



National Agricultural Library

Paul Wester, Director

National Agricultural Library

USDA, Agricultural Research Service

Tuesday, May 7, 2019



History

- Created in 1862 with the establishment of USDA
 - Started with 1,000 books in Secretary's Office
 - 1920 – 150,000 books
 - 1956 – 1.05 million books
 - 1982 – 1.7 million books
 - Today – 8.1 million physical items, including 2.1 million books
- Designated a National Library in 1962
- Current tower building built in 1967 with collections re-located to Beltsville in 1969



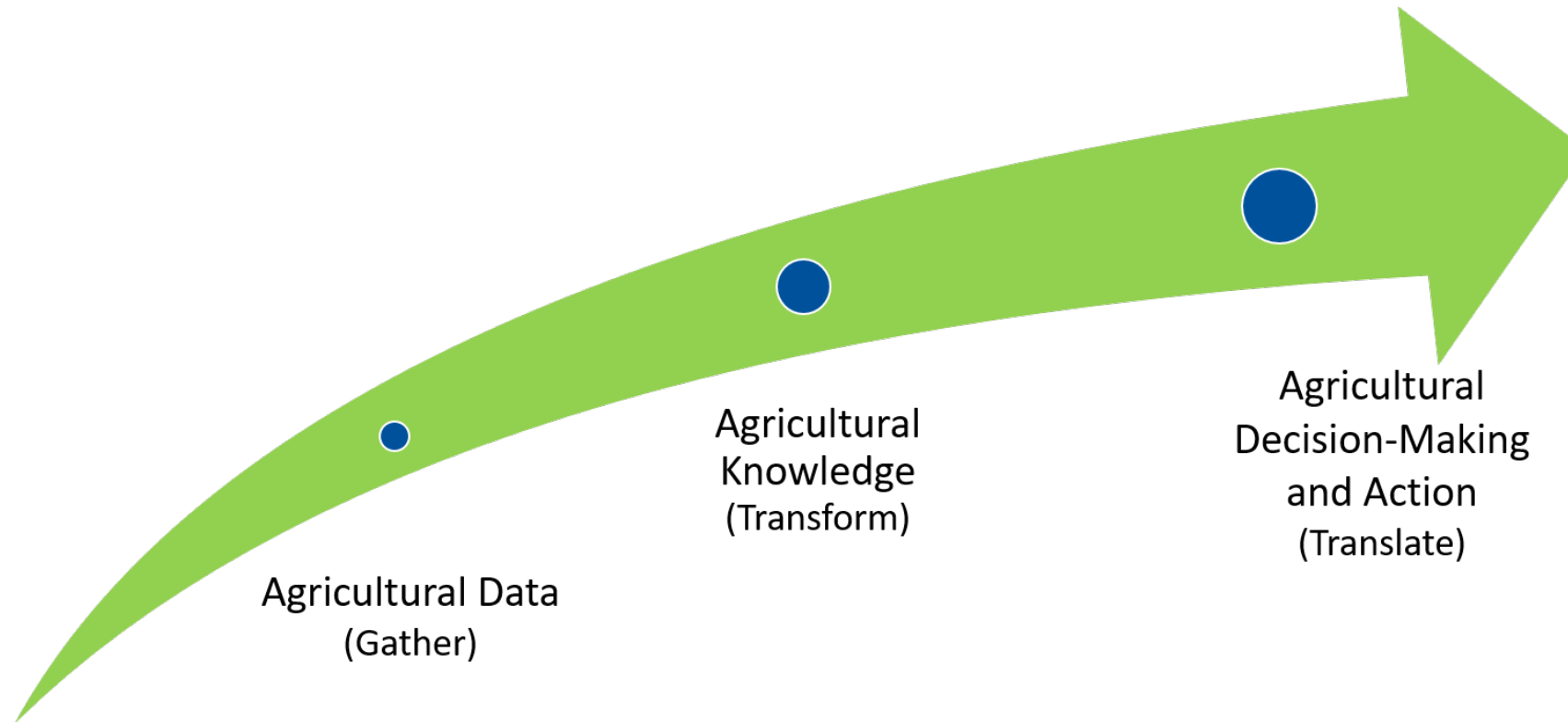
Look to the Future

- World's largest agricultural library
 - 8.1 million physical items dating to early 16th century
 - Over 2.5 million books
 - Over 3.5 million USDA reports
 - Over 19,000 journals, periodicals, and other series
 - Digitization for access and preservation
 - Member of the Biodiversity Heritage Library
 - Nearly 155,000 publications digitized
 - Over 7.2 million images digitized
 - USDA-funded Research Data and Research Artifacts
 - Ag Data Commons (data)
 - PubAg (scholarly publications)



