



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF  
**AGRICULTURE**

# Preserving Digital Publications

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FAFLRT

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# Genesis of Digital Preservation Effort

- March 1997 National Conference:  
“USDA Digital Publications: Creating a Preservation Action Plan”
  - Identified major elements and requirements of a USDA digital publications preservation plan
  - *Framework for the Preservation of and Permanent Public Access to USDA Digital Publications*
  - <http://preserve.nal.usda.gov:8300/npp/frameprt.html>



# National Steering Committee

- Oversee implementation of the *Framework for the Preservation of and Permanent Public Access to USDA Digital Publications*
- Explore Issues of:
  - Inventory and Life Cycle Management
  - Technical Requirements
  - User Access and Retrieval

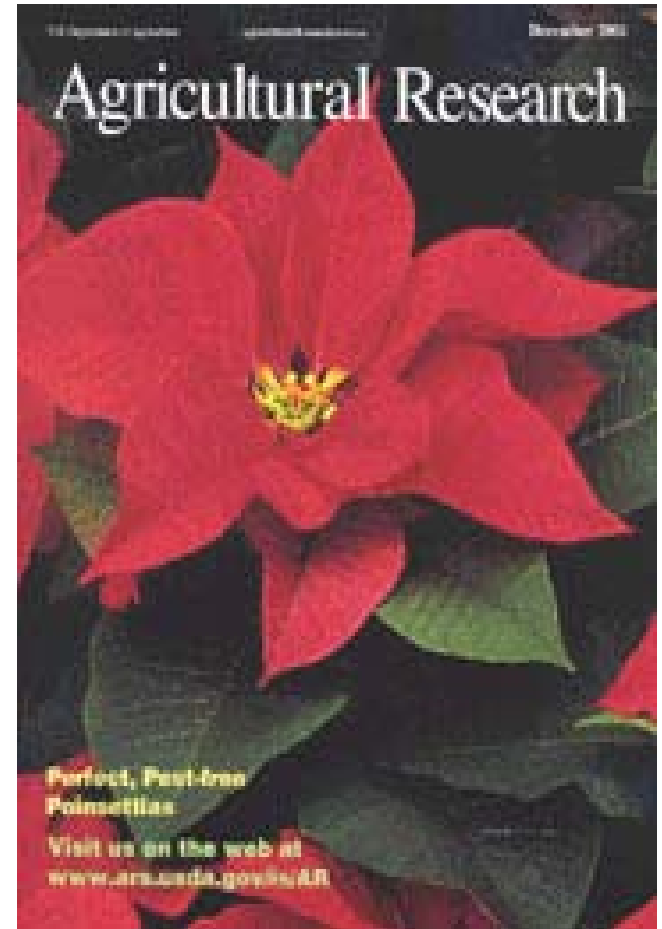


# Definition of Digital Publication

A data or information product prepared by the USDA in digital form intended to be disseminated to the public.

# Sample USDA Digital Publication

- Welcome to the U.S. Department of Agriculture's science magazine, published monthly by the Agricultural Research Service and also available electronically.
- Click [here](#) to see table of contents for the June 2002 issue or [here](#) to view previous issues.
- For questions or comments, contact the [Editor](#).
- Agricultural Research Magazine  
5601 Sunnyside Ave.  
Beltsville, MD 20705-5130
- Telephone (301) 504-1651 or (301) 504-1658.



# Sample USDA Digital Publication



USDA - Keeping America's Food and Agriculture Safe - Netscape

File Edit View Go Communicator Help

Back Forward Reload Home Search Netscape Print Security Shop Stop

Bookmarks Location: <http://www.usda.gov/homelandsecurity/homeland.html> What's Related

**USDA** UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF  
**AGRICULTURE**

*Keeping AMERICA'S Food & Agriculture SAFE*



Secretary Ann M. Veneman and all USDA employees across the country extend our heartfelt condolences to all those impacted by the tragedies of September 11 and by the subsequent biological attacks. We honor the brave men and women who have put their lives on the line to protect and defend this great Nation.

To learn more about what USDA is doing or to reach sites related to America's response, please use the following links:

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# Key Issues Identified

- Managing Technology Over Time
- Metadata
- User Access
- Organizational Buy-In
- Operational Considerations
- Cost



# Accomplishments

- Developed a survey instrument to identify digital publications produced by USDA. It was validated by a small-scale pilot project using the Economic Research Service as the pilot agency.





