



USDA Research is working for Virginia



Supporting innovation

In FY 2013, Virginia received **\$5.1 million in grants** from the Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (AFRI)

Researchers are working to identify genes that carry rust disease resistance in switchgrass, a valuable biofuel crop, in order to develop new approaches to prevent infection.

Virginia Tech University received an AFRI grant to study how animal manure-borne chemicals interact with the soil to minimize the input of these chemicals to water bodies.

Supporting small business

From 2004-2013, Virginia small businesses received more than **\$4.9 million in grants** through the Small Business Innovation Research program within USDA

In Sterling, **Micronic Technologies** received an SBIR grant to develop a rapid evaporation technology that can remove nitrate contaminants from water without chemicals, filters or membranes.

Economic Impact



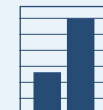
In 2011, agriculture and related industries added \$743 billion to the national GDP



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

Virginia Agriculture

46,030 farms

\$3.6 billion in commodities

\$1.2 billion in agricultural exports

97,357 jobs



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Science Policy Office | 900 2nd St., NE, Suite 205, Washington, DC 20002
202.408.5558 | sciencepolicy@sciencesocieties.org

