



2016 BHEARD Scholar
Samuel Acheampong

Profile

Country of Study:	United States of America
University:	North Carolina State University
Department:	Horticultural Science
Student Position:	Graduate Research Assistant—Ph.D.
Hometown:	Abosamso, Ashanti Region, Ghana
Home Institution:	University of Cape Coast
Home Position:	Principal Research Assistant
Mentored By:	Home: Aaron Tettey Asare University of Cape Coast USA: Craig G. Yencho, Professor, NCSU and Heike Sederoff, Professor, NCSU

Research Area: Plant Breeding and Genetics

BHEARD PROGRAM START DATE: August 2016

UNDERGRADUATE EDUCATION: B.Sc., Molecular Biology and Biotechnology, University of Cape Coast, Ghana

GRADUATE EDUCATION: M.Phil., Biotechnology, University of Cape Coast, Ghana

RESEARCH INTERESTS: Genetic Transformation of food crops (involving both conventional and modern breeding methods).

At North Carolina State University, Samuel's research involves "Transformation of Sweet Potato for Increased Yield, Vitamin A and Iron Content".

Food fortification has been identified as a long-term solution to vitamin A and iron deficiency in developing countries. Yields of some important sweet potato varieties are low and hence, need improvement.

PERSONAL STATEMENT: Samuel's goal is to become an outstanding professor and researcher at his university, to strengthen capacity for plant transformation, and ultimately become a leader in teaching and research toward genetic improvement of food security crops in Ghana and beyond.

WHEN I AM NOT WORKING I ENJOY: Samuel attends to plants in his backyard garden. He also enjoys watching movies, and watching international news.