

# CAM'S AG ACADEMY: ON THE ROAD MOFFAT COUNTY

## PROJECT INTRODUCTION

The CAM's Ag Academy internship seeks to develop the next generation of agriculturally literate individuals and agriculture professionals by providing nonformal ag education opportunities in local communities. During this internship, we worked closely with CSU Extension and county stakeholders that are interested in youth development, programs like FFA and 4-H. In these partnerships, we worked to develop agriculture-focused educational programming at county fairs. This programming promotes agriculture to those not involved in agriculture and helps to pique interest in careers in agriculture. Each intern was tasked with being a program lead for each partnering county. I was the program lead for Moffat County and worked with Moffat County Extension, Moffat County 4H, and Moffat County FFA to organize CAM's Ag Academy at their fair.

## INTERNSHIP GOALS

- To develop and facilitate meaningful, local ag literacy programming at partnering county fairs. Resulting in improved agricultural knowledge in youth and increased youth engagement in agricultural literacy outreach
- To evaluate the effectiveness of the ag literacy program and increase ag literacy to improve future program endeavors

## HOW DOES THIS APPLY TO YOUR EDUCATION

As an Agricultural Education major, I plan to become a high school agriculture instructor. This internship has given me the opportunity to work with students of all ages and background, which has helped prepare me for classes where I will be working in schools and for my future career.

## Moffat County Fair Programming

At the Moffat County Fair CAM's Ag Academy ran 3 different programs from August 10<sup>th</sup> to August 12<sup>th</sup>.

- Cams classroom
  - In CAM's Classroom we taught mini lessons about agriculture to participants of any age and background. These activities ranged in agricultural topics, from sheep to corn, from beef to wheat.
- Scavenger Hunt
  - This activity encourages fairgoers to explore the livestock barns and provides more intentional educational engagement with these projects.
  - Those who completed the scavenger hunt were inducted as Junior Ag Ambassadors.
- Peer educators
  - We trained 4-H and FFA members in CAM's Classroom. These Peer Educators taught lessons to people of all ages and backgrounds and gained experience in educating others.

Figure 1



Figure 2



Description:

Figure 1. Peer educators teaching a lesson about sheep.

Figure 2. Participants who completed the scavenger hunt being inducted as Junior Ag Ambassadors.

Figure 3. Participants working on their first stop in the scavenger hunt

Figure 3



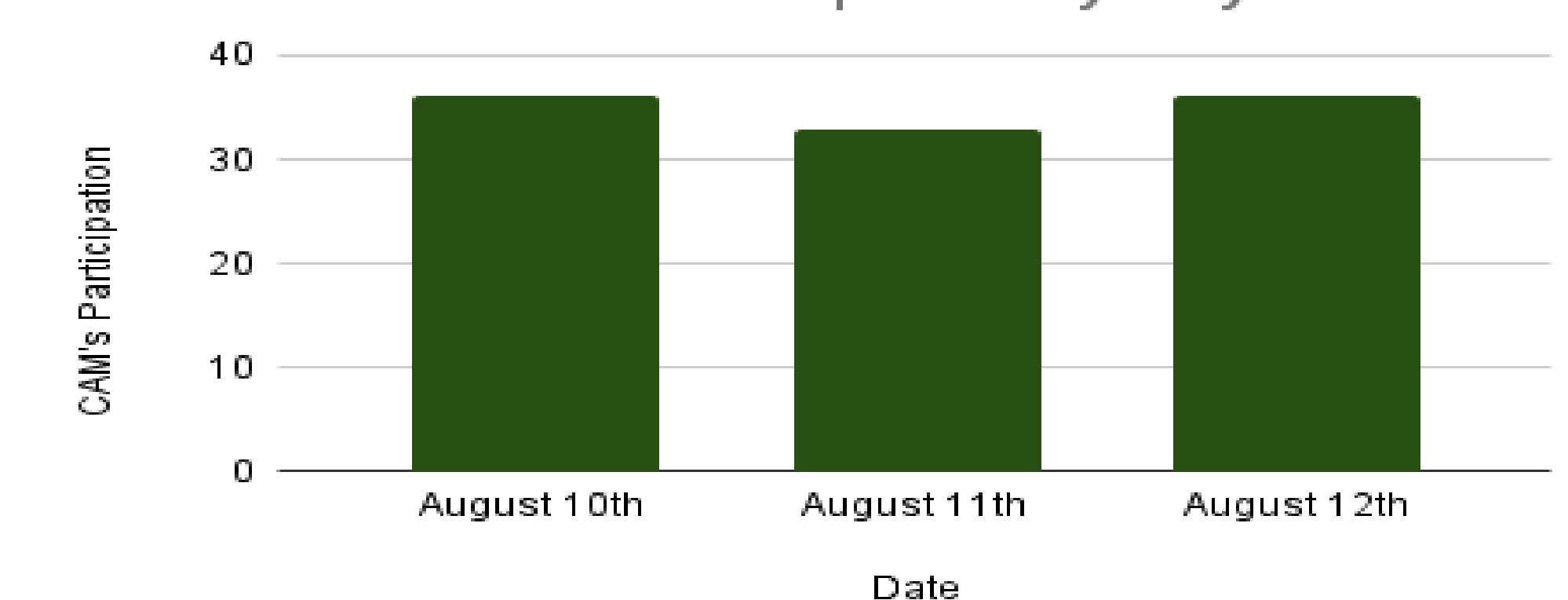
## WHAT YOU LEARNED

The data provided below shows the impact of CAM's Ag Academy programming on the Moffat County community:

- CAMS Classroom
  - 105 Participants
- Scavenger hunt
  - 109 Participants
- Junior Ag Ambassadors
  - 70 Junior Ag Ambassadors
  - ~64% Completion rate
- Youth Participation
  - 14 peer educators, 10 Moffat County 4H members and 4 Moffat County FFA members
- Observed outcomes
  - Participants could recall facts about sheep, including that Texas is the top producer of sheep and lambs and Colorado was the top producer of wool in 2020
  - Participants were able to recognize different breeds of livestock at the fair, like angus cattle and hampshire sheep

Table 1.

CAM's Classroom Participation by Day



This graph shows the participation in CAM's Classroom for each day of programming.

## NEXT STEPS

Next year, my hope is that this program will get to work with the youth before their fair and allow them to take a leadership role in planning CAM's Ag Academy at the Moffat County Fair. I believe that this will allow for a more personalized agricultural education experience in their community.