Student instructors, Katie and Alicia, show visiting students what wool feels like before it is sheared from a sheep.
A student discovers that moving water is not easy in the Year 4 career lesson, irrigation specialist.
Letter of Thanks

The Harley Langdale, Jr. Foundation has allowed the Georgia Museum of Agriculture to showcase the past and present of agriculture and natural resources through Destination Ag. With this support, we provide experiential learning opportunities for the next generation of agriculture and natural resource leaders.

During the 2019-2020 academic year, more than 12,000 first through fourth grade students were impacted by participating in Destination Ag. Due to the global Covid-19 pandemic, kindergarten and PreK students were unable to attend. Destination Ag did not continue programming to assist in ensuring the safety of all participants and staff. We appreciate your interest and support as we continue “planting knowledge and cultivating the future.”

Visiting 4th grade students conduct water quality tests to determine if the water in Destination Ag’s aquaponics system is suitable for the catfish being raised.
Kaydence Joiner of Turner County shows off her winning entry to Destination Ag’s Art and Writing Contest.

Agriculture is important to me because it gives me food to eat. Clothes to wear. A home to live in. It helps animals grow. It keeps the food at our school healthy and fresh. It helps others grow. It means the soil is clean and free from chemicals. It teaches me respect for the land so it can be grown.
Year at a Glance

Throughout this year, Destination Ag has introduced new curriculum and on-site improvements. A new addition to the ‘My Family Farm’ literature series became available, My Family’s Peach Farm. New on-site curriculum was incorporated for fourth grade and careers with the new aquaponics system. This system allowed fourth graders and kindergarteners to explore aquatic ecosystems while all other grades visited the aquaponics system during the fisheries manager career lesson. A new on-site improvement located in the Opry Shelter is the ‘Teacher Refueling Station,’ where teachers and bus drivers are welcome to complementary drinks and snacks.

The grow-bed seen here demonstrates a symbiotic relationship between the catfish in the aquatic tank and the plants that filter the water coming from the tank. This entire ecosystem is another aspect of agriculture, called aquaponics, which raises fish and grows plants for human use.
Educational Exhibits

With the help of sponsors, new exhibits and educational signage was added to different areas throughout the Destination Ag site.

Fiberglass hog, Crisp E. Bacon, and two educational signs focusing on Georgia’s pork industry sponsored by Stripling’s General Store

In the U.S., 22 billion pounds of pork are produced each year.

Chicken breeds flip book located near Destination Ag’s chicken coop sponsored by the U.S. Poultry Foundation

Blueberry bushes and educational sign near Destination Ag’s bee shed sponsored by the Georgia Blueberry Growers Association
Curriculum

Throughout Destination Ag’s fourth year, new curriculum for fifth grade was being created for the 2020-2021 school year. However, due to the Covid-19 pandemic, Destination Ag’s curriculum was adapted to better fit the various needs of the schools. For on-site curriculum, teachers will be able to choose the number and type of classes their students will participate in. Each class offered will address various standards for multiple grade levels. Topics for the classes include Georgia’s georegions, erosion, pollinators (specifically bees), and aquaponics. Students will be asked to take the new careers lesson, which will focus on a large animal veterinarian and a fertilizer technician. Additionally, Destination Ag will offer outreach programming to schools who are not able to partake in fieldtrips.

On-Site Updates

The Destination Ag site incorporated various improvements throughout this year. The Teacher Refueling Station is located in the Opry Shelter and provides complementary drinks and snacks to teachers and bus drivers (seen below). The playground was relocated to a larger fenced in location with two new swings (seen right). A new livestock yard allows Historic Village guests and Destination Ag participants an equal chance in viewing the animals (seen right).
New Pasture Location

New Playground Location
Impact

With on-site field trips, outreach resources and programs, new online resources, and social media, Destination Ag’s impact continues to increase annually. The collegiate students who work with Destination Ag are also impacted on a daily basis, gaining valuable experience and motivation from the thousands of children they teach.

ANR Educator, Taylor, teaches first graders about the needs of corn and assists them in planting their own corn plant.
Impact by the Numbers

12,287 students participated in on-site field-trips (over 4,000 were unable to visit due to Covid-19)

4,809 students received Family Farm books: 3,559 Tree & 1,250 Peach

1,258+ students participated in Traveling Trunks outreach programs

1,608 adult attendees during on-site field trips

Most people reached through a single social media post

2,041

Combined followers on social media platforms

1,358

ABAC student instructional hours

2,027
Destination Ag hosted 12,287 students in first through fourth grade from 10 participating school systems: Berrien, Brooks, Colquitt, Cook, Echols, Lowndes, Tift, Turner, Valdosta City, and Worth.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School System</th>
<th>Visiting Students</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Berrien County</td>
<td>798</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brooks County</td>
<td>542</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colquitt County</td>
<td>2834</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cook County</td>
<td>417</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Echols County</td>
<td>411</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lowndes County</td>
<td>1354</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tift County</td>
<td>2152</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Turner County</td>
<td>408</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Valdosta City</td>
<td>2990</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Worth County</td>
<td>375</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>12,287</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A school outside the sponsored region, also participated.

