

Agricultural Education, Communications, and Technology
AEED-MS Assessment Report 2022-23

1. Contact Name:

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2. Department Mission

AECT prepares people with the technical expertise in agricultural science and technology-related disciplines with the human science skills necessary to provide transformational leadership in the agricultural industry and within their local communities. Specifically, we prepare educators for both formal and non-formal teaching roles in agriculture, communications specialists for diverse agriculturally related disciplines, agricultural technology managers, and rural community leaders.

3. AEED-MS Program Goals

- Develop technology transfer specialists with strong communication skills and problem solving abilities who are prepared to serve diverse populations.
- Stimulate intellectual capacity in students for integrating multi-disciplinary knowledge, technology and values.
- Enhance the leadership skills of future professionals in agriculture, food and natural resource careers.
- Produce graduates with broad technical skills in agricultural science and technology.

Key Expected Outcomes for Graduate Students, 2020-21

Assessment efforts in 2022-23 focused on the AEED MS placement and retention rates, which are listed as “other programmatic measures” in the department’s assessment plan. This two-part outcomes assessment includes MS student completion rates and job placement rates.

Student Learning Outcome 1. AEED MS students will complete their programs of study in a timely manner, contributing toward a 6-year graduation rate that is higher than the university average.

Assessment Measure 1

Student completion data collected by University’s Graduate School

Acceptable and Ideal Targets (not required for indirect measures)

- Minimum standard is for the department’s MS completion rate to be higher than the University average.

Key Personnel (who is responsible for the assessment of this measure)

- Donna Graham, Graduate Coordinator

Assessment Measure 2

- Student placement data collected by the department

Acceptable and Ideal Targets (not required for indirect measures)

- Minimum standard is for the department’s MS graduates to have 100% job placement within 6 months of their graduation.

Key Personnel (who is responsible for the assessment of this measure)

- AECT Department Head, George Wardlow, and Graduate Coordinator, Donna Graham.

Summary of Findings

The most recent data supporting this outcome assessment show that from 2013-2022 the AEED MS completion rate among 136 students was 71.36%. This statistic is up from 67.55% in the 2010 to 2019 report, which included 151 students. Though it has gained significant ground, this 9-year AEED retention rate remains lower than the university master's student average of 79.79%, which has dropped slightly from 82.4%. It is important to note that the AEED MS program's retention and completion data include part-time and 100% virtual students who generally take much longer to complete, while the comparison group (all UA grad students) consists largely of traditional graduate students in on-campus degree programs.

Job placement records in 2021-2023 show that among all graduates for whom data were available, **100% (12 of 12)** were confirmed to have secured professional employment or to have continued graduate school at the PhD level (one was retired when he graduated). This outcome reaches the goal of 100% placement within 6 months of graduation, but data are missing for 5 students, who may possibly have found employment but were not able to be contacted. In comparison to the 2021 placement figure of 91% (10 of 11), this represents a steady trend of success in terms of placement.

Recommendations (not required for indirect measures)

Maintaining high program retention and completion rates should remain a priority for faculty and administrators in AECT. Though recent efforts have improved the MS program's retention and completion numbers, a continued focus on completion and retention are necessary. As noted in the 2021 assessment report, recent improvements in curriculum, student program administration, and the admissions process have contributed to the sustained retention and placement numbers. Notably, proper advising of pragmatic master's students not intending to seek a PhD into the non-thesis program has had a positive effect on retention and completion.

Placement of MS graduates has been a long-standing priority for the department, and as the program grows in national stature, placement will certainly continue to improve. With 5 of the 17 recent graduates not able to be accounted for, the department still needs to develop a more structured plan for maintaining contact with its graduates.

