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# **NIFA Update for ASRED/SAAESD Spring Meeting**

**Denise R Eblen PhD**

**Deputy Director**

**National Institute of Food and Agriculture**



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## *Hail and Farewell*

- **Curt Deville, Equal Opportunity Director – retired January**
- **Dionne Toombs, Division of Nutrition Director – moving to OCS**
- » **New NPL and Division Directors**
  - **Division Directors**
    - **Randi Johnson for Climate**
    - **Tim Connor for Bioenergy**
  - **Recent NPLs**
    - **Toby Ahrens**
    - **Melvin Carter, Max Teplitski, Paul Cotton**
    - **Wesley Dean, Rubella Goswami**



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# Budget FY 2017



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# FY2017 Budget Status

## Scenarios

- » **Usual Process through Conference- Omnibus**
  - **House appropriations committee**
  - **Senate appropriations committee**
- » **Continuing resolution for the entire year? – runs out April 28**
- » **...possible shutdown this weekend...**



## **FY2017 - AFRI status**

- » **Food Security and Water for Agriculture combined**
  - **Water for Food Production Systems- RFA posted**
- » **Systems approaches in challenge areas**
  - **Food Safety (AMR), Water for Food Production, and Childhood Obesity RFAs posted**
  - **The rest will be posted soon**
- » **Foundational Area**
  - **RFA posted**
  - **Pollinator health funds in Foundational Program**



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## **AFRI- Interagency Activities**

- » **National Robotics Initiative (led by NSF)**
- » **Cyberphysical Systems (led by NSF)**
- » **Plant-Microbe Interactions (with NSF)**
- » **Ecology and Evolution of Infectious Diseases (with NSF, NIH, BBSRC)**
- » **International Wheat Yield Partnership (BBSRC, USAID, and others)**
- » **INFEWS (with NSF)**
- » **Dual Purpose Research (with NIH)**
- » **Biomarkers for nutrition (with NIH)**
- » **Water for Agriculture (with BARD)**
- » **Plant and animal health (with Irish agencies)**
- » **Plant and microbiome EAGERs**



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# Budget FY 2018



# FY2018 Budget Status

- » **What is known in the President's Budget Blueprint?**
- » Continues to support farmer-focused research and extension partnerships at land-grant universities and provides about \$350 million for USDA's flagship competitive research program.
- » **What is not known?**
  - **The rest**
  - **Anticipated week of May 15...**

**America First**  
A Budget Blueprint to Make  
America Great Again







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# AFRI & other opportunities

