



## ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHEASTERN RESEARCH LIBRARIES

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### CONTACTS:

John Burger, ASERL  
404-413-2896  
[jburger@aserl.org](mailto:jburger@aserl.org)

Christopher Cole, NAL  
301-504-7296  
[christopher.cole@ars.usda.gov](mailto:christopher.cole@ars.usda.gov)

### **New Partnership between National Agricultural Library and ASERL to Archive 875 Research Journals**

ATLANTA -- The Association of Southeastern Research Libraries (ASERL) announced today the National Agricultural Library (NAL) has become ASERL's first-ever Program Affiliate. Through this agreement, NAL will partner with ASERL libraries to retain important agriculture-related print journals as part of ASERL's "Scholars Trust" program, and NAL will use the "JRNL" software tool to manage these holdings and make them discoverable to other program partners.

"Like many ASERL libraries, the National Agricultural Library has unique collections not available anywhere else in the world," commented Stan Kosecki, Acting Director. "We share a longstanding mission to support the ongoing research and development of agriculture as a key driver in the global economy. This partnership between NAL and ASERL ensures that these hard-to-find print materials will be available for as long as they are useful and viable."

"We are thrilled to create this exciting new affiliation with NAL," added Thomas McNally, Dean of Libraries at the University of South Carolina and ASERL's Board President. "We hope this kind of highly-focused collaborative program will be the first of many in the years ahead, expanding the work of ASERL libraries to serve more researchers, students, and communities across the Southeast -- and across the country -- for mutual gain."

Created in 2010, the Scholars Trust program includes more than 12,000 print journal titles held by 25 ASERL libraries and the Washington Research Library Consortium (WRLC). Participating libraries agree to maintain these items for use until 2035. Within this archive of 12,000+ journals is a set of approximately 1,100 agriculture-related titles, held primarily by US Land Grant institutions within ASERL. Thanks to the new alliance with NAL, an additional 875 titles will be held under this agreement by the National Agricultural Library and made available to any Scholars Trust library.

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**ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHEASTERN RESEARCH LIBRARIES**  
c/o Georgia State University Library – Administration Suite, LS7  
100 Decatur Street, SE  
Atlanta, GA 30303-3202  
**Telephone:** 404-413-2896 | **Web:** [www.aserl.org](http://www.aserl.org)

### About NAL

The National Agricultural Library holds more than 8.1 million items covering all aspects of agriculture and related sciences. The depth and richness of the collection make it a unique resource, with many materials not available anywhere else in the world. The NAL Catalog provides citations to agriculture-related books, journals, government documents, audiovisuals, and other materials, most held by the National Agricultural Library, as well as indexes of journal articles, book chapters, reports, and reprints. NAL's Special Collections provides access to rare books, manuscript collections, nursery and seed trade catalogs, photographs, and posters from the 1500s to the present. See <http://www.nal.usda.gov/> for more information.

### About ASERL

Founded in 1956, the Association of Southeastern Research Libraries is the largest regional research library cooperative in the country, with 38 members in 11 states and other partnerships across the country. ASERL, its member libraries, and other partners operate numerous projects designed to foster a high standard of library excellence through inter-institutional resource sharing and other collaborative efforts. By working together, ASERL members provide and maintain top quality resources and services for the students, faculty, and citizens of their respective communities. More information about ASERL can be found at [www.aserl.org](http://www.aserl.org).

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