People In Agriculture – Attracting and Training The Next Generation

Agricultural Education and School Farms

A Journey of Improvement
Andrew Harris
State-wide Coordinator – Revitalising School Farms
Key Initiatives Driving Improvement …

Primary Schools to Primary Industries

Revitalising School Farms
The Education Pathway to a Career in Food and Fibre Production

High Quality Learning Opportunities in Food and Fibre Production

- Early Years - Year 6
- Year 7 - 10
- Year 11 - 12

University of Tasmania → University College → TasTAFE/VET

Career in Food and Fibre Production
The Tasmanian Agricultural Education Framework

**Student Learning**
- Schools embed high quality curriculum resources that support the Australian Curriculum, develop awareness and interest in agriculture, and an awareness of local industry opportunities.
- Students invest in food and fibre production through practical experiences that build awareness and interest and create a link to local understanding.
- Students’ experience in food and fibre production is pivotal in the practical application of skills and knowledge.
- Schools offer rigorous academic coursework through the offering of VET and TASC programs that develop students’ knowledge and understanding, and enable students to further education and career pathways.

**Curriculum**
- Explore live stock, plants, and animals are grown for food, clothing, and fiber. How they are selected and prepared for healthy eating (ACTDEECD).
- Investigate rice production and food technology used in industry and food science (ACTDEECD).
- Investigate rice and soy beans are produced in managed environments and prepared to enable people to grow and eat healthy (ACTDEECD).
- Investigate rice and soy beans are produced in managed environments and prepared to enable people to grow and eat healthy (ACTDEECD).

**Facilities**
- Students learn to develop facilities for teaching and learning in agricultural and food science programs.

**Career Connections**
- Students explore agricultural opportunities and a wide variety of career options, making links to their learning experiences growing managing environments and preparing food products.
- Students participate in industry connected programs designed for students to gain real-world experience in agricultural and food science programs.
- Students need to participate in industry connected programs designed for students to gain real-world experience in agricultural and food science programs.

**Leadership**
- Schools will identify key staff to engage in agricultural education.
- Students work in groups to engage in agricultural education programs.
- Students have experienced key staff in agricultural education programs.

**Program Support**
- Support is offered by Curriculum Services to schools to engage and support best practice within agricultural education.
- Students have opportunities to design and lead production based enterprises and participate in leadership development programs.

**Stakeholder Partnerships**
- Stakeholder partnerships underpin support of Agricultural Education programs.
- Through strong collaboration between government departments and industry education providers, industries and local communities, and professional networks, develop a mechanism to increase communicative and involvement between educators and industry stakeholders.

**My Education as the key vehicle for career and life planning**
- Students develop their priorities, skills, and knowledge to pursue further education and training in agricultural and food science programs.

**Agricultural Enterprise**
- Students learn the importance of food and fibre production.
- Students gain a broad understanding of the agricultural and food science (TASC)

**TASC Systems**
- Students explore the systems and sub-limit support to agricultural production and maximise production.
- Students gain an understanding of agricultural systems.

**Professional Learning available for Agricultural Education**
- Support is offered by Curriculum Services to schools in agricultural education.
- Curriculum Services continue to engage and support best practice within agricultural education.

**Growth, Make, Protect**
- Tasmanian Agricultural Education Framework

**TAS Government**
- Tasmanian Agricultural Education Framework

**Tasmanian Government**
- Tasmanian Agricultural Education Framework

**TAS Education**
- Tasmanian Agricultural Education Framework
Revitalising School Farms

- Two major infrastructure projects
- 10 FTE – permanent teaching positions
- Funding for school farm operations
Revitalising School Farms – Regional Networks

Statewide Coordinator

North-West
Network Leader
Food and Fibre Production Teachers

North-North East
Network Leader
Food and Fibre Production Teachers

South
Network Leader
Food and Fibre Production Teachers
The 15 School Farms
Key Objectives

Increased access, participation and engagement

Ensure school farms are effectively utilised, highly valued, and sustainable educational facilities
Food and Fibre Production in the Australian Curriculum

Technologies contexts
- Engineering principles and systems
- Food and fibre production
- Food specialisations
- Materials and technologies specialisations
Key Approaches to Learning

Integration of STEM

Project Based Learning
Project Based Agricultural Experience
‘…they (Tasmanian School Farms) have a unique place in the state’s education system, a powerful symbolic presence in rural communities, and significant potential to provide relevant, valuable, and potentially transformative curriculum and pedagogy in support of educational and rural development policy agendas.’

Corbett, Brett and Hawkins (2017), University of Tasmania

What We’re About Out Here: The Resilience and Relevance of School Farms in Rural Tasmania
Stephen Ives  BAgSc PhD

Course Co-ordinator Agribusiness
Research Fellow in Agronomy and Farming Systems
University College, University of Tasmania
K to Career

Connect education providers

Include the experience

But at what $$?
How do we ensure Agriculture remains real and relevant?

The Jobs

The $$

The conditions
Experience and relationships

This is Education for Agriculture