

Annual Report 2020





Ag in the Classroom is an organization essential to connecting Californians to what it means to reside in a state that is the top producer in the nation when only 2% of its residents are responsible for food production. 2020 showed us that now, more than ever, we have come to realize how much we depend on a stable food supply and the supply chain that delivers California grown products to our stores.

With that being said, the year 2020 was a challenging year for teachers, students, and farmers. Teachers had to figure out how to teach through distance learning platforms. Students of all ages had to adapt quickly to the changes. And farmers and ranchers had to figure out new supply chain logistics.

While the pandemic created challenges, with thanks to our supporters, we were able to continue providing outstanding resources and activities for students and teachers throughout California.

Ag in the Classroom worked hard to create resources adapted for a virtual classroom. We transitioned lessons into Google slide presentations that easily allowed teachers to utilize them in virtual settings and produced a daily blog, [LearnAboutAg@Home](#), to provide additional opportunities for learning outside of the traditional classroom.

In addition to offering teaching materials that address California Academic Standards and providing engaging information about how and where our food is grown, we also provided our state's commodity groups the opportunity to deliver their messages and help students gain an appreciation for agriculture.

We are proud to serve the students and teachers of California with our resources at no cost to make sure they have unbiased, professionally developed, and accurate information about agriculture. We are grateful for the support we receive from our donors that makes this possible.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Judy Culbertson". The script is fluid and cursive.

Judy Culbertson
Executive Director

Lesson Plans for Teachers



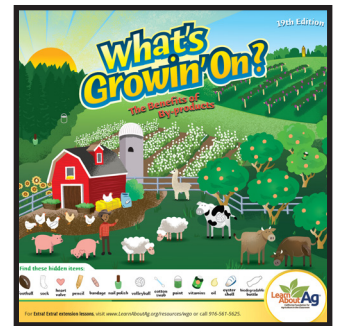
LearnAboutAg@Home Blog

At the start of the pandemic in early 2020, the LearnAboutAg@Home blog was established to help teachers and parents throughout California ensure their students could continue to learn where their food and fiber comes from while they were out of their classrooms. Since March of 2020, five days a week, Ag

in the Classroom has shared fun and educational ag-tivities to be enjoyed at home or in the classroom!

What's Growin' On?

Each year, a new edition of *What's Growin' On?* joins the collection and is enjoyed by more than 100,000 readers. In 2020, we produced the 18th edition which focused on by-products. A variety of activities, trivia, graphics and readings provide something for every reader. Activities are aligned to California Academic Standards.

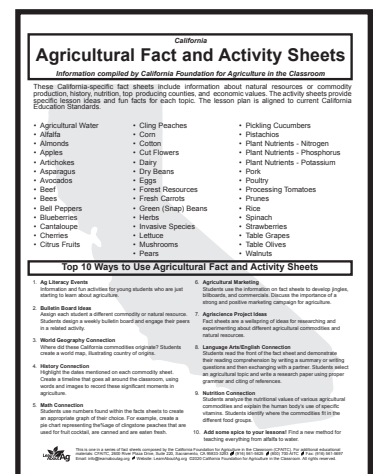


Ag-Bites

Ag-Bites are bite-sized lessons that bring agriculture into classrooms across the state. These one-page sheets explain how to perform hands-on learning activities with students in various grade levels (K-12). Our set of Ag-Bites includes 19 lessons for teachers to use with their students on topics ranging from Desktop Gardens to Making Recycled Paper to Tasty Testing. In 2020, a Blueberry Ag-Bite, focused on nutrition, was added to the collection.

Agricultural Fact and Activity Sheets

Updated annually, Agricultural Fact and Activity Sheets provide teachers with an easy way to provide the facts about agricultural topics or commodities paired with a lesson plan for use in the classroom. Each sheet in our ever-growing set (now at 44) introduces an agricultural commodity, plant nutrient or agricultural topic. Produced in black and white for ease of use by teachers, these are a “hot commodity” with teachers around the state.



