



**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, 2015**

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November 1, 2015



The Honorable Phil Berger  
Co-Chair, Joint Legislative Commission on  
Governmental Operations  
2007 Legislative Building  
Raleigh, NC 27601-2808

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

Dear Senator Berger and Representative Moore:

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".

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](http://www.tobaccotrustfund.org)  
E-MAIL: [tobaccotrustfund@ncagr.gov](mailto:tobaccotrustfund@ncagr.gov)

**LOCATION:**  
537 NORTH BLOUNT STREET  
RALEIGH, NC 27604

November 1, 2015



The Honorable Nelson Dollar  
Senior Chair, House Appropriations Committee  
307B 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

The Honorable Donnie Lambeth  
Co-Chair, House Appropriations Committee  
303 Legislative Office Building  
Raleigh, NC 27603-5925

The Honorable Chuck McGrady  
Co-Chair, House Appropriations Committee  
304 Legislative Office Building  
Raleigh, NC 27603-5925

Dear Representative Dollar and Representative Johnson and Representative Lambeth and Representative McGrady:

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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RALEIGH, NC 27604

November 1, 2015



The Honorable Harry Brown  
Co-Chair, Senate Appropriations/  
Base Budget Committee  
300-B Legislative Office Building  
Raleigh, NC 27603-5925

The Honorable Kathy Harrington  
Co-Chair, Senate Appropriations/  
Base Budget Committee  
300-C Legislative Office Building  
Raleigh, NC 27603-5925

The Honorable Brent Jackson  
Co-Chair, Senate Appropriations/  
Base Budget Committee  
2022 Legislative Building  
Raleigh, NC 27601-2808

Dear Senator Brown and Senator Harrington and Senator Jackson:

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, 2015



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

As the 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.

Over the past several years the Tobacco Trust Fund Commission has gained significant expertise in understanding what it takes to help members of the agricultural family diversify successfully, through our grant program and our relationships with other expert organizations. We are uniquely equipped, and we are prepared to assist these individuals and others in tobacco-dependent communities to develop a viable rural economy in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. New alternative crops and agribusinesses require technical and marketing expertise that is not always available. Younger farmers are a central part of North Carolina's rural economy--- their prosperity drives the livelihood of the small-town retailer, the accountant, car dealer, insurance sales representative and others who keep our small towns alive.

The Tobacco Trust Fund Commission's work is **critical** because agriculture remains a very important part of our state's economy, contributing **\$76 billion** annually, accounting for over **16%** of the state's income and employing **17%** of the workforce. Our board and staff have worked very hard in the past year to make investments that strengthen a core business with limited funding. We have accomplished this by implementing projects to support diversification, education, job creation/sustainability and environmental preservation. We applaud our legislative leadership for allowing the Commission to continue to serve the number one industry of our state's economy.

Active grant information, the 2015 grant awards, and information showing the impact of our funds are included in this report. We have provided a synopsis of each recipient's project and, with the guidance of the Tobacco Trust Fund Commission, their impressive results with the financial assistance provided.

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**

### **2015**

**AVERETT, Ernest B.**

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

**BARNES, Susan**

Kenly, NC  
County-Wilson  
Appointee Officer-  
Governor

**CARTER, J.W. (Billy)**  
**III.**

Eagle Springs, NC  
County-Moore  
Appointee Officer-  
President Pro Tem

**COLLINS, William K.**

Raleigh, NC  
County-Wake  
Appointee Officer-  
President Pro Tem

**LEE, Jeffrey C.**

Benson, NC  
County-Johnston  
Appointee Officer-  
Speaker of the House

**DAVENPORT, David**

Greenville, NC  
County-Pitt  
Appointee Officer-  
Governor

**DAVIS, Brent**

Calypso, NC  
County-Duplin  
Appointee Officer-  
Speaker of the House

**GRAY, Albert D. (Dial)**  
**III**

Whiteville, NC  
County-Columbus  
Appointee Officer-  
Governor

**HOLBROOK, Bill**

Waynesville, NC  
County-Haywood  
Appointee Officer-  
Governor

**HUNTER, Brent**

Boonville, NC  
County-Haywood  
Appointee Officer-  
Speaker of the House

**MCLAWHORN,**

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

Hookerton, NC  
County-Greene  
Appointee Officer-  
Governor

**MINTON, Tim**

Clayton, NC  
County-Johnston  
Appointee Officer-  
Speaker of the House

**SCOTT, Linwood H. III**

Lucama, NC  
County-Wilson  
Appointee Officer-  
Speaker of the House

**SMITH, Steve**

Reidsville, NC  
County-Rockingham  
Appointee Officer-  
President Pro Tem

**TEAGUE, William H.**  
**(Bill) CHAIRMAN**

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

**WARD, Dan**

**VICE CHAIRMAN**

Clarkton, NC  
County-Bladen  
Appointee Officer-  
Governor

**WEBSTER, Thomas**

Madison, NC  
County-Rockingham  
Appointee Officer-  
President Pro Tem

**WILSON, Kevin**

Burnsville, NC  
County-Yancey  
Appointee Officer-  
President Pro Tem



## **COMMISSION HISTORY**

### **2015**

#### **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 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, 2014**

The TTFC has met **four times** this past year. During these meetings, board members awarded grant funds, received grantee updates and took action on grant amendment requests.

In 2015, a total of **40** grant applications were received requesting over **\$4.5** million in funding. After a very detailed review process, the TTFC approved grants totaling **\$1,896,492 for 25 projects**. The limitation of funds prevented the board from addressing many more of these worthy applications.

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.



- New farmers markets opened in the thriving downtown areas of Concord and Elkin, while a new diesel mechanics training facility will hold its grand opening in the Fall of 2015 in Duplin County.
- 34 schools throughout the state received grants to improve their Agricultural Education programs – impacting over 3,000 students.
- NC farms continue to be safer and healthier thanks to the nationally recognized Agri-Safe NC and Certified Safe Farm programs.
- Over 500 forest landowners, farmers and industry professionals attended two “Forest Landowner Summits” to learn how to better manage over 73,000 acres of forest land.
- Through Project Skill-Up, over 700 students, farmers and food companies at 16 community colleges have received certification leading to new employment, entrepreneurship training assistance, or attended marketing/production seminars designed to increase their sales.

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 former 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.

**NC TOBACCO TRUST FUND COMMISSION**  
**2011 CYCLE ACTIVE GRANTS:**  
**COMPLETED AFTER NOVEMBER 1, 2014**

**Project:**                    **Piedmont Farmers Market at Rotary Square**

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

**Grant Amount:**        \$75,000

The project focused on constructing a new farmers market at “Rotary Square.” The abandoned lot in downtown Concord was prepared as a park and a new open air shelter with restrooms and parking was constructed. It will serve the community with another location for farmers to sell their products. The shelter will also host community events. Over \$370,000 was leveraged. The park was completed in late 2014. A grand opening was held in May.

**STATUS: COMPLETED**

**Area Served:** Cabarrus and surrounding counties

[www.cabarruscounty.us](http://www.cabarruscounty.us)

**NC TOBACCO TRUST FUND COMMISSION**  
**2012 CYCLE ACTIVE GRANTS: COMPLETED AFTER NOVEMBER 1, 2014**  
**& ACTIVE as of OCTOBER, 2015**

**Project:**                    **Risk Mitigation Measures II**

Contact:                    Ms. Robin Tutor-Marcom

North Carolina Agromedicine Institute - East Carolina University  
1157 VOA Site C Road  
Greenville, NC 27834  
252-744-1045

Grant Amount:            \$125,000

This vital project helped farmers implement Phase II Risk Mitigation Measures for soil fumigants being released by the US Environmental Protection Agency in December 2012. 4 “Fit to Farm” modules were created for health providers and farmers. The project directly impacted nearly 1,300 people. Respirator fit testing sessions were conducted in nine counties. Many farms can now fit test their own employees, saving time and money. An estimated \$70,000 in cost savings for farmers was realized due to savings in equipment, training and required field signs. In addition health screenings were conducted on nearly 200 farmers to determine health-related issues.

STATUS: COMPLETED

Area Served: Statewide

<http://www.ecu.edu/cs-dhs/agromedicine/>

**Project:**                    **JSCC Diesel Mechanic Program**

Contact:                    Mr. Jeffery Myers  
James Sprunt Community College  
PO Box 398  
Kenansville, NC 28349  
910-296-2531

Grant Amount:            \$100,000

This project will establish a nationally recognized Continuing Education Diesel Mechanic Program at James Sprunt Community College. This grant request is to build a new facility on existing land owned by Duplin County in Warsaw, NC. Mechanics will be trained and placed into high demand jobs in the region. Grant funds will be leveraged with other funders.

STATUS: Construction has proceeded during the year with a projected opening of late 2015. The construction budget is just over \$1.3 million. Partnerships with three county school systems have been established so that students can earn both high school and college credit through the Diesel Tech Academy.

Area Served: Duplin and surrounding counties

[www.jamessprunt.edu](http://www.jamessprunt.edu)

**Project: Stevia Production in North Carolina**

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

Grant Amount: \$100,000

This research project helped establish the feasibility of commercial production of stevia in multiple tobacco regions in eastern NC. Best management practices for conventional and organic production were researched and developed to insure highest return to growers. At the end of 2014, 14 growers were under contract for a major Stevia producer. The production is expected to grow from about 400 acres to 1,000 acres in 2016 thanks to increased interest from two major Stevia processors.

STATUS: COMPLETED

Area Served: Statewide

[www.cals.ncsu.edu/foundation](http://www.cals.ncsu.edu/foundation)

**Project: Value-Added Cost Share Program**

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

Grant Amount: \$250,000

Funding for the Value-Added Cost Share program continued the activities initiated in 2008. Cost-share funding was awarded to 66 producers/producer groups or processors since the projects inception. Funding went to processors adding value to NC-Grown agricultural commodities and for producers of value-added products made from raw commodities. The funds were used to off-set the costs of specialized equipment involved in the value-adding processes directly related to the processing and/or packaging of those products. An estimated increase in annual sales of \$1.9 million was projected. Producers leveraged 4304,074 of their own funds. Since 2009, nine of the companies that received assistance from feasibility studies received over \$1.2 million in federal dollars to help expand their value-added operations.

