

Combining Youth, Passion, and Resources for Environmental Science Studies (CYPRESS)

Audrey McCrary-Quarles, PhD.

Christopher C. Mathis, Jr., PhD.

Mrs. Monica Fields

South Carolina State University

1890 Research Programs

Outline

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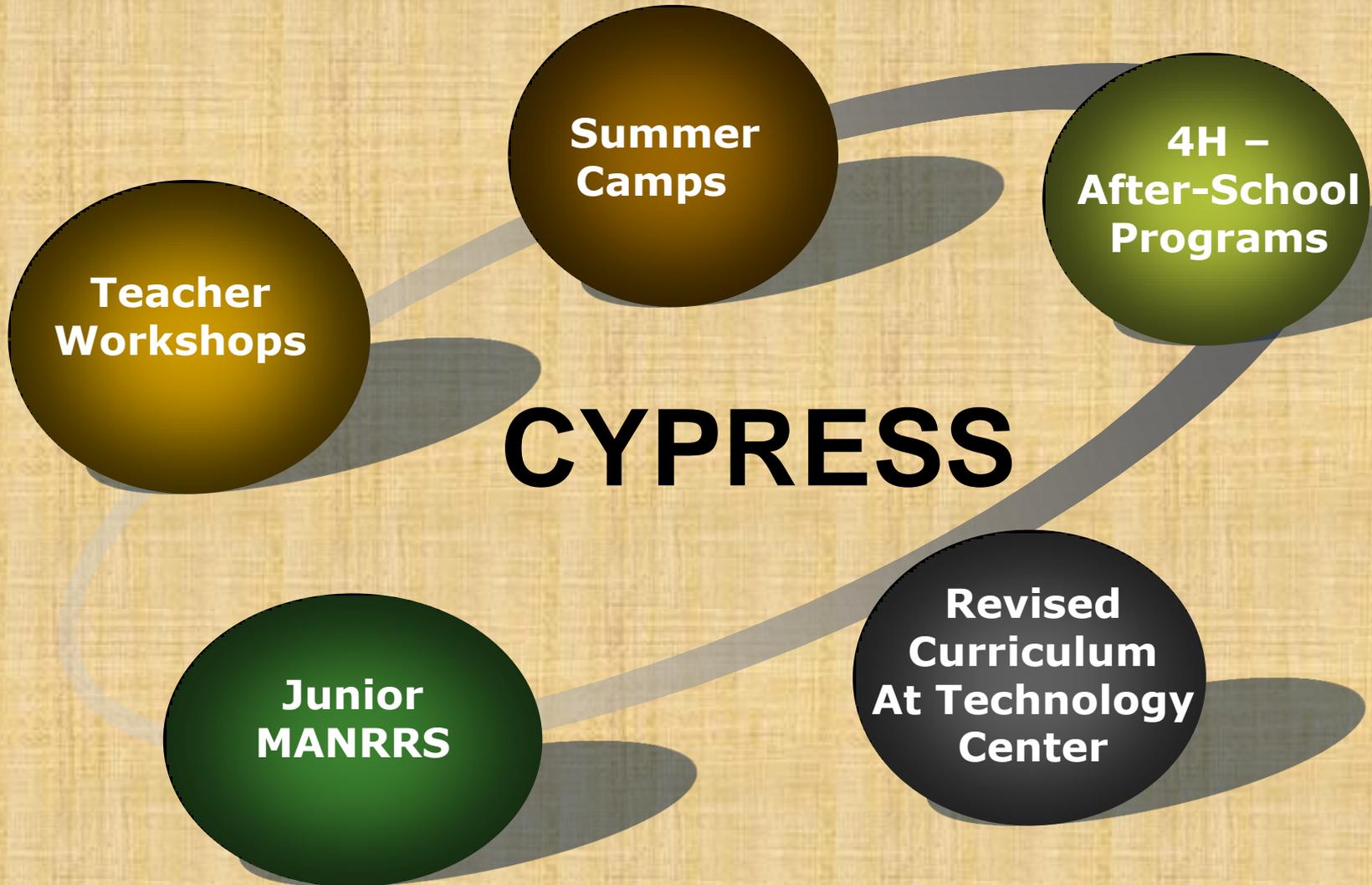
Overview

