



## How is USDA Research Working for Maine?

In FY 2012, Maine received:

- **\$2.7 million** from the Agriculture Research Service (ARS)
- **\$650,000** from the Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (AFRI)

### Agriculture Research Investments in Maine

- Maine has **2 ARS research units**:
  - New England Plant, Soil, and Water Research Laboratory
  - National Cold Water Marine Aquaculture Center

The **University of Maine** receives AFRI to study the parasite *T. gondii*, in order to develop a new molecular detection method of *T. gondii* contamination in meat and produce.

AFRI-funded researchers are working to breed a hybrid blueberry line with more robust frost and cold tolerance.

### Small Business Benefits in Maine

- Maine small businesses received **\$10,000** through the Small Business Innovation Research and Small Business Technology Transfer programs within USDA

In Damariscotta, **Pemaquid Mussel Farms**, received an SBIR grant to design a new, submersible mussel raft that will improve mussel harvesting.

### Agriculture Value in Maine

- Maine has **8,100 farms** that account for **\$702 million in total commodities**, **\$208 million in agricultural exports** and more than **17,500 jobs**
- U.S. public investments in agriculture research and development **produce benefit-cost ratios of 20:1 and higher**