Agriculture, natural resources and related industries are an economic powerhouse in Florida, providing over 2 million jobs, $121.2 billion in direct output (revenues), $108.7 billion in value added contributions, and accounting for 14.2 percent of total economic activity in 2010. These industries are supported by a $130 million investment from the state of Florida in UF/IFAS Research and Extension programs. Studies show that agricultural research provides a 40% or greater social rate of return on investment, which translates into a 10:1 benefit-cost ratio, based on the average long term cost of capital. In other words, for every $1 of public investment in agricultural research and extension, there is a $10 benefit to producers and consumers in terms of greater productivity and lower food prices. Driven by innovation and new technology, agriculture and related industries will continue to increase jobs and economic well-being in Florida.

This sheet and additional information can be found at http://ifas.ufl.edu/economicimpacts.html.