Destination Ag
ABAC’s Georgia Museum of Agriculture
2021-2022 Summary Report
AGRICULTURE gives

CLOTHES to wear,

FOOD to eat,

and a HOUSE to live in!
Letter of Thanks

The continued support of the Harley Langdale, Jr. Foundation enables ABAC’s Georgia Museum of Agriculture to continue to engage children with the importance of agriculture and natural resources. To date, Destination Ag has provided interactive connections to agriculture and natural resources for more than 45,000 students in the last six years.

The fall semester of 2021 continued with the global COVID pandemic lingering. Despite this challenge, Destination Ag continued to provide programming virtually and on-site to maintain the connection between children in South Georgia and the source of their food, fiber, and shelter.

We appreciate your dedication and devotion in helping us ensure Destination Ag continues to provide meaningful experiences and enhances students’ relationship with agriculture and natural resources.

Student instructor, Ashleigh, discusses forestry practices while showing students the 19th century saw mill.
Student instructor, Kalei, introduces students to an Eastern box turtle during Animal Analysis.
As schools and communities continued to mitigate COVID, Destination Ag maintained its accommodating program options to serve students despite travel and in-person limitations. The Harley Langdale Jr. Foundation’s commitment to Destination Ag continues to provide no cost programming for children in 13 school systems. The program currently specializes in programs for children in PreK, first, third, and fifth grades. The 2021-2022 academic year also featured new curriculum and modifications to the Destination Ag playground.

**Left:** Student instructor, Blake, leads a discussion on food processing and simple machines.

**Right:** Student instructor, Lexi, helps students visit with Destination Ag’s sheep during the Meet the Sheep lesson.

**Left:** Fruit traits are discussed during the plant geneticist virtual careers lesson with student instructors Elissa and Ashleigh.
On-Site Updates

Two new permanent staff joined the Destination Ag team this spring. Kalyn Hansford, Destination Ag’s Program Specialist, is a recent ABAC graduate originally from Orlando. Caroline Shaw, also a recent ABAC graduate, is Destination Ag’s new ANR Educator and is from Berrien County.

The Destination Ag playground received a new addition for children to enjoy climbing, swinging, and sliding! A pollinator shed is now located in Destination Ag’s pollinator garden and WiFi is also available at the Destination Ag site along with other locations throughout the Historic Village.
Impact

Nearly 8,000 students participated in Destination Ag for the 2021-2022 academic year.

Student instructor, Jessica, helps a student milk Buttercup during a Farm to Fridge lesson.
More students participated in virtual programming at the beginning of the school year due to continued pandemic concerns. Most schools participated in on-site field trip experiences during the spring semester.

- **7,950** PreK through 8th grade program participants
- **1,211** The number of Family Farm books distributed
- **1,459** Student participants in Traveling Trunks outreach program with the Georgia Farm Bureau
- **2,681** Most people reached through a single social media post
- **1,706** Combined followers on social media platforms
- **657** ABAC student instructional hours
“Through working at Destination Ag, I have really found what gives me joy. Teaching children about agriculture and seeing the joy and excitement in their eyes in what they are learning, makes me not want to do anything else. ”
- Josie Brightwell
Ag Education Major
Spring Instructor

“Working at Destination Ag has expanded my classroom management skills and passion for educating the youth about agriculture.”
- Jessica Brogdon
Ag Education Major
Fall & Spring Instructor

“Destination Ag is a great way for agriculture education majors to test the education waters .”
- Ashton (Lexi) Cindrick
Ag Education Major
Fall & Spring Instructor

“Working at Destination Ag allows me to get real life experience in the job I want before I even graduate.”
- Courtney Clair
Ag Education Major
Spring Instructor
“Destination Ag is always changing. I learn and experience something new every day.”

- Gracie Dukes
  Ag Education Major
  Spring Instructor

“Through DA I saw so many kids who were excited about agriculture, which made me even more excited about agriculture.”

- Audrey Eagle
  Ag Education Major
  Spring Instructor

“Destination Ag helped me understand the importance of field trips as part of education and how we can have an impact on children through them!”

- William Eubanks
  Natural Resource Management Major
  Fall Instructor
“Getting to interact with the kids and teach them the importance of agriculture was a great experience.”

- Kayleigh Fowler
Ag Education Major
Fall & Spring Instructor

“Destination Ag has provided me with real world work experience in a field I love.”

- Lisa Hawkins
Ag Education Major
Fall Instructor

“Destination Ag is always changing. I learn and experience something new every day.”