Lesson Plans for Teachers



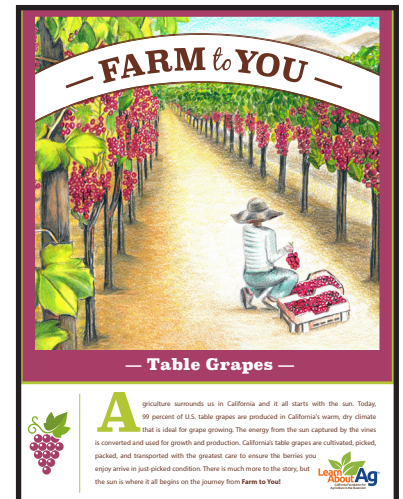
Curriculum Cowabunga Cartons

In 2020 we received a grant to produce a teacher resource box focused on cattle. The carton contains lesson plans and hands-on activities that teach students about the importance of beef and dairy. Cartons were distributed up and down the state at no cost.

Farm to You - Table Grapes

Starting with the sun, there is quite a journey to bring our food from Farm

to You. Agricultural products are carefully prepared for consumers, involving a number of steps and checks for quality assurance. These teaching resources include a colorful illustration, photos, hands-on lesson plan and an activity to help students understand the people and processes involved from Farm to You. In 2020, Farm to You - Table Grapes was added to the series that includes beef and pork.



Orange You Glad We Have Farmland?

This educational poster, helps students learn how much land it takes to grow all of the food that we need to feed the world. A lesson plan for grades 3-5 is incorporated on the back side, and educates students about the importance of conserving California farmland. This resource is available for teachers to download or order.

All About Eggs

In this multi-disciplinary print-and-go resource, students learn all about eggs. Students explore egg sizing and weights, egg anatomy, egg folklore from around the world, and how an egg arrives at the grocery store. With some basic supplies and a carton of eggs, students can build and test a design to help “break” an egg’s fall in an egg gravity test.



Programs for Students and Teachers

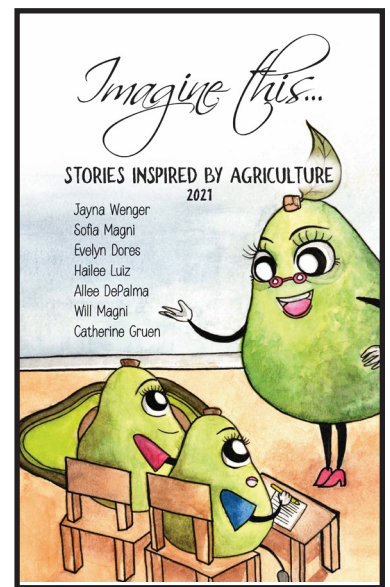


Taste and Teach

Raley's in Northern California, and Stater Bros. in Southern California, sponsored our very popular Taste and Teach program. 350 teachers from around the state received a binder of resources with lessons for teaching subjects about a different commodity each month. Participating teachers were offered gift cards to shop at Raley's or Stater Bros. to purchase the commodity being taught for the students to taste.

Imagine this...

California students in grades three through eight creatively explored agriculture by writing narratives about commodities of their choice. The winning stories from each grade level were illustrated by high school art students and published in our annual story book, *Imagine this... Stories Inspired by Agriculture*. In past years, winning students, teachers, and illustrators were hosted at the state capitol for their Award Ceremony. Due to the restrictions brought on by the pandemic, the ceremony was held in a virtual format. The *Imagine this... Story Writing Contest* meets California Academic Standards—while connecting students to the world around them!



California Agriculture in the Classroom Conference

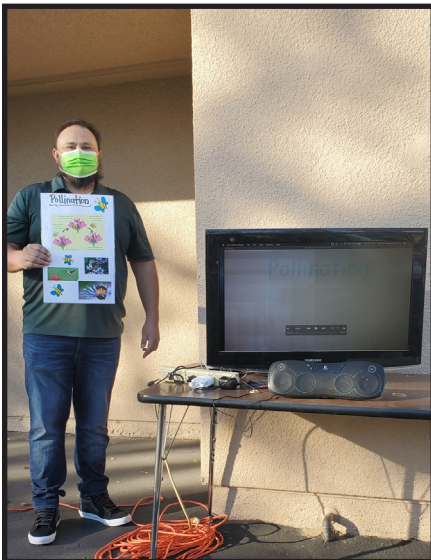
Our 2020 annual conference for teachers was conducted virtually and provided 255 teachers a chance to exchange ideas, participate in workshops, tour agricultural operations, and have a question and answer session with our panel of farmers and ranchers. The conference was based in Ventura county and broadcast live from Sacramento.



