



How is USDA Research Working for North Carolina?

In FY 2012, North Carolina received:

- **\$12 million** from the Agriculture Research Service (ARS)
- **\$6.6 million** from the Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (AFRI)

Agriculture Research Investments in North Carolina

- North Carolina has **4 ARS research units**:
 - Plant Science Research
 - Food Science Research
 - Soybean and Nitrogen Fixation Research
 - Market Quality and Handling Research
- **North Carolina State University** has 9 AFRI grants worth almost **\$3 million**

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.

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.

Small Business Benefits in North Carolina

- North Carolina small businesses received **\$500,000** through the Small Business Innovation Research and Small Business Technology Transfer programs 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.

Agriculture Value in North Carolina

- North Carolina has **50,000 farms** that account for **\$11.7 billion in total commodities**, **\$3.9 billion in agricultural exports** and more than **117,000 jobs**
- U.S. public investments in agriculture research and development **produce benefit-cost ratios of 20:1 and higher**