



# USDA research is working for New Jersey

## Supporting innovation

Since FY 2012, New Jersey received over **\$3 million in grants** from the Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (AFRI)

Researchers at **Rutgers University** have an AFRI grant to develop a new variety of hazelnuts that is resistant to "filbert blight" a fungal infection that devastates this high-value crop in both the United States and Europe.

AFRI funding is being used by the New Jersey Institute of Technology to test different techniques to manage urban stormwater surge in order to reduce harmful runoff into freshwater streams and ecosystems.

## Supporting small business

From 2006-2015, New Jersey small businesses received more than **\$4.3 million in grants** through the Small Business Innovation Research program within USDA.

In North Brunswick, **Mirtech Inc.** received an SBIR grant to develop a water-based spray that inhibits apples from browning post-harvest, improving fruit quality and extending shelf life.

## Economic Impact



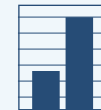
In 2014, agriculture and related industries added **\$985 billion** to the U.S. gross domestic product (GDP)



Agriculture exports hit a record high of over **\$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**

## New Jersey Agriculture

9,100 farms

\$1 billion in commodities

\$500 million in agricultural exports

30,287 jobs



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