Horticulture (HORT)

Wayne Mackay  
Department Head  
316 Plant Sciences Building  
479-575-2603  
Email: mackay@uark.edu (mackay@uark.edu)

Department of Horticulture Website  
(http://Hort.uark.edu)

Degree Conferred:  
M.S. (HORT)  
Ph.D. (PTSC) (See Plant Science (http://catalog.uark.edu/graduatecatalog/programsofstudy/plantscienceptsc))

The Department of Horticulture offers a thesis and non-thesis option for the M.S. degree. The non-thesis program was developed for continued and advanced education in horticulture management. The program is directed toward students entering careers in horticulture upon completion of the degree, or students requiring additional education for advancement in their careers.

Genetics and plant breeding of fruit, vegetable, or ornamental crops; physiology, management and production of fruit, vegetable, greenhouse, or ornamental crops and landscape plantings; physiology and management of turfgrasses; and biotechnology.

M.S. in Horticulture

Prerequisites to Master of Science Degree Program (Thesis Option):  
A candidate must have a B.S. degree from an accredited institution with a background in physical and biological sciences, horticulture, and supporting agricultural disciplines. The student will work with a major adviser, who will arrange a committee to evaluate the student’s background and plan a program of study with the student.

Requirements for the Master of Science Degree (Thesis Option):  
A minimum of 24 semester hours of graduate level course work and 6 hours of thesis are required, in addition to any deficiency courses that may be specified. The student’s advisory committee will also serve as the thesis and oral examination committee.

Students should also be aware of Graduate School requirements with regard to master’s degrees (http://catalog.uark.edu/graduatecatalog/degerequirements/#mastersdegereestext).  

The Ph.D. program in plant science is an interdepartmental program involving the Departments of Horticulture and Plant Pathology. The dissertation and most of the course work may be completed in horticulture. Find out more in the Ph.D. requirements in Plant Science (http://catalog.uark.edu/graduatecatalog/programsofstudy/plantscienceptsc).

Graduate Faculty

Carson, Janet B., M.S. (University of Arkansas), Associate Professor, 1992.

Clark, John R., Ph.D. (University of Arkansas), M.S., B.S. (Mississippi State University), Distinguished Professor, 1983.

Garcia, M. Elena, Ph.D., M.S. (University of Arkansas), B.A. (University of Arkansas at Little Rock), Professor, 2005.

Karcher, Douglas Edward, Ph.D., M.S. (Michigan State University), Distinguished Professor, 1983.

Lee, Jacquelyn A., Ph.D., M.S. (University of Arkansas), Assistant Professor, 2016.

Mackay, Wayne A., Ph.D. (University of Maryland), M.S. (University of Delaware), B.S. (Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University), Professor, 2014.

McDonald, Garry Vernon, Ph.D., M.S., B.A. (Texas A&M University), Clinical Assistant Professor, 2014.

McWhirt, Amanda L., Ph.D. (North Carolina State University), M.S. (Louisiana State University), B.S. (Tarleton State University), Assistant Professor, 2016.

Richardson, Mike, Ph.D. (University of Georgia), M.S. (Louisiana State University), B.S. (Louisiana Tech University), Professor, 1998.

Robbins, James A., Ph.D. (University of California-Davis), M.S. (University of Georgia), B.S. (University of Wisconsin), Professor, 1998.

Rom, Curt R., Ph.D., M.S. (The Ohio State University), B.S. (University of Arkansas), University Professor, 1989.

Shi, Aiong, Ph.D. (North Carolina State University), M.S. (Graduate School of Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences), B.S. (Zhejiang University), Assistant Professor, 2013.

Worthington, Margaret L., Ph.D. (North Carolina State University), M.S. (University of California-Davis), B.S. (Duke University), Assistant Professor, 2016.

Courses

HORT 5001. Seminar. 1 Hour.  
Review of scientific literature and oral reports on current research in horticulture. May be repeated for up to 4 hours of degree credit.
HORT 501V. Special Topics in Horticulture, Turf or Landscape. 1-6 Hour.
(Formerly HORT 401V.) Topics related to horticulture, turfgrass or landscape science or management not covered in other courses or a more intensive study of a specific topic. Graduate degree credit will not be given for both HORT 401V and HORT 501V. May be repeated for degree credit.

