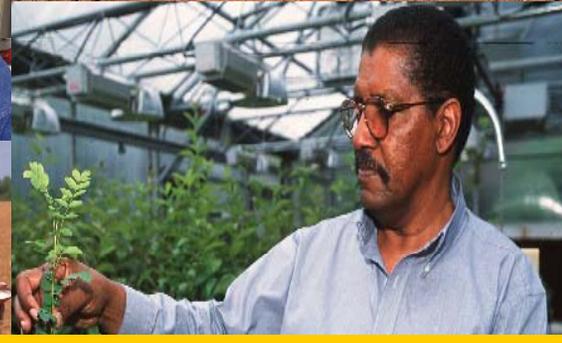


Black History Month

February 2010



The History of Black Economic Empowerment



United States Department of Agriculture
Natural Resources Conservation Service
USDA is an equal opportunity employer and provider. All photos courtesy of USDA NRCS.

"The need for economic development has been a central element of black life. After centuries of unrequited toil as slaves, African Americans gained their freedom and found themselves in the struggle to make a living. Pushing against the odds, African Americans became landowners, skilled workers, small businessmen and women, professionals, and ministers."

Association for the Study of African American Life and History
http://www.asalh.org/files/2010_Executive_Summary.doc