Minnesota Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources (AFNR) Education
Classroom - Experiential Learning - FFA

AFNR programs prepare students for successful careers and a lifetime of informed choices in the global agriculture, food, fiber and natural resources system. Through AFNR education, students are provided opportunities for leadership development, personal growth and career success.

Of the 21,087 AFNR students in grades 9-12:

10,442
MINNESOTA FFA MEMBERS: FFA encourages students to apply skills in order to prepare for future careers by developing their potential for premier leadership, personal growth and career success through agricultural education.

3,127
STUDENTS EARN SCIENCE CREDIT FOR AN AFNR COURSE: AFNR students apply science in agricultural topics related to plants, animals, food and mechanics throughout Minnesota.

1,414
STUDENTS EARN CREDIT FOR EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING: AFNR students apply classroom learning through experiential learning experiences while preparing for and exploring career opportunities.

9,803
STUDENTS ARE CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION CONCENTRATORS. These students complete at least 240 hours of coursework over 4 years.

CONCLUSION: Students completing an AFNR experience are prepared for the future.


AFNR 3-Circle Model:

Agricultural education is delivered through three interconnected components in the 193 Minnesota AFNR Programs:

I. Classroom or laboratory instruction.

II. Experiential learning — Learning experiences that usually take place outside of the classroom, supervised by the agriculture instructor. We commonly refer to these as a Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) program. Students may explore new AFNR topics, work for an AFNR business, start their own business, or conduct research as part of their SAE program.

III. Leadership education — delivered through student organizations such as the National FFA Organization.
91.5% graduate in 4 years!
That is 10.3% better than the Minnesota statewide average.

63.2% Male
6,202
36.7% Female
3,601

39% Economically Disadvantaged

WHO ARE AFNR STUDENTS?

AFNR Pathways Represented by Enrollment

FFA makes a positive difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for premier leadership, personal growth and career success through agricultural education.

WHAT DO FFA MEMBERS GAIN?

PREMIER LEADERSHIP
70 members serve as region or state officers

PERSONAL GROWTH
4,349 received leadership training at a regional or state leadership conference

CAREER SUCCESS
480 members competed at the State Fair with exhibits from their SAE program

More than 3,500 attended the State FFA Convention to compete in 28 events, attend workshops, and network with colleges and industry

More than 1,000 attended the National FFA Convention in Louisville, Kentucky with many competing in events throughout the convention

This is all possible because of the support from:

Agricultural Education Foundation
http://www.mnaged.org/

Minnesota Agricultural Education Leadership Council
http://mn.gov/maelc/

Minnesota Foundation for Student Organizations
http://mfnso.org/

Learn more at:
www.mnaged.org
www.mnffa.org
www.facebook.com/mnffa
www.twitter.com/mnffa
Post-Secondary Agriculture in Minnesota

Minnesota is home to 31 Minnesota State Colleges and Universities System (MnSCU) Post-Secondary Institutions. Of those 31 MnSCU institutions, 14 offer programs in Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources (AFNR), not including the Farm Business Management program.

The University of Minnesota – Twin Cities, and the University of Minnesota – Crookston, offer AFNR programs as well. Total AFNR enrollment in Fall 2014 was 1,938 and Fall 2015 enrollment was 2,021 at the University of Minnesota.

In 2013-2014, a total of 782 AFNR degrees were awarded in the MnSCU and University of Minnesota system combined.

Top 3 AFNR programs in MnSCU

1. Agribusiness/Agribusiness Production
2. Landscaping and Grounds Keeping
3. Crop Science

Sources:
MnSCU College Search
College Navigator - National Center for Education Statistics

Of those top 3 programs, in 2013-2014, there were 72 graduates of an Agribusiness/Agribusiness Production program, 26 graduates of a Landscaping and Grounds Keeping program, and 24 graduates of a Crop Science program within the MnSCU system.

Of those top 3 programs, in 2013-2014, there were 128 graduates of an Animal Science Program, 41 graduates of a Food Science program, and 30 graduates of a Horticulture/Applied Horticulture program within the University of Minnesota system.

In 2014, the U of MN had 507 AFNR Baccalaureate graduates.

In 2015, they had 513 AFNR Baccalaureate graduates.

In 2013-2014, MnSCU had 275 AFNR graduates.

Associate Degrees: 90
Diplomas: 74
Certificates: 111
In 2014, there were 3,824 new jobs in Minnesota posted on AgCareers.com

24.9%
From 2008-2014, the average job growth rate in Minnesota increased 24.9%.
(Source: AgCareers.com)

18.4%
From 2008-2014, the average job growth rate in the U.S increased 18.4%.
(Source: AgCareers.com)

39%
39% of job openings in agriculture, food, and natural resources are going unfilled on an annual basis.
(Source: Purdue.edu)

"In 2015, the top 5 industry interest areas for career seekers were crop production, plant & soil sciences, chemical & fertilizer, communications & public relations, and animal health."
-AgCareers.com

In 2015, 53.24% of companies surveyed on AgCareers.com said they expect their workforce to increase in size in the next two years.

Sources: AgCareers.com
Purdue.edu/usda/employment
Minnesota Farm Business Management Overview

- 57 Farm Business Management instructors across Minnesota (8 college campuses)
- The Farm Business Management Program coordination of professional development, industry connection, and database development is facilitated by the Agricultural Centers of Excellence.
- Historic database and most current annual report is available at this website: www.fbm.mnscu.edu
- The database is built with new “cloud” technology to drive efficiency for all 57 instructors participating and partnered with the Center for Farm Financial Management.
- The database has many queries (searches) during per year (over 33,000 in 2014) by data users ranging from individuals to loan officers, legislative assistants, and insurance company personal.
- Farms successfully complete a whole farm analysis (assessment) with FBM instructors:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Number of student farms in state database</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>2,047</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>2,091</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>2,210</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>2,293</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>2,362</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- As agricultural economy fluctuates, demand for FBM program education is in high demand.
- Partnerships with Farm Service Agency, Minnesota Department of Agriculture, (beginning farmer scholarships, dairy profit teams) have supported strong student enrollment.

Current Projects for Program Efficiency

Agricultural instructor expansion and program efficiency
- Through the support of the Minnesota Agricultural Education Leadership Council grants from 2015 Legislation, five new positions are being added across the state to support our Minnesota farm families.
- Online delivery models are being developing to build efficiencies in delivery and augment the program content tools available to FBM instructors and students because of the 2015 legislature.
- The database will begin transition to a secured cloud setting to build efficiencies in the program as a whole and database development.

Continued support of the Farm Business Management program
- Farm income has dropped over 50% in the past 3 years causing a great deal of stress on farm families and related industries. Farm Business Management is a key catalyst to problem solving in such economic conditions, which supports a stable Minnesota economy.

Promotional Resources
- New promotional video regarding Farm Business Management Education, available on YouTube: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rYtRpnKIIHk

FBM programs are lead by two Center of Excellence:
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