



**Agricultural Research Service**

[www.ars.usda.gov](http://www.ars.usda.gov)

# ARS in a Flash!

We want you! When we search for new people to join **ARS**, we look for individuals with intelligence, creativity, and energy intrigued by 21st century challenges and eager to solve them. We hope that you will take a couple of minutes and learn more about **ARS** and all the exciting opportunities we have for you. Still have questions? E-mail us at [careers@ars.usda.gov](mailto:careers@ars.usda.gov).

## Quick Facts

- 1,000 research projects
- 2,000 research scientists
- 6,000 additional employees
- 100+ research locations, domestic, and abroad

U.S. Department of Agriculture  
ARS/AFM/ODEO  
5601 Sunnyside Avenue  
Beltsville, MD 20705-5144

E-mail: [careers@ars.usda.gov](mailto:careers@ars.usda.gov)

*USDA/ARS is an equal opportunity employer and provider.*





## Your Future Grows Here!



As the principal in-house scientific research agency of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), the **Agricultural Research Service (ARS)** has career opportunities for permanent and temporary employees. Being a scientific research agency, many of the careers available are in the life, physical, and engineering sciences. **ARS** employs research scientists, postdoctoral research associates, support scientists and research technicians, as well as individuals in various professional, technical, administrative, secretarial and clerical, and trades and crafts occupational areas.

*Why work for ARS?* Your work will matter – to everyday people from babies to seniors; to farmers and ranchers; to all kinds of businesses large and small; and to a future world with many more people to feed, less land suitable for growing crops and sustaining livestock, and an environment under increasing pressure from myriad sources. Additionally, **ARS** employees enjoy the numerous benefits of federal employment. (See page 3 for more information on how to find and apply for **ARS** jobs.)

**Locations**

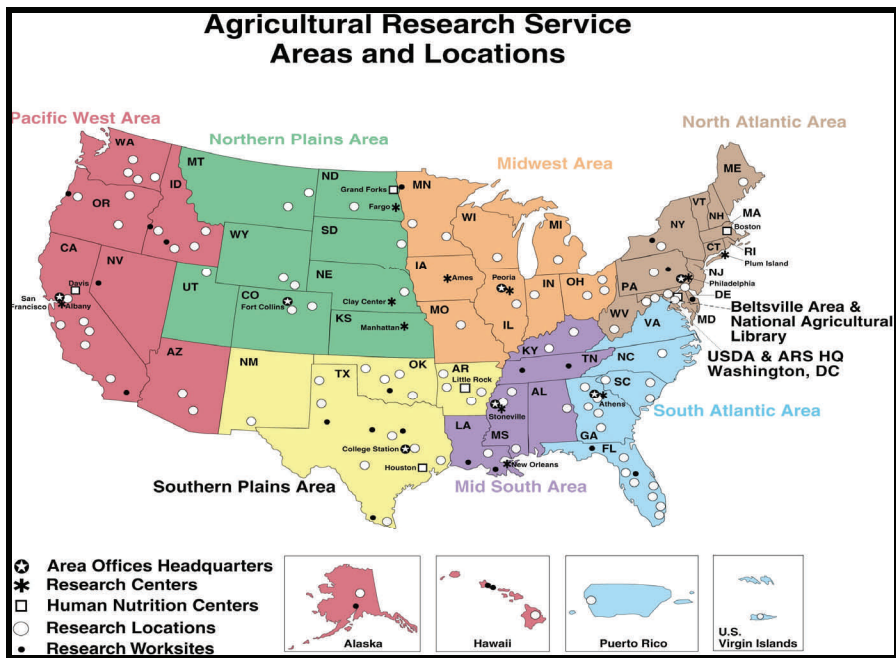
**ARS** has approximately 100 locations domestic and abroad. From coast to coast, we have locations in almost every state and one close to you. Click here to see an interactive map of our locations:  
[www.ars.usda.gov/pandp/locations.htm](http://www.ars.usda.gov/pandp/locations.htm)

### Agricultural Research Service (ARS)

Want additional information about **ARS**? Here you can find more detailed information about the Agency and opportunities we offer.  
[www.ars.usda.gov](http://www.ars.usda.gov)

### United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)

Click here to find out about current news in USDA.  
[www.usda.gov](http://www.usda.gov)





**ARS Careers!**  
[www.ars.usda.gov/careers](http://www.ars.usda.gov/careers)

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### **Subscribe to ARS Jobs**

Do you want to receive an "ARS Jobs" e-mail showing the new vacant positions being advertised each week? If so, you can sign up from the [Subscribe to ARS Jobs](#) site.

### **USAJOBS**

Great place to start your search for full time employment. Search for **ARS** jobs in 5 easy steps:

- 1) Go to [www.usajobs.gov](http://www.usajobs.gov)
- 2) Click [Search Jobs](#) Tab
- 3) Click [Agency Search](#)
- 4) Click [Agricultural Research Service](#) and add any additional search criteria if you choose.
- 5) Click [Search for Jobs](#).



