

AgTEC Workforce Initiative



Agri-food Technology & Engineering Collaborative

The AgTEC Workforce Initiative is developing a skilled, next-generation workforce to support advanced, sustainable food production and manufacturing.

F3: Farms Food Future

F3 Innovate:

- Commercialization & Business Acceleration
- Industry Leadership & Global Identity
- Innovation
- Talent Pipeline Coordination

Integrator, navigator and champion of the cluster; tech-based economic development

Goals: Diversified regional economy; higher quality jobs; increased exports; sustainable food production

AgTEC Workforce:

- Industry-Aligned, Interdisciplinary Curriculum
- Competency Based Education
- Connecting Talent to Industry

Regional skilled workforce pipeline ready for the future

Goals: Industry-recognized skilled talent pipeline; removing barriers to upskilling; wage growth; creating & filling jobs

Complementary Investment:

CA High Speed Rail: Connecting the region to Silicon Valley's innovation resources



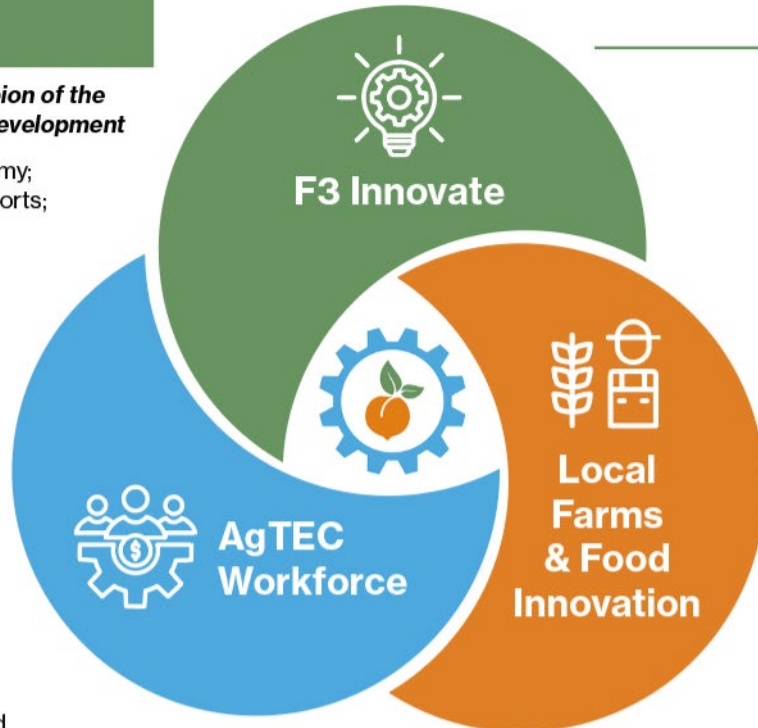
Local Farms & Food Innovation

- Food Entrepreneurship
- Small Farm Market Access
- Technology Testing & Adoption
- Business Support

Industry adoption and investment in small BIPOC farms & entrepreneurs

Goals:

Inclusive, resilient local food systems; small business growth; small-to-large producer-informed innovation; sustainable tech adoption



