

North Carolina



**THE TOBACCO TRUST FUND
COMMISSION'S ANNUAL REPORT TO
THE JOINT LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION
ON GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS
AND THE CHAIRS OF THE HOUSE AND
SENATE APPROPRIATIONS
COMMITTEES**

November 1, 2011

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November 1, 2011



The Honorable Phil Berger
Co-Chair, Joint Legislative Commission on
Governmental Operations
2008 Legislative Building
Raleigh, NC 27601-2808

The Honorable Thom Tillis
Co-Chair, Joint Legislative Commission on
Governmental Operations
2304 Legislative Building
Raleigh, NC 27601-1096

Dear Senator Berger and Representative Tillis:

Pursuant to North Carolina General Statute 143-722(a), the Tobacco Trust Fund Commission hereby presents a report to the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations from the Chairman, William H. "Bill" Teague. As specified in the legislation, this report contains an update on grant activity and operating expenditures.

If we can provide any further information or answer any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "William H. Teague". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

William H. "Bill" Teague
Chairman

MAILING ADDRESS:
1080 MAIL SERVICE CENTER
RALEIGH NC 27699-1080

PHONE: (919) 733-2160 • FAX: (919) 733-2510
www.tobaccotrustfund.org
E-MAIL: tobaccotrustfund@ncagr.gov

LOCATION:
537 NORTH BLOUNT STREET
RALEIGH, NC 27604

November 1, 2011



The Honorable Harold J. Brubaker
Senior Chair, House Appropriations Committee
302 Legislative Office Building
Raleigh, NC 27603-5925

The Honorable James W. Crawford, Jr.
Co-Chair, House Appropriations Committee
304 Legislative Office Building
Raleigh, NC 27603-5925

The Honorable Nelson Dollar
Co-Chair, House Appropriations Committee
307B1 Legislative Office Building
Raleigh, NC 27603-5925

The Honorable Mitch Gillespie
Co-Chair, House Appropriations Committee
307B2 Legislative Office Building
Raleigh, NC 27603-5925

The Honorable Linda P. Johnson
Co-Chair, House Appropriations Committee
301D Legislative Office Building
Raleigh, NC 27603-5925

Dear Representative Brubaker and Representative Crawford and Representative Dollar and Representative Gillespie and Representative Johnson:

Pursuant to North Carolina General Statute 143-722(a), the Tobacco Trust Fund Commission hereby presents a report to the Co-Chairs of the House Appropriations Committee from the Chairman, William H. "Bill" Teague. As specified in the legislation, this report contains an update on grant activity and operating expenditures.

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November 1, 2011



The Honorable Peter S. Brunstetter
Co-Chair, Senate Appropriations/
Base Budget Committee
2022 Legislative Building
Raleigh, NC 27601-2808

The Honorable Neal Hunt
Co-Chair, Senate Appropriations/
Base Budget Committee
308 Legislative Office Building
Raleigh, NC 27603-5925

The Honorable Richard Stevens
Co-Chair, Senate Appropriations/
Base Budget Committee
309 Legislative Office Building
Raleigh, NC 27603-5925

Dear Senator Brunstetter and Senator Hunt and Senator Stevens:

Pursuant to North Carolina General Statute 143-722(a), the Tobacco Trust Fund Commission hereby presents a report to the Co-Chairs of the Senate Appropriations/Base Budget Committee from the Chairman, William H. "Bill" Teague. As specified in the legislation, this report contains an update on grant activity and operating expenditures.

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November 1, 2011



**TO: THE JOINT LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION ON GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS
AND THE CO-CHAIRS OF THE HOUSE AND SENATE APPROPRIATIONS
COMMITTEES**

As the new Chairman of the North Carolina Tobacco Trust Fund Commission, I am pleased to present our annual report to the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations and the Co-Chairs of the House and Senate Appropriations Committees.

Serving as the Chairman, I had the pleasure of interacting with numerous individuals all across the state that make their livelihood by working in North Carolina's agricultural industry. It goes without saying, these are some of the most dedicated, creative and resilient people. They have faced a historic recession, hurricanes, tornadoes and the list goes on. Yet they go right back to work doing what many would not dare undertake, producing the essentials of life.

The Tobacco Trust Fund Commission's work is critical because agriculture remains a very important part of our state's economy, contributing over **\$70** billion annually, accounting for **17.5%** of the state's income and employing over **17%** of the workforce. From establishing a livestock market to optimizing energy inputs for the farm to helping market the bounty of our producer's harvest, the Commission has worked diligently to invigorate agriculture's monetary value and create jobs during very challenging times. Because of agriculture's importance to our citizens, we applaud our legislative leadership for allowing the Commission to continue to serve the cornerstone of our state's economy.

Active grant information, the 2011 grant awards and information showing the impact of our funds are included in this report. You will see a diversified portfolio of grant recipients utilizing our state's money to exceptionally good use.

We are very proud of our work and humbled to play a part in helping our great state move forward.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "William H. Teague". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

William H. "Bill" Teague
Chairman

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RALEIGH, NC 27604



COMMISSION MEMBERS
2011

BARNES, Susan

Kenly, NC
County-Wilson
Appointee Officer-
Governor

BEAVERS, Keith R.

Mount Olive, NC
County-Duplin
Appointee Officer-
Speaker of the House

**BURGESS, Talmadge
R.**

Henderson, NC
County-Vance
Appointee Officer-
Governor

CREWS, Sam

Oxford, NC
County-Granville
Appointee Officer-
Speaker of the House

DAVIS, Layten

Hot Springs, NC
County-Madison
Appointee Officer-
Speaker of the House

EMERSON, Thomas

Siler City, NC
County-Chatham
Appointee Officer-
Speaker of the House

ENOCH, Richard A.

Mebane, NC
County-Alamance
Appointee Officer-
Governor

HOLBROOK, Bill

Waynesville, NC
County-Haywood
Appointee Officer-
Governor

LEGETT, Sue T.

Nashville, NC
County-Nash
Appointee Officer-
President Pro Tem

LEONARD, Al J. Jr.

Tabor City, NC
County-Columbus
Appointee Officer-
President Pro Tem

**MCLAWHORN,
John (Johnny) B. Jr.**

Hookerton, NC
County-Greene
Appointee Officer-
Governor

PITT, Gwen

Macclesfield, NC
County-Edgecombe
Appointee Officer-
Governor

REEVES, Kenneth

Leicester, NC
County-Buncombe
Appointee Officer-
President Pro Tem

SIMPSON, Jeff

Roseboro, NC
County-Cumberland
Appointee Officer-
Speaker of the House

SMALL, Willard

Fair Bluff, NC
County-Columbus
Appointee Officer-
President Pro Tem

SMITH, Rick

Greenville, NC
County-Pitt
Appointee Officer-
Speaker of the House

TEAGUE, William H.

CHAIRMAN
Leicester, NC
County-Buncombe
Appointee Officer-
President Pro Tem

WARD, Dan

VICE CHAIRMAN
Clarkton, NC
County-Bladen
Appointee Officer-
President Pro Tem



COMMISSION HISTORY 2011

Background

North Carolina's share of the Master Settlement Agreement (MSA) was divided into three different parts. Under the terms of the consent decree in North Carolina, 50% of the funds are directed to a non-profit corporation, Golden LEAF, to be used for economic development in tobacco-dependent communities. By statute the remaining 50% is equally divided between two state Commissions. The Health and Wellness Trust Fund Commission utilizes their portion for health-related needs (HWTFC). The final portion is allocated to the North Carolina Tobacco Trust Fund Commission (TTFC). With the passage of the 2011 budget, the TTFC now receives funding via non-reoccurring appropriations and the HWTFC is no longer in existence.

The TTFC was created on August 2, 2000 with the approval of House Bill 1431. The purpose of the Commission is to assist tobacco farmers, former tobacco quota holders, persons engaged in tobacco-related businesses, individuals displaced from tobacco-related employment, and tobacco product component businesses in this State due to the adverse effects of the MSA. Funds can be disbursed through **compensatory programs** and **qualified agricultural programs**.

Membership is made up of 18 people, six appointed by the Governor, six by the Speaker of the House and six by the President Pro Tem of the Senate. The board met for the first time February 15, 2001 at which the members were given their charges and sworn in.

Since November 1, 2010

The TTFC met **three times** this past year. During these meetings, board members awarded grant funds, received grantee updates and took action on grant amendment requests. The TTFC also had the pleasure of adding **one new board member** and electing a new chairman and vice-chairman. The TTFC also moved from being a recipient of MSA funds to a non-reoccurring appropriation of \$2 million.

In 2011, a total of **61** grant applications were received requesting over **\$20** million in funding. This was an increase of **\$4** million or **25%** from the previous grant cycle and an increase of **15%** in applications. After a very detailed review process, the TTFC approved grants totaling, **\$2,947,402 for 23 projects**. The diversion of funds, to balance the state budget and other non-statutory projects, prevented the board from addressing many more of these worthy applications.

Agriculture in North Carolina continues to face many challenges this year including an ongoing recession, tornadoes and a devastating hurricane. Yet these individuals and groups continue to be resilient in the face of adversity. With the ending of the federal price system combined with the uncertainty of tobacco contracting, demand for funds continues to grow. In keeping with the TTFC's five priority areas of diversification initiatives, increasing farm profitability, skill and resource development, development of natural resources, and community economic development, the board focused on projects that would primarily get people back into the workforce and return valuable income to rural North Carolina.

Even with the limitation of funds, the TTFC is very proud of the investments made this past year to help people in North Carolina continue to move forward. Below are examples of positive impacts in just a few of our ongoing projects.

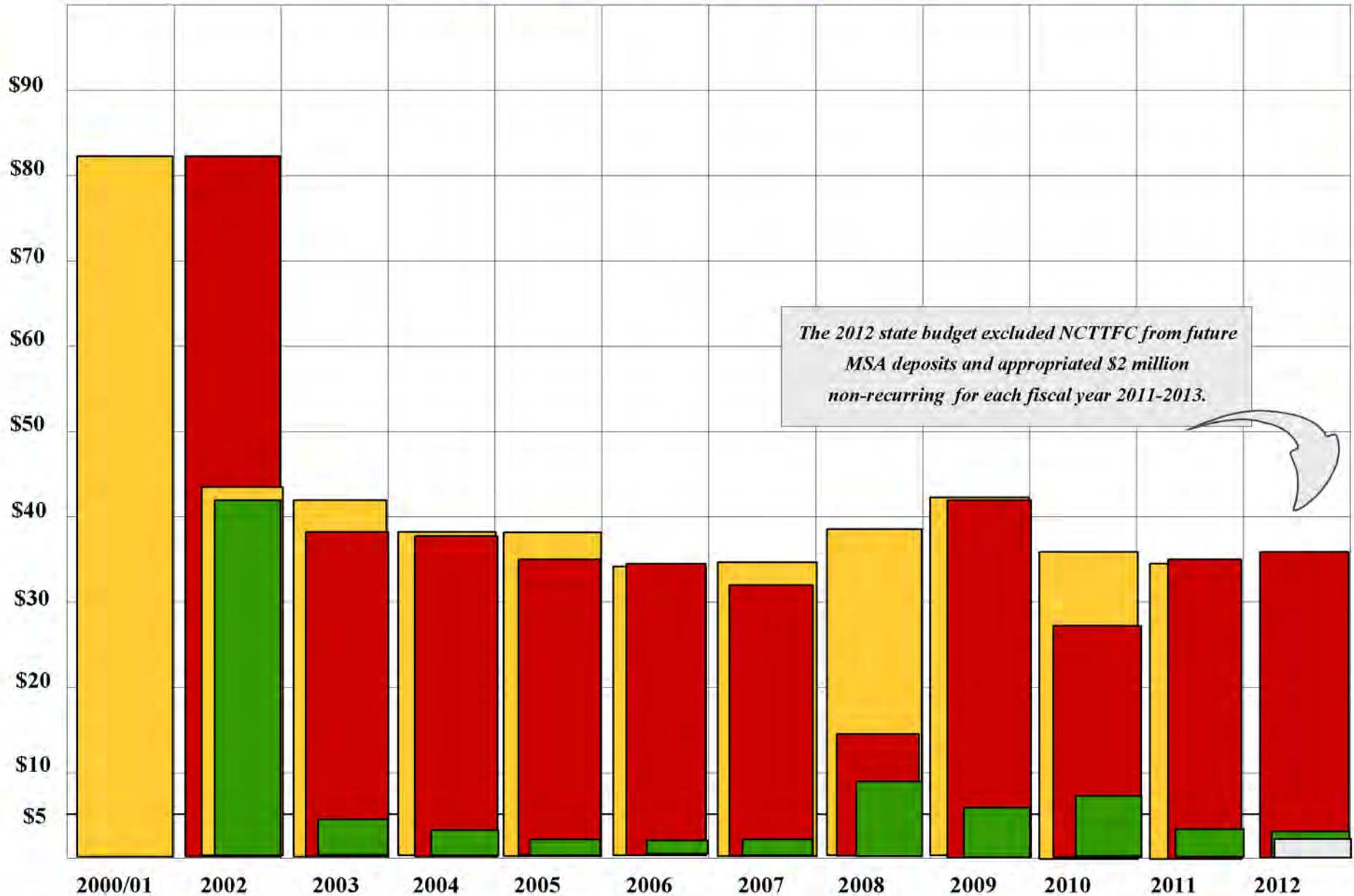
- The 30 members of New River Organic Growers in northwestern NC have sold over \$100,000 in product within the last 12 months – a new record for them.
- The 24 community colleges which oversee the “Project Skill-Up” program assisted over 3,000 students with career training and skills enhancement.
- Over \$3 million in federal funds have been leveraged for energy efficient grants to 190 NC farmers as part of the “Farm Energy Efficiency Program.”
- The marketing efforts of the “Got to Be NC” marketing campaign has reached over 1.2 million consumers this year through promotions and trade events.
- The recently opened “WNC Livestock Market” has already shown strong impacts. As of September 30 they had sold 8,871 cattle at the arena. They have sold 16,680 via video (conducted at the arena) and sold from all over the southeast including SC and Ga. In addition to the official September report, the October sales will average +/- 350 weekly or another 1,400.

Even in the light of an unprecedented recession, new enterprises are continuing to take hold, new markets are being developed, and new job opportunities are being provided. These contributions, detailed throughout this report, illustrate the passion of North Carolinians to restore prosperity to formerly tobacco-dependent communities and businesses. Agriculture is still a key industry in the state driving an important economic engine in the rural areas. Our state leaders have shown their ability to address current challenges and future opportunities by providing financial resources through our program that will pay dividends for years to come. On behalf of the board and the many people we serve, the TTFC thanks you for your support.

Annual MSA Payments, Diverted Funds & Grant Awards



ANNUAL MSA PAYMENTS TO NCTTFC IN MILLIONS



The 2012 state budget excluded NCTTFC from future MSA deposits and appropriated \$2 million non-recurring for each fiscal year 2011-2013.

Annual MSA Payment to NCTTFC
 Diverted Funds
 Grants Awarded
 *NCTTFC Administration Costs Average Less Than 1% of the Annual MSA Payment

NC TOBACCO TRUST FUND COMMISSION
2007 GRANTS

Project: College of Agriculture & Life Sciences Agricultural Leadership Development Program

Contact: Bill Collins
NC Agricultural Foundation, Inc.
NCSU Campus Box 7645
Raleigh, NC 27695
(919) 515-2000

Grant Amount: \$203,585

Project supported the 2008-2010 Ag Leadership Development Program, involving thirty farmers and agribusiness professionals ages twenty to forty-five from across NC. The program developed a cadre of leaders able to meet the challenges of the changing agricultural economy. 27 participants experienced personal and professional growth, enhanced their understanding of agricultural and rural community issues, and learned how to apply new leadership skills to build personal and public capacity. Workshops and tours were completed during 2010 and the program's "graduation" ceremony was held in late 2010.

