26	34	-	6	189	
2025 End of Year Operating Inventory.....	**115**	**150**	**631**	**299**	**630**	**722**	**1**	**151**	**2,699**	**4,601**
2026 Planned Acquisitions	2	11	48	15	41	37	-	7	161	
2026 Planned Disposals.....	2	11	48	15	41	37	-	7	161	
2026 End of Year Operating Inventory.....	**115**	**150**	**631**	**299**	**630**	**722**	**1**	**151**	**2,699**	**4,886**
2027 Planned Acquisitions	2	2	27	9	41	51	-	1	133	
2027 Planned Disposals.....	2	2	27	9	41	51	-	1	133	
2027 End of Year Operating Inventory.....	**115**	**150**	**631**	**299**	**630**	**722**	**1**	**151**	**2,699**	**5,215**

Table ARS-6. Statement of Proposed Acquisition of Passenger Motor Vehicles

Statement of Proposed Acquisition of Passenger Motor Vehicles

Fiscal Year	Net Active Fleet, SOY	Disposals	Replacements	Additions	Total Acquisitions	Net Active Fleet, EOY
2024	126	16	6	-	6	116
2025	116	16	5	-	5	105
2026	105	2	2	-	2	105
2027	105	2	2	-	2	105

SHARED FUNDING PROJECTS

Table ARS-7. Shared Funding Projects (thousands of dollars)

Item	2024 Actual	2025 Actual	2026 Estimated	2027 Estimated
Working Capital Fund:				
Administrative Services:				
AskUSDA	$402	$398	-	-
Fleet Charge Card Services	-	38	22	22
General Counsel Legal Compliance	-	134	1,655	1,655
Human Resources Enterprise Management Systems	1,041	1,146	1,035	1,030
Integrated Procurement Systems	1,927	1,885	1,510	1,510
Mail and Reproduction Management Division	665	639	450	455
Material Management Service Center	329	302	208	210
Procurement Operations Division	56	49	23	23
Subtotal	4,420	4,591	4,903	4,905
Communications:				
Creative Media & Broadcast Center	208	190	160	160
Finance and Management:				
Financial Shared Services	6,904	7,090	5,059	5,063
Internal Control Support Services	98	100	147	148
National Finance Center	2,167	2,060	1,924	1,924
Personnel and Document Security Program	331	383	351	-
Subtotal	9,500	9,633	7,481	7,135
Information Technology:				
Client Experience Center	24,240	25,703	20,378	20,329
Department Admin Information Technology Office	-	29	-	-
Digital Infrastructure Services Center	9,580	6,081	7,804	7,804
Enterprise Cybersecurity Services	4,263	4,702	4,484	4,484
Enterprise Data and Analytics Services	3,359	3,188	6,311	6,319
Enterprise Network Services	9,671	9,994	6,616	6,616
Subtotal	51,113	49,697	45,593	45,552
Correspondence Management Services:				
Office of the Executive Secretariat	92	29	23	23
Total, Working Capital Fund	65,333	64,140	58,160	57,775
Department-Wide Shared Cost Programs:				
Agency Partnership Outreach	428	444	246	259
America's Agricultural Heritage	-	-	38	30
Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Accessibility	152	34	-	-
Employee Experience	216	171	19	-
Medical Services	137	-	-	-
National Capital Region Interpreting Services	129	137	144	144
OCFO Shared Services Branch	-	-	44	78
Office of Customer Experience	174	86	7	-
Physical Security	274	360	175	177
Security Detail	311	485	1,046	1,059
Security Operations Program	434	421	477	477
Talent Group	193	206	25	-
TARGET Center	94	99	82	82
Total, Department-Wide Reimbursable Programs	2,542	2,443	2,303	2,306
Agency Total	67,875	66,583	60,463	60,081

This page was intentionally left blank.

ACCOUNT 1: SALARIES AND EXPENSES

APPROPRIATIONS LANGUAGE

The appropriations language follows (new language underscored; deleted matter enclosed in brackets):

Salaries and Expenses

For necessary expenses of the Agricultural Research Service and for acquisition of lands by donation, exchange, or purchase at a nominal cost not to exceed $100,000 and with prior notification [and approval of]to the Committees on Appropriations of both Houses of Congress, and for land exchanges where the lands exchanged shall be of equal value or shall be equalized by a payment of money to the grantor which shall not exceed 25 percent of the total value of the land or interests transferred out of Federal ownership, [$1,793,063,000, which shall be for the purposes, and in the amounts, specified in the table titled "Agricultural Research Service Salaries and Expenses" in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act)]$1,699,044,000: *Provided*, That appropriations hereunder shall be available for the operation and maintenance of aircraft and the purchase of not to exceed one for replacement only: *Provided further*, That appropriations hereunder shall be available pursuant to 7 U.S.C. 2250 for the construction, alteration, and repair of buildings and improvements, but unless otherwise provided, the cost of constructing any one building shall not exceed $500,000, except for headhouses or greenhouses which shall each be limited to $1,800,000, except for 10 buildings to be constructed or improved at a cost not to exceed $1,100,000 each, and except for four buildings to be constructed at a cost not to exceed $5,000,000 each, and the cost of altering any one building during the fiscal year shall not exceed 10 percent of the current replacement value of the building or $500,000, whichever is greater: Provided further, That appropriations hereunder shall be available for entering into lease agreements at any Agricultural Research Service location for the construction of a research facility by a non-Federal entity for use by the Agricultural Research Service and a condition of the lease shall be that any facility shall be owned, operated, and maintained by the non-Federal entity and shall be removed upon the expiration or termination of the lease agreement[: *Provided further*, That the limitations on alterations contained in this Act shall not apply to modernization or replacement of existing facilities at Beltsville, Maryland]: *Provided further*, That the foregoing limitations shall not apply to replacement of buildings need to carry out the Act of April 24, 1948 (21 U.S.C.113a): *Provided further*, That appropriations hereunder shall be available for granting easements at any Agricultural Research Service location for the construction of a research facility by a non-Federal entity for use by, and acceptable to, the Agricultural Research Service and a condition of the easements shall be that upon completion the facility shall be accepted by the Secretary, subject to the availability of funds herein, if the Secretary finds that acceptance of the facility is in the interest of the United States: *Provided further*, That funds may be received from any State, other political subdivision, organization, or individual for the purpose of establishing or operating any research facility or research project of the Agricultural Research Service, as authorized by law[: *Provided further*, That no later than 60 days from the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall provide a report to the Committees on Appropriations of both House of Congress that outlines the current funding levels, staffing levels, and hiring plans in fiscal year 2026 for each research unit: Provided further, That the Secretary shall include in the department's fiscal year 2027 budget request estimates for funding levels, staffing levels, and hiring plans for each research unit: Provided further, That appropriations hereunder shall be available for the Experienced Services Program at the Agricultural Research Service (16 U.S.C. 3851)].

Change Description

The first change (line 2 of paragraph 1) deletes "and the approval of language".

The second change (line 6 of paragraph 1) deletes the 2026 appropriation amount and replaces it with the 2027 appropriation amount.

The third change (line 6 of paragraph 1) deletes language included in the 2026 Budget referencing the Agricultural Research Salaries and Expenses table.

The fourth change (line 22 of paragraph 1) deletes language included in the 2026 Budget referencing the facilities at Beltsville, Maryland.

The fifth change (line 33 of paragraph 1) deletes language included in the 2026 Budget referencing reporting requirements to Congress.

LEAD-OFF TABULAR STATEMENT

Table ARS-8. Lead-Off Tabular Statement (in dollars)

Item	Amount
Enacted, 2026	$1,793,063,000
Change in Appropriation	-94,019,000
Budget Estimate, 2027	1,699,044,000

PROJECT STATEMENTS

Table ARS-9. Project Statement on Basis of Appropriations (thousands of dollars, FTEs) [1]

Item	2024 Actual	FTEs	2025 Actual	FTEs	2026 Enacted	FTEs	2027 Estimated	FTEs	Inc. or Dec.	FTE Inc. or Dec.
Discretionary Approp:										
Salaries and Expenses	$1,788,063	5,816	$1,788,063	5,599	$1,793,063	4,663	$1,699,044	4,663	$94,019	-
GP - Kelp/Seagrass	500	-	500	-	500	-	-	-	-500	-
Subtotal	1,788,563	5,816	1,788,563	5,599	1,793,563	4,663	1,699,044	4,663	-94,519	-
Offsetting Collections:										
Concession Fees	48	-	49	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Vehicle Sales	1,070	-	1,070	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Subtotal	1,118	-	1,119	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total AdjApprop	1,789,681	5,816	1,789,682	5,599	1,793,563	4,663	1,699,044	4,663	-94,519	-
Add back:										
Transfers In and Out, Rescissions	-1,118	-	-1,119	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sequestration	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Appropriation	1,788,563	5,816	1,788,563	5,599	1,793,563	4,663	1,699,044	4,663	-94,519	-
Transfers In:										
Concession Fees	48	-	48	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Vehicle Sales	1,070	-	1,070	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Transfers In	1,118	-	1,118	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bal. Available, SOY	1,581	-	1,606	-	1,597	-	-	-	-1,597	-
Total Available	1,791,262	5,816	1,791,287	5,599	1,795,160	4,663	1,699,044	4,663	-96,116	-
Lapsing Balances	-2,209	-	-6,313	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bal. Available, EOY	-1,605	-	-1,597	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Obligations	1,787,448	5,816	1,783,377	5,599	1,795,160	4,663	1,699,044	4,663	-96,116	-
Staff Years:										
Direct		5,816		5,599		4,663		4,663	-	
Other		469		302		302		302	-	
Total, Staff Years		6,285		5,901		4,965		4,965	-	

[1] This table does not match MAX Schedule X due to reimbursables.

Table ARS-10. Funding Detail on Basis of Appropriations (thousands of dollars, FTEs)

Allocations	2024 Actual	FTEs	2025 Actual	FTEs	2026 Enacted	FTEs	2027 Estimated	FTEs	Inc. or Dec.	FTEs	Chg Key
Salaries and Expenses											
New Product Quality/Value Added	$136,720	541	$136,720	516	$137,099	432	130,743	432	-$6,356	-	(1A)
Livestock Production	145,906	447	145,906	426	145,285	358	128,983	358	$16,302	-	(2A)
Crop Production	357,754	1,158	357,754	1,103	360,783	925	360,898	925	$115	-	(3A)
Food Safety	133,776	711	133,776	711	132,747	568	133,811	568	$1,064	-	(4A)
Livestock Protection	154,093	455	154,093	434	148,516	364	142,117	364	-$6,399	-	(5A)
Crop Protection	251,857	850	251,857	810	251,208	679	221,022	679	$30,186	-	(6A)
Human Nutrition	131,141	331	131,141	331	131,020	264	128,842	264	-$2,178	-	(7A)
Environmental Stewardship	302,535	1,168	302,535	1,113	305,624	933	271,847	933	$33,777	-	(8A)
National Agricultural Library	29,579	73	29,579	73	30,079	58	30,079	58	$0	-	
National Bio and Agro-Defense Facility (O&M)	121,558	82	121,558	82	127,558	82	127,558	82	$0	-	
Repair and Maintenance	23,144	-	23,144	-	23,144	-	23,144	-	$0	-	
Total Allocations	1,788,063	5,816	1,788,063	5,599	1,793,063	4,663	1,699,044	4,663	-94,019	-	

Table ARS-11. Project Statement on Basis of Obligations (thousands of dollars, FTEs) [2]

Item	2024 Actual	FTEs	2025 Actual	FTEs	2026 Enacted	FTEs	2027 Estimated	FTEs	Inc. or Dec.	FTE Inc. or Dec.
Discretionary Obligations:										
Salaries and Expenses	$1,786,924	5,816	$1,782,820	5,599	$1,794,660	4,663	$1,699,044	4,663	$95,616	-
GP-Kelp/Seagrass	500	-	500	-	500	-	-	-	-500	-
Subtotal Disc Obligations	1,787,424	5,816	1,783,320	5,599	1,795,160	4,663	1,699,044	4,663	-96,116	-
Offsetting Collections:										
Concession Fees	24	-	57	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Subtotal Offsetting Collections	24	-	57	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Obligations	1,787,448	5,816	1,783,377	5,599	1,795,160	4,663	1,699,044	4,663	-96,116	-
Addback:										
Lapsing Balances	2,209	-	6,313	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Balances Available, EOY:										
Balance Available, EOY	1,605	-	1,597	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Bal. Available, EOY	1,605	-	1,597	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Available	1,791,262	5,816	1,791,287	5,599	1,795,160	4,663	1,699,044	4,663	-96,116	-
Less:										
Total Transfers In	-1,118	-	-1,118	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bal. Available, SOY	-1,581	-	-1,606	-	-1,597	-	-	-	1,597	-
Total Appropriation	1,788,563	5,816	1,788,563	5,599	1,793,563	4,663	1,699,044	4,663	-94,519	-

[2] This table does not match MAX Schedule X due to reimbursables.