Now that you know about **ARS**, the following sites provide valuable information pertaining specifically to **ARS** Careers, and address questions related to the federal application process. Be sure to sign up for our free weekly **ARS** Jobs E-mail!

#### **Current Job Openings**

The [Current Job Openings](#) section provides links to the vacancy announcement listings for **ARS** as well as an explanation for each list of vacancy announcements.

#### **Career Information**

The [Career Information](#) section provides career and employment information useful to job applicants, students and teachers, and current Federal employees.

#### **Recruitment Calendar**

The [Recruitment Calendar](#) provides information on career events **ARS** staff will be participating in on college and university campuses and through professional societies and organizations. If you are attending one of these events, feel free to send us an e-mail and let us know you plan to attend. We would love to meet you!

#### **Frequently Asked Questions**

The [Frequently Asked Questions](#) section provides answers to many of the typical questions asked about the Federal hiring process. Also, take a look at the Applicant Guide from the main Careers website.

#### **Outreach and Recruitment Staff**

The [Outreach and Recruitment Staff](#) can answer questions you have about the Federal application process and careers in **ARS**.



## Jobs in ARS!

[www.ars.usda.gov](http://www.ars.usda.gov)

Accountants	Information Technology Specialists
Accounting Technicians	Librarians
Administrative Officers	Library Technicians
Agricultural Engineers	Management and Program Analysts
Agricultural Science Research Technicians	Management Clerks and Assistants
Agronomists	Mathematical Statisticians
Animal Scientists	Mechanical Engineers
Biological Scientists	Microbiologists
Biological Science Research Technicians	Miscellaneous Administrative and Program Specialists
Botanists	Miscellaneous Clerks and Assistants
Budget Analysts	Molecular Biologists
Budget Clerks and Assistants	Nutritionists
Chemical Engineers	Office Automation Clerks and Assistants
Chemists	Patent Advisors
Civil Engineers	Physical Science Technicians
Computational Biologists	Physiologists
Contract Specialists	Plant Pathologists
Dietitians	Plant Physiologists
Ecologists	Procurement Clerks and Assistants
Editorial Assistants	Public Affairs Specialists
Editors	Purchasing Agent
Electronics Technicians	Realty Specialists
Engineering Technicians	Safety and Occupational Health Specialists
Entomologists	Safety Technicians
Environmental Protection Specialists	Secretaries
Equal Employment Opportunity Specialists	Security Guards
Equal Opportunity Assistants	Soil Scientists
Financial Administration and Program Specialists	Statisticians
Financial Clerks and Assistants	Technical Information Specialists
Fishery Biologists	Technical Writers and Editors
Food Technologists	Toxicologists
General Business and Industry Specialists	Transportation Clerks and Assistants
General Engineers	Transportation Specialists
General Physical Scientists	Veterinary Medical Officers
Geneticists	Visual Information Specialists
Horticulturists	Writers
Human Resources Clerks and Assistants	Zoologists
Human Resources Specialists	
Hydrologic Technicians	
Hydrologists	





## Student Corner!

[www.ars.usda.gov](http://www.ars.usda.gov)

Check out these websites for more information on obtaining summer employment, internships, and full-time positions!

### ARS Careers—Student and Summer Employment

This site will provide more information about ARS student and summer employment. To get more information about student opportunities, contact the listed individual for the area in which you would like to work. That contact person will provide additional information needed to get you invaluable hands on experience for the summer. Start early!

[www.ars.usda.gov/careers](http://www.ars.usda.gov/careers)

### Agricultural Research Magazine

Learn more about our exciting research from our award winning monthly publication.

[www.ars.usda.gov/is/AR](http://www.ars.usda.gov/is/AR)

### Studentjobs.gov

USAJOBS tailored for students!

[www.studentjobs.gov](http://www.studentjobs.gov)

### Ag in the Classroom

Agriculture awareness targeted to younger generations.

[www.agclassroom.org/teen](http://www.agclassroom.org/teen)

### ARS Vision Statement

The ARS vision is to lead America towards a better future through agricultural research and information.



### Mission Statement

ARS conducts research to develop and transfer solutions to agricultural problems of high national priority and provide information access and dissemination to:

- Ensure high-quality, safe food, and other agricultural products
- Sustain a competitive agricultural economy
- Enhance the natural resource base and the environment, and
- Provide economic opportunities for rural citizens, communities, and society as a whole.

