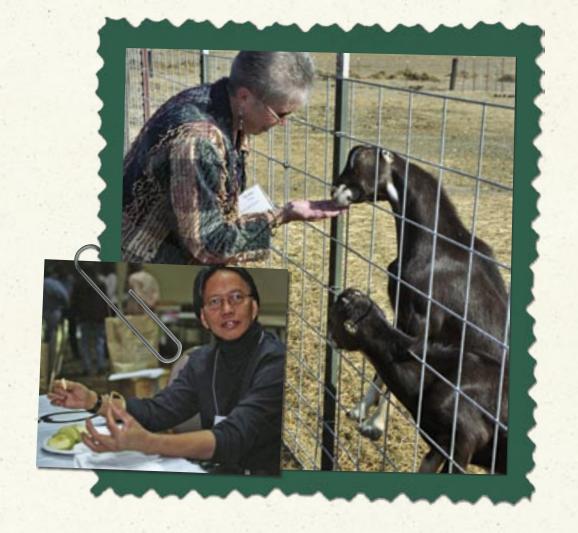


A Teacher's Journal: Learning from Agriculture

ANNUAL 2005 REPORT





California Foundation for Agriculture in 4m Classroom increases awareness and understanding of agriculture among California's educators and Students. Its vision is to faster an appreciation of agriculture by all.

An Educator's Ponderings

The stories are plentiful...

By CFAITC Staff Writer

There's the young boy who spent the night at a friend's ranch. He refused to eat eggs for breakfast after gathering them from under the hens in the chicken coop. He waited 'until he got home so his mother could make breakfast using "regular" eggs.

Then, too, there's the college student who shrugged off the devastating hailstorm that pelted cherry orchards up and down the valley just before harvest. Not a problem - she'd just eat her cherries out of a can.

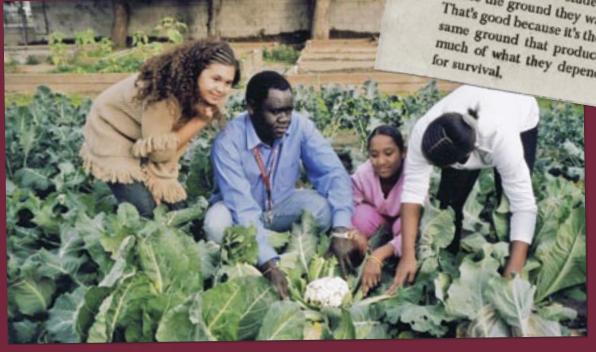
These stories, and a wad of others like them, are the real reasons for Ag in the Classroom. They tell us that kids are growing up too far from the farm, Major forces in their lives - TV, video games, ample abundance in the malls and supermarkets - leave them in the dark about what's really real. Eggs do come from chickens and cherries don't grow in cans.

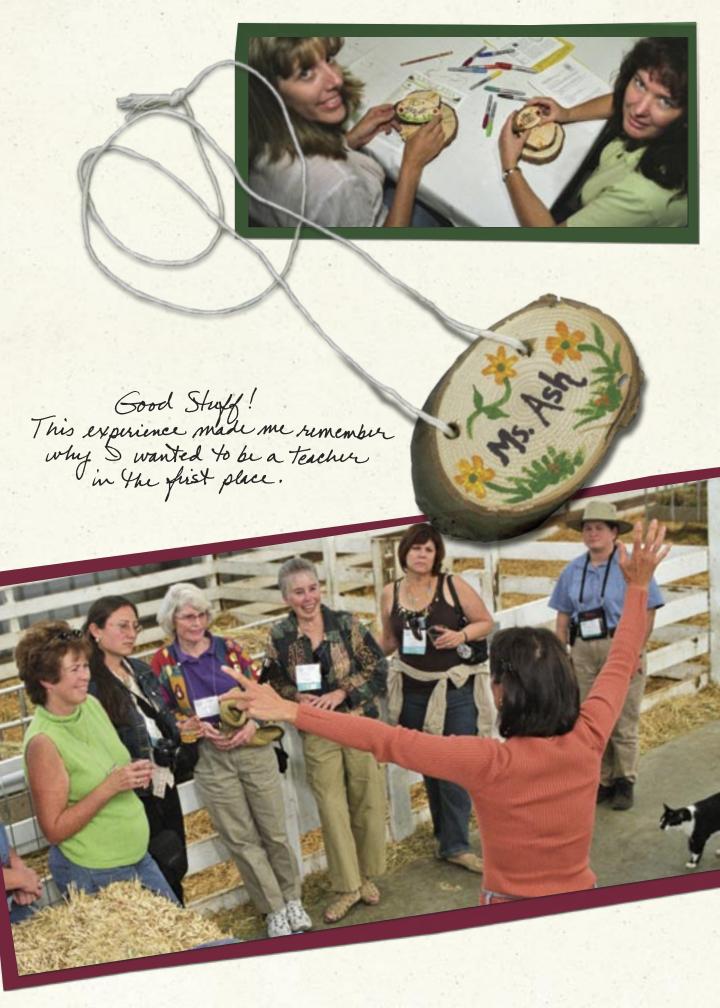
Agriculture is real, and it has a very real impact on us all. We've got a big job just introducing young people to this reality. But we've got to do it because they just aren't getting it firsthand.