STATUS: COMPLETED

Area Served: Statewide

www.cals.ncsu.edu/foundation

Project: Development of the Elaney Wood Family Heritage Farm and Alternative Agriculture Training Center

Contact: Mary Kearney
2029 Mewborn Church Road
Snow Hill, NC 28580
(252) 747-5054

Grant Amount: \$121,000

Project supported the establishment of the Elaney Wood Family Heritage Farm and Alternative Agriculture Training Center in Greene County. Grant funds supported tobacco dependent individuals interested in diversification by developing a comprehensive strategic plan, designs for an agricultural training center, development of marketing and tourism plans, and relocation of three existing buildings to the project site.

In April, 2011, a tornado ripped through Greene County and all existing buildings erected on the site were destroyed. The grantee hopes to utilize funding from another source to rebuild part of the site.

STATUS: COMPLETED

Area Served: Greene County

www.cals.ncsu.edu/foundation

Project: Food Safety Training for Extension Agents and Produce Growers

Contact: Diane Ducharme
NC Research Campus
NCSU –CALs
600 Laureate Way
Kannapolis, NC 28081
(704) 250-5402

Grant Amount: \$132,017

Project provided comprehensive statewide training to extension agents to assist producers and their employees in the development of food safety plans, good agricultural practices (GAPs) best management practices (BMPs), and the training of farm workers. Agents were trained in the eight GAP principles, wrote food safety plans, and learned of liability issues of direct marketing. Implementation was coordinated by the Fresh Produce Safety Task Force created in March 2007. Over 12,700 people received increased training on food safety handling and GAP certification through workshops, seminars or online. 152 extension agents representing nearly every county have been trained and can now train growers in their counties. The web-based training curriculum addresses food safety issues such as proper packing and handling, selling produce to consumers, sanitation issues, traceback programs and GAP certification. The produce safety website had received over 116,000 unique visitors by project end date.

STATUS: COMPLETED

Area Served: Statewide

www.cals.ncsu.edu/foundation

NC TOBACCO TRUST FUND COMMISSION
2008 GRANTS

Project: **An Improved Laboratory Information Management System to Meet the Agronomic Data Needs of NC Growers**

Contact: Dr. Colleen Hudak-Wise
Agronomic Division, NCDA&CS
1040 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699
919-733-2655

Grant Amount: \$455,600

Project will implement a custom designed new Lab Information Management System for the NCDA&CS Agronomic Lab. Services will include nematode assays, plant tissue and waste analysis. Lab will be able to handle increased sample and testing demands placed on it by farmers and consumers.

STATUS: Software developers were hired and project is almost complete. Testing of various parts of the system is being conducted weekly. New system is expected to be in place and operational by end of 2011.

Area Served: Statewide

www.ncagr.com/agronomi

Project: **Strong Roots: Strengthening Local Food Initiatives in NC**

Contact: Charlie Jackson
Appalachian Sustainable Agriculture Project (ASAP)
729 Haywood Rd., #3
Asheville, NC 28806
828-236-1280

Grant Amount: \$205,000

Funds assisted ASAP personnel in training two NC communities on how to plan and execute local food campaigns, much like the current ASAP model. Grant covers two years of training, planning and implementation for these multi-county regions. The "Piedmont Grown" program was developed to promote local foods in the Piedmont region and "Feast Down East" promotes southeastern farmers. Both regions developed printed materials, new websites, farmer to chef programs, farmer's market support and

more. The regions now have personnel in place to continue the campaigns and grow consumer and farmer support.

STATUS: COMPLETED

Area Served: Southeastern NC and Orange County region

www.asapconnections.org

Project: **Expanding Value-Added Opportunities for Farmers in Western North Carolina**

Contact: Mr. Scott Hamilton
AdvantageWest Economic Development Group
134 Wright Brothers Way
Fletcher, NC 28732
828-687-7234

Grant Amount: \$146,500

Project developed 10 new value-added projects with 14 growers. Holiday gift box sales were established and over 15,000 pounds of produce were processed for Winter Sun Farms, a winter community supported ag project with \$18,000 in sales and 225 subscribers. A natural foods processing facility was established and \$178,000 was leveraged. Facility will continue WSF and provide assistance to growers/companies who wish to expand their natural foods offerings.

STATUS: COMPLETED

Area Served: Buncombe and surrounding counties of western NC

www.advantagewest.com

Project: **"Got to be NC Agriculture" Direct Marketing Initiative**

Contact: Mr. Joe Sanderson
NCDA&CS
1020 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699
919-733-7912

Grant Amount: \$300,000

Developed consumer directed television features on tobacco production in NC and how farmers have diversified into other crops and products. Aired two, 30-minute segments on statewide network of UNC-TV. Consumer television campaign in major TV markets featured local growers, direct farm markets and the variety of NC products in 30 and 60-second ads. Total household reach was over 4.2 million.

STATUS: COMPLETED

Area Served: Statewide

www.gottobenc.com

Project: N. C. Drought Response Program

Contact: Mr. Billy Guillet
North Carolina Rural Center
4021 Carya Drive
Raleigh, NC 27610
919-250-4314

Grant Amount: \$6,000,000

Program was implemented to address the devastating effects of one of the worst droughts' in NC history. Partnerships with NC Cooperative Extension, Division of Soil & Water Conservation and the NC Foundation for Soil & Water Conservation implemented a large number of projects. The NC General Assembly allocated an additional \$1 million for the project. Key results (based on all funding sources): over 20,000 acres of pastures were renovated, 632 wells were put into operation, 153 water supply ponds were renovated and over 800,000 feet of conservation irrigation was put in place. Forage and grazing workshops reached over 5,000 livestock producers.

STATUS: COMPLETED

Area Served: Statewide

www.ncruralcenter.org

Project: Financing Sustainable Agricultural Businesses

Contact: Mr. Rick Larson
Natural Capital Investment Fund, Inc.
PO Box 271
Chapel Hill, NC 27514
919-967-2223

Grant Amount: \$500,000

Funds offered loan and investment capital for sustainable agricultural businesses. NCIF made 13 loans, leveraging over \$2 million. Clients included small farmers with loans for grain storage, an organic dairy, an all-natural bake shop which purchases product from NC farmers and a grocery cooperative serving the Burlington area. Borrowers have been able to expand and/or venture out into new businesses designed to increase their farm income and clients provided 29 new jobs.

STATUS: COMPLETED

Area Served: Statewide

www.ncifund.org

Project: Piedmont Value-Added Shared Use Food and Agricultural Processing Center

Contact: Mr. Noah Ranells
Orange County
PO Box 8181
Hillsborough, NC 27278
919-245-2300

Grant Amount: \$479,000

Facility located in Hillsborough will provide a full service food processing center for 22 counties. Funds have been used for equipment and renovations. Project has leveraged over \$1 million in additional funding.

STATUS: Facility had its grand opening on October 21, 2011. It has already begun serving clients.

Area served: Orange and surrounding 22 counties.

www.co.orange.nc.us

Project: North Carolina Organic Bread Flour Project

Contact: Mr. Roland McReynolds
Carolina Farm Stewardship Association
PO Box 448
Pittsboro, NC 27312
919-542-2402

Grant Amount: \$57,904

Feasibility study was completed on how to bring growers together to sell hard winter wheat to a custom milling facility. Project determined best plan to set up processing infrastructure for local flour production. Several growers are now growing hard winter wheat and bakeries are committed to processing and selling products. The results show a promising future for production, processing and sales.

STATUS: COMPLETED

Area Served: Statewide

www.carolinafarmstewards.org

Project: Farm City Link Program/L. L. Polk House Foundation, Inc.

Contact: Mr. Peter Daniel
NC Farm Bureau
PO Box 27766
Raleigh, NC 27611
919-788-1017

Grant Amount: \$57,000

Grant supported educational and promotional efforts of the L.L. Polk House; the birthplace of the first Commissioner of Agriculture in NC. Consumer outreach included new educational displays and programming. Community events were held at facility. The “NC Green Market” offered on site seasonal produce and seafood sales as well as a community supported agriculture program for consumers.

STATUS: COMPLETED

Area Served: Wake County

www.ncgreenmarket.com

Project: Sustaining the Economic Impact from Tobacco Production in North Carolina

Contact: Ms. Kathy Kennel
NC Tobacco Foundation, Inc.
Box 7645, NCSU
Raleigh, NC 27695
919-515-2000

Grant Amount: \$150,000

Converted one research station tobacco barn for hot water curing fired by wood chips. The unit has demonstrated energy cost-savings and data was shared with tobacco and greenhouse farmers. Operators can now make investment decisions on best units to install and explore energy options and their cost-savings.

STATUS: COMPLETED

Area Served: Statewide

http://www.cals.ncsu.edu/advancement/ag_fnd.htm

Project: WNC Livestock Marketing and Event Center

Contact: Mr. L. T. Ward
WNC Communities
594 Brevard Road
Asheville, NC 28806
828-252-4783

Grant Amount: \$500,000

Grant provided construction planning funds (such as license fees, site prep, architectural and engineering fees) to design, build and operate a permanent livestock market in Haywood County. All western NC livestock producers have access to the facility to sell and purchase livestock.

STATUS: COMPLETED

Area Served: Western NC

www.wnccommunities.org

NC TOBACCO TRUST FUND COMMISSION
2009 GRANTS

Project: **Farm Credit University – AgBiz Planner**

Contact: Maggie Hamm
 Carolina Farm Credit
 PO Box 1827
 Statesville, NC 28687
 800-521-9952

Grant Amount: \$94,500

Project assisted and trained 60 different farm families who were young, beginning, small and minority farmers to become successful business people through training of financial and business management topics. The participants utilized an online learning module and received assistance from Farm Credit personnel to improve their business skills. Three regional Farm Credit offices took part in the project.

STATUS: COMPLETED

Area Served: Statewide

www.carolinafarmcredit.com

Project: **Potential of Switchgrass in NC**

Contact: Ms. Kathy Kennel
 NC Tobacco Foundation, Inc.
 Box 7645, NCSU
 Raleigh, NC 27695
 919-515-2000

Grant Amount: \$174,300

The project developed research to test feasibility of switchgrass and other forages so that they may be used as alternative energy sources. The grasses were grown, harvested and converted to fuel “pellets” and used in demonstrations to heat greenhouses and other farming and machinery areas. A pelletizing machine and briquetter were purchased to test the efficiency of various biomass products. The results showed that biomass can produce sufficient energy and can be a valuable fuel source for farmers, thus reducing energy costs and lessening reliance on natural gas and other fuels.

STATUS: COMPLETED

Area Served: Statewide

http://www.cals.ncsu.edu/advancement/ag_fnd.htm

Project: AgriSafe & Certified Safe Farm Program

Contact: Ms. Kathy Kennel
NC Tobacco Foundation, Inc.
Box 7645, NCSU
Raleigh, NC 27695
919-515-2000

Grant Amount: \$500,000

The project's purpose is to establish the AgriSafe and Certified Safe Farm program in cooperation with the NC Cooperative Extension Service and the NC Agromedicine Institute. The project targets a three-county region and works to improve the health and safety of farm families through health screenings, educational programs and incentives for farming operations that become "certified safe." The result will be a reduction in on-farm injuries and decreased health-care costs. The project serves as a pilot for a potential state-wide project.

STATUS: As of the end of September, 65 farm safety audits had been completed. Health screenings have been conducted on farms, at seminars, farmer meetings and more. Virtually every public event finds people who are quickly identified as having potential health risks or are in danger of a health-related issue and they are referred to medical professionals. Agri-Safe activities have reached thousands of people.

Area Served: Duplin, Johnston and Sampson counties

http://www.cals.ncsu.edu/advancement/ag_fnd.htm

Project: Agricultural Products Marketing Initiative

Contact: Mr. Joe Sanderson
NCDA&CS
1020 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699
919-733-7912

Grant Amount: \$325,000

The grant funded marketing programs with retail, foodservice and specialty stores across the state in order to increase sales of North Carolina products. A variety of promotions were held in six grocery chains (over 660 stores), restaurants and at specialty food shows.

Seven foodservice distributors conducted selling contests and some commodity groups implemented cooperative advertising programs to promote their products. 164 NC products gained new sales distribution. During the promotions, sales increases ranged from 8% to 89% for items.

STATUS: COMPLETED

Area Served: Statewide

www.gottobenc.com

Project: Regional Agribusiness Development Initiative

Contact: Ms. Malinda Todd
North Carolina REAL Enterprises
3739 National Dr.
Raleigh, NC 27612
919-781-6833

Grant Amount: \$62,000

The project developed and provided entrepreneurship training to farmers and farm workers transitioning to higher margin sustainable local agriculture and other business ventures. Just over 100 persons received educational training and two new businesses were begun while five expanded. Several workshops were held in partnership with 11 community colleges. Nearly 70 facilitators have been trained for future classes. A video was produced for beginning farmers and for farmers who need assistance in finances and marketing.

STATUS: COMPLETED

Area Served: Upper Coastal Plain counties, Western NC, Martin County and others

www.ncreal.org

Project: WNC Livestock Marketing and Event Center

Contact: Mr. L. T. Ward
WNC Communities
594 Brevard Road
Asheville, NC 28806
828-252-4783

Grant Amount: \$375,000

Grant provided funds for construction of the WNC Livestock Center. Funds were leveraged with other major funding organizations. All western NC livestock producers have access to the facility to sell and purchase livestock.

STATUS: COMPLETED

Area Served: Western NC

www.wnccommunities.org

Project: Alternative Energy Project

Contact: Mr. Russell Blevins
Mountain Valleys Resource Conservation & Development
4388 Hwy. 25/70, Suite 3
Marshall, NC 28753
828-649-3313, x5

Grant Amount: \$245,000

Grant provided cost-share assistance for alternative energy projects to 21 farmers representing over 5,000 total acres in seven western NC counties. The majority of projects erected solar panels to help generate power for the farms and/or to sell back to the grid. There was also one wind project. Over 114,000 kws of clean energy were generated by end of project period.

STATUS: COMPLETED

Area Served: Western NC

www.mountainvalleysrcd.org

NC TOBACCO TRUST FUND COMMISSION
2010 GRANTS

Project: **APC Processing Facility**

Contact: Ms. Charlene Jacobs
 American Prawn Cooperative
 831 Meadow Road
 Walstonburg, NC 27888
 252-747-2347

Grant Amount: \$200,000

Project will leverage grant funds to purchase a freezing unit and install electrical needs for the APC processing facility. The unit will be used to quick freeze prawns to ensure top quality product for future marketing and shipping of the APC prawns.

STATUS: IQF equipment was purchased and installed in time for the September/October harvest season. Growers have successfully used the equipment and product is in storage for shipment. Orders with distributors and retailers are underway.

Area Served: Central and Eastern NC

www.prawncoop.com

Project: **Appalachian Grown: Marketing Support for Mountain Farms**

Contact: Mr. Charlie Jackson
 Appalachian Sustainable Agriculture Project
 729 Haywood Road #3
 Asheville, NC 28806
 828-236-1282

Grant Amount: \$168,450

Project will fund a marketing cost share program for farmers, farmer groups and farmer tail-gate markets in western North Carolina. Cost share will be on a direct one-to-one match for marketing and promotional materials.