- **CYPRESS**
 - **Funding Source**
 - USDA – 1890 Capacity Building Grant / NIFA
 - **Three year award - \$599,767**
 - **Integrated project**
 - Teaching, Research, and Extension
 - **Collaborative Effort / Partnerships**
 - SC State University
 - 1890 Research Programs
 - Orangeburg School District 5
 - Felton Laboratory School

Overview - cont



Overview -cont



Overview -cont

- **4H After-School Programs/MANRRS**
 - Middle School Students
- **Curriculum Development / Revision**
 - High School Students
- **Workshops**
 - Science Teachers
- **Summer Camps**
 - Middle School Students



Purpose

- ❑ To increase the cultural diversity of the food and Agricultural professional work force
- ❑ To attract and educate young underrepresented groups about Agriculture
- ❑ To reduce the label associated with Agricultural careers among minorities – “working on the farm”

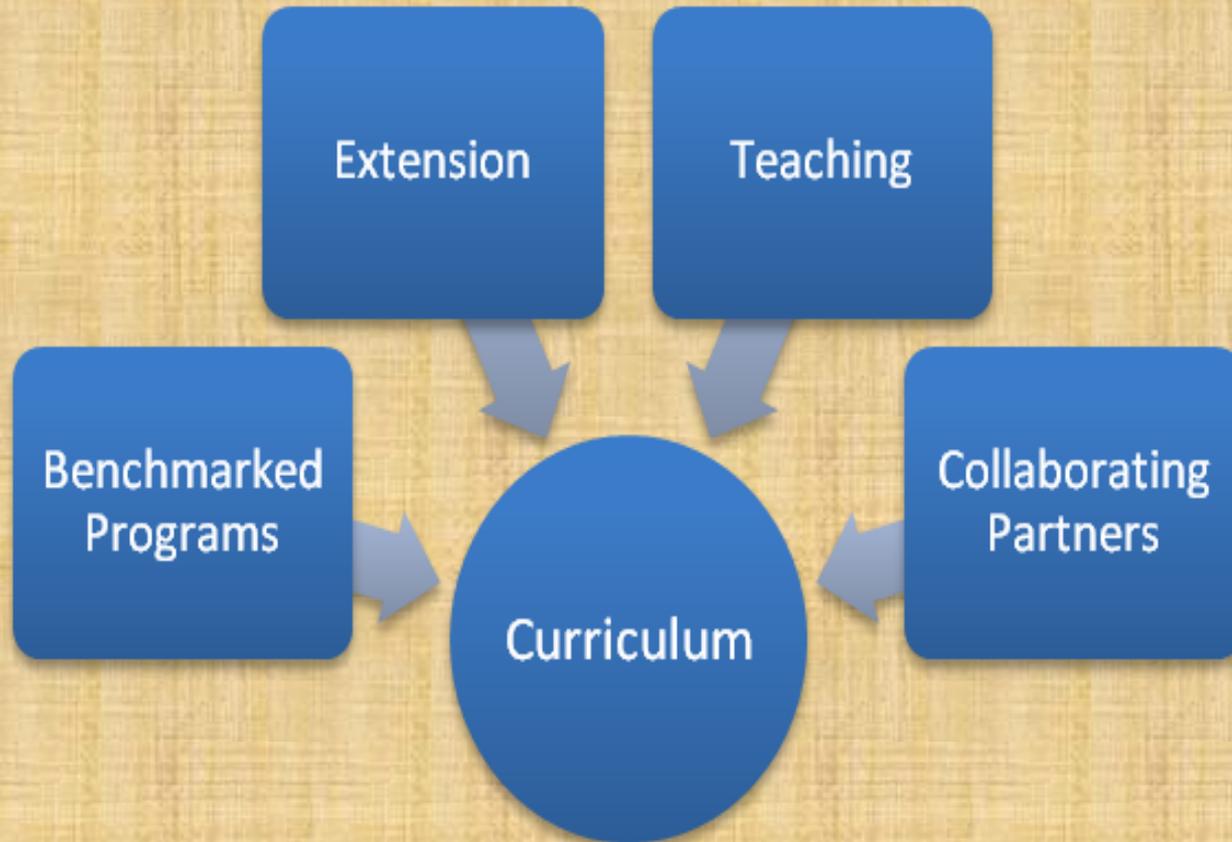


CYPRESS' Goals

- Create a pipeline from middle to high school
 - Expose students to various Ag careers
- Develop an informed public
 - Agricultural science careers and issues
- Increase awareness of Agriculture
 - Necessary for daily living and survival
- Increase college recruitment
 - Students pursuing Agricultural related careers
- Provide learning experience
 - SC State Undergraduates & Graduate students
- Develop an effective model
 - Promote Ag careers among youths



