

PSS 126 Vegetable Root Crops Fall 2003

Instructor: Buddy Tignor, Ph.D. (Office: Hills Room 4)

Lecture: T, R; 9:05 – 9:55 am, Hills 17.

Office Hours: T, R; 1:00 – 4:00 pm; F 1:00-5:00 pm; or by appointment

Prerequisites: PSS 011 or BOT 106 or instructor permission



Required Text:

Swiader, J.M. and G.W. Ware. 2002. Producing Vegetable Crops. 5th ed.

Interstate Publishers, Inc., Danville, Illinois. 658 pp. ISBN 0-8134-3203-0 (Available @ UVM Bookstore)

Optional Texts:

Grubinger, V. 1999. Sustainable Vegetable Production from Start-Up to Market. Northeast Regional Agricultural Engineering Service (NRAES). 268 pp. ISBN 093581745X

New England Extension Systems. 2002. 2002-2003 New England Vegetable Management Guide.

Course website: <http://webct.uvm.edu>

Catalog Description

126 Vegetable Root Crops: Principles and practices of commercial vegetable root crop production, including propagation, tillage, cultural practices, and nutrition value. 2 credit hours.

Instructors Concept of the Course

The catalog description above is a rather short and generic statement of what will be covered in this course. This upper division course has been designed to introduce you to the major root crops produced in the United States and some of international importance. We will cover propagation, pest management, fertility, harvest, and other cultural practices. This course is specifically tailored to juniors and seniors in the PSS major, but may be of interest to undergraduates in Botany, SNR, CDAE, and Environmental studies. However, students in these allied majors may need to do some extra reading to fully grasp all the information presented in the course.

PLEASE NOTE: *This is no longer a modular course. We will be meeting for the entire semester.*

Student Objectives

Be Present

Be a Participant

Communicate with the Instructor

Read, Write, and Think

What will you gain after having successfully completed this course?

The following sample learning objectives relate to material that will be covered in the course. You should.....

- ✓ know the major root crops produced in the United States
- ✓ have a working production knowledge of these select root crops
- ✓ evaluate standard production practices in the framework of agroecology
- ✓ know the basics of pest controls for each of the crops discussed in class.

Reading Assignments:

During the course of the semester there will be several reading assignments based on chapters in the required textbook and additional material to be handed out in class. These readings must be completed thoughtfully in order for you to participate in class discussions. I will usually open discussion by asking for volunteers, but once I learn student names I will also call on people at random to participate. These class discussions are not about being right or wrong, but rather about actively and thoughtfully participating. If you have a concept down incorrectly it is likely that someone else does as well. In the process of discussion all students can learn. We will be expounding on chapter readings in class NOT reiterating them.

For each chapter there will be 1-2 pages of additional material to help you further your understanding of the material. These will be provided in Adobe PDF format. If you do not already have ADOBE reader it is available for free at www.adobe.com It is suggested that you print these out ahead of time and bring them to class to serve as a template for note taking.

Attending Lecture:

There is no attendance policy, but part of your grade will be based on participation and you can't participate if you aren't present in class. Be on time. Be respectful of the learning environment. Be prepared. You SHOULD ALWAYS HAVE PAPER AND PEN AVAILABLE FOR RANDOM FREE WRITE ASSIGNMENTS. Use ONLY WHITE 8.5"X 11" paper and put your name on the back of the paper. Writing assignments will be graded for thoughtful participation. Occasionally, bonus points will be given for work that surpasses instructor expectations. If you aren't present you will receive no credit for the free write assignment. There will NOT be a chance to make up these points except through bonus credit given on other assignments.

Exams:

There will be 2 exams given during this course. Exams may have take home components. There will be exam reviews held outside of class time if students request it. All exams will be held in Hills 17. The midterm will take place on Thursday, October 16th during regular class hours. Your final exam will be approximately two hours in length and be conducted on Friday December 12th at 8:00 am in Hills 17. Exams are comprehensive.

Grading:

Midterm Exam: 250 points

Final Exam: 450 points

Free Write Assignments: 200 points

Class Room Participation: 100 points

TOTAL 1000 points

Extra Credit

Additional points may occasionally be earned by attending certain select seminars and events around campus. You will receive e-mail notification of acceptable seminars and events through the WebCT course website. Do not ask me for special extra credit assignments; they will not be given.

