



# USDA research is working for Kentucky

## Supporting innovation

In FY 2014, Kentucky received **\$3.1 million in new grants** from the Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (AFRI)

The **University of Kentucky** has an AFRI grant to study the genes that regulate the relationship between legume plant roots and soil bacteria, which aid in nitrogen uptake for the plant.

While drylands represent significant acreage world-wide and in the U.S., they are an under-studied land system. AFRI funding is being used to determine how changes in UV light, associated with climate change, would impact dryland nutrient load.

## Supporting small business

From 2005-2014, Kansas small businesses received more than **\$1 million in grants** through the Small Business Innovation Research program within USDA

In Nancy, **Wilson Cedar Point Farm, LLC** received an SBIR grant to optimize a production system that would reliably produce *Capsicum baccatum*, a novel pepper variety of high demand by chefs, but normally only produced in South America



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In 2013, agriculture and related industries added **\$789 billion** to the U.S. gross domestic product (GDP)



Agriculture exports hit a record high of over **\$144 billion**, or 9% of total U.S. exports, in 2013



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**

## Economic Impact

## Kentucky Agriculture

76,400 farms

\$6.5 billion in commodities

\$2.5 billion in agricultural exports

163,368 jobs