STATUS: Over 800 farmers have been supported by the project either through direct cost-share assistance or through their membership in farmers markets. Over \$64,000 has been leveraged against the same amount of cost-share. Farmers have reported the decreased marketing costs have increased profits and the additional marketing tools have generated more sales.

Area Served: 23 Advantage West counties

www.asapconnections.org

Project: North Carolina Organic Bread Flour Project

Contact: Ms. Jennifer Lapidus
Carolina Farm Stewardship Association
PO Box 448
Pittsboro, NC 27312
919-542-2402

Grant Amount: \$21,864

Grantee worked with consultants to develop business and marketing plan for a successful cooperative of bakers and growers of organic wheat. The project was a continuation of a 2008 TTFC grant to establish a viable market for hard winter wheat and its use in specialty bakeries in the state. The cooperative plans to harvest and process wheat and produce a variety of products to sell in local bakeris.

STATUS: COMPLETED

Area Served: Statewide

www.carolinafarmstewards.org

Project: Loan Fund: Partnership with Community Banks

Contact: Mr. Mike Manis
Centralina Economic Development Corporation
1300 Baxter Street Suite 450
Charlotte, NC 28304
704-348-2720

Grant Amount: \$220,000

Funds will leverage an \$820,000 grant from the US Dept. of Commerce for a permanent revolving loan fund to encourage banks to make loans to businesses targeting agriculture and advanced manufacturing, particularly small companies developing new value added products at the Kannapolis research campus. Loans will be for fixed assets and must create jobs, and are subordinated to other creditors providing an additional \$1,000,000 in loans. Companies will be linked to worker training services to upgrade workforce skills.

STATUS: Grantee received the grant from USDC. Partnering banks have begun to promote the program and accept applications.

Area Served: Mecklenburg and surrounding counties

www.centralina.org

Project: Risk Mitigation Measures (RMM)

Contact: Ms. Robin Tutor
East Carolina University - NC Agromedicine Institute
1157 VOA Site C Road
Greenville, NC 27834
252-744-1045

Grant Amount: \$184,542

Project will help farms across NC implement stringent risk mitigation measures (RMMs) required by the EPA beginning in 2010. At least 25 workshops will be held to train individuals on RMM, including development of a Fumigant Management Plan and requirements for buffer zones. Required safety equipment will also be provided at a reduced cost. Educational materials including a directory of occupational health services and respiratory protection suppliers will be widely disseminated.

STATUS: Over 600 people have received medical clearance/fit testing so far with over 1,400 people served through direct assistance or seminars. Every opportunity is being used to educate farmers on the EPA regulations affecting their farms.

Area Served: Statewide

www.ncagromedicine.org

Project: Tarboro-Edgecombe Farmer's Market

Contact: Mr. Art Bradley
Edgecombe County
PO Box 129
Tarboro, NC 27886
252-641-7815

Grant Amount: \$26,000

This project funded a feasibility study to determine the need and best use of a new farmers market for Edgecombe County. Community meetings and intensive surveys

were conducted. The study indicates that a larger scale market with more community activities and space for more vendors and processors would be of benefit to the area. Additional funding is needed before any land purchases, renovations or expansion are put into action.

STATUS: COMPLETED

Area Served: Edgecombe

www.edgecombe.ces.ncsu.edu

Project: Agricultural Heritage Legacy Scholarship Program

Contact: Ms. Kathy Kennel
NC Agricultural Foundation, Inc.
Campus Box 7645
Raleigh, NC 27695
919-515-9259

Grant Amount: \$115,000

Grant will provide 2-year scholarships and internships to 14 students in NCSU's Agricultural Institute. Students who are first in their family to attend college will receive priority. Goals encourage higher education, enable enhanced agriculture career opportunities, and create long term economic benefits to students' local communities. Focus will be on counties classified as tobacco dependent and still deriving most of their income from agriculture. Students will be required to cost-share room, board, and expenses and return to work in their home counties on graduation.

STATUS: Seven students completed their first year of school. Six of them worked with agri-business companies during the summer as part of their summer internships. All students are taking classes for the second year.

Area Served: Statewide

www.cals.ncsu.edu

Project: Farm Safety and Health Improvement Fund

Contact: Ms. Kathy Kennel
NC Agricultural Foundation, Inc.
Campus Box 7645
Raleigh, NC 27695
919-515-9259

Grant Amount: \$153,000

Farmers in the three counties currently participating in the AgriSafe/Certified Safe Farm of NC program may be reimbursed for 75% of costs associated with recommended safety and health improvements. The project serves up to 150 participating farms, providing an incentive for farmers to make priority safety improvements. Examples of reimbursable items include roll-over protection systems for tractors, machinery shielding, personal protective equipment such as respirators, electrical improvements, equipment lighting and marking, and fire extinguishers.

STATUS: Cost-share funds have been awarded to various farming operations in the area. Several applications are in hand and will soon be approved for assistance.

Area Served: Duplin, Johnston, Sampson

www.cals.ncsu.edu

Project: Farmhand Foods Soft Launch

Contact: Ms. Kathy Kennel
NC Agricultural Foundation, Inc.
Campus Box 7645
Raleigh, NC 27695
919-515-9259

Grant Amount: \$72,000

This project will execute the soft launch of Farmhand Foods, a branded meat company that will aggregate pasture-based beef and pork products from independent farmers, partner with existing processing businesses, and market/distribute products to local restaurants and retail groceries in NC.

Area Served: Statewide

STATUS: Over \$223,000 in product has been sold. The group has 24 regular restaurant customers. 16 livestock producers supply product. The “Sausage Wagon” continues to generate attention to the effort and has generated over \$16,000 per quarter in sales.

www.cals.ncsu.edu

Project: Food Safety for Farmers' Markets

Contact: Ms. Kathy Kennel
NC Agricultural Foundation, Inc.

Campus Box 7645
Raleigh, NC 27695
919-515-9259

Grant Amount: \$86,568

Through this project an evidence-based food safety training program for NC Farmers' Markets operators and vendors will be established and evaluated for efficiency. This program will be built specifically for the actual practices of vendors by assessing the current practices across the state. The program will be based on best available risk-reduction practices, provide practical solutions to food safety issues and help create a food safety culture within farmers markets.

STATUS: Observations and data have continued to be collected from the 32 test farmers markets. The safety curriculum has been developed and training sessions for agricultural agents will occur in November, 2011.

Area Served: Statewide

www.cals.ncsu.edu

Project: Organic Canola and Spelt Production

Contact: Ms. Kathy Kennel
NC Agricultural Foundation, Inc.
Campus Box 7645
Raleigh, NC 27695
919-515-9259

Grant Amount: \$75,000

This project will demonstrate and research organic canola and spelt production so that North Carolina farmers will have research-based information to successfully grow and market these crops. The results will be an increased acreage of organic canola and spelt in the state and an increase in farm income.

STATUS: First crop demonstration field day was held in the summer. Project has generated interest from several in-state and out of state buyers who wish to contract with NC farmers. New seed trials have been planted.

Area Served: Statewide

www.cals.ncsu.edu

Project: Strengthening Markets - Educating Farmers, Consumers

Contact: Ms. Kathy Kennel
NC Agricultural Foundation, Inc.
Campus Box 7645
Raleigh, NC 27695
919-515-9259

Grant Amount: \$91,937

Project strengthens markets by educating farmers on ways to increase sales at direct markets. It educates consumers about NC produce to increase their purchases of fruits and vegetables. The program consists of 22 educational videos featuring the “Produce Lady” about selection, preparation, and storage of fresh produce. It includes a resource section online consisting of videos, recipes and news columns that Extension agents may localize to support farmers markets. It includes demonstrations, a blog and appearances capturing 75,000 weekly viewers of UNC-TV's Almanac Gardener.

STATUS: Produce Lady has appeared in several print media articles, television segments, radio (both in-state and national) and on the internet. YouTube video views are up to 72,000 since May 2009. Over 60 million media impressions have been made. Program has produced over 40 instructional videos since inception.

Area Served: Statewide

www.cals.ncsu.edu

Project: Statewide Agricultural Biotechnology Initiative

Contact: Ms. Christy Russell
North Carolina Biotechnology Center
15 T.W. Alexander Drive
Research Triangle Park, NC 27709
919-549-8811

Grant Amount: \$450,000

Funding supported expansion of the Biotechnology Center's headquarters, creating space for the Statewide Agricultural Biotechnology Initiative. The SABI supports supply chain development for new crops, improvements in agricultural techniques and finding new uses for old crops. Beneficiaries include producers of nutritionally or commercially superior foods, manufacturers of plant-based pharmaceuticals, renewable energy crop producers, and natural product industries.

STATUS: COMPLETED

Area Served: Statewide

www.ncbiotech.org

Project: Project Skill-UP

Contact: Ms. Barbara Boyce
NC Community College System
5001 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699
919-807-7100

Grant Amount: \$750,000

The project was a continuation of an already proven and successful workforce development initiative with three core components: 1) develop and implement outreach and recruitment activities to individuals, communities, and businesses adversely impacted by changes in the tobacco industry; 2) provide skills assessment and short-term occupational skills training; and 3) provide financial assistance to students to meet their educational goals. The project was implemented at 24 community colleges and provided assistance to just over 3,000 participants in 44 counties.

STATUS: COMPLETED

Area Served: 44 counties statewide.

www.nccommunitycolleges.edu

Project: Plasticulture Technology Training

Contact: Mr. Kent Messick
NCDA&CS Agronomic Division
1040 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699
919-733-2655

Grant Amount: \$27,255

Project will develop two workshops to educate current and former tobacco growers and other ag professionals on crop production under plasticulture. NCDA&CS agronomists will make follow-up visits to participant growers to check their progress and make sure they are sampling and using agronomic tests appropriately. This project will improve resource management, farm profitability, develop new skills, and assist in family farm preservation.

STATUS: Three workshops were held with over 300 farmers participating. NCDA&CS personnel have continued to work with farmers across the state who have implemented the practice.

Area Served: Statewide

www.ncagr.gov/agronomi

Project: NC Agricultural Products Marketing Initiative Continuation

Contact: Mr. Joe Sanderson
NCDA&CS
1020 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699
919-733-7912

Grant Amount: \$825,000

This project will continue the "Got to be NC" marketing program to assist producers, farmers and value added food companies in growing sales with retail, food service and specialty food companies. The goal is to sustain and open new markets for food producers across the state. This will enhance ability of traditional tobacco operations to shift to other consumable product production, and provide growth opportunities for value added companies.

STATUS: Various marketing campaigns are underway and/or completed with restaurants, grocers and distributors. Specialty food shows in Washington DC and other in-state locations have been held. Stores have utilized displays, signs, ads and promotional events to reach over 2.1 million customers. Sales increases of 20% and up have been reported and over 200 producers have been served.

Area Served: Statewide

www.ncagr.gov/markets

Project: International Trade Missions

Contact: Mr. Peter Thornton
NCDA&CS
1020 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699
919-733-7912

Grant Amount: \$28,000

A high level trade mission to China, Vietnam and Hong Kong was conducted in March, 2011. Officials met with ag leaders and buyers in these counties to promote North Carolina tobacco, peanuts, soybeans and cotton. A new trade office was also opened. Grantee will provide ongoing reports of sales throughout the year. Project funded in-country travel and covered meeting costs.

STATUS: COMPLETED

Area Served: Statewide

www.ncagexports.com

Project: Developing Cane Berries and Management Technologies

Contact: Ms. Deborah Robertson
NCDA&CS Research Stations Division
1001 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699
919-733-3236

Grant Amount: \$150,000

Project continued developing new cane fruit varieties adapted to NC as well as new production technologies. The project investigated technologies for optimizing production and lengthening production seasons; production of varieties and experimental selection in multiple environments, fruiting in non-traditional seasons, and use of tunnel structures for environmental protection and production season extension. The project conducted four workshops for growers on production, marketing and pest control. Various research plots provided essential information on suitable varieties and labor practices needed to maintain high yields

STATUS: COMPLETED

Area Served: Statewide

www.ncagr.gov/research

Project: Expanding the NC Strawberry Industry's Market Window

Contact: Ms. Deborah Robertson
NCDA&CS Research Stations Division
1001 Mail Service Center

Raleigh, NC 27699
919-733-3236

Grant Amount: \$65,040

This project merged the horticultural expertise of NCSU faculty with the NCDA field research platforms and NC's grower community to expand the market window for strawberries. The project developed alternative propagation methods to support NC's strawberry nursery industry. Tests with eastern NC growers will continue. Higher elevation and high tunnel varieties were researched. Feasibility and economics of continuing to grow off-season berries will be continued to be tested.

STATUS: COMPLETED

Area Served: Statewide

www.ncagr.gov/research

Project: Clean Water for North Carolina Tobacco Farmers

Contact: Ms. Michelle Lovejoy
NC Foundation for Soil & Water Conservation Inc.
5171 Glenwood Ave., Suite 330
Raleigh, NC 27612
919-510-4599

Grant Amount: \$300,000

Project provides cost share assistance to up to 80 farmers transitioning from tobacco production or diversifying to additional agricultural enterprises for installing Best Management Practices that prevent sediment, nutrients, or other pollutants from entering streams within the boundaries of their farms. Typical BMPs include cropland conversion to grass or trees, grassed waterways, field borders, filter strips, diversion terraces, and similar practices.

STATUS: So far, 55 farmers throughout 13 counties have been assisted through cost share grants. Projects impacting over 1,000 acres have been completed or approved.

Area Served: Statewide

www.ncfoundationforsoilandwater.org

Project: Market Recovery Initiative for the NC Nursery and Greenhouse Industry

Contact: Mr. Ross Williams
NC Nursery and Landscape Association
968 Trinity Drive
Raleigh, NC 27607
919-816-9119

Grant Amount: \$250,000

Project sought to recover markets, farm income, and employment from nursery crop production and reestablish it as a growing and profitable segment of the rural agricultural economy. The project implemented a variety of print, television, billboard and other media campaigns targeting wholesale buyers in N.C., out-of-state markets, and NC consumers. A sustainable program to introduce superior plants for diversification of nursery crops is now underway. Sales of nursery stock in late 2010 and early 2011 appear to have increased based on grower surveys and usage of association's consumer and buyer websites increased 190% and 50% respectively.

STATUS: COMPLETED

Area Served: Statewide

www.ncnla.com

Project: Risk of Alternative Crops to Bacterial Wilt of Tobacco

Contact: Ms. Kathy Kennel
NC Tobacco Foundation Inc.
Campus Box 7405
Raleigh, NC 27695
919-515-9259

Grant Amount: \$75,000

Over 250 strains of *Ralstonia solanacearum* (Rs), the cause of bacterial wilt, have been collected from eleven tobacco fields in NC between 2006 and 2008. This project will investigate whether the Rs strains infect other crop hosts of the pathogen, such as tomatoes, peppers, and peanuts. A small number of Rs strains from tomato will be collected and examined for cross-infection on tobacco. This effort will determine the risk of high value crops to Rs tobacco populations and therefore the usability of tobacco land for other crops.

STATUS: Important tests have shown tobacco strains are more virulent on tomato and pepper plants while strains from tomato are more diverse. Study will be able to help farmers and gardeners identify which strains will cause most damage to crops. Study findings will be dispersed during first half of 2012.

Area Served: Statewide

www.cals.ncsu.edu/advancement/tobacco_fnd.htm

Project: Tobacco Growers Communication Assistance

Contact: Ms. Kathy Kennel
NC Tobacco Foundation Inc.
Box 7645
Raleigh, NC 27695
919-515-9259

Grant Amount: \$50,000

Project completed its goal to produce and distribute at least 4 issues of the association's newsletter to 6,000 monthly readers and the annual 36-page Growers Resource Guide to tobacco growers and tobacco industry officials. The materials provide current and specific information about ongoing issues/changes in the tobacco industry.

