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Agricultural Research

Solving Problems for the Growing World

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Cover: ARS scientists at various locations throughout the United States are working on biofuel production. Here, chemist Kevin Holtman performs a lab-scale distillation of ethanol from a fermentation broth. He and his colleagues at the Western Regional Research Center in Albany, California, are experimenting with converting garbage and after-harvest leftovers into biofuels. Story begins on page 13. Photo by Peggy Greb. (D1247-1)

5-Year Bioenergy Research Plan

ARS recently revised its bioenergy research strategy and 5-year bioenergy research action plan to address the changing needs posed by this growing industry. The new strategy integrates the research needs for feedstock development, feedstock production, and biorefining—including biorefinery coproducts—into a single program designed to maximize the positive impacts (and minimize the negative ones) of bioenergy on agriculture. ARS is in an excellent position to promote this integration because it serves the entire agricultural sector.

For detailed information about the ARS Bioenergy Research Strategy and Action Plans, visit www.ars.usda.gov/biofuels. To receive periodic updates about ARS bioenergy research, e-mail bioenergy@ars.usda.gov.