



USDA Research is working for North Carolina



Supporting innovation

In FY 2013, North Carolina received **\$7.6 million in grants** from the Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (AFRI)

Increased nitrogen in the atmosphere has been linked to global warming. Researchers at **NC State University** are studying the nitrogen content in soil to lessen nitrogen contribution from agriculture.

At the **University of North Carolina**, AFRI funding is being used to identify the genes that regulate plant growth and development in rice as a possible way to increase grain yield.

Supporting small business

From 2004-2013, North Carolina small businesses received more than **\$4.6 million in grants** through the Small Business Innovation Research program within USDA

In Weaverville, **Vortant Technologies LLC** is developing a new water quality monitoring system that provides real-time water monitoring in a more cost effective manner.

Economic Impact



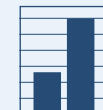
In 2011, agriculture and related industries added \$743 billion to the national GDP



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

North Carolina Agriculture

50,218 farms

\$11 billion in commodities

\$3.7 billion in agricultural exports

119,454 jobs



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