STATUS: COMPLETED

Area Served: Statewide

**Project: Farmers Manage Deer**

Contact: Mr. Dom Canavarro  
North Carolina Wildlife Federation  
1024 Washington St.  
Raleigh, NC 27605  
919-833-1923

Grant Amount: \$150,000

This one of a kind, two-year project helped 567 farms in nine tobacco dependent counties implement best deer herd management practices on over 75,000 acres of NC farmland. Over 330 hunters were matched with farms to implement organized deer harvests. Results were better than expected. Over 1200 deer were harvested, with a high percentage of doe included. This will result in a substantial reduction in the present and future deer population. Over 25,000 pounds of venison was donated to community food banks, resulting in over 100,000 meals for the hungry. Other partners included the Hunt NC Farmlands Program of the NCDA&CS, the Bonus Antlerless Deer Tag Program of NCWRC and Hunters for the Hungry.

STATUS: COMPLETED

Area Served: Specific tobacco production counties in eastern NC.

[www.ncwildlife.org](http://www.ncwildlife.org)

**Project: Adding Value to WNC Livestock**

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

Grant Amount: \$20,000

Project will help about 350 WNC livestock producers earn higher prices for their cattle by delivering a series of educational workshops and one-on-one guidance on proven ways to add value to their livestock.

STATUS: Several seminars for livestock farmers have been held in the region and have reached over 2,700 producers. The extension livestock specialist has conducted meetings on several areas of interest for local producers. Cattle prices continue to be exceptional. The project received approval for a contract extension to June, 2016.

Area Served: Western NC counties

[www.wnccommunities.org](http://www.wnccommunities.org)

**Project:**                    **Yadkin Valley Agriculture Center**

**Contact:**                Ms. Lisa Hughes  
                              Yadkin County  
                              PO Box 146  
                              Yadkinville, NC 27055  
                              336-679-4200

**Grant Amount:**        \$100,000

The scope of the project consists of constructing a two story multi-purpose Agricultural center at the Yadkin County Center. Classroom space for Surry Community College will be included. It will provide office space for NC State Cooperative Extension, NC Forestry, Soil & Water, and other agencies, as well as a 300 person conference center, commercial kitchen and lecture halls. Grant funds will be leveraged with other funding for completion.

**STATUS:** Building is under construction and is progressing well. It is about 30% complete.

**Area Served:** Yadkin and surrounding counties

<http://www.yadkincountync.gov/>

**NC TOBACCO TRUST FUND COMMISSION**  
**2013 CYCLE ACTIVE GRANTS: COMPLETED AFTER**  
**NOVEMBER 1, 2014 & ACTIVE as of OCTOBER, 2015**

**Project:**                    **Bladenboro Community Farmer's Market**

Contact:                    Ms. Joyce Walters  
                                 Boost the 'Boro  
                                 PO Box 771  
                                 Bladenboro, NC 28320  
                                 910-648-2940

Grant Amount:            \$48,500

The town of Bladenboro completed construction of their new farmers market that serves local farmers. The facility has covered bays for up to 8 vendors, meeting space inside and room for a year-round “general store” which sells processed and value-added items. The market is used for community events too. The grand opening was held in August, 2014.

STATUS: COMPLETED

Area Served: Bladen and surrounding counties

[www.borobooster.org](http://www.borobooster.org)

**Project:**                    **Renovation, Lenoir County Farmers Market and Market Annex**

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

Grant Amount:            \$42,000

The successful, year-round farmers market in downtown Kinston utilized grant funds to improve the surrounding grounds and expand the paved parking area. The parking lot was paved, structure was painted, new sidewalks installed and solar panels to power the market annex were installed. Vendors reported strong sales over half-million dollars for the year. Over 300 acres were impacted and over 25 vendors benefitted from the market.

STATUS: COMPLETED

Area Served: Lenoir

[lenoir.ces.ncsu.edu](http://lenoir.ces.ncsu.edu)

**Project: Agricultural Education Program Improvement Grants**

Contact: Ms. Kathy Kennel  
NC Ag Foundation  
Box 7645 NCSU  
Raleigh, NC 27695  
919-515-9262

Grant Amount: \$180,000

The NC FFA Office offered a competitive grant program for the state's high schools. Over 50 schools applied with 35 schools winning grants of up to \$5,000. The grants were used to enhance the agricultural education programs at the schools. Projects included animal education barns, aquaculture labs, new machine shop tools/equipment and more. Over 5,000 teachers and students were impacted by the project. The project leveraged over \$56,000 in other funds/contributions also.

STATUS: COMPLETED

Area Served: Statewide

[www.cals.ncsu.edu/advancement/ag\\_fnd.htm](http://www.cals.ncsu.edu/advancement/ag_fnd.htm)

**Project: AgriSafe-NC and Certified Safe Farm Expansion**

Contact: Ms. Kathy Kennel  
NC Ag Foundation  
Box 7645 NCSU  
Raleigh, NC 27695  
919-515-9262

Grant Amount: \$300,000

Farmers, their families and their workers will benefit from learning how maintaining a healthier lifestyle can reduce medical expenses. On-site health screenings, seminars and ag-related events will be utilized to reach thousands of people. Farmers in 18 counties can apply for free farm safety evaluations and can qualify for up to \$500 in cost-share funds to make safety improvements on their operations.

STATUS: Over 9,900 farmers, family members and workers have been served so far through educational events or farm visits. Over 1,000 people have received health screenings and 10 farms have undergone Certified Safe Farm audits. A new full-time person will work directly with farmers and cooperative extension agents.

Area Served: 18+ key agricultural counties

[www.cals.ncsu.edu/advancement/ag\\_fnd.htm](http://www.cals.ncsu.edu/advancement/ag_fnd.htm)



**Project: Project Skill-UP**

Contact: Ms. Barbara Boyce  
NC Community College System  
5001 Mail Service Center  
Raleigh, NC 27699  
919-807-7158

Grant Amount: \$375,000

The successful “Project Skill-Up” program continued at 24 community colleges. Students who had a “tobacco connection” either through direct work in the tobacco industry or through their family’s previous employment qualified for tuition and/or school supply assistance. The project impacted just over 1,000 students. During the year, 384 students were re-employed in areas such as healthcare, agriculture and specialized industries.

STATUS: COMPLETED

Area Served: Statewide

[www.nccommunitycolleges.edu](http://www.nccommunitycolleges.edu)

**Project: Got to Be NC Marketing Program**

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

Grant Amount: \$200,000

The project will support the “Got to Be NC” marketing campaign. Cooperative marketing funds will support efforts in the grocery and foodservice industries as well as through various commodity associations.

STATUS: Several campaigns were carried out during the summer. 10 commodity associations held cooperative advertising campaigns that included various media. A major foodservice distributor reported an 80% increase in sales of NC products while a supermarket chain reported sales of 100%+ over the previous year of NC strawberries.

Area Served: Statewide

[www.gottobenc.com](http://www.gottobenc.com)

**Project: Weed Free NC**

Contact: Mr. Charles Hall  
North Carolina Soybean Producers Association, Inc.  
211 Six Forks Road, Suite 102

Raleigh, NC 27609  
919-839-5700

Grant Amount: \$40,000

Grant funding supported a marketing and media campaign that encouraged farmers to aggressively address weeds in row crops that are herbicide resistant. The project included digital media and state-wide radio ads. In addition, farmers participating in extension-led field days and meetings heard the “Weed Free NC” message. 16,000 farmers planted soybeans across NC and a vast majority heard/saw the message. The state campaign has been closely followed by the national commodity groups who now have implemented similar programs for soybeans and other crops.

STATUS: COMPLETED

Area Served: Statewide

[www.ncsoy.org](http://www.ncsoy.org)

**Project: Tobacco Communities Reinvestment Fund**

Contact: Mr. Scott Marlow  
Rural Advancement Foundation International-USA  
PO Box 640  
Pittsboro, NC 27312  
919-542-1396 x210

Grant Amount: \$200,000

Farmers applied for cost share funds of up to \$8,000 which were used for innovative projects designed to increase farm income. The 20 awarded projects also served as demonstrations to other farmers on how they can incorporate the lessons learned. The project targeted farmers in top producing tobacco counties and gave priority to current/former tobacco farmers. Impacts from projects included 40 jobs sustained, over 1,700 acres impacted and personal farmer investments totaling over \$68,000.

STATUS: COMPLETED

Area Served: Top producing tobacco counties

[www.rafiusa.org](http://www.rafiusa.org)

**Project: Promoting North Carolina's Agriculture Community**

Contact: Ms. Melody Worthington  
Tobacco Farm Life Museum, Inc.  
PO Box 88  
Kenly, NC 27542  
919-284-3431

Grant Amount: \$50,000

A regional marketing campaign will increase attendance to the Tobacco Farm Life Museum. The educational facility touts the history of tobacco and agriculture in NC and serves as an economic driver for the region.

STATUS: A major television campaign has run throughout the last two years. Attendance has increased slightly overall. A special “tour preview day” was held in August to encourage tour operators, visitors bureaus and others to add stops to the museum. Improvements have been made to the grounds also.

Area Served: Johnston and surrounding counties

[www.tobaccofarmlifemuseum.org](http://www.tobaccofarmlifemuseum.org)

**Project: Meet Me at the Market**

Contact: Ms. Laura Gaylord  
Town of Elkin and Main Street Advisory Board  
PO Box 857  
Elkin, NC 28621  
336-794-6469

Grant Amount: \$75,000

The project constructed a permanent open air shelter for Elkin’s downtown farmer’s market. The new facility can accommodate 22 vendors and more in the parking lot if needed. The grant contract was completed in February, 2015 and the downtown location held its grand opening in May, 2015. The city-owned parking lot with the featured market has become a destination point for other community events and has helped drive additional business and income to the downtown area. Total cost of the project was over \$170,000.

STATUS: COMPLETED

Area Served: Surry and surrounding counties

[www.elkinfarmersmarket.com](http://www.elkinfarmersmarket.com)

**Project: WNC Ag Options Program**

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

Grant Amount: \$200,000

Farmers in western NC counties applied for cost share funds designed to improve farm income and fund innovative ideas. 29 farmers in 20 western counties qualified for funding of either \$3,000 or \$6,000. All projects were successfully completed and held outreach events and/or demonstration projects for other farmers. Projects included improved cattle handling equipment, new cold storage

units for processed meats, irrigation for raspberries and more. Over 3,700 acres were impacted, and 58 jobs sustained. In addition, nearly 550 acres of new crops were produced.

**STATUS: COMPLETED**

Area Served: 22 NC Counties

[www.wnccommunities.org](http://www.wnccommunities.org)

**Project:                    Increasing WNC Livestock Sales**

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

Grant Amount:            \$25,000

The highly successful Western NC Livestock Marketing Center leveraged grant funds to widen and expand the overhead walk-way. This has enabled increasing number of buyers and farmers to better evaluate cattle prior to selling. The facility has served over 3,000 producers and buyers annually.

