



## How is USDA Research Working for Alabama?

In FY 2012, Alabama received:

- **\$7.2 million** from the Agriculture Research Service (ARS)
- **\$2.0 million** from the Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (AFRI)

### Agriculture Research Investments in Alabama

- Alabama has **2 ARS research units**:
  - National Soil Dynamics Laboratory
  - Aquatic Animal Health Research Unit
- **Auburn University** has 4 AFRI grants worth over **\$1.8 million**

**Tuskegee University** receives AFRI to study the life cycle of *T. gondii*, a bacteria that that infects sheep, in order to develop a safer, more effective vaccine.

Researchers at **Auburn University** are working to optimize the process through which biomass feedstocks (primarily woody biomass) are converted to bioenergy.

### Small Business Benefits in Alabama

- Alabama small businesses received **\$100,000** through the Small Business Innovation Research and Small Business Technology Transfer programs within USDA

In Hunstville, **Q-Track Corp.**, received an SBIR grant to develop a new tracking system that will enable ranchers to locate livestock in real-time, optimizing dairy and ranch operations.

### Agriculture Value in Alabama

- Alabama has **46,500 farms** that account for **\$5.3 billion in total commodities**, **\$1.3 billion in agricultural exports** and nearly **96,000 jobs**
- U.S. public investments in agriculture research and development **produce benefit-cost ratios of 20:1 and higher**