Mayland Community College
Ready 4 Work

Developing the Agricultural Economy
Soils

Compost

Small Business Center

Incubators

Seeds and Plants

Production

Transportation

Consolidation, Processing, and Storage

Distribution

Consumption

Table

Sustainable Agriculture
Overview

- EnergyXchange
- TRACTOR
- Community Kitchen
- Berkshire Project
- High Country Fruit and Berry
EnergyXchange: Purpose

- Develop creative and innovative techniques to assist development of the local agricultural community
- Yancey and Mitchell County Landfill (Methane)
- Horticulture: Native Species
- Craft Incubator
- Part of Estatoe Regional Center of Science and Crafts
EnergyXchange

• Horticulture: Native Species
  – Rhododendron, Gray’s Lilly and Lady Slippers
  – Fish Tanks and Hydroponics
  – Propagation and Micropropagation
  – Greenhouse Innovations
  – Support of TRACTOR
TRACTOR: Purpose

- Yancey and Mitchell
  - Lost 219 farms and 9484 acres from 2002 to 2007
  - Average age of Farmer 58
  - Tier I Counties
TRACTOR

- Connecting small family farms to mainstream markets
- Infrastructure
- Shared use equipment
- Support service
TRACTOR

- 66 Growers
- 40 markets
- 1.1 Million in demand for 2014
- Training and education are critical to meet need
Community Kitchen: Purpose

- Assist in the development of local food entrepreneurs while also adding a value added component to the local food market
- Certified Kitchen
- Assist with developing a business through interaction with the Small Business Office
- Assistance with development of product lines
Berkshire Project: Purpose

• Assist high school students with the development of an agricultural business while also assisting with expanding the local agricultural economy
• Students receive free bred gilt, equipment and support
• First four litters (2 years) students give back three per litter
• Development of specialty meat market
High Country Berry and Fruit: Purpose

• Assist in the development of a more diverse agricultural market
• Development of value added products
• Connects to TRACTOR, EXE, and Community Kitchen