

Undergraduate Major – Focus Group Questions - General

Numbered questions represent the information we wish to gather through the focus groups. Bulleted questions are those that address specific components of the overall topic area or are examples of different ways to word the questions.

1. What do you want to get out of a university education?

- Please describe the value of a college degree from CSU.
- Please explain which of the following classroom experience is valuable to you and why?
 - experiential
 - problem based learning
 - applied experiences (e.g., lab placement, internships, supervised teaching/outreach)
- Of the following names for a college degree program, which of the following do you find most appealing and why? If none of these, what other names would you suggest?
 - A. Agricultural Biology
 - B. Sustainable Pest Management
 - C. Integrated Pest Management
 - D. Plant Health
 - E. Plant Protection
 - F. Crop Protection
 - G. Applied Pest Biology
 - H. Food System Protection
- How did you and your peers select your degree program? (or how will you select it?)
- For students from other majors: What would our department's degree program need to offer for you to choose it over your current degree program?

2. Would this appeal to you? Do you like what we have to offer?

Most jobs in agriculture do not involve actual farming, and rather they support the production and distribution of food. Much of this work depends on understanding the science behind food production.

- Knowing that, which of the following topics sounds appealing to you?
 - A. Food and food production
 - B. Insects and the roles they play in natural and agricultural systems
 - C. Microbes and the roles they play in natural and agricultural systems
 - D. Sustainable agriculture
 - E. Plant diseases and the roles they play in natural and agricultural systems
 - F. Invasive plants and weeds and how they affect natural, agricultural and urban systems
 - G. Preventing and managing biological invasions
 - H. Reducing food insecurity

3. How will a degree in science help you meet your professional goals?