



North Carolina is an international hub of agricultural technology. Here agriculture tradition and 21st century science meet to create unmatched opportunities.

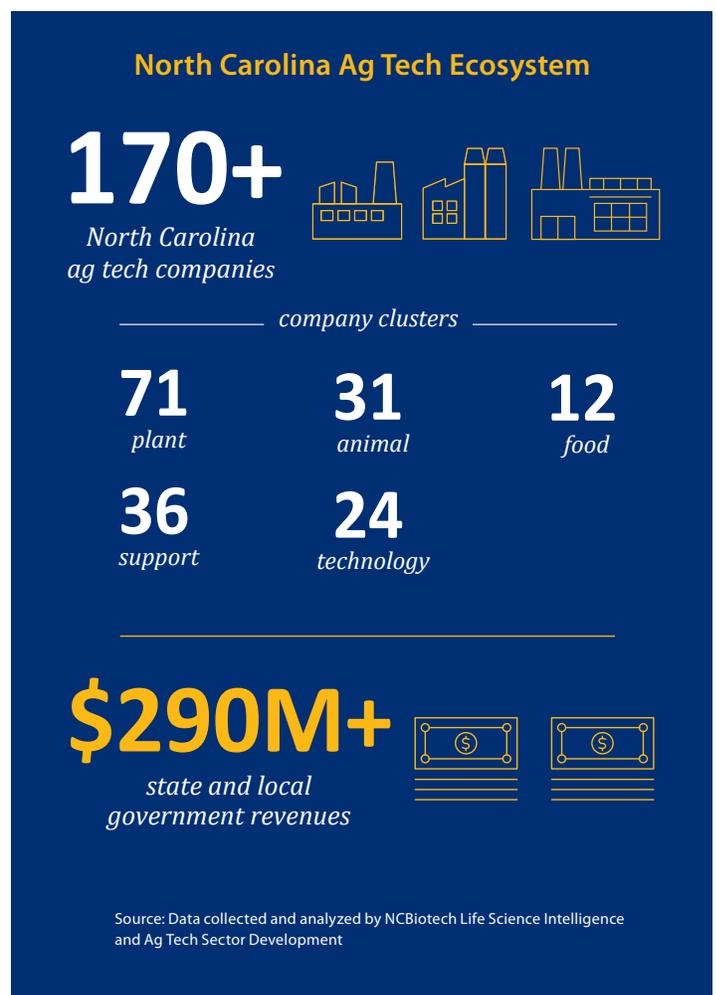
Our tremendous assets drive innovations in crops, livestock, forestry and marine life. North Carolina Biotechnology's Agriculture Sector Development team, formed in January 2010, produces this semi-annual report to keep our partners and key stakeholders updated on the state of our industry and projected impacts.

North Carolina Ag Tech Update and Forecast

The U.S. net farm income has seen five years of decline with no expected change in sight, which is placing significant pressure on companies with commercial products as farmers prioritize production inputs. We anticipate a resulting restructuring of commercial operations, with potential job losses as companies seek to maintain profits through lower operation costs. Further consolidation locally, resulting from implementation of global strategies, could also contribute to a total employment reduction in the large ag tech companies. Offsetting these rollbacks, we anticipate growth to continue for innovation companies as they build capacity for plant gene-edited products, biologics, targeted feed ingredients, and animal health products.

