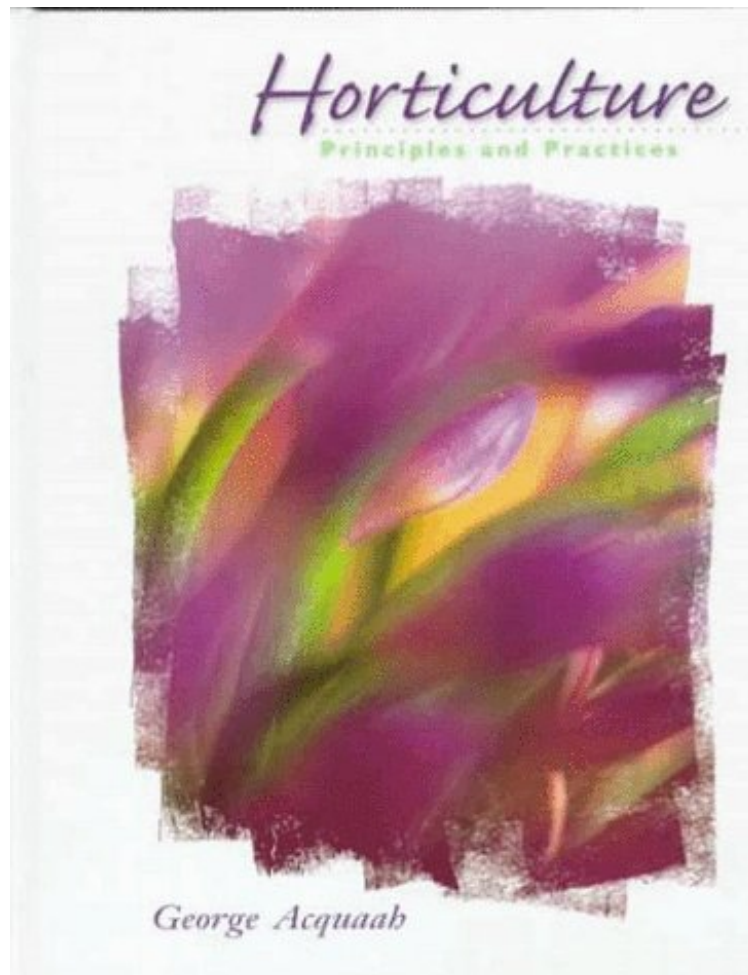


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Horticulture: Principles and Practices

George Acquah

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For undergraduate-level courses in Introductory Horticulture and Principles of Crop Production. Written from the point of view of the horticulturalist, this comprehensive introduction to horticulture as a science, art, and business

explores the four general areas of horticulture - ornamental horticulture, fruit culture, vegetable culture, and landscape architecture - and covers all the essential principles and practices of horticulture pertaining to indoor and outdoor production. The emphasis throughout is on the underlying science - including current technology - and how it is applied in practical horticulture. * Horticulture as a science, an art, and as a business. * Helps students develop a broad understanding of all the dimensions of the field, showing how they are interconnected, and expanding their view of the opportunities available. * An emphasis on the basic principles and practices of horticulture. * Minimizes regional and national biases. * An exploration of the four general areas of horticulture - Ornamental horticulture, fruit culture, vegetable culture, and landscape architecture. * Introduces students to the full range of horticultural topics. * All the essential principles and practices of horticulture pertaining to indoor and outdoor production. * An integration of the underlying science and practice of horticulture - Including current technology. * Extensive illustration program - Features 600 photographs and line drawings with comprehensive captions, and numerous detailed tables. * A consistent pedagogic format in each chapter - Chapter objectives or purpose; Expected outcomes; An Overview; Clear headings and subheadings; Highlighted, defined, and cross-referenced key words and terms; Brief summary; List of literature; List of key words and terms used; Suggested practice activities; Multi-part Outcomes Assessment for self-evaluation - organized at three levels of difficulty to test knowledge of facts and ideas as well as synthesis and application. * Keeps students focused as they study each chapter and provides convenient in-text resources for review and self-assessment. * A glossary.

