

UMO AgPrime Grant Opportunity for Individual Farm Operations

Media Contact: Lisa Childers, County Extension Director
(910) 321-6880, lisa_childers@ncsu.edu

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

A new program providing grants to North Carolina farmers for new and innovative ideas that increase farm profits is being launched by the University of Mount Olive's Lois G. Britt Agricultural Center. AgPrime, which is funded by the NC Tobacco Trust Fund Commission, is designed to strengthen farms and communities that have been impacted by changes in the tobacco economy. UMO AgPrime grants are available to farmers in Cumberland, Lee, Moore, Richmond and Robeson counties.

Funding proposals up to \$10,000 will be considered for farmers who are agriculturally dependent and who have viable ideas for new and innovative agricultural projects. Priority will be given to persons who earn at least 50 percent of their personal income from their farm operation or agribusiness entity, and to current and former tobacco farmers or former quota holders.

Dr. Sandy Maddox, Director of the UMO Agricultural Center, encourages farmers in the targeted counties to apply for funding. "This program is designed to help farmers test creative ideas, implement new marketing strategies and keep more profit closer to the farm gate," Maddox said. "We are excited to partner with the NC Tobacco Trust Fund Commission to bring this important program to the farmers in Cumberland, Lee, Moore, Richmond, and Robeson counties."

The grant application cycle opens on April 15, 2016 and closes on June 1, 2016. For more information, go to, www.umoag.com/AgPrime or contact Dr. Stan Dixon at 252-526-1587.

For accommodations for persons with disabilities, contact Lisa Childers at 910.321.6880, no later than five business days before the event.

