Planting the Seeds of Research
How America’s Ultimate Investment Transformed Agriculture
By Louis A. Ferleger

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A study of America’s domination in global agricultural production

“Planting the Seeds of Research is a timely and provocative analysis of the role of the agricultural sector in America’s modern economic development and of the part played by the US government in promoting that sector. By deftly combining agricultural history, political history and administrative history, Ferleger provides readers with a new appreciation of the ways in which the public and private sectors worked together to make American agriculture the most productive in the world.” —Peter A. Coclanis, Albert R. Newsome Distinguished Professor of History, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, USA

“Over decades, Louis Ferleger has examined how the United States emerged as an unrivaled economic powerhouse through continuous, critical investment in scientific agriculture. Government in partnership with the private sector drew on European—especially German—models to develop education, innovation, expertise and research at every level.” —David Moltke-Hansen, Independent Scholar, Past President of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania

‘Planting the Seeds of Research’ explores why by the beginnings of the twentieth century the United States dominated agricultural production worldwide.

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About the Author
Louis A. Ferleger is professor of history at Boston University, USA, and former chair of its History Department. He has published, edited or co-authored seven books. The former executive director of the Historical Society, Ferleger was awarded a National Endowment for the Humanities Chairman’s Grant; a Earhart Foundation Fellowship; a research grant from the Twentieth Century Fund; and a Charles Warren Fellowship, Charles Warren Center for Studies in American History, Department of History, Harvard University.