From the Back Cover Written from the point of view of the horticulturalist. The book emphasizes the basic principles and practices of horticulture. This comprehensive introduction to horticulture as a science, art, and business explores the four general areas of horticulture - ornamental horticulture, fruit culture, vegetable culture, and landscape architecture - and covers all the essential principles and practices of horticulture pertaining to indoor and outdoor production. The emphasis throughout is on the underlying science - including current technology - and how it is applied in practical horticulture. About the Author George Acquah is Professor and Chair of the Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources at Langston University. A well-known researcher, educator, and author in the field, he is the recipient of numerous prestigious awards for excellence in research, teaching, and publishing, including the USDA Award for Excellence in College and University Teaching in the Food and Agricultural Sciences and the coveted Millennium Award for Excellence in Teaching, presented by the White House Initiative on Historically Black Colleges and Universities. Excerpt. Reprinted by permission. All rights reserved. Horticulture is the area of plant science that caters to the needs of a broad range of people, from the small backyard farmer in the urban area to the large-scale producer. Horticulture's adaptability to the home situation makes it attractive to people from all walks of life, including those who may not wish to study agriculture or be identified as farmers in the way society defines them but are willing to grow and care for plants. Horticulture is thus a popular instructional program and part-time activity indulged in by many people. The horticulture industry, as explained in the text, is making it increasingly more attractive for nonprofessional plant growers to participate in plant culture at various levels and for various needs. The purpose of this text is to provide a resource for use in instruction in the fundamentals of horticulture and as a reference for hobbyists and professionals. As an instructional text, *Horticulture: Principles and Practices* is designed for use at the undergraduate level. Emphasis is placed on instruction in the basic principles and practices of horticulture, thereby minimizing regional and national biases. Horticulture is presented as a science, an art, and a business. However, large-scale production is not described in detail but is adequately discussed as appropriate for this level of presentation. A format with unique features is adopted throughout the text. First, the text is divided into parts, within which related topics are treated as chapters. Chapters on broad topics are subdivided into appropriate modules. Each chapter opens with a stated purpose or objective, followed by a list of expected outcomes upon completion of the chapter. The key words and terminologies encountered in the text are listed next, providing an opportunity for the reader to evaluate his or her understanding of the material in the text. An overview is designed to introduce the subjects to be discussed and to define the scope of presentation. Each subject is discussed under clearly defined headings and subheadings. Key words and terminologies in the text are highlighted in italics and defined or explained. The reader is also frequently referred to other places in the text where certain key terminologies or concepts are presented in detail. The reader is thus able to refresh his or her memory, if need be, to facilitate the learning of the current material. A brief summary at the end of each chapter reviews the main message for emphasis. A list of literature is presented at the end of each chapter to acknowledge the sources consulted by the author in preparing the text and to suggest sources for further information on the topics discussed. If one has difficulty in defining or explaining any terminology or key word, the glossary at the end of the text may be used as a quick reference. Practical activities to enhance the understanding of the material discussed are suggested at the end of the chapters. Finally, the student is provided an opportunity to assess whether the material in the chapter was really understood. The outcomes assessment is conducted at three levels. The first part requires the reader to simply agree or disagree with a statement. The second part is designed to test the understanding of terminologies and concepts and requires the student to provide specific information. Lastly, part three of the outcomes assessment requires the student to think a little harder and to discuss, explain, or describe events,

concepts, principles, or methodologies and to communicate effectively in writing. The presentation includes many photographs, line drawings, and tables to facilitate the comprehension of the material and for a quick reference. The materials included in this textbook were chosen to provide the student and the user a complete introduction to the four general areas of horticulture: ornamental horticulture, fruit culture, vegetable culture, and landscape architecture. Part 1 is devoted to describing the underlying science. The amount of time spent on these chapters depends on the background of the student. The presentation is such that the reader clearly sees the relevance of the science in horticulture. Topics are presented from the point of view of the horticulturist. The chapters take the reader through a review of pertinent topics in plant taxonomy, plant anatomy, plant growth environment, plant physiology, and plant genetics and improvement. The role of these disciplines of science in the horticultural industry and how they are applied or manipulated to increase the performance of plants are also discussed. Part 2 is devoted to a discussion of how horticultural plants are protected. In this section, the student learns about biological enemies of horticultural plants and the principles and methods of disease and pest control. Part 3 presents a discussion on plant propagation, discussing the characteristics of sexual and asexual methods of propagating plants. Growing plants indoors forms the theme for Part 4. Horticulture can be conducted in an open area or under a controlled environment where growth factors are manipulated for the optimal performance of plants. The student learns how the greenhouse is designed and used in the production of plants. Hydroponics is discussed in some detail. In this section, the student is instructed in the science and art of growing plants in containers in the home and office. Part 5 discusses growing plants outdoors, including detailed coverage of the installation, use, and maintenance of plants in the landscape. A discussion on the establishment and maintenance of a lawn, as well as pruning and landscape maintenance tools, is also presented. Part 6 focuses on the culture of plants for food, especially in the home garden. Selected garden crops and herbs are discussed. Methods of growing fruit trees and small fruits are presented, and a selected number of small fruits are discussed in detail.

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