

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. Introduction and Policies

Introduction	1
Purpose.....	2
Program Administration.....	2
University of Idaho Extension	2
Funding	2
Personnel.....	2
Training and Certification Policies	2
Initial Training and Certification.....	2
Continuing Certification.....	3
Time Away From Recertification	3
Transferring Master Gardener Status.....	3
Idaho Master Gardener Emeritus.....	3
Training of Trade-Related Professionals	4
Application and Training Procedures.....	5
Application and Volunteer Position Description	5
Fees.....	5
Training Dates and Locations	5
Master Gardener Training Outside the County of Residence	5
College Credit	5
Additional Program Policies	5
Volunteer Activity Record	5
Impact and Accountability.....	5
Reimbursement for Expenses.....	5
Liability Coverage.....	5
Workers' Compensation Coverage	6
Vehicle Coverage	6
Working with Youth.....	6
Civil Rights and Diversity.....	7
Making Recommendations — Providing Accurate Information	7
Making Pest Management Recommendations.	7
Making Fertilizer Recommendations.....	9
Use of Title and Logo	9
Idaho Master Gardener Associations	9

Being an Idaho Master Gardener Volunteer	11
Volunteer Service Opportunities.....	11
Volunteer Service Guidelines.....	11
Termination of Volunteer Services	12
Volunteer Benefits	12
Importance of Volunteers.....	12
Idaho Master Gardener Program Forms	13
Authorized Volunteer Position Description.....	13
Application	14
Opportunity Contract.....	16
Volunteer Activity Record	18
Tax Records for Volunteer Service.....	19
Emergency Contact Form	20
Pest Management Agreement	21
Acknowledgment of Risk and Waiver of Liability	22

2. Introduction to Horticulture and Plant Physiology

Horticulture Defined.....	1
Climate in Horticulture.....	2
Macroclimate.....	2
Microclimate	2
Role of Temperature in Horticulture	3
High Temperatures	4
Low Temperatures.....	5
Temperature Modification.....	6
Role of Light in Horticulture.....	6
Light Quality	6
Light Intensity	7
Light Duration	8
Further Reading and Resources	8
Books	8
Booklets and Pamphlets.....	8

3. Basic Botany

Introduction	1
Plant Nomenclature and Classification	2
Family	3
Genus.....	3
Species	3
Variety and Cultivar	3
Plant Life Cycles	5
Annuals.....	5
Biennials.....	6
Perennials.....	6
Plant Parts and Their Function.....	6
Vegetative Parts: Leaves, Stems, and Roots	6
Vascular System	8
Reproductive Parts: Flowers, Fruits, and Seeds	9
Plant Development.....	13
Seed Germination.....	13
Vegetative Growth Stage	13
Reproductive Growth Stage.....	14
Senescence.....	14
Further Reading and Resources	14

4. Plant Propagation

Sexual Propagation.....	1
Seed	1
Germination	2
Methods of Breaking Dormancy.....	3
Starting Seeds.....	4
Transplanting and Handling.....	6
Asexual Propagation	7
Cuttings	7
Layering	11
Division.....	12
Grafting.....	13
Budding	14
Plant Tissue Culture	15
Further Reading	15
Books	15
Booklets and Pamphlets.....	15

5. Soils and Fertilizers

The Five Soil-Forming Factors	1
Parent Material.....	1
Climate.....	2
Topography	2
Living Organisms (Biota).....	2
Time.....	2
Major Components of a Mineral Soil	2
Soil Texture	3
Sand	3
Silt.....	3
Clay.....	3
Texture and Soil Management	3
Soil Structure	4
Organic Matter	5
Carbon:Nitrogen (C:N) Ratio	5
Soil/Water Relationships.....	6
Water-Holding Capacity.....	6
Water Infiltration Rate	6
Permeability Rate	6
Soil Compaction.....	6
Water and Air.....	6
Nutrient Leaching.....	7
Soluble Salts	7
pH	7
Plant Nutrients.....	7
Essential Nutrients	7
Functions of Macronutrients.....	8
Functions of Micronutrients	8
General Nutrient Deficiency Symptoms	9
Mulches.....	9
Organic Mulches	9
Inorganic Mulches.....	10
Seasonal Mulches	10
Problems with Mulches.....	10
Fertilizers.....	10
Fertilizer Terminology	10
Nutrient Sources and Fertilizer Types	10
Fertilizer Application and Timing	12
Green Manure and Cover Crops	12
Organic Fertilizers.....	13
Further Reading and Resources	13
Books	13
Booklets and Pamphlets.....	14
Videos.....	14
Websites.....	14
Instructor Resources.....	14

