



# THE NORTH CAROLINA STATE GRANGE

March 18, 2020

To: Small Farms Week Participants

From: Jimmy Gentry, President, NC State Grange

Re: Small Farms Week

I have always been impressed with the Small Farms Week program conducted by the College of Agriculture and Environmental Sciences at North Carolina A&T State University. This program very effectively focuses on the needs of small farmers while also celebrating achievements. I enjoy hearing the stories shared about those selected as Small Farms of the Year, which depicts the true nature of farms and the operators. We get to see how they care for their animals, tend the soil, and depend on the latest and best information available that is put into practice on these farms. Agriculture Extension is always highlighted showing how deeply involved the agents are with the growers. We also witness how diversified agriculture is across the state which is part of our great strength.

I simply want to salute the small farmers of North Carolina and the important work that you do. You are doing your part in providing for the nutritional needs of our citizens, while at the same time doing a job that you love. Your engagement with the Cooperative Extension Service is commendable and shows your interest in producing as efficiently as possible.

Thank you to NC A&T State University for conducting this great program and helping our small producers to constantly improve. I also want to thank the small farmers the great work that you do. Our society would be in trouble without you.