STATUS: COMPLETED

Area Served: Statewide

www.cals.ncsu.edu/foundation

Project: Pilot Extraction Facility - Bertie County

Contact: Mr. Vann Rogerson
North Carolina's Northeast Development Foundation, Inc.
119 West Water Street
Edenton, NC 27932
252-482-4333

Grant Amount: \$150,000

Funding for architectural drawings will pave the way for construction of a new Pilot Extraction Facility. One building will house the administration, lab, and processing functions, and the second facility is the solvent extraction area. The facility will be built for processing small-scale botanical extractions for advances in biotechnology and for consumer test markets. Organic materials processed will come from farm products in northeastern NC. The PEF will promote rural economic development and serve as a world-class partner with research and agro-development.

STATUS: Other funding is being sought and no grant funds have been expended at this time.

Area Served: Northeastern NC counties

www.ncnortheast.com

Project: Expansion of NROG

Contact: Ms. Sally Theil
New River Organic Growers
P.O. Box 1223
West Jefferson, NC 28694
336-384-2546

Grant Amount: \$54,549

This project will help support New River Organic Grower's growth and development as they move forward towards their goal of being a self-sufficient farm cooperative. This project will result in the development of a business plan, goals for long term sustainability, continued market expansion for produce, and the development of markets for meat producers. Plans to increase farmer membership by 30.

STATUS: Product sales are up and the project serves 30 different farmers. 40 restaurants, county clubs and other customers have generated over \$100,000 in sales for the group. Member farmers are making investments in new equipment, greenhouses and other needs to maintain demand.

Area Served: Northwestern NC counties

www.newriverorganicgrowers.org

Project: New Start (For Workers & Farmers)

Contact: Mr. Howard Jones
Opportunities Industrialization Center (OIC) of Wilson, Inc.
PO Box 547
Wilson, NC 27894
252-291-5707

Grant Amount: \$103,200

Project was a continuation of a highly successful program that provides skills training, support and emergency services and enhanced earnings potential for economically

distressed dislocated workers.. Expanded partnerships with the Employment Security Commission, Job Link and Wilson Community College to include three more colleges. 128 persons obtained new jobs during the grant period and at project completion, 107 were still employed.

STATUS: COMPLETED

Area Served: Wilson and surrounding counties

www.oicwilson.com

Project: Regional Local Food Distribution Project

Contact: Ms. Brenda Sutton
Rockingham County Local Food Coalition
525 Hwy 65, Suite 200
Reidsville, NC 27320
336-342-8230

Grant Amount: \$44,500

This project implements the sale and distribution of local foods produced throughout the rural north-central region of North Carolina into neighboring urban areas. The project intends to model after, and partner with, the Foothills Connect internet system that allows farmers, restaurant buyers and consumers to connect.

STATUS: Web-based ordering/selling system has helped in generating substantial sales for the group of 75 farmers. The group has over 500 registered buyers on their website. Over \$400,000 in sales so far.

Area Served: Rockingham and surrounding counties

www.piedmontlocalfood.com

Project: SENCFS Processing and Distribution Center

Contact: Dr. Leslie Hossfeld
Southeastern North Carolina Food Systems Project (SENCFS)
601 South College Road, UNCW
Wilmington, NC 28403
910-962-7849

Grant Amount: \$25,000

The project implemented a food processing and distribution program of local food production and has served Southeastern NC through the formation of a farmers' cooperative primarily made up of limited resource and former tobacco farmers. The project has partnered with the Historic Burgaw Train Depot where product is delivered for final inspection and distribution. A converted rail car houses the equipment needed to clean and package the produce. Nearly \$30,000 in sales had been received.

STATUS: COMPLETED

Area Served: Southeastern NC counties

www.feastsoutheastnc.org

Project: Pilot Mountain Pride

Contact: Mr. Bryan Cave
Surry County
PO Box 324
Dobson, NC 27017
336-401-8025

Grant Amount: \$75,000

Pilot Mountain Pride has provided farmers with limited experience in direct local marketing with support for production, packaging, sales, and distribution of locally grown foods to area schools, restaurants, and grocery stores. The grant funds helped with the installation of a forced air cooler, dock lift and other supplies. By serving as an aggregation point for producers throughout the region, this project spurred a local food movement for the greater Winston-Salem area. Value of product sold was over \$150,000 during its first year, impacting over 75 farmers and 750 acres.

STATUS: COMPLETED.

Area Served: Surry and surrounding counties

www.co.surry.nc.us

Project: Agricultural Heritage Outreach and Agritourism Program

Contact: Ms. Melody Johnson
Tobacco Farm Life Museum, Inc.
PO Box 88

Kenly, NC 27542
919-284-3431

Grant Amount: \$80,000

Project modified current programming and created new curriculum for schools to utilize. Two new traveling exhibits were created and put to use. The website was improved and enhanced. Nearly 4,000 people visited the museum during the grant period. School group attendance was down due to system budget cuts for field trips. Museum was more aggressive in marketing and partnered with welcome centers, hotels, chambers and farm groups to promote the museum and its activities.

STATUS: COMPLETED

Area Served: Statewide

www.tobaccofarmlifemuseum.org

Project: Elizabethtown/Cape Fear Farmer's Market

Contact: Mr. Eddie Madden
Town of Elizabethtown
PO Box 716
Elizabethtown, NC 28337
910-862-2066

Grant Amount: \$350,000

The project renovated a 7,500 square foot building on a 1.3 acre lot in downtown Elizabethtown in order to create a year-round farmer's market. There are two full-time vendors/tenants(a butcher and a bakery), and area farmers will have both indoor and outdoor spaces, which they can rent to sell their products. Grant funds were leveraged with over \$1 million in grants and loans in order to complete the project.

STATUS: COMPLETED

Area Served: Bladen county

www.elizabethtownnc.org

Project: Lumber River Enhancement Phase 2

Contact: Mr. Spruell Britt
Town of Fair Bluff

PO Box 157
Fair Bluff, NC 28439
910-649-7426

Grant Amount: \$150,000

This project completed phase II of the Town of Fair Bluff's Riverwalk foot bridge which was built successfully in 2010. Funds extended the bridge an additional 1,400 linear feet, constructed two pedestrian shelters, and completed renovations to the Lumber River Information Center. These efforts will continue to create economic activity in the area as the economy continues to transition from tobacco to agritourism.

STATUS: Project is mostly complete. Final reports are forthcoming.

Area Served: Columbus and surrounding counties

www.fairbluff.com

Project: Vance County Regional Farmers Market

Contact: Mr. Paul McKenzie
Vance County
305 Young Street
Henderson, NC 27536
252-438-8188

Grant Amount: \$75,000

Funds were used for a feasibility study and to secure architectural drawings for a regional farmers market. Plans are to construct a 7,500 square foot building to house a farmer's market to accommodate up to 40 or more vendors in the Henderson/Vance county area. The complex will be used for community meetings and events.

STATUS: COMPLETED

Area Served: Vance and surrounding counties

www.vancecounty.com

Project: WNC Regional Livestock Center

Contact: Mr. L.T. Ward
WNC Communities
594 Brevard Road
Asheville, NC 28806

828-452-4783

Grant Amount: \$500,000

The facility opened in Spring 2011 with immediate sales of cattle. Auctions are conducted every Monday with live sales and through video auctions. In two months, over 1500 people had been served. Beef quality training programs are being conducted, the facility is being used by other groups for meetings when available. Over \$1.7 million in other funds were leveraged.

STATUS: COMPLETED

Area Served: Western NC counties

www.wnccommunities.org

Project: "3-E" Experiment, Experience, Extend

Contact: Mr. Colby Martin
Yancey County Schools
PO Box 190
Burnsville, NC 28714
828-682-6101 x322

Grant Amount: \$84,327

Project has constructed an up-to-date instructional greenhouse and subsequent expansive hands-on curriculum integration for agricultural students at Mountain Heritage High School. Mayland Community College will also utilize the structure. The goal is to help students develop skills for future careers in agriculture.

STATUS: Greenhouse has been built and has offered events where greenhouse-grown product was sold to the community. Remaining funds to be used for supplies.

Area Served: Yancey , Mitchell, Avery counties

www.yanceync.net

NC TOBACCO TRUST FUND COMMISSION
2011 GRANTS

**In September, 2011 the NC Tobacco Trust Fund Commission's Board members approved the grant projects shown below. All grantees were put under contract in October, 2011. At the time of this report's deadline, all projects were just underway and had no significant status updates.*

Project: Growing Successful Food Businesses

Contact: Mr. Scott Hamilton
AdvantageWest Economic Development Group
134 Wright Brothers Way
Fletcher, NC 28732
828-687-7234

Grant Amount: \$40,000

Project will support efforts of Blue Ridge Food Ventures to continue to offer marketing and product development assistance to food producers. The facility offers equipment for further processing of various food products including fresh produce. Many users need additional assistance with marketing and facility staff will provide this service.

Area Served: Primarily western NC but also other counties

www.blueridgefoodventures.org

Project: Farm Credit University – AgBiz Planner

Contact: Maggie Hamm
Carolina Farm Credit
PO Box 1827
Statesville, NC 28687
800-521-9952

Grant Amount: \$54,500

Beginning in fall of 2012, project will assist and train 30 different farm families who are young, beginning, small and minority farmers to become successful business people through training of financial and business management topics. The participants will utilize an online learning module and receive assistance from Farm Credit personnel to improve their business skills. Three NC Farm Credit offices administer the project.

Area Served: Statewide

www.carolinafarmcredit.com

Project: Duplin County Livestock Facility

Contact: Mr. Brandon Cox
Duplin County
PO Box 910
Kenansville, NC 28349
910-296-2100

Grant Amount: \$200,000

Project will construct a livestock marketing facility at the Duplin County arena and fairgrounds site. Its primary purpose is to assist the Coastal Carolina Cattle Alliance with marketing truckloads of cattle. The facility will also be used for community and agricultural events/meetings and to assist with events for the county arena.

Area Served: Duplin and surrounding counties

www.duplincountync.com

Project: Lenoir County Farmer's Market

Contact: Ms. Tammy Kelly
Lenoir County Cooperative Extension
1791 Highway 11-55
Kinston, NC 28504
252-527-2191

Grant Amount: \$15,000

The downtown Kinston Farmer's Market will utilize funds to improve the market facilities and renovate restrooms for the public and vendors. The market is a vital link for area farmers and consumers and is a proven sales facility which has helped keep farmers in business.

Area Served: Lenoir and surrounding counties

www.ces.ncsu.edu/lenoir

Project: Multi-Purpose Building

Contact: Mr. Steve Garrison
Madison County
PO Box 579
Marshall, NC 28753
828-649-2854

Grant Amount: \$150,000

Funds will be used towards construction of a new 200' x 285' livestock and agricultural facility at the Madison County Fairgrounds. The open air shelter will be utilized during the county fair and for various agricultural and community events throughout the year.

Area Served: Madison and surrounding counties

www.madisoncountync.org/

Project: Regional Forest Landowners Association

Contact: Dr. Sandy Maddox
Mount Olive College
652 R. B. Butler Drive
Mount Olive, NC 28362
919-658-7510

Grant Amount: \$72,500

Mount Olive College will partner with four counties to develop regional forest landowner associations. These groups will help educate landowners on how forests can be used to enhance land values and estate planning. Associations will be established as ongoing sources of information and support to area land owners.

Area Served: Four eastern NC counties

www.moc.edu/agribusiness

Project: Renewable Energy for Farms

Contact: Ms. Jessica Hocz
Mountain Valley Resource Conservation & Development
4388 Hwy 25/70, Suite 3
Marshall, NC 28753
828-649-3313 ext. 5

Grant Amount: \$125,000

Grantee will educate farmers in western NC about the cost-savings and advantages of alternative energy. Cost-share assistance will be offered to qualified applicants and the goal is to implement at least 12 projects. The projects will be monitored for efficiency and cost-savings will be tracked.

Area Served: Western NC

www.mountainvalleysrfd.org

Project: Agricultural Education Improvement Grants

Contact: Ms. Kathy Kennel
NC Agricultural Foundation, Inc.
Box 7645, NC State
Raleigh, NC 27695
919-515-9259

Grant Amount: \$180,540

The NC Future Farmers of America office will offer a competitive grant program to the state's high schools. Up to 32 grants will be awarded to schools to improve their agricultural education programs. Schools with healthy FFA chapters average higher graduation rates and students are trained in leadership and agricultural skills.

Area Served: Statewide

www.cals.ncsu.edu

Project: Agricultural Leadership Development Program

Contact: Ms. Kathy Kennel
NC Agricultural Foundation, Inc.
Box 7645, NC State
Raleigh, NC 27695
919-515-9259

Grant Amount: \$100,000

This intensive, two-year program will educate and train 30 farm leaders from across the state providing leadership, problem-solving and business skills. The program has a successful track record of empowering farm leaders to take the skills learned and apply

them to their own operations, businesses and careers. The funding will be leveraged with over \$300,000 in additional funds and covers operational, support and instructional costs.

Area Served: Statewide

www.cals.ncsu.edu

Project: Quality Assured Replacement Heifers

Contact: Ms. Kathy Kennel
NC Agricultural Foundation, Inc.
Box 7645, NC State
Raleigh, NC 27695
919-515-9259

Grant Amount: \$50,000

The project will train veterinarians, livestock producers and extension agents on how to add value to heifer calves raised on beef cattle operations. Specific technology in regards to weaning, vaccinations, and physical characteristics of “quality assured” heifers will mean better calves demanding a higher price at market. Various workshops and one-on-one training sessions will educate a large number of people across the state. The program is based on a model in Missouri that has shown QA heifers demand higher prices.

Area Served: Statewide

www.cals.ncsu.edu

Project: Rapid Response to New Pest

Contact: Ms. Kathy Kennel
NC Agricultural Foundation, Inc.
Box 7645, NC State
Raleigh, NC 27695
919-515-9259

Grant Amount: \$40,000

The Spotted Wing Drosophila (SWD) is an invasive pest that attacks ripe small fruit crops. The species has begun making its way across the state and NCSU researchers will study ways to combat the insect and reduce crop loss. Preventive measures will help reduce chemical usage and increase profits on crops such as strawberries and blueberries.

Area Served: Statewide

www.cals.ncsu.edu/foundation

Project: Project Skill-Up

Contact: Ms. Barbara Boyce
NC Community College System
5001 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-5001
919-807-7100

Grant Amount: \$450,000

24 community colleges will use funds to assist students who have an agricultural background or have lost income due to changes in the tobacco industry. Tuition and supply assistance will be available to qualified applicants who wish to train for new careers or attend agricultural-related classes. The project hopes to assist over 2,000 students and is a continuation of a proven, successful model used over the last four years.

Area Served: Statewide

www.nccommunitycolleges.edu

Project: Nematode Molecular Diagnosis

Contact: Dr. Weimin Ye
NC Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services
1040 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-1040
919-733-2655

Grant Amount: \$48,500

Farmers must battle a variety of nematode species which can bring extensive damage to crops. The Agronomics Lab will obtain new equipment which will more quickly and effectively identify specific nematodes so that more direct/effective treatment can be applied by farmers. Producers will not waste money on unnecessary treatments and test results will help in proper chemical usage. 200 tobacco farmers will be part of the first round of testing.