6. Horticultural Equipment Management

Equipment Selection	1
Hand Tools for Cultivation.....	1
Power Tools for Cultivation.....	3
Wheelbarrow or Cart.....	4
Watering Equipment.....	4
Seedling and Planting Tools	5
Environmental Monitoring Equipment	5
Trellises and Cages.....	5
Harvesting Equipment.....	6
Equipment Purchases and Maintenance	6
Equipment Purchases.....	6
Equipment Maintenance.....	6
Cultivation Practices.....	6
Types of Soil Cultivation.....	6
Cultivation Time	6
Cultivation Requirements.....	7
Further Reading.....	7
University of Idaho Extension	7

7. Plant Management

Introduction	1
Plant Selection.....	1
Light Requirement	2
Climate.....	2
Avoiding Weeds and Poisonous Plants	3
Site Preparation	3
Planting.....	3
Seeds.....	3
Bareroot Plants.....	3
Balled-and-Burlapped Stock	4
Containerized Stock	5
Fertilizing.....	5
Irrigation	5
Factors Affecting Irrigation.....	6
Irrigation Scheduling	9
Irrigating Sections of the Landscape	10
Further Reading and Resources	11
Websites.....	12

8. Backyard Composting

Introduction	1
The Composting Process.....	1
Process Basics.....	1
Decomposers.....	2
Factors Affecting the Composting Process	3
Composting Methods	6
Piles.....	6
Bins and Ventilated Containers.....	6
Barrels and Tumblers.....	6
Making and Managing a Compost Pile.....	7
Materials.....	7
Additives.....	8
Inoculants	8
Location.....	9
Volume	9
Building Compost Piles	9
Turning	9
Moisture Management	10
Odor Management	11
Troubleshooting	11
Judging When Composting Is Finished	11
Using Compost.....	11
Benefits of Compost.....	12
Application	13
Compost Quality	13
Alternatives to Composting	14
Grass Recycling.....	14
Mulching.....	14
Worm Composting.....	14
Soil Incorporation	14
Plans for Constructing Composting Bins	15
Wooden-Pallet Holding Unit	15
Wire-Mesh Holding Unit	15
Snow-Fence Holding Unit	15
Wood-and-Wire, Three-Bin Turning Unit	15
Wooden Three-Bin Turning Unit	15
Worm-Composting Bin	15
Concrete-Block Holding Unit.....	16
Concrete-Block, Three-Bin Turning Unit	16
Further Reading	16
Books.....	16
Booklets and Pamphlets.....	16

9. Using Pesticides Safely

Introduction	1
Pesticide Use	1
Law and Regulation	1
Pest Management	2
Pesticide Product Types	2
Active Ingredients	4
Resistance	4
Formulations	4
Biopesticides	5
Pest Control for Organic Systems	5
Safety	6
Hazards and Health	6
Pesticide Labels	6
Pesticide Exposure Guidelines	8
Stewardship	8
Handling	8
Handling Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)	9
Pesticide Properties and Movement	9
Water-Quality Impacts on Pesticide Performance	10
Setting Up the Application Equipment	10
Calibration	11
Pesticide Application Math	11
Storage	13
Disposal	13
Pesticide Spills	13
How to Hire a Professional	13
Important Numbers and Information	14
Resources.....	14
Further Reading.....	15
Acronyms.....	15
Glossary.....	15
Important Numbers and Information.....	16
Reading the Label Activity	17

