

AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION

ONE MISSION: STUDENT SUCCESS

Our mission:

Agricultural Education prepares students for employment and/or continuing education opportunities in agriculture through technical instruction in the classroom, experiential education through the laboratory and Supervised Agricultural Experience Program (SAEP), and leadership and personal development through the FFA.

AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION PATHWAYS

The Utah Agricultural Education Pathways are based on national skills standards and the national cluster pathways for agricultural education. By taking Agricultural Education courses, students learn to value and understand the vital role of agriculture, food, fiber, and natural resources systems in advancing personal and global well-being.

Agriculture is the nation's largest employer, generating approximately 20 percent of our nation's gross national product and 20 percent of our national employment. However, 10 percent of today's professional jobs in agriculture go unfilled because of a lack of qualified graduates. As the demand increases for agricultural products, so does the demand for qualified individuals.

Below are the six Pathways in Agricultural Education:

- Agricultural Systems Technology
- Horticulture Science
- Natural Resources Science
- Production/Processing Animal Science
- Production/Processing Plant and Soil Science
- Production/Processing Science

STUDENT LEADERSHIP ORGANIZATION

FFA is the student leadership organization for Agricultural Education. FFA is an integral and necessary component of the overall program. FFA is dedicated to making a positive difference in the lives of young people by developing their potential for premier leadership, personal growth, and career success through agricultural education.

- Nationally there are over 523,000 FFA members in 7,487 chapters.
 - Like national FFA members on Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/nationalffa>
 - Follow national FFA members on Twitter at <http://twitter.com/nationalffa>
- www.ffa.org
- Utah has approximately 6,000 FFA members in 77 chapters.
 - Like Utah FFA members on Facebook at http://tiny.cc/utah_ffa_facebook
- Approximately 38 percent of the FFA membership is female.

www.utffa.org

AREAS OF STUDY:

- ▶ Agriculture
- Business
- Family & Consumer Sciences
- Health Science
- Information Technology
- Marketing
- Skilled & Technical Sciences
- Technology & Engineering



NATIONAL RECOGNITION

In 2010, Utah FFA members were recognized for individual accomplishment in record numbers. Sixty-one members received the American FFA degree and five members were recognized as among the top students in the nation in agricultural proficiency. In October, four students were national gold medal winners in the Agriscience Fair Competition.

SUPERVISED AGRICULTURAL EXPERIENCE PROGRAM

The SAEP is an integral and necessary component of the overall program. Through this program, students apply in real-life situations the concepts that they learn in the classroom and the laboratory.

CAREER PREPARATION/ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Through the Agricultural Education program, students learn how to become productive employees and gain the academic skills to increase their earning potential while still in high school.

- In 2010, sixty-one students earned the American FFA Degree. To receive this recognition students must have earned and invested at least \$7,500 in an SAEP. This group reported total earnings of \$1.5 million for an average of \$24,722 per student. Over the past twelve years this premier group of 819 students has reported total earnings of \$19,913,854.
- In 2010, one-hundred and seventy-nine students earned the State FFA Degree, requiring that students earn and invest at least \$1,000 in an SAEP. This group reported total earnings of \$1,942,522 for an average of \$12,373 per student.
- In 2010, the combined total earnings for the American and State FFA Degree recipients were \$3,450,621. This group of students represents just 3.6 percent of Utah's FFA membership.
- Last year 2,494 students were awarded a CTE Skill Certificate in Agriculture, indicating a high level of performance.

STATE AND LOCAL PARTNERSHIPS

Circle Four Farms
Dairy Producers of Utah
Gossner Foods, Inc.
Intermountain Farmers Association
Mountainland Apples
Moroni Feed Company
PacifiCorp/Rocky Mountain Power
Producers Livestock Marketing Association
Redmond Incorporated
USDA—Farm Services Agency
Utah Beef Council
Utah Dairy Council
Utah Department of Agriculture and Food
Utah Department of Natural Resources
Utah Farm Bureau Federation
Utah Nursery and Landscape Association
Utah Park Producers
Utah State University
Western Ag Credit
Zions Bank

Our vision is to see that all students have an appreciation for agriculture and the environment and that Agricultural Education students develop essential career preparation skills through technical and experiential education, as well as personal leadership opportunities.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

William L. Deimler, Education Specialist

Agricultural Education
801-538-7856
william.deimler@schools.utah.gov
www.UtahCTE.org



Utah State Office of Education
250 East 500 South
P.O. Box 144200
Salt Lake City, UT 84114-4200