

Destination Ag

ABAC's Georgia Museum of Agriculture



2022-2023 Annual Report

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Third and fifth graders explore erosion ▼

Mission

To be a dynamic educational program connecting students and teachers to the importance of agriculture and natural resources in their daily lives. Destination Ag provides educational activities directly focused on agriculture and natural resources.



Letter of Thanks



First graders plant corn seed ▲

Fluke or Fortune is about Ag Economics ▲

The support of the Harley Langdale, Jr. Foundation enables ABAC's Georgia Museum of Agriculture to engage children on the importance of agriculture and natural resources in their daily lives. Since the program's inception in 2016, Destination Ag has provided interactive connections to agriculture and natural resources for more than 55,000 students.

Through our lasting partnership with the Harley Langdale, Jr. Foundation the impact of Destination Ag across Georgia continues to spread. This past year Destination Ag served three more counties in South Georgia, bringing the total number of counties served to 15. We have also been able to provide over 35,000 My Family Farm books throughout Georgia. We continue to strengthen the connection between children in South Georgia and the sources of their food, fiber and shelter

As Destination Ag continues to grow and evolve, our partnership with the Harley Langdale Jr, Foundation is vital to our success and sustainability. Thank you for your dedication and devotion to Destination Ag, Georgia's youth, and providing resources that allow us to plant seeds and cultivate meaningful relationships with agriculture and natural resources.

Year at a Glance

On-Site Updates



Four chickens were introduced this spring ▲

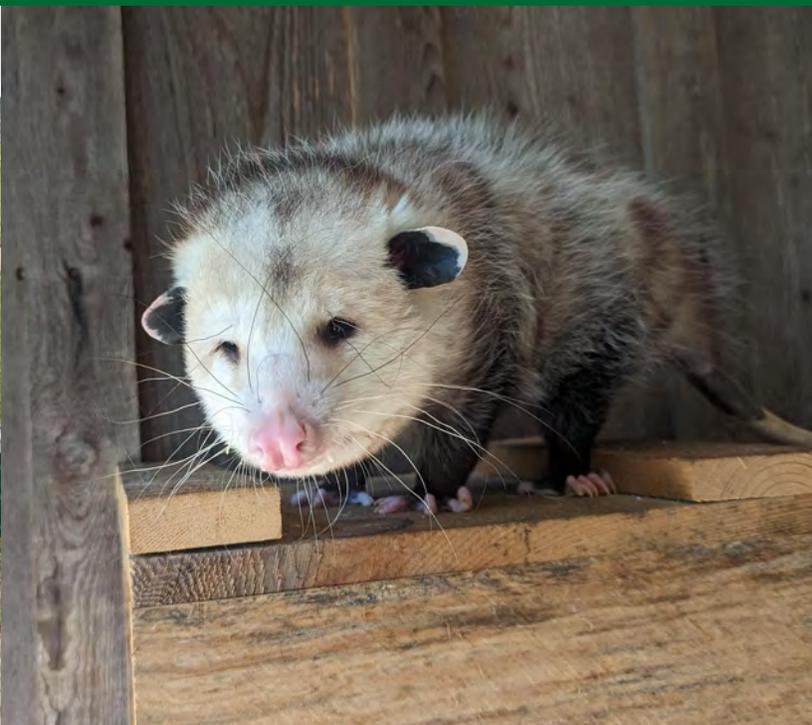


Channel catfish were added to the aquaponics ▲

At the beginning of the year, students worked on new garden beds ▼



A Virginia opossum greets students at the Nature Center ▼



Year at a Glance

On-Site Updates: Pollinator Garden



Narrowleaf Sunflower ▲

Staff diligently worked towards improving Destination Ag's pollinator garden, including planting new native plants, adding kid friendly features, and developing exhibits in the new pollinator shed. Hickman Honey Co. (pictured below) are partnering with Destination Ag to provide bees for the observation hive.



