



Ground School Lesson: Intro to diversified vegetable gardening

Aims & Objective:

- Understanding basics of production for vegetable crops
- Grouping common vegetable families to simplify vegetable crop production
- Retrieving gardening knowledge and identifying gaps in knowledge
- Networking with peers to find and share information
- Researching production requirements and best practices for specific vegetable crops
- Reflecting on gaps in knowledge on vegetable crop production
- Composing list of areas you hope to grow and learn during the internship

Learning Experiences

- Introduction to production cycle lettuce and tomatoes
- Create production plan for one vegetable crop

Set intention: 15-20 minute conversation with a question like “What are some things you would need to consider if you were to plant your own garden or begin your own diversified veg system?”

Lecture:

- Read and discuss Kimmerer’s “Epiphany in the beans”
- Read and discuss vegetable families (options below)
 - <https://ucanr.edu/sites/default/files/2013-08/170644.pdf>
 - <https://medina.osu.edu/sites/medina/files/imce/AGNR/Veggie%20Family%20Card%20Final.pdf>
 - <https://www.missouribotanicalgarden.org/Portals/0/Gardening/Gardening%20Help/Factsheets/Vegetable%20Families69.pdf>
- Describe a lettuce production plan
 - What considerations go into planning? Answer the intention question from the beginning with adding considerations the initial discussion didn’t cover.

Activity:

- Make a planting plan in community garden
 - In groups, prioritize and decide what you would like to plant this summer considering time to harvest, space required, and more.



- Examine seed packs and find what you can grow and harvest during your summer here
 - Take notes and reflect on the similarities and differences between plant families
 - Determine criteria to choose crops going into community garden (timing, spacing, high vs low yield, environmental suitability, etc.).
- Plant seeds and make a plan for watering and observing growth

“Walk away thoughts”

- After everything we have learned today, what is a specific topic that you hope to learn more about this summer?
- What considerations of planning a garden did you not think about prior to today?
- As you begin to explore the the local community more, are there any topics or specific systems that you are interested in learning more about?
- How did our activities today relate to the excerpt in Braiding Sweetgrass?
- How confident are you in the collective plan for the community garden?



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