AGRIS

- Introduction about AGRIS
- Subject Fields
- Types of Documents Referred in AGRIS
- Composition of the AGRIS database:
- Document Description
AGRIS

- Languages of Original Documents
- AGRIS work process
- Contributors to AGRIS
- AGRIS Products and Services
- New Developments
AGRIS is the International bibliographic Information System for the Agricultural sciences and technology. It became operational in 1975 and since then AGRIS has accumulated a database of more than 2.8 million bibliographic references in August 1998.

AGRIS is managed centrally by the WAICENT/FAOINFO Dissemination Management Branch of the Library and Documentation Systems Division (GIL) of FAO.
Subject Fields

Created by FAO to facilitate world-wide information exchange, AGRIS identifies world literature/documents dealing with all aspects of agriculture -

- Agriculture in general
- Plant science, production and protection
- Post harvest technology
- Forestry
- Animal science, production and protection
- Fisheries and aquaculture
- Agricultural machinery and engineering
- Natural resources and environment (including pollution, water management and climatology/meteorology)
- Food and human nutrition
- Processing of agricultural products
- Agricultural economics
- Rural sociology and rural development
- Geography and history
- Agricultural administration, legislation, information, education and extension methodologies.
All types of documents (materials) are included (referred) in the AGRIS databases, at analytical, monograph and/or serial levels:

- monographs (books)
- conferences
- reports
- theses and dissertations
- drawings, maps and atlases
- Patents
- summaries and literature reviews
- Bibliographies
- Multimedia (films/videos, sound recordings, photos, slides, computer media, etc.)
- other miscellaneous and non-conventional ("grey literature" not available through normal distribution channels).
Composition of the AGRIS database

- 75% journal articles
- 18% monographs
- 6% conferences papers
- 1% others
- 16% refer to non-conventional literature (not commercially available)
- 21% include abstracts
Each publication (document) is described by the most revealing and conclusive data:

- title in English and original language
- authors and their affiliation
- publication source and identification
- language of original document
- primary and other subject category codes
- descriptors (key words) in English, French and Spanish
- abstracts in English, French or/ and Spanish
- etc.
For indexing the input documents (associating the appropriate descriptors) in order to be easily retrieved, a structured and controlled thesaurus, AGROVOC, is used.
Languages of Original Documents

- 58% English
- 8% French
- 7% German
- 7% Spanish
- 4% Japanese
- 3% Italian
- 3% Russian
- 2% Portuguese
- 8% others
AGRIS work process

- AGRIS is a cooperative system in which participating countries input references to the literature/documents produced within their boundaries and, in return, draw on the information provided by the other participants.

- The bibliographic references forwarded by participating countries are collected and processed in the AGRIS Processing Unit Vienna, which is hosted by the Division of Scientific and Technical Information of the IAEA.
Contributors to AGRIS

To date 159 national and 31 international and intergovernmental centers participate and submit about 14,000 items per month.
AGRIS Products and Services

- **AGRIS CD-ROMs**: The whole collected AGRIS information is distributed using a series of CD-ROMs:
  - AGRIS CD-ROMs: all collected information, stored on archival CD-ROMs and one current CD-ROM, which contains the last collected information (quarterly updated).
  - AGRIS FHN CD-ROM: contains information in the domains of Food and Human Nutrition extracted from all AGRIS CD-ROMs (semi-annually updated).
AGRIS FORESTRY CD-ROM: contains information in the domains of forestry and primary forest products extracted from all AGRIS CD-ROMs.

AGRIS and AGRIS FHN CD-ROMs are produced by Silver Platter Information Ltd., using data prepared by AGRIS Processing Unit Vienna; the Silver Platter's software Win SPIRS is used for retrieving the information.

AGRIS FORESTRY CD-ROMs are produced by WAICENT/FAOINFO of the Library and Documentation Systems Division (GIL) of FAO; The retrieving software, HEURISK0 (CDS/ISIS based), is included
For **information retrieval** from AGRIS CD-ROMs, the existing software (Win SPIRS, HEURISKO) permits different searching operations to accommodate different searching needs of users:

- Searching by descriptors defined in the **AGROVOC Thesaurus**
- Searching by subject category codes, authors, publication year, publication language, etc.
- Searching free text in different description fields
- Logical search operators (OR, AND, NOT, WITH, NEAR)
- Limiting search operators (less than, greater than, range, etc.)
- Truncation of words (to retrieve all variants)
- Lateral searching (forward/ backward)
- etc.
On-line access to the global AGRIS database is provided by:

- AGRIS DATABASE ON-LINE (FAO/WAICENT, FAO Web server)
- DIALOG (Palo Alto, USA): non-USA portion only
- DIMDI (Cologne, Germany)
- AGROVOC Thesaurus (FAO/WAICENT, FAO Web Server)
Information Services

- AG RIS provides data on request basis in printed form or on magnetic media:
  - Retrospective searches through the entire data base;
  - Selective dissemination of information (SDI) service, by which users can request the AG RIS Processing Unit, to keep them informed of any new AG RIS entries on specific subjects of concern to them.
National bibliographies, containing all entries generated in a country and those concerning this country and published outside.

