# Farm Smart
## 2018-2019

University of California | Desert Research and Extension Center



The AGventures Field Day brought 5 local FFA groups to explore careers in agriculture

The Desert Research and Extension Center (DREC) has been an integral part of California's agricultural community since 1912. DREC conducts innovative and relevant agricultural, natural resources, and environmental research and education programs. One of the pillars of DREC's mission is to educate the public through a growing Farm Smart program that was established in 2001. This program promotes a better understanding of agriculture, the source of our food, fiber and energy, and its impact on our economy and daily lives, as well as protecting natural resources and cultivating healthy people and communities. Over 163,00 participants haven been reached since its start in 2001.

**13,839** total Farm Smart participants



48 schools from 21 districts across Imperial County, Yuma and Mexicali visit Farm Smart each year

**7,253** participants in community activities and presentations



15 third grade classrooms participated in the inaugural Read with a Farmer event



Hands-on explorations in agriculture

**1,663** volunteer hours

equivalent to

**$42,290** worth of donated time



Local seniors visit the farm for the inaugural Senior U-Pick Day

**6,589** participants in K-12 field trips, career workshops and DREC events



FFA students practice siphon hose irrigation

**492** adult participants in winter farm tours

*"Everyone we interacted with was so kind and enthusiastic about the [Farm to Preschool] event. My three year old had a blast learning about farming, getting to interact and play with so many different learning booths and creative projects. It was a great event!"*

—Parent at Farm to Preschool Festival

### Farm to Preschool Festival



The inaugural Farm to Preschool Festival saw over 700 participants from across the Imperial Valley.

**Partners:**



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