



USDA research is working for Arkansas



Supporting innovation

In FY 2015, Arkansas received **\$1.8 million in new grants** from the Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (AFRI).

Whole-grain rice products have antioxidant and anti-inflammation activity that can promote improved colon health. AFRI funding is being used to study the molecular components of rice fiber in order to develop a rice line with increased antioxidant properties.

AFRI-funded researchers at **Arkansas State University** are studying how peanut plants regulate stilbenoids, an important compound that protects the crop against pathogens and also provides beneficial health properties to humans.

Supporting small business

From 2006-2015, Arkansas small businesses received **\$4.5 million in grants** through the Small Business Innovation Research program within USDA.

In Fayetteville, **Sea Star International, LLC.**, received an SBIR grant to optimize processing method to extract high value phytochemicals from forestry tree bark, thereby adding value to existing paper mill waste.

Economic Impact



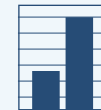
In 2014, agriculture and related industries added **\$985 billion** to the U.S. gross domestic product (GDP).



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**

Arkansas Agriculture

44,000 farms

\$8.8 billion in commodities

\$3.1 billion in agricultural exports

101,271 jobs



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Science Policy Office | 502 C St NE, Washington, DC 20002
202.408.5558 | sciencepolicy@sciencesocieties.org