



Future of Agriculture Curriculum for Teaching Sustainability

Dear Participant:

You are invited to participate in the *Future of Agriculture Curriculum for Teaching Sustainability Project*—a research project that aims to measure the rate of adoption of sustainable knowledge and practice among students as a result of participation in classroom and community-based learning opportunities. Participation in the project involves taking written assessments on agriscience topics and/or audio or videotaping an interview with you about your understanding of agriscience concepts. The interviews may be scheduled at a time most convenient for you, and the interviews must be audio or videotaped in order to participate in this aspect of the study. The written assessments may take up to 30-40 to complete and the interviews will last approximately 30-40 minutes.

Your participation in this study will help teachers learn about effective ways to teaching agriscience. This will provide benefits to many students and teachers beyond those directly participating in the project. You may benefit from participating in this project by having the opportunity to have your ideas recognized and valued by others.

You will be compensated with a gift card or cash if you participate in an interview or in a written assessment outside of class time. If you decide to participate in the study, you have the option of participating in either the interview or written assessment, or both. The compensation will be given to you upon the completion of the interview and/or assessment.

There are minimal risks associated with this study. Data from the study may be used in reports, articles, presentations, and in teacher education classes or teacher support materials. Your confidentiality will be protected to the maximum extent allowable by law. A pseudonym will be used in any written or oral reports about this work. Your identity may be recognizable in videotapes of interviews even though pseudonyms will be used to protect your identity. You may choose to have any segment of videotape in which you are identifiable not used in the study or in products or presentations. If you express discomfort with being videotaped, you will be audio taped instead. The researchers will strictly observe confidentiality procedures and all information about your identity will be kept in a secure location in the researchers' custody and only accessible by MSU researchers and Institutional Review Board members.

Your participation in this project is completely voluntary. You are free to withdraw participation at any time and for any reason without penalty during the project period (June 2019- August 2020). There will be no penalty to you if you choose not to participate. You are free to refuse to answer any questions you do not wish to answer. The information that is obtained during this research project will be kept strictly confidential. The audio and videotapes will be used only by the investigators and will be kept in a secure location in the researcher's custody. A copy of the research results after this project is completed will be given to you at your request. Your refusal to participate or decision of discontinuing the participation will involve no penalty or loss of benefits to which you are otherwise entitled.

Your confidentiality will be protected to the maximum extent allowable by law. The data will be stored in locked filing cabinets at 319A Erickson Hall, East Lansing, MI or on secure servers at Colorado State University in Fort Collins, CO for at least 3 years after the project closes. The project investigators will have access to the data for research purposes. At Michigan State University, an Institutional Review Board (IRB) reviews all research studies that involve human subjects before the research can be started. Their mission is to protect the rights of research participants. IRB will have access to the research data and results.

If you have concerns or questions about this study, such as scientific issues, how to do any part of it, or to report an injury (i.e. physical, psychological, social, financial, or otherwise), please contact Craig Kohn, 620 Farm Lane, Rm 313, East Lansing, MI 48824, kohncrai@msu.edu, or the principal investigator: Dr. Charles W. (Andy) Anderson, 319A Erickson Hall, Michigan State University, East Lansing MI 48824, (517) 432-4648, andya@msu.edu.

You have read about the goals of this project and the nature of your participation in it. Please read the options described below, initial the options for which you give consent for your participation, and sign and return the form.

Your initials give voluntary permission for you to participate in the activities you have indicated below. You can choose to participate in either the interview or assessment, or both (PLEASE INITIAL EACH LINE YOU APPROVE):

_____ The researchers may interview you about your understanding of agriscience concepts. This will take place at a time that is convenient for you and will last approximately 30-40 minutes. The researchers may audio or video-record this interview. You will be compensated with a gift card or cash.

_____ The researchers may ask you to complete a written assessment that contains items about agriscience concepts. If this takes place outside of regular class time, you will be compensated with a gift card or cash.

I voluntarily agree to participate in this study.

Student Name _____
(please print)

Student Signature _____ Date: _____



This material is based upon work supported by the National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship Program, Grant No. DGE-1424871. Any opinions, findings, and conclusions or recommendations expressed in this material are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the National Science Foundation