HORT 502V. Horticulture Judging and Competition Activity. 1-6 Hour.
(Formerly HORT 402V.) Training for and participation on horticultural identification, judging and competitive teams. Graduate degree credit will not be given for both HORT 402V and HORT 502V. Prerequisite: HORT 2003. May be repeated for up to 6 hours of degree credit.

HORT 503V. Special Problems Research. 1-6 Hour.
Original investigations on assigned problems in horticulture. Prerequisite: Graduate standing. May be repeated for up to 6 hours of degree credit.

HORT 5043. Advanced Plant Breeding. 3 Hours.
Application of genetic principles to the improvement of crop plants. Presentation of conventional plant breeding methods and special techniques such as polyploidy, interspecific hybridization and induced mutation. Lecture 3 hours per week. Prerequisite: BIOL 2323 and BIOL 2321L or (ANSC 3123 and CSES 4103).

HORT 5103. Plant Growth and Development. 3 Hours.
This course will focus on environmental and developmental processes of plant growth and development. A student completing this course should have an understanding of the developmental processes of plant growth and how environmental factors interact to affect and control plant growth and development.

HORT 5113. Fruit Production Science and Technology. 3 Hours.
(Formerly HORT 4103.) The management technologies and cultural practices of fruit crops including (but not limited to) blueberries, blackberries, raspberries, strawberries, grapes, peaches, and apples will be presented. The underlying scientific principles of crop genetics, nutrition, and physiology will be presented as a basis for making management decisions in fruit crop productions. Graduate degree credit will not be given for both HORT 4103 and HORT 5113. Corequisite: Lab component. Prerequisite: HORT 2003.

HORT 5143. Professional Landscape Management. 3 Hours.
Principles and practices of landscape management and maintenance. Topics include low maintenance and seasonal color design, pruning and hazard tree management, water and fertilizer management, pesticide use, and other maintenance activities. Basic elements of marketing, specifications and contracts, estimating, personnel management, and equipment selection and acquisition relevant for landscape services will be introduced. Preparatory training in agribusiness or business is suggested. Prerequisite: HORT 2003 and HORT 3103.

HORT 5203. Temperature Stress Physiology. 3 Hours.
This course will teach students how to apply biological, chemical and physical principles to models of how plants are damaged by temperature extremes and how they change to increase resistance. Student will apply these principles to better understand plant responses to other environmental challenges, including both biotic and abiotic stresses.

HORT 530V. Special Problems. 1-6 Hour.
(Formerly HORT 400V.) Original investigations on assigned problems in horticulture. Graduate degree credit will not be given for both HORT 400V and HORT 530V. May be repeated for up to 6 hours of degree credit.

HORT 5333. Professional Landscape Installation and Construction. 3 Hours.
(Formerly HORT 4033.) Principles and practices involved in landscape installation and construction. Topics covered include sequencing construction activities, protecting existing trees, landscape soils, selecting plants, planting and transplanting plant materials, wood construction, cement and masonry construction, and low-voltage lighting. Lecture 3 hours per week. Preparatory training in agribusiness or business is suggested. Graduate degree credit will not be given for both HORT 4033 and HORT 5333. Prerequisite: HORT 2003.

HORT 5403. Plant Propagation. 3 Hours.
(Formerly HORT 4403.) Principles of plant propagation using seeds, cuttings, grafting, budding, layering, and tissue culture. The physiological basis of propagation is described. Knowledge of plant growth and physiology is needed. Lecture 2 hours, laboratory 2 hours per week. Graduate degree credit will not be given for both HORT 4403 and HORT 5403. Corequisite: Lab component. Prerequisite: BIOL 1613 and BIOL 1611L.

HORT 5413. Horticulture Physiology. 3 Hours.
(Formerly HORT 4413.) This course provides students with a background into the physiological processes of plants with an emphasis on horticultural crops and how the processes relate to horticultural crop production practices. Among the topics covered are photosynthesis, respiration, water relations and morphogenesis. Graduate degree credit will not be given for both HORT 4413 and HORT 5413. Prerequisite: HORT 2003 and CHEM 1073.

HORT 5503. Sustainable Nursery Production. 3 Hours.
(Formerly HORT 4503.) This course addresses issues and practices involved in production of quality woody nursery crops (e.g., trees and shrubs produced in open filed and containerized systems). Graduate degree credit will not be given for both HORT 4503 and HORT 5503.

