

List of websites of U.S. academic universities specialized in research & innovation of agricultural sciences that might be invited in Romania at IndAgra 2016 for any transfer of U.S. high-precision advanced agricultural manufacturing technologies in partnerships with Romanian research institutions:

Agricultural & Applied Economics Association (AAEA), www.aaea.org

American Journal of Agricultural Economics, <http://ajae.oxfordjournals.org> & <http://ageconsearch.umn.edu/bitstream/29061/1/15020086.pdf>

California Polytechnic State University, College of Agriculture, Food & Environmental Sciences, http://agb.calpoly.edu/content/about/about_index

Colorado State University, College of Agricultural Sciences, Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics, <http://dare.agsci.colostate.edu/research-programs>

International Food and Agribusiness Management Association, <http://www.ifama.org> & <http://ageconsearch.umn.edu/bitstream/34509/1/01030311.pdf>

North Dakota State University, College of Agriculture, Food Systems, and Natural Resources, <https://www.ag.ndsu.edu/academics>

Ohio State University, College of Food, Agricultural and Environmental Sciences, Department of Agricultural, Environment, and Development Economics, <http://aede.osu.edu/research>

Purdue University, Agricultural Research at Purdue, <https://ag.purdue.edu/arp/Pages/default.aspx>

Purdue University, Center for Food and Agricultural Business, <http://agribusiness.purdue.edu/research>

Texas Agribusiness Market Research Center, <http://agrinet.tamu.edu/aboutus/about.htm>

U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) - National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) Specialty Crop Research Initiative, <https://nifa.usda.gov/funding-opportunity/specialty-crop-research-initiative-scri>

University of Georgia College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences, <http://www.agecon.uga.edu/research/journal-of-agribusiness/index.html>

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences, Department of Agricultural and Consumer Economics, <http://ace.illinois.edu/research/commercial-agriculture-and-commodity-markets>

University of Missouri, College of Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources, <https://cafnr.missouri.edu>



United States Department of Agriculture

Office of Communications

1400 Independence Ave, SW
Washington, DC 20250-1300
Voice (202) 720-4623
Email: oc.news@usda.gov
Web: <http://www.usda.gov>

Press Release

You are subscribed to USDA Office of Communications.

Release No. 0176.16

Contact:
Kelly Flynn (202) 720-6133

Secretary Vilsack Announces \$36.5 Million for Specialty Crop Research and Extension Investments

WASHINGTON, Aug. 2, 2016 – Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack today announced 19 grants totaling \$36.5 million for research and extension to support American farmers growing fruits and vegetables, tree nuts, dried fruits, horticulture and nursery crops including floriculture. The grants are funded through the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) Specialty Crop Research Initiative, authorized by the 2014 Farm Bill.

"America's specialty crop farmers face many challenges ranging from a changing climate to increasing production costs. Investing in cutting edge research helps uncover solutions to keep their operations viable and ensures Americans have access to safe, affordable and diverse food options," said Vilsack. "The universities, state departments of agriculture and trade associations that partner with USDA address challenges at the national and local levels to help sustain all parts of America's food and agriculture system, whether the farms are small or large, conventional or organic."

USDA's [Specialty Crop Research Initiative](#) (SCRI) develops and disseminates science-based tools to address the needs of specific crops. The funded projects address research and extension needs that span the entire spectrum of specialty crops production from researching plant genetics to improving crop characteristics; identifying and addressing threats from pests and diseases; improving production and profitability; developing new production innovations and technologies; and developing methods to respond to food safety hazards.

Grants being announced today, by state, include:

- University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff, Pine Bluff, Ark., \$50,000
- The American Olive Oil Producers Association, Clovis, Calif., \$50,000
- Agricultural Research Service, Peoria, Ill., \$3,694,012
- Purdue University, West Lafayette, Ind., \$3,673,611
- Agricultural Research Service, Beltsville, Md., \$3,683,590

- Michigan State University, East Lansing, Mich., \$1,467,724
- Michigan State University, East Lansing, Mich., \$48,558
- North Carolina State University, Raleigh, N.C., \$ 3,717,519
- North Carolina State University, Raleigh, N.C., \$ 3,276,666
- North Carolina State University, Raleigh, N.C., \$46,956
- Rutgers University, New Brunswick, N.J., \$ 2,849,975
- Rutgers University, New Brunswick, N.J., \$50,000
- New Mexico State University, Las Cruces, N.M., \$ 4,404,284
- Cornell University, Ithaca, N.Y., \$ 4,281,618
- Cornell University, Ithaca, N.Y., \$ 2,019,142
- Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio, \$35,240
- Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio, \$33,744
- Oregon State University, Corvallis, Ore., \$3,112,410
- Texas A&M University, Corpus Christi, Texas, \$35,418

Abstracts for this year's funded projects can be viewed on [NIFA's reporting website](#).

Scientists at USDA's Agricultural Research Service in Beltsville, Md., will use one of these grants to develop new mechanisms to improve food safety and prevent pathogen contamination of fresh and fresh-cut produce at retail. USDA consistently conducts and funds food safety research to generate real-world results for both government and the private sector. Read more about how USDA's food safety improvements over the past seven years are leading to a safer food supply at www.medium.com/usda-results.

To date, NIFA has awarded almost \$400 million through the SCRI program. Previously funded projects include a Virginia Polytechnic Institute project that will help producers reduce pathogens in their water recycling systems, and implement best irrigation practices for improving horticultural profits. A Michigan State University project is helping growers better manage pollinators such as native bee and honey bee populations to improve their specialty crop yields.

NIFA invests in and advances innovative and transformative initiatives to solve societal challenges and ensure the long-term viability of agriculture. NIFA's integrated research, education, and extension programs, supporting the best and brightest scientists and extension personnel, have resulted in user-inspired, groundbreaking discoveries that are combating childhood obesity, improving and sustaining rural economic growth, addressing water availability issues, increasing food production, finding new sources of energy, mitigating climate variability and ensuring food safety.

To learn more about NIFA's impact on agricultural science, visit www.nifa.usda.gov/impacts, sign up for [email updates](#), or follow us on Twitter [@usda_NIFA](#), [#NIFAimpacts](#).

#