

# USDA research is working for Nebraska

### **Supporting innovation**

In FY 2015, Nebraska received **\$1.6 million in new grants** from the Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (AFRI).

The **University of Nebraska** received an AFRI grant to study how rice blast fungus infects and spreads within rice plant cells in order to develop a rice blast treatment or resistance variety.

AFRI-funded researchers are working to determine how climate change could impact the movement of trace organic compounds in subsoil in order to inform agricultural management decisions and preserve groundwater quality.

## Supporting small business

From 2006-2015, Nebraska small businesses received nearly **\$725,000 in grants** through the Small Business Innovation Research program within USDA

In Lincoln, **Holland Scientific** is using SBRI funding to develop a novel sensor technology that will detect crop "greenness" as a way to determine the crop's vigor and estimate yield.

#### **Economic Impact**



In 2014, agriculture and related industries added **\$985 billion** to the U.S. gross domestic product (GDP).



Agriculture exports hit a record high of **\$150 billion**, or 9% of total U.S. exports, in 2014.



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** 

#### Nebraska Agriculture

49,100 farms

\$23 billion in commodities

\$6.4 billion in agricultural exports

109,215 jobs



agronomy.org | crops.org | soils.org

