

Maryland Federal Facilities Profile

Henry A. Wallace Beltsville Agricultural Resource Center (BARC)



10300 Baltimore Avenue
Beltsville, Maryland 20705
301-504-6078
Prince George's County
www.ars.usda.gov

Director: Ellen Harris

Department: Department of Agriculture (USDA)

Parent Agency: Agricultural Resource Service (ARS)

Maryland Employees: 600

ARS Procurement Contracts in 2015:

- \$233,844,336 US Total
- \$52,616,067 Maryland total

History & Mission: In 1862, the Agricultural Department of the U.S. Patent Office was established as an independent entity, the USDA. In 1910, the U.S. Department of Agriculture purchased the 475-acre Walnut Grange plantation in Beltsville to turn into a research facility and the dairy and animal husbandry research was transferred there. Henry A. Wallace's name was added to the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center in June 2000.

At BARC, ARS conducts research to develop and transfer solutions to agricultural problems of high national priority and provide information access and dissemination in order to:

- Ensure high-quality safe food and other agricultural products;
- Assess the nutritional needs of Americans;
- 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.

ARS research at BARC develops solutions to a wide range of problems related to food and agriculture-- problems requiring long-term commitment of resources and problems unlikely to have solutions with the quick commercial payoff that would convince private industry to do the research. ARS also provides research to support federal action and regulatory agencies.

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Maryland Facilities

Animal and Natural Resources Institute (Prince George's County)
Beltsville Human Research Nutrition Center (Prince George's County)

Resources

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[Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization](#)
[Subcontracting Information](#)
[Prime Directory](#)

Branches and Contacts

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[Animal and Natural Resources Institute \(ANRI\)](#)

ANRI conducts research and develops technology transfer programs to ensure high quality, safe food while protecting natural resources and the environment. Nine laboratories focus on Animal Biosciences & Biotechnology, Animal Improvement, Animal Parasitic Diseases, Bovine Functional Genomics, Environmental Management, Environmental Microbial and Food Safety, Hydrology & Remote Sensing, and Sustainable Agricultural Systems.

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[Beltsville Human Nutrition Research Center \(BHNRC\)](#)

Home of USDA's first human nutrition research conducted since the late 1890's, Beltsville HNRC's investigations span the human nutrition and health continuum. BHNRC investigates the role of nutrients and food components at the cellular level, examines the health impact of dietary interventions in animals and humans, and conducts human food surveys, to understand how dietary components interact with genetic, physiological, sociological, and environmental factors affecting the health of the American population diversified by gender, ethnicity, lifestyle, and environment.

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