▶ STORIES, Page J

From Page B1

The California Foundation for griculture in the Classroom is reliable source of materials hat work like building blocks support an exploration of agriculture in school. The many resources inspire students to notice the ground they walk on. That's good because it's the very same ground that produces so much of what they depend on





Teachers Experience Agriculture Firsthand

The keystone in the arch linking agriculture and education is the Foundation's annual conference for educators.

Sacramento, CA

Three to four hundred participants each year discover that, on a regular basis, there is no other ag literacy conference like this one in the western United States. Evaluated by size, content or camaraderie, CFAITC's conference is the ag literacy event of the year!

A prime reason it's a prime event is that the conference becomes a convergence of ag literacy resources, expertise and ideas. The same way rivers gain momentum at the spot where they meet, ag literacy builds strength from the pooling of many organizations, educators, volunteers and ag professionals who support an awareness of agriculture's value to all. "We know we've made an impact," says Dena Gibbons, CFAITC conference coordinator, "when we receive evaluations reflecting that 84% of respondents learned at least one new skill they can use in class."

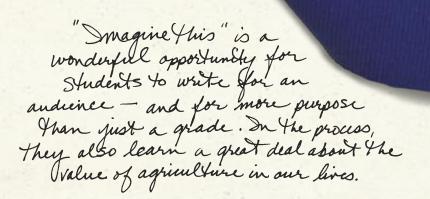
The 2005 Ag in the Classroom Conference anchored itself in Sacramento. Dozens of exhibits and close to 40 workshops and make 'n' takes doused educators and volunteers with resources and ideas that could be carried into class right away or developed

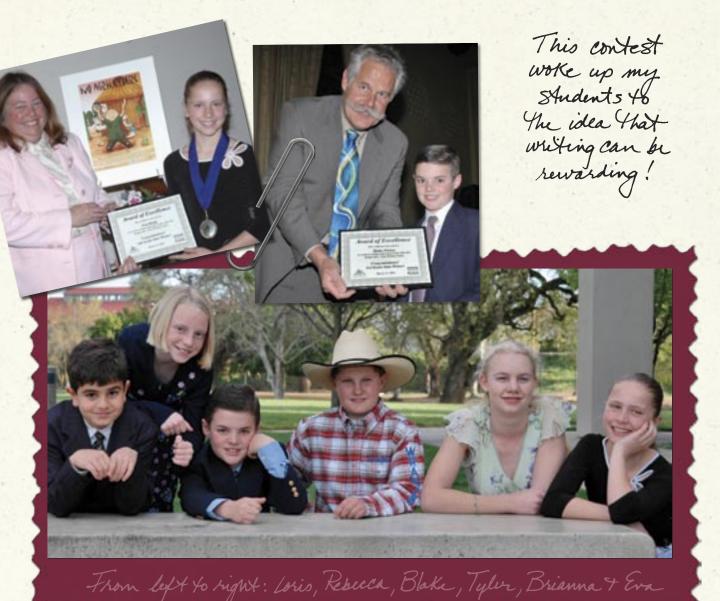
into long-term projects. Field trips linked educators and producers in agricultural settings from the Sierra foothills to the eastern Bay Area and Participants from numerous educational agricultural specialists, and including CDFA Secretary A.G. Kawamura, past Superintendent of Public Instruction Delaine Eastin, author and farmer David Mas Masumoto, and journalist Richard Louv.

Day by day, the span connecting education and agriculture strengthened. By the end of the conference, it had formed a bridge through which a river of enthusiasm and inspiration flowed outward into all of California.

