



PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Plant scientists sustain and improve our world as they work in careers connected to foods, fibers, fuels, pharmaceuticals, managed landscapes, and native ecosystems. Students study biology, genetics and biotechnology, ecology, physiology, pests and diseases, and sustainable agriculture. They develop an interdisciplinary perspective on plant science and its applications for managing plants in human and natural systems.

LEARN ABOUT YOURSELF & CAREER OPTIONS

General Skills & Knowledge

Work in this industry requires knowledge in environmental and biological sciences, keen observation of change and patterns, critical thinking and problem-solving skills, and enthusiasm to learn new techniques and ideas.

Explore Career Options with these Resources

- <u>Career Hub: What can I do with a Plant</u> <u>Science major?</u>
- Seed Your Future Careers
- UF Plant Science Major: Career Opportunities

Above average career growth expected for Soil and Plant Scientists, Environmental Restoration Planners, and Precision Agriculture Technicians.





Sample Job Topics and Titles

Natural Systems and Agroecosystems

- Restoration Ecologist
- Environmental Consultant

Food Production

- Sustainable Crop Producer
- Organic Inspector and Certifier

Research and Development

- Plant Breeder or Crop Geneticist
- Plant Pathologist

Landscapes & Greenhouses

- Sports Turf Manager
- Integrated Pest Management Specialist
 <u>Education</u>

AREER

- Agricultural Extension Agent
- Public Gardens Designer

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BUILD EXPERIENCE

Connect with UF Clubs and Organizations

Environmental Horticulture Club, Plant Science Council, UF Native Plant Nursery, Minorities in Agriculture, Natural Resources, and Related Sciences, Field & Fork Campus Food Program, Natural Resources Diversity Initiative, Organic and Sustainable Agriculture Club

For more information, check out GatorConnect.

Engage with Faculty Mentors

Meet with your Plant Science Faculty Mentor at least once a semester for insights into your field of interest, guidance, and support.

PREPARE FOR YOUR NEXT STEPS

Explore Professional Associations

American Society for Horticultural Science, AmericanHort, American Society of Plant Biologists, Ecological Society of America, Florida Nursery, Growers, and Landscape Association, International Society for Plant Pathology, National Association for Plant Breeders, Society for Ecological Restoration

Consider Undergraduate Research

- Read up on what faculty are working on in topics that interest you, and talk with them about opportunities to get involved!
- Check out the Center for Undergraduate Research: https://cur.aa.ufl.edu.
- Explore the NSF Research Experience for Undergraduates opportunities.

Search for Jobs & Internships

There are many search engines that help you find offerings! <u>UF Gator CareerLink</u>, <u>AgCareers</u>, <u>American</u> <u>Phytopathological Society</u>, <u>American Public Gardens Associations</u>, <u>Environmental Education</u>, <u>Science</u> <u>Society</u>, <u>Seed Your Future Jobs Board</u>, <u>Plantae</u>, <u>Society for Conservation Biology</u>, and <u>USA Jobs</u> are just a few. Check out https://plantscience.ifas.ufl.edu/career-opportunities for more!

Career Planning Support

Check out the Career Connections Center <u>Career Hub</u> for resources related to r<u>esumes</u>, <u>cover letters</u>, job and internship <u>search</u> <u>strategies</u>, preparing for <u>interviews</u>, or applying to <u>graduate school</u>.

Sample Employers Recruiting at UF

- Corteva Agriscience
- Costa Farms
- FL Dept. of Environmental Protection
- Land O'Lakes Inc.
- Montana Conservation Corps
- US Dept. of Agriculture
- Yellowstone Landscape

To schedule an appointment with a career coach, visit Gator CareerLink



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