Area Served: Statewide

www.ncagr.gov/agronomi/

Project: NC Local Market Promotions

Contact: Mr. Kevin Hardison
NC Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services
1020 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-1020
919-707-3123

Grant Amount: \$125,000

This two-year project will promote and market the hundreds of roadside stands and farmers markets in the state. Through various media, consumers will be encouraged to support their local markets and buy NC products. Producers and markets can also apply for cost-share funds to help cover their own marketing costs.

Area Served: Statewide

www.ncagr.gov/markets

Project: Market Recovery Initiative

Contact: Mr. Ross Williams
NC Retail Nursery & Landscapers Association
968 Trinity Drive
Raleigh, NC 27607
919-816-9119

Grant Amount: \$250,000

Over the next two years, the Association will utilize funds to promote and market NC retail and wholesale nursery companies in order to increase sales. The economy has hit the industry with lower sales and reduced employment. The campaign will utilize various media and trade shows to help stem losses and increase sales of products.

Area Served: Statewide

www.ncnla.com

Project: Sustainability Initiative

Contact: Mr. John Kimber
NC Sweet Potato Foundation, Inc.
700 E. Parrish Drive, Suite C
Benson, NC 27504

919-845-0969

Grant Amount: \$60,000

Sweet potato quality can be adversely affected by substandard and inefficient storage facilities. The grantee will work with NCSU researchers to gather data on the means to increase storage capabilities to ensure a top quality product. The results will mean better products, increased sales and more profit in producer pockets.

Area Served: Statewide

www.ncsweetpotatoes.com

Project: Succeed IV

Contact: Ms. Kathy Kennel
NC Tobacco Foundation, Inc.
Box 7645, NC State
Raleigh, NC 27695
919-515-9259

Grant Amount: \$33,126

Facilitators at NCSU will continue a proven program which targets young tobacco farmers from across the state. The week-long session will focus on better tobacco production methods, tours of processing facilities and workshops by trained leaders on how these farmers can improve their operations and increase profitability.

Area Served: Statewide

www.cals.ncsu.edu

Project: Tobacco Growers Communication Assistance

Contact: Ms. Kathy Kennel
NC Tobacco Foundation, Inc.
Box 7645, NC State
Raleigh, NC 27695
919-515-9259

Grant Amount: \$43,146

NC tobacco growers have little access to current crop and governmental information that can affect their operations. The NC Tobacco Growers Association will utilize four

newsletters and an annual resource guide for all tobacco growers and related industries. These publications will provide critical and timely information for producers.
Area Served: Statewide

www.cals.ncsu.edu/foundation

Project: Winecoff Expansion

Contact: Mr. Jonathan Caldwell
Cabarrus County
PO Box 707
Concord, NC 28026-0707
704-920-2100

Grant Amount: \$75,000

The established Piedmont Farmers Market in Concord is at full capacity. The Winecoff market will build an open air shelter designed to house 34 additional vendors. Funds will be used for site development and leveraged with other funders to cover actual building construction costs.

Area Served: Statewide

www.cabarruscounty.us

Project: Tobacco Communities Reinvestment Fund

Contact: Mr. Scott Marlow
Rural Advancement Foundation, Inc. (RAFI)
PO Box 640
Pittsboro, NC 27312
919-542-1396

Grant Amount: \$300,000

Farmers and community groups will be awarded cost-share funds, after a competitive grant process, for innovative projects designed to increase farm income. Projects will also serve as demonstration/educational sources for other farmers. This grant builds upon the proven and successful TCRF model supported by the grantor in previous years.

Area Served: Statewide

www.rafiusa.org

Project: Pilot Center

Contact: Mr. Homer Dearmin
Surry County
124 N. Main Street
Pilot Mountain, NC 27041
336-368-2248

Grant Amount: \$35,000

Grant funds will be leveraged with other funders to cover extensive renovation costs of the Pilot Center. This multi-purpose facility will expand its reach into the community by offering more classroom/training space for farmers and the public. The center also houses the Pilot Mountain Pride farmer cooperative which markets fresh produce.

Area Served: Surry and surrounding counties.

www.co.surry.nc.us

Project: Vance County Regional Farmers Market

Contact: Mr. Paul McKenzie
Vance County
305 Young Street
Henderson, NC 27536
252-438-8188

Grant Amount: \$300,000

Vance County has no permanent facility for farmers to sell their products. Funds will be used for site development and towards construction of a new multi-use facility that will house numerous vendors during produce season and serve as a much-needed meeting space for the community. This funding is contingent upon the county securing other necessary funds to complete the project.

Area Served: Statewide

www.vancecounty.com

Project: WNC AgOptions

Contact: Mr. L.T. Ward
WNC Communities
594 Brevard Road

Asheville, NC 28806
828-252-4783

Grant Amount: \$200,000

Western NC farmers and community groups can apply for and receive cost-share funds for innovative farm projects. Current/former tobacco farmers are a priority for funding project that will increase farm income. At least 30 projects will receive assistance.

Area Served: Western NC

www.wnccommunities.org/

Tobacco Trust Fund Commission Operating Statement July 1, 2010 - June 30, 2011 (FY11)

	Jul-10	Aug-10	Sep-10	Oct-10	Nov-10	Dec-10	Jan-11	Feb-11	Mar-11	Apr-11	May-11	Jun-11	Total Amounts
Cash Carried Forward	\$18,234,436.30												
INTEREST INCOME	\$21,013.26	\$16,912.34	\$17,524.72	\$15,412.70	\$16,302.92	\$13,647.14	\$13,674.27	\$12,441.16	\$9,571.81	\$11,254.55	\$18,576.47	\$10,493.91	\$176,825.25
TOBACCO SETTLEMENT	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$34,564,052.28		\$0.00	\$34,564,052.28
OTHER REVENUE	\$22.60	\$37.31	\$0.00	\$264.94	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,992.98	\$109.27	\$0.00	\$1,497.63	\$46.94	\$0.00	\$4,971.67
Fiscal Year 2011 Revenue	\$21,035.86	\$16,949.65	\$17,524.72	\$15,677.64	\$16,302.92	\$13,647.14	\$16,667.25	\$12,550.43	\$9,571.81	\$34,576,804.46	\$18,623.41	\$10,493.91	\$34,745,849.20
EXPENSES													
<u>Personnel Expenses</u>													
Per Diem-BD MEM	\$45.00	\$165.00	\$60.00	\$195.00	\$75.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$135.00	\$60.00	\$225.00	\$15.00	\$45.00	\$1,020.00
Trans-BD MEM	\$204.25	\$197.00	\$42.50	\$533.50	\$472.75	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$596.00	\$249.00	\$811.50	\$13.00	\$270.50	\$3,390.00
Subsistence-BD MEM	\$215.56	\$175.75	\$70.30	\$421.80	\$395.97	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$225.45	\$250.71	\$626.27	\$35.15	\$180.41	\$2,597.37
Other-BD MEM	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
	\$464.81	\$537.75	\$172.80	\$1,150.30	\$943.72	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$956.45	\$559.71	\$1,662.77	\$63.15	\$495.91	\$7,007.37
<u>Staff Personnel Expenses</u>													
Sal, Ins, Ret, SS Bene.	\$22,142.53	\$22,142.50	\$22,872.89	\$22,385.99	\$22,385.96	\$22,385.99	\$24,599.12	\$22,385.97	\$25,329.33	\$22,385.99	\$22,385.95	\$21,634.09	\$273,036.31
Travel, Exp Acts, Reg Fees, Train.	\$945.82	\$181.41	\$200.80	\$184.90	\$657.77	\$709.02	\$97.50	\$0.00	\$507.31	\$207.82	\$108.80	\$324.53	\$4,125.68
	\$23,088.35	\$22,323.91	\$23,073.69	\$22,570.89	\$23,043.73	\$23,095.01	\$24,696.62	\$22,385.97	\$25,836.64	\$22,593.81	\$22,494.75	\$21,958.62	\$277,161.99
<u>Office Expenses</u>													
Repairs	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$75.11	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$335.07	\$410.18
Postage, Freight & Delivery	\$287.51	\$195.20	\$77.62	\$198.77	\$48.51	\$30.17	\$569.84	\$276.56	\$130.83	\$249.11	\$45.30	\$26.92	\$2,136.34
General Office Supplies	\$45.43	\$295.24	\$60.45	\$888.00	\$19.56	\$1,043.33	\$1,461.23	\$68.00	\$101.13	\$468.40	\$37.00	\$0.00	\$4,487.77
Furniture	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Computer Equipment/Software	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,453.86	\$160.07	\$0.00	\$883.99	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,497.92
Communication/Office Equipment	\$333.30	\$777.30	\$198.37	\$141.91	\$16.50	\$188.37	\$79.12	\$0.00	\$77.95	\$114.88	\$622.72	\$195.32	\$2,745.74
Other Administrative Expenses	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$11.76	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2.02	\$289.00	\$34.50	\$0.00	\$251.40	\$220.00	\$808.68
Vehicle	\$183.07	\$260.12	\$120.44	\$109.62	\$80.73	\$160.97	\$27.63	\$10.73	\$135.07	\$225.04	\$43.76	\$382.40	\$1,739.58
Telephone Services	\$212.35	\$310.89	\$337.48	\$337.92	\$357.46	\$341.83	\$899.60	\$296.82	\$299.56	\$286.26	\$286.44	\$216.72	\$4,173.33
	\$1,061.66	\$1,838.75	\$806.12	\$1,676.22	\$522.76	\$1,839.78	\$4,483.30	\$1,101.18	\$779.04	\$2,227.68	\$1,286.62	\$1,376.43	\$18,999.54
<u>Professional Services</u>													
Legal Services/Office Equip.-DOJ	\$21,757.48	\$10,745.54	\$14,013.69	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$11,905.36	\$13,551.65	\$11,280.66	\$23,227.33	\$11,758.94	\$23,288.23	\$5,954.36	\$147,483.24
Contract Services	\$3,334.00	\$0.00	\$6,666.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$9,000.00	\$7,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$6,000.00	\$32,000.00
Misc.	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
	\$25,091.48	\$10,745.54	\$20,679.69	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$11,905.36	\$13,551.65	\$20,280.66	\$30,227.33	\$11,758.94	\$23,288.23	\$11,954.36	\$179,483.24
Fiscal Year 2011 Expenses													\$482,652.14

2007 Granting Cycle		2008 Granting Cycle		2009 Granting Cycle		Cash Carried Forward	Total Revenue FY11	Total Expenses FY11 (-)	Subtotal	Total Grants Pd Out FY11 (-)	DebtSvc/Cancer/GenFund FY11	Current Cash Balance	Encumbered Funds (-)	TOTAL Grant/Mgmt/Admin/ Enforcement of the MSA
FY 08-10	FY 11	FY 09-10	FY 11	FY 09-10	FY 11									
City of Lexington	\$71,250.00	\$3,748.33	AdvantageWest	\$68,250.00	\$67,926.22	ASAP	\$38,349.20	\$17,792.57						
Town of Fair Bluff	\$275,308.00	\$24,692.00	ASAP	\$102,500.00	\$72,780.98	Carolina Farm Credit	\$25,298.63	\$49,369.99						
NC Ag Foundation-Leadership	\$180,243.27	\$11,085.69	CFSA	\$45,297.43	\$12,606.57	Mars Hill College	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00						
NC Ag Foundation-Wood Family	\$60,500.00	\$55,494.15	Conservation Trust for NC	\$75,000.00	\$71,834.68	NC A&T State University	\$14,325.62	\$19,129.26						
NC Ag Foundation-Food Safety	\$66,008.50	\$33,889.97	LL Polk House Foundation	\$28,900.00	\$19,528.96	NC Ag Foundation-Switchgrass	\$87,150.00	\$60,487.40						
TOTAL	\$653,309.77	\$128,910.14	Natural Capital Inv. Fund	\$250,000.00	\$89,285.00	NC Ag Foundation-Fescue	\$20,861.50	\$19,690.38						
2008 Out-of-Cycle Grants			NCDA&CS, Agronomic	\$227,800.00	\$58,587.28	NC Ag Foundation-AgriSafe	\$250,000.00	\$100,680.06						
	FY 08-10	FY 11	NCDA&CS, Marketing Got to Be	\$250,750.00	\$23,384.27	NC Community College	\$313,995.60	\$92,467.43						
RAFI-USA	\$3,805,748.00	\$2,322,824.05	NCDA&CS, Research Stations	\$258,913.18	\$79,759.76	NCDA&CS, Marketing	\$162,500.00	\$17,800.00						
NC Ag Foundation	\$623,215.00	\$43,643.04	NC Peanut Growers Assoc	\$15,000.00	\$0.00	NCDA&CS, Public Affairs	\$28,355.85	\$21,644.15						
NC Farm Bureau Legal Foundation	\$494,910.00	\$97,118.81	NC Tob F-Sustain Econ Impact	\$75,000.00	\$74,993.82	NCDA&CS, Research Stations	\$111,686.95	\$10,045.12						
NC Rural Center	\$2,926,687.14	\$560,397.00	Orange County	\$0.00	\$190,406.43	NC REAL Enterprises	\$31,000.00	\$16,192.83						
TOTAL	\$7,850,560.14	\$3,023,982.90	Southeastern Comm. College	\$125,000.00	\$120,313.17	Silk Hope Ruritan Club	\$330,378.34	\$19,621.66						
			WNC Communities	\$477,500.00	\$22,500.00	Tobacco Farm Life Museum	\$39,861.04	\$5,138.96						
			Mountain Valleys RC&D	\$122,500.00	\$120,452.16	Town of Shallotte	\$21,269.73	\$2,715.41						
			TOTAL	\$2,122,410.61	\$1,024,359.30	WNC Communities	\$21,115.00	\$353,885.00						
						TOTAL	\$1,521,147.46	\$831,660.22						
									2003 Granting Cycle		\$10,641.52			
									Out-of-Cycle Grants		\$174,927.35			
									2005 Granting Cycle		\$57,063.37			
									2007 Granting Cycle		\$381,971.19			
									2008 Out-of-Cycle Grants		\$3,220,556.96			
									2008 Granting Cycle		\$815,496.40			
									2009 Granting Cycle		\$547,742.43			
									2010 Granting Cycle		\$2,349,025.35			
									TOTAL		\$7,557,424.57			

*This report is based on data from
7/1/10 - 6/30/11*

2010 Granting Cycle	FY 10	FY 11
American Prawn Cooperative	\$0.00	\$179,461.00
ASAP	\$84,225.00	\$0.00
CFSA	\$10,932.00	\$9,838.80
Centralina EDC	\$0.00	\$110,000.00
ECU-NC Agromedicine Institute	\$92,271.00	\$0.00
Edgecombe County	\$0.00	\$26,000.00
NC Agricultural Foundation-Scholarship	\$57,500.00	\$0.00
NC Agricultural Foundation-Farm Safety	\$76,500.00	\$0.00
NC Agricultural Foundation-Farmhand	\$36,000.00	\$0.00
NC Agricultural Foundation-Food Safety	\$43,134.00	\$0.00
NC Agricultural Foundation-Canola	\$37,500.00	\$0.00
NC Agricultural Foundation-Strengthening	\$45,968.50	\$0.00
NC Biotechnology Center	\$0.00	\$450,000.00
NC Community College System	\$0.00	\$531,096.34
NCDA&CS-Agronomic	\$0.00	\$13,627.50
NCDA&CS-Got to Be NC	\$0.00	\$100,000.00
NCDA&CS-International	\$0.00	\$15,086.51
NCDA&CS-Caneberries	\$0.00	\$98,897.31
NCDA&CS-Strawberry	\$0.00	\$51,526.86
NC Foundation for Soil and Water	\$150,000.00	\$29,660.04
NC Nursery and Landscape Assoc	\$125,000.00	\$55,166.00
NC Tobacco Foundation-Bacterial Wilt	\$37,500.00	\$0.00
NC Tobacco Foundation-Communications	\$25,000.00	\$15,711.36
NC's Northeast Econ Dev Foundation	\$0.00	\$0.00
New River Organic Growers	\$27,274.50	\$5,802.70
OIC of Wilson	\$51,600.00	\$28,412.25
Poplar Grove Foundation	\$0.00	\$30,000.00
Rockingham County	\$22,250.00	\$5,241.82
UNC-W, SENCFS	\$12,500.00	\$0.00
Surry County	\$37,500.00	\$34,754.37
Tobacco Farm Life Museum	\$40,000.00	\$28,843.79
Town of Elizabethtown	\$0.00	\$149,908.92
Town of Fair Bluff	\$0.00	\$136,875.71
Vance County	\$0.00	\$65,313.37
WNC Communities	\$0.00	\$500,000.00
Yancey County Schools	\$42,163.50	\$31,163.50
TOTAL	\$1,054,818.50	\$2,702,388.15

