

# The Teacher Newsletter Oregon



Spring 2001

## Agriculture In The Classroom Foundation

This newsletter is **sponsored by the Oregon Agriculture in the Classroom Foundation** to help students and teachers understand the important role of agriculture in Oregon and the United States. For more information, contact the Agriculture in the Classroom (AITC) Program Director, Tami Kerr, at Oregon State University, (541) 737-8629, [aitc@orst.edu](mailto:aitc@orst.edu), or visit our home page at <http://AITC.orst.edu>.

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### Web Calendar Contest

Enter your student's artwork now! Students in grades 3-6 are eligible to enter artwork about ***Oregon Agriculture*** for our web calendar contest. Next fall we will be adding a calendar to our Web site that features student artwork. The student's name, grade level, teacher, and school will all be listed. Below the picture, will be a calendar with agricultural facts that correlate to the specific month. Each month the student's picture needs to carry the theme of ***Oregon Agriculture***. Students can submit pictures of their idea of agriculture in Oregon. It may be a flower garden, Christmas Trees or children eating ice cream. The pictures need to be submitted by **May 15th**. Judging will be completed over the summer and the calendar will feature student's artwork next fall. For more information, check our web site at <http://aitc.orst.edu> or the **insert** in this newsletter.

### Free-Loan Reference Library

New materials have been added to our Agriculture in the Classroom (AITC) free-loan reference library. Visit our AITC Web site at <http://aitc.orst.edu>. Materials are divided into several topic areas: Animals, Conservation & Natural Resources, Food & Nutrition, General Agriculture and Plants. The materials list the grade level with a short description of the curriculum, and subject area.

### Oregon Curriculum Available

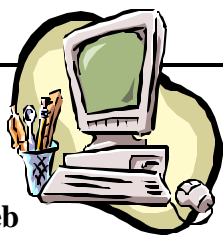
The new curriculum on Oregon commodities and natural resources for grades 4-5 is still in development. Currently there are 13 lessons

completed and three that are being reviewed. Several more lessons are in progress and will be completed this summer. We hope to have approximately 25 lessons. This fall we will conduct workshops around the state to introduce the curriculum and continue pilot testing. If you are interested in attending a workshop in your area, please contact us at (541) 737-8629. The lessons are being developed in partnership with Extension 4-H and Agriculture Education at Oregon State University.

### Grad Credits Available for Summer Ag Institute (SAI)

Lee Cole, Department Head Agriculture Education, Oregon State University states that SAI is "A dynamic, educational, fun packed week of learning about our nations number one employer, agriculture. Get 3 credits and learn how Agriculture can be used as a theme for teaching math, science, social studies and English to enhance achievement of Education Reform Standards. Agriculture makes a great context for helping your curriculum come to life." There are two sessions available, at Oregon State University June 24-29 and at Eastern Oregon University August 6-10. For more information contact the Oregon Agriculture Education Foundation at (503) 399-1701.





## **Making the Connection**

### **Ag in the Classroom on the Web**

#### **National Arbor Day**

<http://www.arborday.com>

National Arbor Day is celebrated each year on the last Friday in April. However, Oregon celebrates Arbor Day during the first full week in April.

Oregon's State Tree is the Douglas fir. Learn more about Arbor Day from this site.

#### **Oregon Ag Fest**

<http://www.oregonagfest.com>

You must experience Ag Fest! Visit Ag Fest April 28-29 in Salem at the State Fairgrounds. Ag Country is a creative agricultural community that gives kids hands-on experiences such as grinding wheat, digging for potatoes, watching chicks hatch, and much, much more.

#### **Plant the Seed**

<http://www.kidsgardening.com>

Investigate this site for applications for youth garden grants for schools, community centers and clubs.

#### **Presidents and Agriculture**

<http://www.ipl.org/ref/POTUS/>

Did you know that the first US President George Washington was a farmer? Investigate former US Presidents and see how many are tied with agriculture.

#### **Peanut Butter Basics**

<http://www.peanutbutterlovers.com>

Peanut butter is one of America's favorite foods. Found in about 75% of American homes, peanut butter is considered by many to be a staple like bread and milk. Learn about the history of peanut butter and George Washington Carver, who is considered to be the father of the peanut industry.

#### **4-H Virtual Farm Tour**

<http://ext.vt.edu/resources/4h/virtualfarm/main.html>

Learn more about aquaculture, beef, dairy, poultry and wheat. You will learn how your favorite foods get from the farm to your plate.

