

Horticulture

Dr. M. Sathiyabama
Associate Professor
Department of Botany

- What is Horticulture ?
 - *Hortus* meaning garden and *Colere* meaning to grow or to cultivate (Cultura meaning cultivation).
- The word horticulture - first conceived by Peter Laurenberg.
- In English language the word horticulture -used for the first time in 1678 in a book entitled “New World of Words” by Phillips

- Growing flower, fruit, vegetables and ornamental plants – in garden/orchards
- Cultivation of plants and rearing/breeding of animals (animal husbandary).

- Hence, horticulture is that branch of Agriculture which concerns with the garden crops.
- Horticulture can also be defined as the branch of agriculture concerned with intensively cultivated plants directly used by man for food, for medicinal purposes or for aesthetic purposes.

- **Main distinguishing features of horticulture**
- Horticulture crops are used in a living state while others like grains etc. are not used in a living state.
- Horticulture crops are comparatively more intensively cultivated than field crops.
- Horticulture crops have high water content and are highly perishable.

- Cultural operations like propagation, training, pruning and harvesting are skilled and specific to horticultural crops'
- Horticultural produce are rich source of vitamins and minerals and alkaloids.

DIVISIONS OF HORTICULTURE

- Pomology - Production of edible fruit crops

Olericulture - Production of vegetable crops

- Production of ornamental crops ---Floriculture and Landscaping
- Preservation of horticulture produce for consumption --- Fruit Technology

- Gardening – growing of ornamental plants – outdoor/ indoor
- Arboriculture – growing of tree species in specific locations
- Spices – flavoring food –zinger, clove, pepper etc.,

- Plantation crops – plants in large stretches of lands - coconut, coffee, tea
- Medicinal and aromatic plants – plants used as drugs.
- Nurseries - place where young plants are raised
- Processing industries

- Pomology
- Pomology: is a branch of horticulture which deals with various aspects of fruits starting from rising of saplings, growing them properly and providing various intercultural operations, the term pomology is a combination of two Latin words pome-fruits and logos-culture.
- Mango, lemon, straw berry, grapes

- Olericulture: refers to cultivation of vegetables.