Budget Transfers/Debt Service and Cancer Research Payments	
FY 02 Designated Interceptions	\$82,004,511.11
FY 03 Designated Interceptions	\$38,000,000.00
FY 04 Designated Interceptions	\$37,146,734.06
FY 05 Designated Interceptions	\$35,000,000.00
FY 06 Designated Interceptions	\$32,134,175.77
FY 06 Debt Service Payment	\$1,979,096.00
FY 07 Designated Interceptions	\$30,000,000.00
FY 07 Debt Service Payment	\$2,816,688.46
FY 08 Cancer Research Pmt	\$8,000,000.00
FY 08 Debt Service Payment	\$6,353,724.00
FY 09 Cancer Research Pmt	\$8,000,000.00
FY 09 Debt Service Payment	\$10,722,025.50
FY 09 Designated Interceptions	\$24,398,290.94
FY 10 Cancer Research Pmt	\$8,000,000.00
FY 10 Debt Service Payment	\$15,308,738.50
FY 10 Designated Interception	\$5,000,000.00
FY 11 Cancer Research Pmt	\$8,000,000.00
FY 11 Debt Service Payment	\$17,116,443.00
FY 11 Designated Interception	\$5,000,000.00
FY 11 Designated Interception	<u>\$5,000,000.00</u>
FY 11 Designated Interception	\$176,825.25
TOTAL	\$380,157,252.59

Total Grants Paid Out Since Inception	
Barn Retrofit	\$41,090,228.00
Burley Marketing Center	\$2,509,555.21
NCDA/NCSU Barn Retrofit	\$168,254.00
Hay Relief	\$5,000.00
FCTCC	\$1,880,113.85
2002 Granting Cycle	\$2,534,958.56
2003 Granting Cycle	\$3,525,839.12
2004 Out-of-Cycle Grants	\$435,130.26
2005 Granting Cycle	\$2,817,630.15
2007 Granting Cycle	\$3,186,010.81
2008 Out-of-Cycle Grants	\$15,874,543.04
2008 Granting Cycle	\$4,438,102.61
2009 Granting Cycle	\$2,474,040.57
2010 Granting Cycle	<u>\$3,757,206.65</u>
TOTAL	\$84,696,612.83

Tobacco Trust Fund Commission Operating Statement July 1, 2011 - June 30, 2012 (FY12)

	Jul-11	Aug-11	Sep-11	Oct-11	Nov-11	Dec-11	Jan-12	Feb-12	Mar-12	Apr-12	May-12	Jun-12	Total Amounts
Cash Carried Forward	\$9,503,558.31												
INTEREST INCOME	\$8,623.28	\$9,951.33	\$7,555.19										\$26,129.80
TOBACCO SETTLEMENT	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,000,000.00										\$2,000,000.00
OTHER REVENUE	\$936.01		\$1,503.86										\$2,439.87
Fiscal Year 2012 Revenue	\$9,559.29	\$9,951.33	\$2,009,059.05	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,028,569.67
EXPENSES													
<u>Personnel Expenses</u>													
Per Diem-BD MEM	\$15.00	\$30.00	\$0.00										\$45.00
Trans-BD MEM	\$2.00	\$176.50	\$0.00										\$178.50
Subsistence-BD MEM	\$35.15	\$181.10	\$0.00										\$216.25
Other-BD MEM	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00										\$0.00
	\$52.15	\$387.60	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$439.75
<u>Staff Personnel Expenses</u>													
Sal, Ins, Ret, SS Bene.	\$17,191.71	\$22,808.33	\$22,862.96										\$62,863.00
Travel, Exp Acts, Reg Fees, Train.	\$0.00	\$946.42	\$130.04										\$1,076.46
	\$17,191.71	\$23,754.75	\$22,993.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$63,939.46
<u>Office Expenses</u>													
Repairs	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00										\$0.00
Postage, Freight & Delivery	\$275.00	\$0.00	\$218.58										\$493.58
General Office Supplies	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00										\$0.00
Furniture	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00										\$0.00
Computer Equipment/Software	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00										\$0.00
Communication/Office Equipment	\$144.00	\$99.04	\$95.14										\$338.18
Other Administrative Expenses	\$9.19	\$54.24	\$48.81										\$112.24
Vehicle	\$287.05	\$129.48	\$112.72										\$529.25
Telephone Services	\$289.59	\$420.73	\$197.19										\$907.51
	\$1,004.83	\$703.49	\$672.44	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,380.76
<u>Professional Services</u>													
Legal Services/Office Equip.-DOJ	\$17,204.66	\$11,194.77	\$0.00										\$28,399.43
Contract Services	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00										\$0.00
Misc.	\$0.00												\$0.00
	\$17,204.66	\$11,194.77	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$28,399.43
Fiscal Year 2012 Expenses													\$95,159.40

2008 Out-of-Cycle Grants			2009 Granting Cycle			2010 Granting Cycle				
	FY 08-11	FY 12		FY 09-11	FY 12		FY 10-11	FY 12		
RAFI-USA	\$6,128,572.05	\$108,115.72	NC Ag Foundation-Switchgrass	\$147,637.40	\$15,662.60	American Prawn Cooperative	\$179,461.00	\$7,940.00	Cash Carried Forward	\$9,503,558.31
NC Ag Foundation	\$666,858.04	\$29,449.36	NC Ag Foundation-AgriSafe	\$350,680.06	\$0.00	ASAP	\$84,225.00	\$0.00	Total Revenue FY12	\$2,028,569.67
NC Farm Bureau Legal Foundation	\$592,028.81	\$165,739.00	NC REAL Enterprises	\$47,192.83	\$14,422.99	Centralina EDC	\$110,000.00	\$0.00	Total Expenses FY12 (-)	\$95,159.40
NC Rural Center	\$3,487,084.14	\$242,595.00	TOTAL	\$545,510.29	\$30,085.59	ECU-NC Agromedicine Institute	\$92,271.00	\$18,584.89	Subtotal	\$11,436,968.58
TOTAL	\$10,874,543.04	\$545,899.08				NC Ag. Foundation-Scholarship	\$57,500.00	\$0.00	Total Grants Pd Out FY12 (-)	\$1,391,509.45
2008 Granting Cycle						NC Ag. Foundation-Farm Safety	\$76,500.00	\$42,617.87	DebtSvc/Cancer/GenFund FY12 (-)	\$0.00
	FY 08-11	FY 12				NC Ag. Foundation-Farmhand	\$36,000.00	\$23,075.91	Current Cash Balance	\$10,045,459.13
ASAP	\$175,280.98	\$27,726.33				NC Ag. Foundation-Food Safety	\$43,134.00	\$0.00	Encumbered Funds (-)	\$9,113,317.12
Natural Capital Inv. Fund	\$339,285.00	\$152,500.00				NC Ag. Foundation-Canola	\$37,500.00	\$0.00	TOTAL Grant/Mgmt/Admin/ Enforcement of the MSA	\$932,142.01
NCDA&CS Agronomic	\$286,387.28	\$30,981.50				NC Ag. Foundation-Strengthening	\$45,968.50	\$0.00		
Orange County	\$190,406.43	\$0.00				NC Community College System	\$531,096.34	\$170,233.91	Encumbered Funds	
Mountain Valleys RC&D	\$242,952.16	\$0.00				NCDA&CS - Agronomic	\$13,627.50	\$0.00	2003 Granting Cycle	\$10,641.52
TOTAL	\$1,234,311.85	\$211,207.83				NCDA&CS - Got to Be NC	\$100,000.00	\$0.00	Out-of-Cycle Grants	\$174,927.35
						NCDA&CS - International	\$15,086.51	\$0.00	2005 Granting Cycle	\$57,063.37
						NCDA&CS - Caneberries	\$98,897.31	\$23,916.84	2007 Granting Cycle	\$381,971.19
						NCDA&CS - Strawberry	\$51,526.86	\$0.00	2008 Out-of-Cycle Grants	\$2,674,657.88
						NC Foundation for Soil and Water	\$179,660.04	\$36,306.14	2008 Granting Cycle	\$604,288.57
						NC Nursery and Landscape Assoc.	\$180,166.00	\$63,292.36	2009 Granting Cycle	\$517,656.84
						NC Tobacco Found - Bacterial Wilt	\$37,500.00	\$0.00	2010 Granting Cycle	\$1,744,708.40
						NC's Northeast Econ Dev Foundation	\$0.00	\$0.00	2011 Granting Cycle	\$2,947,402.00
						New River Organic Growers	\$33,077.20	\$7,859.55	TOTAL	\$9,113,317.12
						OIC of Wilson	\$80,012.25	\$23,187.75		
						Rockingham County	\$27,491.82	\$2,232.66		
						UNC-W, SENCFS	\$12,500.00	\$0.00		
						Tobacco Farm Life Museum	\$68,843.79	\$11,156.16		
						Town of Elizabethtown	\$149,908.92	\$173,238.16		
						Town of Fair Bluff	\$136,875.71	\$0.00		
						Yancey County Schools	\$73,327.00	\$674.75		
						TOTAL	\$2,552,156.75	\$604,316.95		

*This report is based on data from
7/1/11- 9/30/11*

2011 Granting Cycle	
	FY 12
AdvantageWest	\$0.00
Carolina Farm Credit	\$0.00
Duplin County	\$0.00
Lenoir County	\$0.00
Madison County	\$0.00
Mount Olive College	\$0.00
Mountain Valleys RC & D	\$0.00
NC Ag Foundation-Education	\$0.00
NC Ag Foundation-Leadership	\$0.00
NC Ag Foundation-Replacement Heifers	\$0.00
NC Ag Foundation - Rapid Response	\$0.00
NC Community College System	\$0.00
NCDA&CS - Agronomic	\$0.00
NCDA&CS - Marketing	\$0.00
NC Nursery & Landscape Association	\$0.00
NC Sweetpotato Foundation, Inc.	\$0.00
NC Tobacco Foundation - Succeed IV	\$0.00
NC Tobacco Foundation - Growers Communication	\$0.00
Cabarrus County	\$0.00
RAFI-USA	\$0.00
Town of Pilot Mountain	\$0.00
Vance County	\$0.00
WNC Communities - Ag Options	\$0.00
Total	\$0.00

Budget Transfers/Debt Service and Cancer Research Payments	
FY 02 Designated Interceptions	\$82,004,511.11
FY 03 Designated Interceptions	\$38,000,000.00
FY 04 Designated Interceptions	\$37,146,734.06
FY 05 Designated Interceptions	\$35,000,000.00
FY 06 Designated Interceptions	\$32,134,175.77
FY 06 Debt Service Payment	\$1,979,096.00
FY 07 Designated Interceptions	\$30,000,000.00
FY 07 Debt Service Payment	\$2,816,688.46
FY 08 Cancer Research Pmt	\$8,000,000.00
FY 08 Debt Service Payment	\$6,353,724.00
FY 09 Cancer Research Pmt	\$8,000,000.00
FY 09 Debt Service Payment	\$10,722,025.50
FY 09 Designated Interceptions	\$24,398,290.94
FY 10 Cancer Research Pmt	\$8,000,000.00
FY 10 Debt Service Payment	\$15,308,738.50
FY 10 Designated Interception	\$5,000,000.00
FY 11 Cancer Research Pmt	\$8,000,000.00
FY 11 Debt Service Payment	\$17,116,443.00
FY 11 Designated Interception	\$5,000,000.00
FY 11 Designated Interception	<u>\$5,000,000.00</u>
FY 11 Designated Interception	\$176,825.25
TOTAL	\$380,157,252.59

Total Grants Paid Out Since Inception	
Barn Retrofit	\$41,090,228.00
Burley Marketing Center	\$2,509,555.21
NCDA/NCSU Barn Retrofit	\$168,254.00
Hay Relief	\$5,000.00
FCTCC	\$1,880,113.85
2002 Granting Cycle	\$2,534,958.56
2003 Granting Cycle	\$3,525,839.12
2004 Out-of-Cycle Grants	\$435,130.26
2005 Granting Cycle	\$2,817,630.15
2007 Granting Cycle	\$3,186,010.81
2008 Out-of-Cycle Grants	\$16,420,442.12
2008 Granting Cycle	\$4,649,310.44
2009 Granting Cycle	\$2,504,126.16
2010 Granting Cycle	<u>\$4,361,523.60</u>
TOTAL	\$86,088,122.28



NEWS FOR YOU

JUNE 2011

ADVOCATING A STRONG AG ECONOMY FOR OUR STATE

A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

Many of you know that the last few months have been very challenging for the Commission and its grantees. The budget shortfall, combined with changes in leadership across the General Assembly created a variety of "opportunities" for us to tout the benefits and economic impact of our grant projects. In addition, many of our grantees and partners spent a great deal of time contacting legislators and others to make sure they knew of the benefits TTFC-funded projects bring to their areas.

We are thankful for the support shown by everyone and appreciate the extra effort many put forth on our behalf.

At the time this newsletter was distributed, the General Assembly had approved a budget which keeps the Commission in operation. We are thankful to still be here to fulfill our mission and to contribute to the impact of NC's \$70 billion ag industry. Stay tuned for more information coming soon!

William Upchurch
Executive Director

537 N. Blount St., Raleigh
919-733-2160

WNC LIVESTOCK CENTER NOW OPEN!

After two and a half years of planning, fundraising, community meetings and construction, the **WNC Regional Livestock Center** opened on March 21. Over 1,000 cattle were sold on the first day! Sales are held every Monday and so far, over 1,500 producers and buyers have been impacted by the project. Producers are already benefitting from reduced transportation expenses and higher than average market prices. The center expects to sell over 25,000 cattle annually. In addition, the center will serve as a meeting and event facility for the community.



The NCTTFC was the leading funder on the project and several other organizations partnered to help fulfill the dream to bring the center to WNC.

TORNADO DESTROYS SITE

The long line of storms and tornadoes that swept across the state in April brought much destruction to homes, farms and businesses. One of the tornadoes stormed through Greene County and into the town of Snow Hill. It not only destroyed the middle school and many homes, but also leveled the **Elaney Wood** historic site. Funded in 2007 by the TTFC, the group had relocated old tobacco barns and homes to the site and planned to begin construction on a community farmers market. While the homes and barns are destroyed and can not be replaced, project leaders still hope to build the market and have a facility that will serve the community in many ways.



NCTTFC BOARD MEMBERS & HOME COUNTIES...

