

**J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College
Course Content Summary**

Course Prefix and Number: HRT 195

Credits: 3

Course Title: Topics in Horticulture: Alternative Food Crops and Production Methods

Course Description:

Introduces students to alternative methods and crop choices for growing their own food or growing for market. Provides students the opportunity to gain the knowledge and experience necessary to successfully replicate class projects at their homes or businesses. Lecture 3 hours per week.

General Course Purpose:

This course, which serves as an elective for the Horticulture AAS degree, is designed to provide practical knowledge and experiences to students about the diversity of and production methods for alternative food crops. Field trips will be utilized to show the diversity in the arena of Food Crops and Production Methods. Interviews with business owners and production specialists will increase the knowledge base for students.

Course Objectives:

Upon completing the course, the student will be able to

1. Develop an aquaculture production system.
2. Produce mushrooms.
3. Utilize hydroponic technology.
4. Manage small berry/fruit operations.
5. Produce plant clones/seedlings for use in gardens.
6. Build an aquaponics system.
7. Tend to small ruminants and poultry.
8. Utilize local extension agencies.

Major Topics to be Included:

1. Mycology
2. Hydroponics
3. Aquaculture
4. Aquaponics
5. Pomology
6. Plant cloning and seed propagation
7. Soil care and conservation
8. Small ruminants
9. Season extension

Effective Date of Course Content Summary: January 12, 2012