10. Basic Entomology

Introduction	1
Insect Anatomy	2
Insect Development	2
Insect Classification	2
Major Orders of Insects.....	3
Beetles and Weevils — Coleoptera.....	3
Moths and Butterflies — Lepidoptera.....	4
Flies, Mosquitoes, Gnats, Midges — Diptera	5

Bees, Wasps, Ants, Sawflies, etc.—	
Hymenoptera.....	5
True Bugs — Hemiptera	6
Aphids, Scales, Leafhoppers, Cicadas —	
Homoptera.....	6
Grasshoppers, Crickets, Cockroaches, Camel Crickets — Orthoptera	7
Termites — Isoptera	7
Earwigs — Dermaptera.....	8
Thrips — Thysanoptera.....	8
Silverfish and Firebrats — Thysanura	8
Springtails — Collembola.....	8
Other Orders.....	8
Other Insect-Like Creatures	9
Spider Mites, Spiders, Ticks, and Scorpions —	
Arachnida.....	9
Millipedes — Diplopoda.....	9
Centipedes — Chilopoda.....	9
Sow bugs and Pill bugs — Crustacea	10
Garden Centipede or Symphylan — Symphyla.....	10
Further Reading	10
CDs, booklets, and pamphlets.....	10

11. Insect Management

Terms and Definitions.....	1
Why Worry About Insect Control?	1
Methods of Insect Control Available to Homeowners.....	2
Mechanical Insect Control	2
Chemical Insect Control	2
Biological Insect Control	2
Cultural Insect Control	2
Regulatory Insect Control (Quarantines)	3
Integrated Insect Control	3
Specific Pests.....	4
Ornamental Pests	4
Lawn Pests	5
Houseplant Pests	5
Tree Fruit Pests	6
Garden Pests	7
Household Pests	8
Spiders	9
Further Reading	9
Books	9
Booklets and Pamphlets	9
Acknowledgment.....	10

12. Rodents, Birds, and Other Pests

Introduction	1
Safety in Handling.....	1
Identification.....	2
Vertebrate Pests — Rodents.....	2
General Rodent Information.....	2
Ground Squirrels, Chipmunks, and Chucks	2
Pocket Gophers and Voles.....	3
Mice and Rats.....	3
Rabbits.....	3
Bats	4
Vertebrate Pests — Other Mammals.....	5
Raccoon.....	5
Deer	5
Skunk.....	5
Dogs and Cats	6
Vertebrate Pests — Birds.....	6
General Bird Information.....	6
Yellow-Bellied Sapsucker	7
Starlings	7
Invertebrates and Arthropods of the Home	
Yard and Garden	7
Nematodes	7
Slugs and Snails.....	8
Earthworms or Night Crawlers	8
Further Reading.....	9
Books	9
Booklets and Pamphlets.....	9

13. Plant Disease

Introduction	1
History of Plant Disease	1
Significance of Plant Disease in the United States.....	2
Disease Concepts	2
What Is a Disease?	2
Causal Agents of Disease	2
Signs of Disease.....	3
Symptoms of Disease	3
The Disease Cycle	3
Inoculation.....	3
Penetration.....	3
Infection.....	3
Dissemination.....	4

Diseases Caused by Biotic Agents	4
Fungi	4
Bacteria and Phytoplasmas.....	4
Viruses	5
Nematodes	5
Parasitic Plants (Flowering)	5
Diseases Caused By Abiotic Agents	5
High or Low Temperatures	6
High or Low Soil Moisture.....	6
High or Low Light Intensity.....	6
Soil Oxygen.....	6
Air Pollution	6
Nutrient Deficiencies	6
Mineral Toxicity	6
Unfavorable Soil pH.....	7
Improper Cultural Practices.....	7
Further Reading and Resources	7
Books	7
Websites.....	7

14. Weeds

Introduction	1
Weed Biology and Classification	2
Annual Weeds	2
Biennial Weeds	3
Perennial Weeds	3
Identification.....	3
Flower	3
Leaves and Stem.....	3
Weed Structure	3
Roots.....	3
Weed-Control Methods.....	4
Prevention	4
Biological Control	4
Cultural Control.....	4
Mulches	5
Mechanical Control.....	6
Chemical Control	7
Herbicide-Application Equipment	9
Hand-Spray Bottles	9
Hose-End Sprayers.....	9
Compressed Air Canister Sprayers.....	9
Backpack Sprayers	9
Power Sprayers	9
Wick Wipers	9
Granular Applicators	9