Above: 4th graders joined this fall with new classes: Aquatic Ecosystems and Fire: Is it Good or Bad?
Below: Students participated in two new careers: Fisheries Manager and Irrigation Specialist.
Outreach Programs

Public Events

Destination Ag provided programming and interactive exhibits during the Sunbelt Agricultural Expo and the new Antique Ag Show held at the Georgia National Fairgrounds. Visitors to the exhibits learned about agricultural products, beekeeping, native reptile species in Georgia, and poultry.

Destination Ag student instructors also provided public programming for the Historic Village on Saturdays. Programming topics included raising dairy goats and protecting gopher tortoises.

Family Farm Books

The Family Farm book series is a special project under Destination Ag to provide free resources for educators focusing on Georgia agriculture. These books are written at an elementary age level, in the perspective of a child whose family operates a farm. Our Family Tree Farm focuses on Georgia’s forestry industry and is currently available online with two classroom lessons. My Family Peach Farm was introduced this spring, and lessons are in development. Over 3,500 copies of Our Family Tree Farm books and 1,200 copies of My Family Peach Farm books were sent this year in grades ranging PreK-middle school.
ABAC Student Instructors:

Destination Ag is proud to provide experiential learning for visiting school children and ABAC students alike. ABAC students become role models for visiting children and gain valuable real world work experience. Not only do Destination Ag student instructors implement the program; they create lesson plans, construct teaching materials, develop interpretive exhibits, and care for Destination Ag’s animal staff. They truly are the heart and face of Destination Ag.

Spring 2020 Student Instructors
“Destination Ag is an excellent way to spread my passion for agriculture and teaching.”
- Erica Lewis
Ag Education Major
Spring Instructor

“I love the exciting atmosphere and educating the young minds about agriculture!”
- Chrys Milner
Ag Education Major
Spring Instructor & Summer Intern

“I love getting to take time to teach the next generation about agriculture.”
- Kendall Prescott
Ag Education Major
Spring Instructor

“I love getting to see the kids when they learn new things about agriculture!”
- Kaitlyn Bullock
Business Major
Fall & Spring Instructor & Summer Intern
“I love having a job with such a great atmosphere”
- Baylee Palmer
   Natural Resource Management
   Spring Instructor

“Destination Ag was hands-on learning for myself and the visiting students.”
- Megan Simone
   Ag Education Major
   Spring Instructor

“The kids keep me returning every semester to share my passion for agriculture.”
- Chasity Denmark
   Ag Education Major
   Fall & Spring Instructor

“Destination Ag let me make connections I never would have otherwise.”
- McKenzie Lewis
   Ag Communications Major
   Fall Instructor
ABAC Student Instructors

“I’m not only teaching kids about agriculture, but I’m reaching their parents and teachers as well.”

- Taylor Hodel
  Ag Education Major
  Fall & Spring Instructor & Summer intern

“Destination Ag brings me so much joy spreading the importance of agriculture!”

- Alicia Hernandez-Perez
  Ag Education Major
  Fall & Spring Instructor

“I love getting to both teach and learn all while I’m working.”

- Brittany Ray
  Natural Resource Management
  Spring Instructor

“I love the opportunity to share my passion for agriculture with local students!”

- Katie Horlock
  Ag Education Major
  Fall & Spring Instructor
“Destination Ag is a wonderful program for both students and instructors to grow!“
- Macy Coker
Ag Education Major
Fall Instructor

“Destination Ag lets you get your feet in the water and gain valuable teaching experience.”
- Courtney Barber
Ag Education Major
Fall & Spring Instructor

“I love inspiring the youth of tomorrow.”
- Kristen Nienstedt
Ag Education Major
Fall & Spring Instructor

“I loved that everything we teach is hands-on no matter the age or the grade!”
- Deaunna Holsey
General Studies Major
Fall & Spring Instructor

ABAC Graduate!
“Destination Ag is a great place for instructors to improve their communication skills.”

- Daniel Stout
Wildlife Management
Fall Instructor

“Destination Ag lets you gain experience and make a difference at the same time.”

- Julianna Rezek
Ag Business Major
Fall & Spring Instructor
Assessment

Destination Ag is continually striving for improvement. With multiple assessment avenues such as post program surveys, an art and writing contest, and pre/post online student assessments, Destination Ag is able to incorporate the needs of its target audience.

Seen here are Rebecca Chesser and her student, Rebecca Godwin, Destination Ag’s Art & Writing Contest winners from Valdosta City.
98.5% of teachers and 100% of visiting adults felt that students made further connections between agriculture and natural resources in their daily lives.

On average 91% of teachers and visiting adults would recommend Destination Ag to others.

