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**Cover:** ARS scientists in Weslaco, Texas, are developing new methods to increase yields and organically manage pecan trees. Here, soil scientist Joe Bradford (left) and Danny Phillips, a retired Hamilton County, Texas, Extension agent, inspect pecans from the 2008 crop in the organic study orchard, which is expected to greatly outyield the conventional orchard. Photo by Peggy Greb. (D1279-1)

## IN THE NEXT ISSUE

Water. It's essential to all life. Yet a variety of forces together are creating a greater demand for fresh water, which could one day lead to shortages. ARS takes this potential problem very seriously. That's why our next issue will highlight some of the important research the agency is doing to ensure abundant fresh, clean water well into the future. Our researchers are studying practical techniques, such as using commercial filter cartridges to clean golf course drainage water and using industrial byproducts, like coal ash, to filter drainage from farm fields. We're also going high-tech, with sophisticated software programs to control canal gates in response to water flow, and satellite imagery to help calculate a crop's precise irrigation needs. There's much, much more, too, in the next issue. Be sure to check it out.