



# USDA research is working for Michigan



## Supporting innovation

In FY 2015, Michigan received **\$8.6 million in new grants** from the Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (AFRI).

Researchers at **Michigan State University** are using an AFRI grant to develop, evaluate and disseminate decision-support tools to help farmers use “Big Data” (ex. yield maps and UAV sensors) to adapt to climate variability and increase their resiliency to climate variability.

AFRI funding is being used at **Michigan Technological University** to determine if the anti-inflammatory activity found in blueberries could help prevent or reduce gastrointestinal tract ailments such as Crohn’s disease, IBS or even GI cancers.

## Supporting small business

From 2006-2015, Michigan small businesses received more than **\$6.7 million in grants** through the Small Business Innovation Research program within USDA

**Metna, Co.** in Lansing, has an SBIR grant to show that using non-wood biomass ash as a component in cement construction materials, can reduced production costs and improve performance characteristics.

## Economic Impact



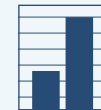
In 2014, agriculture and related industries added **\$985 billion** to the U.S. gross domestic product (GDP).



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**

## Michigan Agriculture

51,600 farms

\$7.8 billion in commodities

\$2.8 billion in agricultural exports

128,216 jobs



agronomy.org | crops.org | soils.org

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