



UTAH FARM BUREAU FEDERATION

Agriculture in the Classroom Teacher of the Year Award

*Sponsored by the Utah Farm Bureau
Women's Committee*

2007 Application

Agriculture in the Classroom Teacher of the Year Award

WHAT IS AGRICULTURE IN THE CLASSROOM?

Agriculture is an important part of everyone's life. Clothing, food, fuel, housing, medicine, and much more are rooted in agriculture. Agricultural issues can support the teaching of many academic disciplines. Recognizing this, educators across the country are effectively integrating agriculture into the classroom curriculum.

WHAT IS THE AITC TEACHER AWARD?

A teacher will be recognized for higher creative efforts to teach students about the importance of agriculture. This will include teachers currently teaching Kindergarten through Grade 12.

The teacher selected will receive \$500 in cash or up to \$1,000 of his/her expenses paid to attend the National Agriculture in the Classroom Conference in New Orleans, Louisiana, June 6-9, 2007.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

- Certified teachers currently engaged in classroom instruction at the K-12 level in Utah
- Teachers integrating agricultural concepts into non-agricultural curricula

WHAT ARE THE CRITERIA FOR SELECTION?

Teachers must utilize agricultural information and/or materials within the classroom curriculum in an effort to assist students in learning the importance of agriculture. Learning activities may include but are not limited to an understanding of its impact on personal lives, our national and/or Utah heritage, the environment, national security and Utah's economy.

Entries will be judged in the following categories:

Evaluation Criteria

	Weight
a. Creativity and Utilization of Agricultural Information – The degree to which sound agricultural concepts have been infused into the classroom curriculum. Reference should be made to the creative methods utilized in advancing student learning.	20 points
b. Interdisciplinary Approach – The degree to which agricultural concepts have been included in a variety of subjects and disciplines. Value will be placed on the approach which teaches agriculture across the curriculum.	20 points
c. Advancement of Educational Standards – The degree to which the nominee aligns agricultural learning activities with teaching the Utah core curriculum.	20 points

- d. Student Impact** – Evidence of teacher’s impact on student attitudes and overall learning. 20 points
- e. Strength of Nominating Letters** – Letters contributed should convey a strong sense of the teacher’s efforts to introduce agricultural information into the classroom. These letters should include reference to actual situations and learning activities. Letters should be prepared by persons knowledgeable about agriculture and who also know the teacher such as representatives from Farm Bureau, USU Extension, commodity groups, etc. Principals or team leaders acquainted with the teacher’s activities in teaching about agriculture are also welcome as noted in items F & G below. 10 points
- f. Endorsement by an Administrator** – The degree to which a letter by a school administrator substantiates the nominee’s excellence in and dedication to teaching. 5 points
- g. Endorsement by a Co-worker** – The degree to which a letter by a co-worker substantiates the nominee’s excellence in and dedication to teaching. 5 points

HOW WILL APPLICATIONS BE EVALUATED?

All nominations will be evaluated by a panel of judges familiar with agriculture, education and Agriculture in the Classroom.

HOW CAN NOMINATIONS BE SUBMITTED?

The **nominee** should submit the following materials to Utah Farm Bureau:

Nomination Form - enclosed

Three letters of support – one from a co-worker, one from an administrator familiar with the Nominee’s work and one from a member of the agricultural community.

Written permission for the Utah Farm Bureau and its State Women’s Committee to use the submitted materials in announcing the winner, and in promoting the program in the Farm Bureau newspaper, on the Farm Bureau website, or other appropriate public forums.

Any additional supporting information deemed essential to clarifying a nomination may be included in an Appendix. An Appendix should not be used, however, to exceed the space limitations on the Nomination form.

Please submit application and nominating letters on or before **February 1, 2007**, to the address listed below:

**Ruth Roberts, Chair
State Women’s Committee
Utah Farm Bureau Federation
9865 South State Street
Sandy, UT 84070
Phone: 801-233-3010
Fax: 801-233-3030**

PART I: NOMINATION FORM

(Please type or print clearly)

Name _____

Home Address _____ Phone (____) _____

City _____ ZIP _____

School Name _____

School Address _____

City _____ ZIP _____

E-mail address _____

Grade Level _____ Subjects taught _____

Number of years teaching experience _____ Number of years at current school _____

EDUCATION

INSTITUTION	YEAR	DEGREE/CERTIFICATION
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

POSITION	SCHOOL/ORGANIZATION	DATES
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

AWARDS AND HONORS RELATED TO TEACHING

MEMBERSHIP IN PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

PART II

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Please type or use a computer to answer the following 4 questions utilizing only 1 - 8 1/2 x 11 page per question.

- 1. Describe your unique and innovative approaches to advancing agricultural literacy in your classroom. (Utilize space on this page only. Pictures may be included in appendix.)**
- 2. Identify the teaching methods you employed (i.e.; experiential, case study, etc.) Specify agricultural concepts taught and which academic areas of study were utilized. What was the depth and duration of the activity? Explain how these learning experiences helped advance the Utah core curriculum. (Utilize space on this page only.)**
- 3. Explain how these activities helped students better understand Utah agriculture's impact on personal lives, our Utah heritage, the environment, national security, and the economy. (Utilize space on this page only.)**
- 4. List resources you acquired through the Utah AITC Program at Utah State University or through Utah farmer/rancher organizations.**