

# What can I do with a major in Horticulture

## The University of Georgia Career Center

Clark Howell Hall, 706.542.3375, [www.career.uga.edu](http://www.career.uga.edu)  
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*This information describes typical occupations and employment settings associated with this major. Understand that some of these options may require additional training. Moreover, you are not limited to these options when choosing a possible career path.*

### Description of Horticulture

The horticulture major provides the education necessary for a career in production, sales, of horticultural commodities (fruits, vegetables, indoor and outdoor ornamental plants, turfgrasses, and flowers). The horticulture curriculum is designed to instruct and educate students in the application of basic principles to the propagation, culture, production, and postharvest physiology of ornamental plants, turfgrasses, fruits, vegetables, and flowers. The curriculum has the flexibility to allow a student to select courses in turf management (the culture and management of turfgrasses on golf courses, recreational areas, and home lawns); floriculture/woody ornamentals (including the use of plants indoors for aesthetic, therapeutic, as well as pollution abatement purposes); and fruit and vegetable production and management.

### Researching Job Titles and Careers

**O\*NET** <http://online.onetcenter.org> (click on Find Occupations)

**Occupational Outlook Handbook** <http://www.bls.gov/oco> (type in general term for career of interest)

**Georgia Career Information Center** <http://www.gcic.peachnet.edu> (accessible only on campus computers)

**Career Insider: Vault Guides** [http://career.uga.edu/resources/online\\_resources](http://career.uga.edu/resources/online_resources) (Under the “Resources” tab and select “Online Resources”)

**Candid Career** [http://career.uga.edu/resources/online\\_resources](http://career.uga.edu/resources/online_resources) (View professionals speaking about their careers under the “Resources” tab and select “Online Resources”)

### Possible Job Titles

Agricultural Extension Agent	Greenhouse Supervisor	Nursery Foreman
Assistant Manger	Grower	Organic Farm Apprentice
Conservatory Horticulturist	Head Groundsman	Plant Buyer
Curator	Horticultural Publishing	Production Manager
Enhancement Field Manager	Horticulturalist	Research Associate
Environmental Health Specialist	Horticulture Journalist	Sales
Estate Gardener	Landscape Designer	Seasonal Color Supervisor
Field Advisor	Landscaping Specialist	Supervisor
Field Manager	Maintenance Dept. Supervisor	Teaching
Floriculture Manager	Management Trainee	Technical Advisor
Floriculture Designer	Manager	Trainee
Greenhouse Quality Manager	Marketing	Vegetable Gardener

### Possible Employers

Arbor Yard	Hanson Farms	Pro Tough Landscapes
Arboretums	HighGrove Partners, LLC	Ruppert Landscape
Athens-Clarke County Health Dept	Home Depot	Schools
Avant Gardener	James Greenhouses	Sea Pines Resort
Calloway Gardens	John Mini Distinctive Landscape	State Botanical Garden of Georgia
Davis Floral Company	Land Art, Inc.	Stoney Acres Farm
CoCal Landscape	Land Design, Inc.	Tagawa Greenhouses
Commercial firms	Lifescapes	The Center for Community
Estate Gardeners, Inc.	Mark's Greenhouse	The Denver Zoo
Garden centers	Monrovia	Timberland Gardens, Inc.
Gaylord Palms Resort and Convention Center	Parks	Preservation and Planning
Center	Peace Corps	Texas Agrilife Research
Gold Kist	Pike Nursery	TruGreen LandCare
Golf courses	Pinebrush Nursery	UGA EPA
Greenery Productions, Inc.	Plant Development Services, Inc.	Walt Disney World

To learn what types of positions and companies UGA students are working with, see the UGA Career Center Post Graduation Survey at [www.career.uga.edu/gradsurveyresults/](http://www.career.uga.edu/gradsurveyresults/) and search for alumni on Linked In at [www.linkedin.com](http://www.linkedin.com).