Master copies can be prepared on a high resolution laser printer in Agrindex format, ready for reproduction by offset or photocopy.

Subject bibliographies can also be prepared upon request from specialized cooperating centers such as the CGIAR IARC's, or FAO divisions.
Other Services

- Developing and distribution of AGRIS working methodologies
- Developing and distribution of the AGROVOC Thesaurus
- Distribution of the UNESCO CDS/ISIS database software for PCs
- Developing and distribution of software for AGRIS input data preparation (AGRIN/AGCHK)
Training material and courses

Other products on Web Server (APU Vienna): AGRIS Reference Series
Products available on FTP Server (APU Vienna):  
  . Current monthly AG RIS output file  
  . AG ROVO C Thesaurus  
  . Agrindex (AG RIS monthly bibliography in English,  
    French and Spanish; only up to December 1995)  
  . Training materials (AG RIS Reference Series).
New Developments

- New developments are under work for the AGRIS System, which will take advantage of the latest improvements of Information Technologies (Internet, etc.).

- These developments have in view to decentralize data processing and to priorities national capacity building enhancing autonomous management of national agricultural information.
AgRIS - India

- The Agricultural Resources Information System (AgRIS) is the Central Sector Scheme for Strengthening/Promoting Agricultural Information System in the Department of Agriculture & Cooperation (DAC), Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India.
- AgRIS is “A Needed Domestic Strategy for Sustainable Agricultural Production and Sustainable Rural Livelihoods in India”.
It is a e-Government Programme for fostering agricultural growth, poverty reduction and sustainable resource use in India at grassroots level and also "A Step towards establishing a location-specific e-Government model for the Poor".

The implementation of component AgRIS will facilitate development of typology specific agriculture development plan in the country.
This Project is being executed by Agricultural Informatics Division of National Informatics Centre.

Agricultural Inputs Recommendations; Farming Systems Analysis and Development Environmental Impact Assessment; Monitoring of Land Resources Development;
Digital Networks for Farmers:

The ISDA-95 Conference laid the roadmap for digital initiatives for the Agricultural sector. The Government’s Digital Initiatives and Agenda (viz., AGRISNET, AgRIS, AGMARKNET, DACNET, VISTARNET, APHNET, FISHNET, HORTNET, SeedNET, PPIN, COOPN ET, FERTNET, ARISNET, AFPINET, ARINET, NDMNET, etc), are the step towards "reaching" agricultural knowledge and technology to the Small Holders (Resource-Poor-Farmers) of the Country.
To user in “agricultural governance” in the country, the establishment of AGRISNET as the “national information infrastructure” is emerging as a pre-requisite.
AgRIS is the Central Sector Scheme for strengthening/promoting Agricultural Information System in the Department of Agriculture & Cooperation (DAC) Ministry of Agriculture.

The implementation of component ‘Agricultural Resources Information System (AgRIS)’ will facilitate development of typology specific agriculture development plan in the country.
- Fisheries resources data
- Forestry resources data
- Institutional resources data
- Land owners data
- Plant resources data
- Socio-economic & Infrastructure data
- Soil resources data
- Spices resources data
- Water resource data
Future plans of AgRIS

- Decision Support Systems (DSSs) on Production Practices and Systems
- Creation of Metadata to become the Country’s initiative of “National Spatial Data Infrastructure (NSDI)” on Agriculture.
Guidelines on standardized methodology/best practices to be used for building Agricultural Resource Information System in similar districts of the Country

DSS proposed under AgRIS will facilitate farmers in adopting agricultural production practices.
AgRIS pilot project:
- Crop Suitability based on factor endowment;
- Land Suitability Assessment;
- Land Productivity Assessment;
- Population Supporting Capacity;
- Land Evaluation and Land Use Planning;
- Land Degradation Risk Assessment;
- Quantification of Land Resources Constraints;
- Land Management;
- Agro-ecological Characterization for Research and Planning;
- Agricultural Technology Transfer;
- Agricultural Inputs Recommendations;
- Farming Systems Analysis and Development;
- Environmental Impact Assessment;
- Monitoring of Land Resources Development;