## **Ag Calendar**

### **April 2001**

- ◆ National Recycling Month  
<http://earthsystems.org/curc/aboutnrc.html>
- ◆ National Arbor Day 4/27  
Vote to select America's National Tree at [www.arborday.com](http://www.arborday.com)
- ◆ National Garden Week 4/8-14  
Gardens fit into every school program.
- ◆ Earth Day 4/22  
[www.earthday.net](http://www.earthday.net)

### **May 2001**

- ◆ National Strawberry Month
- ◆ National Beef Month  
Celebrate one of Oregon's top commodities!  
[www.beef.org](http://www.beef.org)
- ◆ National Hamburger Month
- ◆ National Salsa Month  
Recipes at [soar.berkeley.edu/recipes/salsas/](http://soar.berkeley.edu/recipes/salsas/)
- ◆ National Salad Month  
Make a salad with your students and top it with Oregon grown products.
- ◆ National Egg Month  
For fascinating egg facts or decorating an egg visit [www.eggboard.org](http://www.eggboard.org)
- ◆ National Herb Week 5/7-13

### **June 2001**

- ◆ National Teacher's Day 6/3
- ◆ National Dairy Month  
Making tin can ice cream, butter in a jar or foolproof yogurt. Contact AITC for recipes!
- ◆ National Turkey Lovers Month  
[www.poultryegg.org](http://www.poultryegg.org)
- ◆ Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Month  
For lessons in language arts, math, science and social studies for grades 3-4.  
[www.dole5aday.com/](http://www.dole5aday.com/)
- ◆ National Rose Month  
Portland is the City of Roses. More than 1.2 billion fresh cut roses are sold each year in the U.S. Nursery & Greenhouse is Oregon's top commodity!
- ◆ Family History Day 6/14  
Do your students have a farmer or rancher in their family tree?

# NEW Resources & Information



Contact Agriculture in the Classroom (AITC) for more information or to reserve the following materials, (541) 737-8629, AITC@orst.edu, or view our free-loan resource library online at <http://aitc.orst.edu>

## Educational Units:

### Sheep Kit

Grades Preschool -3 (Kit)



This kit includes a book entitled *My Sheep*, a several lesson plans and activities and a kit on Wool Fiber In The Making from Pendleton Woolen Mills. **Free loan** from Oregon AITC.

### DIG IN!

Grades 3-4 (Kit)

This 3rd and 4th grade unit uses the ancient Egyptian culture and its pyramids to teach fundamental lessons about the Food Guide



Pyramid, good nutrition and physical activity. At the same time students will learn basic skills in the areas

of language arts, social studies, math/technology, science/health and fine arts. The kit contains a full-color poster, an audiocassette with music and lyrics for the Dig In! sing-a-long, teacher's guide, six black line masters, and a pre/post test. Available **free** to Oregon teachers from the **Oregon Beef Council**. Contact Schelli Blaha at (503) 274-5405.

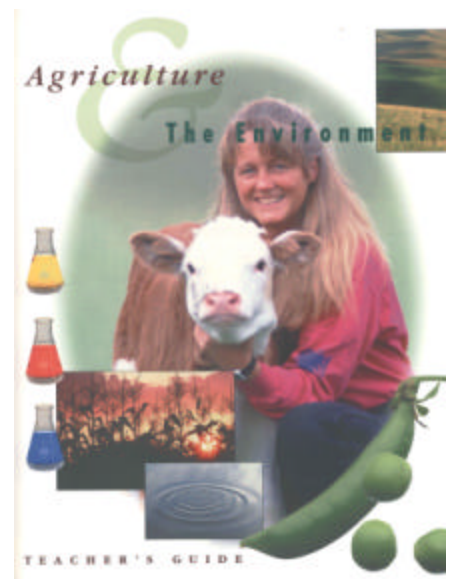
### Ten Things Kids Want to Know About Farming Grades 4-6 (Video)

A 22-minute educational videotape takes students on a series of field trips to farm and ranch locations throughout the United States, offering them a firsthand view of what happens to produce the food and clothing we use everyday.



### Agriculture & The Environment Grades 6-9 (Teachers Guide - Booklet)

This guidebook provides background information that teachers can use to incorporate topics related to agriculture and the environment into the curriculum for grades 6-9. Classroom activities are provided to bring the information alive for students. The five chapters focus on: food safety; pesticides and integrated pest management; water quality; wetlands; and endangered species. Written by award-winning middle school science teacher.



## **THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS!**

### **Benefactors:**

Oregon Women for Agriculture, and the Oregon Ryegrass Commission

### **Cornerstone:**

Cenex Harvest States

### **Foundation:**

Oregon Beef Council, Washington Mutual/Western Bank, Tillamook County Creamery Association, Land O' Lakes, Oregon Department of Agriculture, and FRIENDS of Oregon Farms & Forests

### **Sustaining Member:**

Liz & George VanLeeuwen, Monsanto Company, Stems & Stuff, Oregon Dairy Women, Fisher Implement, Linn-Benton Women for Agriculture, Marion/Clackamas Women for Agriculture, Farm Credit Services, Oregon Dairy Farmers Association, and the Oregon 4-H Foundation

### **Individual Sponsor:**

Corvallis Kiwanis Foundation, Syngenta Crop Protection Inc., Polk County Women for Agriculture, and Klupenger Nursery & Greenhouses, Inc.



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