Action Plan

The following actions should continue so the department can maintain and continue to improve AEED MS students' retention, completion, and placement:

1. Continue to take a personal approach to encouraging students to complete their degree plans when it becomes evident that they are falling behind schedule. **(Rucker and advisors)**
2. Continue to increase the quality of MS program recruits, especially those who fill teaching and research assistantship positions, through targeted recruiting efforts. **(Rucker and all graduate faculty)**
3. Continue to track AEED MS program graduates until they are placed in professional positions or PhD programs. A more formal approach to this tracking may be necessary as the number of graduates increases. **(Rucker and Wardlow)**

Supporting Attachments

- Appendix A: Office of Institutional Research MS Retention Report, 2013-2022
- Appendix B: Placement of AEED MS Graduates, 2021-2022

Appendix A:
MS Student Retention Report (2013-2022)

Program	No. of Cohort	Graduated with Cohort Program Degree		Graduated with Another Graduate Program Degree		Still Active/Enrolled in Cohort Program		Still Active/Enrolled in Another Graduate Program		Cohort Dropped Out	
		# of Students	% of Cohort	# of Students	% of Cohort	# of Students	% of Cohort	# of Students	% of Cohort	# of Students	% of Cohort
ACCTMA	402	347	86.32%	51	12.69%	N/A Not Applicable	0.00%	1	0.25%	3	0.75%
ACCTMP	192	124	64.58%	N/A Not Applicable	0.00%	65	33.85%	N/A Not Applicable	0.00%	3	1.56%
ADLLME	171	63	36.84%	4	2.34%	34	19.88%	2	1.17%	68	39.77%
AEEDMS	136	69	50.74%	1	0.74%	27	19.85%	2	1.47%	37	27.21%
AFLSMS	22	8	36.36%	6	27.27%	N/A Not Applicable	0.00%	N/A Not Applicable	0.00%	8	36.36%
AGECMS	167	131	78.44%	1	0.60%	25	14.97%	N/A Not Applicable	0.00%	10	5.99%
ANSCMS	85	48	56.47%	N/A Not Applicable	0.00%	14	16.47%	1	1.18%	22	25.88%
ANTHMA	64	43	67.19%	N/A Not Applicable	0.00%	11	17.19%	N/A Not Applicable	0.00%	10	15.63%
APBAMA	51	21	41.18%	3	5.88%	25	49.02%	1	1.96%	1	1.96%
AREDMA	12	N/A Not Applicable	0.00%	N/A Not Applicable	0.00%	12	100.00%	N/A Not Applicable	0.00%	N/A Not Applicable	0.00%

ARTMFA	101	55	54.46%	N/ANot Applicable	0.00%	33	32.67%	N/ANot Applicable	0.00%	13	12.87%
ATTRMA	161	125	77.64%	N/ANot Applicable	0.00%	28	17.39%	1	0.62%	7	4.35%
BADMMB	1132	802	70.85%	4	0.35%	226	19.96%	5	0.44%	95	8.39%
BENGMS	44	27	61.36%	3	6.82%	2	4.55%	N/ANot Applicable	0.00%	12	27.27%
BIOLMS	78	42	53.85%	6	7.69%	15	19.23%	3	3.85%	12	15.38%
BMEGMS	51	37	72.55%	5	9.80%	6	11.76%	2	3.92%	1	1.96%
CATEME	15	12	80.00%	1	6.67%	N/ANot Applicable	0.00%	N/ANot Applicable	0.00%	2	13.33%
CCELEME	22	11	50.00%	N/ANot Applicable	0.00%	5	22.73%	N/ANot Applicable	0.00%	6	27.27%
CDESMDES	6	N/ANot Applicable	0.00%	N/ANot Applicable	0.00%	6	100.00%	N/ANot Applicable	0.00%	N/ANot Applicable	0.00%
CDISMS	228	171	75.00%	N/ANot Applicable	0.00%	55	24.12%	N/ANot Applicable	0.00%	2	0.88%
CEMBMS	93	62	66.67%	5	5.38%	10	10.75%	4	4.30%	12	12.90%
CENGMS	59	39	66.10%	2	3.39%	4	6.78%	6	10.17%	8	13.56%
CHEDMA	269	219	81.41%	34	12.64%	N/ANot Applicable	0.00%	2	0.74%	14	5.20%
CHEGMS	51	36	70.59%	3	5.88%	4	7.84%	3	5.88%	5	9.80%