Methodology

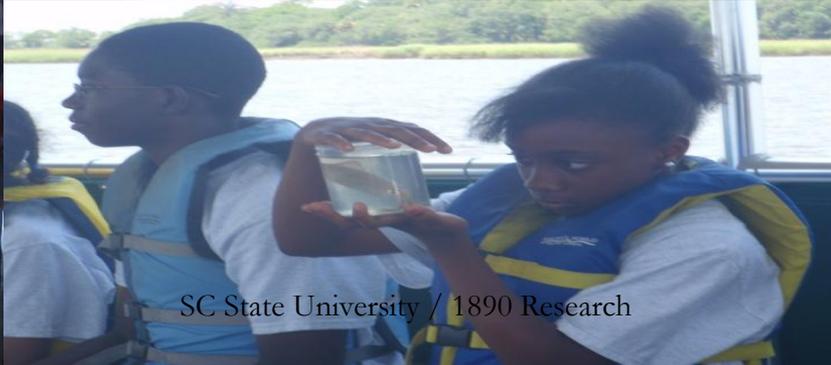


Development of curriculum with hands-on, career oriented, application based experiences

Methodology - cont

■ *Various Careers*

- ❑ Animal Scientist
- ❑ Agricultural Photographer
- ❑ Beekeeper
- ❑ Biochemist
- ❑ Electrician
- ❑ Environmental Engineer
- ❑ Environmental Scientist
- ❑ Farm Manager
- ❑ Fisheries Scientist
- ❑ Florist / Floral Designer
- ❑ Food Scientist
- ❑ Forester / Forest Ranger
- ❑ Fruit and Nut Producer
- ❑ Geneticist
- ❑ Health Educator
- ❑ Loan Officer
- ❑ Marine Biologist
- ❑ Nutritionist / Dietician
- ❑ Park Ranger
- ❑ Pharmacologist
- ❑ Soil / Turf Scientist
- ❑ Toxicology
- ❑ Tree Surgeon
- ❑ Veterinarian
- ❑ Zoo Keeper
- ❑ Zoologist



Methodology - cont

- Scholarship Opportunities
 - USDA/1890 National Scholars Program
 - South Carolina Farm Bureau Foundation Scholarship
 - South Carolina Chapter Soil and Water Conservation Society Scholarship
 - Communication for Ag Exchange Program Grants
 - Individual State/College Ag Scholarships

Data Collection

■ Conducted Pre and Post Surveys

- Determine Effectiveness of Programs
 - Summer Camp / 4H / MANRRS
 - Revised Curriculum at Technology Center

■ Identified and Tracked

- Middle School Students
 - Interested in Agriculture careers
- High School Students
 - Enrolled in Ag courses at Technology Center
 - Pursuing Ag majors in college

