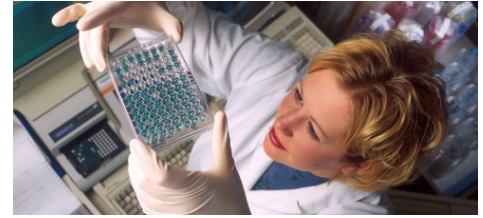# Situational Analysis

*Between 1970 and 2005:

- The population of the United States rose from 203 to 296 million.

- U.S. GDP increased by $7.2 trillion.

- Federal revenues grew by $1.3 trillion and outlays increased by $1.6 trillion.

- U.S. defense spending increased by $152 billion; and domestic spending by $274 billion.

- Federal health/medical research funding (NIH) grew by $22.6 billion.

- General federal science research funding (NSF) increased by $2.5 billion.

- However, federal funding for food, agriculture, and natural resources research (USDA) grew by just $652 million.

*In just the last 15 years:

- NIH funding rose by $15.0 billion.

- NSF funding increased by $1.4 billion.

- But, USDA research funding grew by only $360 million.

- And, USDA base (Hatch) funding for State Agricultural Experiment Stations and related institutions actually dropped by $27 million.

- Also, USDA base (Smith-Lever) funding for the Cooperative Extension Service declined by $45 million.

*Constant 2000 dollars, unless otherwise noted.

- The principal food, agriculture, and natural resources competitive grants program at USDA — the National Research Initiative (NRI) — did increase, but only by $79 million.

- However, the NRI appropriation of $180 million (2005 dollars) in FY 2005 was less than the amount which each of 25 states received in NIH grants during that same year.

Over the last 15 years, federal funding for Ag Research and Extension has slowly declined...

Compounding the chronic shortfall for research, extension, and teaching activities is the fact that these responsibilities are spread over four USDA agencies: Agricultural Research Service, Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service, Economic Research Service, and Forest Service.

While there is coordination among the agencies, there is also programmatic duplication and no clear "lead agency" to address critical and urgent national food, agriculture, and natural resource problems.

**CREATE-21
will change this situation.**

FEDERAL BUDGET TRENDS

(Constant 2000 Dollars, Billions)

$2,500

$1,500

$500

— Revenues
— Outlays
— Domestic Spending

1991   2005

FEDERAL R&D SPENDING

(Constant 2000 Dollars, Billions)

$30

$20

$10

— USDA
— NIH
— NSF

1991   2005

USDA-CSREES TRENDS

(Constant 2000 Dollars, Millions)

$300

$200

$100

— Smith-Lever   — Hatch   — NRI

1991   2005