CHEMMS	28	16	57.14%	1	3.57%	3	10.71%	4	14.29%	4	14.29%
CHLPMS	49	36	73.47%	2	4.08%	N/ANot Applicable	0.00%	1	2.04%	10	20.41%
CIEDES	40	12	30.00%	6	15.00%	6	15.00%	2	5.00%	14	35.00%
CIEDME	43	20	46.51%	1	2.33%	10	23.26%	2	4.65%	10	23.26%
CLCSMA	21	11	52.38%	N/ANot Applicable	0.00%	4	19.05%	N/ANot Applicable	0.00%	6	28.57%
CNSLMS	321	174	54.21%	3	0.93%	104	32.40%	2	0.62%	38	11.84%
COMMMA	145	90	62.07%	5	3.45%	26	17.93%	1	0.69%	23	15.86%
CRWRMF	116	65	56.03%	N/ANot Applicable	0.00%	41	35.34%	1	0.86%	9	7.76%
CSCEMS	121	81	66.94%	2	1.65%	20	16.53%	6	4.96%	12	9.92%
CSESMS	137	94	68.61%	2	1.46%	21	15.33%	1	0.73%	19	13.87%
CSMGMS	57	9	15.79%	2	3.51%	34	59.65%	2	3.51%	10	17.54%
CVEGMS	142	100	70.42%	1	0.70%	28	19.72%	N/ANot Applicable	0.00%	13	9.15%
DCFMDDES	6	N/ANot Applicable	0.00%	N/ANot Applicable	0.00%	N/ANot Applicable	0.00%	6	100.00%	N/ANot Applicable	0.00%
DRAMMF	9	9	100.00%	N/ANot Applicable	0.00%	N/ANot Applicable	0.00%	N/ANot Applicable	0.00%	N/ANot Applicable	0.00%

DSGNMDS	17	7	41.18%	N/ANot Applicable	0.00%	8	47.06%	N/ANot Applicable	0.00%	2	11.76%
ECANMS	32	25	78.13%	N/ANot Applicable	0.00%	6	18.75%	N/ANot Applicable	0.00%	1	3.13%
ECONMA	31	31	100.00%	N/ANot Applicable	0.00%	N/ANot Applicable	0.00%	N/ANot Applicable	0.00%	N/ANot Applicable	0.00%
EDEQME	111	51	45.95%	N/ANot Applicable	0.00%	29	26.13%	N/ANot Applicable	0.00%	31	27.93%
EDLEES	66	35	53.03%	1	1.52%	8	12.12%	1	1.52%	21	31.82%
EDLEME	271	194	71.59%	7	2.58%	39	14.39%	2	0.74%	29	10.70%
EDUCMA	118	97	82.20%	1	0.85%	18	15.25%	N/ANot Applicable	0.00%	2	1.69%
ELEDMA	258	194	75.19%	1	0.39%	47	18.22%	1	0.39%	15	5.81%
ELEGMS	285	190	66.67%	6	2.11%	39	13.68%	6	2.11%	44	15.44%
EMGTMS	212	76	35.85%	7	3.30%	80	37.74%	1	0.47%	48	22.64%
ENDYMS	4	N/ANot Applicable	0.00%	N/ANot Applicable	0.00%	2	50.00%	1	25.00%	1	25.00%
ENEGMS	10	N/ANot Applicable	0.00%	6	60.00%	N/ANot Applicable	0.00%	1	10.00%	3	30.00%
ENGLMA	123	82	66.67%	N/ANot Applicable	0.00%	22	17.89%	1	0.81%	18	14.63%
ENGRME	454	245	53.96%	23	5.07%	43	9.47%	7	1.54%	136	29.96%