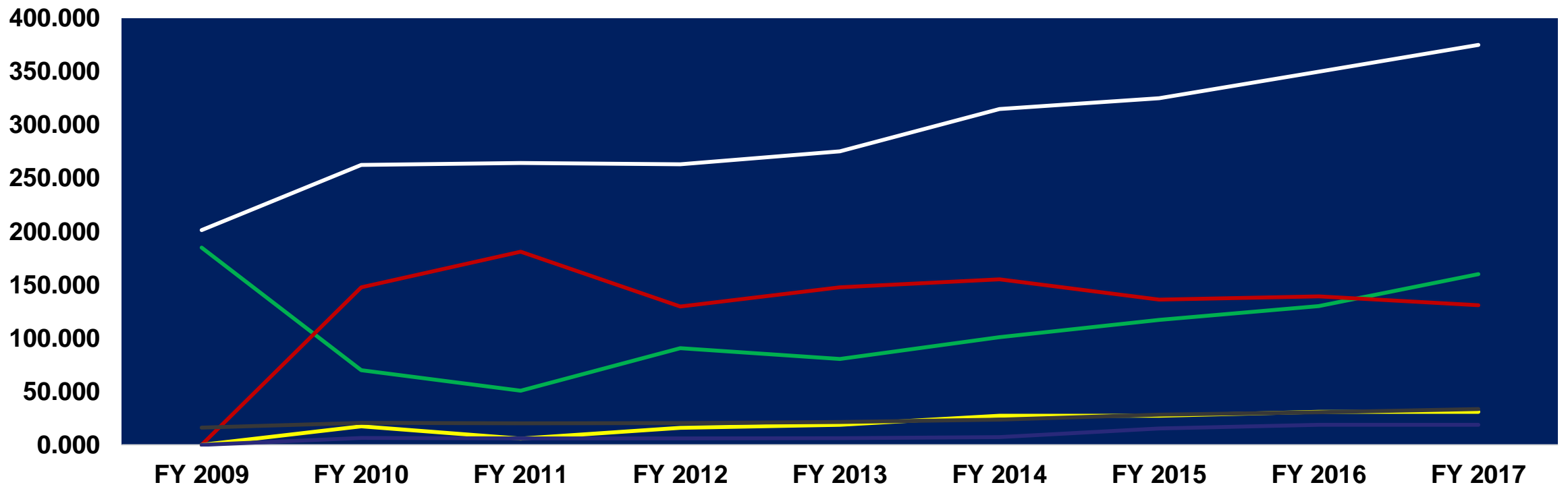


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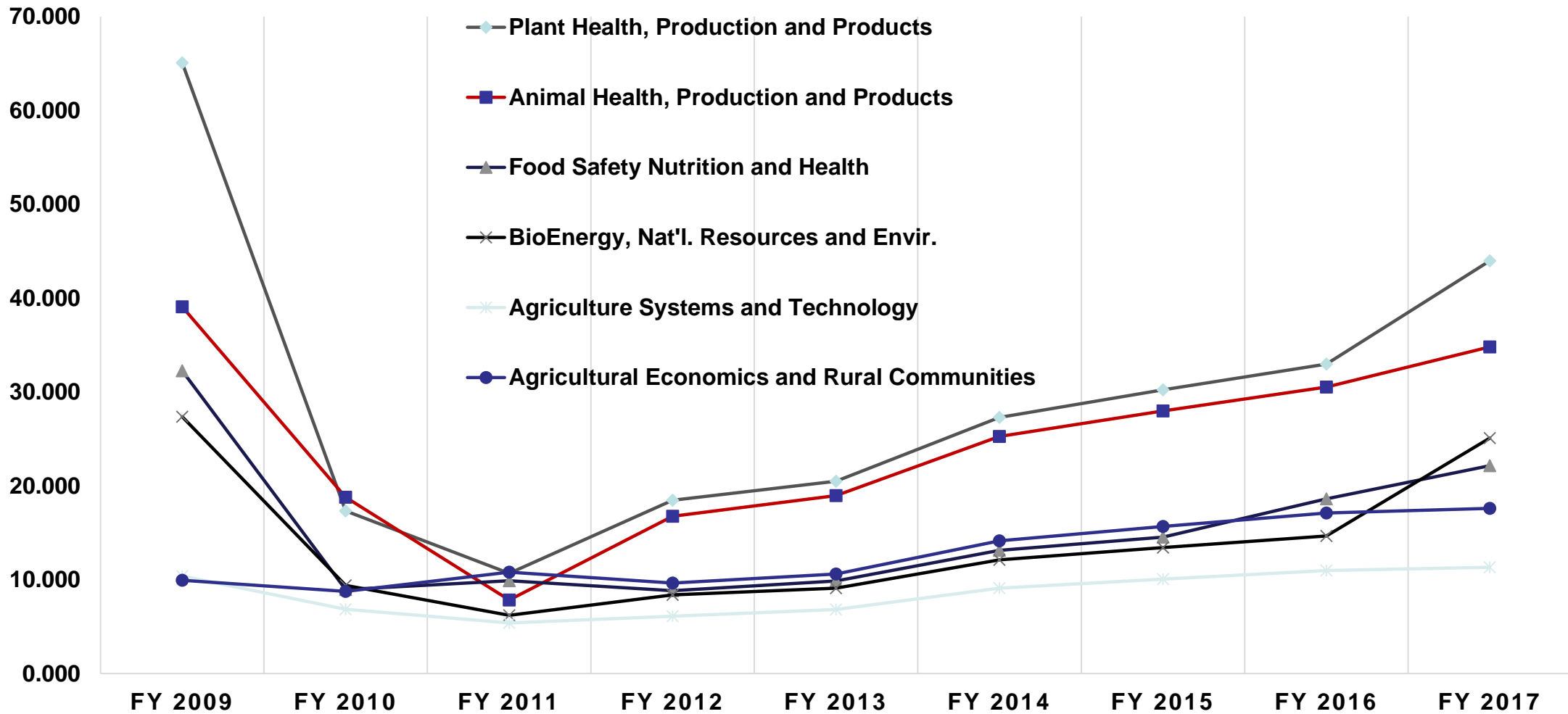
# AFRI Budget