**STATUS: COMPLETED**

Area Served: Western NC

[www.wnccommunities.org](http://www.wnccommunities.org)

**NC TOBACCO TRUST FUND COMMISSION**  
**2014 CYCLE ACTIVE GRANTS - COMPLETED AFTER NOVEMBER 1, 2014**  
**& ACTIVE as of OCTOBER, 2015**

**Project:**                    **Appalachian Grown Marketing Support**

Contact:                    Mr. Charlie Jackson  
                                  Appalachian Sustainable Agriculture Project  
                                  306 West Haywood Street, Suite 200  
                                  Asheville, NC 28801  
                                  828-236-1282

Grant Amount:            \$76,000

Project will provide cost-share funds for marketing and promotional costs incurred by WNC farmers. In addition, ASAP will provide produce boxes under a group buying plan that will lower costs for farmers. Both programs are designed to reduce expenses and increase sales and income for farm families. Farmers must provide 50% of the total marketing costs.

STATUS: 110 farms have received approval to receive cost share assistance and of those, 70 had completed their projects. Cost share assistance has helped with securing advertising, promotional materials, and website assistance. Surveys indicate that most farms have experienced an increase in sales.

Area Served: 23 Western NC counties

[www.asapconnections.org](http://www.asapconnections.org)

**Project:**                    **Local Produce Safety Initiative**

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

Grant Amount:            \$45,000

CFSA will target smaller farmers who apply for assistance to develop food safety plans. Farmers will be prepared to implement Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) audits.

STATUS: The project has assisted 85 farmers and farm workers from 22 farms with a total of 500+ acres in production. The grantee has assisted with development of farm and food safety plans which help farmers pass their GAP audits. Workshops are also being conducted to reach even more farmers and assist them with vital information on the GAP program.

Area Served: Selected counties

[www.carolinafarmstewards.org](http://www.carolinafarmstewards.org)

**Project: Martin County Farmers Market Manager**

Contact: Mr. Al Cochran  
County of Martin  
104 Kehukee Park Rd.  
Williamston, NC 27892  
252-789-4370

Grant Amount: \$5,000

The project will establish a farmer's market manager at the existing market located in Williamston.

STATUS: A part time manager was hired for the season. The market has averaged 10-15 vendors per Saturday with an average attendance of 50 customers/day. 10 current/former tobacco farmers have benefitted.

Area Served: Martin County

[www.martin.ces.ncsu.edu](http://www.martin.ces.ncsu.edu)

**Project: First On Scene**

Contact: Mrs. Robin Tutor-Marcom  
East Carolina University - NC Agromedicine Institute  
1157 VOA Site C Road  
Greenville, NC 27834  
252-744-1008

Grant Amount: \$140,000

Farms will learn the critical steps in addressing on-farm emergencies and accidents. "First on Scene" training will be provided to emergency responders. Cost share for emergency equipment will be available to participants.

STATUS: First aid kits and fire extinguishers have been secured for distribution. Presentations have been underway to various farm and FFA groups. Training events are expected to increase during the off-season.

Area Served: Statewide

[www.ncagromedicine.org](http://www.ncagromedicine.org)

**Project: Buy Local, Cut Fresh**

Contact: Ms. Misty Gil  
Eastern North Carolina Christmas Tree Growers Association  
1713 NC 55 E  
Dunn, NC 28334  
910-658-8759

Grant Amount: \$25,000

Grant funds will be used to develop regional marketing campaigns to encourage consumers to visit and purchase “choose and cut” Eastern Christmas trees. The grantee’s website will be improved for more complete consumer information.

STATUS: Radio advertising campaigns and on-air promotions are planned beginning in November 2015. The associations’ website has been updated and modified.

Area Served: Eastern tree growing regions

[www.nc-chooseandcut.com](http://www.nc-chooseandcut.com)

**Project: Agricultural Plastics Recycling**

Contact: Terry Albrecht  
Waste Reduction Partners, Land of Sky Regional Council  
339 New Leicester Hwy., Suite 140  
Asheville, NC 28806  
828-251-6622

Grant Amount: \$40,000

The project will develop a pilot demonstration program that will promote the cost benefits and increased marketing potential of discarded agricultural plastics and overwintering film for recycling.

STATUS: The scope of the project expanded beyond a few counties. Container collection sites were established at the Piedmont Triad Farmers Market. The group continues to work with nurseries and growers to assist in recycling their plastic containers, row covers and drip tape. Over \$50,000 in landfill fees have been avoided by the assisted producers.

Area Served: Various Counties

[www.wastereductionpartners.org](http://www.wastereductionpartners.org)

**Project: FPP: Expansion to Year-Round Operation**

Contact: Ms. Amanda Carter  
Foothills Pilot Plant  
PO Box 1289  
Marion, NC 28752  
828-803-2717

Grant Amount: \$75,000

Funds will assist Foothills Pilot Plant with expansion into pork processing and serve the needs of small pork producers.

STATUS: The ongoing poultry processing demand continues to increase. Equipment for pork processing has been installed with some yet to be completed. Total value of animals processed is over \$1.2 million for the year. The facility continues to meet a huge demand from small animal producers. Over 240 people have been served.

Area Served: Statewide

[www.foothillspilotplant.com](http://www.foothillspilotplant.com)

**Project:                   Developing Future NC Farmers**

Contact:               Ms. Kathy Kennel  
                              NC Ag Foundation  
                              Box 7645 NCSU  
                              Raleigh, NC 27695  
                              919-515-9262

Grant Amount:       \$209,150

This new program will identify up to 20 NCSU Agricultural Majors who plan to enter farming upon graduation. Students will be matched with established farming operations for summer apprenticeships.

STATUS: Eight students secured internships during the summer. All reported on their work experiences and valuable lessons learned. Students assisted with a variety of farm tasks and were able to work with farm/business owners and learn about all aspects of their operation. All students will provide business plan presentations in Fall, 2015.

Area Served: Statewide

[www.go.ncsu.edu/agfoundation](http://www.go.ncsu.edu/agfoundation)

**Project:                   NC AgVentures**

Contact:               Ms. Kathy Kennel  
                              NC Ag Foundation  
                              Box 7645 NCSU  
                              Raleigh, NC 27695  
                              919-515-9262

Grant Amount: \$304,365

Farmers in targeted counties may qualify for cost-share grants designed to support innovative projects and ideas that will increase farm income. Over 20 projects will be implemented.

STATUS: 20 farmer cost share projects and two community projects received funding. Projects included research on revitalizing the boxwood industry to improvements for produce harvesting to agritourism expansion. Grantees were required to provide 10% of their own funds towards the total cost and are preparing final reports. More data will be available soon.

Area Served: Anson, Stanley, Richmond, Cabarrus, Nash, Edgecombe, Union, Wilson, Pitt, Martin



**Project: Project Skill-UP**

Contact: Ms. Barbara Boyce  
NC Community College System  
5001 Mail Service Center  
Raleigh, NC 27699  
919-807-7158

Grant Amount: \$200,000

Qualifying community college students will receive financial assistance towards tuition, books and/or supplies. The project targets short term training opportunities designed to get students into the workforce.

STATUS: Over 760 students/farmers have been served at 16 community colleges. Of those, 370 were farmers or family members of active farmers. The project has provided basic tuition and supplies for students as well as seminars for farmers. Workshops have included presentations on growing a small food business, greenhouse and produce production, beekeeping, and more. Students have secure jobs in industries such as healthcare, tire manufacturing and heavy machine operation. Others have completed NC REAL training which targeted business and marketing plans for entrepreneurs.

Area Served: Specific community colleges in tobacco-connected areas

[www.nccommunitycolleges.edu](http://www.nccommunitycolleges.edu)

**Project: Agricultural Emergency Response Teams Expansion Project**

Contact: Ms. Sharron Stewart  
NCDA&CS - Emergency Programs Division  
1035 Mail Service Center  
Raleigh, NC 27699  
919-807-4300

Grant Amount: \$90,000

The project will establish protocols for agricultural emergency preparedness. Targeted areas will receive assistance on best coordination and communication of activating and deployment of emergency plans to farms and agricultural communities.

STATUS: A program manager was hired after some delay. The first AERT meeting was held in Western NC in September and more are planned. The manager expects to continue to make a variety of contacts throughout the state and more meetings with county and state emergency officials are planned.

Area Served: Statewide

[www.ncagr.gov](http://www.ncagr.gov)

**Project:                   Branded Produce Box Program**

Contact:                   Mr. Joe Sanderson  
NCDA&CS - Marketing Division  
1020 Mail Service Center  
Raleigh, NC 27699  
919-707-3143

Grant Amount:           \$20,000

This is a cost-share program for small small farm owners directly marketing to the consumer. The group-buying program will offer an essential item are a reduced cost.

STATUS: The project ended due to higher than expected box costs for farmers. No grant funds were expended.

Area Served: Statewide

[www.ncagr.gov](http://www.ncagr.gov)

**Project:                   NC REAL Ag-Entrepreneurship**

Contact:                   Ms. Kathy Kennel  
NC Ag Foundation  
Box 7645 NCSU  
Raleigh, NC 27695  
919-515-9262

Grant Amount:           \$65,000

200 Agricultural education instructors will be trained on how to better teach entrepreneurship to their students. The curriculum will be utilized in high schools to reach thousands of students.

STATUS: In May of 2015, NC REAL officially dissolved and operations were taken over by the Sequoiyah Fund of NC. The grant-funded project was transferred to the NC Agricultural Foundation, Inc. and they assumed project management. Together with the NC FFA Foundation, the partners ensured that the project was able to carry out its objectives. 12 one-day workshops were held across the state for 138 ag-education teachers from 58 counties. Four, two-day workshops are planned for teachers who wish to become certified in Ag Entrepreneurship.

Area Served: Statewide

[www.ncreal.org](http://www.ncreal.org)

**Project:                   Farmers and Communities Manage Deer**

Contact:                   Mr. Dom Canavarro  
North Carolina Wildlife Federation

1024 Washington St  
Raleigh, NC 27605  
919-833-1923

Grant Amount: \$130,350

The project will expand the successful Farmers Manage Deer program to establish specific community programs which implement deer reduction programs on farms, further processing opportunities and expand the distribution of protein to the food insecure. A key goal will be a reduction in crops lost to deer and an increase in yields.

STATUS: The project has conducted over 20 program presentations. Five mobile and stationary cooler sites were established and as deer season nears, promotion of the coolers has been underway. Hunters for the Hungry expects a large amount of donated venison which will help feed the food insecure throughout the state.