Table ARS-12. Funding Detail on Basis of Obligations (thousands of dollars, FTEs)

Allocations	2024 Actual	FTEs	2025 Actual	FTEs	2026 Enacted	FTEs	2027 Estimated	FTEs	Inc. or Dec.	FTEs
Salaries & Expenses										
New Product Quality/Value Added	$135,930	541	$136,245	516	$137,312	432	130,743	432	-$6,569	-
Livestock Production	144,447	447	145,399	426	145,513	358	128,983	358	-16,530	-
Crop Production	359,706	1,158	356,511	1,103	361,337	925	360,898	925	-439	-
Food Safety	134,356	711	133,776	711	132,747	568	133,811	568	+1,064	-
Livestock Protection	154,398	455	153,558	434	148,757	364	142,117	364	-6,640	-
Crop Protection	251,780	850	250,982	810	251,601	679	221,022	679	-30,579	-
Human Nutrition	129,938	331	131,141	331	131,020	264	128,842	264	-2,178	-
Environmental Stewardship	302,612	1,168	301,484	1,113	306,092	933	271,847	933	-34,245	-
National Agricultural Library	29,579	73	29,579	73	30,079	58	30,079	58	-	-
National Bio and Agro-Defense Facility (Operations & Maintenance)	121,558	82	121,558	82	127,558	82	127,558	82	-	-
Repair and Maintenance	23,144	-	23,144	-	23,144	-	23,144	-	-	-
Total Allocations	**1,787,448**	**5,816**	**1,783,377**	**5,599**	**1,795,160**	**4,663**	**1,699,044**	**4,663**	**-96,116**	**-**

JUSTIFICATION OF CHANGES

Salaries and Expenses

ARS is requesting $1,699,044,000 in 2027 for its Salaries and Expenses account, a decrease of $94,019,000 from 2026.

The 2027 Budget requests $1,699,044,000 for the ARS Salaries and Expenses account, representing a decrease of $94,019,000 from the agency's 2026 operating level. The proposal includes a $60,000,000 increase to establish a competitive-style program, where labs will compete with one another for funding. Additionally, the Budget recommends program reductions of $153,063,000 from ongoing research projects and elimination of the Climate Hubs. It also proposes transferring $956,000 in National Security related expenses to the Office of Homeland Security. Finally, the Budget proposes the closure of four ARS locations and the consolidation of their resources with other existing ARS laboratories and locations.

In accordance with administration policy announced in the Budget, ARS will follow new government-wide grants guidance prohibiting the use of Federal funds to pay for subscriptions to academic journals, as well as for the publication of research results that are not specifically required by Federal statute or approved in advance by a Federal agency. This policy preserves funds to support actual research by ensuring that the American taxpayer does not pay for the research, publication, and access to that research, essentially triple-charging the public for the same product.

New Products/Product Quality/Value Added

(1) A decrease of $6,356,000 and 0 FTEs for New Products/Product Quality/Value Added research ($137,099,000 and 432 FTEs available in 2026).

ARS' New Products/Product Quality/Value Added research program is directed toward: Improving the efficiency and reducing the cost for the conversion of agricultural products into biobased products and biofuels; developing new and improved products for domestic and foreign markets; and providing higher quality, healthy foods that satisfy consumer needs in the United States and abroad.

Base funding supports ARS' program goals of increasing the economic viability and competitiveness of U.S. agriculture by maintaining and/or enhancing the quality of harvested agricultural commodities; and expanding domestic and global market opportunities through the development of value-added food and nonfood technologies and products including energy and

fuels. ARS' New Products/Product Quality/Value Added research program is carried out at numerous locations where agency scientists frequently collaborate with researchers from other Federal/State governments, academia, and private industry.

The funding change is requested for the following items:

A) An increase of $5,102,000 and 0 FTEs for a Competition-Based Pilot Program.
This is a crosscutting, multidisciplinary initiative that supports the following programs: New Products/Product Quality/Value Added, Livestock Production, Crop Production, Food Safety, Livestock Protection, Crop Protection, Human Nutrition, and Environmental Stewardship. A full description of the initiative is presented on the title page, "Crosscutting/Multidisciplinary Initiative" at the conclusion of the "Justification of Changes."

B) A decrease of $11,377,000 from ongoing research projects to support higher priority research.

The goal of ARS' research programs is to make the most effective use of taxpayer dollars within available resources. In order to respond to priority national needs, it is often necessary to reset priorities within the existing portfolio of projects. As a result, some projects no longer qualify for continued support.

C) A decrease of $81,000 for National Security Related Expenses being transferred to the Office of Homeland Security.

The decrease in funds of $81,000 for National Security related expenses, being realigned to the Office of Homeland Security (OHS), will enhance efficiency and effectiveness within USDA. This strategic realignment will centralize resources under OHS, which provides leadership in national security through policy development, emergency preparedness and response initiatives, and threat mitigation coordination. Consolidating the budget under OHS eliminates redundancies, ensures more coordinated resource allocation, and improves the execution of departmental security policies, ultimately bolstering the USDA's resilience and readiness without compromising overall security.

Livestock Production

(2) A decrease of $16,302,000 and 0 FTEs for Livestock Production research ($145,285,000 and 358 FTEs available in 2026).

ARS' Livestock Production research program is directed toward fostering an abundant, safe, nutritionally wholesome, and competitively priced supply of animal products produced in a viable,competitive, and sustainable animal agriculture sector of the U.S. economy by safeguarding and utilizing animal genetic resources, associated genetic and genomic databases, and bioinformatic tools; developing a basic understanding of food animal physiology to address priority issues related to animal production, animal well-being, and product quality and healthfulness; and developing information, best management practices, novel and innovative tools, and technologies that improve animal production systems, enhance human health, and ensure domestic food security. The research is heavily focused on the development and application of genomics technologies to increase the efficiency and product quality of beef, dairy, swine, poultry, aquaculture, and sheep systems. Areas of emphasis include increasing the efficiency of nutrient utilization, increasing reproductive rates and breeding animal longevity, developing and evaluating non-traditional production systems (e.g., organic and natural), and evaluating and conserving animal genetic resources.

Base funding supports ARS' program goal of providing scientific information and biotechnologies that will ensure an abundant supply of competitively priced animal and aquaculture products.

This includes developing genome analysis tools; identifying economically important genetic traits; preserving agricultural animal genetic resources; improving the efficiency of nutrient utilization and conversion of feeds and forages to animal products; enhancing reproductive performance; and improving aquaculture production systems. ARS' Livestock Production research program is carried out at numerous locations where agency scientists frequently collaborate with researchers from other Federal/State governments, academia,and private industry.

The funding change is requested for the following items:

A) An increase of $5,407,000 for a Competition-Based Pilot Program.

This is a crosscutting, multidisciplinary initiative that supports the following programs: New Products/Product Quality/Value Added, Livestock Production, Crop Production, Food Safety, Livestock Protection, Crop Protection, Human Nutrition, and Environmental Stewardship. A full description of the initiative is presented on the title page, "Crosscutting/Multidisciplinary Initiative" at the conclusion of the "Justification of Changes."

B) A decrease of $21,623,000 from ongoing research projects to support higher priority research.

The goal of ARS' research programs is to make the most effective use of taxpayer dollars within available resources. In order to respond to priority national needs, it is often necessary to reset priorities within the existing portfolio of projects. As a result, some projects no longer qualify for continued support.

C) A decrease of $86,000 for National Security Related Expenses being transferred to the Office of Homeland Security.

The decrease in funds of $86,000 for National Security related expenses, being realigned to the Office of Homeland Security (OHS), will enhance efficiency and effectiveness within USDA. This strategic realignment will centralize resources under OHS, which provides leadership in national security through policy development, emergency preparedness and response initiatives, and threat mitigation coordination. Consolidating the budget under OHS eliminates redundancies, ensures more coordinated resource allocation, and improves the execution of departmental security policies, ultimately bolstering the USDA's resilience and readiness without compromising overall security.

Crop Production

(3) An increase of $115,000 and 0 FTEs for Crop Production research ($360,783,000 and 925 FTEs available in 2026).

ARS' Crop Production research program focuses on developing and improving ways to reduce crop losses while protecting and ensuring a safe and affordable food supply. The program concentrates on production strategies that are safe to consumers, and compatible with sustainable and profitable crop production systems. Research activities are directed at safeguarding and utilizing plant genetic resources and their associated genetic, genomic, and bioinformatic databases that facilitate selection of varieties and/or germplasm with significantly improved traits. Research activities attempt to minimize the impacts of crop pests while maintaining healthy crops and safe commodities that can be sold in markets throughout the world. The agency is conducting research to discover and exploit naturally occurring and engineered genetic mechanisms for plant pest control, develop agronomic germplasm with durable defensive traits, and transfer genetic resources for commercial use. ARS provides taxonomic information on invasive species that strengthens prevention techniques, aids in the

detection/identification of invasive pests, and increases control through management tactics that restore habitats and biological diversity.

Base funding supports ARS' program goals of protecting, expanding, and enhancing the Nation's crop genetic resources; increasing scientific knowledge of crop genes, genomes, and biological systems; and delivering technologies that improve the production efficiency, quality, health, and value of the Nation's crops. This includes developing and maintaining genome databases and informatics tools; managing plant and microbial genetic resources; assessing systematic relationships; enhancing and releasing improved genetic resources and varieties; improving bee health; developing integrative strategies for managing pests, soil, water, nutrient and environmental factors for optimal yield; and determining the biological processes that improve crop productivity. ARS' Crop Production research program is carried out at numerous locations where agency scientists frequently collaborate with researchers from other Federal/State governments, academia, and private industry.

The funding change is requested for the following items:

A) An increase of $13,425,000 for a Competition-Based Pilot Program.
This is a crosscutting, multidisciplinary initiative that supports the following programs: New Products/Product Quality/Value Added, Livestock Production, Crop Production, Food Safety, Livestock Protection, Crop Protection, Human Nutrition, and Environmental Stewardship. A full description of the initiative is presented on the title page, "Crosscutting/Multidisciplinary Initiative" at the conclusion of the "Justification of Changes."

B) A decrease of $12,907,000 from ongoing research projects to support higher priority research.

The goal of ARS' research programs is to make the most effective use of taxpayer dollars within available resources. In order to respond to priority national needs, it is often necessary to reset priorities within the existing portfolio of projects. As a result, some projects no longer qualify for continued support.

C) A decrease of $189,000 from Climate Hubs.

The goal of ARS' research programs is to make the most effective use of taxpayer dollars within available resources. In order to respond to priority national needs, it is often necessary to reset priorities within the existing portfolio of projects. As a result, some projects no longer qualify for continued support.

D) A decrease of $214,000 for National Security Related Expenses being transferred to the Office of Homeland Security.

The decrease in funds of $214,000 for National Security related expenses, being realigned to the Office of Homeland Security (OHS), will enhance efficiency and effectiveness within USDA. This strategic realignment will centralize resources under OHS, which provides leadership in national security through policy development, emergency preparedness and response initiatives, and threat mitigation coordination. Consolidating the budget under OHS eliminates redundancies, ensures more coordinated resource allocation, and improves the execution of departmental security policies, ultimately bolstering the USDA's resilience and readiness without compromising overall security.

Food Safety

(4) An increase of $1,064,000 and 0 FTEs for Food Safety research ($132,747,000 and 568 FTEs available in 2026).

ARS' Food Safety research program is designed to yield science-based knowledge on the safe production, storage, processing, and handling of plant and animal products, and on the detection and control of pathogenic bacteria and fungi, parasites, chemical contaminants, and plant toxins. All of ARS' research activities involve a high degree of cooperation and collaboration with USDA's Research, Education, and Economics agencies, as well as with the Food Safety and Inspection Service, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), Food and Drug Administration, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Department of Homeland Security (DHS), and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The agency also collaborates in international research programs to address and resolve global food safety issues. Specific research efforts are directed toward developing new technologies that assist ARS stakeholders and customers, including regulatory agencies, industry, and commodity and consumer organizations in detecting, identifying, and controlling foodborne diseases that affect human health.

Base funding supports ARS' program goal of protecting food from pathogens, toxins, and chemical contamination during production, processing, and preparation. This includes developing and evaluating technologies for the detection and characterization of microbial contaminants; developing new intervention and control strategies for the reduction of foodborne pathogens; and developing and evaluating detection methods for the reduction and control of veterinary drugs, chemical residues, heavy metals, organic pollutants, and biological toxins derived from bacteria, fungi, and plants. ARS' Food Safety research program is carried out at numerous locations where agency scientists frequently collaborate with researchers from other Federal/State governments, academia, and private industry.

The funding change is requested for the following items:

A) An increase of $4,940,000 for a Competition-Based Pilot Program.
This is a crosscutting, multidisciplinary initiative that supports the following programs: New Products/Product Quality/Value Added, Livestock Production, Crop Production, Food Safety, Livestock Protection, Crop Protection, Human Nutrition, and Environmental Stewardship. A full description of the initiative is presented on the title page, "Crosscutting/Multidisciplinary Initiative" at the conclusion of the "Justification of Changes."

B) A decrease of $3,797,000 from ongoing research projects to support higher priority research.

The goal of ARS' research programs is to make the most effective use of taxpayer dollars within available resources. In order to respond to priority national needs, it is often necessary to reset priorities within the existing portfolio of projects. As a result, some projects no longer qualify for continued support.