Sprayer Calibration	10
Calculating Your Sprayer	10
Granular Applicators.....	10
Tree Stump Removal	11
Mechanical Removal	11
Chemical Treatments.....	11
Noxious Weeds.....	12
Further Reading.....	12
Books.....	12
Booklets and Pamphlets.....	12

15. Turfgrass Establishment and Management

Introduction	1
Soil and Site Considerations.....	2
Evaluating the Site.....	2
Soil Texture and Structure.....	2
Soil pH and Fertility.....	2
Choosing a Turfgrass.....	2
Kentucky Bluegrass.....	3
Tall and Fine Fescues.....	3
Perennial Ryegrass.....	4
Site Preparation.....	5
Preplant Weed Control.....	5
Soil Preparation.....	5
Installing a Sprinkler System	5
Establishing a Lawn by Seeding	5
Seed Selection.....	5
Seeding Rate	6
When to Sow.....	6
Seeding Methods.....	7
Top-Dressing Seeded Areas	7
Watering and Fertilizing.....	7
Mowing	7
Weed Control.....	8
Overseeding.....	8
Establishing a Lawn by Sodding	8
Benefits of Sod.....	8
Purchasing Sod	8
Preparing for Sod Delivery	8
Sod Installation.....	9
Rolling and Watering.....	9
Mowing and Fertilizing	9
Turf Maintenance	9
Mowing	10
Thatch Management	11

Irrigation	12
Fertilizing	13
Core Aeration	15
Weed Control.....	16
Turf Renovation	16
Turf Problems.....	17
Common Problems.....	17
Insects.....	17
Diseases	18
Further Reading and Resources	18
Books	18
Websites	18

16. Landscaping

Introduction	1
Definitions	2
Creating a Plan.....	2
Define Your Goals and Objectives.....	2
Do a Thorough Site Analysis	2
Define Use Areas	4
Define Planting Areas.....	4
Principles of Design.....	4
Elements of Design.....	5
Plant Selection	6
Other Considerations When Buying Plants	6
Installation and Renovation	6
Maintenance and Irrigation.....	7
Maintenance	7
Water Management	7
Further Reading	7
Books	7
Booklets and Pamphlets.....	7

17. Landscape Plants

Why Ornamental Plants?	1
Soils and Water Considerations	2
Soil Composition.....	2
Water Status Definitions.....	2
Water Movement.....	2
Soil Structure (Aggregate Size)	2
Drainage Problems.....	2
Overcoming Drainage Problems.....	2
Planting and Site Preparation	3
Types of Plant Materials	3
Planting	3
Pruning After Planting	3
Staking	4
Plant Problems	4

Circling Roots/Potbound	4
Girdling Roots	4
Kinked Roots/One-Sided Root System.....	4
Root Rots.....	4
Changing Soil Grades.....	4
Trenching/Cutting Roots	5
Compaction.....	5
Stem Problems.....	5
Heart Rot.....	5
Stem Wounds	5
Sunscald or Southwest Disease.....	5
Branch Rots and Infections.....	5
Damage to Crotch Areas.....	5
Freeze Damage.....	6
Graft Incompatibility	6
Leaf Problems	6
Drought.....	6
Frost Damage.....	6
Root Injury	6
Vascular System Injury	6
Salt Damage	7
Leaf Chlorosis and Nutrient Deficiencies	7
Herbicide Damage.....	7
Insecticide Injury.....	8
Further Reading.....	8
Books	8