Area Served: Columbus, Wilson, Edgecombe, Bladen, Beaufort and surrounding counties

[www.ncwf.org](http://www.ncwf.org)

**Project: Keep on Truckin'**

Contact: Mr. Caleb Crowell  
New River Organic Growers  
PO Box 1223  
West Jefferson, NC 28697  
336-384-2546

Grant Amount: \$55,800

Expand the sales and distribution of NROG products into the Winston-Salem and Charlotte regions. Over 60 farmers will be impacted.

STATUS: An ownership transition occurred in early 2015 to "New Appalachia" a privately-held company that still retained the original NROG manager. Expansion plans into new markets have gone well and the group has added meat and dry goods to its list of products. Over \$350,000 in product had been sold year to date.

Area Served: Farmers in northwestern NC and targeted regions

[www.newrivergrowers.com](http://www.newrivergrowers.com)

**Project: Agricultural Reinvestment Fund**

Contact: Mr. Scott Marlow  
Rural Advancement Foundation International - USA  
PO Box 640  
Pittsboro, NC 27312  
919-542-1396

Grant Amount: \$220,000

Through cost-share grants the project will target small farms who implement innovative ideas to expand farm income. Their projects will serve as demonstrations for other farmers from which they can learn. Farmers were required to contribute at least 10% towards the total project costs. Final reports on all projects are due in December, 2015.

STATUS: Cost share grants were awarded to 20 farmers in several counties. Projects ranged from agritourism operations to cut flowers to a demonstration hydroponic greenhouse.

Area Served: Piedmont and Coastal Plain region

[www.rafiusa.org](http://www.rafiusa.org)

**Project: From Tobacco to Family Forests**

Contact: Mr. Derek Halberg  
Tar River Land Conservancy  
PO Box 1161  
Louisburg, NC 27549  
919-496-5902

Grant Amount: \$41,000

TRLC personnel will assist landowners with forest management plans and provide cost-share towards consultation costs of plan developers.

STATUS: Plans are underway to contact a large number of forest landowners in the targeted counties. Partnerships with the NC Forest Service have been established to carry out the program and provide assistance for management plans.

Area Served: Granville, Person, Warren, Franklin, Halifax, Vance, Edgecombe, Nash

[www.tarriver.org](http://www.tarriver.org)

**Project: Troutman Farmers Market & Park Pavilion**

Contact: Ms. Erika G Martin  
Town of Troutman  
PO Box 26  
Troutman, NC 28166  
704-508-3012

Grant Amount: \$50,000

Funds will be used towards construction of a new pavilion that will serve as a farmers market and concession area at the new Troutman Town Park.

STATUS: Plans are underway to start construction in late 2015. The town and other funders have secured funding for the project to compliment their NCTFFC grant. The facility should be completed by mid-2016.

Area Served: Iredell

[www.townoftroutman.org](http://www.townoftroutman.org)

**Project: Revitalizing NC's Working Forest Landowner Summits**

Contact: Dr. Sandy Maddox  
The University of Mount Olive, Lois G. Britt Agribusiness Center  
634 Henderson St.  
Mt. Olive, NC 28365  
919-658-7682

Grant Amount: \$65,000

The project will implement up to four regional seminars that target forest landowners. The summits will feature industry speakers and education on how landowners can benefit from forest management plans, estate planning and other areas.

STATUS: Two summits were held during the year and reached over 500 people. Forest landowners received vital information on taxation, management, conservation and more. Two more summits are planned for 2016.

Area Served: Statewide

[www.mocagbiz.com](http://www.mocagbiz.com)

**Project: WNC Agricultural Options Program**

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

Grant Amount: \$440,000

Funding will allow the WNC AgOptions program to continue for over two years. By offering cost-share grants to farmers and communities, qualified farmers will be able to diversify or expand operations and replace tobacco income

STATUS: 30 cost share grants were awarded in 20 Western NC counties. Projects featured innovative ideas using new farm equipment, refurbishing an old grist mill for agritourism ventures, improved livestock handling facilities and more. Grantees are preparing their final reports and data.

Area Served: 22 W NC Counties

**Project:** WNC Livestock Market Expansion

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

**Grant Amount:** \$25,000

The project assisted 18 livestock producers with cattle transportation costs. During a 10-month period, cattle sold from these new livestock center users totaled over \$489,000. The project ended early due to changes in the objectives and strategy to establish cattle “pick-up” locations. About 20% of grant funds were actually used.

**STATUS:** COMPLETED

**Area Served:** 20 NC Counties

[www.wnccommunities.org](http://www.wnccommunities.org)

**Project:** TRACTOR

**Contact:** Mr. Tres Magner  
Yancey County Government  
10 Orchard Drive  
Burnsville, NC 28714  
828-682-6186

**Grant Amount:** \$71,860

The project will enhance the objectives of the TRACTOR produce distribution facility and provide support for personnel and cold storage equipment.

**STATUS:** Coolers were purchased and in place for the 2015 season. Sales are ahead of last year with the addition of new growers. The group has received a major donation of land which TRACTOR growers will access for more crops in the 2016 season. Over 500 acres are in production with over 270 acres being used for new crops.

**Area Served:** Avery, Mitchell and Yancey counties

[www.yancey.ces.ncsu.edu/](http://www.yancey.ces.ncsu.edu/)

**NC TOBACCO TRUST FUND COMMISSION**  
**2015 CYCLE ACTIVE GRANTS - AWARDED SEPTEMBER 29, 2015**

**Project: Cost Shares for Mountain Farms**

Contact: Ms. Molly Nicholie  
Appalachian Sustainable Agriculture Project (ASAP)  
306 West Haywood Street  
Asheville, NC 28801  
828-236-1282

Grant Amount: \$60,000

This project will provide a marketing cost share program to farmers, including current and former tobacco farmers. The goal is to empower farmers to increase the visibility of their products in local markets and improve their ability to compete more effectively. The program will offer a one-to-one match up to 50% of the cost of promotional materials, assisting 75 farmers.

Area Served: 23 WNC counties

[www.asapconnections.org](http://www.asapconnections.org)

**Project: Whirligig Park Farmers Market Shelter**

Contact: Ms. Kimberly Van Dyk  
City of Wilson  
PO Box 10  
Wilson, NC 27894  
(252) 315-9395

Grant Amount: \$160,000

The Vollis Simpson Whirligig Park, is being developed by a partnership between the City of Wilson, Wilson Downtown Properties, and Wilson Downtown Development Corporation. Grant funds will aid in the construction of a new farmer's market shelter which will be open 1-2 days in the upcoming Whirligig Park. The shelter will also be used for community events at the park. This new location is geared toward developing the downtown area of this "former tobacco town."

Area Served: Wilson, Nash, Johnston, Wayne, Greene, Pitt, Edgecombe

[www.wilsonwhirlgigpark.org](http://www.wilsonwhirlgigpark.org)

**Project: Mobilized Agricultural Machinery Rescue Training**

Contact: Mr. Jimmy Hensley  
Cleveland Community College  
137 South Post Road  
Shelby, NC 28152

(704) 669-4192

Grant Amount: \$50,000

The initiative places high quality agricultural machinery rescue instruction into tobacco-dependent and agricultural-dependent communities throughout NC. The goals are to mobilize the agricultural machinery rescue introductory and certification courses by purchasing specific equipment and to strengthen the rescue and emergency response needs in NC communities. The project is needed throughout NC to support the efforts of local emergency personnel and to alleviate the unattainable financial burden to community colleges to purchase dedicated equipment and other highly-specified course materials

Area Served: Select NC counties based on training needs and their tobacco industry

[www.clevelandcc.edu](http://www.clevelandcc.edu)

**Project: Martin County Farmers Market Manager**

Contact: Mr. Al Cochran  
County of Martin  
104 Kehukee Park Road  
Williamston, NC 27892  
(252) 789-4370

Grant Amount: \$5,500

The funding will continue support of a part-time market manager. The market serves Martin County as a resource for fresh produce and local grown meat products and is open every Saturday.

Area Served: Martin

[www.martin.ces.ncsu.edu](http://www.martin.ces.ncsu.edu)

**Project: Skilling Up**

Contact: Ms. Mary Moore  
Durham Technical Community College  
1637 East Lawson Street  
Durham, NC 27703  
(919) 536-7222

Grant Amount: \$30,000

Skilling Up is a workforce development initiative that provides training, skills assessment and financial assistance for students so that they can enhance their skills and/or move into new careers. Students must have an agricultural connection whether through their family or through previous employment. Students with ties to the tobacco industry will be given priority. The program will also implement a Small Food Business Conference to train new and emerging food businesses.

Area Served: Durham and Orange counties



**Project: Off the Ground**

Contact: Ms. Sally Elliott  
Forsyth Technical Community College  
2100 Silas Creek Parkway  
Winston-Salem, NC 27103  
(336) 593-5402

Grant Amount: \$50,000

Off the Ground will create an agricultural training center in Stokes County to educate transitional farmers, high school students and recent graduates, entrepreneurs and others in the techniques and profitability of an agricultural model that embraces sustainable, small-acreage farming. Forsyth Tech along with other partners will develop, promote and deliver credit and non-credit courses showing new ways to profit from the sustainable use of land once designated for tobacco. The grant will fund ag-related training classes and supplies.

Area Served: Stokes

www.forsythtech.edu

**Project: Financial Literacy for Disadvantaged Farmers**

Contact: Mr. Rick Larson  
Natural Capital Investment Fund  
PO Box 271  
Chapel Hill, NC 27514  
(919) 951-0113

Grant Amount: \$25,300

The grant will assist minority farmers and assist them with training on farm finances. Farmers will share in the costs for accounting services and training. The goal is for these farmers to be more efficient in their financial record-keeping and improve income while reducing expenses.

Area Served: Beaufort, Bertie, Columbus, Craven, Duplin, Edgecombe, Greene, Halifax, Hertford, Lenoir, Martin, Nash, Pitt, Sampson, Warren, Wayne & Wilson counties

www.ncifund.org

**Project: Agricultural Education Program Improvement Grant**

Contact: Mrs. Kathy Kennel  
NC Agricultural Foundation, Inc. (NCAF)  
Campus Box 7645  
Raleigh, NC 27695

(919) 515-9259

Grant Amount: \$181,692

The project will provide a minimum of 32 grants to school Agricultural Education programs in North Carolina that will improve and enhance these programs. Grants will be used to fund innovative, sustainable, and relevant projects that will assist the Agricultural Education program in meeting the current needs of the agricultural industry.