C) A decrease of $79,000 for National Security Related Expenses being transferred to the Office of Homeland Security.

The decrease in funds of $79,000 for National Security related expenses, being realigned to the Office of Homeland Security (OHS), will enhance efficiency and effectiveness within USDA. This strategic realignment will centralize resources under OHS, which provides leadership in national security through policy development, emergency preparedness and response initiatives, and threat mitigation coordination. Consolidating the budget under OHS eliminates redundancies, ensures more coordinated resource allocation, and improves

the execution of departmental security policies, ultimately bolstering the USDA's resilience and readiness without compromising overall security.

Livestock Protection

(5) A decrease of $6,399,000 and 0 FTEs for Livestock Protection research ($148,516,000 and 364 FTEs available in 2026).

ARS' Livestock Protection research program is directed at protecting and ensuring the safety of the Nation's agriculture and food supply through improved disease detection, prevention, control, and treatment. Basic and applied research approaches are used to solve animal health problems of high national priority. Emphasis is given to methods and procedures to control animal diseases through the discovery and development of diagnostics, vaccines, biotherapeutics, animal genomics applications, disease management systems, animal disease models, and farm biosecurity measures. The research program has the following strategic objectives: establish ARS laboratories into a fluid, highly effective research network to maximize use of core competencies and resources; use specialized high containment facilities to study zoonotic and emerging diseases; develop an integrated animal and microbial genomics research program; establish core competencies in bovine, swine, ovine, and avian immunology; launch a biotherapeutic discovery program providing alternatives to animal drugs; build a technology driven vaccine and diagnostic discovery research program; develop core competencies in field epidemiology and predictive biology; establish a best- in-class training center for our Nation's veterinarians and scientists; and develop a model technology transfer program to achieve the full impact of ARS research discoveries. The ARS animal research program includes the following core components: biodefense research, animal genomics and immunology, zoonotic diseases, respiratory diseases, reproductive and neonatal diseases, enteric diseases, parasitic diseases, and transmissible spongiform encephalopathies.

Base funding supports ARS' program goal of preventing and controlling pests and animal diseases that pose a threat to agriculture, public health, and the well-being of Americans. This includes: identifying genes involved in animals with disease-resistant phenotypes; improving our understanding of microbial pathogenesis, transmission, and immune responses to develop countermeasures to prevent and control animal diseases; analyzing microbial genomes to better understand host-pathogen interactions; developing new vaccines to prevent disease in aquaculture species; developing new methods to minimize tick bites; identifying measures to restrict the cattle fever tick; developing methods to control stable flies, horn flies, and house flies and their impact on livestock; supporting the screwworm eradication program; and developing control methods for U.S. vectors of Rift Valley fever.

ARS' Livestock Protection research program is carried out at numerous locations where agency scientists frequently collaborate with researchers from other Federal/State governments, academia, and private industry.

The funding change is requested for the following items:

A) An increase of $5,527,000 for a Competition-Based Pilot Program.
This is a crosscutting, multidisciplinary initiative that supports the following programs: New Products/Product Quality/Value Added, Livestock Production, Crop Production, Food Safety, Livestock Protection, Crop Protection, Human Nutrition, and Environmental Stewardship. A full description of the initiative is presented on the title page, "Crosscutting/Multidisciplinary Initiative" at the conclusion of the "Justification of Changes."

B) A decrease of $11,838,000 from ongoing research projects to support higher priority research.

The goal of ARS' research programs is to make the most effective use of taxpayer dollars within available resources. In order to respond to priority national needs, it is often necessary to reset priorities within the existing portfolio of projects. As a result, some projects no longer qualify for continued support.

C) A decrease of $88,000 for National Security Related Expenses being transferred to the Office of Homeland Security.

The decrease in funds of $88,000 for National Security related expenses, being realigned to the Office of Homeland Security (OHS), will enhance efficiency and effectiveness within USDA. This strategic realignment will centralize resources under OHS, which provides leadership in national security through policy development, emergency preparedness and response initiatives, and threat mitigation coordination. Consolidating the budget under OHS eliminates redundancies, ensures more coordinated resource allocation, and improves the execution of departmental security policies, ultimately bolstering the USDA's resilience and readiness without compromising overall security.

Crop Protection

(6) A decrease of $30,186,000 and 0 FTEs for Crop Protection research ($251,208,000 and 679 FTEs available in 2026).

ARS' Crop Protection research program is directed to protect crops from insect and disease loss through research to understand pest and disease transmission mechanisms, and to identify and apply new technologies that increase our understanding of virulence factors and host defense mechanisms. The program's research priorities include identification of genes that convey virulence traits in pathogens and pests; factors that modulate infectivity, gene functions, and mechanisms; genetic profiles that provide specified levels of disease and insect resistance under field conditions; and mechanisms that reduce the spread of pests and infectious diseases. ARS is developing new knowledge and integrated pest management approaches to control pest and disease outbreaks as they occur. Its research will improve the knowledge and understanding of the ecology, physiology, epidemiology, and molecular biology of emerging diseases and pests. This knowledge will be incorporated into pest risk assessments and management strategies to minimize chemical inputs and increase production. Strategies and approaches will be available to producers to control emerging crop diseases and pest outbreaks and to address quarantine issues.

Base funding supports ARS' program goals of protecting our Nation's crops from arthropods, plant pathogens, nematodes, and weeds; and developing economical alternatives to methyl bromide. ARS' Crop Protection research program is carried out at numerous locations where agency scientists frequently collaborate with researchers from other Federal/State governments, academia, and private industry.

The funding change is requested for the following items:

A) An increase of $9,349,000 for a Competition-Based Pilot Program.
This is a crosscutting, multidisciplinary initiative that supports the following programs: New Products/Product Quality/Value Added, Livestock Production, Crop Production, Food Safety, Livestock Protection, Crop Protection, Human Nutrition, and Environmental Stewardship. A full description of the initiative is presented on the title page, "Crosscutting/Multidisciplinary Initiative" at the conclusion of the "Justification of Changes."

B) A decrease of $39,386,000 from ongoing research projects to support higher priority research.

The goal of ARS' research programs is to make the most effective use of taxpayer dollars within available resources. In order to respond to priority national needs, it is often necessary to reset priorities within the existing portfolio of projects. As a result, some projects no longer qualify for continued support.

C) A decrease of $149,000 for National Security Related Expenses being transferred to the Office of Homeland Security.

The decrease in funds of $149,000 for National Security related expenses, being realigned to the Office of Homeland Security (OHS), will enhance efficiency and effectiveness within USDA. This strategic realignment will centralize resources under OHS, which provides leadership in national security through policy development, emergency preparedness and response initiatives, and threat mitigation coordination. Consolidating the budget under OHS eliminates redundancies, ensures more coordinated resource allocation, and improves the execution of departmental security policies, ultimately bolstering the USDA's resilience and readiness without compromising overall security.

Human Nutrition

(7) A decrease of $2,178,000 and 0 FTEs for Human Nutrition research ($131,020,000 and 264 FTEs available in 2026).

Maintenance of health throughout the lifespan along with prevention of obesity and chronic diseases via food-based recommendations are the major emphasis of ARS' Human Nutrition research program. These health-related goals are based on the knowledge that deficiency diseases are no longer primary public health concerns in the U.S. Excessive consumption has become the primary nutrition problem in the American population. This is reflected by increased emphasis on prevention of obesity from basic science through intervention studies to assessments of large populations. The agency's research program also actively studies bioactive components of foods that have no known requirements but have health-promoting qualities. Four specific areas of research are emphasized: nutrition monitoring; the scientific basis for dietary recommendations; prevention of obesity and related diseases; and life stage nutrition and metabolism, in order to better define the role of nutrition in pregnancy and growth of children, and for healthier aging.

Base funding supports ARS' program goal of enabling Americans to make health promoting, science-based dietary choices. This includes determining food consumption and dietary patterns of Americans; updating U.S. food composition data; enhancing the health promoting quality of the food supply; developing and evaluating strategies to prevent obesity and related diseases; and understanding the mechanisms by which nutrition promotes healthy development. ARS' Human Nutrition research program is carried out at numerous locations where agency scientists frequently collaborate with researchers from other Federal/State governments, academia, and private industry.

The funding change is requested for the following items:

A) An increase of $4,876,000 for a Competition-Based Pilot Program.
This is a crosscutting, multidisciplinary initiative that supports the following programs: New Products/Product Quality/Value Added, Livestock Production, Crop Production, Food Safety, Livestock Protection, Crop Protection, Human Nutrition, and Environmental Stewardship. A full description of the initiative is presented on the title page, "Crosscutting/Multidisciplinary Initiative" at the conclusion of the "Justification of Changes."

B) A decrease of $6,976,000 from ongoing research projects to support higher priority research.

The goal of ARS' research programs is to make the most effective use of taxpayer dollars within available resources. In order to respond to priority national needs, it is often necessary to reset priorities within the existing portfolio of projects. As a result, some projects no longer qualify for continued support.

C) A decrease of $78,000 for National Security Related Expenses being transferred to the Office of Homeland Security.

The decrease in funds of $78,000 for National Security related expenses, being realigned to the Office of Homeland Security (OHS), will enhance efficiency and effectiveness within USDA. This strategic realignment will centralize resources under OHS, which provides leadership in national security through policy development, emergency preparedness and response initiatives, and threat mitigation coordination. Consolidating the budget under OHS eliminates redundancies, ensures more coordinated resource allocation, and improves the execution of departmental security policies, ultimately bolstering the USDA's resilience and readiness without compromising overall security.

Environmental Stewardship

(8) A decrease of $33,777,000 and 0 FTEs for Environmental Stewardship research ($305,624,000 and 933 FTEs available in 2026).

ARS' Environmental Stewardship research program emphasis is on developing technologies and systems that support production agriculture. The agency is currently developing the scientific knowledge and technologies needed to meet the challenges and opportunities facing U.S. agriculture in managing water resource quality and quantity under different production systems, and weather conditions. In addition, ARS is evaluating strategies for enhancing the health and productivity of soils, including developing predictive tools to assess the sustainability of alternative land management practices. ARS' range and grazing land research objectives include the conservation and restoration of the Nation's rangeland and pastures through the improved management of fire, invasive weeds, grazing, and other agents of change. The agency is currently developing improved grass and forage legume germplasm for livestock, conservation, bioenergy, and bioproduct systems as well as grazing-based livestock systems. In addition, ARS is developing whole system management strategies to reduce production costs and risks.

Base funding supports ARS program goals of providing integrated, effective, and safe water resources; improving the quality of soil resources; effectively and safely managing the use of manure and other industrial byproducts that maximize their potential benefits; and developing and transferring economically viable production and conservation practices, technologies, plant materials, and integrated management strategies and enhance the Nation's natural resources. ARS' Environmental Stewardship research program is carried out at numerous locations where agency scientists frequently collaborate with researchers from other Federal/State governments, academia, and private industry.

The funding change is requested for the following items:

A) An increase of $11,374,000 for a Competition-Based Pilot Program.
This is a crosscutting, multidisciplinary initiative that supports the following programs: New Products/Product Quality/Value Added, Livestock Production, Crop Production, Food Safety, Livestock Protection, Crop Protection, Human Nutrition, and Environmental Stewardship. A

full description of the initiative is presented on the title page, "Crosscutting/Multidisciplinary Initiative" at the conclusion of the "Justification of Changes."

B) A decrease of $40,568,000 from ongoing research projects to support higher priority research.

The goal of ARS' research programs is to make the most effective use of taxpayer dollars within available resources. In order to respond to priority national needs, it is often necessary to reset priorities within the existing portfolio of projects. As a result, some projects no longer qualify for continued support.

C) A decrease of $4,402,000 from Climate Hubs.

The goal of ARS' research programs is to make the most effective use of taxpayer dollars within available resources. In order to respond to priority national needs, it is often necessary to reset priorities within the existing portfolio of projects. As a result, some projects no longer qualify for continued support.

D) A decrease of $181,000 for National Security Related Expenses being transferred to the Office of Homeland Security.

The decrease in funds of $181,000 for National Security related expenses, being realigned to the Office of Homeland Security (OHS), will enhance efficiency and effectiveness within USDA. This strategic realignment will centralize resources under OHS, which provides leadership in national security through policy development, emergency preparedness and response initiatives, and threat mitigation coordination. Consolidating the budget under OHS eliminates redundancies, ensures more coordinated resource allocation, and improves the execution of departmental security policies, ultimately bolstering the USDA's resilience and readiness without compromising overall security.

Proposed Laboratory Closures and Consolidations

The 2027 Budget proposes the closure of four ARS locations and the consolidation of their resources with other existing ARS laboratories and locations as indicated below:

Table ARS-13. Proposed Laboratory Closures and Consolidations

Proposed Location Closure	Proposed Relocation of Programs and Resources
Boston, MA • Jean Mayer Human Nutrition Research Center on Aging	• Grand Forks, ND
Burlington, VT • Food Systems Research	• College Station, TX
Newark, DE • Beneficial Insects Introduction Research Unit	• Ft. Detrick, MD
Urbana, IL • Integrated Weed Management Systems • Resistance to Soybean Pathogens and Pests • Management, Utilization, and Distribution of Maize Genetic Stocks • Photosynthesis for Agricultural Resiliency and Sustainability • Genetic Resources in the National Soybean Germplasm Collection	• Peoria, IL • Columbia, MO • Ames, IA • Ames, IA • Columbia, MO

PROPOSED LEGISLATION

Current legislative authority to be amended: 20 U.S.C. Ch 11: National Arboretum

Proposed legislative language: The National Arboretum shall be named the Norman Borlaug National Arboretum

Proposal: The proposal is to amend the name of the National Arboretum to the "Norman Borlaug National Arboretum".

