Arizona Fun Facts

• Our official state neckwear is the bola tie
• Santa Cruz County (1,237 sq. miles) is the smallest of our 15 counties but is larger than more than 72 countries
• Our rainfall averages range from less than 3 inches in the deserts to more than 30 inches per year in the mountains
• Our hottest temperature was 128° at Lake Havasu City on June 29, 1994
• Our coldest temperature was 40° below zero at Hawley Lake on January 7, 1971
• The worst range war and family feud in the West, which claimed the lives of dozens of ranchers, ironically occurred in a place called Pleasant Valley, AZ
• Sandra Day O’Connor, the first woman appointed to the U.S. Supreme Court, grew up on a large family ranch near Duncan, AZ
AZ Agriculture Fun Facts

- Prescott, AZ is home to the world's oldest rodeo, and Payson, AZ is home to the world’s oldest continuous rodeo—both of which date back to the 1880s.
- Yuma is the country’s highest producer of winter vegetables and is the winter lettuce capitol of the world.
- AZ grows enough cotton each year to make more than one pair of jeans for every person in the United States.
- AZ produces enough beef annually to feed over 4.6 million Americans.
- If you cut down a protected species of cactus in AZ, you could spend more than a year in prison.
AZ Dept of Agriculture (AZDA)

MISSION STATEMENT:
To support and promote Arizona agriculture in a way that encourages farming, ranching and agribusiness, protects the well-being of people, plants, animals and the environment while safeguarding commerce, consumers and natural resources.

• AZDA is a cabinet-level agency established in 1991
• AZDA is charged with regulating & promoting agriculture while safeguarding the public

VISION STATEMENT:
To be recognized as a global leader in enhancing and protecting agricultural commerce, championing consumer awareness and protection while fostering and promoting an understanding of Arizona agricultural products and producers.
AZDA Overview

AZDA Programs
- Agricultural Consulting and Training
- Animal Services Division
- Citrus, Fruit, and Vegetable Standardization
- Environmental Services Division
- Pest Management Division
- Plant Services Division
- State Agricultural Laboratory
- Weights and Measures Services Division

- 269 full-time employees
- $27 million total budget
- 46% Industry Fees, 35% General Fund, & 19% Federal Grants
Agricultural Consulting and Training
Agricultural Consulting and Training (ACT)

• Pesticide & Worker Safety Compliance Assistance
• Air Quality (PM$^{10}$) Compliance Assistance
• Specialty Crop Block Grant
• Livestock & Crop Conservation Grant
• Good Handling Practices/Good Agricultural Practices (GHP/GAP)
• Council and Board Administration
• Specialty Crop Block Grant Sub-Grantee quarterly report review and reimbursement requests were taking too long to process

• By prioritizing staff time with calendar scheduling (blocking out time for report review) and prioritizing reimbursement requests based on the level of review necessary (i.e. zero dollar reports last)

• Program staff reduced the average number of review/processing days from 42 to 21
Animal Services Division
Animal Services Division (ASD)

The Animal Services Division protects the public from contagious and infectious disease in livestock, poultry, commercially raised fish, meat, milk, and eggs.

ASD is comprised of 5 programs: Dairy Inspection, Egg Inspection, Livestock Inspection, Meat & Poultry Inspection, and State Veterinarian’s Office.
ASD LEAN Project

Hand written field inspection forms

IT-based inspections
ASD Fun Fact

• The expiration date on commercial eggs is 24 days, including the day of packing

• 211 - Julian date, when the egg was packaged

• P1711 - plant number where the egg was processed
  • P1711 is the Hickman’s Family Farms processing plant in Maricopa
Citrus, Fruit, and Vegetable
Citrus, Fruit, and Vegetable (CFV)

- Protects against exporting, importing, & selling of sub-standard produce through the enforcement of uniform standards
- Enforces US import requirements at the international border between Arizona & Mexico
- Food Safety Audits
CFV LEAN Project

• A Specialized Training Program was implemented for inspectors that were making errors resulting in a Superseded Certificates
• Prior to implementation, 6 inspectors averaged 14 - 22% Supersedes
• Goal - reduce Supersedes to 10% or below for each inspector
• A Special Projects Training Officer was appointed
• The goal was met by the next year
• This process will be repeated annually to maintain this level of accuracy
Yuma, AZ is the winter vegetable capital of the world.

About 90% of all the leafy vegetables grown in the US from November through March are grown in and around the Yuma area.