Goals: Integrated, leveraged network of civic actors in support of cluster



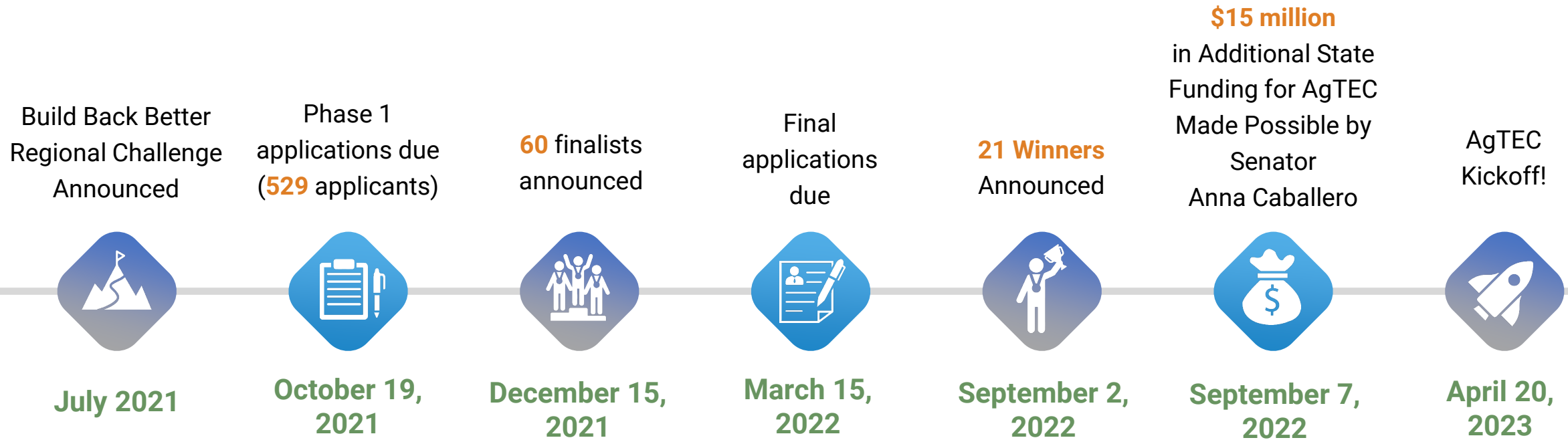
Partner Integration & Collective Impact

- Coordination of Lead Applicants
- Community engagement
- Measurement & evaluation



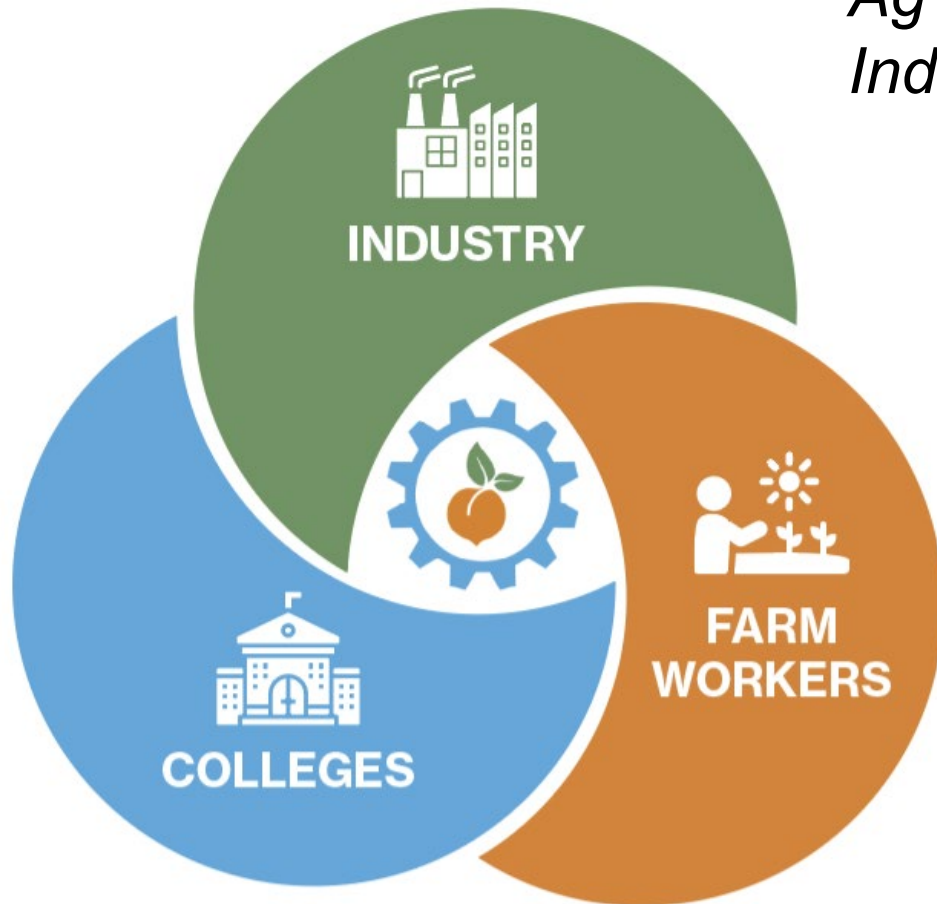
F3 Innovate

Timeline



The AgTEC Workforce Initiative

AgTEC creates economic opportunity for Industry, Colleges, & Farmworkers.