Year at a Glance

Programming



▲ A Day in the Woods



Sunbelt Ag Expo ▲

Destination Ag Day ▼



Outreach continued to play an important role in Destination Ag programming. This year included participating in the annual Day in the Woods and the Southeast Ag Expo; hosting a Project WILD Educator Workshop for ABAC students and local formal and informal educators; and partnering with the Flint River Soil and Water Conservation District and Chehaw Zoo to provide Agricultural and Natural Resources programming to local second graders.

Introduced this year was Destination Ag Day, a public program event held to increase ag awareness in the local community. This inaugural event saw over 400 visitors and included the participation of four ABAC clubs and the local public library. We are excited to continue expanding this event in future years!

Destination Ag Day ▼



Year at a Glance

Programming



Destination Ag and ABAC Alumni, aged teacher Sara Will, brings her students to Destination Ag! ▲



▲ First graders have fun traveling to different learning stations

Students pretending to wash fleece ▼



Impact

9,414



Visiting Students PreK - 5th Grade

2,036



Visiting Adults with PreK - 5th Grade

2,069

Combined followers
on social media
platforms

Kalyn teaching Fluke or Fortune ▼



9,460

Number of Family
Farm books
distributed

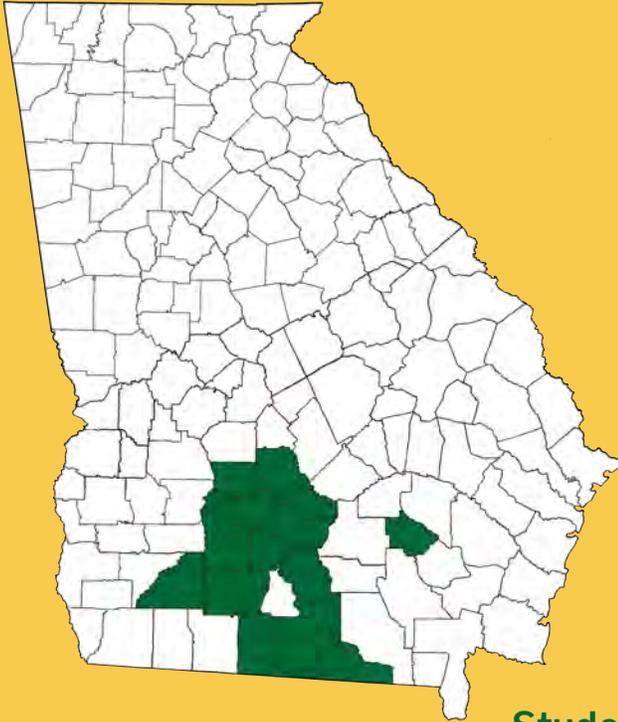
11,163

Most people
reached through a
single social media
post

1,421

instructional hours
from 13 ABAC
students

Impact



15 public school districts participated in Destination Ag this school year.

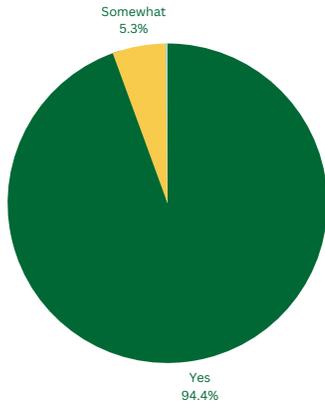
Students meeting the fibergalss milking cow



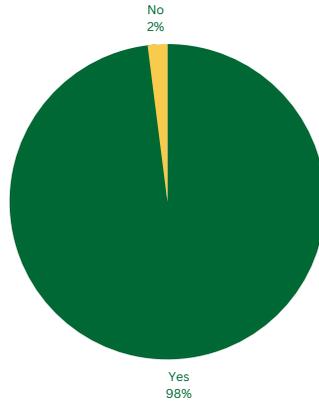
Impact

Assessment

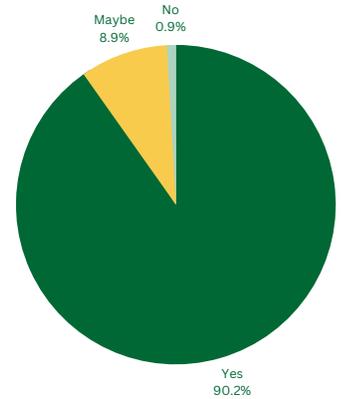
94.4% of teachers thought Destination Ag's lessons addressed state education standards.



