



North Carolina Department of Agriculture
and Consumer Services

January 31, 2012

MEMORANDUM

TO: Designated Legislative Committee Members/ Friends of North Carolina Agriculture

SUBJECT: 2011 North Carolina Agricultural Research Stations Annual Report of Activities

As you may be aware, Session Law 2008-107, Sec. 9.13 directed the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences at North Carolina State University, the School of Agriculture and Environmental Sciences at North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University and the North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Sciences to jointly study and develop a comprehensive strategic plan for management of the agricultural research stations and the university research farm at NC A&T State University. In keeping with our long-standing partnerships, we as Deans of the State's two land-grant universities and as Commissioner of Agriculture agreed to continue working together to seek ways to enhance efficiency, improve effectiveness and modernize the Research Station System.

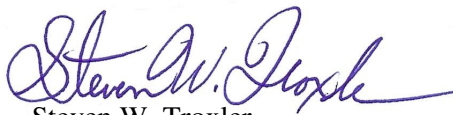
In response to this request, we established a Strategic Planning Council and a Working Group consisting of members from each organization. We also appointed an External Advisory Committee comprised of 23 leaders in the North Carolina agricultural community. In 2009 we were pleased to be able to share with you the results of our strategic plan entitled *Working Together for Agriculture, A Strategic Plan for North Carolina Agricultural Research Stations*. Over the past two years, we have been hard at work implementing recommendations of this strategic plan.

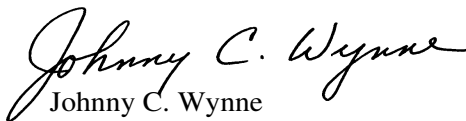
On December 21, 2011, we met with members of the External Advisory Committee for the North Carolina Agricultural Research Stations to prepare this second annual report of activities as called for within the strategic plan.

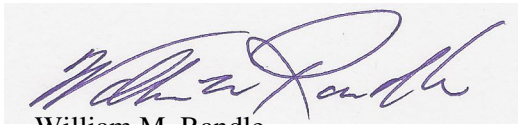
Today, we are pleased to provide this report to you, not only to highlight accomplishments at our research stations during calendar year 2011, but as a way to document our progress towards the goals outlined within the strategic plan. This report is also available as a printable PDF file at the following URL:
<http://www.ncagr.gov/research/documents/ResearchStations2011AnnualReport.pdf>.

We share a common vision and a continuing commitment to work together to enhance North Carolina agriculture through activities at our research stations. We appreciate your continuing support.

Sincerely,


Steven W. Troxler
Commissioner


Johnny C. Wynne
Dean and Executive Director
For Agricultural Programs
N.C. State University


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