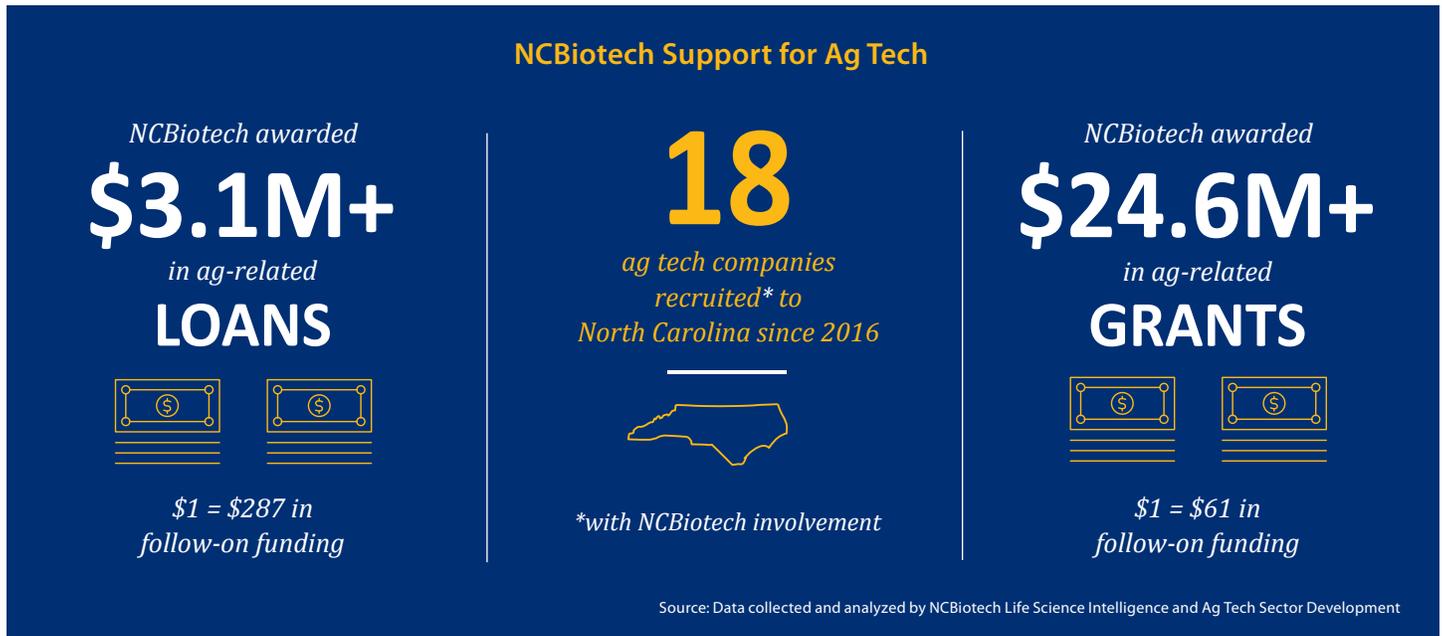
North Carolina Ag Tech Companies

The diversity of ag tech companies in North Carolina reflects our state's expansive and long-standing agricultural history. Innovations within the ecosystem use cutting-edge tools from organizations, which range from smaller, entrepreneurial companies with a few scientists, to larger, global headquarters with hundreds of highly-trained experts. With connections to the state's extensive academic institutions and its unmatched network of 18 research stations, opportunities to commercialize these innovations is accelerated, providing solutions for the growing demand for animal and food production. ncbiotech.org/agtech-companies



NCBiotech Support for Ag Tech

NCBiotech was established in 1984 and since then we've supported agriculture through our grant and loan programs as well as our statewide economic development efforts. Since 2010 the Agriculture Sector Development team has focused on direct engagement with companies looking to start, relocate or expand in North Carolina, assisting them with this transition. Just since Q2-2016, when Agriculture Sector Development realigned its focus around ag tech, a broader sector than ag biotech, we have engaged with 18 companies that have since started or relocated to N.C. as a direct impact of our recruitment and engagement efforts.



North Carolina's Agriculture Landscape

North Carolina is a place where year after year, its 400-year-old agricultural tradition remains the state's primary industry. It employs **728,000 people** and generates **\$91.8 billion in annual revenue – 17% of the state's GDP**, thanks to our **two land grant universities** and **18 research stations** across the state. To get the best overview of our state's agriculture we defer to the annual NC State University Walden Report released every May and the N.C. Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services annual State Agriculture Overview.

NCBiotech is a private, non-profit corporation supported by the N.C. General Assembly. Its mission is to provide long-term economic and societal benefits to North Carolina by supporting the progression of ideas from the research lab to the marketplace. It's headquartered in the Research Triangle Park, with regional offices in Asheville, Charlotte, Greenville, Wilmington and Winston-Salem. The Center's Agriculture Sector Development team stimulates the growth of agricultural technology in the state of North Carolina to create new opportunities that generate jobs, strengthen the economy and produce the technologies and products that help meet the global demand for food, fuel, medicine and sustainable material.

North Carolina's Life Science Landscape

Since state leaders established NCBiotech 35 years ago, the state has become a global life science leader. We now have **700+ life science companies statewide**, employing more than **64,500 people** and generating more than **\$83 billion – 9% of the state's annual business activity**. NCBiotech helps transform life science opportunities into economic prosperity by supporting innovation, commercialization, education and business growth.

Contact Scott Johnson to learn more about how the NCBiotech Agriculture Sector Development is accelerating North Carolina's ag tech industry.

North Carolina Biotechnology Center

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