Area Served: Statewide

[www.go.ncsu.edu/agfoundation](http://www.go.ncsu.edu/agfoundation)

**Project: NC AgVentures**

Contact: Mrs. Kathy Kennel  
NC Agricultural Foundation, Inc. (NCAF)  
Campus Box 7645  
Raleigh, NC 27695  
(919) 515-9259

Grant Amount: \$300,000

The funds will be used for cost-share grants to enhance farming operations. Specific counties in the Piedmont and Coastal Plain will be targeted. Approximately 20 individual grants and 10 community grants will be awarded and carried out.

Area Served: Piedmont and Coastal Plain counties

[www.agventures.ces.ncsu.edu](http://www.agventures.ces.ncsu.edu)

**Project: Agritourism Marketing Cost Share Program**

Contact: Ms. Annie Baggett  
NC Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services, Marketing Division  
1020 Mail Service Center  
Raleigh, NC 27699  
(919) 707-3120

Grant Amount: \$50,000

The cost-share program for agritourism farmers will develop marketing tools to increase the number of visitors to their farms. The farms have the potential to increase on-farm sales and overall farm value.

Area Served: Statewide

[www.ncagr.gov/markets/agritourism/index.htm](http://www.ncagr.gov/markets/agritourism/index.htm)

**Project: GTBNC Agriculture Reverse Trade Conferences**

Contact: Mr. Joe Sanderson  
NC Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services, Marketing Division  
1020 Mail Service Center  
Raleigh, NC 27699  
(919) 707-3106

Grant Amount: \$60,000

The Domestic Marketing Division will support regional trade conferences and local meetings in which the state's farmers and meat/seafood producers will meet individually with retail and foodservice buyers. The concept is based on past successful conferences that resulted in increased sales and distribution of NC products.

Area Served: Statewide

[www.ncagr.gov](http://www.ncagr.gov)

**Project: NC Food Manufacturing Task Force**

Contact: Mr. Ron Fish  
NC Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services  
1020 Mail Service Center  
Raleigh, NC 27699  
(919) 707-3119

Grant Amount: \$200,000

The NC Food Manufacturing Task Force will work to best position NC for growth of in-state processing and manufacturing of agricultural products. Benefits of this initiative will create additional market opportunities for farmers, provide additional employment opportunities and increase the contributions of agriculture to our state's economy. The grant will support administrative and personnel costs to carry out the Task Force's mission.

Area Served: Statewide

[www.ncagr.gov](http://www.ncagr.gov)

**Project: Improving North Carolina's Soil Health**

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

Grant Amount: \$30,000

The project will support the purchase and support of a mobile soils classroom. These custom trailers will be used across the state to educate farmers and consumers on the importance of soil health as it relates to plant growth, fertilization, and more. Funds will also support training events and supplies for presentations.

Area Served: Statewide

[www.ncsoilwater.org](http://www.ncsoilwater.org)

**Project: Project Skill-UP Pathways**

Contact: Ms. Nicole Dunevant  
Piedmont Community College  
PO Box 1197  
Roxboro, NC 27573  
(336) 322-2160

Grant Amount: \$24,000

This project is a workforce development initiative that provides training, skills assessment and financial assistance for students so that they can enhance their skills and/or move into new careers. Students must have an agricultural connection whether through their family or through previous employment. Students with ties to the tobacco industry will be given priority.

Area Served: Caswell, Person

[www.piedmontcc.edu](http://www.piedmontcc.edu)

**Project: Agricultural Reinvestment Fund**

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

Grant Amount: \$250,000

The project will provide cost-share grants to farmers in specific counties for innovative projects designed to increase farm income and build markets for NC agricultural products. Priority is given to current and former tobacco farmers.

Area Served: Select NC Counties in Eastern NC

[www.rafiusa.org](http://www.rafiusa.org)

**Project: R-CCC Project Skill-UP**

Contact: Ms. Andrea Glaze

Roanoke-Chowan Community College  
109 Community College Road  
Ahoskie, NC 27910  
(252) 862-1202

Grant Amount: \$25,000

The grant will support this custom workforce development initiative. The main goal is to provide financial assistance for short-term training courses that lead to third-party certifications to the unemployed or underemployed residents served. Priority funding will be awarded to students that have previous farming or agriculture work experience and to students that have family members who are current or were former farmers.

Area Served: Hertford, Bertie, Northhampton

[www.roanokechowan.edu](http://www.roanokechowan.edu)

**Project: Center for Brewing Sciences Upgrade**

Contact: Mr. Tony Gunn  
Rockingham Community College  
PO Box 38  
Wentworth, NC 27375  
(336) 342-4261

Grant Amount: \$50,000

Grant funds will support plans to increase the brewing capacity at the college's Center for Brewing Sciences in Eden. The expansion will train more students and expand outreach to the farming community, many of whom are past or current tobacco farmers. Funds will be used to help purchase new and needed equipment to be used for training for students.

Area Served: Rockingham

[www.rockinghamcc.edu](http://www.rockinghamcc.edu)

**Project: Project Skill-UP Plus**

Contact: Ms. Jackie Freeman  
Southeastern Community College  
PO Box 151  
Whiteville, NC 28472  
(910) 642-7141

Grant Amount: \$35,000

Project Skill-UP Plus is a workforce development initiative that provides training, skills assessment and financial assistance for students so that they can enhance their skills and/or move into new careers. Students must have an agricultural connection whether through their family or through previous employment. Students with ties to the tobacco industry will be given priority. Intended beneficiaries

are former tobacco quota holders, current/former tobacco farmers and their family members. The project will address the area's current unemployment rate of 7.4%.

Area Served: Columbus

[www.sccnc.edu](http://www.sccnc.edu)

**Project: Surry Skill-up**

Contact: Mr. Greg Smith  
Surry Community College  
630 South Main Street  
Dobson, NC 27017  
(336) 386-3331

Grant Amount: \$20,000

The grantee will implement classes, workshops, and seminars that target current or potential farmers and the farming community in the service area. With the decline in tobacco farming and tobacco-related industries, access to education, occupational skills training, and targeted workshops/seminars are essential to economic stimulus and recovery in these counties.

Area Served: Surry, Yadkin

[www.surry.edu](http://www.surry.edu)

**Project: Investing in NC Agriculture Opportunities**

Contact: Dr. Sandy Maddox  
University of Mount Olive - Lois G. Britt Agribusiness Center  
634 Henderson Street  
Mount Olive, NC 28365  
(919) 658-7682

Grant Amount: \$150,000

The grantee will work with representatives in specific counties to fund innovative cost-share projects which support agricultural profitability and productivity. Each project will be funded based on its potential to positively benefit the economic development of the respective local communities, agricultural diversification, farm profitability, and skill and resource development for current and future farmers.

Area Served: Select NC Counties

[www.umoag.com](http://www.umoag.com)

**Project: Cultivating and Growing Agricultural Communities**

Contact: Ms. Kyle Burwell

Vance-Granville Community College  
PO Box 917  
Henderson, NC 27536  
(252) 738-3276

Grant Amount: \$25,000

The project is designed to offer NC REAL Agricultural Entrepreneurship and Landscape & Design training to individuals in the college's four-county service area. These educational courses will be offered through day and evening options at VGCC's four-county campuses or other community locations, within the region, during the grant period.

Area Served: Vance, Granville, Franklin, Warren

[www.vgcc.edu](http://www.vgcc.edu)

**Project: Ashe Healthcare Workforce Needs**

Contact: Ms. Rebecca Greer  
Wilkes Community College - Ashe Campus  
PO Box 504  
Jefferson, NC 28640  
(336) 903-3114

Grant Amount: \$15,000

The project will address the needs of the region's aging population to secure more healthcare positions. Because a portion of this aging population will not be in long-term care facilities, nursing assistants, phlebotomists and paramedics will also be needed in the hospitals, for in-home care options as well as on the front-line for emergent needs. Funding will assist with tuition costs for approximately 60 students.

Area Served: Ashe

[www.wilkescc.edu](http://www.wilkescc.edu)

**Project: Project Skill-UP**

Contact: Ms. Margie Norfleet  
Wilson Community College  
902 Herring Avenue  
Wilson, NC 27893  
(252) 246-1210

Grant Amount: \$25,000

This grant supports a workforce development initiative that provides training, skills assessment and financial assistance for students so that they can enhance their skills and/or move into new careers. Students must have an agricultural connection whether through their family or through previous employment. Students with ties to the tobacco industry will be given priority.

Area Served: Wilson

[www.wilsoncc.edu](http://www.wilsoncc.edu)

**Project:**                    **BRFV Co-packing: Bridging to Sustainability**

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

Grant Amount:            \$50,000

This project will increase opportunities for entrepreneurs and farmers statewide. Funds will support manufacturing line staff and operational expenses to further implement, maintain and manage the co-packing program at Blue Ridge Food Ventures. Funding will also support development and training for production processes, Food Safety/Good Manufacturing Plans, Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point (HACCP) and quality control systems.

Area Served: Statewide

[www.wnccommunities.org](http://www.wnccommunities.org)



