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.

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.
**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 - UAExtension - IPM 101
- Naomi Pier - UAExtension - 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

*See where we went!*
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!!!
SPECIAL THANKS!
Thank you to our 2023 AFAL donors that made AAI 1.0 possible!

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- 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
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