18. Woody Landscape Plants

Introduction	1
The Art of Designing Landscapes with Woody Plants.....	2
Which Woody Plants to Install and Where	2
Getting Started With Woody Plants.....	6
Purchasing Woody Plants	6
Planting Woody Shrubs and Trees	6
First-Year Care	7
Maintenance of Woody Landscape Plants.....	8
Irrigation.....	8
Mulching.....	8
Symbiotic Relationships	9
Fertilizing	9
Pruning.....	9
The Basics.....	9
Reasons for Pruning	9
Early Training of Trees and Shrubs.....	14
Pruning Mature Trees and Shrubs.....	17
Renovation and Rejuvenation Pruning	22

Protecting Trees and Shrubs during Construction	23
Woody Landscape Plants for Idaho.....	24
Further Reading and Resources	35
Books	35
Booklets and Pamphlets.....	35
University of Idaho Extension Publications....	35
Websites.....	35
Maps.....	35
Acknowledgments	35

19. Herbaceous Ornamentals

Introduction	1
The Art of Design.....	1
Color	1
Texture	2
Shape and Size	2
What to Plant.....	3
Exposure	3
Season of Flowering.....	3
Cut and Dried Flowers	3
Herbaceous Ornamentals That Naturalize	3
Special-Use Gardens	3
How to Plant (Design)	3
Formal and Informal	3
Beds and Borders	3
Plant Choice.....	3
Gardening in Containers	4
Containers	4
Soil.....	4
Planting.....	4
Watering	4
Maintenance	4
Getting Started with Annuals.....	4
Propagation.....	4
Growing, Culture, and Maintenance	5
Description of Selected Annuals.....	7
Getting Started with Biennials.....	9
Getting Started with Perennials	9
The Purpose of a Perennial Garden	9
Sexual Propagation by Seed.....	10
Vegetative Propagation by Division, Stem Cuttings, Root Cuttings, Layering, Grafting, or Tissue Culture	10
Vegetative Propagation by Specialized Stems and Roots	11
Growing, Culture, and Maintenance	12

A Selection of Perennials for Idaho.....	15
Common Name	15
Scientific Name	15
Height.....	15
Bloom Time	15
Flower Color.....	15
Light Needed.....	15
Landscape Use	15
Further Reading.....	26
Books.....	26
For More Information	26
Booklets and Pamphlets.....	26

20. Principles of Vegetable Culture

Introduction	1
Planning the Garden	1
Garden Design	2
Annual Planning.....	4
Vegetable Production Systems.....	5
Victory Garden Designs	5
Intensive Garden Designs.....	5
Buying, Saving, and Storing Seed	11
Buying Seed.....	11
Saving Your Own Seed	11
Storing Seed.....	12
Preparing the Soil.....	13
Testing the Soil.....	13
Adding Organic Matter.....	13
Fertilizing	14
Tillage.....	15
Planting.....	15
Planting Vegetable Seeds Outdoors	15
Producing and Establishing Transplants.....	17
Caring for Your Garden	20
Irrigating.....	20
Controlling Weeds.....	20
Controlling Pests	21
Controlling Plant Diseases	23
Further Reading and Resources	23
Websites.....	23

21. Vegetable Crop Recommendations

Introduction	1
Fertilizer Recommendations.....	1
Consumptive Yield.....	2

Nutrition	2
Soil Temperatures.....	2
Beans	3
Beets.....	4
Broccoli.....	6
Brussels Sprouts	7
Cabbage.....	9
Cantaloupes.....	10
Carrots.....	12
Cauliflower.....	14
Cucumbers	15
Eggplant	17
Kohlrabi.....	19
Lettuce	20
Onions.....	21
Peas.....	23
Peppers	25
Potatoes.....	27
Pumpkins and Winter Squash	29
Radishes	31
Summer Squash	32
Sweet Corn.....	33
Swiss Chard	34
Tomatoes	35
Watermelons.....	38
Further Reading and Resources	40
University of Idaho Extension Publications	40

22. Fruit Trees

Introduction	1
Site Selection	1
Without Frost Pockets	1
In Full Sun.....	2
In Well-Drained but not Droughty Soil	2
Fruit and Nut Cultivars for Idaho	2
Types of Tree Fruits	2
Pome Fruits (Apples and Pears)	2
Stone Fruits.....	3
Nuts	4
Rootstock	4
Apples	4
Pears	5
Stone Fruits.....	5
Cultural Practices and Problems.....	5
Planting.....	5
Training and Pruning	5
Water Management (Irrigation).....	6