Resources for Teachers

Literacy for Life Grants

The Literacy for Life grants, sponsored by the Oreggia Family Foundation, are designed to help initiate new projects or expand existing ones that promote agricultural literacy. Grants of up to \$500 were provided to 24 California K-12 educators to support the integration of agriculture into regular classroom instruction. Due to virtual learning, teachers created projects such as take-home gardens and distance taste testing.

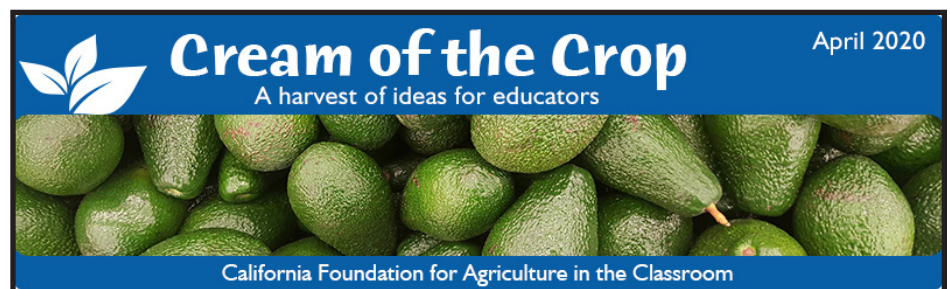


Look at Agriculture... Organically! Grants

The Look at Agriculture... Organically! grants were designed to enhance the understanding of organic agriculture for K-8 students. Grants of up to \$1,000 were provided to 11 teachers nationwide to support the integration of organic agriculture into regular classroom instruction. The grants were provided through a collaborative effort between the Agriculture in the Classroom and CCOF. With COVID-19 restrictions in place, teachers found creative ways for students to learn about agriculture.

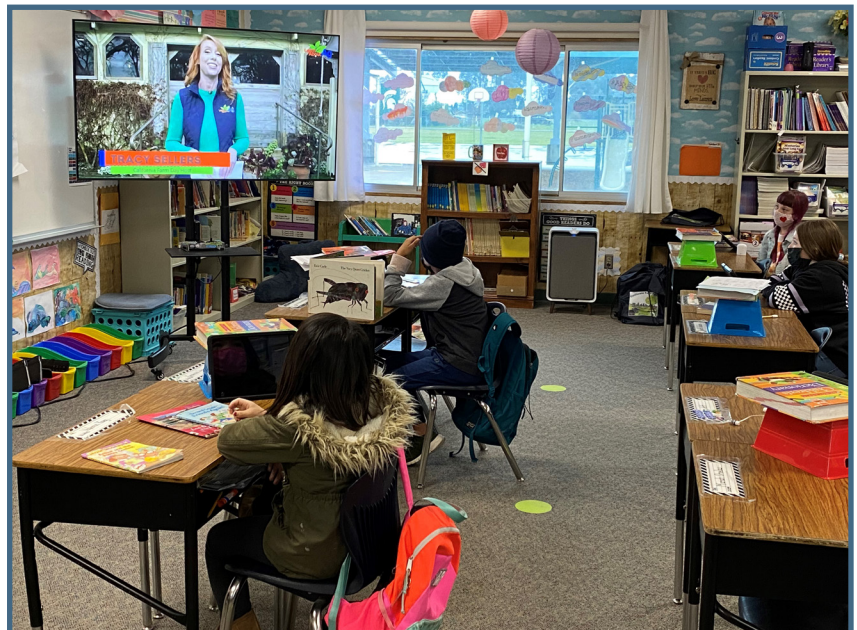
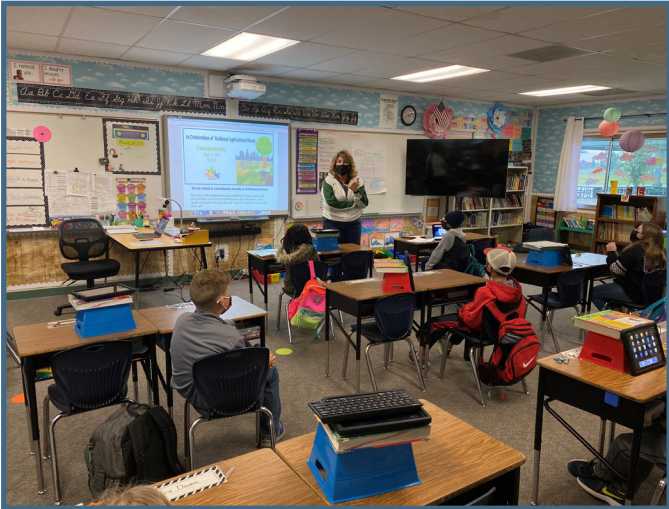
Cream of the Crop Newsletter

