

Joe W. Willis, PhD

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Dr. Willis grew up in North Carolina and earned his Bachelor of Science in Botany from North Carolina State University followed by a Ph.D. in Plant Pathology from the University of California, Riverside in 1985 studying *Pseudomonas* genetics. Dr. Willis completed a three-year post-doc at Kansas State University studying the genetics of *Xanthomonas*. Following his post-doc Dr. Willis worked as a molecular genetics engineer for Enichem Americas, Inc. and for NovaFlora, Inc. in the New Jersey/Philadelphia area. Then as a researcher for Rutgers University he studied and developed a system for aquaponics production in greenhouses utilizing landfill gas to produce all energy and water requirements. At Terracycle, Inc. Dr. Joe developed products and systems for vermicomposting and land waste upcycling. He was a plant health manager for Susan Turner and Associates Landscape Engineers and now in his current position Dr. Joe is an Agriculture and Natural Resources Horticulture Agent for LSU AgCenter.

