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Agricultural Research

Solving Problems for the Growing World

Cover: ARS scientists have developed a method for producing microsclerotia of *Metarhizium anisopliae,* a fungus that may help combat the sugarbeet root maggot and other soil-dwelling pests. Here, technician Angela Payne adds nutrients to a 100-liter fermentor in preparation for a microsclerotia production run using *M. anisopliae.* Story begins on page 4. Photo by Peggy Greb. (D1220-1)

IN THE NEXT ISSUE

THE BUZZ SAYS "BIOENERGY"—It seems as though everyone's talking about bioenergy these days. So the next issue of the magazine will take a look at some of the varied research projects ARS scientists are involved in to bring biofuels into the mainstream. There's ethanol from sugarcane. There's a fascinating exhibit of "Power Plants" at the National Arboretum. There's research into valuable oilseed crops, such as *Cuphea.* There's work on turning animal waste into energy so farms can be self-sufficient. And finally, there's the all-important research on the tricky problem of breaking down plant cell walls to release the complex sugars within, so that biofuels can be made from crop residue. It's all here, in the next issue of *Agricultural Research.*