98% of teachers thought students made connections between agriculture and their daily lives.

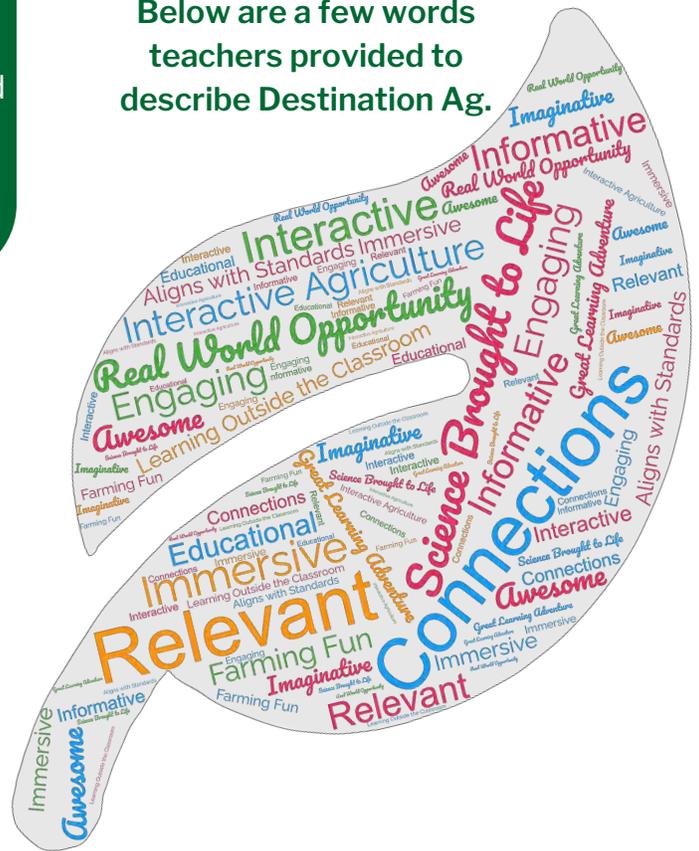


90.2% of teachers would recommend the Destination Ag program.



Annually, Destination Ag implements post program teacher feedback surveys and an Art and Writing Contests to determine program success and impact. A pre/post online test implemented to Tift County 3rd and 5th graders showed an increase in positive attitude towards agriculture and natural resources after visiting with Destination Ag.

Below are a few words teachers provided to describe Destination Ag.



Classrooms were awarded a DA Critter Party if they participated in the online pre/post assessment.