CROSSCUTTING/MULTIDISCIPLINARY INITIATIVE

Competition-Based Pilot Program to Increase Non-Federal Funding for Agricultural Research

ARS requests an increase of $60,000,000 to establish a competitive-based pilot program, which will encourage ARS labs to compete with one another for funds. The pilot program will also increase non-federal funding into agricultural research, through implementation of a matching requirement. The pilot program will test how introducing competition into the funding process may increase productivity and output of the laboratories, as opposed to the traditional method of guaranteeing a certain allocation of funds per project.

The pilot program will implement a structured, competitive allocation process designed to incentivize cost-sharing and partnership development, while also promoting increased performance. This program will reward ARS laboratories that secure commitments from industry, academic institutions, and other non-federal partners, thereby expanding the resource base for high-priority research aligned with the Administration's goals. Labs that are successful in securing additional non-federal funding will have the opportunity to apply for additional research funding for a project that both the lab and the matching partner see as a high national priority. A competitive, cost-share-based pilot will demonstrate how ARS can scale partnership-driven innovation while maintaining accountability and scientific rigor. Applications will be reviewed using a similar peer review process that the National Institute of Food and Agriculture uses to review grant applications.

Research projects funded under this pilot program will address one or more of the following priorities:

- Increasing Profitability of Farmers and Ranchers
- Expanding Markets and Creating New Uses of U.S. Agricultural Products
- Protecting the Integrity of American Agriculture from Invasive Species
- Promoting Soil Health to Regenerate Long-Term Productivity of Land
- Improving Human Health through Precision Nutrition and Food Quality

Expected Outcomes

The competitive program will encourage ARS laboratories to leverage external partnerships and funding streams to amplify federal investments. The program will also emphasize performance of the laboratories. Expected outcomes include:

- Increased non-federal partnerships in agricultural research.
- Strengthened collaboration between ARS, industry, and academia.
- Enhanced capacity to address critical agricultural challenges.
- Increased productivity and greater output from ARS laboratories.

GEOGRAPHIC BREAKDOWN OF OBLIGATIONS AND FTEs[3]

Table ARS-14. Geographic Breakdown of Obligations and FTEs (thousands of dollars, FTEs)

State/Territory/Country	2024 Actual	FTEs	2025 Actual	FTEs	2026 Enacted	FTEs	2027 Estimated	FTEs
Alabama								
Auburn	$25,595	48	$23,335	50	$27,848	43	$15,113	43
Total	25,595	48	23,335	50	27,848	43	15,113	43
Arizona								
Maricopa	11,146	56	11,031	50	12,414	48	12,414	48
Tucson	6,836	43	6,308	37	6,817	36	6,817	36
Total	17,982	99	17,339	87	19,231	84	19,231	84
Arkansas								
Booneville	4,868	27	4,713	24	4,113	26	3,158	26
Fayetteville	2,894	18	3,206	15	3,214	14	3,214	14
Jonesboro	1,326	9	1,208	8	1,493	8	1,493	8
Little Rock	12,347	7	12,076	9	11,818	7	11,818	7
Stuttgart	8,653	45	7,349	44	8,603	34	8,603	34
Total	30,088	106	28,552	100	29,241	89	28,286	89
California								
Albany	46,178	176	46,362	166	44,059	133	44,059	133
Davis	22,297	97	21,902	93	22,094	59	22,388	59
Parlier	17,305	88	14,763	85	17,155	70	17,156	70
Riverside	7,452	31	6,880	26	4,932	26	4,932	26
Salinas	8,474	51	8,451	45	9,280	49	12,392	49
Total	101,706	443	98,358	415	98,276	337	97,815	337
Colorado								
Fort Collins	25,968	139	27,125	131	25,415	102	24,941	102
Total	25,968	139	27,125	131	25,415	102	24,941	102
Delaware								
Newark	2,144	13	1,963	10	2,129	11	-	-
Total	2,144	13	1,963	10	2,129	11	-	-
District of Columbia								
National Arboretum	13,099	58	13,182	54	15,106	54	13,345	54
Headquarters Federal Administration	200,204	499	211,754	502	152,121	285	110,254	285
Total	213,303	557	224,936	556	177,227	339	123,599	339
Florida								
Canal Point	4,572	28	3,830	28	4,931	24	4,931	24
Fort Lauderdale	2,988	30	3,639	30	2,589	14	2,589	14
Fort Pierce	17,143	73	16,919	70	19,098	55	17,010	55
Gainesville	11,541	71	11,489	63	12,708	67	12,664	67
Miami	7,203	29	5,143	25	6,331	27	3,681	27
Total	43,447	231	41,020	216	45,657	187	40,875	187
Georgia								
Athens	43,928	137	40,592	128	45,704	118	44,846	118
Byron	9,802	35	7,749	37	9,640	25	8,515	25
Dawson	6,824	29	5,580	27	7,224	24	5,716	24
Griffin	2,823	17	2,921	14	2,560	16	2,560	16
Tifton	12,188	67	10,123	55	12,415	62	11,514	62
Total	75,565	285	66,965	261	77,543	245	73,151	245
Hawaii								
Hilo	15,911	72	15,278	66	16,516	63	15,409	63
Total	15,911	72	15,278	66	16,516	63	15,409	63
Idaho								
Aberdeen	8,534	38	7,536	36	9,270	29	8,763	29

[3] Federal Administration contains GP funding for NOAA Working Group on Kelp and Seagrass in 2024, 2025, and 2026.

State/Territory/Country	2024 Actual	FTEs	2025 Actual	FTEs	2026 Enacted	FTEs	2027 Estimated	FTEs
Boise	3,119	21	3,055	15	3,053	18	3,053	18
Dubois	3,055	18	2,903	15	3,137	18	3,137	18
Kimberly	5,639	38	5,601	34	5,911	28	5,911	28
Total	20,347	115	19,095	100	21,371	93	20,864	93
Illinois								
Peoria	33,214	154	40,109	145	37,596	111	38,713	118
Urbana	6,024	30	5,264	28	5,945	22	-	-
Total	39,238	184	45,373	173	43,541	133	38,713	118
Indiana								
West Lafayette	8,100	52	7,665	45	8,432	44	6,650	44
Total	8,100	52	7,665	45	8,432	44	6,650	44
Iowa								
Ames	60,017	325	60,375	314	63,524	266	63,473	284
Total	60,017	325	60,375	314	63,524	266	63,473	284
Kansas								
Manhattan	163,972	305	176,840	288	171,124	237	166,295	237
Total	163,972	305	176,840	288	171,124	237	166,295	237
Kentucky								
Bowling Green	3,112	16	2,813	14	2,764	12	2,359	12
Lexington	4,305	13	3,778	10	4,512	11	3,703	11
Total	7,417	29	6,591	24	7,276	23	6,062	23
Louisiana								
Baton Rouge	3,616	23	3,308	17	3,308	19	3,308	19
Houma	6,107	45	5,587	39	6,500	34	6,500	34
New Orleans	25,564	90	20,891	87	26,940	77	26,549	77
Total	35,287	158	29,786	143	36,748	130	36,357	130
Maine								
Orono	14,357	28	12,947	34	17,231	21	17,231	21
Total	14,357	28	12,947	34	17,231	21	17,231	21
Maryland								
Beltsville	144,719	520	136,529	480	134,642	413	132,260	413
National Ag Library	33,414	73	28,423	69	28,549	62	28,549	62
Frederick	6,849	29	7,112	29	6,847	22	7,611	33
Total	184,982	622	172,064	578	170,038	497	168,420	58
Massachusetts								
Boston	21,229	6	16,267	6	17,573	6	-	-
Total	21,229	6	16,267	6	17,573	6	-	-
Michigan								
East Lansing	3,007	10	2,784	9	2,696	5	2,696	5
Total	3,007	10	2,784	9	2,696	5	2,696	5
Minnesota								
Morris	3,228	21	2,735	15	3,463	14	3,463	14
St. Paul	13,335	59	12,819	52	13,416	41	11,374	41
Total	16,563	80	15,554	67	16,879	55	14,837	55
Mississippi								
Mississippi State	22,308	66	19,747	66	24,159	53	22,064	53
Oxford	15,529	63	13,194	57	16,025	54	11,902	54
Poplarville	5,935	28	5,605	25	6,160	21	5,446	21
Stoneville	51,575	221	55,119	196	57,895	180	45,977	180
Total	95,347	378	93,665	344	104,239	308	85,389	308
Missouri								
Columbia	14,315	64	13,735	66	14,398	52	14,632	55
Total	14,315	64	13,735	66	14,398	52	14,632	55
Montana								
Miles City	4,903	24	4,639	19	4,871	24	4,440	24
Sidney	6,140	35	5,610	30	6,668	31	6,668	31
Total	11,043	59	10,249	49	11,539	55	11,108	55

State/Territory/Country	2024 Actual	FTEs	2025 Actual	FTEs	2026 Enacted	FTEs	2027 Estimated	FTEs
Nebraska								
Clay Center	25,111	103	25,311	95	25,317	93	24,867	93
Lincoln	11,686	59	11,613	57	12,857	42	11,412	42
Total	36,797	162	36,924	152	38,174	135	36,279	135
Nevada								
Reno	2,366	9	1,780	9	2,410	9	2,410	9
Total	2,366	9	1,780	9	2,410	9	2,410	9
New Mexico								
Las Cruces	11,908	53	10,936	56	11,638	32	11,093	32
Total	11,908	53	10,936	56	11,638	32	11,093	32
New York								
Geneva	6,756	35	6,907	38	8,161	29	8,161	29
Orient Point	-	-	-	-	-	-		-
Ithaca	17,948	55	21,416	52	14,381	45	14,192	45
Total	24,704	90	28,323	90	22,542	74	22,353	74
North Carolina								
Raleigh	13,985	69	12,523	60	14,647	53	13,955	53
Total	13,985	69	12,523	60	14,647	53	13,955	53
North Dakota								
Fargo	37,719	108	36,796	110	40,649	94	37,580	94
Grand Forks	9,607	28	8,233	27	10,231	11	23,428	17
Mandan	9,478	42	11,965	36	9,823	40	8,955	40
Total	56,804	178	56,994	173	60,703	145	69,963	151
Ohio								
Columbus	2,118	15	2,205	14	2,294	6	2,294	6
Wooster	11,050	52	10,999	50	9,589	43	9,223	43
Total	13,168	67	13,204	64	11,883	49	11,517	49
Oklahoma								
El Reno	14,748	74	16,227	75	16,150	59	13,196	59
Woodward	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-
Total	14,748	75	16,227	76	16,150	59	13,196	59
Oregon								
Burns	5,187	30	4,955	22	5,524	28	5,074	28
Corvallis	24,939	102	22,648	91	22,011	86	20,196	86
Newport	2,951	5	2,567	7	2,731	4	2,731	4
Pendleton	5,446	21	5,066	19	5,864	14	5,103	14
Total	38,523	158	35,236	139	36,130	132	33,104	132
Pennsylvania								
University Park	6,806	34	6,213	28	7,242	32	4,934	32
Wyndmoor	31,761	138	30,905	123	33,056	106	30,748	106
Total	38,567	172	37,118	151	40,298	138	35,682	138
South Carolina								
Charleston	13,649	29	10,458	28	12,665	25	8,653	25
Florence	5,608	28	6,103	25	5,903	21	5,903	21
Total	19,257	57	16,561	53	18,568	46	14,556	46
South Dakota								
Brookings	3,913	27	4,546	25	3,714	25	3,714	25
Total	3,913	27	4,546	25	3,714	25	3,714	25
Texas								
Bushland	7,309	35	6,319	28	7,653	34	6,639	34
College Station	28,001	72	31,354	70	38,348	60	45,277	64
Houston	18,525	8	16,945	7	16,066	7	16,066	7
Kerrville	11,790	42	10,424	41	12,254	38	12,254	38
Lubbock	10,418	61	9,943	55	10,630	49	10,630	49
Temple	5,276	29	5,807	27	4,929	25	4,929	25
Total	81,319	247	80,792	228	89,880	213	95,795	217
Utah								

