

## **Title: Mentoring Students in Food Safety, Pest Management and Public Health**

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### **Abstract:**

We recognize the importance of training the next generation of scientists to support IPM, food safety and public health in Arizona and beyond. In summers 2022 and 2023, we recruited three student interns into our project team. Interns worked with the team to deploy a series of integrated food safety and IPM training opportunities so that they could experience real-world scenarios related to pest management, food safety and public health protection. These trainings covered priorities identified by tribal stakeholders, FRTEP Tribal Extension Agents, pest managers and the communities they serve. As a part of the hands-on training, participants were provided with reference materials and access to culturally-relevant resources on each topic covered. Our interns participated in the SaferFoodCats program, an experiential learning research program. Participants engaged in a variety of experiential learning opportunities in food safety, including laboratory experiments, team-building activities, field trips, and research laboratory tours.