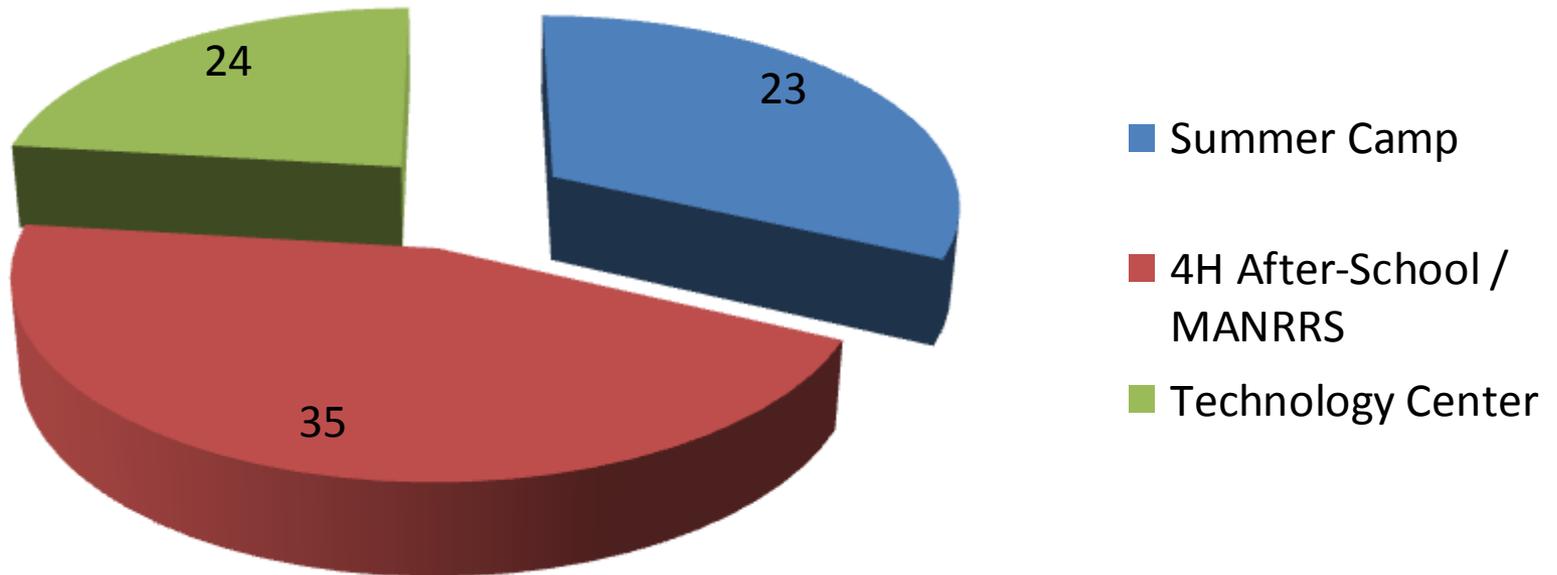
■ Parent Survey

- Perception of CYPRESS Summer Camp



Data Collection - cont

CYPRESS Participants



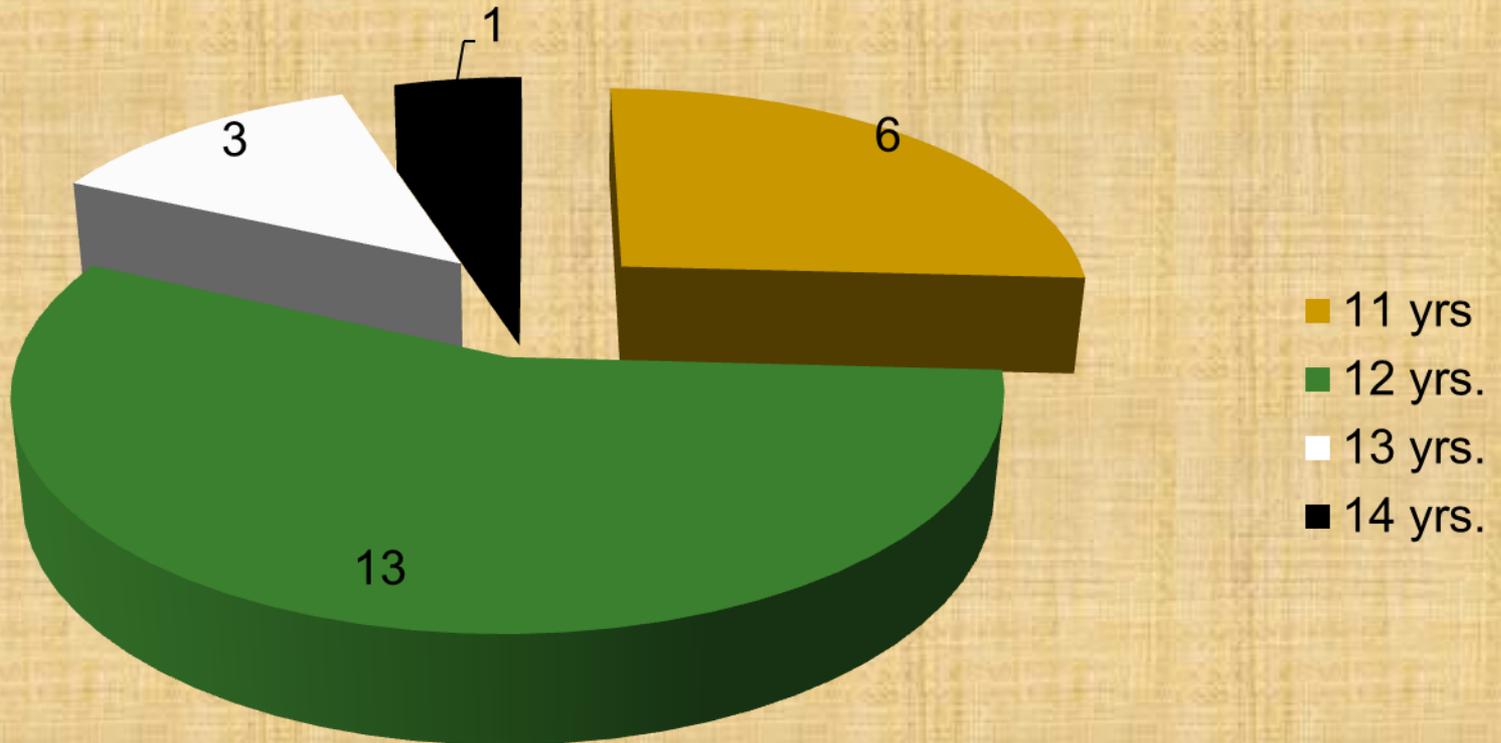
Data Collection - cont

CYPRESS Summer Camp

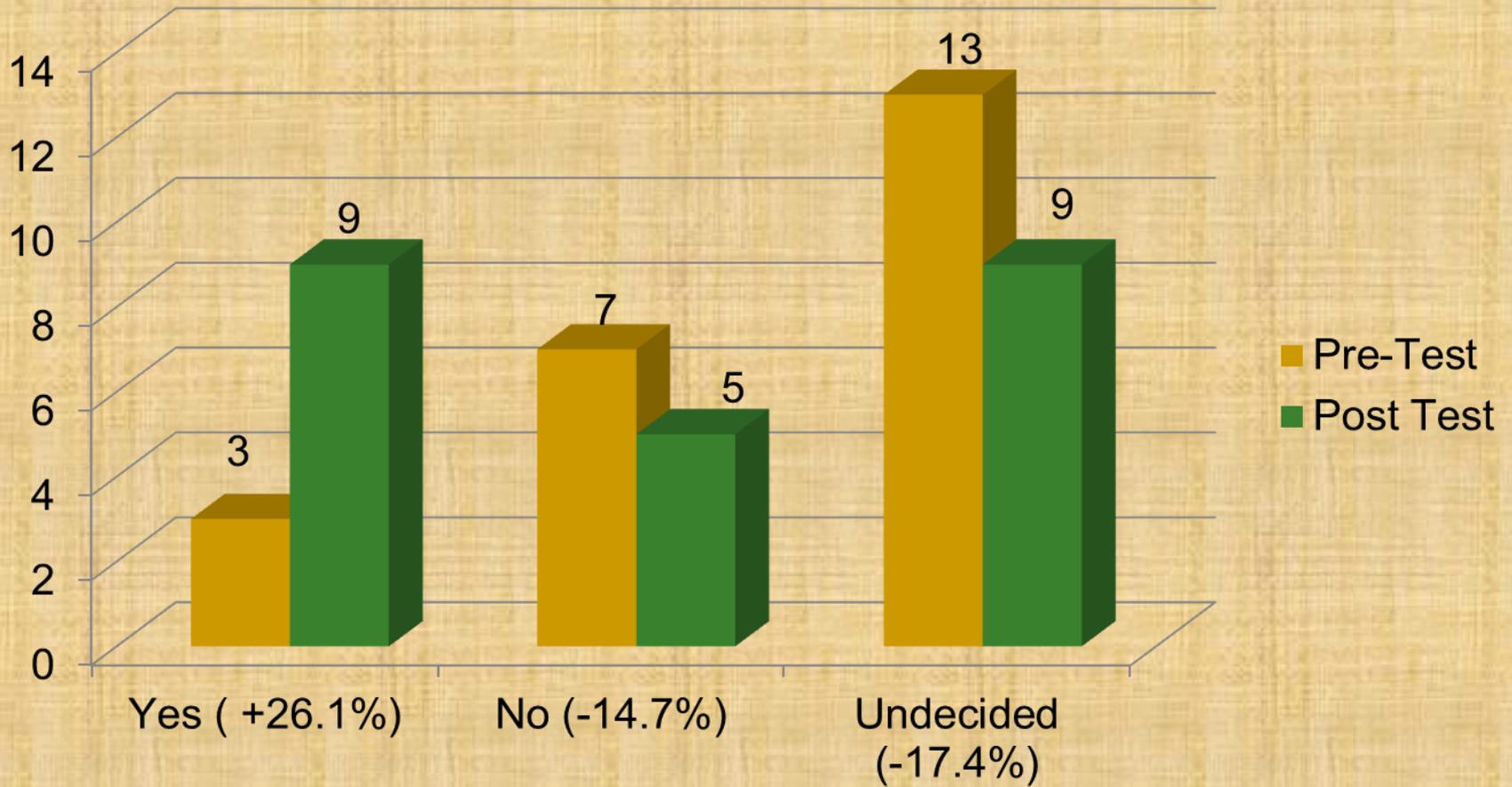


Data Collection - cont

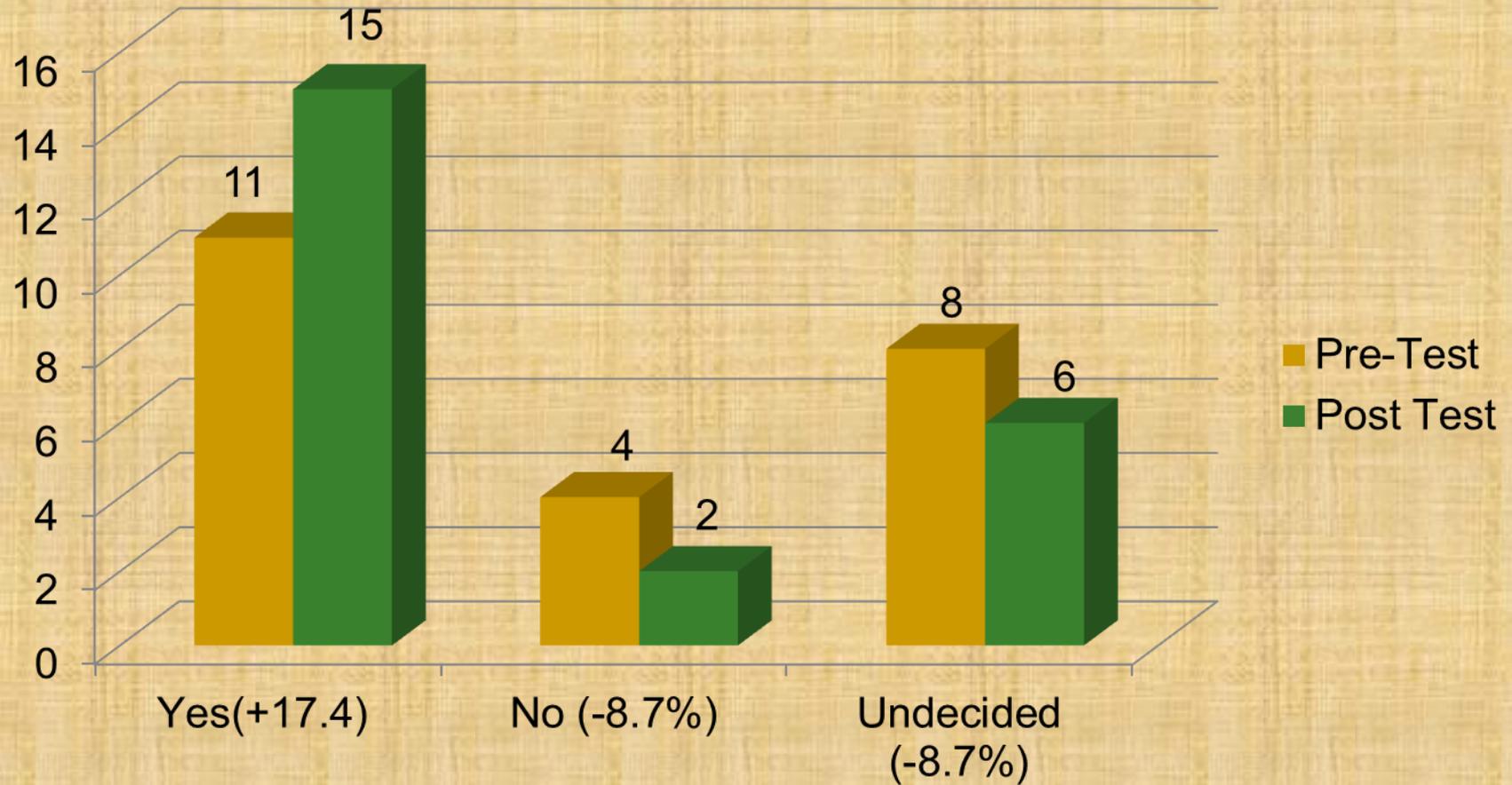
Summer Camp Participants



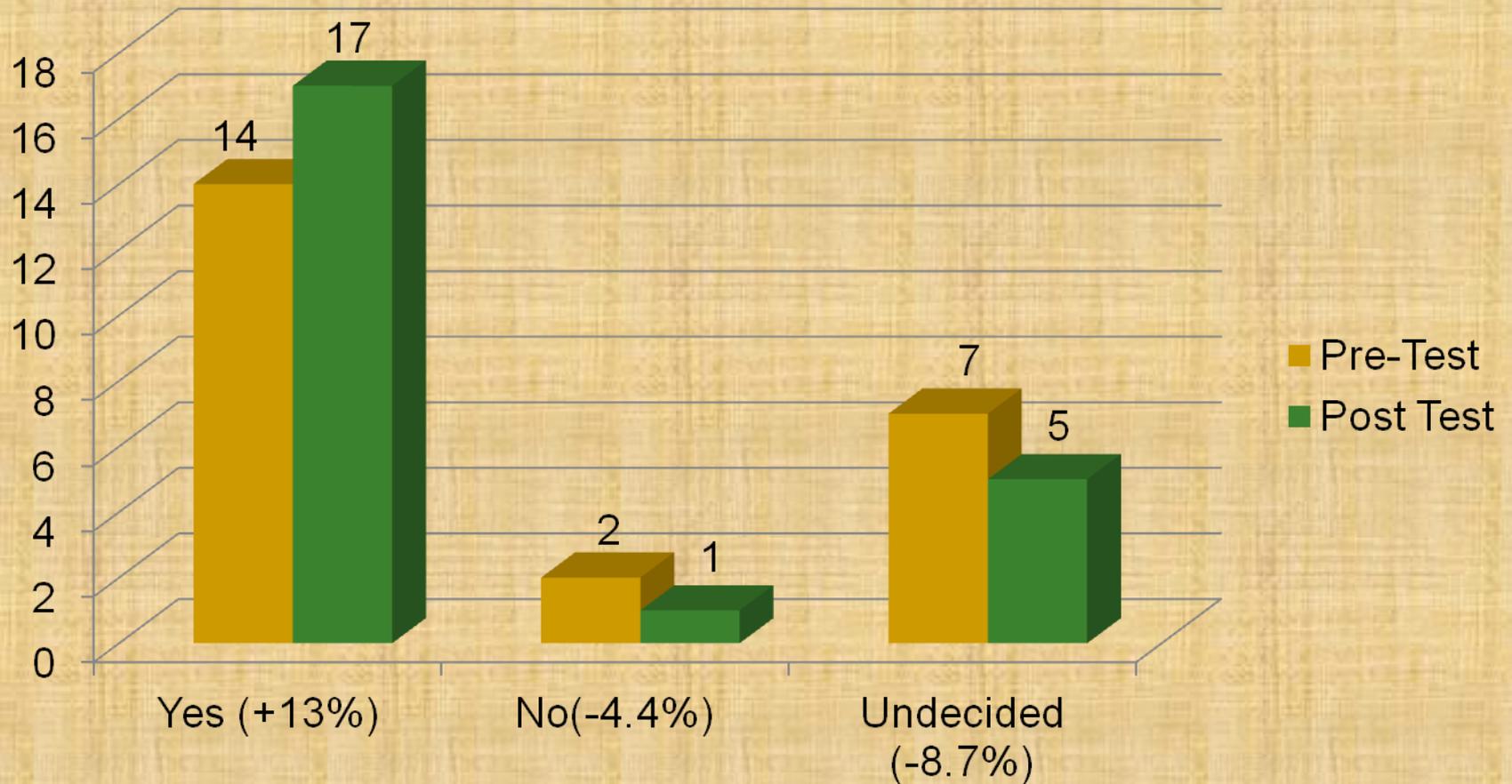
Pursuing Careers in Ag



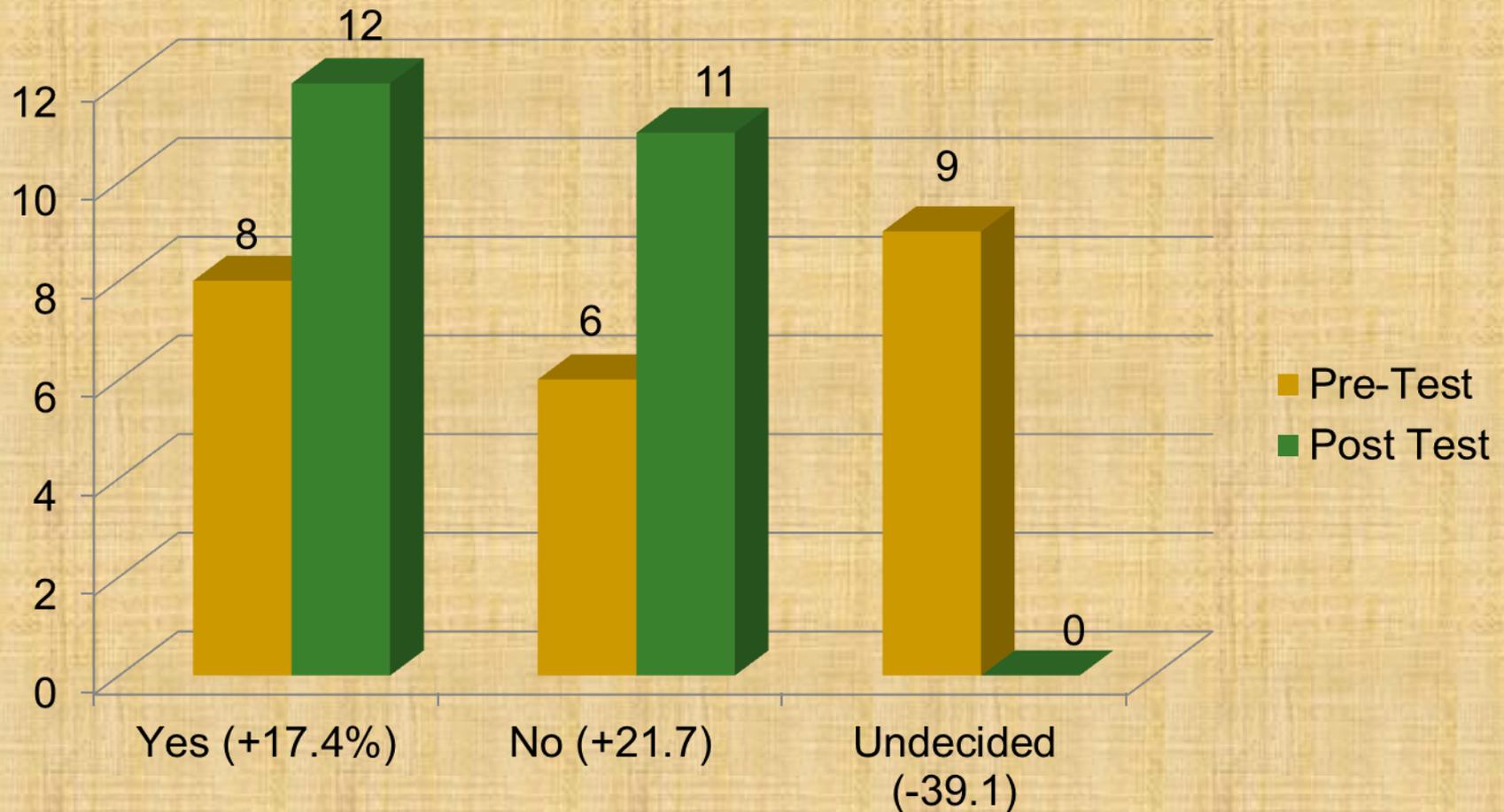
Want to Know More About Ag



Aware of Ag Scholarships



Aware that Ag covers Environmental Science, Technology, Engineering, & Math



Summary

- Agriculture Awareness Project that targets minority youth
- Agriculture career exploration
- “Ag in the classroom” workshops for science teachers
- Food Production – from the farm to the table
- College preparation tips and scholarships
- Curriculum revision for Technology Center
- Monitor enrollment for high school Ag courses
- Track students pursuing Ag majors in college

Summary

- CYPRESS Project

- effective towards increasing awareness and interest among the middle school youths for Ag Careers



- Planning Phase

- Testing effectiveness of revised curriculum
- Teacher Workshops



Acknowledgment

We would like to acknowledge the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) - 1890 Capacity Building Grant, and National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) for their cooperation and assistance in providing funding for this project; in addition to the students and staff members from Orangeburg County Consolidated School District #5 (Howard and Clark Middle schools; OW-Technology Center; and surrounding High Schools); Felton Laboratory School, South Carolina State University, and 1890 Research Programs.

“Thank You”



Questions?