

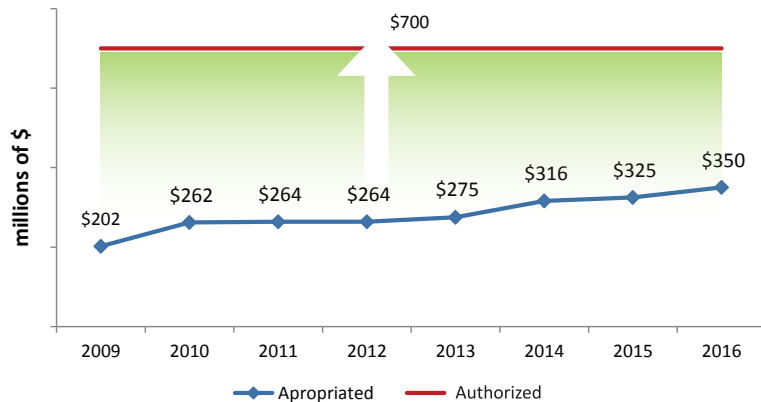
# Support \$700 million for USDA Agriculture & Food Research Initiative



The success of the U.S. agriculture enterprise is due to strong investments in food and agriculture research. Because of this, our nation is the global leader in food production and the U.S. farmer among the most efficient in the world.

However, meeting the challenges facing our world requires an even greater commitment to food and agriculture research.

The Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (AFRI) is the premier agricultural competitive grants program for basic and applied research on food, agriculture, natural resources, clean energy production, rural development and nutrition.



The gap represents missed opportunities and a loss of innovation.

**To spur innovation, we ask Congress to support AFRI at \$700 million in FY2017.**

## Loss of Innovation

Over half of AFRI research grant proposals rated as highly innovative go unfunded.



## Thriving Workforce



AFRI plays a critical role in training the next generation of food and agriculture researchers.

Each year, AFRI supports almost 2,000 undergraduate, graduate and postdoctoral students for careers in the food, agricultural and natural resource sciences.

Employment opportunities in advanced agriculture fields are projected to grow 5% by 2019, adding over 33,000 new positions.

## Global Competitiveness

From 2000-2010, U.S. investments in agricultural research remained stagnant, while other nations have significantly increased their investments.