State/Territory/Country	2024 Actual	FTEs	2025 Actual	FTEs	2026 Enacted	FTEs	2027 Estimated	FTEs
Logan	10,888	72	10,371	64	10,211	56	10,186	56
Total	10,888	72	10,371	64	10,211	56	10,186	56
Vermont								
Burlington	11,738	10	12,117	15	13,073	4	-	-
Total	11,738	10	12,117	15	13,073	4	-	-
Washington								
Pullman	28,389	120	28,025	112	29,521	104	25,083	104
Wapato	9,098	58	15,222	53	10,307	54	10,307	54
Wenatchee	3,389	25	3,335	25	3,965	20	3,965	20
Total	40,876	203	46,582	190	43,793	178	39,355	178
West Virginia								
Kearneysville	9,450	44	11,478	43	10,177	36	8,376	36
Leetown	9,519	29	8,623	28	10,176	26	7,392	26
Total	18,969	73	20,101	71	20,353	62	15,768	62
Wisconsin								
Madison	32,261	124	29,100	125	33,096	101	29,444	101
Total	32,261	124	29,100	125	33,096	101	29,444	101
Puerto Rico								
Mayaguez	3,803	30	3,657	27	3,744	28	3,573	28
Total	3,803	30	3,657	27	3,744	28	3,573	28
Other Countries								
France, Montpellier	4,267	1	3,250	1	3,148	1	3,148	1
Total	4,267	1	3,250	1	3,148	1	3,148	1
Extramural & Funds Administered from Headquarters Held Funds	38,203	-	56,030	-	62,169	-	119,662	-
Repair & Maintenance of Facilities	23,454	-	23,144	-	23,144	-	23,144	-
Obligations	1,787,448	6,285	1,783,377	5,901	1,795,160	4,965	1,699,044	4,965
Lapsing Balances	2,209	-	6,313	-		-	-	-
Bal. Available, EOY	1,605	-	1,597	-		-	-	-
Total, Available	1,791,262	6,285	1,791,287	5,901	1,795,160	4,965	1,699,044	4,965

OBJECT CLASSIFICATION

Table ARS-15. Classification by Objects – Discretionary Funding (thousands of dollars) [4]

Item No.	Item	2024 Actual	2025 Actual	2026 Enacted	2027 Estimated
	Personnel Compensation:				
	Washington D.C.	$58,532	$83,549	$74,141	$74,141
	Personnel Compensation, Field	523,483	535,401	475,107	475,107
11	Total personnel compensation	582,015	618,950	549,248	549,248
12	Personal benefits	229,806	239,061	212,104	212,104
13.0	Benefits for former personnel	143	151	-	-
	Total, personnel comp. and benefits	811,964	858,162	761,353	761,353
	Other Objects:				
21.0	Travel and transportation of persons	12,995	6,119	6,834	6,198
22.0	Transportation of things	1,731	913	1,019	924
23.1	Rental payments to GSA	4,293	3,464	4,200	4,200
23.2	Rental payments to others	3,786	2,741	3,061	2,776
23.3	Communications, utilities, and misc. charges	46,254	56,323	62,572	56,364
25.1	Advisory and assistance services	85,019	102,006	113,924	103,332
25.2	Other services from non-Federal sources	40,441	22,350	24,961	22,640
25.3	Other goods and services from Federal sources	146,297	144,807	161,725	146,689
25.4	Operation and maintenance of facilities	7,605	3,262	3,643	3,304
25.5	Research and development contracts	305,967	232,788	260,485	236,267
25.7	Operation and maintenance of equipment	23,099	19,329	21,588	19,581
26.0	Supplies and materials	86,874	67,478	75,362	68,355
31.0	Equipment	76,805	55,577	62,071	56,300
32.0	Land and structures	71,276	65,967	73,673	66,824
41.0	Grants, subsidies, and contributions	63,042	142,091	158,692	143,938
	Total, Other Objects	975,484	925,215	1,033,807	937,691
99.9	Total, new obligations	1,787,448	1,783,377	1,795,160	1,699,044
	Position Data:				
	Average Salary (dollars), ES Position	$201,474	$215,525	$225,215	$225,215
	Average Salary (dollars), GS Position	$85,323	$96,572	$101,858	$101,858
	Average Grade, GS Position	10.8	10.9	10.9	10.9

[4] This table does not match MAX Schedule O due to reimbursables.

This page was intentionally left blank.

STATUS OF PROGRAMS

The Agricultural Research Service (ARS) is the U.S. Department of Agriculture's chief scientific in-house research agency. Our mission is to deliver scientific solutions to national and global agricultural challenges. ARS' major research programs -- New Products/Product Quality/Value Added; Livestock/Crop Production; Food Safety; Livestock/Crop Protection; Human Nutrition; and Environmental Stewardship -- address the Department's goals and priorities. A brief summary of the agency's selected 2025 accomplishments and current activities, including the National Agricultural Library, are detailed below.

Program Evaluations

In 2025, ARS conducted retrospective reviews of its Animal Health; Soil and Air; and Plant Diseases Programs. Overall, the programs were found to have had high impact (i.e., significant benefit or influence). The programs were evaluated by experts who represented government, private industry, customer/stakeholder groups, and nonprofits. Performance was evaluated based on the quality of the research leading to actual impact, or progress toward anticipated benefits. The panel of experts provided recommendations that ARS managers can use in making future management decisions.

New Products/Product Quality/Value Added

Current Activities:

ARS' New Products/Product Quality/Value Added research program is directed toward: Improving the efficiency and reducing the cost for the conversion of agricultural products into biobased products and biofuels; developing new and improved products for domestic and foreign markets; and providing higher quality, healthy foods.

Selected Examples of Recent Progress

Microwave sensor modernizes peanut grading. Until recently, peanut kernel moisture could be measured only after the peanuts were shelled, so testing could not be conducted until the end of the grading process, adding unnecessary labor, time, and energy use to the overall grading process. ARS researchers in Athens, Georgia, created a patented microwave sensor that determines kernel moisture without removing the shell. The prototype was licensed to a commercial partner, and benchtop sensors have been deployed by inspectors at peanut buying points for the past two harvest seasons. The new system reduces the time needed for moisture assessment by up to 60 percent and is expected to cut labor and energy expenses while improving overall peanut quality. Early adopters (including growers and shellers) have expressed strong interest in integrating the technology into drying and storage operations. These results provide a practical tool that directly addresses the bottleneck in current grading practices; by enabling faster, more accurate moisture checks, the sensor helps the peanut industry reduce waste, lower production costs, and deliver higher quality products to consumers, while the commercial licensing pathway ensures the technology reaches growers and processors nationwide. AMS has officially approved the "ARS developed" commercial in-shell moisture sensor instrument as an official meter for peanuts.

Reversible biocides for safer poultry processing. Many sanitizers used in processing, such as chlorine, heavy metal salts, and peracetic acid, are corrosive, can be explosive, leave residues on food, and promote antimicrobial resistance, creating safety and trade challenges. ARS researchers in Albany, California, partnered with a food safety company to create new reversible antimicrobial agents that kill disease-causing bacteria at the same concentrations as existing sanitizers and break down into harmless, biodegradable compounds when diluted with water, minimizing antimicrobial resistance. Laboratory tests showed the reversible agents were as effective as peracetic acid in eliminating pathogens, while eliminating hazardous residues and reducing the risk of resistance. A provisional patent has been filed, and the partnership is moving toward regulatory registration, positioning the technology for commercial use. The results give poultry processors a practical, safer alternative that

protects worker health, meets consumer expectations, and avoids trade barriers. Ongoing collaboration with industry will help translate the technology into real-world applications

Livestock Production

Current Activities:

ARS' Livestock Production research program is directed toward fostering an abundant, safe, nutritionally wholesome, and competitively priced supply of animal products produced in a viable, competitive, and sustainable animal agriculture sector of the U.S. economy. This is accomplished by: safeguarding and utilizing animal genetic resources, associated genetic and genomic databases, and bioinformatic tools; developing a basic understanding of food animal physiology to address priority issues related to animal production, and product quality and healthfulness; and developing information, best management practices, novel and innovative tools, and technologies that improve animal production systems, enhance human health, and ensure domestic food security. The research is heavily focused on the development and application of genomics technologies to increase the efficiency and product quality of beef, dairy, swine, poultry, aquaculture, and sheep systems. Areas of emphasis include increasing the efficiency of nutrient utilization; increasing reproductive rates and breeding animal longevity; developing and evaluating non-traditional production systems (e.g., organic and natural); and evaluating and conserving animal genetic resources.

Selected Examples of Recent Progress:

Safeguarding poultry genetic resources. Highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) currently threatens poultry flocks that possess important traits, which also poses risks to the survival of that valuable poultry genetic diversity. ARS scientists in Fort Collins, Colorado, created new procedures to collect, freeze, and later revive poultry reproductive stem cells, providing a more effective method to preserve and reintroduce highly valuable genetic resources. This technique is made available to all poultry breeding companies through the USDA ARS National Animal Germplasm Program to assist in genetic line preservation. To date, more than 40 genetically unique chicken populations, including some from national and university research centers, have been frozen creating a backup of unique and diverse populations. These frozen resources give farmers, breeders, and researchers a safety net, ensuring that essential genetic resources and economically important traits remain available to respond to existing and future threats. The USDA's National Animal Germplasm Program can now protect partner investments more quickly and affordably, strengthening the resilience of the poultry supply chain.

Sterile Atlantic salmon for U.S. aquaculture. Challenges in the aquacultural production of salmon include fish that mature too early, which reduces flesh quality and marketability, and fish that if they escape from production facilities have the potential to interbreed with wild populations. ARS researchers in Orono, Maine, identified key genes that control sexual development and used a precise gene editing method to turn those genes off, creating sterile salmon. The edited salmon showed complete lack of gonad development at one year of age, confirming 100 percent sterility. This breakthrough provides a practical way for producers to raise sterile salmon, eliminating early maturation and the risk of interbreeding with wild stocks. These results provide salmon growers, consumers, and conservation groups a reliable, cost-effective tool to improve farm productivity while mitigating the impacts of escapes. Ongoing collaborations with commercial aquaculture operations are moving the sterile salmon technology toward commercial use across the United States.

Crop Production

Current Activities:

ARS' Crop Production research program focuses on developing and improving ways to reduce crop losses while protecting and ensuring a safe and affordable food supply. The program concentrates on production strategies that are safe to consumers, and compatible with sustainable and profitable crop

production systems. Research activities are directed at safeguarding and utilizing plant genetic resources and their associated genetic, genomic, and bioinformatic databases that facilitate selection of varieties and/or germplasm with significantly improved traits. Research activities attempt to minimize the impacts of crop pests while maintaining healthy crops and safe commodities that can be sold in markets throughout the world. The agency is conducting research to discover and exploit naturally occurring and engineered genetic mechanisms for plant pest control, develop agronomic germplasm with durable defensive traits, and transfer genetic resources for commercial use. ARS provides taxonomic information on invasive species that strengthens prevention, aids in detection/identification, and increases control through tactics that restore habitats and biological diversity.

Selected Examples of Recent Progress:

New HLB-tolerant citrus varieties released. Citrus greening disease, or Huanglongbing (HLB), has devastated Florida citrus production by 90 percent since 2005 and lowers fruit quality and juice yield. To date, the vast majority of citrus rootstocks and scions are susceptible to HLB and one of the most sustainable methods to combat this disease is to plant tolerant or resistant citrus. ARS researchers in Fort Pierce, Florida developed two new hybrids with HLB resistance: a sweet-orange-like variety that consistently reaches high sugar levels (Brix) that has been approved by a major beverage company for juice blending, and a mandarin hybrid that delivers excellent fruit quality while tolerating HLB in many growing regions. Field trials demonstrated the sweet-orange hybrid maintained the high Brix values required for premium juice, and the mandarin hybrid performed well under disease pressure, giving growers two ready-to-plant options that can restore juice sweetness and reduce losses. These varieties give growers a practical tool to keep orchards productive, help processors maintain product quality, and support the broader citrus supply chain; ARS is partnering with extension services and industry groups to distribute the new cultivars and provide planting guidance.

Erythritol can control costly fruit fly. Spotted-wing drosophila, an invasive fruit fly from southeast Asia, is a major pest that causes millions of dollars of crop damage in many fruits each year. ARS scientists in Corvallis, Oregon, verified that the non-caloric sugar erythritol could be used to control the fly on blueberries, cherries, and wild blackberries. When sprayed as a solution, the sugar, which is safe for human consumption, killed the flies without causing any noticeable issues in the fruit. These findings validate an organic, sprayable control strategy as part of an integrated pest management strategy for economically valuable small fruit and tree fruit crops.

Food Safety

Current Activities:

ARS' Food Safety research program is designed to yield science-based knowledge on the safe production, storage, processing, and handling of plant and animal products, and on the detection and control of pathogenic bacteria and fungi, parasites, chemical contaminants, and plant toxins. All of ARS' research activities involve a high degree of cooperation and collaboration with USDA's Research, Education, and Economics agencies, as well as with the FSIS, APHIS, FDA, CDC, DHS, and the EPA. The agency also collaborates in international research programs to address and resolve global food safety issues. Specific research efforts are directed toward developing new technologies that assist ARS stakeholders and customers, including regulatory agencies, industry, and commodity and consumer organizations in detecting, identifying, and controlling foodborne diseases that affect human health.

