

AAI 1.0 Recap



AAI 1.0 provides highly interactive, multi-day tours designed to teach educators about food and fiber production and to help them incorporate that knowledge in the classroom. AAI combines hands-on learning about agriculture with practical curriculum development. Participants receive continuing education units or professional development hours (CEUs, PD) and free classroom materials that are aligned to Arizona's Academic Standards. AAI 1.0 is an annual program held over the summer in Maricopa County.

MARICOPA COUNTY AG

This summer, 18 teachers joined the University of Arizona Cooperative Extension's Agricultural Literacy program and the Arizona Foundation for Agricultural Literacy for the Arizona Agricultural Institute (AAI) 1.0 in Maricopa County, Arizona. Teachers were able to see the vast array of agricultural production, research, and commodities found in Arizona. We started our week off with a half day of virtual farm tours and followed it with three packed in-person tours. Teachers had the opportunity to network with each other, industry representatives, farmers, researchers, and the AFAL board members and staff.

IMPACT



Eighteen teachers from 5 of Arizona's 15 counties, who teach over 2,500 students annually, attended AAI 1.0 this summer. Pre- and post-surveys were conducted to measure the participants' change in knowledge in several areas, including dairy and beef operations, vermicompost, grain production, flour milling, agricultural worker conditions, cotton production, and water conservation. In all areas surveyed, an increase in knowledge occurred.

SEE WHERE WE WENT!

MONDAY

VIRTUAL

The Owens Family -
Pollen Collection

The Kennedy Family -
Goat Farm

Ajo Center for
Sustainable Agriculture

UofA Cooperative
Extension
Demonstration Farm

TUESDAY

IN-PERSON

Bass Aja - Pinal Feeding
Company - Feedlot

Kyle Harrington -
UAEExtension - IPM 101

Naomi Pier - UAEExtension
- IPM

Dr. Pedro Andrade - UA
Biosystems Engineering -
Precision & Digital
Agricultural Technology

Katie Aikins - Farm Bureau
- GMOs and Labeling

Brad Clawson - Lactalis -
Yogurt Plant

Nancy Caywood -
Caywood Farms

WEDNESDAY

IN-PERSON

Tiffany Selchow -
Quarter Circle U
Ranch

Queen Creek Olive
Mill

Sossaman Farms

Hayden Flour Mills

Shane Leonard -
Roosevelt Water
Conservation District

THURSDAY

IN-PERSON

The Arizona Worm
Farm

Jonathan Manning -
Elgin Nursery and Tree
Farm

Karen Haggard -
Rousseau Farms Co. -
Watermelon Harvest

Stotz Equipment - Tour
of Agricultural
Equipment

Caballero Dairy



TEACHER TESTIMONIALS

I was amazed at how connected all of the facets of agriculture and how one component relies on another. Sustainable agricultural practices are so very important for all types of agriculture to use in order for us to be able to provide food for everyone effectively and efficiently.

All the presentations were amazing! I found the Queen Creek Olive Mill to be the most interesting but all of the sessions captivated me. I appreciate the variety of the ag operations.

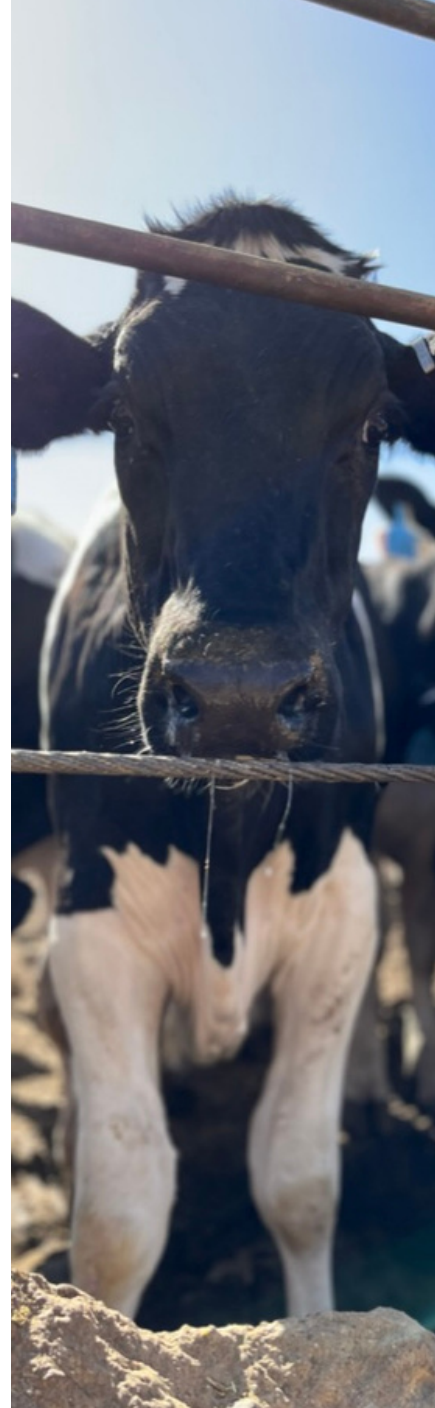
Amazed at how much planning goes into the planting, growing, harvesting, and marketing process.

I will continue to recommend AZ Farm Bureau & UA Cooperative Exten. resources to teachers in the AZ Farm to School Network. I will also absolutely stay connected with the amazing educators on this tour!

Great lessons on AZ agriculture. Thank you!!!



AAI PHOTO ALBUM









SPECIAL THANKS!



Thank you to our 2023 AFAL donors that made AAI 1.0 possible!

- A Tumbling T Ranches
- Ag West Farm Credit
- Alcaida Farms
- Arizona Ag Marketing
- Arizona Crop Improvement Association
- Arizona Grain Research & Promotion Council
- Arizona Grain, Inc.
- Arizona Milk Producers / Dairy Council of Arizona
- Arizona Nursery Association
- Bales Hay & Feed Store
- Bill and Nancy McGibbon
- Carrie Hamstra
- Coconino County Farm Bureau
- Curry Farms LLC
- Desert Chemical, Inc.
- Destert Tree Farm
- Farm Credit West
- George and Barbara Seperich
- Gila Bend Natural Resource Conservation District
- Griffin Ranches, Inc.
- H Four Farms
- James M. Webb
- Jero Inc
- Jim and Karen Weddle
- Joyce Gifford
- Justice Brothers Ranch
- Krentz Ranch Operations
- Lakin Cattle Company
- Maricopa County Farm Bureau
- Monica and Chris Pastor
- Pinal County Farm Bureau
- R & S Farms
- Ross Farms
- Sunrise Dairy Farm
- Susan Chase
- Weddle Farms, Inc.
- Wendy Conger
- Western Central Initiative
- Whitewater Draw NRCD
- WRA Cattle Company
- Yavapai Cattle Women/Cowbelles



THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA
Cooperative Extension
Agricultural Literacy & STEM Education