ENTOMS	34	21	61.76%	1	2.94%	9	26.47%	N/ANot Applicable	0.00%	3	8.82%
ESRMMS	1	N/ANot Applicable	0.00%	N/ANot Applicable	0.00%	N/ANot Applicable	0.00%	N/ANot Applicable	0.00%	1	100.00%
ETECME	181	105	58.01%	2	1.10%	22	12.15%	N/ANot Applicable	0.00%	52	28.73%
EXSCMS	22	4	18.18%	N/ANot Applicable	0.00%	13	59.09%	1	4.55%	4	18.18%
FDSCMS	92	60	65.22%	8	8.70%	15	16.30%	1	1.09%	8	8.70%
FDSFMS	125	46	36.80%	N/ANot Applicable	0.00%	34	27.20%	N/ANot Applicable	0.00%	45	36.00%
FINNMS	48	31	64.58%	N/ANot Applicable	0.00%	17	35.42%	N/ANot Applicable	0.00%	N/ANot Applicable	0.00%
FRENMA	6	2	33.33%	2	33.33%	N/ANot Applicable	0.00%	N/ANot Applicable	0.00%	2	33.33%
GEOGMA	25	5	20.00%	11	44.00%	N/ANot Applicable	0.00%	N/ANot Applicable	0.00%	9	36.00%
GEOGMS	67	32	47.76%	3	4.48%	11	16.42%	1	1.49%	20	29.85%
GEOLMS	132	81	61.36%	1	0.76%	16	12.12%	2	1.52%	32	24.24%
GERMMA	3	2	66.67%	1	33.33%	N/ANot Applicable	0.00%	N/ANot Applicable	0.00%	N/ANot Applicable	0.00%
HESCMS	106	58	54.72%	3	2.83%	14	13.21%	1	0.94%	30	28.30%

HIEDME	232	167	71.98%	8	3.45%	28	12.07%	2	0.86%	27	11.64%
HISTMA	66	28	42.42%	1	1.52%	20	30.30%	1	1.52%	16	24.24%
HORTMS	47	31	65.96%	N/ANot Applicable	0.00%	10	21.28%	N/ANot Applicable	0.00%	6	12.77%
HRWDME	280	128	45.71%	3	1.07%	50	17.86%	4	1.43%	95	33.93%
INEGMS	109	84	77.06%	4	3.67%	14	12.84%	1	0.92%	6	5.50%
INSYMI	324	245	75.62%	11	3.40%	32	9.88%	3	0.93%	33	10.19%
JOURMA	70	49	70.00%	N/ANot Applicable	0.00%	9	12.86%	N/ANot Applicable	0.00%	12	17.14%
KINSMS	105	82	78.10%	6	5.71%	1	0.95%	N/ANot Applicable	0.00%	16	15.24%
MATEMS	5	1	20.00%	N/ANot Applicable	0.00%	4	80.00%	N/ANot Applicable	0.00%	N/ANot Applicable	0.00%
MATHMS	95	61	64.21%	9	9.47%	12	12.63%	2	2.11%	11	11.58%
MATSMS	9	2	22.22%	N/ANot Applicable	0.00%	7	77.78%	N/ANot Applicable	0.00%	N/ANot Applicable	0.00%
MEEGME	1	N/ANot Applicable	0.00%	N/ANot Applicable	0.00%	N/ANot Applicable	0.00%	N/ANot Applicable	0.00%	1	100.00%
MEEGMS	86	42	48.84%	5	5.81%	12	13.95%	12	13.95%	15	17.44%
MEPHMS	59	47	79.66%	6	10.17%	1	1.69%	4	6.78%	1	1.69%
MLANMA	51	36	70.59%	1	1.96%	8	15.69%	1	1.96%	5	9.80%

MUSCMM	160	112	70.00%	N/ANot Applicable	0.00%	29	18.13%	1	0.63%	18	11.25%
NURSMS	91	35	38.46%	8	8.79%	20	21.98%	5	5.49%	23	25.27%
OPANMS	4	1	25.00%	N/ANot Applicable	0.00%	2	50.00%	1	25.00%	N/ANot Applicable	0.00%
OPMGMS	2688	1471	54.72%	36	1.34%	352	13.10%	14	0.52%	815	30.32%
PADMMP	76	38	50.00%	5	6.58%	11	14.47%	4	5.26%	18	23.68%
PBHLMPH	15	N/ANot Applicable	0.00%	N/ANot Applicable	0.00%	12	80.00%	2	13.33%	1	6.67%
PHEDME	301	199	66.11%	3	1.00%	45	14.95%	N/ANot Applicable	0.00%	54	17.94%
PHILMA	43	21	48.84%	N/ANot Applicable	0.00%	12	27.91%	N/ANot Applicable	0.00%	10	23.26%
PHYSMA	1	1	100.00%	N/ANot Applicable	0.00%	N/ANot Applicable	0.00%	N/ANot Applicable	0.00%	N/ANot Applicable	0.00%
PHYSMS	61	17	27.87%	14	22.95%	4	6.56%	17	27.87%	9	14.75%
PLPAMS	29	18	62.07%	N/ANot Applicable	0.00%	5	17.24%	N/ANot Applicable	0.00%	6	20.69%
PLSCMA	72	42	58.33%	3	4.17%	13	18.06%	1	1.39%	13	18.06%
POSCMS	75	47	62.67%	4	5.33%	17	22.67%	3	4.00%	4	5.33%
PSYCMA	82	53	64.63%	4	4.88%	N/ANot Applicable	0.00%	22	26.83%	3	3.66%

