



USDA research is working for Texas



Supporting innovation

In FY 2014, Texas received **\$6.8 million in new grants** from the Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (AFRI)

While alfalfa is a major forage grain, it is limited by the fact that it can cause bloat in ruminant animals. The **University of North Texas** has an AFRI grant to try to increase the presence a specific compound in alfalfa that would protect against pasture bloat.

AFRI-funded researchers at **Texas A&M University** are studying the drought and heat-tolerant genes in blackeye pea as a way to develop a more stress-tolerant line in blackeye pea and other related species.

Supporting small business

From 2005-2014, Texas small businesses received more than **\$5 million in grants** through the Small Business Innovation Research program within USDA

In Houston, **Asilomar Bio Inc.** received an SBIR grant to test the use of a new plant growth regulator in protecting corn from drought, while also enhancing grain yields under water-limited conditions.

Economic Impact



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**

Texas Agriculture

245,500 farms

\$25 billion in commodities

\$6.5 billion in agricultural exports

536,904 jobs



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