- Taylor Hodel
Ag Education Major
Fall Instructor

“Destination Ag has been a fun environment to work in and it has allowed me to grow in the agriculture education field.”

- Ashleigh Hurst
Ag Education Major
Fall & Spring Instructor
“I loved being able to teach the children about ag, so the future generation is informed and cares for ag as much as I do.”

- Elissa McMullen
  Pre Vet Major
  Fall Instructor

“While working here I have gained great experience teaching students about agriculture and sharing my passion for agriculture with them.”

- Amber Murphy
  Ag Education Major
  Fall & Spring Instructor

“I have always loved teaching people about agriculture. At Destination Ag I get the opportunity to teach so many young people and watch their understanding and love for agriculture grow while also sharpening my teaching skills.”

- Katelyn Smith
  Ag Education Major
  Fall & Spring Instructor
ABAC Student Instructors

“I love being able to share my love for agriculture with the students and watching their faces light up as they find their own love for agriculture.”

- **Kalei Sutton**  
  Ag Communications & Education Major  
  Fall & Spring Instructor

“I love sharing my knowledge and love of agriculture with future generations.”

- **Jeffery (Blake) Thompson**  
  Pre Vet Major  
  Fall Instructor

“Destination Ag was a fun and exciting experience.”

- **Brooke Vanzant**  
  Ag Education Major  
  Spring Instructor
“I believe the mission statement of Destination Ag is being carried out successfully by how we are committed to educating future generations about the importance of agriculture.”

- Elle Carter
Ag Education Major

“Destination Ag is a great educational resource which plants seeds of knowledge about the importance of the agriculture industry in our youth.”

- Ouida (Faith) Preston
Ag Education Major

“Destination Ag has allowed me to share my passion for the agricultural industry with the youth!”

- Bailee Tracy
Ag Education Major
Assessment

Utilizing post program feedback surveys and the Art and Writing Contest allows Destination Ag to continuously evolve and improve. The program also introduced a new tool this year, the Agriculture Literacy Observation Form. Observed lessons showed anecdotal evidence of students gaining agricultural knowledge after instruction.

Students realize the importance of machines as they test their strength pushing the historic cane mill.
Feedback Surveys

With the introduction of new program types, Destination Ag relied heavily on the post program feedback surveys to ensure these additions continued to provide a high-quality experience for all participants.

99.2% of teachers thought students made connections between agriculture and their daily lives and would recommend the program to others.

96.7% of teachers thought Destination Ag’s lessons addressed state education standards.

90.6% of teachers would recommend the Destination Ag program to others.
Art & Writing Contest

Each participating school district was awarded one winner in the following grade brackets: Pre-K and first, third and fifth. Students were awarded $100 and their teachers were awarded $500.

PreK & 1st Grade Bracket
- Berrien County
  Student: Maybree Moldovan
  Teacher: Dawn West
- Echols County
  Student: Dayana Aguilar
  Teacher: Liza Vargason
- Irwin County
  Student: Deborah Rhinebolt
  Teacher: Anna Youghn
- Lowndes County
  Student: Emily Sims
  Teacher: Felicia Hankinson
- Tift County
  Student: Brielle Wilson
  Teacher: Megan Guzman
- Turner County
  Student: Naima Merriweather
  Teacher: Andrea Kelly
- Valdosta City
  Student: Emily Tran
  Teacher: Ellen House

3rd & 5th Grade Bracket
- Berrien County
  Student: Alexis Avant
  Teacher: Rebecca Haughton
- Brooks County
  Student: Kailee Clayton
  Teacher: Serena Martin
- Irwin County
  Student: Izabell Kearce
  Teacher: Dana Payne
- Lanier County
  Student: Maddie Schools
  Teacher: Nichole Berryhill
- Tift County
  Student: Ava Grace Paulk
  Teacher: Margaret Matthews
- Turner County
  Student: Kailyn Yancey
  Teacher: Kathy Hille
- Valdosta City
  Student: Demariva Mathis
  Teacher: Austin Strozier

Below: Emily displays her winning artwork.

Below: Dayana displays her winning artwork.

Top: Demariya displays her artwork along with her teacher Mr. Strozier.