Our monthly e-newsletter, *Cream of the Crop*, provides a harvest of ideas including teaching resources, teacher features, and a calendar of events. With this monthly newsletter, teachers stay in touch with grant opportunities, new resources and professional development events.



California Farm Day

California Farm Day reached more than 5,000 students virtually throughout California where they learned about California's Top 10 Commodities! Students were welcomed by California Department of Food and Agriculture Secretary, Karen Ross and received a copy of our *What's Growin' On?* student newspaper and a California Farm Day Workbook. The first 1000 students who registered also received a backpack, classroom snacks and hands-on activities.





Teacher Feature - Christine Torosian-Klistoff

Christine Torosian-Klistoff was awarded California Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom's 2020 Outstanding Educator of the Year Award. We were very proud to nominate Christine for the 2021 National Excellence in Teaching About Agriculture Award presented by the National Agriculture in the Classroom Organization, and, she won! Christine is the Agriculture Science teacher at Fairmont Elementary School in Sanger.

Christine received a Literacy for Life grant in November 2020 to fund her project, Garden Bed Lab, in which her students were able to use their coding skills, CAD software and the Open Farm database to design their garden beds from home throughout a 10-week curriculum.

Christine has been instrumental in the Fairmont Farm Education program. Their goal is to educate and prepare the next generation of leaders and innovators to find new ways to meet ag product demands using an integrated approach of smart technology and traditional knowledge from K-8th grade. Fairmont Farm is designed to be scalable and to serve as a blueprint for future ag education centers across the state and nation.

Christine wants to give students a head start, providing pathways to future ag careers, innovations and leadership. Watch Christine's motivating video at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jNIS1TNgAoo>



