Agricultural Education in Rhode Island

Agricultural Education implements inquiry-based learning in the classroom and career exploration through work study and supervised agricultural experience programs. It develops leadership skills such as public speaking, teamwork, organization and civic service through the intracurricular implementation of FFA.

Students who participate in agricultural education programs graduate with the skills necessary to become productive citizens who will succeed in postsecondary education or the workforce.

Secondary Education

- 1,100 students in agricultural education courses
- 8 agriculture teachers
- 6 high school agricultural education programs
- 2 middle school agricultural education programs
- 185 students enrolled per program on average

Some of the courses offered
- Introduction to Agriculture
- Agriscience
- Floriculture
- Plant Science
- Landscape Design/Construction
- Forestry
- Turf Management
- Sustainable Agriculture
- Animal Science
- Veterinary Science
- Wildlife Management
- Aquaponics/Aquaculture
- Specialty Plant Production
- Agricultural Mechanics

Postsecondary & Adult

Postsecondary Agriculture Programs
The University of Rhode Island, Johnson and Wales University, and the Rhode Island School of Design offer degrees in agriculture.

University of Rhode Island
- Animal Science & Technology
- Aquaculture & Fisheries Science
- Environmental Science & Management
- Geology & Geological Oceanography
- Landscape Architecture
- Marine Biology
- Plant Sciences
- Sustainable Agriculture & Food Systems

Johnson and Wales University
- Equine Business Management/Non Riding
- Equine Business Management/Riding
- Equine Science

Rhode Island School of Design
- Landscape Architecture

Economic Impact of Agriculture
Agriculture is one of Rhode Island’s top industries, contributing $59.6 million annually to the state’s economy. Farmland covers about 10 percent of the smallest state’s land at over 69,000 acres. Top commodities produced on Rhode Island’s 1,243 farms include greenhouse and nursery products, dairy, sweet corn, and apples. Farmers grow potatoes, too, mostly in the southeastern part of the state. Milk is the second most important income source for farmers.

Aquaculture is also a top earner in the Ocean State, which includes 60 aquaculture operations. Oysters are the No. 1 aquaculture product – over 8.2 million oysters harvested by Rhode Island farmers are sold for eating.

For more information please visit www.naae.org