

# USDA research is working for New York

## **Supporting innovation**

In FY 2015, New York received **\$8 million in new grants** from the Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (AFRI).

AFRI-funded researchers at **Cornell University** are studying how increased nitrogen impacts soil microbial communities in forest ecosystems to better understand carbon cycling.

Infestation of potatoes by the tuber moth can significantly increase the size of uninfested potatoes on the same plants. AFRI funding is being used to study how the plant's metabolism changes in response to tuber moths, to identify genes that control plant yield.

## **Supporting small business**

From 2006-2015, New York small businesses received more than **\$9.5** million in grants through the Small Business Innovation Research program within USDA

In Troy, **Ecovative Design LLC**. is using an SBIR grant to develop a soil-less growth medium made from fungus as a more sustainable, efficient and economical alternative to hydroponic growth systems.







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### **Economic Impact**



In 2014, agriculture and related industries added **\$985 billion** to the U.S. gross domestic product (GDP).



Agriculture exports hit a record high of **\$150 billion**, or 9% of total U.S. exports, in 2014.



In 2014, 17.3 million full- and part-time jobs were related to agriculture – **about** 9.3% of total U.S. employment.



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

#### **New York Agriculture**

35,500 farms

\$5.3 billion in commodities

\$1.5 billion in agricultural exports

97,706 jobs