Selected Examples of Recent Progress:

Early warning model for Texas corn producers. Fungi can contaminate corn fields and produce a carcinogenic toxin that threatens human and animal health and costs U.S. corn producers up to $1.6 billion each year. ARS scientists and a Texas university collaborator created a state-wide

forecasting tool that blends satellite images, soil information, and weather data to predict toxin outbreaks across Texas's four corn-growing regions. The model now predicts outbreaks with 73 percent accuracy, giving growers an early-warning system they can use to develop targeted prevention and mitigation strategies potentially reducing losses by millions of dollars and improving the safety of the food supply. These results enable targeted prevention, protect public health, and improve the profitability of corn production. Ongoing outreach aims to inform growers and gather feedback to enhance the model's use and efficiency, ensuring it is widely adopted across the state.

Declining polybrominated diphenyl ether residues in U.S. meat and poultry. A class of flame-retardant chemicals known as polybrominated diphenyl ethers can linger in the environment and build up in animal fat, creating a pathway for exposure through beef, pork, chicken, turkey, and catfish. For the past two decades, ARS scientists have measured polybrominated diphenyl in fat samples collected from animals at processing facilities. Their long-term monitoring shows a steady decline in residue levels and estimates of consumer exposure are now at or below the levels reported in other countries, indicating a reduced risk to the public. These findings help ensure that meat and poultry exports meet safety expectations and help maintain market access, protect public health, and support the continued growth of safe, competitive U.S. animal-product markets. The results are being shared with industry groups and trade partners to guide safe production practices.

Livestock Protection

Current Activities:

ARS' Livestock Protection research program is directed at protecting and ensuring the safety of the Nation's agriculture and food supply through improved disease detection, prevention, control, and treatment. Basic and applied research approaches are used to solve animal health problems of high national priority. Emphasis is given to methods and procedures to control animal diseases through the discovery and development of diagnostics, vaccines, biotherapeutics, animal genomics applications, disease management systems, animal disease models, and farm biosecurity measures. ARS' animal research program includes biodefense research, animal genomics and immunology, zoonotic diseases, respiratory diseases, reproductive and neonatal diseases, enteric diseases, parasitic diseases, and transmissible spongiform encephalopathies.

Selected Examples of Recent Progress:

Preventing the spread of avian-flu in dairies. Since March 2024, a serious outbreak of highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) has been affecting the U.S. dairy industry. While HPAI is deadly to poultry, it does not kill cows, but it does cause a big drop in milk production. Each infected cow can cost farmers nearly $1,000, and some farms can have hundreds of sick animals. ARS scientists in Ames, Iowa, discovered that calves can become infected with HPAI when they are bucket-fed raw (unpasteurized) milk from infected cows. This indicates that HPAI infections can be reduced by feeding calves pasteurized milk or milk replacer, strategies that could also protect other farms, since calves are often moved from one farm to another. The scientists also found that raw milk can contain both the virus and HPAI antibodies, suggesting vaccines might be able to protect both cows and calves from HPAI in the future. These discoveries advance fighting the HPAI outbreak, finding vaccines to help farmers protect their animals, and supporting efforts to keep milk and eggs safe and affordable.

Mass rearing of sterile male flies to combat New World Screwworm. The New World screwworm (NWS) eradication program relies on the affordable production of sterile male flies that can compete for mates in the wild and reduce reproduction rates and population levels. However, the current mass-rearing method results in the production and release of both sexes, not just males. To achieve male-only releases, ARS scientists developed genetically engineered strains that turn on a female-lethality gene, improving efficiency by eliminating females from production, and then adjusted fly dietary ingredients to improve fly fitness. These results indicate that this genetic control mechanism is viable

for mass-rearing screwworms and is the first step to safe mass rearing of genetically engineered male-only sterile screwworms.

Crop Protection

Current Activities:

ARS' Crop Protection research program is directed to protect crops from insect and disease loss through research to understand pest and disease transmission mechanisms, and to identify and apply new technologies that increase our understanding of virulence factors and host defense mechanisms. The program's research priorities include identification of genes that convey virulence traits in pathogens and pests; factors that modulate infectivity, gene functions, and mechanisms; genetic profiles that provide specified levels of disease and insect resistance under field conditions; and mechanisms that reduce the spread of pests and infectious diseases. ARS is developing new knowledge and integrated pest management approaches to control pest and disease outbreaks as they occur. Its research will improve the knowledge and understanding of the ecology, physiology, epidemiology, and molecular biology of emerging diseases and pests. This knowledge will be incorporated into pest risk assessments and management strategies to minimize chemical inputs and increase production. Strategies and approaches will be available to producers to control emerging crop diseases and pest outbreaks and address quarantine issues.

Selected Examples of Recent Progress:

Precision spray technologies improve managing California lettuce pests. The Salinas Valley of California grows more than 70 percent of all lettuce in the United States, but lettuce production is threatened by several important insect pests. An ARS scientist in Salinas, California, in partnership with the University of California, Davis, used automated spray technologies that apply insecticides precisely to lettuce plants. The technology maintains insecticidal efficacy and can reduce pesticide inputs by 90 percent compared to traditional application methods, while reducing the risks for human and environmental harm, and providing cost savings.

GROW network expands nation's premier herbicide-resistance resource for farmers. Herbicide-resistant weeds cost U.S. farmers billions of dollars each year in lost yields, reduced profitability, and increased chemical costs. Integrated weed management (IWM), the practice of layering chemical and non-chemical weed control tactics, is critical to preserving herbicide efficacy and sustaining farm productivity, but IWM information has long been fragmented and difficult to access. ARS researchers, led a nationwide effort to unify science-based weed management through its longstanding Getting Rid of Weeds (GROW) network. GROW and the Take Action Initiative led by the soybean commodity board have now partnered to integrate longstanding Take Actions herbicide resistance materials into its digital platform, creating a science-based hub for IWM research, tools, and practical weed control strategies across major agronomic crops. With nearly 200,000 annual visits from farmers, crop advisors, and the ag industry, GROW now serves as the nation's premier herbicide-resistance resource. The strengthened web-based network equips producers with information needed to protect crop productivity, reduce herbicide resistance, and support the resilience of U.S. farms and rural economies.

Human Nutrition

Current Activities:

Maintenance of health throughout the lifespan along with prevention of chronic diseases via food-based recommendations are the major emphases of ARS' Human Nutrition research program. These health-related goals are based on the knowledge that deficiency diseases are no longer primary public health concerns in the U.S. Excessive consumption has become the primary nutrition problem in the American population. The agency's research program also actively studies bioactive components of

foods that have no known requirements but have health promoting qualities. Four areas of research are emphasized: nutrition monitoring; the scientific basis for dietary recommendations; prevention of chronic diseases; and life stage nutrition and metabolism.

Selected Examples of Recent Progress:

Reference values for nutrients in human milk. Limited and inconsistent data on milk composition is currently rooted in unclear collection methods, lack of long-term studies, and the unknown effects of maternal diet. ARS researchers in Davis, California gathered milk samples from 1,000 mothers in four countries, measured what each infant actually consumed, and recorded the maternal diets. This comprehensive, 9-month longitudinal dataset allowed the team to chart how nutrient concentrations and infant intake change throughout lactation and to establish scientifically based Reference Values for milk nutrients. The new Reference Values give a clear benchmark for evaluating milk quality in future research and for refining infant and maternal nutrient requirement recommendations. These findings enable evidence-based decisions about maternal supplementation and infant nutrition, supporting healthier infants, more resilient families, and a stronger scientific foundation for breast milk research.

Cranberry nutrition influenced by genotype and environment. In an ideal world every cranberry harvested would be consistently sweet, flavorful and packed with health promoting compounds that help protect consumers from urinary tract infections. In practice, fruit quality varies widely because the color, size, sweetness, tartness and the levels of beneficial flavonoids and proanthocyanidins are shaped by both the plant's genetics and the local growing conditions. ARS researchers collected fruit from 15 cranberry varieties grown at 16 locations across four U.S. states and one Canadian province. By analyzing the chemical makeup of the samples and applying statistical models, they were able to predict how sugars, acids, flavonoids and proanthocyanidins change with genotype and site. The work identified 56 distinct health promoting compounds among 206 detected chemical features, revealing clear patterns that link specific varieties and environments to superior nutrient content. This information now gives growers a practical tool to choose the varieties most likely to produce nutritionally superior fruit in their own fields. Better matched varieties can raise fruit quality, increase market value and deliver higher levels of compounds that lower infection risk, benefiting consumers, farmers and the broader food system.

Environmental Stewardship

Current Activities:

ARS' Environmental Stewardship research program emphasis is on developing technologies and systems that support production agriculture. The agency is currently developing the scientific knowledge and technologies needed to meet the challenges and opportunities facing U.S. agriculture in managing water resource quality and quantity, and production systems. In addition, ARS is evaluating strategies for enhancing the health and productivity of soils, including developing predictive tools to assess the sustainability of alternative land management practices. ARS' range and grazing land research objectives include the conservation and restoration of the Nation's range land and pastures through improved management of fire, invasive weeds, grazing, and agents of change. The agency is currently developing improved grass and forage legume germplasm for livestock, conservation, bioenergy, and bioproduct systems as well as grazing-based livestock systems that increase profitability. In addition, ARS is developing whole system management strategies to reduce production costs and risks.

Selected Examples of Recent Progress:

Drainage water management improves farm profits and water quality. Drainage water management, also known as controlled drainage, involves adjusting the outlet elevation of a tile drainage network, which helps retain water and nutrients in fields. ARS scientists in West Lafayette, Indiana, and collaborators reviewed data collected between 1979 and 2022 from across the world to assess the

cost-effectiveness of this practice. They found that drainage water management can improve corn and soybean yield by up to 3 percent and reduce nutrient losses from fields by 40 percent, both of which can increase farm income by $125 per acre per year. There are 25 million acres of cropland in the U.S. Midwest where this practice can be used and could increase revenue for American farmers by $3 billion.

Health benefits of indoor air scrubbers in poultry houses. In chicken houses, ammonia volatilization from poultry manure creates dangerously high ammonia levels that reduce feed conversion, slow weight gain, lower overall bird health, increase morbidity, and harm worker health. Additionally, pathogens can exit through exhaust fans and potentially spread to other facilities, creating biosecurity risks across the poultry industry. ARS scientists in Fayetteville, Arkansas, developed and patented a novel air scrubber that removes ammonia, dust, and pathogens from inside chicken houses. The scrubber purifies the air in a standard 40 x 400-foot house every 30 minutes, and field testing showed that ammonia levels dropped by 87 to 99 percent. It is also more cost-effective than previous exhaust-only scrubber designs. This scrubber cleans indoor air directly, delivering economic benefits through improved feed conversion, weight gains, bird health, and nitrogen recovery, and has the potential to capture airborne pathogens and reduce disease transmission between facilities. Partnerships with the poultry industry for field validation and expansion to swine production could transform livestock production by simultaneously addressing animal welfare, worker safety, disease transmission risks, farm profitability, and environmental sustainability.

Library and Information Services

Current Activities*:*

The National Agricultural Library (NAL) is the largest and most accessible agricultural research library in the world. It provides services directly to the staff of USDA and to the public, primarily via its web site, http://www.nal.usda.gov. NAL, which was created with the USDA in 1862, was named a national library 100 years later, in 1962, by Congress as "the primary agricultural information resource of the United States." NAL is the premier library for collecting, managing, and disseminating agricultural knowledge.

Selected Examples of Recent Progress:

PubAg Increases USDA full-text publications and peer reviewed citations. PubAg is the NAL search system for USDA-funded scholarly agricultural literature. PubAg contains citations and full-text scholarly articles related to the agricultural sciences. In 2025, PubAg exceeded 4.3 million citations to peer-reviewed, agriculture-related scientific articles. NAL also increased the full-text corpus publicly accessible through PubAg by over 320,487 new full-text articles, for a total of 725,883 full-text articles. NAL staff continually collects and adds relevant scholarly agricultural information to PubAg.

Agricultural Law Information Partnership. Coordinated by NAL, the Agricultural Law Information Partnership supports USDA's commitment to putting American farmers and ranchers first. In collaboration with the Center for Agriculture and Food Systems (CAFS) and the National Agricultural Law Center (NALC), the Partnership provides open-access legal resources that help producers navigate regulatory challenges and protect U.S. agricultural interests. In FY2025, the Partnership addressed key issues including foreign ownership of farmland, Waters of the United States (WOTUS), and farm-to-school policies that promote domestic markets. NALC continues to maintain the most comprehensive legal repository on foreign land ownership, including state and federal statutes, FAQs, and Congressional testimony. These efforts reinforce USDA's mission to protect farm security, reduce regulatory burdens, and ensure the long-term resilience of American agriculture.

This page was intentionally left blank.

