

Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources Career Cluster

The Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources (AFNR) career cluster focuses on the essential elements of life, food, water, land, and air. This career cluster includes occupations ranging from farmer, rancher, and veterinarian to geologist, land conservationist, and florist.



Plant Science – Horticulture (JHS) Statewide Program of Study



The Plant Science program of study focuses on occupational and educational opportunities associated with the science, research, and business of plants and other living organisms. This program of study includes the application of biology and life science to real-world life processes of plants and vegetation, either in laboratories or in the field.



Secondary Courses for High School Credit

Level 1	T101 Principles of Agriculture, Food, & Natural Resources (1 credit/YL)
Level 2	T121 Greenhouse Operations (1 credit/YL)
Level 3	T122 Horticulture Science/Lab (2 credits/YL)
Level 4	T134 Practicum in AFNR Plant Science (2 credits/YL)

Work-Based Learning and Expanded Learning Opportunities

Work-Based Learning Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work in a part-time job at a landscaping company to learn about production and management of plants. Intern at an agricultural research company, working alongside a biological technician to learn about application of biology to plant production
Expanded Learning Opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participate in an FFA career, leadership, and speaking contest like an agriscience fair Participate in an industry-related competition like an agriscience fair



Aligned Industry-Based Certifications

- BASF Plant Science Certification
- Texas Certified Nursery Professional



Example Postsecondary Opportunities

Apprenticeships

- Horticulturist

Associate Degrees

- Biology/Biological Sciences
- Biological and Physical Sciences

Bachelor's Degrees

- Horticulture
- Plant Pathology/Phytopathology

Master's, Doctoral, and Professional Degrees

- Plant Breeding
- Botany/Plant Biology

Additional Stackable IBCs/License

- Nursery Floral License
- Horticulturist Certification



Example Aligned Occupations

Pesticide Handlers, Sprayers, and Applicators, Vegetation

Median Wage: \$46,153
Annual Openings: 205
10-Year Growth: 17%

Biological Technicians

Median Wage: \$45,787
Annual Openings: 879
10-Year Growth: 14%

Farmers, Ranchers, and Other Agricultural Managers

Median Wage: \$65,490
Annual Openings: 28,020
10-Year Growth: 4%

Data Source: TexasWages, Texas Workforce Commission. Retrieved 3/8/2024.



For more information visit:
<https://tea.texas.gov/academics/college-career-and-military-prep/career-and-technical-education/programs-of-study-additional-resources>