94% of teachers and visiting adults would rate their experience as excellent or good. In addition, less than 6% rate their experience as only fair or okay, and less than 1% rate it as poor.

Frequent comments from the adult field trip experience survey.
Each county was awarded one winner in the following grade brackets: prek-first and second-fourth. Students were awarded $100 and teachers were awarded $500. Thank you to everyone who entered. There were many wonderful submissions!

### 2019-2020 Winners

#### PreK-1st Grade Bracket
- **Berrien County**
  - Student: Raelyn Vickers
  - Teacher: Donna Harrod
- **Brooks County**
  - Student: Gabriella Wheeler
  - Teacher: Taylor Hoes
- **Colquitt County**
  - Student: Gracie Beck
  - Teacher: Angie Whitaker
- **Turner County**
  - Student: Alexander McKinley
  - Teacher: Savanah Morris
- **Valdosta City**
  - Student: Tatianna Mosley
  - Teacher: Courtni Oneal

#### 2nd-4th Grade Bracket
- **Berrien County**
  - Student: Adalyn Beckelheimer
  - Teacher: Diane Rithcart
- **Brooks County**
  - Student: DeNasia Dorsey
  - Teacher: Serena Martin
- **Colquitt County**
  - Student: Peyton Roberts
  - Teacher: Monica Tugwell
- **Cook County**
  - Student: Rece Stone
  - Teacher: Angela Harry
- **Lowndes County**
  - Student: Brody Whitehead
  - Teacher: Sheryl Nelson
- **Tift County**
  - Student: Layla Jones
  - Teacher: Susan Nimmo
- **Turner County**
  - Student: Rebecca Godwin
  - Teacher: Rebecca Chesser
- **Valdosta City**
  - Student: Tatianna Mosley
  - Teacher: Courtni Oneal

**Above:** Peyton Roberts displays her winning artwork.
**Left:** Brody Whitehead shows his winning artwork.
Pre/Post Testing

Destination Ag continued to provide a pre- and post-online assessment for visiting first through fourth grade students. Overall, results showed that students that visited Destination Ag maintained their level of knowledge about agriculture and natural resources. Additionally, there was increase in positive attitudes towards agriculture in every grade that visited.
Partners & Donors

Destination Ag would not be possible without assistance from its outstanding partners and donors. We appreciate their contributions and investment in educating youth about the future of agriculture and natural resources.

Education Collaborators

- ABAC Agriculture Education Faculty
- ABAC Natural Resources Faculty
- ABAC Rural Studies Faculty

Industry Collaborators

- Flint River Soil & Water Conservation District
- Georgia Blueberry Growers Association
- Georgia Farm Bureau
- Georgia Peach Council
- Georgia Peanut Commission
- Georgia Pecan Grower’s Association
- Georgia Power Foundation Inc.
- Harley Langdale, Jr. Foundation
- Lasseter Tractor
- The Langdale Company
- Pearson Farms
- Steve McWilliams
- Stripling’s General Store
- US Poultry Foundation
- Synovus
Advisory Committee

Destination Ag’s Advisory Committee was created to provide feedback and advice during the program’s implementation. The Advisory Committee includes local educators from the targeted counties, ABAC faculty/staff, and representation from the Langdale Company. The Committee’s support is a vital component to Destination Ag’s continued success.

Mr. Paul Willis  Executive Vice President for Finance and Administration, ABAC
Dr. Darby Sewell  Assistant Vice President for Engaged Learning, ABAC
Dr. Deidre Martin  Director of Advancement, ABAC
Dr. Mark Kistler  Dean, School of Agriculture and Natural Resources, ABAC
Dr. Sandra Giles  Professor of English, ABAC
Dr. Frank Flanders  Associate Professor of Agriculture Education, ABAC
Dr. Marcus Johnson  Assistant Professor of Education, ABAC
Ms. Robin Marcrum  Superintendent, Berrien County Schools
Ms. Belinda West  K-5 Curriculum Coordinator, Berrien County Schools
Mr. James Howell  Superintendent, Colquitt County Schools
Dr. Marni Kirkland  Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Learning, Colquitt Co. Schools
Ms. Trish Lirio  STEM Director, Colquitt County Schools
Dr. Tim Dixon  Superintendent, Cook County Schools
Dr. Joi Williams  Pre-K Director/ Primary School Assistant Principal, Cook County Schools
Ms. Joy Folsom  K-5 Curriculum Coordinator, Cook County Schools
Ms. Barbara Boler  Education and Outreach, The Langdale Company
Mr. Adam Hathaway  Superintendent, Tift County Schools
Ms. Joanna Hand  Pre-K - 5 Curriculum Director, Tift County Schools
Ms. Tracy Ingram  Teacher, Len Lastinger Primary School, Tift County Schools
Mr. Craig Matthews  Superintendent, Turner County Schools
Ms. Melanie McLemore  Director of Curriculum/Instruction, Turner County Schools
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