Tobacco Trust Fund Commission Operating Statement July 1, 2014 - June 30, 2015 (FY15)													
	Jul-14	Aug-14	Sep-14	Oct-14	Nov-14	Dec-14	Jan-15	Feb-15	Mar-15	Apr-15	May-15	Jun-15	Total Amounts
Cash Carried Forward	\$4,985,515.27												
INTEREST INCOME	\$1,851.89	\$1,982.65	\$1,641.81	\$1,540.81	\$2,598.59	\$2,675.44	\$2,570.10	\$2,676.64	\$2,069.94	\$2,461.03	\$2,217.83	\$2,464.99	\$26,751.72
TOBACCO SETTLEMENT	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,000,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,000,000.00
OTHER REVENUE	\$0.00	\$400.00	\$1,733.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$856.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$15,737.91	\$4,649.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$23,375.91
<b>Fiscal Year 2015 Revenue</b>	<b>\$1,851.89</b>	<b>\$2,382.65</b>	<b>\$2,003,374.81</b>	<b>\$1,540.81</b>	<b>\$2,598.59</b>	<b>\$3,531.44</b>	<b>\$2,570.10</b>	<b>\$2,676.64</b>	<b>\$17,807.85</b>	<b>\$7,110.03</b>	<b>\$2,217.83</b>	<b>\$2,464.99</b>	<b>\$2,050,127.63</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>													
<u>Personnel Expenses</u>													
Per Diem-BD MEM	\$75.00	\$90.00	\$195.00	\$30.00	\$0.00	\$195.00	\$0.00	\$60.00	\$150.00	\$30.00	\$0.00	\$150.00	\$975.00
Trans-BD MEM	\$0.00	\$368.00	\$741.50	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$66.75	\$0.00	\$207.80	\$55.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$393.00	\$1,832.05
Subsistence-BD MEM	\$0.00	\$475.89	\$933.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$138.50	\$0.00	\$148.90	\$111.90	\$0.00	\$258.41	\$498.05	\$2,564.65
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
	\$75.00	\$933.89	\$1,869.50	\$30.00	\$0.00	\$400.25	\$0.00	\$416.70	\$316.90	\$30.00	\$258.41	\$1,041.05	\$5,371.70
<u>Staff Personnel Expenses</u>													
Sal, Ins, Ret, SS Bene.	\$23,662.50	\$25,977.05	\$23,989.20	\$23,989.19	\$23,989.22	\$23,989.19	\$27,393.04	\$23,989.79	\$28,334.15	\$23,989.81	\$23,989.79	\$23,989.83	\$297,282.76
Travel, Exp Acts, Reg Fees, Train.	\$0.00	\$137.80	\$276.59	\$0.00	\$240.60	\$268.21	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$142.60	\$0.00	\$768.40	\$18.40	\$1,852.60
	\$23,587.50	\$26,114.85	\$24,265.79	\$23,989.19	\$24,229.82	\$24,257.40	\$27,393.04	\$23,989.79	\$28,476.75	\$23,989.81	\$24,758.19	\$24,008.23	\$299,060.36
<u>Office Expenses</u>													
Repairs	\$1,735.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,485.00	\$0.00	\$3,220.00
Postage, Freight & Delivery	\$410.88	\$298.09	\$176.95	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$164.77	\$920.20	\$146.26	\$8.54	\$154.98	\$4.90	\$471.43	\$2,757.00
General Office Supplies	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$131.28	\$64.77	\$0.00	\$165.95	\$324.92	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,250.22	\$1,937.14
Furniture	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$625.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$625.00
Computer Equipment/Software	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$272.17	\$0.00	\$125.54	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$646.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,043.71
Communication/Office Equipment	\$125.64	\$133.39	\$133.39	\$133.39	\$203.38	\$133.39	\$139.09	\$139.47	\$133.39	\$133.39	\$133.39	\$1,124.39	\$2,665.70
Other Administrative Expenses	\$3.96	\$25.99	\$892.48	\$712.13	\$0.00	\$356.74	\$0.00	\$51.96	\$95.03	\$1,113.40	\$1,130.00	\$364.55	\$4,746.24
Vehicle	\$200.29	\$255.44	\$0.00	\$54.07	\$17.11	\$95.67	\$153.13	\$0.00	\$34.41	\$206.50	\$30.25	\$1,054.43	\$2,101.30
Telephone Services	\$275.84	\$281.70	\$280.89	\$277.63	\$288.95	\$992.73	\$286.56	\$274.62	\$282.69	\$274.05	\$292.81	\$281.06	\$4,089.53
	\$2,751.61	\$994.61	\$1,483.71	\$1,449.39	\$1,265.72	\$1,933.61	\$1,498.98	\$778.26	\$878.98	\$2,528.32	\$3,076.35	\$4,546.08	\$23,185.62
<u>Professional Services</u>													
Legal Services/Office Equip.-DOJ	\$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
Contract Services	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,000.00	\$9,000.00
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
	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,000.00	\$9,000.00
<b>Fiscal Year 2015 Expenses</b>													<b>\$336,617.68</b>

2011 Grant Cycle		
	FY 11-14	FY 15
Cabarrus County	\$17,598.16	\$57,401.84
NC Ag Foundation-Leadership	\$83,190.55	\$3,937.42
NC Ag Found - Heifers	\$25,000.00	\$5,931.99
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$125,788.71</b>	<b>\$67,271.25</b>

2012 Grant Cycle		
	FY 12-14	FY 15
Carolina Farm Stewardship Assoc.	\$21,304.63	\$8,695.37
ECU - NC Agromedicine Institute	\$73,176.82	\$36,958.21
James Sprunt Community College	\$0.00	\$0.00
NC Ag Foundation - Stevia	\$50,000.00	\$45,372.00
NC Ag Foundation - Value-Added	\$345,677.92	\$3,322.61
NC Wildlife Federation	\$81,505.64	\$68,494.40
WNC Communities - Livestock	\$10,000.00	\$0.00
Yadkin County	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$581,665.01</b>	<b>\$162,842.59</b>

2013 Grant Cycle		
	FY 13-14	FY 15
Boost the 'Boro	\$11,370.86	\$37,129.14
Lenoir County Cooperative Extension	\$25,977.50	\$10,910.20
NC Ag Foundation - FFA	\$90,000.00	\$77,446.43
NC Ag Foundation - AgriSafe	\$150,000.00	\$0.00
NC Community College System	\$112,978.31	\$197,794.43
NCDA&CS - Marketing Division	\$3,641.00	\$148,280.00
NC Soybean Producers Association	\$0.00	\$33,934.00
RAFI	\$152,262.98	\$47,737.02
Tobacco Farm Life Museum, Inc.	\$25,000.00	\$1,350.01
Town of Elkin	\$0.00	\$75,000.00
WNC Communities - AgOptions	\$131,929.48	\$68,070.52
WNC Communities - Livestock	\$0.00	\$25,000.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1,425,811.88</b>	<b>\$722,651.75</b>

Cash Carried Forward	\$4,985,515.27
Total Revenue FY15	\$2,050,127.63
Total Expenses FY15 (-)	\$336,617.68
Subtotal	\$6,699,025.22
Total Grants Pd Out FY15 (-)	\$1,523,485.09
DebtSvc/Cancer/GenFund FY15 (-)	\$40,000.00
Current Cash Balance	\$5,135,540.13
Encumbered Funds (-)	\$4,353,869.89
TOTALGrant/Mgmt/Admin/ Enforcement of the MSA	\$781,670.24
<b>Encumbered Funds</b>	
2008 Out-of-Cycle Grants	\$1,329,890.01
2008 Granting Cycle	\$177,463.78
2009 Granting Cycle	\$248,579.15
2010 Granting Cycle	\$155,470.95
2011 Granting Cycle	\$45,580.44
2012 Granting Cycle	\$264,391.94
2013 Granting Cycle	\$309,688.12
2014 Granting Cycle	\$1,822,805.50
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$4,353,869.89</b>

*This report is based on data from  
7/1/14 -6/30/15*

2014 Grant Cycle	
	FY 14-15
ASAP	\$8,017.29
Carolina Farm Stewardship Association	\$8,064.26
County of Martin	\$0.00
ECU - Agromedicine	\$17,601.02
Eastern NC Christmas Tree Association	\$0.00
Land of Sky Council - Waste Reduction Partners	\$7,383.03
McDowell Economic Development Association	\$34,487.73
NC Ag Foundation - Future Farmers	\$7,832.54
NC Ag Foundation - AgVentures	\$26,640.68
NC Community College System	\$67,995.76
NCDA&CS - Emergency Programs	\$0.00
NCDA&CS - Marketing Division	\$0.00
NC REAL Enterprises, Inc.	\$14,364.90
NC Wildlife Federation	\$15,251.80
New River Organic Growers	\$3,131.50
RAFI	\$145,116.26
Tar River Land Conservancy	\$0.00
Town of Troutman	\$0.00
The University of Mount Olive	\$6,697.36
WNC Communities - AgOptions	\$167,015.73
WNC Communities - Livestock	\$3,563.14
Yancey County	\$37,556.50
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$570,719.50</b>

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	\$5,000,000.00
FY 11 Designated Interception	\$176,825.25
FY 13 Agency Transfer (2%)	\$40,000.00
FY 15 Agency Transfer (2%)	\$40,000.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$84,152,974.74</b>

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	\$17,651,886.89
2008 Granting Cycle	\$5,076,135.23
2009 Granting Cycle	\$2,581,846.24
2010 Granting Cycle	\$5,471,915.76
2011 Granting Cycle	\$2,904,790.48
2012 Granting Cycle	\$1,801,181.84
2013 Granting Cycle	\$1,425,811.88
2014 Granting Cycle	\$570,719.50
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$95,637,007.78</b>

Tobacco Trust Fund Commission Operating Statement July 1, 2015 - June 30, 2016 (FY16)													
	Jul-15	Aug-15	Sep-15	Oct-15	Nov-15	Dec-15	Jan-16	Feb-16	Mar-16	Apr-16	May-16	Jun-16	Total Amounts
Cash Carried Forward	\$5,135,540.13												
INTEREST INCOME	\$2,326.25	\$2,515.64	\$2,532.58										\$7,374.47
TOBACCO SETTLEMENT	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00										\$0.00
OTHER REVENUE	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00										\$0.00
<b>Fiscal Year 2016 Revenue</b>	\$2,326.25	\$2,515.64	\$2,532.58	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	<b>\$7,374.47</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>													
<u>Personnel Expenses</u>													
Per Diem-BD MEM	\$30.00	\$0.00	\$45.00										\$75.00
Trans-BD MEM	\$149.50	\$0.00	\$219.50										\$369.00
Subsistence-BD MEM	\$260.50	\$0.00	\$210.21										\$470.71
Other-BD MEM	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00										\$0.00
	\$440.00	\$0.00	\$474.71	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	<b>\$914.71</b>
<u>Staff Personnel Expenses</u>													
Sal, Ins, Ret, SS Bene.	\$23,989.80	\$25,575.94	\$23,989.80										\$73,555.54
Travel, Exp Acts, Reg Fees, Train.	\$0.00	\$402.88	\$90.00										\$492.88
	\$23,989.80	\$25,978.82	\$24,079.80	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	<b>\$74,048.42</b>
<u>Office Expenses</u>													
Repairs	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00										\$0.00
Postage, Freight & Delivery	\$55.82	\$1,200.00	\$144.81										\$1,400.63
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	\$244.03	\$126.79	\$125.43										\$496.25
Other Administrative Expenses	\$965.79	\$23.42	\$32.83										\$1,022.04
Vehicle	\$365.00	\$93.74	\$45.08										\$503.82
Telephone Services	\$293.89	\$271.51	\$276.97										\$842.37
	\$1,924.53	\$1,715.46	\$625.12	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	<b>\$4,265.11</b>
<u>Professional Services</u>													
Legal Services/Office Equip.-DOJ	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00										\$0.00
Contract Services	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00										\$0.00
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	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>Fiscal Year 2016 Expenses</b>													<b>\$79,228.24</b>

2012 Grant Cycle		
	FY 12-15	FY 16
James Sprunt Community College	\$0.00	\$0.00
WNC Communities - Livestock	\$10,000.00	\$992.91
Yadkin County	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$10,000.00</b>	<b>\$992.91</b>