HORT 5701L. Greenhouse Management and Controlled Environment Horticulture Laboratory. 1 Hour.
(Formerly HORT 4701L.) Laboratory involving hands-on experiments designed to demonstrate principles discussed in the lecture section. Includes field trips. Graduate degree credit will not be given for both HORT 4701L and HORT 5701L. Corequisite: HORT 5703.

HORT 5703. Greenhouse Management and Controlled Environment Horticulture. 3 Hours.
(Formerly HORT 4703.) Operation and management of greenhouses and other controlled environments used in horticultural production. Emphasis on system design and construction, control of light intensity and photoperiod, heating and cooling systems, substrates, mineral nutrition, water quality and irrigation systems. Graduate degree credit will not be given for both HORT 4703 and HORT 5703. Prerequisite: HORT 2003 and CHEM 1073.

HORT 5801L. Greenhouse Crops Production Laboratory. 1 Hour.
(Formerly HORT 4801L.) Laboratory involving hands-on experiments designed to demonstrate principles discussed in the lecture section. Includes field trips. Graduate degree credit will not be given for both HORT 4801L and HORT 5801L. Corequisite: HORT 5803.

HORT 5803. Greenhouse Crops Production. 3 Hours.
(Formerly HORT 4803.) Principles and practices of production and marketing of crops commonly grown in controlled environments including flowering containerized herbaceous species, geophytes, annual and perennial bedding plants, hydroponic vegetables and herbs. Graduate degree credit will not be given for both HORT 4803 and HORT 5803. Prerequisite: HORT 4703 or HORT 5703 (formerly HORT 4703).

HORT 5903. Golf and Sports Turf Management. 3 Hours.
(Formerly HORT 4903.) Turf management techniques for golf courses, and athletic fields including species selection, root-zone construction and modification, fertilization, mowing, irrigation and pest control. Graduate degree credit will not be given for both HORT 4903 and HORT 5903. Corequisite: HORT 4703 or HORT 5703. Prerequisite: HORT 4703 or HORT 5703.

HORT 5913. Rootzone Management for Golf and Sports Turf. 3 Hours.
(Formerly HORT 4913.) An overview of the fundamental concepts of the physical and chemical properties of rootzones as related to construction and turfgrass management. Graduate degree credit will not be given for both HORT 4913 and HORT 5913. Prerequisite: HORT 2303.
HORT 5921. Golf Course Operations. 1 Hour.
(Formerly HORT 4921.) This course is designed to cover specific aspects of golf course operations that would not be included in traditional turfgrass management courses. Topics will include budgeting, personnel management, tournament setup and operation, dealing with golf club committees, communication, and other relevant topics related to managing a golf course maintenance operation. Graduate degree credit will not be given for both HORT 4921 and HORT 5921. Prerequisite: HORT 4903 or HORT 5903 (formerly HORT 4903).

HORT 5932. Turf Best Management Practices. 2 Hours.
(Formerly HORT 4932.) The course covers the impacts of turfgrass management practices on turf quality and the environment. In addition, the identification, biology, and control practices for the major insects, diseases, and weeds that infest turf will be covered. Emphasis will be placed on management strategies that include both chemical and non-chemical approaches to the prevention and control of common turfgrass pests. Graduate degree credit will not be given for both HORT 4932 and HORT 5932. Prerequisite: HORT 2303 and 6 hours selected from CSES 2003, PLPA 3004, and ENTO 3013.

HORT 600V. Master's Thesis. 1-6 Hour.
Master's Thesis. Prerequisite: Graduate standing. May be repeated for degree credit.

HORT 602V. Special Topics in Horticulture. 1-3 Hour.
Discussion and advanced studies on selected topics in genetics, plant breeding, physiology and culture of horticultural crops. Prerequisite: Graduate standing. May be repeated for degree credit.

HORT 6033. Molecular Plant Breeding. 3 Hours.
In-depth study of genetic improvement and techniques. Covers both current and classical literature. Topics to be discussed: haploidy, genetic control of pairing, somatic instability, tissue culture and protoplast fusion, and male sterility. Lecture discussion 3 hours per week. Prerequisite: BIOL 2323 and BIOL 2321L (or ANSC 3123 and CSES 4103 or equivalent).