

Agricultural Education and the FFA

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1800's

Agriculture College Program was at UC Berkeley

1903

Cal Poly SLO opened the first Voc-Ed High School

1905

UC Davis became a vocational agriculture high school

Bakersfield HS in Kern County was the first comprehensive high school to offer agriculture education

1908

Gardena High School formed an agriculture program

1909

Oxnard and Imperial High Schools started agriculture programs

1911

25 schools began offering agricultural education

1916

93 schools offered agricultural education

1920

California Agricultural Teachers' Association (CATA) was formed

1922

Judging contests were initiated

1923

California State Fair began

1926

First regional supervisor for agricultural education was hired and located at Fresno State Teachers' College

1927

Six regional supervisors were on staff

1928

National Future Farmers of American was formed in Kansas City, Missouri

1929

First State Convention held for the California Future Farmers of America

1934

State FFA Convention moved to Cal Poly SLO

1939

187 chapters in the California FFA with 8,868 students enrolled in agriculture education

1940

Cal Poly SLO became a four-year college

1949

Junior colleges were reimbursed by the Smith-Hughes Vocational Education Act

1951

210 high school programs in agricultural education

1961

230 high school programs in agricultural education

1963

Agriculture was defined as more than "farming".

1965

Fresno State started providing credentialed teachers for the agricultural education profession

1969

294 schools with agriculture programs accounting for 28,621 students

First year girls were allowed to be FFA members

1981

405 schools had agriculture programs accounting for 45,780 students

1981

CATA hired a full-time Executive Director – first in the country

SB187 was passed which established fifteen program standards for agriculture education

1994

After sixty years as Cal Poly, the State FFA Convention was relocated to Fresno

2005

California FFA surpassed Texas to become the largest State Association in FFA membership

2009

Career development events increased to 40

Proficiency award areas increased to 53

2014

314 high schools had agricultural education programs which accounted for 76,451 students

2015

Over 5,000 students will attend the State FFA Convention in Fresno

2017

State FFA Convention moves to Anaheim.

2021

State FFA Convention held virtually in person.

2022

State FFA Convention returns to Sacramento.

Governor added \$2 million to the Ag Incentive Grant.