

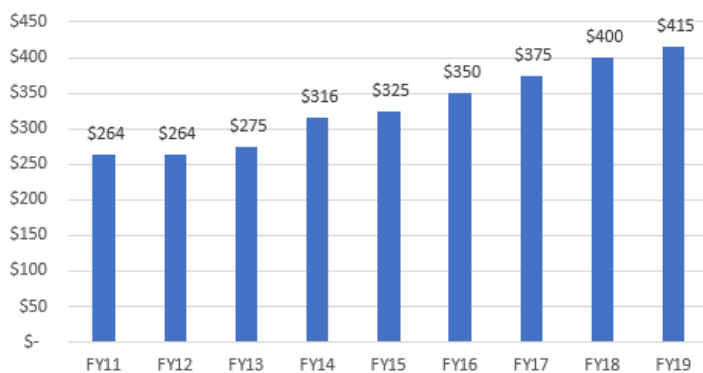


Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (AFRI)

The Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (AFRI) in the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) is the premier competitive grant program for agricultural research. AFRI takes research and innovation beyond the development phase and into implementation through its competitively funded education and extension programs.

AAU supports the administration's request to fund the Agriculture and Food Research Initiative at \$500 million in FY20

AFRI Funding, FY11-19



Funding in millions

Established in 2008, AFRI is a competitive grant program that supports high quality science to address some of our nation's most pressing challenges. The USDA's Economic Research Service determined that every dollar of federal funds invested in agricultural research yields \$20 of economic impact. Researchers working at universities across the country are tackling tough problems and developing innovative solutions. Recent successes include:

- Identifying more than 150 regions of the cattle genome that can be associated with resistance as well as susceptibility to Bovine Respiratory Disease in both beef and dairy cattle;
- Discovering an innovative way to reduce runoff, keeping water clean by strategically planting strips of native prairie plants within corn and soybean fields; and
- Developing flavonoid-enriched foods and diets to prevent and treat diabetes.

- Developing better methods to clean produce to eliminate dangerous pathogens like Listeria, Salmonella, and E.Coli;

AAU urges Congress to reach a bipartisan budget agreement to lift the Budget Control Act's harmful discretionary caps in FY20 and FY21 and allow for additional resources to meet the nation's significant investment needs.