

N.C. Cooperative Extension  
NC State University  
2501 Founders Drive, Suite 120  
Campus Box 7602; Patterson Hall  
Raleigh, NC 27695-7602



## Columbus County Extension/PSI Intern

**Location:** Columbus County

**Program Area:** Agriculture and Natural Resources

**Immediate/Site Supervisor:** Bruce McLean, Howard Wallace

**Other Mentors and Supervisors:** Sarah Dinger, PSI; Jing Zhang, PSI

### Position

#### Description/Responsibilities:

- The N.C. PSI helps growers solve real-world problems in the field through cutting-edge plant science innovation.
- The intern will support the work of Extension experts on the N.C. PSI, including cropping systems, science communication, and climate smart agriculture.
- The intern will engage in beta-testing technologies, being developed by the N.C. PSI and other researchers, on local farms.
- The intern will support work in close collaboration with NC Blueberry Growers to beta-test an application tool to count blueberries from digital images taken in the blueberry orchard. Beta testing will include image collection, use of the application to count fruits, and providing feedback on general usability. The technology aims to work with additional crops in the future.
- All other duties as assigned.

#### Preferred qualifications/previous coursework:

- Previous coursework and/or experience in agriculture.
- Interest in experiencing Extension and research work and exploring careers in agriculture and the allied sciences.

#### Benefits/skills student will gain through this internship:

- Data analytics, data collection, and data visualization.
- Prepare for varied and exciting research and Extension careers by gaining practical experiences for strengthening plant health, production, and products.

### Additional Information

- As a Research and Extension Experiences for Undergraduates (REEU) program of United States Department of Agriculture National Institute of Food and Agriculture (USDA-NIFA), **applicants are limited to current undergraduates.**
- Explore the N.C. Plant Sciences Initiative: <https://cals.ncsu.edu/psi/>
- For further details, applicants are encouraged to contact Bruce McLean ([bruce\\_mclean@ncsu.edu](mailto:bruce_mclean@ncsu.edu)), and/or Sarah Dinger ([scdinge2@ncsu.edu](mailto:scdinge2@ncsu.edu)).
- The use of brand names and/or any mention or listing of specific commercial products or services herein is solely for educational purposes and does not imply endorsement by North Carolina State University or our partners, nor discrimination against similar products or services not mentioned.

