

December 5, 2003

SUBJECT: Invitation to View 50th Anniversary Partnership Recognition
Event Featuring Secretary Ann Veneman

TO: All ARS Employees

FROM: Edward B. Knipling /s/
Acting Administrator

As part of ARS' 50th anniversary year, I am hosting a reception on the Patio of the Jamie Whitten Building in Washington, D.C., at 3 p.m. eastern time, Thursday, December 11. A live broadcast of this event will be available on the World Wide Web, and you are invited to view. Point your browser to www.ars.usda.gov/50th for a link to the broadcast.

Secretary Ann M. Veneman and other USDA officials will participate in this ceremony to recognize ARS' 50 years of agricultural research achievement and its commitment and service to USDA agencies, as well as customers and partners external to USDA. Affiliations with our customers and stakeholders are an integral part of the ARS mission. We expect this event will be well attended by members of the USDA family, private and public sector partners, customers, and other stakeholders. I hope you will join us virtually as we mark our past scientific achievements and look to our promising future.