

The N.C. Tobacco Trust Fund Commission (NCTTFC) awarded more than \$3.4 million through 22 grants for agricultural and economic initiatives across the state. The grants place a high priority on projects that address ways to train people for new careers, stimulate the agricultural economy and help farmers with innovative ideas.

"Our Commission is dedicated to funding projects that will benefit farmers and their communities across the state," said Bill Teague, Chairman of the NCTTFC. "In 2019 we were able to fund a diverse array of projects that will benefit a wide section of North Carolina agriculture."

The \$3.4 million supports projects that assist farmers with facility enhancements, research and educational opportunities. These projects assist with innovative on-farm projects, increase leadership skills and offer operational strategies that will help farmers increase farm income. One project is with the N. C. Agricultural Foundation to study insect and mite management in hemp. Another project partners with the N.C. Agromedicine Institute to educate producers about managing their response to farm stress.