# Accomplishments

- Produced a metadata conference for USDA staff. The goal was to educate USDA information producers, IT professionals, webmasters, librarians, and public affairs specialists on opportunities for using metadata to improve customer access to information resources and enhance long-term preservation and access to these materials for future customers.



# Accomplishments

- Developed draft digital preservation guidelines for USDA agencies producing digital publications
- Guidelines were sent to the USDA OCIO for comment and ultimately, approval as Departmental policy
- It is anticipated that further guidelines will be developed



# Challenges Still Ahead

- Continue to Get Organizational Buy-In
- Develop Technical Requirements
- Manage Technology Over Time
- Obtain Funding for Digital Publication Preservation



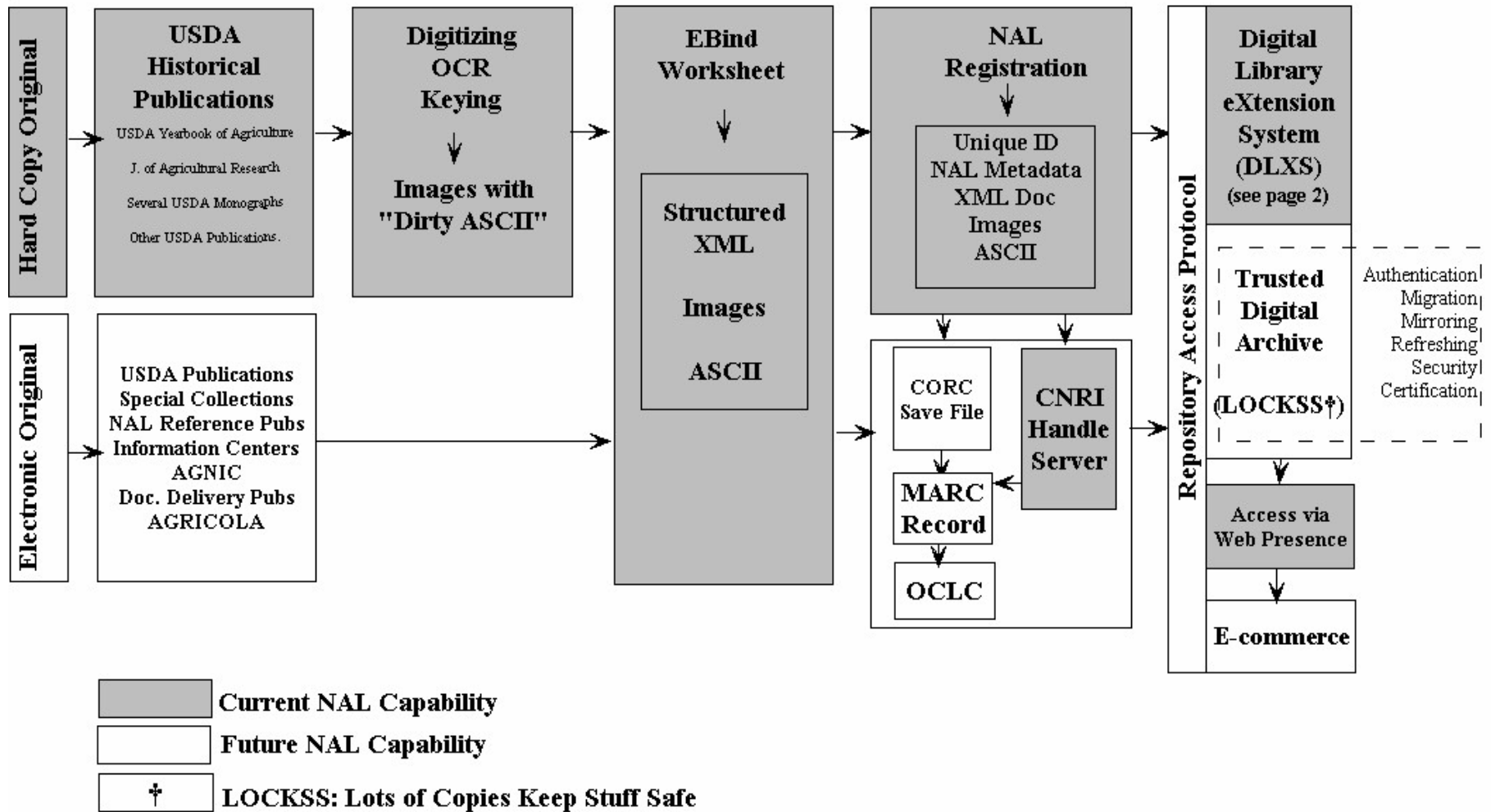
# USDA, NAL and the OAIS

(Open Archival Information System)

