

National Agricultural Library: Resources, Tools, and Services to Support Arkansas Communities

Tammy Kirk
January 29, 2025



Agenda

- I. About the National Agricultural Library
- II. NAL Resources
- III. Rural Information Center



About the National Agricultural Library

- Houses one of the world's largest collections including more than 8.1 million print and physical format items devoted to agriculture and its related sciences, with both physical and digital collections
- One of five U.S. National Libraries
- Congressionally designated depository for U.S. Government documents
- Departmental library for USDA

1.1 million+ print collection materials

Access to 440,000+ eBooks

8 million+ digital items

211,000+ items digitized for the Internet Archive

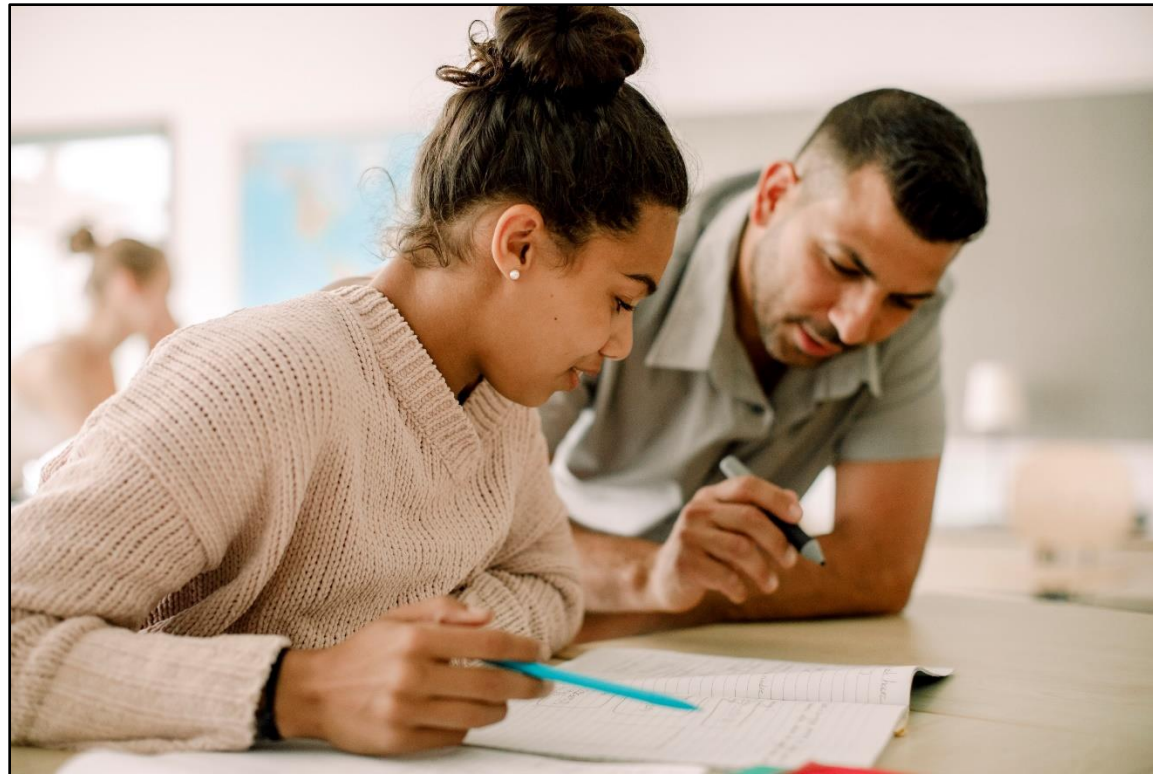
Access to 117,000+ ejournals & 5,200+ newspapers

2,900+ journals indexed

100,000+ full-text articles in PubAg

6,900+ datasets in AgData Commons

Research and Data Services



NAL SEARCH

<https://search.nal.usda.gov>

- Find agricultural literature across 3 NAL databases including:
 - AGRICOLA – NAL catalog & articles index
 - PubAg – peer-reviewed article citations and access to USDA-funded full-text documents
 - NAL Digital Collections – historic materials
- 8,000,000+ records as far back as the 15th century
- Print and Electronic Materials from the NAL Collection and beyond:
 - scientific research
 - policy documents
 - technical reports
 - historical documents








PubAg

<https://pubag.nal.usda.gov/>

PubAg is a free, searchable database containing links to
USDA –authored and funded peer-reviewed journal articles
300,000+ full-text articles relevant to the agricultural sciences

