

SAE

Supervised Agricultural Experience

Supervised Agricultural Experience Fact Sheet Benefits of SAEs

The importance of SAE programs extends far beyond the agricultural education classroom. An SAE is a catalyst for personal growth, career development and responsible citizenship that leads to individual, group and societal benefits not possible through formal education alone. Skills, knowledge, experiences and connections gained through SAEs remain with students for a lifetime and positively influence others along the way. An SAE is more than an integral part of agricultural education; it is tangible learning with an applied purpose and measurable results. Following are some of the benefits of SAEs:

Benefits to Students

- Assists with career and personal choices while building self-esteem.
- Applies business practices such as record keeping and money management.
- Nurtures individual talents and develops a cooperative attitude toward others.
- Builds character and encourages citizenship and volunteerism.
- Provides a comfortable environment for practical learning that is challenging, but fun.

Benefits to FFA Chapters

- Creates opportunities for students to earn recognition for themselves and the chapter.
- Promotes involvement in proficiency awards, CDEs and other FFA programs.
- Encourages parental involvement and support of chapter activities.
- Develops leadership and teamwork skills essential to chapter success.
- Provides every chapter member with a venue for personal growth and achievement.

Benefits to Teachers, Schools

- Strengthens relations between the school, community and agriculture program.
- Serves as a motivational tool for student learning and scholastic achievement.
- Creates familiarity with and promotes new technologies and agricultural practices.
- Provides year-round instruction that is practical, relevant and industry-based.
- Expands agricultural competencies learned in the classroom and laboratory.

Benefits to Employers and the Agricultural Industry

- Provides a labor force skilled in technical and applied agricultural practices.
- Fosters a good work ethic as well as critical thinking and interpersonal relations skills.
- Keeps young people involved in the local community and/or the agriculture industry.
- Serves as an effective venue for on-the-job training and career preparation.
- Assists schools in keeping instruction relevant based on industry needs.

Benefits to Communities

- Promotes community service and involvement.
- Provides the community with a competent and educated work force.
- Improves the efficiency of the agriculture-related jobs in the community.
- Develops knowledgeable, conscientious and informed citizens.
- Creates an awareness and appreciation of the community's economic, environmental and human resources.