## Campus Resources

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**College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences Clubs and Organizations-** <http://students.caes.uga.edu/athens/organizations.cfm>  
**Horticulture Club**

**Pi Alpha Xi (Horticulture Honor Society)**

**Soil and Water Conservation Society-** <http://www.cropsoil.uga.edu/soiljudge.html>

**UGA Turf Club-** <http://ugaturfclub.org/>

**Minorities in Agriculture, Natural Resources and Related Sciences (MANRRS)-** <http://www.caes.uga.edu/academics/manrrs/>

**Alpha Gamma Rho (Men pursuing careers in agriculture)-** <http://www.georgiaagr.com/home>

**Sigma Alpha (Women pursuing careers in agriculture)-** <http://www.ugasigmaalpha.com>

**The Trail Gardens at UGA-** <http://ugatrial.hort.uga.edu/>

To find additional clubs and organizations, go to the **Center for Student Organizations at-** <http://stuorgs.uga.edu/find/index.html>

Connect with your **Career Consultant** <http://career.uga.edu/contact#careerconsultants>

## Employment Websites

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### GENERAL:

**CareerSearch** [http://career.uga.edu/resources/online\\_resources](http://career.uga.edu/resources/online_resources) (Research employers by location and/or industry)

**DAWGlink** [www.career.uga.edu/](http://www.career.uga.edu/) (login with your UGA MyID and password)

**GoinGlobal** (To access GoinGlobal, login to your DAWGlink account)

**Idealist** [www.idealist.org/](http://www.idealist.org/) (nonprofit jobs)

**USAJobs** [www.usajobs.gov/](http://www.usajobs.gov/) (federal jobs)

### MAJOR/CAREER SPECIFIC:

**The Environmental Careers Organizations Job Board-** <http://www.eco.org/>

**Environmental Career Opportunities-** <http://www.ecojobs.com/>

**Jobs in Horticulture-** <http://www.hortjobs.com/>

**Green Industry Jobs-** <http://www.greenindustryjobs.com/>

**AgCareers.com-** <http://agcareers.com>

**American Horticultural Society Internship Opportunities-** <http://www.ahs.org/gardening-programs/internship-programs>

**American Society for Horticultural Science Job Board-** <http://jobs.ashs.org/>

**Association of Zoological Horticulture Job Openings-** <http://www.azh.org/Default.aspx?pageId=318347>

## Professional Information Resources

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**American Horticultural Society-** <http://www.ahs.org/>

**American Society for Horticultural Science-** <http://www.ashs.org/>

**Georgia Fruit and Vegetable Growers Association-** <http://www.gfvga.org>

**Northern Nut Growers Association-** <http://icserv.com/nnga/>

**Center for Applied Nursery Research-** <http://www.canr.org/>

**Association of Zoological Horticulture-** <http://www.azh.org/>

**U.S. Department of Agriculture-** <http://www.usda.gov/wps/portal/usdahome>

**USDA Extension Service Homepage-** <http://www.csrees.usda.gov/>

**Agriculture Future of America-** <http://www.agfuture.org/>

Tip: Join LinkedIn groups that are related to your career interest. Need help finding groups? Check out the Groups You May Like link under the Interests/Groups tab. Review the groups that professionals in your field of interest have joined and consider joining them as well.

## Additional Career Consultant Recommendations:

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### Typical Horticulture Jobs

Horticulturists can specialize in a number of fields. As a result, what you will actually be doing in your job will vary depending on the field you are in. A few areas you can specialize in include:

**Landscaping:** Designing and maintaining commercial and residential grounds using your eye for design and knowledge of irrigation, plants, flowers, and trees.

**Nurseries:** People in this profession grow plants from seedlings and make sure they make it through their entire lifecycle.

**Research:** In this field, you may study plant genetics or develop plants that have natural immunity to diseases and resist environmental damage.

**Horticultural Therapy:** You would use your knowledge of plants and design to help patients with cognitive and physical disabilities.

There are many other areas that may be more or less appealing to you. It is best to determine what your interests are and find the area of specialty that fits your preferences.

### **Other Horticultural Fields**

If you are a highly creative person but landscaping just doesn't appeal to you, you can become a floral designer. People in these jobs use their eye for art and design to create colorful floral arrangements for a variety of events like funerals, weddings, and anniversaries. No formal education is required to enter the field, though you can earn a number of credentials to prove your expertise. Those with horticulture degrees would do very well in this field since you will be cultivating and maintaining an assortment of flora. There is a high turnover rate in floral design, so job opportunities will be plentiful.

Another interesting horticulture career is botany. This is for people who are deeply interested in how plants work. Botanists don't get their hands dirty handling plants. Rather, they study their inner workings and may specialize in plant diseases, the life cycle, or how plants interact with their environment. You can get started in the field with just a bachelor's degree, but most high-level positions require a master's or doctorate degree. Unfortunately, job opportunities are limited because the field of botany is so small.

There are numerous opportunities in horticulture. Follow your passions for a rewarding career.

\*Taken from: <http://www.lwtchort.com/horticulture-jobs.html>