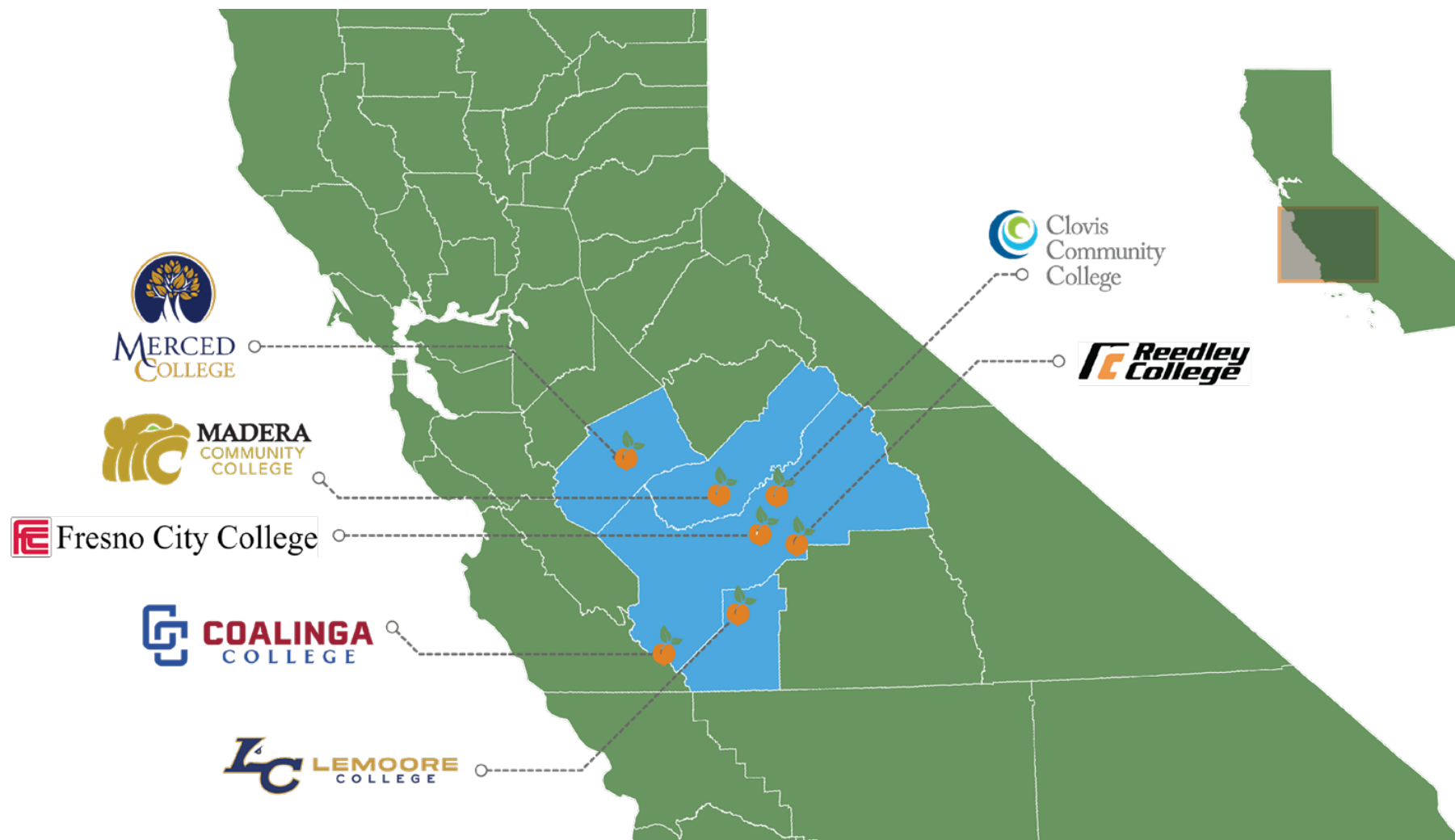


INDUSTRY: The integration of industry-validated skills ensures that employers can readily find and train workers with the expertise required for the jobs of the future.

