



USDA Research is working for Minnesota



Supporting innovation

In FY 2013, Minnesota received **\$3.1 million in grants** from the Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (AFRI)

Researchers at the **University of Minnesota** are testing the ability of ridge tillage with cover crop systems to maintain soil quality and buffer crop production against floods and droughts.

AFRI funding is being used to study the chemistry of biofuel crops in order to develop new “bioplastics” made from the byproducts of biofuel production

Supporting small business

From 2004-2013, Minnesota small businesses received more than **\$2.6 million in grants** through the Small Business Innovation Research program within USDA

High Tunnels are a type of field protected agriculture that provide producers with a more controlled system than open fields. **Scenic Valley Farm Inc.** in Rosemount is using an SBIR grant to optimize High Tunnel power systems to be more efficient and cost-effective.”.

Economic Impact



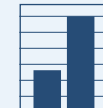
In 2011, agriculture and related industries added \$743 billion to the national GDP



Agriculture exports hit a record high of over \$140 billion in 2013



1 in 12 American jobs are associated with agriculture



U.S. public investments in agriculture research and development produce benefit-cost ratios of 20:1 and higher

Minnesota Agriculture

74,542 farms

\$21 billion in commodities

\$8 billion in agricultural exports

157,099 jobs



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