

# North Carolina

## **The Honorable W. Britt Cobb, Jr.**

Commissioner  
North Carolina Department of Agriculture &  
Consumer Services  
1001 Mail Service Center  
Raleigh, North Carolina 27699  
(919)733-7125, Fax (919)733-1141

Base Grant: \$500,000  
Specialty Crop Grant: \$1,540,000  
Total Grant: \$2,040,000



### **Field Studies and Laboratory Supplies & Equipment:**

North Carolina Department of Agriculture,  
Agronomic Division, \$80,916.

Supplements State funding of:

- Field Studies for Sweet Potato Quality;
- Field Studies for Specialty Cut Flowers;
- Field and Lab Supplies for Soil and Plant Tissue Analyses; and,
- Purchase of Combustion Nitrogen Analyzer.

### **Specialty Crops Program:**

North Carolina Department of Agriculture,  
Marketing Division, Cunning Research Station,  
\$250,000.

### **Organic Certification Program:**

North Carolina Department of Agriculture,  
Marketing Division, \$250,000.

Provide training and technical expertise to individuals seeking organic certification. Develop brochures, instructional materials, conduct workshops, and create a database of certified farmers in the State.

### **Farmer's Markets Advertising for Specialty Crops:**

North Carolina Department of Agriculture,  
Marketing Division, \$80,000.

### **Agribusiness Development**

#### **Microgrants:**

North Carolina Department of Agriculture,  
Marketing Division, \$108,000.

Provide financial assistance to individual farmers for the transition from tobacco to specialty crop production and value-added production.

### **Seniors Farmers Market Nutrition Program:**

North Carolina Department of Agriculture,  
Marketing Division, \$6,000.

### **Food Safety for Specialty Crop Growers:**

North Carolina Department of Agriculture, Food  
and Drug Division, \$46,000.

Create food safety video targeting school aged children that can be distributed to the state's 100 county public school systems. In addition, develop brochures to be distributed to all 100 county extension offices across the State.

### **Specialty Crop Research:**

North Carolina Department of Agriculture,  
Research Stations Division, Mountain Research  
Station, \$50,000.

Supplement ongoing field studies on heirloom fruits and vegetables.

### **Strawberry Research:**

North Carolina Department of Agriculture,  
Research Stations Division, Upper Mountain  
Research Station, \$128,000.

Supplement ongoing research of niche markets for new varieties of strawberries to foster year-round production.

### **Organic Research:**

North Carolina Department of Agriculture,  
Research Stations Division, Center for  
Environmental Farming, \$200,000.

Considering North Carolina has the largest certified organic facility in the nation, Block Grant funding is allocated to further the transition of conventional crop production into organic and sustainable agriculture production through increased demonstration sites utilizing a purchased drip irrigation system.

### **Gypsy Moth Program Support:**

North Carolina Department of Agriculture, Plant  
Industry Division, \$15,750.

Continue Gypsy Moth Program support in the protection of the North Carolina's Christmas tree industry.

*Continued...*

---

**Medicinal Herb/Native Plant Certification:**

North Carolina Department of Agriculture, Plant Industry Division, \$75,000.

Herb market feasibility and propagation studies and specialized agribusiness studies.

**Agribusiness Development – MicroGrants:**

North Carolina Department of Agriculture, \$217,000.

Agribusiness development assistance funds for small and minority farmers in Piedmont and Eastern North Carolina. Preference will be given to marketing, transportation, and packaging needs.

**Agricultural Emergencies:**

North Carolina Department of Agriculture, Emergency Programs Division, \$500,000.

Create division to develop and manage the prevention, response, and recovery in regards to agricultural emergencies.

**Enhanced Internet Services:**

North Carolina Department of Agriculture, \$24,400.

Establishes a Virtual Supermarket database, a web hosting site for farmers, and video streaming capabilities.