



# AREERA State Plans of Work

This Plan of Work (POW) newsletter focuses on the 2007 Annual Report as part of the recently released 2009 – 2013 Plan of Work and 2007 Annual Report software. And also begins to give hints for what to include.

## The 2007 Annual Report

CSREES released the first version of the online Annual Report software on October 5, 2007. The FY 2007 Annual Report will be the first time the State Annual Report will be completed as part of the online AREERA State Plan of Work. The Annual Report contents are aligned with the framework published on the CSREES AREERA POW web page at <http://www.csrees.usda.gov/business/reporting/planrept/plansofwork.html>.

Highlights and improvements to the reporting software include:

1. Enabling a distinction between research and Extension KAs in the Planned Programs.
2. Improving the interface for choosing KAs using drop down menus and linking to a more interactive KA manual.
3. Allowing for either quantitative or qualitative outcome evidence (or both) in the Annual Report.
4. For the Peer Review Publications output, allowing for inputting for research,

- extension, and total. The total option is independent of the research and extension columns. Thus, you can enter data in only that column if you do not distinguish between research and extension publications in your state.
5. Ability to “Add Cross-cutting Outcome/Impact Statements or Unintended or Previously Unknown Outcome Measures” in the Planned Programs section of the Annual Report.
  6. Ability to “Add a previously unplanned Program” in the Annual Report.
  7. Other improvements.

## Focus on Outputs: What to Include in the Patents Table and Accompanying Text Box

We received a number of questions related to patents in the POW at the Planning and Evaluation Mini-Conference in Seattle. The number of expected patents was curiously high in the POW compared to past patent reporting. Thus, we want to clarify what we are looking for in the Patent section of the POW and subsequent Annual Report of Accomplishments.

For the purposes of the POW and Annual Report of Accomplishments, patents means any invention or discovery for which an actual application for a patent has been made for protection under Title 35 of the United States Code (USC), or any novel variety of plant which is protectable under the Plant Variety Protection Act PVP (7 USC 2321, et seq.).

CSREES wants only actual patents or PVP applications to be reported in the Annual Report. Thus, only include the number of patents or PVP applications in the Patent table. Also list what those applications are for in the accompanying text box for the Annual Report.

Actual patents received will be gleaned from the iEdison information system. iEdison (which stands for Interagency Edison) helps government grantees and contractors comply with a federal law, the Bayh-Dole Act. Bayh-Dole regulations require that government funded inventions be reported to the federal agency who made the award.

### **CSREES One Solution Update**

As a step toward integrating CSREES reporting systems, the agency released changes to the traditional CRIS reporting system at the beginning of FY 2008 (October 1, 2007). A more standardized CRIS report is designed to familiarize grantees and project directors with an initial portion of an integrated, web-based, One Solution reporting system addressing problems identified by both grantees and agency staff.

The most current and detailed guidance associated with the CRIS Transition Standard Report can be viewed at:  
[www.csrees.usda.gov/onesolution](http://www.csrees.usda.gov/onesolution)

The revised CRIS AD421 moves the CSREES reporting system toward the language used in the format of the Research Performance Progress Report (RPPR). A request for public comment on a standardized RPPR format was published in the Federal Register by the National Science Foundation (NSF) on November 9, 2007. The NSF is serving as the sponsor of this Federal-wide format for receipt of comments under this interagency initiative.

### **What's Next?**

Future newsletters between now and April 1, 2008, will highlight individual sections of the Annual Report. Please send requests for the next newsletter to Bart Hewitt. The next newsletter will focus on outcome reporting in the Annual Report.

### **AREERA Plan of Work Dates**

2007 Annual Report due by April 1, 2008

2009 - 2013 Plan of Work Update due by April 1, 2008.

**For more information on the Plan of Work, e-mail the [Plan of Work staff](#) or call Bart Hewitt, 202-720-0747.**