USDA's research function is as old as the department itself. It was one of the agency's original functions and it continues to serve us well today.

In today's complex agriculture, many of the issues faced by producers are nationwide in their
impact and demand a national commitment to address them.

In some areas, the research to provide the answers will require such long-term risk and expense that the private sector may hesitate to undertake it. In those cases, there will be a need for concentrated Federal funding.

Once the results of basic research are in the public domain, the private sector can see opportunities to expand and modify them—to put them to work to improve the quality of life by developing new uses and new markets for farm products, improving farm efficiency, and strengthening farmer profitability.

The basic impetus behind agricultural research is not simply to increase production—it is to find answers to the challenges society and agriculture face today—and will certainly confront tomorrow.

Our current challenge in agriculture is to remain competitive in the world market. U.S. producers
must be able to produce their crops at
a price that will allow them to be
marketed successfully in this global
economy. Research will help us
discover more efficient and more
cost-effective means of doing this.

Agriculture is a dynamic industry,
and that dynamism is fueled by
research. Dedicated men and women
all over the United States—in the
Federal Government, the vast
network of State Experiment
Stations, and private industry—are
part of a common effort to seek
answers that will ultimately benefit
all of us.

The excitement and the rewards of
their work are evident in the 1986
Yearbook of Agriculture. "Research
tbr Tomorrow" pays tribute to the
vital role research plays in enabling
U.S. agriculture to be a strong world-
class industry.

作者介绍:
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Research for Tomorrow: Yearbook of Agriculture，1986_下载链接1_