“I really appreciated learning about the research, the technology, and the job opportunities in agriculture; it is not a limited field. There are a thousand things that you can do. You can be a research scientist and still be in agriculture. You can be a computer person and still be in agriculture. There are so many different avenues that you can tie into agriculture.”

- Kim Fabick-2011
SAI Enhances Teaching

Agricultural concepts easily fit into the core subjects of math, science, and language arts. SAI provides participants with free classroom materials that are aligned with Arizona’s College and Career Ready Standards. Provided materials include:

- Food, Land, and People Curriculum
- Arizona Specialty Crop Lessons
- Video and material resources from agricultural organizations

25 Years of Hands-on Education

SAI takes you onto agricultural operations and into the research lab. You will also spend a day in small groups with a family on a modern-day working farm or ranch. Tours of agricultural facilities include:

- A state of the art dairy
- A progressive nursery
- A working cattle ranch
- A top agriculture research facility
- Fruit, vegetable, or field crop farms

Why Agriculture?

More than 21 million American workers (15% of the total U.S. workforce) produce, process, and sell the nation’s food and fiber.

Farming and land management is a complex system that feeds a growing world’s population on less land each year. Understanding science and the intricacies behind agriculture is essential in feeding the world.

In recent years, there have been more jobs available in agriculture and food systems, renewable energy, and the environment than qualified graduates to fill them.

8 Reasons to Pursue a Career in Agriculture

1. Technology Advancements
2. Job Diversity
3. Rewarding
4. “New” Generation of Agriculture
5. Increased Salary
6. Industry Growth
7. Population is Increasing
8. Shortage of College Graduates in Agriculture

FAQs

When and where is SAI held?
SAI is held in June (website has specific dates). Tours begin in Phoenix and visit various agricultural facilities around the state.

How many educators participate?
Thirty Arizona educators are selected by a committee to participate.

How do I apply for SAI?
Submit an application online until May 1. You will be notified of results by May 10.

How much does SAI cost?
Apply by March 1 and pay $85. Cost increases to $125 after March 1. Money is due May 25.

Can I earn certificates from SAI?
48 PD hours are available through Arizona’s CTE program. The University of Arizona offers up to 3 graduate level credits at your own expense.

What is SAI?

The Summer Agricultural Institute is a five-day traveling tour designed to teach K-12 teachers about food and fiber production and help them incorporate that knowledge into their classroom curriculum. SAI combines hands-on learning about agriculture with practical curriculum development.

Hands-on Education

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Contact Us

The University of Arizona Cooperative Extension
4341 E Broadway Rd
Phoenix, AZ 85040-8807
(602) 827-8217
MPastor@email.arizona.edu

Learn more online: cals.arizona.edu/agliteracy/programs/SAI