Evaluating the Instructor

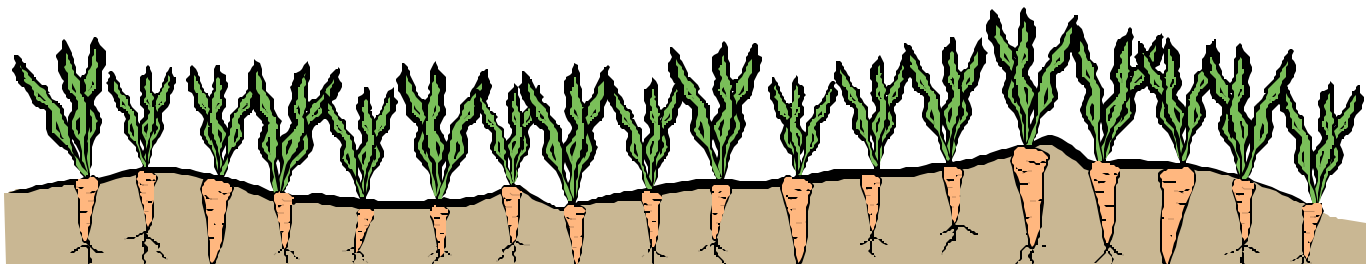
So, when will you get your chance? At the end of the semester you will have an opportunity to extensively evaluate the course and the instructor. However, you may also send me an e-mail with constructive criticism at anytime. Surveys are confidential and suggestions and constructive criticism is welcomed by your instructor.

Meeting the Instructor

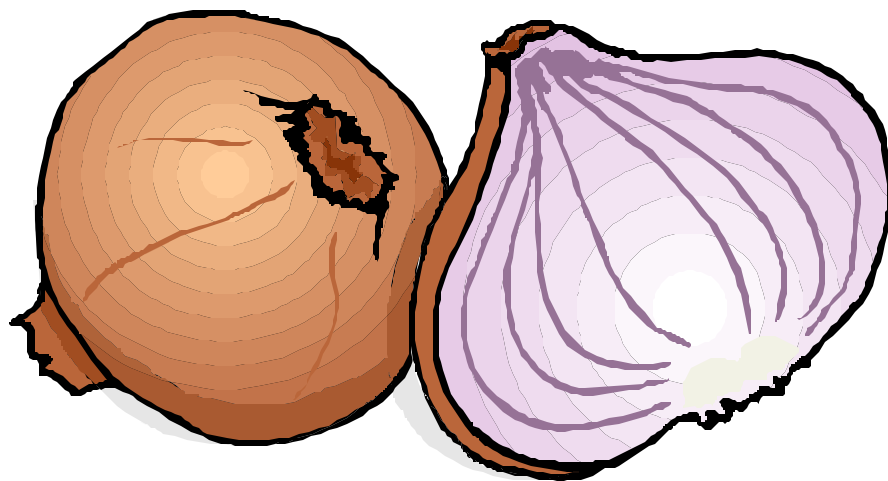
I expect that every student in the course will either stop by during my office hours or make an appointment to meet with me once during the semester. This time can be used to discuss anything. It would probably be most advantageous to the student if the discussions are relative to the class, but other topics are also welcomed. If you do not make these appointments it will be noticed.

Additional Resources and Support Services

• ALANA Student Services , • Academic Calendars, • Academic Support Services, • Bookstore, UVM , • Career Services, • Catalogues, University, • Cat's Tale Student Handbook, • Center for Health & Wellbeing, • Counseling Services , • Honors Program, College of Arts and Sciences (John Dewey), • Honors Program, School of Natural Resources (Undergraduate Honors Program and Lola Aiken Scholars Program), • International Student Advising , • Learning Cooperative, • Libraries, University , • Registrar's Office , • Residential Life , • Study Aboard , • Undergraduate Majors *See Student HELP on your website for active link list.*



Day	Date	Topic	Textbook Reading Assignment for next lecture.
T	09/02	Welcome and Introduction; Review of Syllabus	Chapter 1-3 (if you are new to horticulture)
R	09/04	What is a root crop? What will we be covering?	
T	09/09	What are the globally important root crops? Why?	Chapter 15
R	09/11	Carrots and Parsnips	
T	09/16	Beets	
R	09/18	Radishes and Turnips	
T	09/23	Rutabagas and Jerusalem Artichokes	Chapter 20
R	09/25	Onions	
T	09/30	Onions	
R	10/02	Onions	
T	10/07	Garlic	
R	10/09	TBA	
T	10/14	Leeks, Chives, and Shallots	
R	10/16	Mid-Term Exam	Chapter 23
T	10/21	Potatoes	
R	10/23	Potatoes	
T	10/28	Potatoes	
R	10/30	Potatoes	
T	11/04	Potatoes	
R	11/06	Introduction to Tropical Root Crops	Reading Assignment handed out
T	11/11	Sweet Potato	
R	11/13	Sweet Potato	
T	11/18	Cassava	
R	11/20	Yam	
T	11/25	Taro	
R	11/27	THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY	
T	12/02	TBA	
R	12/04	Review for Final Exam	
T	12/09	Study Day	
F	12/12	FINAL EXAM (8:00 am)	



Information for the Instructor: (must be returned)

Your Name: _____

Your E-mail Address: _____

Your Academic Level: _____

Your Previous Plant Experience: _____

Something Remarkable:
(That you don't mind sharing)* _____

Your Destiny: _____

This information is confidential, but may be reported to the class in a summary form, without identification.

*This may be shared with the class.

Now that you have read the syllabus, list at least two questions under each heading that you hope to have answered during the course of the semester. (must be returned to the instructor).

Carrots:

Onions:

Potatoes:

Tropical Root Crops: