

Socioscientific Issues in Agricultural Education: SBAE Teachers' Use of Resources and Teaching Strategies in the Curriculum

Michelle S. Burrows, Ph.D.
Tyson J. Sorensen, Ph.D.

Introduction:

- ✓ Socioscientific issues (SSI) - topics or issues that impact society and are scientific in nature.
- ✓ Agriculture is central to many SSI.
- ✓ SBAE is positioned to build capacity in the next generation of scientists & agriculturalists to address SSI.

SSI-Based Instruction Framework (Presley, et al., 2013)

Required Student Experiences:

- ✓ Higher Order Experiences
- ✓ Use of Scientific Ideas & Theories
- ✓ Analysis of Scientific Data
- ✓ Navigating Social Dimensions

Recommended Student Experiences:

- ✓ Ethical Dimensions
- ✓ Nature of Science Themes

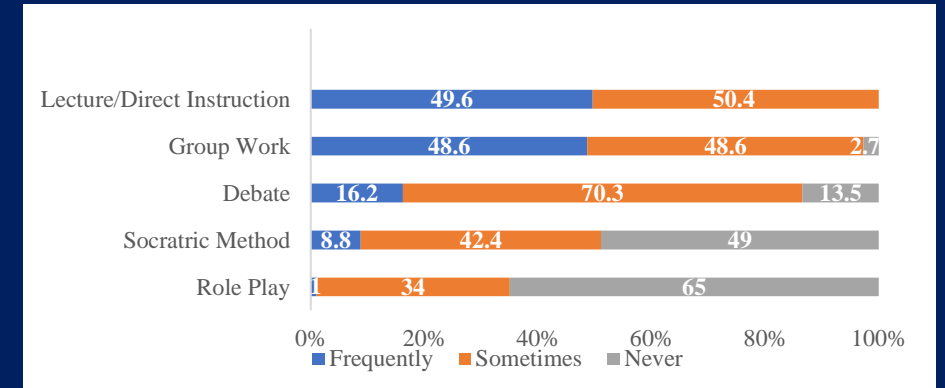
When teaching socioscientific issues SBAE teachers use a variety of teaching methods, but they are often not in line with the SSI-based instruction framework.



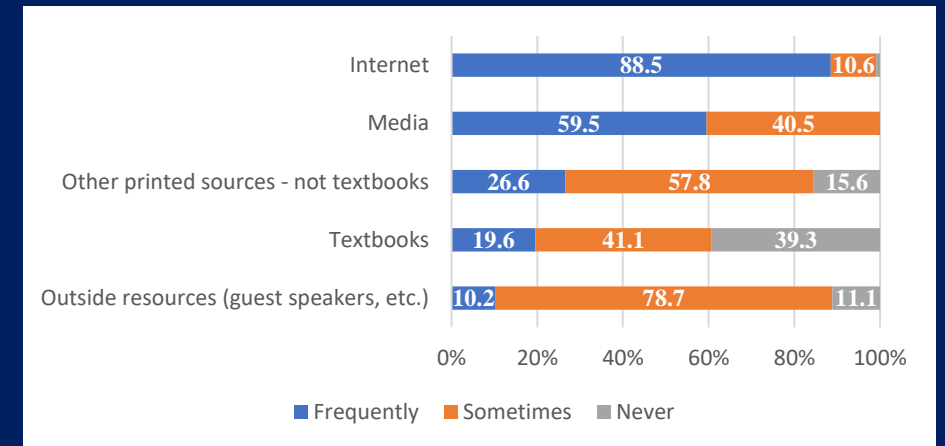
Methods:

- ✓ SBAE teacher survey with teaching strategies (frequently, sometimes, never) and resources (rank use 1-5)
- ✓ Response rate: 27.2% (n=136)

Teaching Strategies Used by SBAE Teachers When Incorporating SSI by Percent



Resources used by SBAE Teachers When Incorporating SSI by Percent



SBAE Teachers use of Technology and Data Analysis When Incorporating SSI by Percent

	Strongly Agree 1	Agree 2	Neutral 3	Disagree 4	Strongly Disagree 5	M	SD
When learning about SSI my students use technology	52.7	38.4	3.6	1.8	3.6	4.35	0.92
analyze scientific data	9.8	55.4	25.0	3.6	6.3	3.59	0.95