



CSU Ag Adventure: Growing Our Youth



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Abstract

To spread agricultural knowledge in their community, the Colorado State University Agronomy Club collaborates with other student organizations in the College of Agriculture to host third grade student from Northern Colorado to explore and experience first-hand the impact agriculture has on their daily lives. Their day trip to the university's Agricultural Research, Development, and Education Center presents them with ideas spanning from where their food comes from to how the math and science skills they're learning in the classroom can be applied in an agricultural setting.

Objective

The objective of Ag adventure is to:

- Demonstrate how rainfall affects soil erosion and nutrient movement with different groundcover
- Experience a variety of soil textures through touch
- Teach students how plant and soil interactions can affect agriculture practices due to resource management



Materials and Methods

Methods:

The first step is to coordinate with other clubs and organizations involved in agricultural to create a learning environment at AEDEC. The next step is to develop curricula for both stations aligning with third grade learning objectives and standards. Finally, The CSU Agronomy Club gathered the following resources:

- Bucket of sand
- Bucket of clay
- Hand washing station
- Towels
- A Constructed rainfall simulator

Discussion

During this event, we were able to educate as many as 3,000 third grade students. At the soil texture station, we taught how diverse soils need to be preserved to produce specific crops. The rainfall simulation showcased how groundcover management can avoid soil erosion. After visiting the two stations, the students were able to explain how plant and soil interactions can affect land and the sustainability initiatives to protect it.



Conclusion

As Ag Adventure has grown over the past sixteen years, the CSU Agronomy Club has continued to successfully involve members of Northern Colorado communities in their agricultural environment. This year, we had ten volunteers assist the 3,000 third grade student attendees, receiving positive, encouraging feedback from parents, teachers, and the students. Involving the parents and teachers in this event is beneficial in developing an understanding of agricultural sustainability and resource management.