9 salad plants process more than 2 million pounds of salad per day during the peak of production and employ 50,000 workers.
Environmental Services Division
Environmental Services Division (ESD)

- Pesticide Compliance & Worker Safety
- Non-Food Quality Assurance
- Licensing
  - Native Plant
  - Devices - WMSD
  - Many more
ESD LEAN Projects

• Livestock Brand Recordings
  • It took people 9 months to get a brand recorded
  • Changed the process & clarified the form - now down to 67 days of which 36 days are for public advertising
  • On-line ability to renew now available

• Worker Safety Trainers
  • Issuance of certificates took 44 days on average
  • Eliminated laminated cards & changed processes slightly
  • Issuance is now less than 10 days
ESD Fun Facts

• Staff of 8 - over 120,000 licenses, permits, registrations, certifications etc. travel through the office each year - 25% WMSD

• Did you know that household cleaners, insect repellants, and roach killers are all pesticides?

• All require registration with the EPA and you can tell where the product was manufactured from the label

• Missouri or Georgia - bottle would tell “lot” which would get you to the state
Pest Management Division
Pest Management Division (PMD)

- Recently merged into AZDA
- Regulates all residential and commercial areas:
  - General pest control
  - Wood-destroying organism management (e.g. termites, powder post beetles, etc.)
  - Ornamentals & turf pests (including weeds)
  - Right of Way
  - Aquatic pest management
  - Fumigation
  - Wood Preservatives (telephone poles, railroad tracks)
PMD LEAN Projects

- Increased compliance which reduced manpower
  - Compliance increased from 79% to 91%
  - 2 PowerPoint presentations were created which trained the industry about the laws
  - Emails were sent to all company owners about these 2 training courses

- Reduced time for adjudicating unlicensed activity cases
  - Investigation time was reduced from 120 days to 60 days
  - # of staff “touching” each case was reduced from 3 to 2
  - Unlicensed cases were made a priority over all other cases since they could be reviewed and written up quicker than other complaints
There are approximately 1,400 species of scorpions in the world and only 25 are considered lethal. And, the State of Arizona is home to one of those lethal species— the Bark Scorpion. It is also one of the relatively few species that is able to climb vertical walls.

While most scorpions are solitary creatures, the Bark Scorpion is known to congregate in packs of anywhere from 20 to 30 at a time!
Facilitates commerce & safeguards ag through a comprehensive, risk-based process which includes:

- Establishment & enforcement of external quarantines to prevent the introduction of hazardous plant pests
- Early detection of hazardous plant pests to minimize the impact of an introduction & the cost to stakeholders to mitigate it
- Inspection & certification of ag & horticultural commodities for domestic & international export
PSD LEAN Project

• Reduced steps in the nursery certification process from 17 steps to 6
  • Added an online certification application which allowed applications to be processed faster and applicants to pay on-line
  • Adding online processing of Domestic Export Certificates through an existing Federal system that processes International Export Certificates simplifying the application and certification of commodities
  • Simplified and reduced the amount of paper files stored on-site and streamlined the process overall for stakeholders already on the system
PSD Fun Fact

PSD has almost 10,000 insect traps placed around the state and monitored every 2 weeks to safeguard agriculture and the public from exotic pests of concern.
State Agricultural Laboratory
State Agricultural Laboratory (SAL)

- Compliance Testing
  - Feed, fertilizer, seed, & pesticide product labeling compliance analyses
  - Forensic testing for pesticide misuse investigations
  - Mycotoxin testing in pet food & animal feed

- Food Safety Testing
  - Milk, dairy, meat, & produce products

- Animal Health Surveillance
SAL LEAN Project

• Improved on-time performance for feed sample testing
  • Increased the samples reported on-time from 55% to 100%
  • Held a week-long event that established 9 Opportunities for Improvement (OCIs)
  • 51 employee-based ideas and 17 customer-based ideas have been implemented, resulting in the overall improvement
  • An additional 29 ideas have been partially implemented
SAL Fun Fact

Any laboratory that provides agricultural laboratory testing to agencies or departments of this state or its political subdivisions shall be certified by the State Agricultural Laboratory.
Weights & Measures Services Division
Weights & Measures Services Division (WMSD)

- Recently moved into AZDA
- Ensures that commercial devices (scales, vapor recovery, liquid petroleum gas, etc.) used for the sale of commodities by weight, measure, or count are licensed and accurate
- Works to prevent unfair dealing by weight, measure, or count
- Implements 2 air quality protection programs, vapor recovery and cleaner-burning gasoline.
- Ensures that prices are posted & items are scanned correctly
- Conducts regular inspections to ensure compliance
WMSD LEAN Project

- After examination of data, we discontinued 2\textsuperscript{nd} fast test and slow test for sites with results between 0 and -5 cubic inches.
- For example, out of 29,490 tests, only 14 would pass the regular test and fail the slow flow (0.4%).
- Saved an average of 3,000 work hours per year.
- Allows us to perform packaging, large scale, high flow diesel, DEF, and propane inspections that had not been done consistently for many years.

savings
WMSD Fun Fact

WMSD has taken pictures of 5 people breaking into fuel dispensers to retrieve skimming devices.