ACCOUNT 2: BUILDINGS & FACILITIES

LEAD-OFF TABULAR STATEMENT

Table ARS-16. Lead-Off Tabular Statement (in dollars)

Item	Amount
Estimate, 2026	$60,650,000
Change in Appropriation	-60,650,000
Budget Estimate, 2027	-

PROJECT STATEMENT APPROPRIATIONS

Table ARS-17. Project Statement on Basis of Appropriations (thousands of dollars)

Item	2024 Actual	2025 Actual	2026 Enacted	2027 Estimated	Inc. or Dec.
Discretionary Approp:					
Buildings and Facilities	-	-	$3,000	-	-$3,000
Community Based Projects	$57,164	-	57,650	-	-57,650
Subtotal	57,164	-	60,650	-	-60,650
Supplemental Approp:					
Disaster Relief	-	$42,500	-	-	-
Subtotal	-	42,500	-	-	-
Total Adjusted Approp	57,164	42,500	60,650	-	-60,650
Total Appropriation	57,164	42,500	60,650	-	-60,650
Recoveries, Other	55,573	9,201	-	-	-
Bal. Available, SOY	146,826	122,197	127,846	$84,317	-43,529
Total Available	259,563	173,898	188,496	84,317	-104,179
Bal. Available, EOY	-122,197	-127,846	-84,317	-21,725	+62,592
Total Obligations	137,366	46,052	104,179	62,592	-41,587

FUNDING DETAIL APPROPRIATIONS

Table ARS-18. Additional Funding Detail Appropriations (thousands of dollars)

Allocations	2024 Actual	2025 Actual	2026 Enacted	2027 Estimated	Inc. or Dec.
Buildings and Facilities					
Beltsville, MD, Beltsville Area Research Center, Construction & Facilities Improvements	-	-	$3,000	-	-$3,000
Subtotal	-	-	3,000	-	-3,000
Community Based Projects					
Albany, CA, Western Regional Research Center	$500	-	-	-	-
Beltsville, MD, Beltsville Agricultural Research Center, Infrastructure	-	-	3,000	-	-3,000
Charleston, SC, U.S. Vegetable Laboratory	500	-	-	-	-
Columbia, MO, Center for Agricultural Animal Genetic Engineering and Health	3,000	-	3,000	-	-3,000
East Lansing, MI, Greenhouse Repairs and Maintenance	-	-	3,000	-	-3,000
El Reno, OK and Central Plains Ag. Research Center Modernization & Expansion Project	-	-	5,000	-	-5,000
El Reno, OK, Oklahoma and Central Plains Greenhouse Renovation Project	1,200	-	-	-	-
Hilo, HI, U.S. Pacific Basin Agricultural Research Center	-	-	4,000	-	-4,000
Houma, LA, Sugarcane Research	5,000	-	-	-	-
Kimberly, ID, Idaho Center for Agriculture, Food, and the Environment	2,000	-	3,000	-	-3,000
Lexington, KY, Forage-Animal Production Research Unit	-	-	10,000	-	-10,000
Lincoln, NE, National Center for Resilient and Regenerative Precision	25,000	-	16,000	-	-16,000
Madison, WI, Facilities Maintenance and Repair	1,000	-	-	-	-
Orono, ME, New England Plant, Soil, and Water Research Laboratory	10,000	-	-	-	-
Peoria, IL, National Center for Agricultural Utilization Research Center	1,269	-	-	-	-
Prosser, WA, Facility Upgrades	3,000	-	-	-	-
Pullman, WA, Plant BioSciences Bldg Completion	-	-	1,000	-	-1,000
Raleigh, NC, Central Crops Research Station	1,475	-	-	-	-
St. Paul, MN, Cereal Disease Laboratory	1,000	-	-	-	-
Stuttgart, AR, Equipment and Infrastructure Modernization	-	-	3,100	-	-3,100
Stuttgart, AR, Facility Repairs and Improvements	-	-	6,550	-	-6,550
Urbana, IL, Capital Improvements	1,220	-	-	-	-
Wooster, OH, Greenhouse Research Facility	1,000	-	-	-	-
Subtotal	57,164	-	57,650	-	-57,650
Disaster Relief Supplemental					
Ft. Pierce, FL, United States Horticultural Research Laboratory	-	$14,500	-	-	-
Houma, LA, Sugarcane Research Laboratory	-	28,000	-	-	-
Subtotal	-	42,500	-	-	-
Total Allocations	57,164	42,500	60,650	-	-60,650

PROJECT STATEMENT OBLIGATIONS

Table ARS-19. Project Statement on Basis of Obligations (thousands of dollars)

Item	2024 Actual	2025 Actual	2026 Enacted	2027 Estimated	Inc. or Dec.
Discretionary Obligations:					
Buildings and Facilities	$64,796	$16,318	$4,478	$3,555	-$923
ARS Co-Located Facilities	2,395	-	-	17	+17
Community Based Projects	32,002	27,833	81,039	37,493	-43,546
Subtotal Disc Obligations	99,193	44,151	85,517	41,065	-44,452
Supplemental Obligations:					
Emergency Supplemental	173	-	2,662	-	-2,662
Disaster Relief	38,000	1,901	16,000	21,527	+5,527
Subtotal Supp Obligations	38,173	1,901	18,662	21,527	+2,865
Total Obligations	137,366	46,052	104,179	62,592	-41,587
Total Bal. Available, EOY	122,197	127,846	84,317	21,725	-62,592
Total Available	259,563	173,898	188,496	84,317	-104,179
Less:					
Recoveries, Other	-55,573	-9,201	-	-	-
Bal. Available, SOY	-146,826	-122,197	-127,846	-84,317	+43,529
Total Appropriation	57,164	42,500	60,650	-	-60,650

FUNDING DETAIL OBLIGATIONS

Table ARS-20. Additional Funding Detail Obligations (thousands of dollars)

Allocations	2024 Actual	2025 Actual	2026 Enacted	2027 Estimated	Inc. or Dec.
Buildings and Facilities					
Athens, GA, Southeast Poultry Research Center	$756	$367	$367	-	-$367
Beltsville, MD, Beltsville Area Research Center, Building 001	14,512	-	-	-	-
Beltsville, MD, Beltsville Area Research Center, Buildings 002, 005 and 308	1,690	2,529	-	-	-
Beltsville, MD, Beltsville Area Research Center, Building 002	2,096	-	-	-	-
Beltsville, MD, Beltsville Area Research Center, Building 003	2,624	442	-	-	-
Beltsville, MD, Beltsville Area Research Center, Building 004	11,496	-	-	-	-
Beltsville, MD, Beltsville Area Research Center, Building 010A	11,523	-	-	-	-
Beltsville, MD, Beltsville Area Research Center, Building 308	500	-	-	-	-
Beltsville, MD, Beltsville Area Research Center, Construction & Facility Improvements	-	-	-	-	-
Beltsville, MD, Beltsville Area Research Center, Infrastructure	-	-	3,200	-	-3,200
Corvallis, OR, National Clonal Germplasm Repository	-	-	28	-	-28
Ft. Detrick, MD, Foreign Disease-Weed Research Center	837	4,482	518	-	-518
Houston, TX, Children's Nutrition Research Center	-	1,403	-	-	-

Allocations	2024 Actual	2025 Actual	2026 Enacted	2027 Estimated	Inc. or Dec.
Mandan, ND, Land Acquisition	2,200	-	-	-	-
Manhattan, KS, NBAF Capital Improvement	-	7,045	-	$3,555	+3,555
Prairie du Sac, WI, Dairy Forage Research Center	15,200	-	-	-	-
Salinas, CA, U.S. Agricultural Research Station	453	-	19	-	-19
Temple, TX, Grassland, Soil and Water Research Laboratory	533	-	151	-	-151
Tucson, AZ, Southwest Watershed Research Laboratory	377	50	195	-	-195
Subtotal	64,797	16,318	4,478	3,555	-923
ARS Co-Located Facilities					
Auburn, AL, National Soil Dynamics Laboratory	1,187	-	-	17	+17
Geneva, NY, Grape Genetics Research Center	1,000	-	-	-	-
Raleigh, NC, Raleigh Research Laboratory	208	-	-	-	-
Subtotal	2,395	-	-	17	+17
Community Based Projects					
Albany, CA, Western Regional Research Center	-	-	400	100	-300
Athens, GA, U.S. National Poultry Research Center	-	70	191	-	-191
Beltsville, MD, Beltsville Area Research Center, Infrastructure	-	-	-	3,000	+3,000
Booneville, AR, Wastewater Treatment Plant Rehabilitation	117	-	-	-	-
Burns, OR, Range and Meadow Forage Management Research	-	-	408	-	-408
Charleston, SC, U.S. Vegetable Laboratory	-	-	500	-	-500
Columbia, MO, Center for Agricultural Animal Genetic Engineering and Health	-	720	8,911	4,000	-4,911
Dubois, ID, U.S. Sheep Experiment Station	1,856	60	1,900	93	-1,807
East Lansing, MI, Greenhouse Repairs and Maintenance	-	-	500	2,000	+1,500
El Reno, OK, Grazinglands Research Laboratory	1,088	-	185	-	-185
El Reno, OK, Oklahoma and Central Plain Greenhouse Renovation Project	-	93	1,107	-	-1,107
El Reno, OK, Oklahoma and Central Plains Modernization and Expansion	-	-	1,000	3,500	+2,500
Hilo, HI, U.S. Pacific Basin Agricultural Research Center	-	75	1,465	3,675	+2,210
Houma, LA, Sugarcane Research	45	13,827	3,827	563	-3,264
Houston, TX, Children's Nutrition Research Center	2,348	3,505	736	-	-736
Kimberly, ID, Idaho Center for Agriculture, Food, and the Environment	-	877	4,417	700	-3,717
Las Cruces, NM, Range Management Research Unit	320	1,720	791	-	-791
Lexington, KY, Forage-Animal Production Research Unit	-	-	10,000	-	-10,000
Lincoln, NE, National Center for Resilient and Regenerative Precision	25,000	-	16,000	-	-16,000
Madison, WI, Plant Germplasm Research Facility	-	401	-	-	-
Madison, WI, Marshfield Agricultural Research Station	558	4	4,500	938	-3,562
Madison, WI, Research Facilities Maintenance and Repair	-	-	200	800	+600
Maricopa, AZ, U.S. Arid Land Agricultural Research Center	-	174	1,226	78	-1,148
Orono, ME, National Cold Water Marine Aquaculture Center	306	-	2,825	369	-2,456
Orono, ME, New England Plant, Soil and Water Research Laboratory	-	-	1,300	8,000	+6,700
Pendleton, OR, Columbia Plateau Conservation Research Center	-	543	157	-	-157
Peoria, IL, Capital Improvements	256	-	2,644	600	-2,044

Allocations	2024 Actual	2025 Actual	2026 Enacted	2027 Estimated	Inc. or Dec.
Peoria, IL, National Center for Agricultural Utilization Research Center	-	387	4,882	100	-4,782
Prosser, WA, Facility Upgrades	-	-	2,200	500	-1,700
Pullman, WA, New Plant BioSciences Research Building Completion	-	-	1,000	-	-1,000
Raleigh, NC, Central Crops Research Station	-	-	2,000	475	-1,525
St. Paul, MN, Cereal Disease Laboratory	-	1,000	-	-	-
Stuttgart, AR, Equipment and Infrastructure Modernization	-	-	500	2,500	+2,000
Stuttgart, AR, Facility Repairs and Improvements	-	-	800	4,000	+3,200
Stillwater, OK, Hydraulic Engineering Research Unit	39	275	2,525	202	-2,323
Stillwater, OK, Wheat, Peanut, and Other Field Crops Research Unit	68	3,700	104	-	-104
Tucson, AZ, Facility Upgrades	-	297	343	-	-343
Wenatchee, WA, Deferred Maintenance	-	-	300	100	-200
Woodward, OK, Southern Plains Range Research Center	-	-	400	1,100	+700
Wooster, OH, Greenhouse Research Facility	-	105	795	100	-695
Subtotal	32,001	27,833	81,039	37,493	-43,546
Disaster Relief Supplemental					
Auburn, AL, National Soil Dynamics Research Laboratory	28,000	-	-	-	-
Ft. Pierce, FL, United States Horticultural Research Laboratory	-	-	11,000	527	-10,473
Houma, LA, Sugarcane Research Laboratory	-	1,901	5,000	21,000	+16,000
Madison, WI, U.S. Dairy Forage Research Center	10,000	-	-	-	-
Subtotal	38,000	1,901	16,000	21,527	+5,527
Emergency Hurricane Supplemental					
Subtotal	173	-	2,662	-	-2,662
Total	137,366	46,052	104,179	62,592	-41,587

OBJECT CLASSIFICATION

Table ARS-21. Classification by Objects – Discretionary Funding (thousands of dollars)

Item No.	Item	2024 Actual	2025 Actual	2026 Estimated	2027 Estimated
	Other Objects:				
32.0	Land and structures	$137,366	$46,052	$104,179	$62,592
99.9	Total, new obligations	137,366	46,052	104,179	62,592

STATUS OF CONSTRUCTION

Status of Construction Projects as of December 2025. Status of research facilities authorized or funded in prior years and reported as uncompleted in the 2026 Explanatory Notes, are as follows:

NOTE: Program of Requirement (POR): A study/document that defines the research program, associated space and equipment needs and associated design criteria. DESIGN: The design is either a conceptual design - designated as 35 percent - or a complete design designated as 100 percent.