2013 Grant Cycle		
	FY 13-15	FY 16
NC Ag Foundation - AgriSafe	\$150,000.00	\$0.00
NCDA&CS - Marketing Division	\$151,921.00	\$0.00
Tobacco Farm Life Museum, Inc.	\$26,350.01	\$4,345.88
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$178,641.00</b>	<b>\$4,345.88</b>

2014 Grant Cycle		
	FY 14-15	FY 16
ASAP	\$8,017.29	\$36,385.89
Carolina Farm Stewardship Assoc.	\$8,064.26	\$2,944.13
County of Martin	\$0.00	\$900.00
ECU - Agromedicine	\$17,601.02	\$18,532.70
Eastern NC Christmas Tree Assoc.	\$0.00	\$0.00
Land of Sky Council	\$7,383.03	\$16,817.21
McDowell Economic Dev Assoc	\$34,487.73	\$9,020.34
NC Ag Foundation - Future Farmers	\$7,832.54	\$25,861.66
NC Ag Foundation - AgVentures	\$26,640.68	\$175,035.11
NC Community College System	\$67,995.76	\$42,519.69
NCDA&CS - Emergency Programs	\$0.00	\$1,609.84
NCDA&CS - Marketing Division	\$0.00	
NC Ag Foundation (NCREAL)	\$14,364.90	\$15,916.24
NC Wildlife Federation	\$15,251.80	\$15,370.96
New River Organic Growers	\$3,131.50	\$3,822.07
RAFI	\$145,116.26	\$30,706.48
Tar River Land Conservancy	\$0.00	\$0.00
Town of Troutman	\$0.00	\$0.00
The University of Mount Olive	\$6,697.36	\$0.00
WNC Communities - AgOptions	\$167,015.73	\$38,035.81
WNC Communities - Livestock	\$3,563.14	\$2,343.00
Yancey County	\$37,556.50	\$13,373.50
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$570,719.50</b>	<b>\$449,194.63</b>

Cash Carried Forward	\$5,135,540.13
Total Revenue FY16	\$7,374.47
Total Expenses FY16(-)	\$79,228.24
Subtotal	\$5,063,686.36
Total Grants Pd Out FY16 (-)	\$454,533.42
DebtSvc/Cancer/GenFund FY16 (-)	\$0.00
Current Cash Balance	\$4,609,152.94
Encumbered Funds (-)	\$3,899,336.47
<b>TOTALGrant/Mgmt/Admin/Enforcement of the MSA</b>	<b>\$709,816.47</b>

Encumbered Funds	
2008 Out-of-Cycle Grants	\$1,329,890.01
2008 Granting Cycle	\$177,463.78
2009 Granting Cycle	\$248,579.15
2010 Granting Cycle	\$155,470.95
2011 Granting Cycle	\$45,580.44
2012 Granting Cycle	\$263,399.03
2013 Granting Cycle	\$305,342.24
2014 Granting Cycle	\$1,373,610.87
2015 Granting Cycle	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$3,899,336.47</b>

*This report is based on data from  
9/1/15 - 9/30/15*



# PROJECT UPDATES

SUPPORTING NORTH CAROLINA'S #1 INDUSTRY

SUMMER 2015



## Cost-Share Programs Underway

Over 75 farmers and community groups have implemented cost share programs during the summer! The NCTTFC funded three different cost-share programs covering nearly 50 counties. Projects range from a first-

ever "show pig" sale in eastern NC to a renovated grist mill near Edenton to a new hydroponic greenhouse in Sampson County. Award amounts range from \$3,000 to \$20,000. Recipients must contribute at least 10% of the overall cost themselves, which most exceeded. Site visits have been underway to mark their progress and several projects are already complete!

A renovated harvester for butter & snap beans, Wilson County



The supporting organizations and programs are WNC AgOptions (WNC Communities), NC AgVentures (NC Ag Foundation) and the Agricultural Reinvestment Fund (RAFI).



Hops production, Wilson County



New honey processing equipment for products sold in retail store, Robbinsville



New cultivation equipment for organic produce, Murphy



Developing new grain crops for local farmers, Pitt County

[www.tobaccotrustfund.org](http://www.tobaccotrustfund.org)





GO ALL OUT!

NCTTFC Chairman Bill Teague accepts the award at the NC FFA Convention in June

## NCTTFC Praised

The NCTTFC was honored with the “**Premier Partner Award**” at the annual NC State FFA Convention. The honor recognizes those organizations which show tremendous support towards FFA and agricultural educators. The agency was applauded for its competitive grant programs which have supported projects at over 50 high schools across the state.

## Agricultural Entrepreneurship Training a Success!

*Ag Education teachers from across the state have attended one of twelve, one-day sessions, designed to enhance their ability to teach entrepreneurship to their students. Originally a grant awarded to NC REAL Enterprises before its closure this past Spring, the project is now overseen by the NC Agricultural Foundation, Inc. The training is provided by NC REAL curriculum facilitators.*



Teacher presentations during class

Arial view of construction



## New Diesel Mechanics Facility Takes Shape

Construction is underway in Duplin County for the region’s Diesel Mechanics Training Facility. The \$1 million+ project is overseen by **James Sprunt Community College**. A \$100,000 NCTTFC grant awarded in 2012 is helping to defray construction costs. When completed, the building will serve students who plan to take on jobs with ag-related companies in the area to fulfill a skills gap for qualified mechanics that can service large trucks and other machinery.

Artist rendering of future building





## New Farmers Markets Open!

In May the Town of Elkin celebrated the grand opening of its new market. Located at Town Hall in downtown, the open air shelter hosts 20+ vendors every Saturday. A \$75,000 NCTTFC grant in 2013 literally helped pave the way! The funds were matched with a massive resurfacing of the parking lot by the town as well as other donations. The shelter will serve other events and festivals.

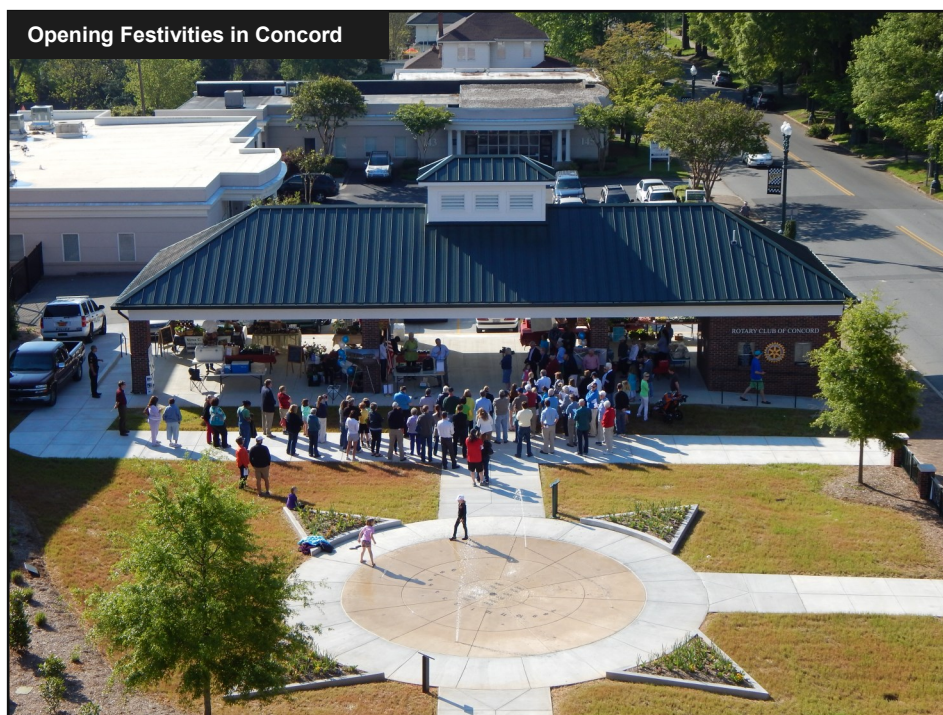
The Concord Rotary Club partnered with many businesses, other non-profit foundations and the Piedmont Farmers Market Association to construct its new downtown destination. The \$350,000+ project was supported by a \$75,000 grant awarded in 2011. The facility will host other downtown events too!



Grand Opening Day in Elkin



Opening Festivities in Concord



*The **University of Mount Olive** has reached over 500 people during its two **Forest Landowner Summits** held in Martin and Moore counties. The audience has learned valuable information on forest management, taxation and estate planning. Extension and industry professionals have shared their knowledge on a variety of topics. The project is overseen by the Lois G. Britt Agribusiness Center. Two more summits are planned in 2016.*

## Students Get “Down on the Farm!”

Eight NC State University students will remember the summer of 2015 as a unique learning experience. In 2014, the NC Ag Foundation received a grant to support the all new “**Developing Future NC Farmers**” program. Students majoring in Ag-related degrees applied for the chance to attend specific seminars and classes during the year. The eight students selected also come from families where farming is not the main source of income. The program’s goal is to give students the chance to develop their farming and business skills so that, they too, can pursue a career as farmers and farm managers. For the summer, they were also assigned an “Ag Mentor” to learn first-hand the experiences that come from running an ag business. The students spent at least 40 hours each week over two months doing everything from planting seedlings, moving hay, running equipment and tracking animal production. During the Fall, all students will submit a report and a business plan based on the skills they learned. The program continues with 10 new students in 2016.