▶ FOR MORE INFO: www.cfaitc.org









Through Writing Contest

Creative thinking and writing are skills that snag the attention of employers as they sift through resumes of potential employees. Yet, many teachers say today's standardized approach to education squelches creativity and limits time spent writing. That's a problem if educators are to help prepare a workforce of the future.

The Foundation's Imagine this... story writing contest helps loosen some restrictiveness teachers may be experiencing. Imagine this... incorporates state mandated Content Standards into a writing contest that rewards third through eighth graders for creatively expressing themselves using agriculture as a writing topic.

In 2005, over 9,000 stories were penned in classrooms and home schools statewide. When the last one was read, six — one from each grade level — were selected as the cream of the crop. "It's never easy choosing just six," says Nancy Gutierrez, contest coordinator. "California students have great imaginations!"

Imagine this... doesn't come to an end with winning essays. If used as a component in a manual for the workforce of the future, Imagine would be a section all its own. The writing contest would be the first chapter. The second

Kids learn creative thinking and writing through the development of agriculture stories.

would showcase the skills honed by high school students in transforming the stories into animated vignettes. Using equipment comparable to that found in professional studios, they learn to take a production from storyboard concept to 30-minute animated video. Imagine this... presents an opportunity that will speak volumes in their future portfolios.

The video, featuring the six stories and interviews with students and teachers, is a treasure that the families of these talented students will enjoy for a lifetime. Imagine that!

Students Learn "What's Growin' On?"

California's Colorful Bounty

By CFAITC Staff Writer

Downward trends are great when it comes to obesity and crime. But sliding numbers offer nothing to crow about in ag literacy and newspaper readership. To emphasize benefits provided by both agriculture and newspapers, CFAITC and Newspapers in Education (NIE) completed year three of a partnership that annually raises hands in classrooms around the state.

What's Growin' On? California's Colorful Bounty featured a healthy dose of agricultural information a 16-page newspaper supplement inserted in the Riverside Press Enterprise, The Fresno Bee and The Hanford Total Sentinel. distribution reached the neighborhood of 500,000 after delivery was extended to schools enrolled in the NIE program, to additional schools requesting classroom sets, to county farm bureaus and fairs, and to the California State Fair program.

The articles, written for a fourth through eighth grade audience, introduced concepts that could be used as fodder for extended classroom discussion. Examples of concepts explored include the fact that agriculture reaches far beyond the food the students eat; Americans spend about 10% of their disposable income on food while people in other parts of the world face percentages as astronomical as 51%; and, thanks to by-products, 98% of a steer is used but less than half is eaten.

Supplementalactivities aligned with state standards encouraged students to utilize critical thinking and research skills. A corresponding Teacher's Guide helped educators make the most of the piece by providing additional information, and a component of kids.cfaitc.org encourages online learning. The

▶ BOUNTY, Page !

From Page B1 entire supplement reinforced that agriculture is at the root of our everyday lives. "No matter who you are, there's something to be learned from What's Growin' On?," says Pam Emery, Foundation curriculum specialist. For an accompanying Teacher's Guide and to explore activities found in the supplement, www.cfaitc.org/wgo (800) 700-AITC (2482). Dist call

My Students are loving it and learning how to read the paper. They have new found knowledge about many aspects of agriculture. Wow!



Pota Carri plen

Root

plan

tran

and

othe

Plants

So... have you ever chomped on a stem?

How about devoured a luscious green leaf? Sounds kind of strange when you first think about it-but you probably have! That is if you have eaten celery and lettuce! All fruits, vegetables, nuts and grains are parts of plants.

Plant Basics

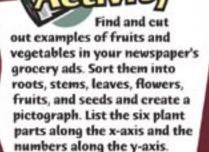
s anchor the plant in the soil, absorb water and minerals, and in some ts, store food that has been made in the leaves. Radishes, beets, jicama, sweet loes and carrots are a few examples of edible roots.

first carrots were long skinny purple roots that had a branch-like shape, ots are grown throughout California where soils are light and water is fiful. California produces 80% of the nation's fresh carrots.

is support the leaves and flowers of plants. They
sport water from the roots to the leaves and flowers
carry sugar and starches made in the leaves to
r parts of the plant. Examples of edible stems are
"sch_asparagus, cinnamon and celery."

werew in the marshes in the eastern word "celery" comes from the means "quick acting."

