



National Teach Ag Campaign

300 Garrigus, Lexington, KY 40546-0215
859-257-2224 | www.naae.org/teachag

NEWS RELEASE

For more information:
Ellen Thompson
National Teach Ag Coordinator
ethompson.naae@uky.edu
Phone: (605) 350-3842

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MARCH 15 MARKS THIRD NATIONAL TEACH AG DAY

A celebration started three years ago to encourage more people to become agriculture teachers has grown into a national day of recognition and education.

Celebrations for National Teach Ag Day will include everything from rallies at state capitol buildings, to teachers swapping schools for the day, to appreciation events on college campuses. “There is a national shortage of agriculture teachers,” said Ellen Thompson, National Teach Ag Campaign Coordinator, “and we want people to bring attention to it however they see fit.”

This year there are plans to hold a virtual national celebration at Buena Park High School in Buena Park, Calif., with live streaming coverage online and the opportunity for anyone to participate on Twitter or Facebook. Participants can log on at www.naae.org/teachag. The website also contains information for anyone interested in pursuing a career in agricultural education, and resources for those planning celebrations.

“We’re also taking students to Washington, D.C. during National Ag Week, where they’ll be visiting with legislators, presenting to Ag Week participants, and teaching an agriculture lesson in a D.C. public school,” said Thompson. “Understanding agriculture is vital to everyone – and without enough agriculture teachers, that education can fall by the wayside.”

Agriculture programs teach the science and production of food, feed, and fiber, as well as subjects like natural resources and veterinary science. Students in agriculture programs learn a wide variety of skills and concepts through these subjects, including science, math, communications, leadership, management and technology.

National Teach Ag Day is a component of the National Teach Ag Campaign, an effort to bring attention to the need for more agricultural educators in the U.S and celebrate the contributions that agriculture teachers make in their schools and communities. The campaign is an initiative of the National Council for Agricultural Education, led by the National Association of Agricultural Educators. The campaign is funded by the CHS Foundation and Landmark Nurseries as a special project of the National FFA Foundation. For more about National Teach Ag Day and the National Teach Ag campaign, visit www.naae.org/teachag.

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