

Rachel Holden

Lyman Hall High School

4 years' experience

Food Science



Experience

I have a bachelor's degree in animal science with a minor in Ornamental Horticulture from the University of Connecticut. Though I did not go through an ag science program in high school, much of my agriculture experience is growing up on my family's farm.

What do you love most about being an ag teacher?

Working with students is the best part. I love watching them grow as they learn more about food and where it comes from. Everyday is interesting and different.

What advice would you give a novice teacher entering this profession?

Don't expect everything to be perfect. If something does not go as planned, make a note then go back and fix it later. Teaching is as much of a learning experience for you as it is for your students and every class will be different. Enjoy yourself and don't be afraid to ask for help.

What personal qualities or abilities do you think are important to being successful in this profession?

The best qualities for an ag teacher are being flexible and adaptable. All too often plans have to change with very little notice, especially when working with live animals or nature. I learned quickly to write all of my plans in pencil!