COLLEGES: By offering accessible and relevant training programs, colleges can attract and retain a broader student base, and contribute to their region's economic prosperity and sustainability.

FARMWORKERS: The program's forward-thinking approach empowers farmworkers to take control of their economic future by providing them with an opportunity to upskill, embrace new and higher-paying industry careers, and thrive in the changing agricultural landscape.

AgTEC's Community College Partnerships



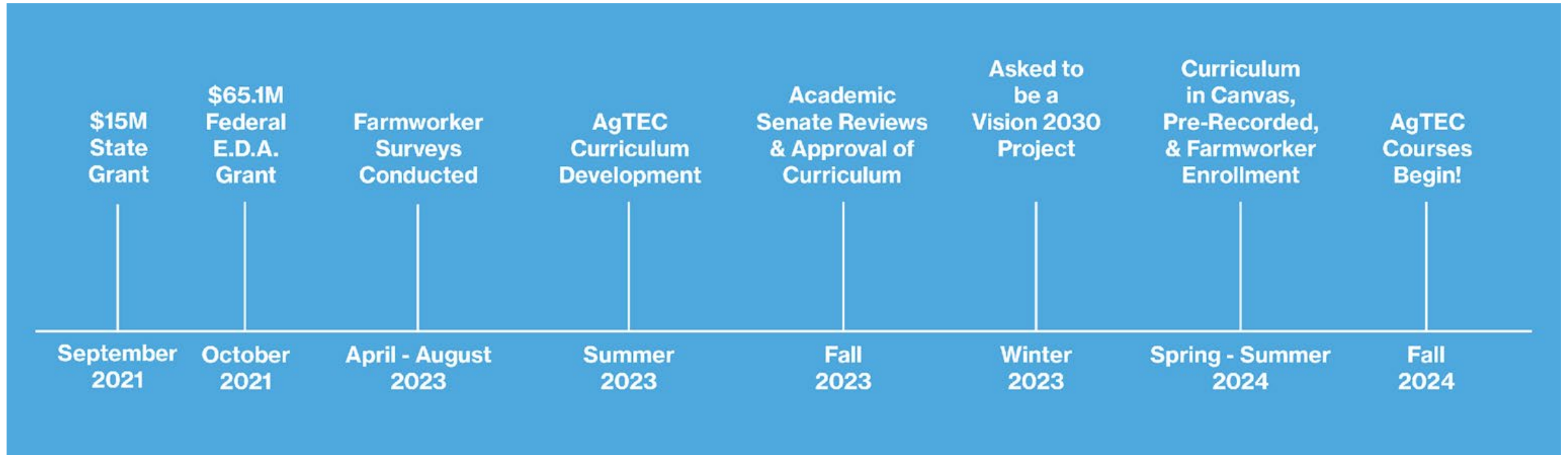
Challenges in Agricultural Labor

- **Automation Impact:** 1 in 3 ag workers at risk due to increasing automation.
- **Industry Evolution:** Significant changes expected within the next 5-10 years.
- **Skills Shortage:** Emerging labor gaps for critical new skills.
- **Upskilling Barriers:** Farmworkers with indigenous knowledge face upskilling challenges.



AgTEC's Timeline Highlights

The 4-year grant includes several distinct milestones and deliverables defined under each of AgTEC's three pillars. Below are just a few highlights from the overall workforce initiative timeline.



