Providing Professional Development to Educational Professionals for Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs) in Agriculture.

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Providing Professional Development to Educational Professionals for Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAV’s) in Agriculture

Why?
- UAVs are becoming more common in the agricultural industry
- Teachers should train students with skills and knowledge needed for current and relevant careers
- As the industry changes, professional development for agriculture teachers is critical

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What?
- Two, 8-hour workshops
- Topics included: UAVs used in AFNR Careers; UAV certification, laws, and regulations; UAVs for data collection; and Integrating UAVs in the classroom
- Educators across Utah (n = 85) from multiple disciplines
- Project was funded by a USDA-NIFA grant (PD-STEP)

Impact
- Positive response and comments among the participants
- Results of the pre-post survey showed significant gains in:
  - Knowledge (t = 27.60, p = .000)
  - Importance (t = 16.53, p = .000)
  - Confidence (t = 18.95, p = .000)

Future Plans
- Offer an FAA certification course for dual credit-integrated into Ag Systems course
- Develop a state-level CDE, Utilizing UAVs to solve agricultural problems
- Develop curriculum for educators