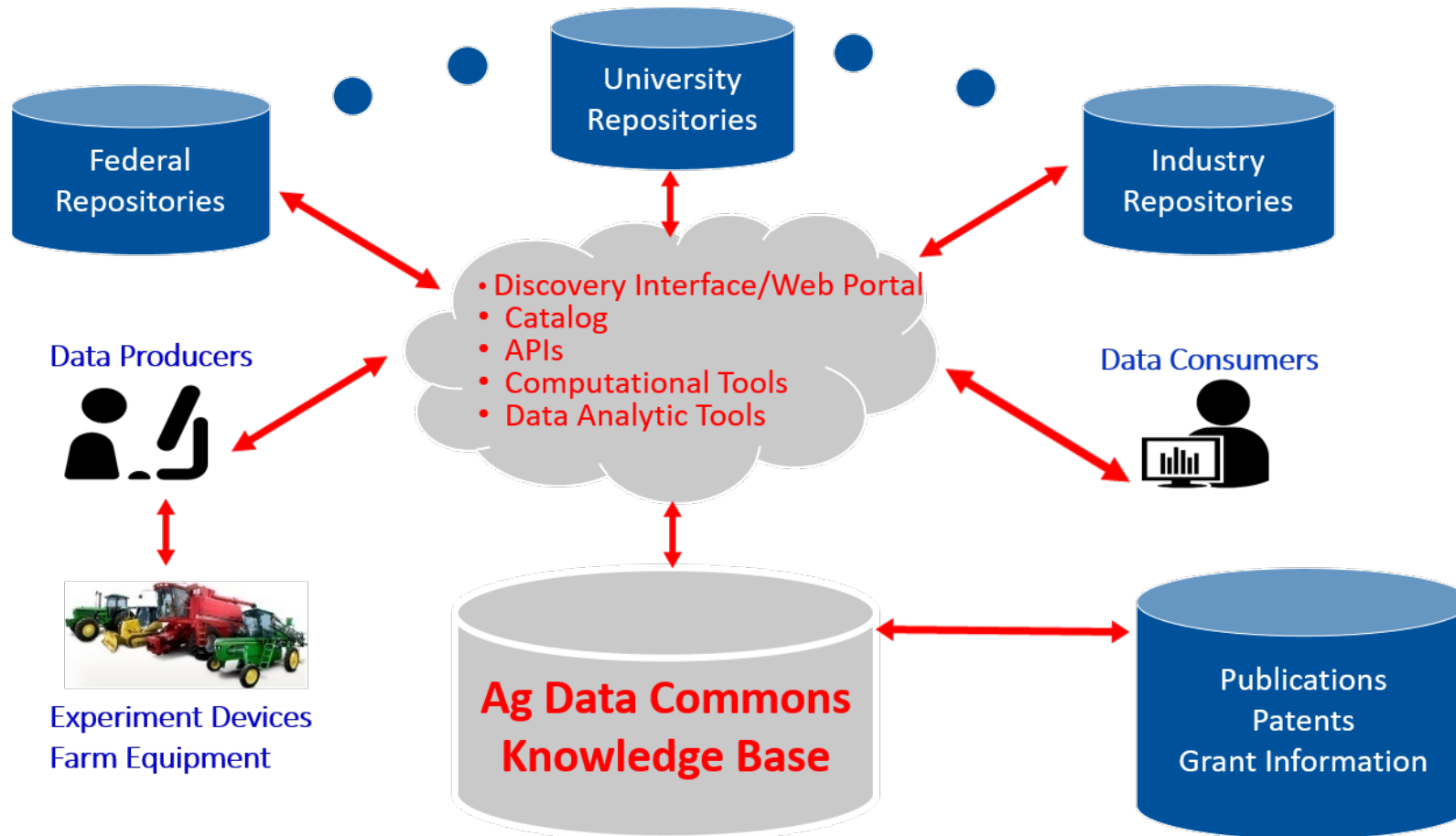


Why Ag Data Commons?



To create a platform to harness the power of Digital Agriculture.

Ag Data Commons: The Platform



Ag Data Commons

Main functions:

- Catalog/registry for USDA-funded research data
- Repository for agricultural data not hosted elsewhere

Services:

- Metadata curation and DOI issuances (for data NAL hosts)
- Harvest metadata from other repositories for catalog of USDA-funded research data
- Connect USDA-funded research data to USDA-funded research artifacts for scientific integrity and reproducibility, and to support bigger, better science



Thank You!



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<https://www.nal.usda.gov/>

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