Impact

Art & Writing Contest



PreK & 1st
Valdosta City Schools
Myles



3rd & 5th
Turner County
AvaLynn & Ms. Hille



PreK & 1st
Colquitt County
Alexandra



3rd & 5th
Lanier County
Gavn & Ms. Hunt

PreK & 1st Grade Bracket Colquitt County

Student: Alexandra Brown
Teacher: Priscilla Illian

Echols County
Student: Nattalee Manac
Teacher: Courtney Meeks

Irwin County
Student: Kyrhin Livingston
Teacher: Dru Hudson

Lowndes County
Student: Heli Patel
Teacher: Erin McRae

Tift County
Student: Allie Selph
Teacher: Noelle McCurdy

Valdosta City Schools
Student: Myles Roberts
Teacher: Ellen House

Worth County
Student: Noah Hill
Teacher: Shae Langley

3rd & 5th Grade Bracket Colquitt County

Student: Alex Flores Morales
Teacher: Rachel Yingling

Irwin County
Student: Emma Grace Climents
Teacher: Kristina Simpson

Lanier County
Student: Gavin Boyette
Teacher: Emily Hunt

Lowndes County
Student: Landon Elliott
Teacher: Tyler Brooks

Tift County
Student: Abby Williford
Teacher: Jessica Walls

Turner County
Student: AvaLynn Poole
Teacher: Kathy Hille

Valdosta City Schools
Student: Kara Peters
Teacher: Tiffany Williams

Each participating school district was awarded one winner in the following grade brackets: PreK & 1st, third and fifth. Students were awarded \$100 and their teachers were awarded \$500.

Student Instructors

Student workers are the foundation of Destination Ag! Their hard work and dedication to the program is greatly appreciated.



Sydney Bagony
Ag Com Major
Spring Instructor



Jessica Brogdon
Ag Education Major
Fall Instructor



Phoebe Beard
Ag Education Major
Fall Instructor



Leayla Broome
Ag Education Major
Spring Instructor



Josie Brightwell
Ag Education Major
Fall Instructor



Elle Carter
Ag Education Major
Summer Intern

Student Instructors



Spring 2023 Staff



Courtney Clair
Ag Education Major
Fall Instructor



Tessa Dixon
Wildlife
Management Major
Spring Instructor



Katrina De Vuyst
Ag Ed Major
Spring Instructor



Alyssa Goodman
Wildlife
Management Major
Fall & Spring
Instructor



Audrey Eagle
Ag Ed Major
Fall & Spring
Instructor



Kayleigh Fowler
Ag Ed Major
Fall Instructor



Third and fifth graders
learning about invertebrates
in Animal Academy.

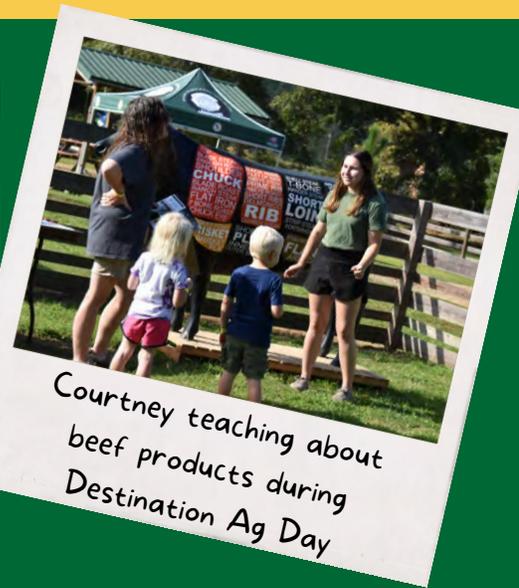
Student Instructors



Working hard in the rain!



Tessa shows PreK and first grade students Buttercup, the fiberglass milking cow.



Courtney teaching about beef products during Destination Ag Day



Ashleigh Hurst
Ag Ed Major
Fall & Spring
Instructor



Georgia Larimer
Ag Ed Major
Spring Instructor



Austin Malcom
Ag Ed Major
Fall & Spring
Instructor



Amber Murphy
Ag Ed Major
Fall Instructor



Katelyn Smith
Ag Ed Major
Fall Instructor

Student Instructors



Macee Smith
Ag Ed Major
Spring Instructor



Mia Tinsley
Ag Ed Major
Spring Instructor



Kalei Sutton
Ag Comm & Ag Ed
Major
Fall & Spring
Instructor



Kamren Youghn
Ag Ed Major
Spring Instructor

Instructors' Quotes

DA has taught me so many new skills, such as animal care and teaching techniques that are important in the ag classroom.
Leayla



DA has allowed me to grow better as a person and educator.
Katrina



Destination Ag is a great place to gain experience teaching kids about agriculture, and at the same time, you get the opportunity to teach their teachers and parents.
Austin



Leayla, Tessa, and Macee helping during FolkLife Festival!



