

CAL POLY

College of Agriculture, Food
& Environmental Sciences

HORTICULTURE & CROP SCIENCE

Department



FACT SHEET

Cal Poly's Horticulture and Crop Science Department offers an agricultural and environmental plant sciences degree program with concentrations in three specialized areas: **environmental horticultural science, fruit and crop science, and plant protection science.**

The department's expert faculty are celebrated for giving students the tools, knowledge and abilities to meet the challenges of tomorrow — from best practices in drought management to sustainable growing of horticultural and agronomic crops, both indoors and in the field. Through extensive Learn by Doing opportunities in the university's fields, gardens and labs, students are encouraged to look for solutions to real-world problems.

Students gain unique hands-on experience in the department's fields, groves, vineyards, nurseries, orchards, arboretum, gardens and greenhouses. Internships and collaborations with industry partners provide yet another rich layer of experiential learning that sets Cal Poly students apart.

MAJORS: Agricultural and Environmental Plant Sciences

MINORS: Crop Science; Fruit Science; Landscape Horticulture; Plant Protection

CONCENTRATIONS: Environmental Horticultural Science; Fruit and Crop Science; Plant Protection Science

GRADUATE PROGRAM: Master of Science in Agriculture, Specialization in Crop Science; Specialization in Environmental Horticulture Science, Specialization in Plant Protection Science

DEPARTMENT HIGHLIGHTS



6,600 Acres

Land for agricultural production, processing and research facilities, including the 450-acre Bartleson Ranch in nearby Arroyo Grande, California.

\$42,000

Median salary of graduates within one year of graduation.

The Cal Poly Organic Farm

The farm is an 11-acre production unit, certified organic by California Certified Organic Farmers. It provides a place to experience hands-on learning in organic and sustainable farming and gardening practices. The farm provides produce that is sold locally at farmers markets, the campus market, and to local vendors and restaurants. Produce not sold is donated to the Food Bank of San Luis Obispo. In a survey of 100 college farms, Cal Poly's organic farm was ranked 18th in the nation by College Values Online.

On The Job

Alumni have found employment as production managers, assistant agronomists, account managers, food safety technicians, milk procurement supervisors, golf course superintendents, pest control advisers, certified crop advisers, and sales representatives at such companies as Confidence Landscaping, InfoGard, Peninsula Golf & Country Club, ValleyCrest Landscape Companies, Munger Farms, Petaluma Creamery, Dow AgroSciences, and Wonderful Citrus.

Student Clubs & Teams

Clubs and teams include the Crops Club; Horticulture Club; Pi Alpha Xi, the national honor society for floriculture, landscape and ornamental horticulture; Floral Design Team (affiliated with the National American Institute of Floral Designers); and Professional Landcare Network Team.

Leaning Pine Arboretum

The Leaning Pine Arboretum, located on the Cal Poly campus, is a five-acre expanse of gardens displaying hundreds of unique plants. The collection presents plants from the world's five Mediterranean climate regions: Australia, California, Chile, the Mediterranean basin, and South Africa.

CONNECT

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