

Farm Smart Program

2022-2023

University of California | Desert Research and Extension Center



Farm Smart invests in local student interns to assist with extension efforts.

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.

12,896
total Farm Smart participants

Farm-to-Preschool Festival increases participant willingness to try new fruits and vegetables

7,090
participants in offsite community activities and presentations



Farm Smart participants young and old have hands-on experience with agriculture



Virtual Reach

63,471
YouTube & Social Media Reach*

1,142 New Followers*
3,653 Total Followers*

*Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and YouTube



Farm Smart receives CA FFA Distinguished Service Citation for their work with FFA students

5,806 participants in onsite K-12 field trips, career workshops and DREC events

"Learning about agriculture is important and helps our students understand farming and food production. Our students at Sacred Heart School enjoy the hands-on learning at Farm Smart."

—Sacred Heart School Principal

NIFA Farm-to-School: IV Ag tour

Local educators, food service staff, and administrators get hands-on agriculture tour with Jack Vessey

Senior U-Pick event brings local senior citizens to the farm for fresh produce, lunch and resources

Our Partners:



UC ANR DREC
Director: Jairo Diaz
Farm Smart Manager: Stacey Amparano
Farm Smart Educators: Clarissa Abarca and Valeria Landeros

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