- indexed citations to peer-reviewed journal articles in the agricultural sciences

| | | | | | | | | | |
|---|------------|-------|--------------------|------------------------|--------|-------------------|-----|--|--|
|  National Agricultural Library U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE | NEW SEARCH | PUBAG | AG DATA COMMONS | DIGITAL COLLECTIONS | BROWSE | JOURNAL SEARCH | ... |  |  Sign in |
|---|------------|-------|--------------------|------------------------|--------|-------------------|-----|--|--|

PubAg ▼  

ADVANCED SEARCH

Ag Data Commons

- Platform for sharing, discovering and accessing data outputs for USDA-funded research
<https://agdatacommons.nal.usda.gov/>
- Services to create, curate, and enable access to machine-readable scientific metadata, helping make USDA-funded data Findable, Accessible, Interoperable and Reusable (FAIR)
<https://www.nal.usda.gov/services/agdatacommons>



Digital Collections

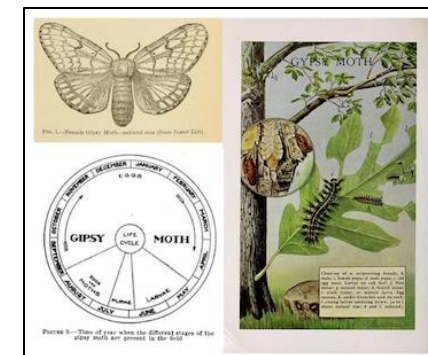
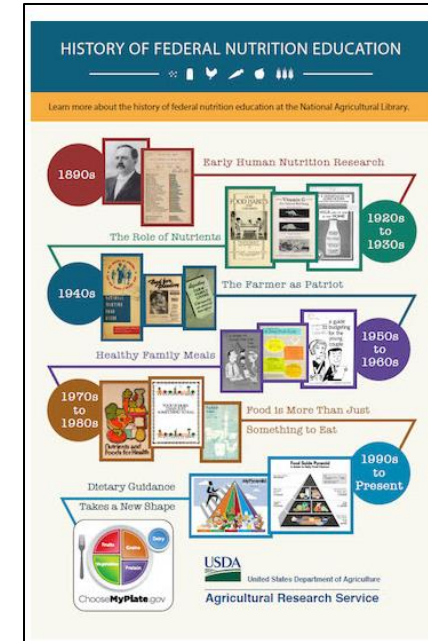
https://search.nal.usda.gov/discovery/collectionDiscovery?vid=01NAL_INST:MAIN

NAL Digital Collections (NALDC):

- Historical Dietary Guidance
- Organic Roots
- Fruit & Vegetable Market News
- USDA Publications
- USDA Pomological Watercolors
- and more!

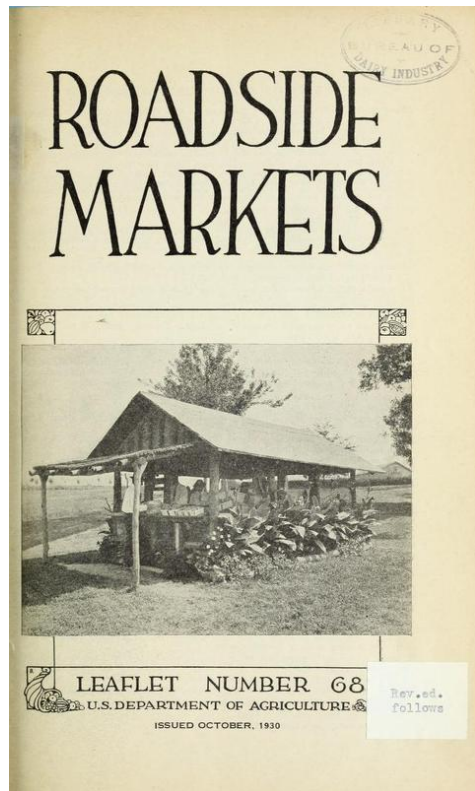
NAL Internet Archives Collection:

<https://archive.org/details/usdanationalagriculturallibrary>



Exhibits

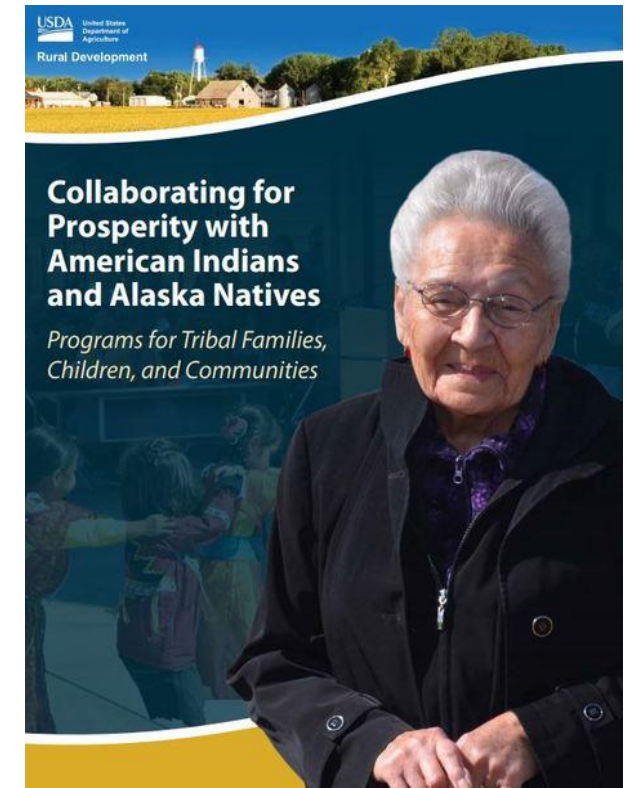
<https://www.nal.usda.gov/collections/exhibits>



Local Foods: Then and Now



Small Agriculture



Housing in Rural
America: A Historical
Look Back

Rural Information Center

<https://www.nal.usda.gov/programs/ric>



The Rural Information Center (RIC) provides information, research, and referral services to:

- Rural government officials
- Community organizations
- Libraries
- Businesses
- Citizens in rural communities

RIC Services

- On-request information guides
 - Funding resources
 - Agritourism information
 - Emergency preparedness
- Reference services
 - Specific funding topics
 - Historic information
 - Data and statistics

Funding Resources

The process of securing funding through grants involves multiple stages, from initial discovery to application and management. This guide provides links to tools and databases that provide substantial support for each phase of the grant-seeking process.

USDA and Federal Information

[National Agricultural Library - Guide to Funding Resources](#): A clearinghouse of information for every part of the funding process, including grant-writing resources.

[National Agricultural Library - Funding Resources by Topic](#): Curated lists and descriptions of funding opportunities organized by specific topics of interest within agriculture and rural development.

[USDA Rural Development State Offices](#): Employees in these offices are experts in federal funding opportunities provided by the USDA and can offer guidance on application procedures and eligibility requirements. Additionally, they may have insights into other local funding opportunities.

[Congressional Research Service - Resources for Grantseekers](#): Describes key sources of information on government and private funding and outlines eligibility for federal grants. This report also includes some sources for information on writing grant proposals.

State and Local Funding Information

Community Foundations: The Council on Foundation [Community Foundation Locator](#) provides a map of accredited community foundations across the country. Community foundations are public charities that are focused on supporting a specific geographic location.

[State Departments of Agriculture](#): Various states have funding opportunities specific to their agricultural needs and initiatives.

Public and University Libraries: Libraries often provide free access to the Foundation Directory Online (FDO), a comprehensive tool for finding funding sources, including grants and scholarships. The FDO is equipped with advanced visualization tools that allow users to analyze funding distribution across various topics and regions within the United States. Consult your [local](#) or university librarian for assistance using the FDO and finding local funding resources.

Alternative Online Research Tools: [Charity Navigator](#) and [GuideStar](#) provide information about numerous charitable organizations and their operations. These platforms are accessible alternatives for those who do not have access to fee-based databases, providing substantial insights into the non-profit sector.

Contact NAL With Your Questions

Use our chat service for a quick response!

Chat with us or email at:

<https://www.nal.usda.gov/ask-question>

Phone: 301-504-5755



Thank You!

Tammy Kirk

tammy.kirk@usda.gov

Overview of Resources

- **National Agricultural Library (NAL):** <https://www.nal.usda.gov/>
- **Agricultural Law Information Partnership:** <https://www.nal.usda.gov/programs/aglaw>
- **Tribal College Librarians Institute:** <https://www.lib.montana.edu/tcli/>
- **Indigenous Food & Agricultural Law Research (NALC):** [Indigenous Food & Agriculture legal research](#)
- **Rural Information Center:** <https://www.nal.usda.gov/programs/ric>
- **NAL Search:** <https://search.nal.usda.gov>
- **DigiTop:** <https://digitop.nal.usda.gov/>
- **Borrowing Materials:** <https://www.nal.usda.gov/borrow-materials>
- **Special Collections:** <https://www.nal.usda.gov/collections/special-collections>
- **Digital Collections:** <https://naldc.nal.usda.gov/>
- **Exhibits:** <https://www.nal.usda.gov/collections/exhibits>
- **Ask Us a Question:** <https://www.nal.usda.gov/ask-question>

Photo Credits

- Slide 1: USDA National Arboretum Photo Collection
- Slides 2, 5, 6: National Agricultural Library
- Slide 4: Microsoft 365
- Slide 5: National Agricultural Library
- Slides 7 and 9: USDA Flickr