Broadband Delivers **Ag Tech** in Rural Communities

Small family farms account for about 18% of total U.S. farm production value, but that increases to 47% for poultry and eggs and 53% for hay.

**The Bottom Line**

The **Ag Tech market in the U.S. is ~$4.4B**. This can include smart irrigation, farm management software, drones and remote sensing, biotech, automation, IoT, vertical farming and other innovative tools and technology to improve modern agriculture’s efficiency, productivity and sustainability.

**Auto-steer technology is used on 50% of crop acreage in the U.S.**

Currently used Ag Tech offers:

- 9% reduction in chemical use.
- 6% reduction in fossil fuel consumption.
- 4% reduction in water use (enough to fill 750K Olympic-sized swimming pools).
- 30M lb decrease in herbicide use.

The USDA projects increased demand for cattle and calves in 2024.

- Feed is the most significant cost input with animal farming.
- Automated feed bins control feeding.
- Remote monitoring is employed for animal health management and calving season.

**Data Supports Ag Tech**

Ag Tech enables farmers to **lower input costs while increasing yield** and productivity. Ag Tech adoption is growing as per-unit technology prices decrease.

Ensure your community has access to this valuable tool. Visit [www.smartruralcommunity.org](http://www.smartruralcommunity.org) for more information and details.