Farmworker Survey Data



Surveys were
administered in
Merced, Madera,
Fresno, Tulare,
& Kings Counties



11,475
Surveys
Collected

As of August 8, 2023



85%
of respondents
are foreign born
& identify as hispanic
or latin(o)(a)(x)

Farmworker Survey Data



70%
of respondents
have dependents



84%
have reliable
transportation



78% have felt
financially insecure
in the last year



70% have
only a 6th grade
education



78% view their
education as
“important” or
“very important”



Work & Financial Barriers
were the top reasons
respondents have not
continued their education



70% said their
interest would increase
if they could take
classes online

Program Goals:



Online with in
person assessments



Program is free



Flexible Pace



Registration available
several times a year



Flexible Time



Program is available
in English or Spanish



Focuses on filling
skills gaps



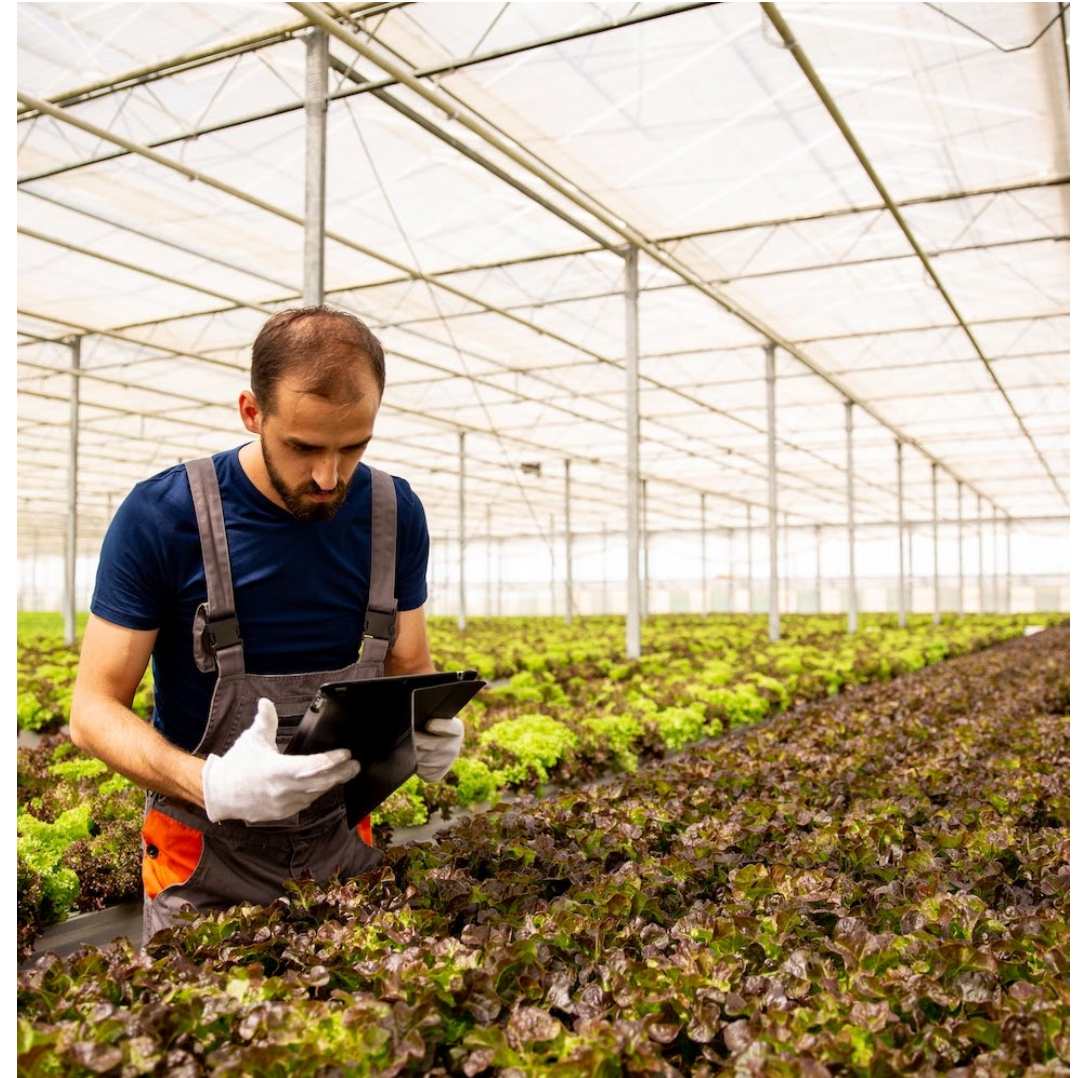
No GED required