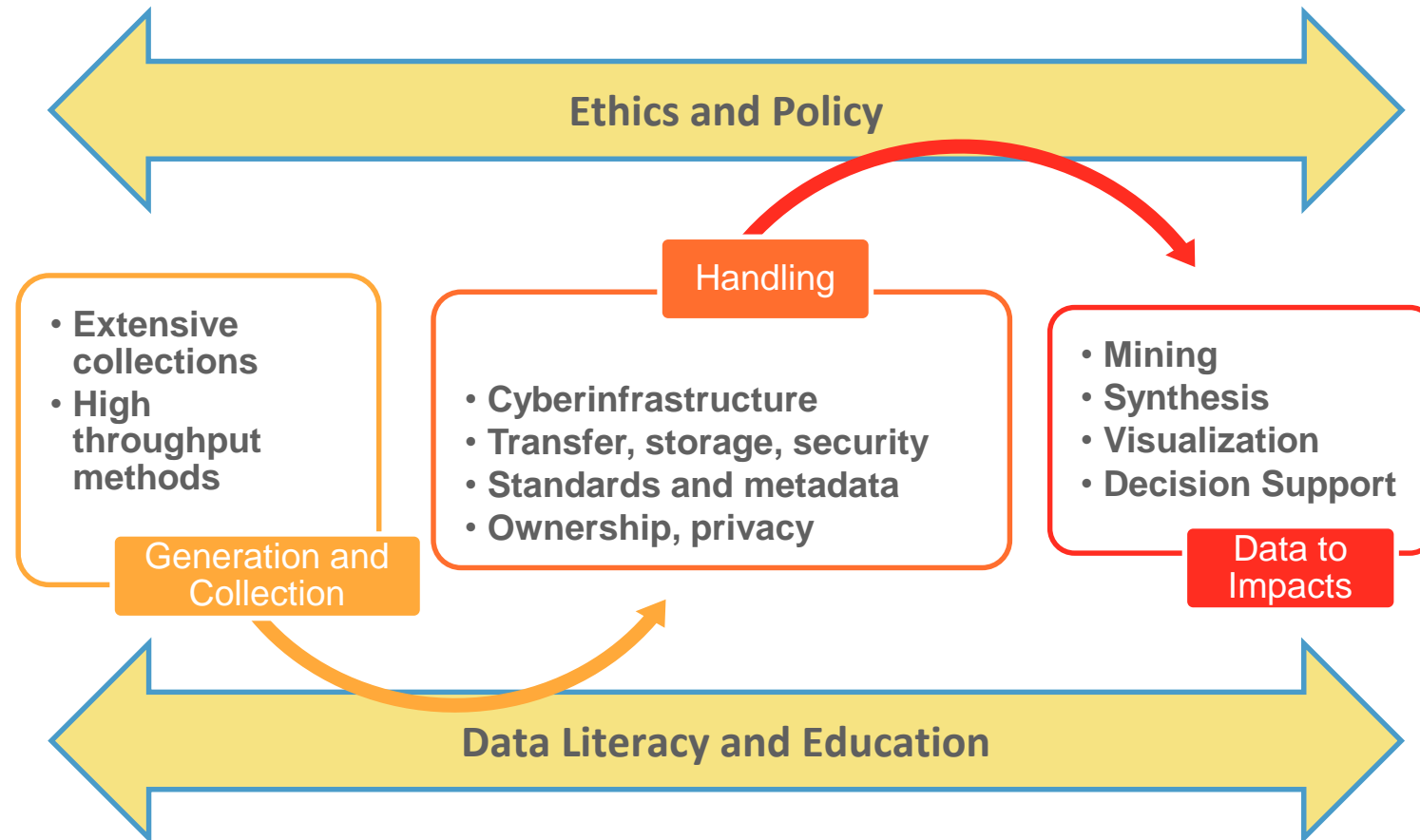
- Foundational Programs: Total
- Challenge Area Programs: Total
- Interagency Agreements: Total
- Education and Literacy Initiative
- Other: Set-Asides
- Grand Total



# FUNDING HISTORY FOR AFRI PRIORITY AREAS



# Food and Agriculture Cyberinformatics and Tools Initiative (FACT Initiative)



*Observational Science to Information Science to Predictive Science*



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# Other AFRI Opportunities

**CARE- Critical Agricultural Research and Extension**

**Graduate Fellowships**

***Higher funding rates than typical for AFRI***



# Specialty Crops Research Initiative

- » **Specialty Crops**
  - \$55M of mandatory funding
  - genomics to robotics to food safety
- » **Citrus Disease Research Initiative**
  - \$25M of mandatory funding
  - Solely targeted to citrus greening in its first three years
- » **Two stage review**
  - Relevancy review by agroindustry
  - Scientific merit review by peers

**Opportunity**  
Needs New and  
Different Ideas



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## **NIFA State Liaisons**

- » **Each State and Territory has an NPL assigned as Liaison**
- » **State Liaison Best Practices training program under development**
- » **Seeking your ideas**



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# **Stakeholder Engagement/Feedback sessions**

- » **Tactical Sciences (February 2017)**
  - **Ensuring biosecurity of US food and ag systems**
- » **EFNEP/Nutrition Education (June 2017)**
- » **Positive Youth Development (August? 2017)**
- » **Broad focused External Stakeholder Listening Session (November 2017)**





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# New NIFA Study Shows Capacity Funding is a Valued Investment to States



## Your thoughts on the Teconomy report?



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**Questions?**

**[denise.r.eblen@nifa.usda.gov](mailto:denise.r.eblen@nifa.usda.gov)**