- Bill Teague, Chairman
Buncombe
- Dan Ward, Vice-Chair,
Bladen
- Susan Barnes, *Wilson*
- Keith Beavers, *Duplin*
- Pete Burgess, *Vance*
- Sam Crews, *Granville*
- Layten Davis, *Madison*
- Thomas Emerson,
Chatham
- Richard Enoch, *Alamance*
- Bill Holbrook, *Haywood*
- Sue Leggett, *Nash*
- Al Leonard, Jr., *Columbus*
- John McLawhorn, *Greene*
- Gwen Pitt, *Edgecombe*
- Kenneth Reeves, *Buncombe*
- Jeff Simpson, *Cumberland*
- Willard Small, *Columbus*
- Rick Smith, *Pitt*

For more information on these and other grants, click to www.tobaccotrustfund.org or call our office at 919.733.2160



NCTTFC PROJECTS FEATURED ON TV

UNC-TV's "North Carolina Rising" recently featured **Farmhand Foods** and its efforts to establish a market for pasture-raised beef and pork. This TTFC – funded project is overseen by the NC Agricultural Foundation, Inc. and the project is slowly establishing a market for a growing group of small livestock producers. The segment featured pasture-raised livestock producers, interviews



with the project leaders and also promoted a Durham restaurant that serves only local meat products. **"Feast Down East"** a local foods coalition administered by leaders from UNCW recently opened a distribution center at the historic train depot in Burgaw. The project's efforts to secure markets for smaller farms were promoted on WECT TV to viewers across southeastern NC.

REDUCING FARM ENERGY COSTS



Mountain Valleys Resource Conservation & Development, based in Marshall, recently completed its grant that targeted energy projects in WNC. Over 100 farms applied for assistance and 21 farmers in seven counties received cost-share assistance up to \$10,000 to install energy-saving equipment on their current/former tobacco farms. Participating farms now utilize solar energy to either help with their farm's energy needs or the generated power is sold back to the electrical grid. As of June, over 114,000 kws of clean energy had been produced so far. The project leveraged over \$490,000—more than double the actual grant! The various projects also serve as excellent examples to other farmers in the area as to how best to set up their own energy-saving ideas!



A Selection of Current Projects



YANCEY COUNTY

Mountain Heritage High School recognized that students needed a boost and incentive to study agricultural careers. The county constructed this educational greenhouse for its ag-education program. Student participation has increased and the school has successfully conducted sales of greenhouse-grown products to the public.



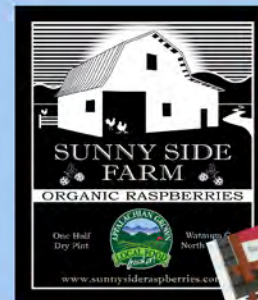
AMERICAN PRAWN COOPERATIVE

Over the last several years, this group of 10 farmers has developed a market for freshwater prawns. Their NCTTFC grant was used for an IQF unit that freezes the product for long-term storage and freshness. Markets have opened up along the east coast for this unique product.



APPALACHIAN SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE PROJECT - COST-SHARE FOR FARMERS -

This 2010 grant cycle program has provided cost-share assistance to western NC farmers. Recipients apply for up to 50% of set marketing costs and use the funds for billboards, websites, directional signs and more. The result is that costs are lowered so that farmers can make more money and receive help on their marketing needs.



A Selection of Current Projects



FARM ENERGY EFFICIENCY PROJECT (FEEP)

This 3-year program overseen by NC Farm Bureau has provided cost-share to farmers to install energy efficient equipment on their farms. Farmers can also receive energy audits to diagnose how improvements can be made to increase their energy efficiency and reduce costs. In addition, farmers can apply for federal grants for further improvements to their their operations. By October, 2011, over \$3 million in federal funding was awarded to over 190 farms!



STRENGTHENING MARKETS - "The Produce Lady"

promotes the healthy benefits of local fruits and vegetables through an exclusive website, YouTube, consumer demonstrations and other events. Safe food preparation, proper canning and how to eat healthier are just some of the ways Ms. Brenda Sutton, Rockingham County Extension Director touts homegrown products!



FEAST DOWN EAST - UNC Wilmington personnel have developed a regional food program designed to help limited resource farmers. The group has partnered with the historic Burgaw Train Depot to provide a drop-off, processing and delivery point for area farmers. Fresh produce is delivered to restaurants, schools and other customers in the southeast region.



A Selection of Current Projects



FARMHAND FOODS

The goal of this project is to implement a local processing and delivery model for local pork and beef producers. The program has generated over \$200,000 in sales, serves 25 restaurant clients and processes product from 16 producers from eastern NC. The unique Farmhand Foods Sausage Wagon makes public appearances serving up sausage items to hungry customers too!



TOBACCO COMMUNITIES REINVESTMENT

PROJECT - This three-year grant awards cost-share funding to farmers and community groups. Innovative projects designed to increase farm income and serve as demonstrations to other farmers are two key goals of the effort. Grantees have implemented ideas that address areas such as farmers market improvement, energy savings, education limited resource farmers, hops production, marketing assistance and more. Rural Advancement Foundation, Inc. (RAFI) oversees this state-wide effort which will fund over 300 ideas when done. The project also leverages over \$730,000 from the NC General Assembly.



A Selection of Current Projects



NEW RIVER ORGANIC GROWERS

This group of organic producers in the northwestern part of the state focus on a variety of produce and meat items. 30 farmers coordinate production and delivery of items to over 30 restaurants and other clients. The local Earth Fare store features NROG's products every week in special displays. In 2010, the project generated over \$100,000 in sales - a new record for the farmers!



PIEDMONT LOCAL FOOD COALITION

This group of 75 farmers from Rockingham and the surrounding counties uses an internet-based ordering and selling system to market produce, meat, dairy and value-added items. Over 500 people are registered on the site to place orders which are processed into custom boxes and distributed at pick-up points throughout the area.



CAPE FEAR FARMER'S MARKET

The town of Elizabethtown has overseen the renovation of a former downtown grocery store into a brand new year-round farmer's market. The facility hosts two permanent businesses and has room for 12 farmer vendors inside and space for several more outside. The market will have its grand opening in November, 2011.



MOUNTAIN VALLEYS RESOURCE CONSERVATION & DEVELOPMENT



2008 CYCLE

COMPLETED: JUNE 2011

ALTERNATIVE ENERGY PROJECT

PROJECT SUMMARY

The project provided up to \$10,000 in cost-share assistance to WNC farmers for equipment that would reduce energy expenses. Farmers could apply for help with wind, solar or hydroelectric projects. Interest among farmers was exceptional at informational workshops that were held with over 100 applications for assistance. 21 renewable energy projects were completed and once projects were installed, the grantee monitored the energy usage and output. All of the completed projects installed photovoltaic systems with some using the power for their own farms and others generating power that is sold back to the power companies. Participants raise a variety of items including livestock, produce, nursery stock, hay, honeybees and more. The project impacted seven counties in western NC.

**Grant Award:
\$245,000**



\$494,000 was leveraged to complete the projects!

114,000 kws of clean energy produced by summer of 2011!

21 farmers were served with over **5,400** acres of farmland protected!

NATURAL CAPITAL INVESTMENT FUND



2008 CYCLE

COMPLETED: June 2011

FINANCING SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURAL BUSINESSES

PROJECT SUMMARY

NCIF provides affordable loans to businesses that focus on sustainable practices. Funds from the NCTTFC were leveraged for projects designed to help farmers stay in business, expand their operations and to support companies who, in turn, support NC farmers. 10 farmers received loans to help install grain storage bins. The bins allow farmers to store harvested crops to try and secure higher prices navigating the volatile crop markets. Simply Natural Dairy Farm, Greene County, utilized their loan to build an organic dairy operation. Annie's Bakery, Sylva, expanded its operation into a new production and warehouse facility. The company bakes organic and all natural products for sale in grocers and other shops. It secures local grains when available and supports the NC Organic Bread Flour project. Finally, Company Shops Market opened in Burlington and utilized its loan for equipment and operational expenses. The grocer focuses on organic and local products for consumers that want something different than a traditional grocery store. As the loans are repaid, the capital will be used to assist individuals adversely affected by changes in the tobacco economy in NC.

**Grant Award:
\$500,000**



Counties Impacted

Alamance, Bertie, Bladen, Granville, Greene, Halifax, Hertford, Jackson, Nash, Northampton, Orange & Wayne

29 jobs have been created among the beneficiaries!

Over \$2,000,000 has been leveraged from other funding partners and/or the loan beneficiaries.

NC RURAL CENTER



2008 CYCLE

COMPLETED: April 2011

NC DROUGHT RESPONSE PROJECT

PROJECT SUMMARY

The severe drought of 2007-08 made a huge, negative impact on the majority of farming operations in NC. As organizations and agencies scrambled to figure out how to help farmers, the NCTTFC partnered with the NC Rural Center to carry out the project. With another \$1.5 million in aid from the NC General Assembly, a wide array of cost share and educational programs were enacted. Farmers utilized cost-share funds for pasture and pond renovations, new wells and improved irrigation techniques. Pasture grazing and management demos and workshops showed farmers how to better sustain pasture supplies for livestock and decrease impaction and over-grazing. The overall goal was to keep the increased expenses and decreased income from the drought from driving farming operations into further debt or even out of business. The sustainable practices enacted have given farmers the tools they need to prepare better for drought conditions in the future.

Important partners included the Division of Soil & Water Conservation, NC State University, and the NC Soil & Water Foundation.

**Grant Award:
\$6,000,000**



Statewide Impact

92 counties received assistance!

Over **582** new water wells were installed!

Producers had access to **77** grazing demonstrations along with **130** pasture management workshops!

Nearly **7,000** farmers were served with over **11,000** acres of farmland protected!

SUGGESTED COMBINATIONS:

- Sweet potatoes: Chinese 5 spice, cinnamon
 - Red potatoes: garlic, rosemary
 - Eggplant: garlic, Italian seasoning
 - Carrots: grill seasoning, parsley
 - Acorn squash: cinnamon, chili powder
- (Recipe from Cook Smart, Eat Smart)

DIRECTIONS:

Select one or a combination of vegetables. Toss with oil and one or a combination of spices. Place in a nonstick cooking pan and roast at 425 degrees F for 20 to 25 minutes. Before adding vegetables, place foil in the pan for easier clean up. Serves 4.



www.theproducelady.org

Frozen Fruit Pops

DIRECTIONS:

Slice the fruit into small wedges and skewer them onto a Popsicle stick, like a kebab. To prevent discoloration, generously brush on a mixture of honey and orange juice. Freeze in an airtight container. Serves 4.

INGREDIENTS:

- Assorted fruit (grapes, apples, pears, peaches, strawberries, melons)
- 2 tbsp. honey
- 1/4 cup fresh orange juice



www.theproducelady.org



THE PRODUCE LADY

Brenda Sutton

THE PRODUCE LADY TEAM

The Produce Lady program is coordinated by N.C. MarketReady, the Cooperative Extension outreach of the N.C. State University Plants for Human Health Institute, located at the N.C. Research Campus. The Produce Lady effort consists of a series of videos on North Carolina fruits and vegetables and other local food products. The program includes a website, monthly e-newsletter, recipes, blog and food demonstrations at events, including farmers markets. Find us at www.theproducelady.org, YouTube and Facebook. Funding for this project is provided by the N.C. Tobacco Trust Fund Commission.



Project Coordinator: Leah Chester-Davis, Plants for Human Health Institute

The Produce Lady: Brenda Sutton, N.C. Cooperative Extension, Rockingham County

Contributing Writers: Megan Bame and Justin Moore, Plants for Human Health Institute

Videographer/Editor: Ken Ellzey, University Communications



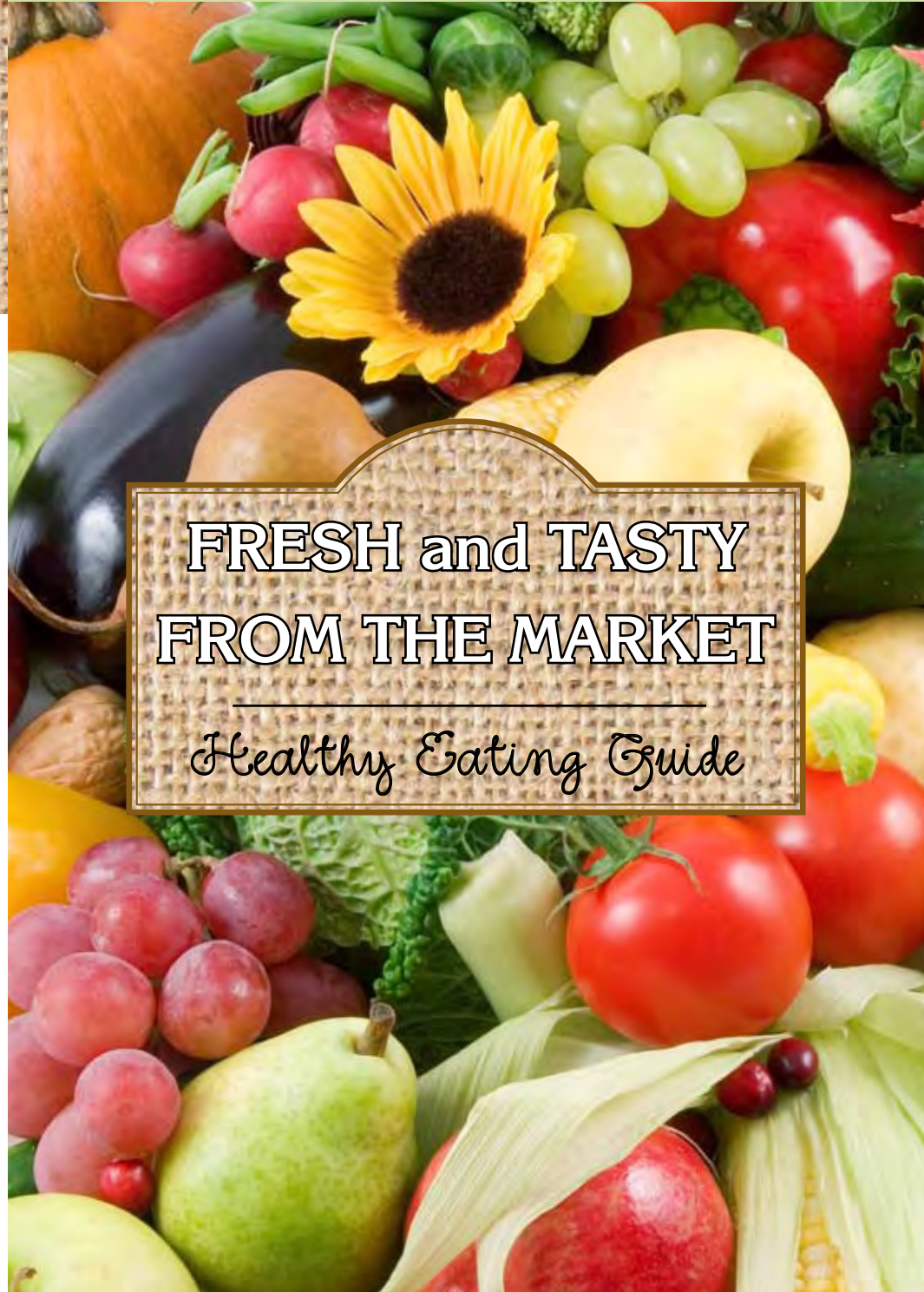
plantsforhumanhealth.ncsu.edu



NC STATE UNIVERSITY



THE PRODUCE LADY



FRESH and TASTY FROM THE MARKET

Healthy Eating Guide

www.theproducelady.org



Use any combination of vegetables and spices in this recipe. This is a basic technique allowing you to experiment with many different variations.