Fertilization	7
Insect and Disease Control.....	7
Rodent and Deer Damage	8
Vegetative Management Due to Weed and Herbicide Injury	8
Preventing Winter Injury.....	9
Cropping Problems.....	9
Further Reading.....	10
Books.....	10
Booklets and Pamphlets.....	10

23. Small Fruits

Strawberries	1
Botany	1
Cultivars in Idaho (in order of ripening)	2
Culture	2
Common Plant Problems — Diagnosis and Control	3
Red Raspberries.....	4
Botany	4
Cultivars in Idaho	4
Culture	5
Common Plant Problems — Diagnosis and Control	6
Black and Purple Raspberries	7
Botany	7
Cultivars in Idaho	7
Culture	7
Common Plant Problems — Diagnosis and Control	7
Trailing Berries (Blackberries)	7
Botany	8
Cultivars In Idaho	8
Culture	8
Common Plant Problems — Diagnosis and Control	8
Blueberries.....	9
Botany	9
Cultivars in Idaho (listed in order of ripening dates)	9
Culture	9
Common Plant Problems — Diagnosis and Control	9
Hardy Kiwi.....	10
Botany	10
Cultivars in Idaho	10
Culture	10
Common Plant Problems — Diagnosis and Control	11

Black Currants	11
Botany	11
Cultivars in Idaho	11
Culture	11
Common Plant Problems — Diagnosis and Control	12
Red and White Currants.....	12
Botany	12
Cultivars in Idaho	12
Culture	12
Common Plant Problems — Diagnosis and Control	12
Gooseberries	12
Botany	12
Cultivars in Idaho	13
Culture	13
Common Plant Problems — Diagnosis and Control	13
Elderberries	14
Botany	14
Cultivars in Idaho	14
Culture	14
Common Plant Problems — Diagnosis and Control	14
Grapes	14
Botany	14
Cultivars in Idaho	14
Culture	15
Common Plant Problems — Diagnosis and Control	16
Further Reading	17
Books	17
Booklets and Pamphlets.....	17

24. Houseplants and Home Greenhouses

Environmental Conditions and Requirements.....	1
Plant Needs.....	1
Light	1
Temperature	2
Humidity	2
Irrigation.....	3
Fertilization	4
Salt Damage	4
Overall Environmental Factors Affecting Plant Growth.....	4

Media, Containers, and Potting	5
Root Media	5
Container Choice	5
Repotting Houseplants	5
Controlling Size and Shape.....	6
Phototropism	6
Pinch	6
Diagnosis of Problems.....	6
Be Observant	6
Insect Pests.....	6
Major Insect Pests.....	6
Insect Control.....	7
Plant Diseases.....	7
Common Diseases	7
Disease Control	7
Propagation.....	8
Clone	8
Uniqueness.....	8
Greenhouses.....	8
Types of Greenhouses	8
Location and Orientation	9
Design and Construction	9
Small Beds for Growing Plants.....	12
Cold Frames.....	12
Hotbeds	12
Cloches	12
Further Reading.....	12
Books	12
Booklets and Pamphlets.....	13
Videos.....	13
Slide Sets.....	13

25. Organic Gardening

Organic Gardening Overview.....	1
Definitions.....	2
Organic Pesticides	2
Site Selection.....	2
Soil Fertility and Amendments	2
Dealing with Pests.....	4
Pest Control Strategies (Idaho Information).....	5
Weed Control	5
Vinegar.....	5
Corn Gluten.....	5
Cultivation.....	5
Mulching.....	5
Thermal Weeding, Flaming.....	6
Soil Solarization	6
Soap-Based and Oil-Based Herbicides	6
Other Methods.....	6
Insect Control.....	6
Mechanical Control.....	7
Biological Control	7
Chemical Control	8
Disease Control.....	10
Popular Fungicides	11
Summary	12
Further Reading	12
Booklets and Pamphlets	12
Books	12
Websites.....	12

Glossary