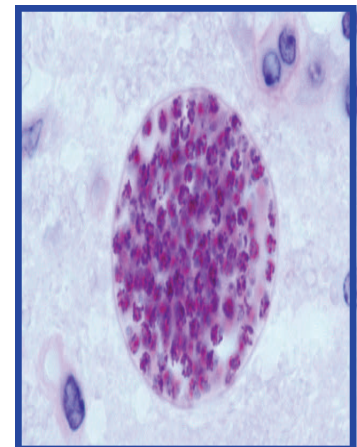
### History/Key Accomplishments

Still want to learn more about what we do? Click here for more details about our most notable accomplishments:

[www.ars.usda.gov/business/docs.htm?docid=769&page=1](http://www.ars.usda.gov/business/docs.htm?docid=769&page=1)

What does ARS do for you?

[www.ars.usda.gov/aboutus/docs.htm?docid=1505](http://www.ars.usda.gov/aboutus/docs.htm?docid=1505)





## Employee Spotlight! Tiger Dunams

### How did you start out in science?

I initially became very interested in science during the 7<sup>th</sup> grade. One of our science class projects involved the dissection of owl pellets. Owl pellets are the indigestible parts (such as fur and bones) that the bird regurgitates after it has digested its meal. Owls usually swallow a small rodent whole, and after several hours the indigestible material is compressed into a pellet, which is later regurgitated. It was then that I realized my passion for science because it was so fun and interesting. During my undergraduate studies, I worked in two research laboratories studying the genetic relationships between different species of *Theobroma cacao*, the plant whose seeds are used to make chocolate, and I conducted studies on the genetic relationships between different species of *Zea mays* (corn). As a result, I co-authored my first publication as an undergraduate. Which was a great accomplishment for me!



**Benjamin Rosenthal searches for microscopic parasite cysts while Tiger Dunams inspects variation in the length of PCR-amplified parasite genes.**

### What schools did you attend?

I am a proud alumna of the University of California, Irvine. Currently, I am pursuing a Master of Science in Biotechnology with a Bioinformatics specialization at the University of Maryland University College.

### What are your future goals?

My short-term goal is to finish my master's degree and continue to contribute to the field of molecular systematics, epidemiology, infectious disease and parasitology by becoming a highly skilled bioinformaticist.

My long-term goal is to continue to work with bright, young, talented interns, with the intention to inspire them to become our society's future scientists. I hope to spread my passion and extreme interest in science to many people throughout my career.

[www.ars.usda.gov](http://www.ars.usda.gov)



## Employee Spotlight! (*continued*)



**Tiger Dunams, an ARS Success Story.**

### How did you join ARS?

While attending the career fair at a Minorities in Agriculture, Natural Resources, and Related Sciences (MANRRS) Conference, I submitted my resume to an **ARS** recruitment specialist. I kept in touch with the recruiter over the years, and sought advice for obtaining a summer internship. As a result, a scientist contacted me and offered me a summer internship. I accepted the position, and a couple months later, applied for a permanent position with the agency. And here I am!

[www.ars.usda.gov](http://www.ars.usda.gov)

### What is your current position in ARS?

My official title is Biological Science Laboratory Technician (Molecular Biology). You might wonder... what exactly are my job functions? Well, I am a support scientist who works closely with the principal investigator of my laboratory. Some of my duties include: supervising student intern daily activities, implementing experiments in molecular systematics, and contributing to the interpretation of results from these experiments.

### What type of research do you conduct within ARS?

We conduct research on parasites which cause diseases in many food animals and humans. These parasites have great potential to threaten our food safety. Our lab diagnoses parasitic infections using molecular biology techniques. Overall, our goal is to understand the genetic variability within or between species of various parasitic organisms.

### If you could give advice to students, what would it be?

My advice to students is to start summer internships early in your academic career. During an internship you will have the opportunity to assess and develop various job related skills. Internships also assist you in deciding on a career and finding what you have a passion for. You will learn so much about yourself and the type of career you are interested in pursuing.

# National Agricultural Library!

[www.nal.usda.gov](http://www.nal.usda.gov)

## National Agricultural Library: “Advancing Access to Global Information for Agriculture.”

The U.S. Department of Agriculture’s National Agricultural Library (NAL) is the world’s largest and most accessible research library focused on agriculture. From its headquarters in Beltsville, Maryland, near Washington, D.C., NAL serves the world with information germane to agriculture and its related sciences.

### NAL Resources You Can Use

#### NAL Catalog (AGRICOLA)

Great for research projects!

[Agricola.nal.usda.gov](http://Agricola.nal.usda.gov)

#### Agriculture Network Information Center (AgNIC)

Quick and reliable access to agricultural information and sources.

[www.agnic.org](http://www.agnic.org)

### Quick Facts

- Created in 1862
- 215 employees and contractors
- NAL collections contain nearly 4 million items in various languages
- Most complete collection of USDA publications

### NAL Information Centers

- [Alternative Farming Systems Information Center](#)
- [Animal Welfare Information Center](#)
- [Food and Nutrition Information Center](#)
- [Food Safety Information Center](#)
- [Invasive Species Information Center](#)
- [Rural Information Center](#)
- [Technology Transfer Information Center](#)
- [Water Quality Information Center](#)

