COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES
COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY

OUR HISTORY

Colorado State University was founded as Colorado Agricultural College. Ever since, the College of Agricultural Sciences has evolved alongside the state's agricultural landscape, responding to change by being nimble and creative to meet the needs of Colorado's shifting population, climate, and natural resource challenges. Through research centers across the state, the college remains deeply connected to producers and communities, advancing solutions through collaboration in technology, nutrition, and environmental resilience.

YEAR FOUNDED
1870

NUMBER OF STUDENTS
2,347
Fall Census 2024

SPONSORED PROJECT EXPENDITURES
$77,546,979
Fiscal Year 2025

DEPARTMENTS

- Agricultural Biology
- Horticulture & Landscape Architecture
- Agricultural & Resource Economics
- Animal Sciences
- Soil & Crop Sciences

WHAT WE'RE KNOWN FOR

Wheat development, equine science, horticulture, diverse and robust food systems, livestock production, and crop and soil health.

KEY INITIATIVES

Advancing sustainable solutions: Uniting CSU experts, livestock producers, industry, and policymakers to develop and scale innovations that advance sustainable solutions in animal agriculture, ecosystem health, and resilient food systems.

- Made possible through the AgNext sustainable animal agriculture research collaborative, Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics, and the Livestock Business Management undergraduate major.

Building resilient agriculture economies: Connecting producers with resources to build resilient, thriving food and agriculture economies while driving local and regional business growth through innovation and research-based insights.

- Initiatives include local and regional ag business development, agricultural innovation, Rural Economic Development Initiative, and the USDA Northwest and Rocky Mountain Regional Food Business Center.

Sustainable pest management and agricultural production: Integrating ecological principles, cutting-edge research, and region-specific strategies to protect crops, reduce chemical use, and promote long-term agricultural resilience.

- Programs include the Colorado Center for Sustainable Pest Management, wheat breeding program, and sustainable production systems.

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AREAS OF EXCELLENCE

- **Empowering Colorado youth** through 4-H and FFA leadership and development programs.
- **Advancing horticulture** and specialty crops for diverse, robust food systems and rural prosperity.
- **Promoting health and well-being** for individuals, families, and communities.
- **Fostering community and economic development** to build resilient Colorado communities.
- **Strengthening agricultural systems** for productivity, drought and wildfire resilience, and national security.
- **Enhancing livestock, crop, and soil health** for rangeland and cropland productivity and stewardship.
- **Innovating** in energy and natural resource management for a sustainable future.

RECENT HIGH-IMPACT RESEARCH

From soil health to human health: Through research on water, soil microbiomes, nutrient analysis, business development, and life cycle assessment, CSU advances sustainable production of protein-rich foods that benefit human and environmental health.

Sustainable pest management: CSU delivers innovative tools to combat pests, safeguard crops, support export markets, and protect human health.

As water levels decline, the Western U.S. must grapple with threats to critical ecosystems and food supplies. Learn about the six major conservation strategies CSU's agricultural researchers are exploring to address water scarcity.