

Brian Ayre is Professor at the University of North Texas, in Denton, Texas. His formal education is in plant genetics, molecular biology and biotechnology, he has postdoctoral experience from Cambridge, England, and Cornell University, and he conducted a sabbatical at the Max Planck Institute for Molecular Plant Physiology. His research is broadly in the area of plant productivity with emphasis in phloem transport and plant architecture. His cotton research explores gene families that contribute to the distribution of vegetative and reproductive growth, and his lab group developed a breeding tool called “virus-induce flowering” to alter flowering in domesticated and wild accessions. His research on the functional genomics of gene families contributing to cotton growth habit is funded through Cotton Incorporated and the USA/Israel Bi-National Agricultural Research and Development (BARD) fund.