

# Purdue Agronomy Club

Dakota Westphal and Sarah Harden

The Purdue Agronomy Club focuses on giving back to the local and worldwide communities. There are many ways we strive to better ourselves which allows us to help improve the lives of others. We use our resources to raise funds and then apply those funds not just for club purposes but to help those around us. Our main source of income is gained by creating materials for plants and soils educational programs. We also sponsor an annual soup supper/charity auction with all proceeds being donated to various humanitarian programs. Still wanting to give more, we sell Christmas t-shirts and donate the money to Food Finders. The agronomy club also uses the income to further our club member's development by traveling to regional and national meetings. These activities are only a few ways Purdue agronomy club members give back to our department, university, community and world wide programs!



Our club members make plant mounts, Munsell color charts, and assemble soil texture kits and plant seed sets. Members collect plants, press, dry and mount them. We assemble collected seeds and soil textures as well as various soils educational materials used in a department demonstration packet. We make our own soil pH kits and Munsell color chart.



These items are sold to raise funds that are used to help develop FFA & 4-H members skills and knowledge as well as educational materials used by K-12 teachers, Master Gardeners, scouts, and Jr. Colleges. Educators teaching certification workshops also utilize our supplies for groups such as Master Naturalists the National Guard, Globe, Soil Water Conservation Districts and even Certified soil scientists programs



Agronomy wins the challenge with 902 meals for Food Finders

The proceeds of the educational materials not only help with our clubs weekly meeting expenses and travel costs for tours and regional and national meetings but it helps our club finance community building activities! Supplies may be purchased to make tie blankets that we then donate to children's hospitals. We have also donated to the Children's Miracle Network. For numerous years we have provided meals for Food Finders Food Bank, Feed the Children and Heifer International.



The Club provided implements for Haiti relief, to use in one of our service learning study abroad classes. Through matching funds we were able to gift a pair of sheep and goats, a group of chickens, ducks and rabbits to Heifer International. We provided pH kits, sent shovels, post hole diggers, and hoes to another educational program in Romania. Some of our members were participants in the programs while students from other classes approached us about supplies and we donated to their efforts.



## Conclusion:

While our members work side-by-side to build friendships amongst ourselves and strengthen our club we also accomplish a common goal of reaching out to our local, state, and the international community in friendship and education of agriculture. Because of efforts like ours we have become another hand that reaches out to make Purdue University well known not just locally but internationally.