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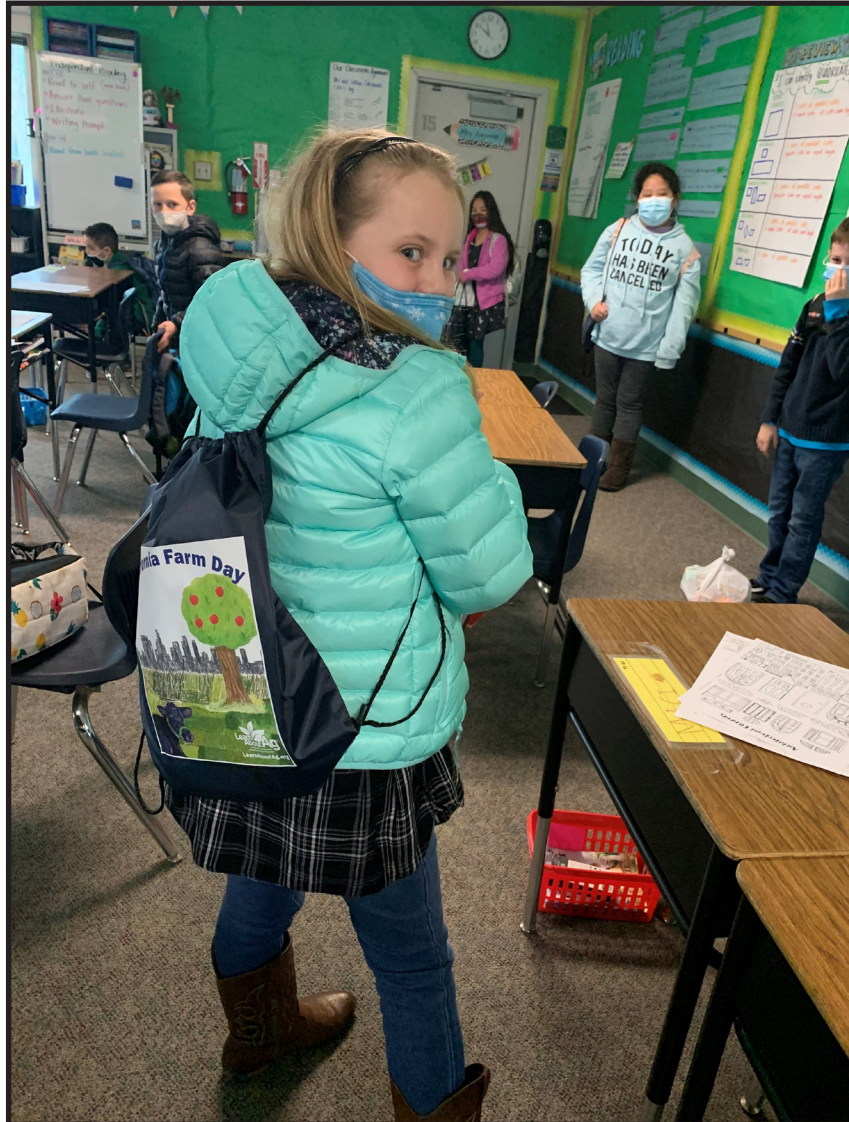
CALIFORNIA FOUNDATION FOR AGRICULTURE IN THE CLASSROOM

STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2020 AND 2019

	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>
NET ASSETS WITHOUT DONOR RESTRICTIONS:		
PUBLIC SUPPORT AND REVENUE:		
Contributions	\$ 676,988	\$ 610,979
Investment income	195,396	258,301
Grant income	86,861	32,060
Special event revenue (net of direct benefits of \$15,035 in 2019)	45,128	87,742
Service agreement income	44,023	129,310
Program fees		29,040
Other income	500	57
Subtotal	1,048,896	1,147,489
Net assets released from restrictions	138,093	131,318
Total unrestricted public support and revenue	<u>1,186,989</u>	<u>1,278,807</u>
EXPENSES:		
Program services:		
Classroom support	385,385	387,880
Conferences	88,139	198,095
County Farm Bureau support	76,755	61,232
Other program services	151,772	198,723
Total program services	<u>702,051</u>	<u>845,930</u>
Support services:		
Promotion and fundraising	131,001	212,048
Management and general	36,125	40,485
Total support services	<u>167,126</u>	<u>252,533</u>
Total expenses	<u>869,177</u>	<u>1,098,463</u>
INCREASE IN NET ASSETS WITHOUT DONOR RESTRICTIONS	<u>317,812</u>	<u>180,344</u>
NET ASSETS WITH DONOR RESTRICTIONS:		
Contributions	113,000	135,000
Net assets released from restrictions	<u>(138,093)</u>	<u>(131,318)</u>
INCREASE (DECREASE) IN NET ASSETS WITH DONOR RESTRICTIONS	<u>(25,093)</u>	<u>3,682</u>
INCREASE IN NET ASSETS	292,719	184,026
NET ASSETS, Beginning of year	<u>1,840,669</u>	<u>1,656,643</u>
NET ASSETS, End of year	<u>\$ 2,133,388</u>	<u>\$ 1,840,669</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

Audited Financial Statements are available at <https://learnaboutag.org/about/media.cfm>



We are California Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom.
Our mission is to increase awareness and understanding of
agriculture among California's educators and
students. Our vision is an appreciation
of agriculture by all.

We are a 501 (c) (3) organization.

Tax ID: 68-0100601

LearnAboutAg.org