Mission & Responsibilities

The North Carolina Bioenergy Research Initiative supports the research and development of agricultural and forestry based feedstocks for bioenergy production and agribusiness development.

History of Program

In 2013, the North Carolina General Assembly allocated funding to support bioenergy development to stimulate energy production from North Carolina agricultural and forestry based products. The Bioenergy Research Initiative was created with a focus on research and development of dedicated feedstocks for bioenergy production.

The funding supports staffing, operating expenses and a competitive grant program. The Bioenergy Research Initiative is part of the Department’s Research Stations Division and is based at the Oxford Tobacco Research Station.

Employees

3 Full-Time Positions: Agricultural Program Specialist, Agricultural Research Specialist, and Administrative Assistant II

FY 2015-16 Major Accomplishments

- Extended 8 previously funded projects.
- Added 3 new projects to the grant portfolio.
- Currently administering 27 research projects in the grant portfolio.
- Hosted a Bioenergy Field Day in August 2015 at the Mountain Horticultural Crops Research Station in Mills River, NC.
- Hosted a Research & Industry Update meeting at the NC State Fairgrounds in March 2016.

Allocation of Funding

Operations: $500,000
TVA Grants: $500,000
Statewide Grants: $500,000

Contact Information

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