



North Carolina Department of Agriculture
and Consumer Services

June 17, 2014

MEMORANDUM

TO: Friends of North Carolina Agriculture

SUBJECT: North Carolina Agricultural Research Stations

Our state's research station system continues to provide the field platform for critical agricultural research in North Carolina. Agriculture remains our state's number one industry, contributing \$78 billion annually to our state's economy. New breakthroughs and technology flowing from agricultural research form the foundation for successful future harvests.

Agricultural research in our state is a dynamic and productive partnership between the land-grant universities – North Carolina State and North Carolina A&T State – and the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services. Because of this unique collaboration, university faculty and station field staff work together very closely to operate and manage the research station system throughout North Carolina. Our organizations are constantly finding synergies and efficiencies in our efforts, we communicate frequently, and we have a common goal of supporting and growing our agriculture industry in North Carolina.

Farmers today compete in a global economy. Improved efficiency, increased yields and our reputation for raising quality products allow our farmers to compete with growers around the world. Our farmers are good at what they do, but that knowledge and success has been earned with the support of solid agricultural research. We want these producers to be positioned to meet the food, fiber and fuel needs of a world population estimated to be over 9 billion people by 2050. Improved efficiencies and yields during the next 36 cropping seasons are critical to doubling food production to meet growing global demand.

Our research station system, in large part because of our collaborative efforts, remains one of the strongest in the nation. We want to build on this strength. We look forward to continuing our joint support of agricultural research, and growing agriculture and agribusiness into a \$100 billion industry in North Carolina in the not too distant future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Steven W. Troxler".

Steven W. Troxler
Commissioner

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Richard H. Linton".

Richard H. Linton
Dean, College of Agriculture
and Life Sciences
N.C. State University

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "William M. Randle".

William M. Randle
Dean, School of Agriculture
and Environmental Sciences
N.C. A&T State University