INGREDIENTS:

Vegetables: Choose 4 cups of one or a combination

- Broccoli, red potatoes, sweet potatoes, carrots, onions, peppers, eggplant, zucchini, squash, acorn squash

Spices: Choose 2 to 3 tsp. of one or a combination

- Chili powder, rosemary, cumin, garlic, cloves, grill seasoning, curry powder, Chinese 5 spice, tarragon, Italian seasoning, sage, parsley, cinnamon
- Oil:** Choose 1 tbsp. of olive, canola or corn oil

(over)

DIRECTIONS:

Put all the ingredients into a blender. Process until smooth.

Serves 2.

INGREDIENTS:

- 1/2 cup nonfat milk
- 1/2 cup vanilla or plain yogurt
- 1 cup fresh or frozen unsweetened fruit (such as blueberries, strawberries or peaches)
- 1 tsp. honey

www.theproducelady.org

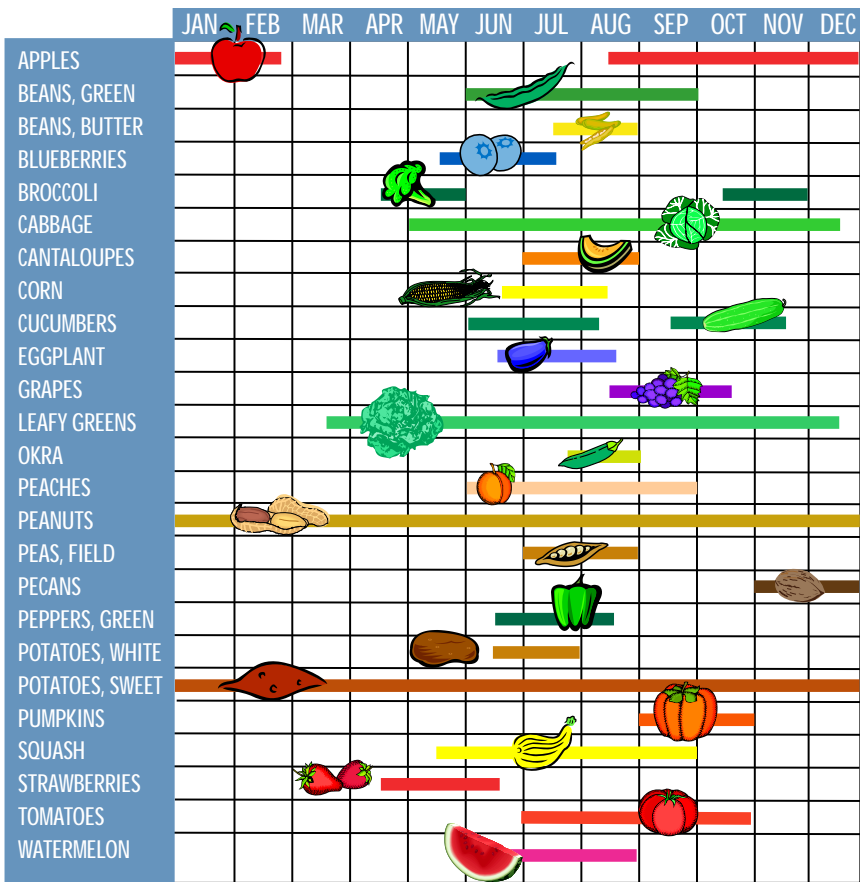


Food Safety Tips

- Wash cloth shopping bags each week to ensure your produce is not introduced to harmful bacteria that may be harbored in the fibers of the bag.
- Wash your hands before handling or preparing produce.
- Wash produce prior to preparation.



What's in Season?



Source: www.ncfarmfresh.com.

Fresh produce can't be beat. It's good and good for you. After years of trending toward "convenience" foods, we've come to realize that we may be gaining more than time. Americans have been packing on pounds as a result of poor dietary choices, such as buying highly processed foods. The Produce Lady promotes choosing locally grown, seasonally available fresh produce. It's the healthier choice!

This guide offers tips for shopping at your local farmers market, storing fresh produce and consuming more fruits and vegetables. The attached recipes are quick and easy to prepare and they offer flexibility to create new dishes depending on what's in season. Find more resources about selection, storage, preparation, preservation and food safety at www.theproducelady.org.

North Carolina has a rich agricultural heritage, with diverse soils, a moderate climate and farming know-how that has been passed down through generations. There are five state-operated farmers markets open year-round and more than 200 local markets that are typically open spring through fall. While you may be accustomed to finding every type of produce at the grocery store each week, shopping seasonally at a local farmers market will reward you with flavor and quality that will delight your tastebuds.

Find a farmers market near you, plan healthy meals each week around the availability of fresh produce from the market and support your local economy.

DIRECTIONS:

Sauté seasonal vegetables, chicken, tomato, onion and tarragon in butter in a medium saucepan or electric frying pan over medium heat until vegetables are tender-crisp. Pour eggs evenly over all ingredients. Sprinkle with cheese, if desired. Cover and cook for 6 to 8 minutes or until firm on bottom and almost set on top. Cut into wedges to serve.

Serves 4.



www.theproducelady.org

DIRECTIONS:

Wash and cut selected vegetables into small, even-sized pieces. Heat 1 tbsp. vegetable oil over high heat in a 10-inch frying pan. Keeping the heat high, add vegetables to the pan in order of firmness – harder foods first (ex. cauliflower) and ending with softer foods (ex. mushrooms). With a spatula, move vegetables around in the pan to keep them from sticking. Cook the vegetables for a few minutes until they are brightly colored and still crisp. Add sauce to taste (about 1/4 cup). Stir fry until all vegetables are thoroughly coated. Serve with choice of starch.

Serves 4.



www.theproducelady.org



Quick Tip

Did you purchase produce that's not quite ripe? Speed the natural ripening process by placing produce such as tomatoes, peaches and pears in a closed paper bag with an apple or banana.

Eat Your Colors

<p>BLUES PURPLES</p>	<p>REDS</p>	<p>WHITES TANS</p>
<p>Protects against cancer; healthy for heart and memory</p> <p>Blackberries, Blueberries, Eggplant, Grapes, Plums, Purple Cabbage</p>	<p>Lowers cancer risk; healthy for memory, heart and urinary tract</p> <p>Apples, Beets, Cherries, Onions, Peppers, Radishes, Raspberries, Strawberries, Tomatoes, Watermelons</p>	<p>Helps lower cholesterol and high blood pressure</p> <p>Garlic, Honeydew, Leeks, Mushrooms, Onions, Pears, Potatoes, Sweet Corn</p>
<p>GREENS</p>	<p>YELLOW ORANGES</p>	
<p>Good for vision, bone and teeth health; boosts immune system</p> <p>Apples, Broccoli, Cabbage, Cucumbers, Grapes, Green Beans, Lettuce, Peas, Peppers</p>	<p>Heart healthy; boosts immunity; reduces cancer risk</p> <p>Apples, Apricots, Cantaloupes, Carrots, Peaches, Pumpkins, Squash, Sweet Corn, Sweet Potatoes, Tomatoes</p>	

Adapted from Goodness Grows in Living Color, NCDA&CS

To Market, To Market: Five DOs and DON'Ts at the Farmers Market



- DO** wash your hands before handling produce and use clean bags to transport produce.
- DO** enjoy samples and try new items—ask for a recipe if you're not sure how to prepare something new.
- DO** handle produce gently and let your children help select the produce.
- DO** ask the farmer questions and get acquainted with his or her production methods.
- DO** show your appreciation for the farmers and recognize the value of their products.

- DON'T** forget to bring cash.
- DON'T** handle produce you don't intend to purchase.
- DON'T** be afraid of a little dirt—wash fresh produce just prior to preparation.
- DON'T** bring your pet to the market; it's a food safety precaution for everyone!
- DON'T** shop at the close of market expecting a bargain.



The Farmers Market Treasure Hunt helps make the market fun and educational for children. Find it at www.theproducelady.org.

Eat Up: Add More Fruits and Vegetables

- Keep a bowl of fruit on the counter to make it easier to grab a quick snack.
- Make fruit smoothies for breakfast or a snack.
- Top baked potatoes with salsa.
- Keep cut-up vegetables in a covered snack bowl in the refrigerator.
- Add berries to cereal or yogurt.
- Add peppers, onions or even carrots to spaghetti sauce.



Pick-Me-Up Snacks

Healthy snacks provide energy and will keep you from getting hungry between meals. Choose low-fat, healthy snacks such as:



- A medium apple
- A cup of fresh berries or grapes
- A cup of steamed vegetables
- Fresh vegetables with low-fat dip



Home Again, Home Again: Tips for Storing Your Market Bounty



onions store well at or just below room temperature, preferably out of direct sunlight.

- Wash produce just prior to use. Washing prior to storing can decrease the storage life of fresh produce. Remove any deteriorating fruit as soon as you spot it.
- Store produce at the appropriate temperature—the fridge isn't always the best choice. Fresh produce including potatoes, tomatoes, winter squash and onions store well at or just below room temperature, preferably out of direct sunlight.
- Refrigerate freshly cut or sliced produce for maximum food safety.
- Keep fruits and vegetables in separate refrigerator drawers since many fruits emit ethylene, a gas that promotes ripening.
- Line the crisper drawer with a paper towel to absorb moisture. High humidity is beneficial, but condensation is detrimental.



Be a "Locavore"

In North Carolina, we spend about \$35 billion a year on food. If we spent 10 percent locally - \$1.05 per day - approximately \$3.5 billion would be available in the local economy. Time to go shopping!

www.nc10percent.com

locavore (lo-ca-vore), noun:
Someone who seeks out locally grown and produced foods.

Web Resources

FIND MORE INFORMATION ABOUT N.C. PRODUCE AT
www.theproducelady.org
BLOG | FACEBOOK | RECIPES | VIDEOS



Farmers Market Frittata

INGREDIENTS:

- 1 cup chopped, seasonal vegetables (such as asparagus, broccoli, sugar snap peas, spinach or peppers)
- 1/2 cup chopped cooked chicken
- 1/4 cup chopped tomatoes
- 1/4 cup chopped onions
- 1/4 tsp. dried tarragon (or favorite herb)
- 1 tbsp. butter
- 4 farm-fresh eggs, lightly beaten
- Fresh goat cheese, also known as chevre (optional)

(over)



Garden Delight Stir Fry

INGREDIENTS:

- Experiment with many different vegetables. Add chicken, beef, pork or tofu to this dish for more protein.
- Sauce** (1/4 cup for four servings)
- Lite/low sodium soy sauce or teriyaki marinade
- Starch** (1/3 cup dry starch per person = 1 cup cooked starch serving size)

(over)

- White, brown, jasmine or basmati rice; spaghetti or other noodles
- Vegetables** (any combination, 1 to 2 cups per person)
- Onions, broccoli, carrots, peppers, mushrooms, squash, zucchini, cauliflower, cabbage, bok choy



The attached recipes are quick and easy to prepare and they offer flexibility to create new dishes depending on what's in season.



Ag Biz Program Representative of AgCarolina Financial's Commitment to Farmers



Above: Beginning farmer Wilbert Bryant (left) listens to a western N.C. young farmer participant, Marty Waters of Caldwell Co., show him photos of his diverse farming operation.

Left: Honey bee business owner Tracy Smith of Hyde Co. receives her Ag Biz Planner certificate and congratulations from AgCarolina Financial CEO Eugene Charville. Looking on at right are her mentor, Murray Balance, a financial services officer in AgCarolina Financial's Swan Quarter branch office; Alicia Morris, the program's manager; and Dr. David Kohl, president of AgriVisions LLC and developer of the Ag Biz Planner program.

AgCarolina Financial understands the challenges facing the next generation of farmers. That's why young, beginning, small, and minority farmers continue to look to Farm Credit for financing their unique credit needs. They know that the experienced financial services officers of Farm Credit have been helping generations of farm families succeed well into the future.

Our Ag Biz Planner program is one of the most recent and successful examples of how farm credit is meeting the needs of these vital new

members of the agriculture family. This year AgCarolina Financial sponsored eight farmers to participate in the Ag Biz Planner program.

"Because these farmers face a special set of challenges, we're glad to give them the skills and resources they need to be successful," said AgCarolina Financial CEO Eugene Charville.

The program, which consisted of 24 participants from throughout the state, is aimed at helping young, beginning, small, and minority farmers gain the business and financial skills to successfully manage and grow their operations.

Each participant in the Ag Biz Planner program was paired with a mentor, who served as the participant's teacher, coach, and facilitator as they worked through the course. The majority of the participants were husband and wife teams.

The college-level course included 10 modules, each taking one to two hours to complete. Working at their own pace, participants had two weeks to complete each online module, which ultimately led to the creation of a business plan for their operation.

Here's a close look at four of this year's participants and their program category:

Young

Chris and Clara Blanchard, Bertie County
Chris and Clara became involved in Clara's family's 2,500-acre tobacco, cotton, peanut, and soybean operation, Urquhart Farms, after getting married in 2009.



Four Ag Biz Planner participants are shown with N.C. Ag Commissioner Steve Troxler (center). Jamison Eley (right), a young farmer from Hertford Co., was sponsored by Ag Carolina Financial.



“Because these farmers face a special set of challenges, we’re glad to give them the skills and resources they need to be successful.”

— Eugene Charville, AgCarolina Financial CEO

Beginning

Natalie Wester, Franklin County
Following college, Natalie joined a diversified 3,500-acre crop and beef cattle cow/calf and feeder operation.

Small

Tracy Smith, Hyde County
Owner of a 150-beehive operation, Tracy markets her “Outer Banks Bees” honey in local stores and sells pollen to area fruit and vegetable crop producers.

Minority

Jamison and Sheila Eley, Hertford County
Jamison and Sheila farm with Jamison’s father on a 400-acre farm, growing tobacco and other crops and managing a broiler operation.

Other participants in the Ag Biz Planner program are listed below.

The Ag Biz Planner curriculum is part of the AgFirst Farm Credit Bank’s Farm Credit University blended training program. This was the second year of a two-year grant from the N.C. Tobacco Trust Fund Commission—coordinated by AgCarolina Financial, Carolina Farm Credit, and Cape Fear Farm Credit—that funded the program.

The Ag Biz Planner program was developed by Dr. David Kohl, professor emeritus of Ag Finance and Small Business Management at Virginia Tech. Dr. Kohl kicked off the e-learning program in November with an Ag Biz Planner webinar and then concluded the program with an Ag Biz Planner conference in March. Other speakers on the conference program included N.C. Ag Commissioner Steve Troxler and Dr. Mike Walden, William Neal Reynolds Professor at N.C. State University. ←



Above, Dr. David Kohl discusses the updated business plan for Wester Farms with beginning farmer, Natalie Wester (center), her mother, Dot (right), and mentor Adam Wyatt of AgCarolina Financial’s Louisburg branch office.

Top of page, a young Bertie County farm couple, Chris and Clara Blanchard discuss their business plan with their mentor, Cliff Rose, a financial services officer working out of AgCarolina Financial’s Halifax branch office

Below, AgCarolina Financial’s group of participants and mentors gather during the Ag Biz Planner conference held in March in Raleigh.

Participants	Mentor	Branch Office
Kay Boykin	Preston Sutton	La Grange
Wilbert Bryant	Amy Mustian	Louisburg
Ben and Carol Murphy	Quincy Adams	Raleigh
Richard and Loretta Turcotte	Shaunnika Johnson	Raleigh





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