

# HORTICULTURIST

A Horticulturist is responsible for increasing yield, improving vigor, size, and taste of plants. They also coordinate research programs for selective crops. Horticulturists must have extensive knowledge about trees, flowers, vegetables, nuts, bushes, and fruits.

## WHAT RESPONSIBILITIES WILL I HAVE?

- Oversee the production and care of plants, fruits and vegetables
- Manage crop scheduling for timing of appropriate planting and harvesting
- Perform propagation, irrigation, and pest management of plants
- Control plant growth regulation through mixing and testing fertilizers, and monitor injectors in greenhouses
- Responsible for greenhouse environment management and maintenance of plant material in assigned greenhouses
- Direct labor in the functions of crop management
- Operate equipment such as vans, tractors and sprayers
- Oversee seasonal staff and production labor



## WHAT EDUCATION & TRAINING IS REQUIRED?

High school diploma; Associate's or Bachelor's degree in horticulture, crop science, agronomy, or similar field preferred along with pesticide & chemical certifications

## THE FOLLOWING HIGH SCHOOL COURSES ARE RECOMMENDED...

Agricultural education, biology, chemistry, botany, mathematics

## TYPICAL EMPLOYERS

Plant and food production businesses, independent growers, research firms, homeowners, laboratories, and municipalities

## FUTURE JOB MARKET/OUTLOOK



## SUGGESTED PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS & ASSOCIATIONS

- Soil Science Society of America
- National Alliance of Independent Crop Consultants

## AVERAGE ANNUAL FULL-TIME SALARY

\$58,000