



MICHIGAN FOUNDATION FOR
AGRICULTURE

LEADERSHIP | PROMOTION | SCHOLARSHIP | EDUCATION

2022 ANNUAL REPORT



OUR MISSION

Positively contribute to the future of Michigan agriculture through leadership and educational programming.

We support Michigan Agriculture in the Classroom's agricultural literacy efforts and Michigan Farm Bureau's leadership development programming.

Message from the Chair

Dear friends,

I'm excited to report the Michigan Foundation for Agriculture's agricultural literacy and leadership programs continue to grow and thrive, as you can see in the following pages. But this success doesn't happen without immense support from educators, communities, volunteer leaders and strategic partners, **like you.**



You help us connect more students, teachers and consumers to Michigan food and farmers than ever before. You help build the skills and confidence of current and future leaders interested in the future of Michigan agriculture. And you make all of these programs possible.

Thank you for investing in agricultural literacy and leadership through the Michigan Foundation for Agriculture. We appreciate the trust you place in us and look forward to sharing more great success stories as we look ahead to 2023.

Warm thanks,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Carl Bednarski". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a prominent initial "C".

Carl Bednarski

Michigan Foundation for Agriculture Board Chair

Agricultural Literacy Impact

Michigan Agriculture in the Classroom impacted 31,790 students and 6,810 teachers in 460 Michigan schools in 2022 through the following programs.

FARM SCIENCE LAB

Two 40-foot mobile classrooms, equipped with the latest teaching technologies, tooled with STEM-based lessons and aligned with science and agricultural literacy standards.



- **21,623 students** and **830 teachers** from **54 schools** in **29 counties** experienced the **FARM Science Lab** this year.
-

FARM CRATES

Hands-on, educational subscription boxes, delivered to K-5th grade classrooms across the state during the school year.



- **5,263 crates and refill kits** were shipped to **359 schools** in **65 counties** this year.
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MICHIGAN AGRICULTURE IN THE CLASSROOM COUNTY SPECIALIST

Contract educator who visits classrooms and career fairs, hosts regional teacher professional development sessions and works with volunteers to lead student outreach activities in Ottawa County.



- **10,167 students** and **377 teachers** from **47 schools** participated in **outreach activities** this year.

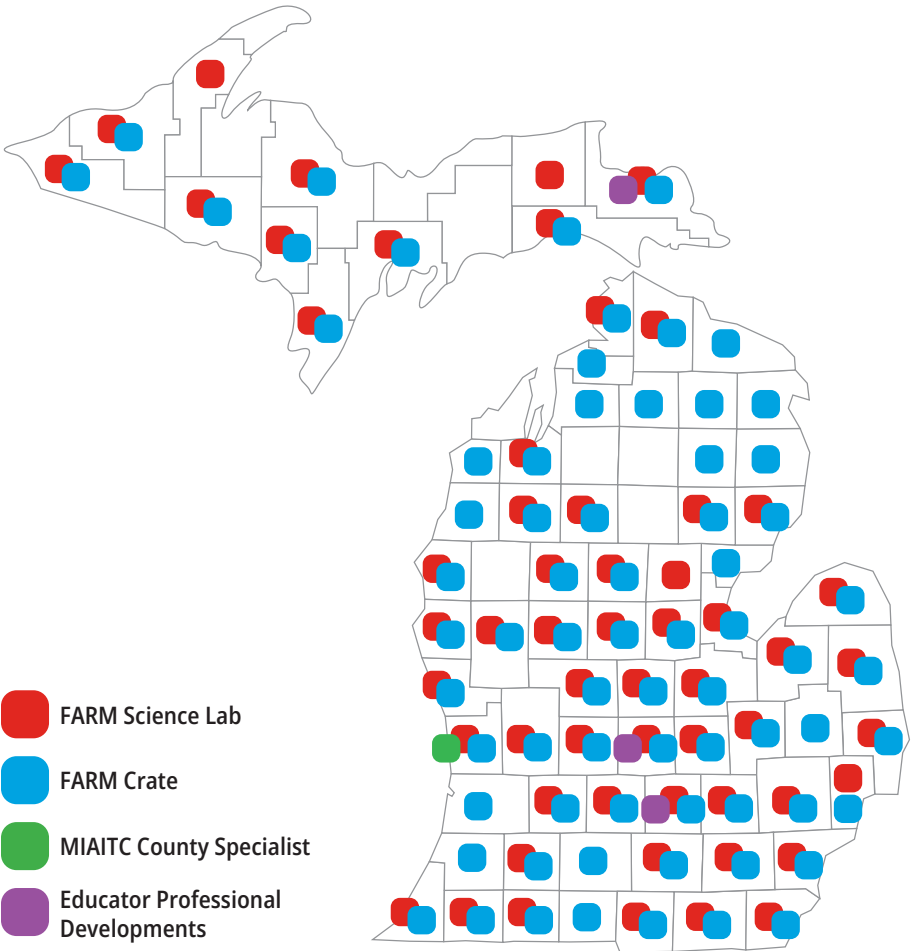
EDUCATOR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENTS



Training and resources provided to pre-service high school and college students studying education as well as current educators.

- **24 pre-service students** and **395 current teachers** participated in **seven trainings and conferences** this year.

AGRICULTURAL LITERACY PROGRAM REACH TO DATE





"I absolutely loved the whole FARM Science Lab experience. I heard several things that I will be able to reference throughout the year in Michigan history and science!"

THIRD GRADE TEACHER
Morley Stanwood Elementary

Looking Ahead to 2023

As we look to the future and our next investments in agricultural literacy, we're embarking on a three-year evaluation of our agricultural literacy delivery models to maximize statewide student learning and teacher adoption.

Over the course of these pilots, we'll analyze outreach data, student evaluations and qualitative feedback to determine the most effective way to improve agricultural literacy amongst students and teachers.

We look forward to partnering with others as we explore the following outreach models in 2023:

- **FARM SCIENCE LAB**
- **FARM CRATES**
- **MICHIGAN AGRICULTURE IN THE CLASSROOM COUNTY SPECIALIST**
- **NEW: FARM SCIENCE VAN**

Regional educators delivering FARM Science Lab lessons in traditional classrooms without the logistics of a 40-foot trailer.



SPOTLIGHT: MICHIGAN AGRICULTURE IN THE CLASSROOM EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR

The Michigan Farm Bureau Promotion and Education Committee annually recognizes an outstanding educator's efforts to incorporate agriculture and natural resources into their curriculum.

2022 Educator of the Year: Angie Mills

*Developmental Kindergarten Teacher,
Shiawassee County*



Agricultural Leadership Impact

Michigan Foundation for Agriculture programs delivered leadership development opportunities to 758 members and young leaders from 61 county Farm Bureaus in 2022.

HIGH SCHOOL AND COLLEGIATE

Building skills for career readiness, leadership opportunities and advocacy for agriculture.

- **109 students** from **20 counties** competed in **six regional High School Discussion Meets**.
- **10 Collegiate Farm Bureau members** from **5 collegiate chapters** competed in the **State Collegiate Discussion Meet**.
- **550 pails** filled with resources were distributed through county Farm Bureaus to recognize high school students on their achievements.
- **42 FFA chapters** and **Collegiate Farm Bureau members** shared consumer messages on social media through **#SpeakAgMichigan**.

PROMOTION AND EDUCATION

Preparing agriculture leaders to be the active voice for agriculture while educating consumers about our industry.

- **355 members** attended the **Growing Together Conference**, learning about consumer outreach, business and leadership development.
- **6 new county P&E leaders** completed a **six-month leadership development webinar series**.
- **12 innovative county P&E projects** were showcased at State Annual Meeting.
- **15 State P&E Committee members** participated in **leadership development modules** throughout the year.

YOUNG FARMERS

Developing 18-35-year-old agriculture leaders for service in their county Farm Bureaus and communities.

- **50 young farmers** competed in **District Discussion Meets**.
- **44 young farmers** from **30 counties** submitted **award applications**.
- **17 young farmers in ProFILE** completed DiSC, public speaking, Gettysburg battlefield leadership, Washington, DC advocacy, and media and consumer conversations training.
- **15 State YF Committee members** participated in **leadership development modules** throughout the year.



“Farmers can’t just farm anymore. They need to actively engage in sharing their story with consumers, building trust in food and farms. Promotion and Education has helped connect me to resources, people and ideas to better tell agriculture’s story to students and consumers.”

JULIE STEPHENSON

State Promotion and Education Committee



“As an educator and participant of leadership development programs, the resources provided by the foundation are invaluable. I’ve been able to tell agriculture’s story in my classroom and throughout the state through leadership programming.”

JOE ANKLEY
Agriscience Teacher

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- Michigan Sugar Company
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Learn More and Get Involved

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