Aligning with Industry Needs

We engaged with industry six times in 2023 through panels, conducted surveys, and had one-on-one conversations to inform and validate the development of the certificate.

- **Core Needs:** Understanding of the ag value chain, problem-solving, critical thinking, employability skills.
- **Industry Commitment:** Focus on durable skills at the college levels with company's training on the technical skills.



Collaborative Curriculum Development

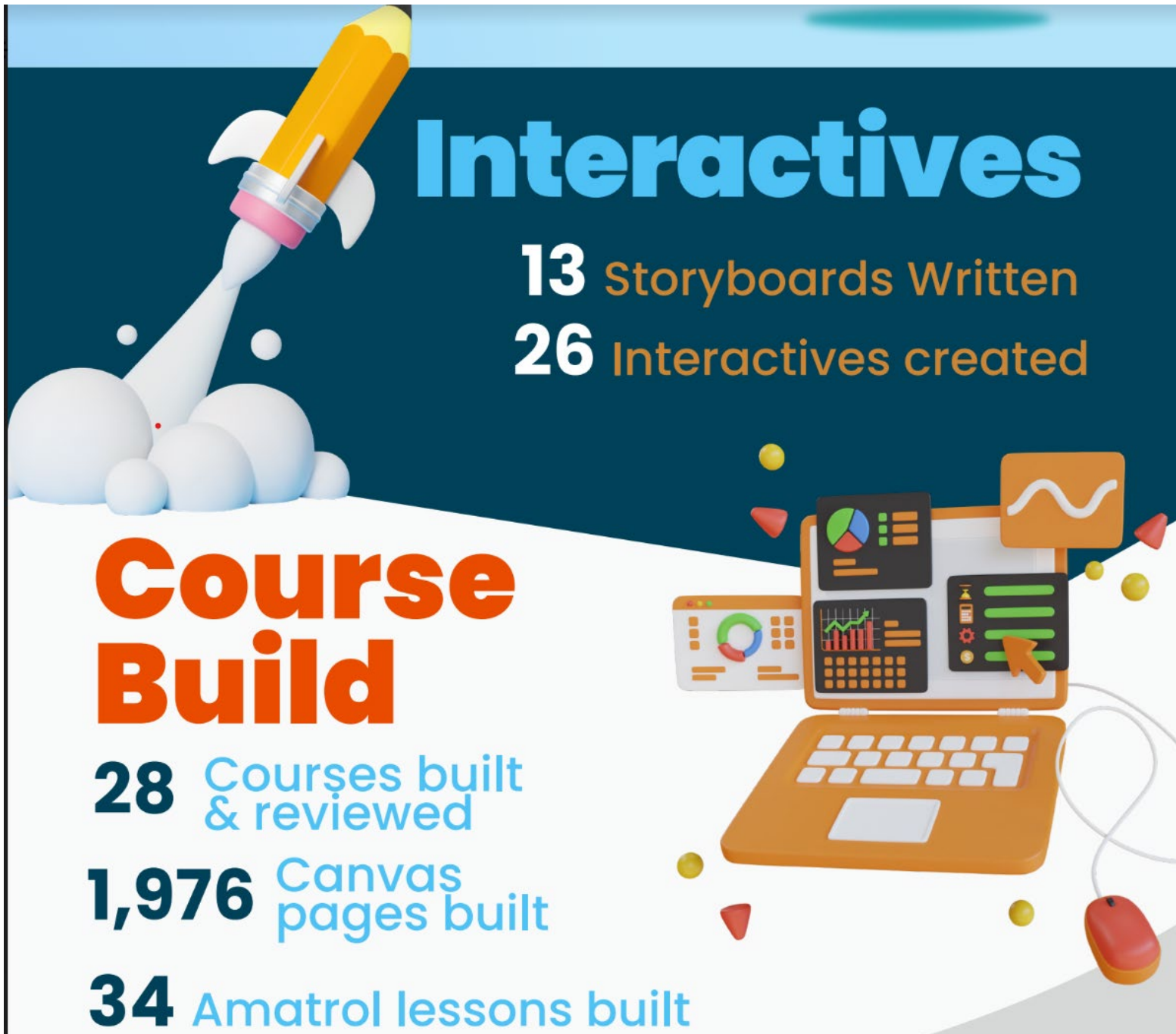
In July 2023, over 20 faculty members convened to develop the program's curriculum. The program's goal was to identify the essential skills needed for a career in agriculture, explore various career pathways within the field, and gain a comprehensive understanding of the agriculture industry. Despite the challenge of distilling such a broad discipline to a foundational level, this approach establishes a robust base for pursuing any career in agriculture.

