



PLSOIL 120 Organic Farming and Gardening

SYLLABUS

DAY CLASS

NIGHT CLASS

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PLSOIL 120 ORGANIC FARMING AND GARDENING

Day Class

SPRING 2005

Instructor: Allen V. Barker

202 Bowditch Hall

545-4733

Office Hours: by arrangement

Lecture: Monday, Wednesday

11:15 318 Stockbridge

Laboratory:

- Sec. 1. Wednesday 1:25-3:20 209 Bowditch
- Sec. 2. Wednesday 3:35-5:30 209 Bowditch

Special Discussion Session: PLNTSOIL 1970 meets Fridays at 11:15 in 113 Chenoweth. Enrollment is optional for additional instruction of laboratory topics and for discussion of topics in organic gardening.

Grading:

Activity	Value
Lecture (6 or 7 quizzes)	66 pts

Laboratory (5 reports)	34 pts

Letter Grade Corresponding to Points Earned:

- A = 93 to 100
- A- = 90 to 92
- B+ = 88 to 89
- B = 83 to 87
- B- = 80-82
- C+ = 77 to 79
- C = 73 to 76
- C- = 70 to 72
- D+ = 68 to 69
- D = 60 to 67
- F or no grade = <60

Textbooks:

1. [Notes on Organic Farming and Gardening](#) (Required)
2. [Laboratory Manual](#) (Required)
3. [Guide to Fertilizing Crops](#) (Optional)

The Notes and the Laboratory Manual are for sale at Campus Design and Copy, Room 403 Student Union.

The [Guide](#) and the [Laboratory Manual](#) are available on this website.

The Notes require User Name and Password for access.

LIST OF LABORATORY TOPICS --2005

WEEK	TITLE	DATE 2005
1.	Reference Materials	January 26
2.	Soil Texture	February 2
3.	Soil Testing	February 9
4.	Nitrogen Fertilizers	February 16 (February 23 Monday Schedule)
5.	Phosphorus and Potassium Fertilizers	March 2
6.	Decomposition of Plant and Residues	March 9
	Spring Recess (No Laboratory)	March 16
7.	Plant Nutrient Deficiencies and Pests	March 23

8.	Garden Planning	March 30
9.	Seeding	April 6
10.	Indoor Lighting for Plant Growth	April 13
11.	Transplanting	April 20
12.	Gardening	April 27
13.	Gardening	May 4
14.	Gardening	May 11
	Clean out greenhouse	May 20 (Friday)

LECTURE SYLLABUS SPRING 2004 Reading Assignments

TOPIC	READING
I. Introduction	Notes, Chapter 1; Guide, Chapter 7
A. Definitions	
B. Training of organic farmer	
C. Soil fertility and plant nutrition	
D. Mineralization of organic matter	
E. Advantages of agricultural systems	
F. Fertilizer analysis	
II. Nutritional requirement of plants	Notes, Chapter 2; Guide, Chapter 6 & 7
A. Essential elements	
1. Function in plants	
2. Effects on plant growth and quality	
3. Deficiency symptoms	
4. How to supply the nutrients	
B. Liming	Notes, Chapter 7; Guide, Chapter 8
III. Management of organic wastes and green manures	
A. Farm manures and sewage sludges	Notes, Chapter 4; Guide, Chapter 3
B. Composts	Notes, Chapter 5; Guide, Chapter 4
C. Green manures	Notes, Chapter 6; Guide, Chapter 2
IV. Mulches	Notes, Chapter 8; Guide, Chapter 5
V. Tillage	Notes, Chapter 9
VI. Pest control	Notes, Chapters 10, 11, & 12

CONTINUING EDUCATION, NIGHT CLASS

PLSOIL 120

ORGANIC FARMING AND GARDENING

CONTINUING EDUCATION, SPRING 2005

Tuesdays, 6:30-9:30 pm

209 Bowditch Hall

Instructor: Allen V. Barker 202 Bowditch Hall (413) 545-4733	Office Hours: 1 hr before class and by arrangement
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DATE	LECTURE	LABORATORY
February 1	Introduction	1. References
February 8	Introduction, N Fertilizers	2. Soil Texture
February 15	N Fertilizers	3. Soil Testing
February 22	N & P Fertilizers	4. N Fertilizers
March 1	P & K Fertilizers	5. P, K Fertilizers
March 8	First Examination	6. Plant Residues
March 15	No Class--Spring Recess	
March 22	Ca & Mg Fertilizers	7. Plant Nutrient Deficiencies
March 29	Liming	9. Gardening Planning
April 5	Farm Manures	8. Seeding
April 12	Composting	11. Lighting
April 19	Second Examination	10. Transplanting
April 26	Green Manures; Mulches	12. Gardening
May 3	Pest Control	12. Gardening
May 10	Pest Control	Pest Control Lecture
May 17	Third Examination	

Grading	Value (points)
Three examinations including final examination	66

Five laboratory reports (Labs 2, 3, 4, 5, & 6)	34
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Grades corresponding to points earned

A= 93-100	B-= 80-82	D+= 68-69
A- = 90-92	C+ = 77-79	D= 60-67
B+ = 88-89	C-= 70-72	F or no grade = < 60
B = 83-87	C= 73-76	

Textbooks: Required.

[*Notes on Organic Farming and Gardening.*](#)

[*Laboratory Manual.*](#)

The Notes and the Manual are for sale at Campus Design and Copy, Room 403 Student Union.

See the reading assignments for the [Day Schedule](#).