Location and Purpose	Year	Amount of Funds Provided	Description
Alabama, Auburn National Soil Dynamics Research Laboratory	2019 Design and Construction [2023 Supplemental] Total	$43,300,000 [28,000,000] 71,300,000	Award for IT Racks and Switches expected in 2027 for new building.
Arkansas, Stuttgart Equipment and Infrastructure Modernization	2026 Planning	$3,100,000	
Arkansas, Stuttgart Facility Repairs and Improvements	2026 Planning	$6,550,000	
Arizona, Maricopa U.S. Arid Land Agricultural Research Center	2023 Design and Construction	$1,478,000	Anticipate design completion and award for construction in 2026.
Arizona, Tucson Southwest Watershed Research Center	2016 Design and Construction	$12,400,000	Design/Programming completed 1st Quarter 2018. Construction contract awarded 4th Quarter 2018. Funds expected to be awarded towards construction in 2026.
Arizona, Tucson Facility Upgrades	2023 Design and Construction	$698,000	Portion of funds obligated in 2025 for repairs. Construction modifications expected to be awarded in 2026.
California, Albany Western Regional Research Center	2024 Design and Construction	$500,000	Project planning in progress. Design expected to be awarded in 2026.
California, Davis Center for Advanced Viticulture and Tree Crop Research	2020 Design and Construction	$76,200,000	Design completed 2nd Quarter 2023. Construction contract awarded 4th Quarter 2024. Funds expected to be awarded towards construction in 2026.
California, Salinas Agricultural Research Station	2016 Design 2017 Construction 2018 Construction Total	$1,300,000 30,200,000 71,200,000 102,700.000	All work completed January 2025.

Location and Purpose	Year	Amount of Funds Provided	Description
Florida, Ft. Pierce U.S. Horticultural Research Laboratory	[2025 Construction Supplemental]	[$14,500,000]	Design contract awarded 4th Quarter of FY2025. Construction expected to be awarded in FY26 with an estimated completion in 2027.
Georgia, Athens U.S. National Poultry Research Center	2015 Planning, Design, Construction 2016 Construction 2023 Design and Construction Total	$45,000,000 113,701,000 1,000,000 159,701,000	Remaining funds expected to be awarded towards construction in 2026.
Georgia, Tifton Southeast Watershed Research Laboratory	2019 Design and Construction	$39,900,000	Design completed 2nd Quarter 2023. Construction awarded 1st Quarter 2024. Construction completion planned by 2nd Quarter 2027.
Hawaii, Hilo U.S. Pacific Basin Agricultural Research Center	2023 Planning 2026 Planning	$1,215,000 4,000,000 5,215,000	Design awarded in 2025. Construction award planned for 2026.
Idaho, Dubois U.S. Sheep Experiment Station	2022 Construction Design	$4,200,000	Buildings 66 and 92 repairs complete. Award for well repairs planned for 2026.
Idaho, Kimberly Idaho Center for Agriculture, Food, and the Environment	2023 Planning 2024 Construction 2026 Construction Total	$1,000,000 2,000,000 3,000,000 6,000,000	Construction expected to be awarded in 2026 with remaining funds held in contingency during construction.
Illinois, Peoria New Greenhouse	2022 Construction Design	$4,500,000	Design completed 2025. Construction expected to be awarded in 2026 with remaining funds held in contingency.
Illinois, Peoria Capital Improvements	2023 Planning, Design, Construction 2024 Construction Total	$3,500,000 1,269,000 4,769,000	Design completed. Construction expected to be awarded in 2026 with remaining funds held in contingency during construction.
Illinois, Urbana Capital Improvements	2023 Design 2024 Construction Total	$500,000 1,220,000 1,720,000	On hold pending proposed closure.
Kansas, Manhattan National Bio and Agro-Defense Facility (NBAF) Laboratory	2022 Design and Construction	$10,600,000	Upgrades to prepare facility for mission transfer.

Location and Purpose	Year	Amount of Funds Provided	Description
Kentucky, Lexington Forage Animal Research Laboratory	2020 Construction 2026 Construction	$65,900,000 10,000,000 75,900,000	Design completed 4th Quarter 2023. Construction award planned for 2026.
Louisiana, Houma Sugarcane Research Unit	2022 Construction 2023 Planning 2024 Construction [2025 Design and Construction] Total	$10,000,000 4,000,000 5,000,000 [28,000,000] 47,000,000	Design of greenhouses completed. Construction of Greenhouse awarded 4th Quarter 2025. Laboratory design update awarded 4th Quarter 2025. Lab construction award planned for 2026.
Maine, Orono National Cold Water Marine Aquaculture Center	2023 Planning	$3,500,000	Construction expected to be awarded in 2026 with remaining funds held in contingency during construction.
Maine, Orono New England Plant, Soil, and Water Laboratory	2024 Planning, Design and Construction	$10,000,000	Laboratory and office design award planned for 2026. Construction award planned to begin in 2027.
Maryland, Beltsville (BARC) Renovate Buildings 002, 005, and 308	2020 Design	$12,300,000	On hold pending proposed closure.
Maryland, Beltsville (BARC) Renovate Building 001	2017 Reassigned from Frederick (Ft. Detrick)	$16,000,000	On hold pending proposed closure.
Maryland, Beltsville (BARC) Renovate Building 002	2016 Reassigned from BARC Bldg. B307 2021 Construction 2023 Reassigned from BARC Infrastructure Total	$1,583,624 24,500,000 500,000 26,583,624	On hold pending proposed closure.
Maryland, Beltsville (BARC) Renovate Building 003	2017 Reassigned from Frederick (Ft. Detrick)	$10,000,000	On hold pending proposed closure.
Maryland, Beltsville (BARC) Renovate Building 004	2017 Reassigned from Frederick (Ft. Detrick)	$12,450,000	On hold pending proposed closure.
Maryland, Beltsville (BARC) Renovate Building 005	2016 Reassigned from Ames, Iowa (NLAE) 2022 Construction	$138,941 34,805,000 11,200,000	On hold pending proposed closure.

Location and Purpose	Year	Amount of Funds Provided	Description
	2023 Construction (Reassigned from BARC Infrastructure) Total	46,143,941	
Maryland, Beltsville (BARC) Renovate Building 010A	2017 Reassigned from Frederick (Ft. Detrick)	$11,550,000	On hold pending proposed closure.
Maryland, Beltsville (BARC) Renovate Building 308	2023 Design (Reassigned from BARC Infrastructure)	$500,000	On hold pending proposed closure.
Maryland, Beltsville BARC Construction and Facility Improvements	2026 Construction	$3,000,000	On hold pending proposed closure.
Maryland, Beltsville BARC Infrastructure	2023 Planning 2023 Reassigned to BARC Building 002 2023 Reassigned to BARC Building 005 2023 Reassigned to BARC Building 308 2023 Reassigned to Mandan, ND 2026 Construction Total	$17,600,000 (500,000) (11,200,000) (500,000) (2,200,000) 3,000,000 6,200,000	BARC water tower repair design in development.
Maryland, Frederick (Fort Detrick) Foreign Disease-Weed Science Research Laboratory	2016 Design 2017 Construction 2017 Reassigned to BARC Building 001 2017 Reassigned to BARC Building 003 2017 Reassigned to BARC Building 004 2017 Reassigned to BARC Building 010 Total	$4,900,000 64,300,000 (16,000,000) (10,000,000) (12,450,000) (11,550,000) 19,200,000	Design/Programming awarded 4th Quarter 2016 and completed 2nd Quarter 2018. $50M redirected to various repairs of Beltsville Agricultural Research Center (BARC). The remaining $19.2M will be used to replace an existing greenhouse and to modernize various smaller Ft. Detrick facilities. Design completed 2026. Construction expected to be awarded in 2026 with remaining funds held in contingency during construction.
Michigan, East Lansing Michigan State University	2026 Design and Construction	$3,000,000	
Minnesota, St. Paul Cereal Disease	2023 Planning	$7,000,000	Planning and Design funds for a new Lab/Office

Location and Purpose	Year	Amount of Funds Provided	Description
Laboratory	2024 Design Total	1,000,000 8,000,000	building, Headhouse and Greenhouse. Planning contract awarded 3rd Quarter 2024. POR completed 4th Quarter 2025.
Missouri, Columbia National Plant and Genetics Security Center	2020 Design and Construction	$24,800,000	Design completed 4th Quarter of 2022. Construction award planned for 2026.
Missouri, Columbia Center for Agricultural Animal Genetic Engineering and Health	2022 Planning and Design 2023 Planning and Design 2024 Planning and Design 2026 Planning and Design Total	$4,000,000 4,000,000 3,000,000 3,000,000 14,000,000	Design completed. Construction expected to be awarded in 2026 with remaining funds held in contingency during construction.
Nebraska, Lincoln University of Nebraska National Center for Resilient Precision Agriculture	2021 Planning and Design 2022 Construction 2024 Construction 2026 Construction Total	$11,200,000 20,000,000 25,000,000 16,000,000 72,200,000	Design completed 4th Quarter 2023. Construction of Greenhouses awarded 3rd Quarter 2025. Construction completion planned 2nd Quarter 2027.
New Mexico, Las Cruces Range Management Research Unit	2023 Planning	$2,831,000	Construction award for most repairs 4th Quarter 2025. Construction completion planned 1st Quarter 2027. Repairs to Wooton Hall fire alarm construction award 4th Quarter 2025. Construction completion planned for 2026.
New York, Geneva Grape Genetics Research Center	2019 Design and Construction	$68,900,000	Design completed 1st Quarter 2024.
North Carolina, Raleigh Central Crops Research Station	2023 Planning 2024 Construction Total	$1,000,000 1,475,000 2,475,000	Design completed 3rd Quarter of 2025. Construction expected to be awarded in 2026 with remaining funds held in contingency during construction.
North Carolina, Raleigh Plant Science Research	2019 Design and Construction	$30,600,000	Planned construction solicitation in 2026.
North Dakota, Mandan Land Acquisition	2023 Reassigned from BARC Infrastructure	$2,200,000	Land purchased for future project.
Ohio, Toledo/Wooster Greenhouse Research Facility	2024 Planning	$1,000,000	Construction expected to be awarded in 2026 with remaining funds held in contingency during construction.

Location and Purpose	Year	Amount of Funds Provided	Description
Oklahoma, El Reno Grazinglands Research Laboratory	2023 Planning	$1,260,000	Road projects completed 2nd Quarter 2025.
Oklahoma, El Reno, Oklahoma and Central Plains Research Center	2024 Planning 2026 Design and Construction Total	$1,200,000 5,000,000 6,200,000	Design of repairs to Headhouse/Greenhouse completed 4th Quarter 2025. Construction award planned for 2026.
Oklahoma, Stillwater Hydraulic Engineering Research Unit	2023 Planning	$3,254,000	Design Siphon System completed 3rd Quarter 2025. Construction award planned for 2026 with remaining funds held in contingency during construction.
Oklahoma, Stillwater Wheat, Peanut, and Other Field Crops Research Unit	2023 Planning	$4,177,000	Design complete. Construction award planned for 2026.
Oklahoma, Woodward Southern Plains Range Research Center	2023 Planning	$1,544,000	Revised design award planned for 2026.
Oregon, Burns Range and Meadow Forage Management Research	2023 Planning	$408,000	Design and construction award planned for 2026.
Oregon, Corvallis National Clonal Germplasm Repository	2020 Design and Construction	$13,500,000	Design completed 4th Quarter 2022. Construction awarded 2nd Quarter 2023 and final acceptance planned for 2026.
Oregon, Pendleton Columbia Plateau Conservation Research Center	2023 Planning	$700,000	Design awarded 3rd Quarter 2023 and completed 3rd Quarter 2024. Project resolicited with award 4th Quarter 2025. Change orders expected to be executed in 2026 to complete the project.
Pennsylvania, University Park Pasture Systems & Watershed Management Research	2019 Design and Construction	$21,900,000	Design completed 3rd Quarter 2022. Construction awarded for 2nd Quarter 2023 and final acceptance expected in 2026.
South Carolina, Charleston U.S. Vegetable Laboratory	2024 Design and Construction	$500,000	Project planning in progress. Design expected to be awarded in 2026.
Texas, Houston Children's Nutrition Research Center	2016 Design and Construction 2023 Planning Total	$29,200,000 7,115,000 36,315,000	Change orders expected to be executed in 2026 to complete the project.

Location and Purpose	Year	Amount of Funds Provided	Description
Texas, Kerrville Knipling Bushland Laboratory	2017 Planning and Design 2018 Construction Total	$3,700,000 50,700,000 54,400,000	The design completed 2nd Quarter 2021. Construction awarded 1st Quarter 2022. Construction completion planned for 2026.
Washington, Prosser Deferred Maintenance	2024 Planning	$3,000,000	Construction expected to be awarded in 2026 with remaining funds held in contingency during construction.
Washington, Pullman Pullman ARS Research Laboratory Plant Biosciences Building	2019 Design and Construction [2023 Supplement Construction] 2026 Construction Total	$104,900,000 [20,000,000] 1,000,000 125,900,000	Design Build contract awarded 3rd Quarter 2023 with a beneficial occupancy planned for 2026.
Washington, Wenatchee Deferred Maintenance	2023 Planning	$400,000	Design completed 2nd Quarter 2025. Construction expected to be awarded in 2026 with remaining funds held in contingency during construction.
Wisconsin, Prairie du Sac Dairy Forage Agriculture Research Center	2019 Design and Construction [2023 Supplemental Construction] Total	$71,700,000 [10,000,000] 81,700,000	Design completed 4th Quarter 2023.