

PLSOILIN 235

Pruning Fruit Crops

Class Description:

This class provides the student with both the theoretical and practical knowledge necessary to train and prune deciduous fruit plants. The emphasis is placed on practical experience.

Instructor:

Dr. Wesley Autio
Office: 205 Bowditch Hall
Telephone: 545-2963
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Office hours: by appointment

Class Meetings:

First class (January 26): Thursday, 1:25 PM - 2:15 PM, 102 French Hall.
March - May classes: Thursday, 1:25 PM - 5:00 PM, UMass Cold Spring Orchard Research & Education Center, Applewood, the UMass campus, and other locations.

Required Reading:

Forshey, C. G., D. C. Elfving, and R. L. Stebbins. 1992. *Training and Pruning Apple and Pear Trees*. Amer. Soc. for Horticultural Sci., Alexandria, VA and Lord, W. J. and J. F. Anderson. 1994. *Pruning in the Home Orchard*. UMass Extension Circular C-109 (Course packet, Textbook Annex).
Additional handouts will be distributed as required.

Grades:

Quizzes (each class, March 1-April 19)
= 50% and class participation = 50%.

Date	Class Topic	Reading assignment for the quiz
January 26	Introduction 106 French Hall	
March 1	Introduction to apple pruning UMass Cold Spring Orchard	Forshey et al.: vii-23
March 8	Pruning apple trees UMass Cold Spring Orchard	Forshey et al.: 25-54 Lord & Anderson: 1-5, 8-12
March 15	Grafting apple trees UMass Cold Spring Orchard	Forshey et al.: 73-101 Lord & Anderson: 5-8, 12-14
March 29	Pruning abandoned trees Sunderland	Forshey et al.: 103-135
April 5	Pruning abandoned apple trees South Amherst	Forshey et al.: 136-158 Lord & Anderson: 14-15
April 12	Pruning pears, plums, & cherries UMass Cold Spring Orchard	Pear/plum/cherry handout
April 19	Pruning peach trees UMass Cold Spring Orchard	Peach handout
April 26	Pruning crabapples UMass Campus	

GRADES

1. Quizzes (7 class days) will consist of a collection of essay, short answer, fill-in-the-blank, true/false, and multiple choice questions.
2. Make-up quizzes generally will not be given. Only under unusual circumstances, such as serious illness or death in the immediate family, will a student be permitted to take a make-up quiz. Oversleeping, car troubles, head-cold, and too many exams are not legitimate excuses for missing the quiz. In the event of illness or other serious problem, contact the instructor BEFORE a quiz if at all possible. If a make-up quiz is given, it may take any form, such as essay or oral questioning.
3. Students who cheat on a quiz will either be expelled from the University, receive an F for the course, or a zero for the quiz. This determination will be based on the severity of the situation and will be made by several authorities.
4. Grades will follow the standard ranges: A=93-100; A-=90-92; B+=88-89; B=83-87; B-=80-82, C+=78-79; C=73-77; C-=70-72; D+=68-69; D=63-67; D-=60-62; F<60.
5. Since the class is largely a laboratory class, 50% of the grade will be based on participation. You must make every effort to attend all classes.

OTHER CONCERNS

1. Pruning equipment will be provided for your use; however, you are encouraged to purchase your own equipment and bring it to class.
2. If the weather is foul, dress appropriately. With the limited number of sessions, we will have to go outside in most bad weather.
3. Do not be late for class, since quizzes will be administered at 1:30PM. If you miss a class because of tardiness your grade will still be reduced.

TRAVEL TO PRUNING LOCATIONS

1. If at all possible, please arrange travel to the pruning locations.