Kamren starting a first grade lesson on crops.

Partners & Donors

Through key collaborators and partnerships, Destination Ag continues 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 Agripreneurs Club
- ABAC Beekeepers Club
- ABAC Cattlemen's Association
- ABAC Natural Resources Faculty
- ABAC Wildlife Society



ABAC's Wildlife Society joined Destination Ag Day to educate the public on natural resources.

Industry Collaborators

- Ellis Bros. Pecans
- Georgia Cattlemen's Association
- Georgia Farm Bureau
- Georgia Pecan Grower's Association
- Harley Langdale, Jr. Foundation
- Hickman Honey Co.
- Lasseter Tractor
- The Langdale Company
- Tidewater Equipment
- Tifton-Tift County Public Library
- Mr. Triston Hansford



Macee and Audrey taking photos for the new My Family's Pecan Farm book with Ellis Bros. Pecans.

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 targeted counties, ABAC faculty/staff, and representation from the Langdale Company. The Committee's support is vital to Destination Ag's success.

School Districts

- Ms. Dawn Clements, Superintendent, Ben Hill County Schools
- Mr. Ben Webb, Director of Curriculum and Instruction, Ben Hill County Schools
- Ms. Robin Marcum, Superintendent, Berrien County Schools
- Ms. Belinda West, K-5 Curriculum Coordinator, Berrien County Schools
- Dr. Vickie Reed, Superintendent, Brooks County School
- Ms. Staci Chastain, Curriculum Director K-5, Brooks County Schools
- Mr. Ben Wiggins, Superintendent Colquitt County Schools
- Dr. Marini Kirkland, Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Learning, Colquitt County Schools
- Ms. Trish Lirio, STEM Director, Colquitt County Schools
- Dr. Tim Dixon, Superintendent, Cook County Schools
- Ms. Joy Folson, Assistant Superintendent/Student Achievement Director, Cook County Schools
- Dr. Vince Hamm, Superintendent, Echols County Schools
- Ms. Bobbie Staten, Echols County & Middle School
- Mr. Kerry Billingsley, Superintendent Irwin County Schools
- Ms. Rachel Pace, Curriculum Coordinator, Irwin County schools
- Dr. Shawn Haralson, Superintendent, Lowndes County Schools
- Ms. Julie Klein, Curriculum Director PreK-5. Lowndes County Schools
- Ms. Barbara Boler, Education and Outreach, The Langdale Company
- Mr. Adam Hathaway, Superintendent, Tift County Schools
- Ms. Joana Hand, PreK - 5 Curriculum Director, Tift County Schools
- Mr. Craig Matthews, Superintendent, Turner County Schools
- Mr. Bernard Joiner, Jr., Director of Curriculum, Turner County Schools
- Mr. Nehemiah Cummings, Superintendent, Worth County Schools
- Ms. Teresa Sumner, Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment, Worth County Schools
- Dr. Craig Lockhart, Superintendent, Valdosta City Schools
- Dr. Alex Alvarez, Direct of STEM and Science Curriculum, Valdosta City Schools

ABAC Faculty and Staff

- Ms. Deidre Jackson, Vice President of Finance and Operations, ABAC
- Dr. Deidre Martin, Chief Advancement Officer, ABAC
- Dr. Mark Kistler, Dean, School of Agriculture and Natural Resources, ABAC
- Dr. Andrew Thoron, Department Head, Agricultural Education and Communication, ABAC
- Dr. Sandra Giles, Professor of English, ABAC



Students meet Gertie and Truffles, Destination Ag goats, during Animal Analysis ▲

Third and fifth graders meet an Eastern ▼ box turtle during Animal Academy





A family visiting with Chula, the mini Hereford, during Destination Ag Day.



Kameron showing a box turtle to PreK students for Animal Analysis.



Destination Ag student instructors braving the cold during staff training.



Destination Ag

ABAC's Georgia Museum of Agriculture

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