- **Faculty Collaboration:** Across disciplines to integrate industry and farmworker needs. Certificate Goals: Upskill workforce from a 6th-grade education level, broaden career opportunities.
- **Certificate Goals:** Upskill workforce from a 6th-grade formal education level, broaden career opportunities.



The Ag Systems Certificate: Program At-A-Glance

Core Competency	Performance Indicators		
Digital Literacy	I can identify and utilize digital technology (hardware and software) used in agriculture.	Interpersonal Skills	I can demonstrate social and emotional intelligence in professional settings.
Basic Equipment Operations	I can safely operate electronic and mechanical equipment used in agriculture.	Animal Production Systems	I can explain the fundamentals of animal systems.
Basic Equipment Configuration	I can safely set up electrical and mechanical equipment in agricultural tasks.	Food Safety	I can implement best practices to meet manufacturing, food safety, and sanitation requirements.
Basic Equipment Troubleshooting	I can troubleshoot basic electrical, mechanical, and software systems and communicate identified issues effectively.	Basic Safety	I can follow workplace safety protocols using Occupational Safety & Health Administration (OSHA) standards.
General Agricultural Systems Fundamentals	I can explain agriculture industry fundamentals.	Industry Communication	I can communicate effectively using industry methods within an organizational structure.
Crop Production Systems	I can explain the fundamentals of plant science and crop production systems.	Applied Technical Writing	I can write effective agricultural technical reports.
Tool Operations	I can safely use basic hand and power tools.		
Applied Technical Reading	I can read and interpret agricultural industry documents.		



Interactives

13 Storyboards Written

26 Interactives created

Course Build

28 Courses built & reviewed

1,976 Canvas pages built

34 Amatrol lessons built



124 Total
Videos

62 Concepts & Scripts
Videos Produced
English
Videos Produced
Spanish

Custom Videos

186 Script Reviews
* 3 rounds

5 Filming days

602 Shots filmed

186 Videos Reviews
* 3 rounds



Program Delivery

Learner-Centered Approach: Putting the learner at the center of the education process. Students often have control over the time, place, and pace of their learning, enabling them to adjust their learning paths according to their specific needs and abilities.

Flexible Pacing: Students progress through a curriculum at their own pace. They move forward only after they have demonstrated mastery of the subject matter, which contrasts with the traditional time-based education models where students move forward based on time spent in class.

Mastery-Based: Progression is based on demonstrating mastery of key competencies or skills as opposed to time spent in class. Assessment is thus integral and ongoing, meaning that it can occur multiple times until mastery is achieved

Explicit Learning Outcomes: Competencies are clearly defined and are known to students from the start. These competencies are measurable and are directly linked to the required knowledge and skills needed for success in school, career, and civic life.



F3 FARMS
FOOD
FUTURE
AgTEC

Digital Literacy

Video de introducción 



Uso del correo electrónico



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Basic Equipment Operation





Thank You!

