

Air Quality Program

The Arizona Department of Agriculture is committed to helping agriculture do its part in improving air quality. Agricultural activities have been identified in certain areas as contributing to the production of particulate matter (PM10). The Federal Clean Air Act requires that emissions from significant sources in areas that do not meet the national ambient air quality standards for PM10 be controlled through effective programs.

The Agricultural Consultation and Training Program is an innovative, voluntary, and non-regulatory approach for producers statewide to implement best management practices to reduce their agricultural dust. The Air Quality program provides information on air quality regulations, identifies compliance difficulties and assists in the selection of practical, economical, and feasible agricultural best management practices (BMP's).



Examples of BMP's include: limiting activity during high winds, combining tractor operations, creating artificial wind barriers, or applying aggregate cover on unpaved farm roads.

The success of the program is in the on-site visit. This is an opportunity for the air quality coordinator to work with the producer on an individual basis and make recommendations that can ensure compliance with air quality regulations.

A site visit includes an opening interview, a tour of operations, review of applicable regulations, **discussion of BMP's and recommendations to meet compliance.** Follow up visits are also customary.

For more information please contact the Air Quality Coordinator at:
(602) 542-3484

<https://agriculture.az.gov/air-quality-agricultural-pm10-best-management-practices>

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Arizona Department of Agriculture
Agricultural Consultation and Training
1688 W. Adams Street
Phoenix, AZ 85007



Worker Protection Program

Staff of the Agricultural Consultation and Training (ACT) program assists growers in complying with federal and state Worker Protection Standards by providing pesticide safety training for pesticide handlers and agricultural workers, developing pesticide information resources in English and Spanish, and performing mock inspections to assist farm and nursery owners in complying with pesticide regulations.



For more information please contact the Pesticide Safety Program Coordinator at:
(602) 542-0985

<https://agriculture.az.gov/divisions/agricultural-consultation-training/worker-protection-standard>

Livestock & Crop Conservation Grant Program

LCCGP is designed to assist ranchers and farmers with the implementation of conservation projects that will ultimately provide for the preservation of open space.

The funding can be used to match funds with other conservation grants and for on the ground conservation projects. Some examples of projects include: installing fencing, water resource development, grassland restoration, and erosion control.

All eligible grant applications are reviewed and rated by an evaluation team consisting of individuals representing both the agriculture and conservation communities.



For more information please contact the LCCGP Coordinators at:

(602) 542-0972 or
(602) 542-3262

<https://agriculture.az.gov/livestock-and-crop-conservation-grant-program-0>

Good Handling Practices/ Good Agriculture Practices - GHP/GAP

The GHP/GAP Program offers growers, harvesters, processors, warehouses and transporters of fresh fruit, vegetables, and tree nuts a program to assist in achieving food safety certification.

Certification allows for produce sales to restaurants, farmers markets, and other wholesale accounts with the added assurance that the suppliers have protocols in place to minimize food safety risks to the public.



Good Handling Practices (GHP) refers to post-harvest operations, while Good Agriculture Practices (GAP) refers to on-farm operations and systems.

For more information please contact the Food Safety Projects Coordinator at:

(602) 542-0950

<https://agriculture.az.gov/good-handling-practices-and-good-agricultural-practices-ghpgap>



Council & Board Administration

Commodity Councils

The Arizona Citrus Research Council, Arizona Grain Research and Promotion Council, and the Arizona Iceberg Lettuce Research Council collect and utilize assessment **fees or "check-off funds" to conduct** research on their respective commodity.

The Arizona Grain Research and Promotion Council also participates in state, regional, national, and international activities to aid in the marketing of wheat and barley.

More Council information is at:

<https://agriculture.az.gov/citrus-research-council-1>

<https://agriculture.az.gov/iceberg-lettuce-research-council-1>

<https://agriculture.az.gov/grain-research-and-promotion-council-1>

Agricultural Employment Relations Board

Ensures fair and equitable labor activities of agricultural employers, labor organizations, and employees.

More ERB information is at:

<https://agriculture.az.gov/agricultural-employment-relations-board-aerb-1>

The CBC Administrator is available at:

(602) 542-3262



Specialty Crop Block Grant Program — Farm Bill

The purpose of SCBGP— FB is to enhance the competitiveness of specialty crops; approximately \$1 million is available each grant cycle.



Specialty crops are considered fruits and vegetables, tree nuts, dried fruits, horticulture, and nursery crops (including floriculture).

Eligible applicants are state and/or local organizations, producer associations, academia, community based organizations, and other specialty crop stakeholders. Projects may range from research to education to marketing.

For more information please contact the SCBGP Coordinators at:

(602) 542-3262 or
(602) 542-0972

<https://searchagriculture.az.gov/act/scbgbp.aspx>