Bottom: Kailynn displays her artwork with her teacher Ms. Hille.
## Gift Accountability: Harley Langdale, Jr. Foundation Gift 2021-2022

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Personnel Services</th>
<th>Budgeted</th>
<th>Expended</th>
<th>Remaining</th>
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<tr>
<td>Administrative Staff</td>
<td>$12,500.00</td>
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<td>$3,571.50</td>
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<td>Student Instructors/Interns</td>
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**Operating**

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<td>Facility Development</td>
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### Financial Summary: Destination Ag 2021-2022

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<th>ABAC/GMA</th>
<th>Gifts</th>
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<td>Administrative and instructional staff</td>
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<td>$32,334.67</td>
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**Operating**

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<th>HLFJ</th>
<th>ABAC/GMA</th>
<th>Gifts</th>
<th>Total</th>
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<tr>
<td>Facility Development</td>
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**Total**

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<th>ABAC/GMA</th>
<th>Gifts</th>
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<td>$110,597.30</td>
<td>$242,406.00</td>
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Through key collaborations and partnerships, Destination Ag has continued to provide accurate representations of agriculture and natural resources while maintaining relevant educational connections. The support from industry partners remains imperative to fully realize the long term positive impact and success of Destination Ag.

Education Collaborators

- ABAC Agriculture Education Faculty
- ABAC Natural Resources Faculty

Industry Collaborators

- Georgia Blueberry Growers Association
- Georgia Cotton Commission
- Georgia Farm Bureau
- Georgia Forestry Foundation
- Georgia Peach Council
- Georgia Peanut Commission
- Georgia Pecan Grower’s Association
- Georgia Power Foundation, Inc
- Harley Langdale, Jr. Foundation
- Lasseter Tractor
- Pearson Farms
- Southeastern Cotton Ginners Association, Inc.
- The Langdale Company
- Tidewater Equipment
- Dixon Gin Company
- Dixon Farms
## 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 vital to Destination Ag’s success.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Title and Institution</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ms. Deidra Jackson</td>
<td>Vice President for Finance and Operations, ABAC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Tim Youngblood</td>
<td>Director of Auxiliary Services, ABAC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Deidre Martin</td>
<td>Director of Advancement, ABAC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Mark Kistler</td>
<td>Dean, School of Ag and Natural Resources, ABAC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Andrew Thoron</td>
<td>Dpt. Head, Ag Education and Communication, ABAC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Sandra Giles</td>
<td>Professor of English, ABAC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms. Robin Marcrum</td>
<td>Superintendent, Berrien County Schools</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms. Belinda West</td>
<td>K-5 Curriculum Coordinator, Berrien County Schools</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Vickie Reed</td>
<td>Superintendent, Brooks County Schools</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms. Staci Chastain</td>
<td>Curriculum Director K-5, Brooks County Schools</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Ben Wiggins</td>
<td>Superintendent, Colquitt County Schools</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Marni Kirkland</td>
<td>Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Learning, Colquitt County Schools</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ms. Trish Lirio</td>
<td>STEM Director, Colquitt County Schools</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Tim Dixon</td>
<td>Superintendent, Cook County Schools</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms. Joy Folsom</td>
<td>Assistant Superintendent, Cook County Schools</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms. Shannon King</td>
<td>Superintendent, Echols County Schools</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Vince Hamm</td>
<td>Principal, Echols County Elementary &amp; Middle School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Thad Clayton</td>
<td>Superintendent, Irwin County Schools</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Wes Taylor</td>
<td>Superintendent, Lowndes County Schools</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms. Julie Klein</td>
<td>Curriculum Director, PreK-5, Lowndes County Schools</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ms. Barbara Boler</td>
<td>Education and Outreach, The Langdale Company</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Adam Hathaway</td>
<td>Superintendent, Tift County Schools</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms. Joanna Hand</td>
<td>Pre-K - 5 Curriculum Director, Tift County Schools</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Craig Matthews</td>
<td>Superintendent, Turner County Schools</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Nehemiah Cummings</td>
<td>Superintendent, Worth County Schools</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr. Djana Goss</td>
<td>Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment, Worth County Schools</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr. William Cason</td>
<td>Superintendent, Valdosta City Schools</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Alex Alvarez</td>
<td>Director of STEM &amp; Science Curriculum, Valdosta City Schools</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Student instructor, Taylor, shows students how a gopher tortoise is adapted to the Coastal Plains.

Students learn about a peanut combine and how machines help farmers.
Students visit with Destination Ag’s mini-Hereford cattle.

Students discover which crop cat litter comes from (peanuts)!

Students enjoy trying to milk Buttercup, Destination Ag’s fiberglass milking cow.
Contact
Kelly Scott

1392 Whiddon Mill Road
Tifton, Georgia 31793

(229) 391-5221

destinationag@abac.edu

https://gma.abac.edu/destinationag/

Destination AG

@GMADestinationAG