4s of this edible



Standards: Grade 4 Matt. Statistics, Data Analysis and Protobility 1.0, 1.1 Mathematical Resonang 2.0, 2.3 Grade 5 Matt. Statistics, Data Analysis and Probability 1.2 Mathematical Feasoning 2.0, 2.0, 23 Grade 6 Matt. Mathematical Resonang 2.0, 2.4 Grade 7 Matt. Mathematical Resonang 2.0, 2.4 Grade 7 Matt.

Can you find the following edible plant parts in this picture? Broccoli Pear

Broccoli Pear
Popcorn Artichoke
Lettuce Asparagus
Cauliflower Celery
Carrot

How any lemons can you find?

Standards:

Grade 4 Science 2, 2x, 3, 3c Grade 5 Science 2, 2e, 2f Grade 6 Science 5, 5a, 5b

What's outlined in this paper is exactly what I am teaching to my class now.

Alyoultnows

e a look. Each tiny

W11678



Snapshots of Good Things Happening

The pace in 2005 hovered somewhere between never a dull moment and always an iron in the fire!

By CFAITC Staff Writer

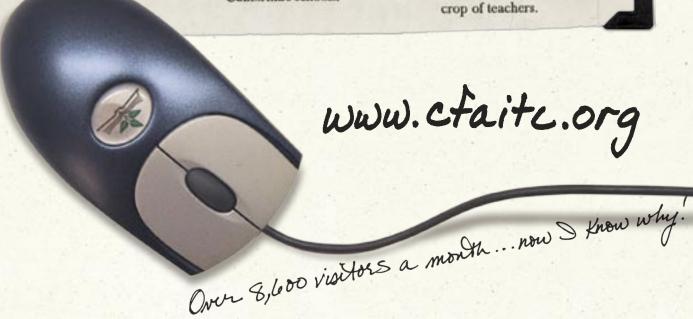
The Foundation put extraordinary effort into additional areas beyond those described in prior pages. Some of those areas include:

- Tina McEnroe, a Santa Barbara County fifth/sixth grade teacher, lassoed the title of Outstanding Educator. She carried that lead to the national level as one of five recipients of USDA's Excellence in Teaching About Agriculture Award.
- 2. Ag literacy supporters have latched on to the Internet!

 A monthly tally indicates an average of 8,600 visitors to CFAITC's Web site at www. cfaitc.org. Planting all CFAITC lesson plans and resources onto the Web allows 24/7 access to everyone connected to the Internet. The site underscores CFAITC's leadership in disseminating balanced,

informative&classroom-friendly information about agriculture — whether the resource is its own or one from hundreds of other sources reviewed and promoted by the Foundation.

- 3. More than 50,000 educators and volunteers kept abreast of ag literacy events, resources and happenings by receiving the biannual sixpage newsletter, Cream of the Crop, and/or the monthly enewsletter, Current News. Daily additions to the Web site also created an up-to-the minute venue for promotion of ag literacy events statewide.
- 4. Ag in the Classroom Ambassadors — almost 9,000 strong at the end of 2005 — act as a link in the AITC chain. These educators connect with others to convey the importance of agricultural literacy. When mapped out, Ambassadors are located at more than 40% of California's schools.
- 5. CFAITC introduced many thousands of educators to the Ag in the Classroom style of teaching by participating in conferences and workshops. A sampling of events includes California Science Teachers' Association, Civics and Education Conference, California School Board Association and a bushelful of local opportunities such as county-based Summer Ag Seminars and after-school inservices.
- 6. The University Student
 Teacher Program (USTP)
 introduces college grads
 working on their credentials
 to ag literacy and provides
 resources and knowledge
 for incorporating agriculture
 into their teaching styles right
 from the start. Colleges and
 universities up and down the
 state participate, setting the
 stage year after year for a new
 awareness in California's fiesh
 crop of teachers.



Donors! am grateful for a program that exertes educators and makes us want to work a little bit harden at preparing our students for the future. It has opened my eyes to a lot of things.

