

# Taste and Teach

## April - Avocados



### Five **Fun Facts** About Avocados!

- Approximately 90% of the U.S. avocado crop is grown in California.
- San Diego County is California's leading avocado-producing county.
- Avocados are harvested by hand, using special clippers.
- Sometimes avocados are shipped to the store when they are ripe and ready to eat. Other times, avocados are firm and they need to ripen at home.
- Avocado trees can grow to be 35 to 50 feet tall.

### Four **Fun Teaching Ideas!**

- Watch this video on avocados from Ag in the Classroom: [www.youtube.com/watch?v=E4gTk\\_wzBqA](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E4gTk_wzBqA)
- Turn an avocado into a classroom plant! See the simple instructions and other activities in the *What's Growin' On?* student newspaper.
- Avocados are transported in single-layer cartons called lugs, designed to protect the fragile fruit. Have your students work in teams to create their own package for a single avocado. Test the packages by having students carry the packaged avocados in their backpacks over several days.
- Use the guidelines on the back of the *Avocado Fact and Activity Sheet* to lead experiments in expediting the ripening process.

*Explore all the great avocado resources in this section!*