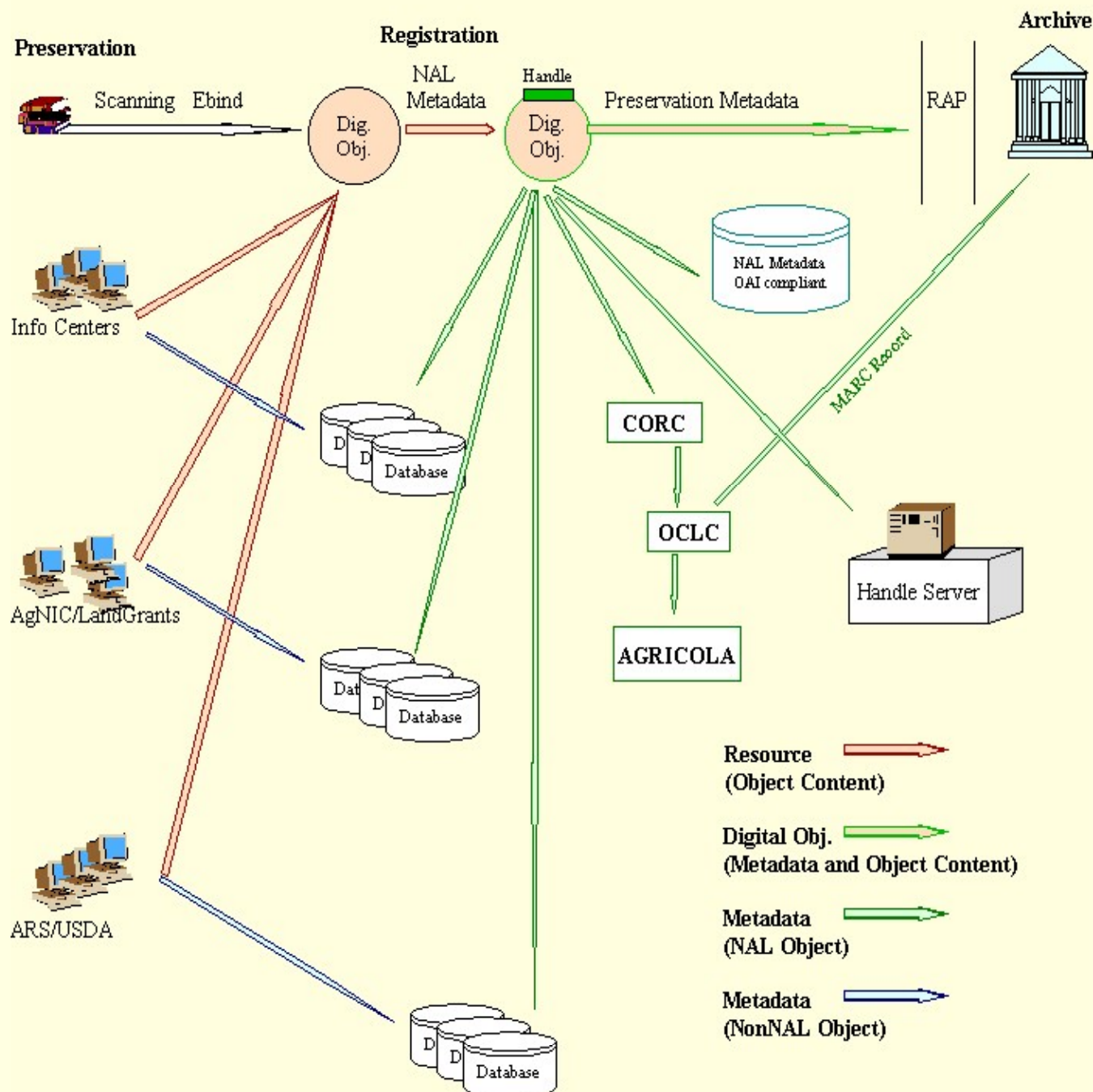
- Investigate OAIS as possible model for application within USDA
- Look at OAIS as possible framework for NAL digital library, preservation and archiving efforts

# NAL Digital Preservation and Archiving Prototype

## OAIS: Open Archival Information System Protocols, Standards & Policies



# NAL Digital Library and Archive





## For more information:

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Web: [www.nal.usda.gov/preserve](http://www.nal.usda.gov/preserve)



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