### MEET THE NCTFC BOARD MEMBERS

Bill Teague, Buncombe, Chairman

Dan Ward, Bladen, Vice-Chairman

Ernest Averett, Granville

Brent Hunter, Yadkin

Susan Barnes, Wilson

Jeffery Lee, Johnston

Billy Carter, Moore

John McLawhorn, Greene

Dr. Bill Collins, Wake

Tim Minton, Johnston

David Davenport, Pitt

Linwood Scott, Wilson

Roger Davis, Sampson

Steve Smith, Rockingham

Dial Gray, Columbus

Thomas Webster, Rockingham

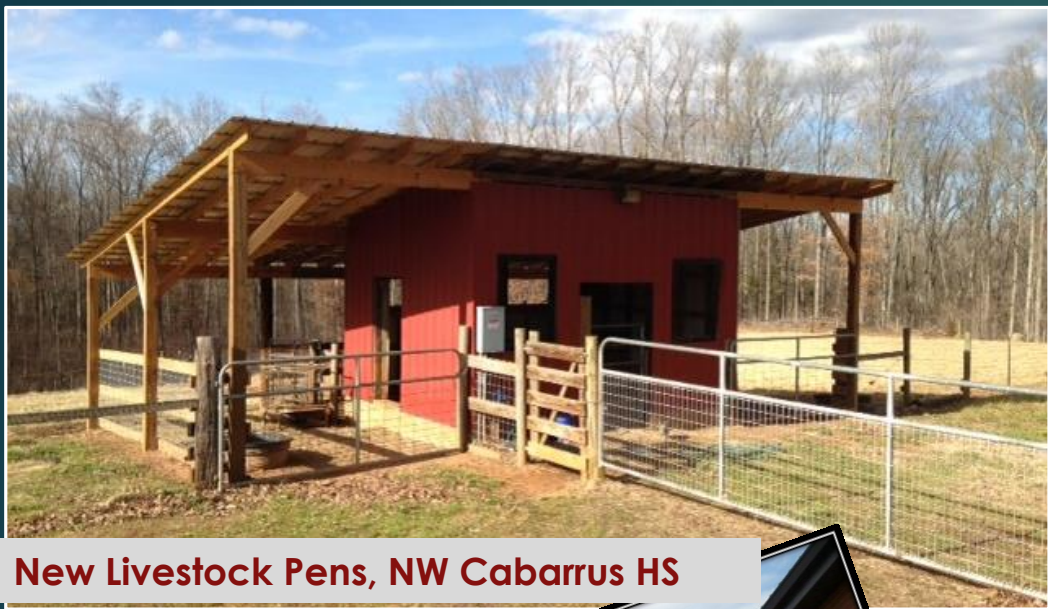
Bill Holbrook, Haywood

Kevin Wilson, Yancey

[www.tobaccotrustfund.org](http://www.tobaccotrustfund.org)



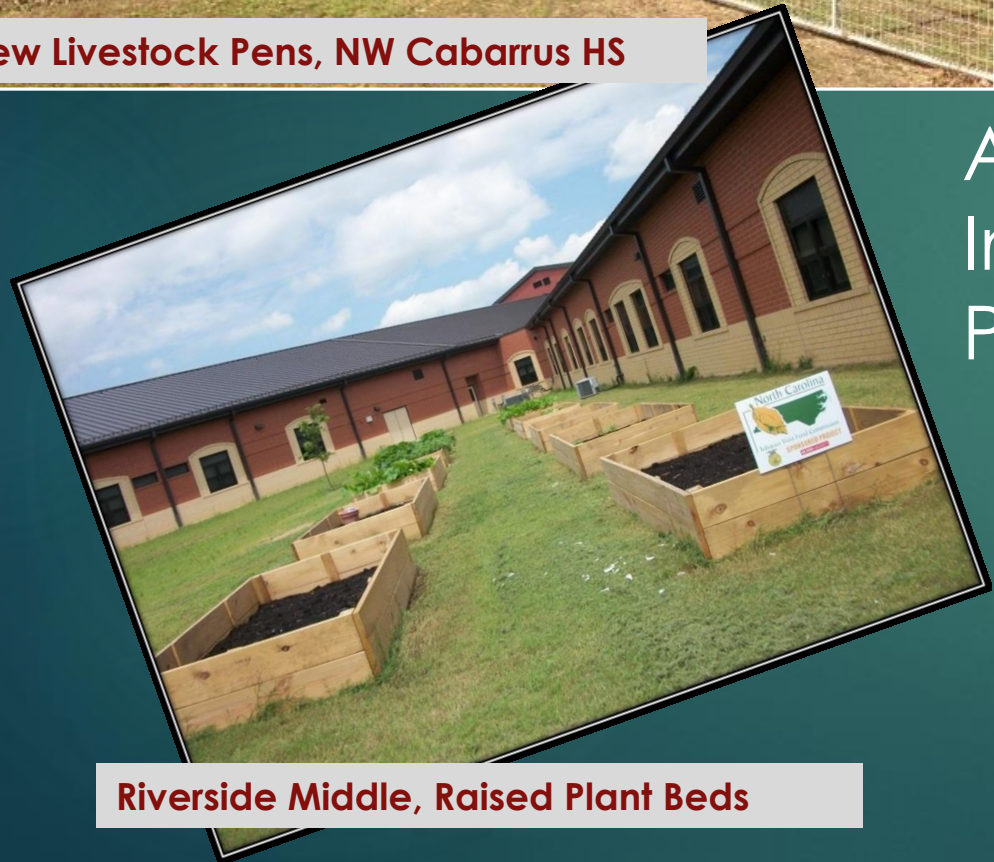




New Livestock Pens, NW Cabarrus HS



Tuscola HS, Aquaculture Tanks and Fish



Riverside Middle, Raised Plant Beds

## Ag Education Improvement Projects



New Livestock Pens, Corinth Holders HS





**Rotary Square Farmers  
Market, Concord**



**East Fork Farm, Grist Mill,  
Madison County**



**Forest Landowner Summit,  
Martin County**



**Marketing Cost Share  
Assistance for WNC Farm  
Families**



**Grand Opening of Elkin  
Farmers Market**



## ADVOCATING A STRONG AGRICULTURAL ECONOMY

### PROJECT APPROVAL

Through our annual grant application cycle, projects are submitted during a two-month period. Goals, Objectives, Evaluations, Financials and Projected Impacts are all part of the application. After undergoing an extensive review process that includes outside reviewers, site visits and Board member input, grantees are selected.

### ACCOUNTABILITY

Grantees must provide quarterly reports and keep the NCTTFC informed throughout the project. Site visits and documentation of all expenses are required. A final report provides details on how expected goals were met. Our Board is kept informed on the progress of all projects while under contract.

### EFFICIENCY

A small staff and low overhead guarantee efficient grants management. Our projects generate results that are tracked and documented.

For more information on these and other grants, click to [www.tobaccotrustfund.org](http://www.tobaccotrustfund.org) or call our office at 919.733.2160

## SUPPORTING NC FARMERS

Created in 2000 by the NC General Assembly to address the issues affecting the changes in NC's tobacco industry, the NCTTFC funds projects that impact NC Agriculture. Our priority is to address the needs of current/former tobacco farmers and communities. But our projects also impact other areas of agriculture, including livestock, fruits and vegetables, forestry and more. Workforce development and new skills training that lead to new employment and cost-share funds for small farmers are also part of our portfolio. We currently oversee 30 active grant projects, including over 100 sub-grantees!

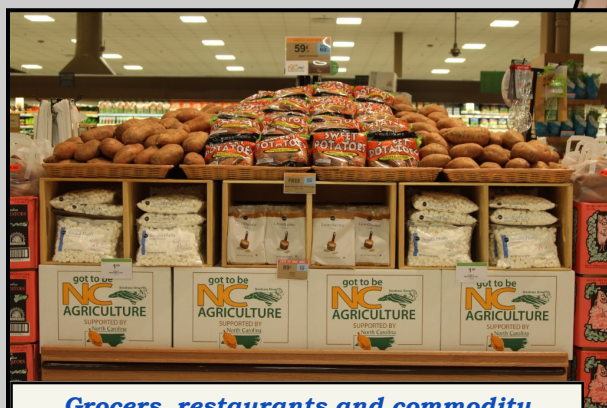
## A VARIETY OF PROJECTS-

From marketing to workforce training to crop research, our reach goes deep into NC and impacts thousands each year!



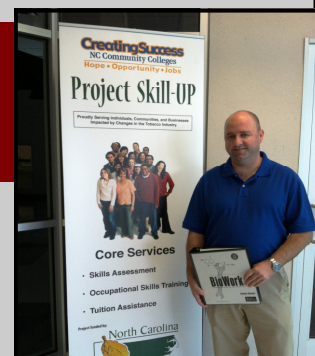
On-farm safety audits ensure that operations stay safe and reduce on-farm injuries. Our Agri-Safe and Certified Safe Farm programs in many counties have impacted thousands of farmers and workers.

Grant Partners: NCSU and ECU



Grocers, restaurants and commodity groups are supported by NCTTFC with marketing campaigns that increase sales of NC products!

Grant Partner: NCDA&CS/Got to Be NC



16 community colleges offer "Project Skill-UP" and provide financial assistance to farm family members and those with an "ag connection" for educational and new skills training that can lead to new employment. Over 4,000 people have been assisted since the program began!



The first of four "Forest Landowners Summits" in 2015 provided essential information on management plans and the forest industry to over 250 people. Grant Partner: Univ. of Mount Olive Ag Center



## WHO ARE THE NCTTFC BOARD MEMBERS?

The Governor, Speaker of the House and Senate Pro Tem may each appoint 6 members from various regions across the state. Representing current and former flue-cured and burley tobacco farmers as well as general agricultural interests, our members meet at least quarterly to carry out NCTTFC business.

Bill Teague, Chairman

*Buncombe*

Dan Ward, Vice-Chairman

*Bladen*

Ernest Averett, *Granville*

Susan Barnes, *Wilson*

Billy Carter, *Moore*

Dr. Bill Collins, *Wake*

David Davenport, *Pitt*

Brent Davis, *Sampson*

Dial Gray, *Columbus*

Bill Holbrook, *Haywood*

Jeffery Lee, *Johnston*

Brent Hunter, *Yadkin*

John McLawhorn, *Greene*

Tim Minton, *Johnston*

Linwood Scott, *Wilson*

Steve Smith, *Rockingham*

Thomas Webster, *Rockingham*

Kevin Wilson, *Yancey*



## HIGHLIGHTING OUR WORK ACROSS THE STATE

Since its inception in 2000, the NCTTFC has impacted NC with over 200 funded projects...

- ◆ Over 6 million people served in almost every single county in the state
- ◆ \$41 million+ Leveraged by our Grantees with Local, State, & Federal Funds
- ◆ Over 35,000 Jobs Created/Sustained or Re-Employed

\*Based on grantee reports provided to the NCTTFC



## FACILITIES & MARKETS

A variety of farmers markets and agri-business and live-stock facilities have received full or partial funding support from the NCTTFC.

*Shown Clockwise Below:*

Bladenboro Farmers Market  
Duplin Livestock Arena, Kenansville  
Rotary Square Farmers Mkt., Concord  
Vance County Farmers Mkt., Henderson



## PREPARING TOMORROW'S FARMERS

During the last three years, over 50 NC high school Ag-Education & FFA programs have received grants of up to \$5,000. Whether it's improved welding equipment, a modernized greenhouse irrigation system or farm equipment safety, over 6,000 students have been impacted by improved programs thanks to NCTTFC funding! Grant partner: NC FFA Foundation





*Additional information can be  
obtained from contacting the staff:*

William Upchurch  
*Executive Director*

Jeff Jennings  
*Program Officer*

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