



UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE AND VETERINARY SCIENCES

Field Station

THREE DAY SHORT COURSE IN GREENHOUSE CROP PRODUCTION



The College of Agriculture and Veterinary Sciences, University of Nairobi is pleased to announce a short course in Greenhouse Crop Production, to be held at the Field Station, Upper Kabete campus. The course is designed to meet the needs of horticultural farmers, NGOs, Youth and Youth Groups, Extension Personnel, Agro-chemical companies and any group or persons interested in the production of fruits, vegetables and flowers in a greenhouse environment. The course is practical based, with emphasis on greenhouse management, production practices, and marketing. The course will offered for three days. A certificate will be awarded on successful completion of the course.

Entry Requirement

Basic understanding of English, Kiswahili or any other language and basic reading and writing skills.

Course Fees

A fee of **KShs. 15,000 (Fifteen Thousand)** will be charged per participant. The fee will cater for tuition, stationary, teas, lunch and certificate. Payment should be made to Kenya Commercial Bank, Account Number 016-200542060, Sarit Centre Branch, Nairobi and the bank slip availed one week before the start of the course.

Contacts

For more information, please contact:
The Manager, Field Station
P. O. Box 30197 . 00100 Nairobi, Kenya.
Telephone: +254-202022371, 0723-987294 or 0722-587021.
E-mail: dept-field@uonbi.ac.ke, or Principal-cavs@uonbi.ac.ke.
Website: <http://fieldstation.uonbi.ac.ke>

Background

Faced with reduced acreage for farming due to population growth, rapid rural urbanization and unpredictable weather conditions, many Kenyans are turning to greenhouse technology as a way of increasing food production and supplement their incomes. Greenhouses technology offers a means of increasing productivity by improving water use efficiency, reducing the incidence of pests, enhancing production of a range of horticultural crops and effective use of small acreages. Recently, simple greenhouses and tunnels have been designed and marketed in various parts of the country by various companies. However, producing crops in greenhouses/tunnels requires specialized management which many growers lack. In addition most growers lack the business skills required to ensure the sustainability of greenhouse production. For successful operations, greenhouse growers need to have competencies in crop production practices, marketing and financial management. This course therefore seeks to impart the required knowledge and develop the competencies required to ensure a sustainable greenhouse production by small-scale growers.

Target group(s)

The course targets the following:

- Farmers/Farmer groups
- Farm workers
- Individual youth and youth groups interested in farming as a business
- Extension staff
- NGOs
- Agro-chemical companies
- Recent graduates who like to get practical training
- Companies who wish to have a tailor made training for workers onsite

Course Objectives

On completion of the course, the trainees will be able to:

1. Identify appropriate crops for greenhouse production.
2. Select suitable greenhouse for horticultural production of different crops and regions.
3. Identify specific requirements for growing plants commonly grown in greenhouses/tunnels
4. Be able to manage disease and pests by use of non-chemical and chemical pesticides effectively and in an environmentally responsible way
5. Maintain appropriate records and use them in production management planning/decision making
6. Successfully operate a commercial greenhouse with competencies in budgeting, crop scheduling, marketing and sales.

Course structure

This is a practical course, designed around a series of interactive instruction sessions integrated with practical sessions.

The course covers key areas of greenhouse production and management in three parts:

Day 1

- Introduction to Greenhouses- Types of Green Houses
- The Greenhouse environment
- Greenhouse Growth media
- Irrigation management
- Fertility and fertigation management
- Greenhouse hygiene procedures

Day 2

- Greenhouse nursery and propagule management
- Common greenhouse diseases and their control
- Greenhouse pests and their control
- Harvesting and postharvest handling
- Crop rotation and production scheduling

Day 3

- Marketing of horticultural produce
- Labour management in greenhouse production
- Greenhouse records and financial management
- Value addition
- Standards and safety