RESMME	262	171	65.27%	10	3.82%	35	13.36%	N/ANot Applicable	0.00%	46	17.56%
RHABMS	81	59	72.84%	5	6.17%	N/ANot Applicable	0.00%	N/ANot Applicable	0.00%	17	20.99%
SCMTMS	85	14	16.47%	1	1.18%	63	74.12%	2	2.35%	5	5.88%
SCWKMS	350	272	77.71%	N/ANot Applicable	0.00%	61	17.43%	N/ANot Applicable	0.00%	17	4.86%
SEEDMA	152	147	96.71%	1	0.66%	N/ANot Applicable	0.00%	N/ANot Applicable	0.00%	4	2.63%
SEEDME	6	2	33.33%	3	50.00%	N/ANot Applicable	0.00%	N/ANot Applicable	0.00%	1	16.67%
SMTHTA	26	14	53.85%	N/ANot Applicable	0.00%	N/ANot Applicable	0.00%	N/ANot Applicable	0.00%	12	46.15%
SOCIMA	101	63	62.38%	2	1.98%	18	17.82%	1	0.99%	17	16.83%
SPACMS	10	6	60.00%	1	10.00%	2	20.00%	N/ANot Applicable	0.00%	1	10.00%
SPANMA	65	45	69.23%	3	4.62%	6	9.23%	N/ANot Applicable	0.00%	11	16.92%
SPEDME	173	102	58.96%	3	1.73%	29	16.76%	2	1.16%	37	21.39%
STANMS	143	80	55.94%	14	9.79%	19	13.29%	12	8.39%	18	12.59%
STATMS	14	2	14.29%	11	78.57%	N/ANot Applicable	0.00%	N/ANot Applicable	0.00%	1	7.14%

TESLME	75	32	42.67%	3	4.00%	19	25.33%	3	4.00%	18	24.00%
THTRMF	54	31	57.41%	1	1.85%	16	29.63%	N/A Not Applicable	0.00%	6	11.11%
Grand Total	14515	8981	61.87%	427	2.94%	2394	16.49%	208	1.43%	2505	17.26%

**Appendix B:
Placement of AEED MS Graduates 2022-23**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>	Placement
Kurz,Jennifer Danielle	02/07/2023	
Berner,Caleb Michael	02/03/2023	Operations Manager, 3T Transport
Williams,Ashton Rein	09/09/2022	
Giebler,Madelaine Paige	06/10/2022	Marketing Manager, Creamy Hills Dairy
Hood,Grant T.	06/08/2022	Ag Teacher, Columbia City (IN) High School
Wesson,Jessica Lynn	06/08/2022	Communications Manager, UA Department of Poultry Science
Gitchell,Caitlyn Danielle	05/14/2022	
Cole,Matt	04/21/2022	
Yarber,Karli Stringer	02/08/2022	PhD Student, UA Department of Agricultural Education, Communications and Technology
Sayger,Andrew M	01/21/2022	Retired
Casteel,Donald Ray	01/18/2022	
Ussery,Ashlyn Jane	09/10/2021	Agriculture and Natural Resources Educator, UA System Division of Agriculture
Clark,Wells William	09/10/2021	Senior Manager, Walmart+
Caston,Tyler	08/20/2021	
Sterner,Rebecca Eddlene	06/11/2021	Director of Career Pathways, UA Rich Mountain Community College
Parks,Anika Noelle	06/10/2021	Volunteer Coordinator, NC State University Extension
McLeod,Alexandria Nichole	06/10/2021	PhD Student, University of Connecticut Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics