What can I do with my Major?

HORTICULTURE

OVERVIEW OF MAJOR

The Department of Plant Science provides instruction in the horticultural areas of floriculture, fruit and vegetable crops, and ornamental horticulture. Curricular options for Horticulture majors are Horticultural Commerce and Professional Horticulture. Horticulture has an important role in maintaining high-quality diets and enhancing environmental quality through the aesthetic and functional uses of plants. Horticulture graduates are responsible for a variety of tasks necessary to achieve a pleasant and functional outdoor environment. They also care for indoor gardens and plantings in commercial and public facilities, such as malls, hotels, and botanical gardens.

Students are trained and work in specialized fields of horticulture, including plant propagation, nursery and greenhouse production, floriculture, sales and marketing, designing, maintenance, business and personnel management, communication, and horticulture therapy. Students planning to pursue graduate study should obtain a comprehensive background in the biological and physical sciences.

NATURE OF WORK

Most entry-level technicians work as growers, propagators, or salespeople. The nature of work within each field of horticulture is different. Work can range from determining the correct soil conditions for different plants and choosing the best fertilizer to promote growth, to being responsible for the indoor climate of greenhouses. Horticulturists also maintain inventory of wholesaler or retail outlets, deal with customers and suppliers, and are responsible for the maintenance and construction of commercial or public lands and seed production and sales.

SAMPLE JOB TITLES

Visit O*Net and conduct an Occupation Quick Search of each job title to learn more about that career path.

Nursery and Greenhouse Managers
Soil and Plant Scientists
Agricultural Sciences Teacher, Postsecondary
Nursery Worker
First-Line Supervisors of Agricultural Crop and Horticultural Workers
Vocational Education Teacher, Postsecondary
Landscaping and Groundskeeping Workers
Career/Technical Education Teacher, Secondary School
Floral Designer
Lawn Service Specialist
Arborist
Interior Landscaper
Retail Gardener
Horticultural Therapist
Floriculturist

UCONN RESOURCES

Department of Plant Science and Landscape Architecture
Horticulture Club
Alpha Zeta
Sigma Alpha

OTHER RESOURCES

American Association of Botanical Gardens and Arboreta
Professional Lawn Care Association of America
International Society for Horticultural Science