\$300,000

California Farm Bureau Federation

\$50,000

Allied Insurance and Nationwide Health Plans State Compensation Insurance Fund

\$25,000

The James G. Boswell Foundation

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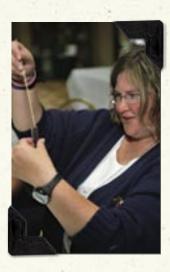
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Edward and Christina Maurer Thomas Mayes Mazzanti Carnations, Inc. Chester and Olive McCloskey Leland and Marlene Mc Corkle Emma and Homer McCrary Terry Mc Duffee Kathryn and Milton McGiffen McGrew Living Trust Jeff Mc Guffey Mark McKean Farms McKellar Agricultural Group Jude McKenzie Darline and James McLeod Lester McNall George McNeely The McNeilly Family Trust Jean McPherson Zueletta Mead Al Medvitz Phyllis Mehrten V. Melani Poultry Company, Inc. John Melendy Family Trust Melmat Inc. Meloland Cattle Company Mendocino County CattleWomen Anthony and Gloria Mendonca Menghetti Properties Mike Merkley Dennis Merwin and Carolyn Tillman Greg and Patty Merwin Madeleine Mesple Mettler & Son Bruce and Barbara Mettler Ole Mettler Edna Metzler Deanne Meyer Catherine Mevers C.F. and M.M. Michaelis Michael and Margie Michelon Arthur and Sandra Milberg Curtis and Shirley Miller Miller Glass, Inc. Joseph and Marjorie Miller Ken and Ethyl Miller Michael and Nancy Miller Cindy and Donald Mills Millville Grange Art and Thena Mimler Clarence and Rosalie Minetti Minturn Huller Cooperative, Inc. Margaret E. Mirande Tamaye and Yoshiharu Mizutani Mohr-Fry Ranches Michael and Theresa Molatore Monte Vista Farming Company Monterey Regional Water Pollution Control Agency George Montross John Montz Farms Michael Moore Abilio Morais Maura and Robert Moray Virginia Morelli Jeff Moresco Farms Morgan & Slates Manufacturing & Supply Bill and Sharon Morris Dorothy and James Morris Eleanor Morris Diana and Richard Mounts Jennifer and John Muhlner Muller Berry Farms Marie and Joseph Muller Mulrooney Auction Loretta Munger Mura Nursery Paul and Yvonne Murai Barbara and Rayburn Murphy C.R. Murphy Ranch

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a strand of handspun wool yern from our four!

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John Shuler

Mary Siebe

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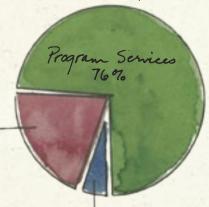
Mendocino County winegrape grower Bill Pauli completed his term in December as Chairman of the Board of Directors of the California Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom. A founding member since the non-profit's inception in 1986,



Pauli presided for the last eight years. Doug Mosebar, a Santa Barbara County farmer and board member since 1990, was elected president.

griculture in the Classroom

Expenses-figure 1

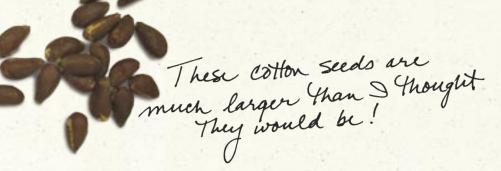


Administration 7 Management 6%

Financial Highlights

Public Support & Revenue	2005	2004
Contributions	\$ 822.688	\$ 815,344
Special Event Revenue		
(net of direct benefits)	251,859	207,096
Program Fees	39,805	48,061
Investment & Other Income Net Assets Released from	32,569	11.783
Program Restrictions	82,574	71,926
Total Unrestricted Public Support & Revenue	1,229,495	1,154,210
Expenses (see figure 1)		
Program Services	\$ 827,855	\$ 768,351
Promotion & Fundraising	198,361	197,726
Management & Administration	66,503	64,697
Total Expenses	1,092,719	1,030,774
Statements of Financial Position		
Assets		
Current Assets		\$ 781,704
Endowment	84,463	84,463
Property & Equip., net	711	1,244
Total Assets	1,036,366	867,411
Liabilities & Net Assets	7.5	
Current Liabilities	67,102	53,949
Net Assets, Start of Year	813,462	676,027
Increase in Unrestricted Net Assets	136,776	123,436
Increase in Temporarily Restricted Net Assets	19,026	13.199
Increase in Permanently	-	000
Restricted Net Assets	0	800
Net Assets, End of Year	969,264	813,462
Total Liabilities & Net Assets	1,036,366	867,411

The California Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom is a not-for-profit 50%(c)(3) organization. To obtain a complete audited financial report, please contact the foundation at (600) 700-AITC (2482).





California Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom



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