

# Unit A: Understanding Horticulture

## Lesson 1: Exploring the Horticulture Industry

# Terms

- Botany
- Floriculture
- Horticulture
- Horticulture industry
- Horticulture science
- Horticulture technology
- Landscape horticulture
- Nursery
- Olericulture
- Ornamental horticulture
- Pomology

# What is horticulture and how does it relate to science and technology?

- Horticulture involves more than just a beautiful landscape or a bouquet of flowers.

- ***Horticulture*** is the culture of plants for food, comfort, and beautification purposes.



- In Latin, the term horticulture means “garden culture.”
- However, advancements in horticulture science and technology have helped the field of horticulture become more than just garden culture.

- There is a definite relationship between horticulture and science.
- The field of science that deals with the cultivation of horticultural plants is known as ***horticultural science***.
- ***Botany*** is the major scientific area most closely related to horticulture.

- As in other areas of agriculture, technology has found its way into horticulture.
- ***Horticulture technology*** is the application of science to horticulture.
- Successfully raising horticultural plants takes more than just daily watering.

- Time, patience, and an understanding of the scientific processes of plants is needed to grow beautiful plants and flowers.



- The *horticulture industry* is the combination of scientific, technological, and production activities that insure the satisfaction of the consumer.



Evaluating watermelons at MAIL Balkh- weight, Brix, quality (taste), color



# What are the three major segments of the horticulture industry?

- The horticulture industry can be divided into three areas. Each of these areas is unique and includes many career opportunities.



- The growth and use of plants for their beauty is known as ***ornamental horticulture***.
  - Ornamental horticulture involves the production and use of flowering and foliage plants used both indoors and out.



- The area of horticulture that involves the production of vegetable food crops is olericulture.
- **Olericulture** includes the planting, harvesting, storing, processing, and marketing of vegetable crops.
  - Tomatoes, radishes, leek and lettuce are examples of vegetable crops.



- Another food crop production area is pomology.
- Pomology is the planting, harvesting, storing, processing, and marketing of fruit and nut crops.
  - Examples of fruit and nut crops include: apples, peaches, strawberries, almonds and walnuts.



Picture from: <http://www.sas.upenn.edu/~dailey/byfg.html>



Fig variety collection nursery in Kandahar

## How do the segments of the ornamental horticulture industry differ?

- Ornamental horticulture, one of the three major areas of the horticulture industry, can itself be divided into two categories.
- These are floriculture and landscape horticulture.
- Both involve the use of flowering and foliage plants.
  - **Foliage plants** are those use for their colorful greenery or leaves.



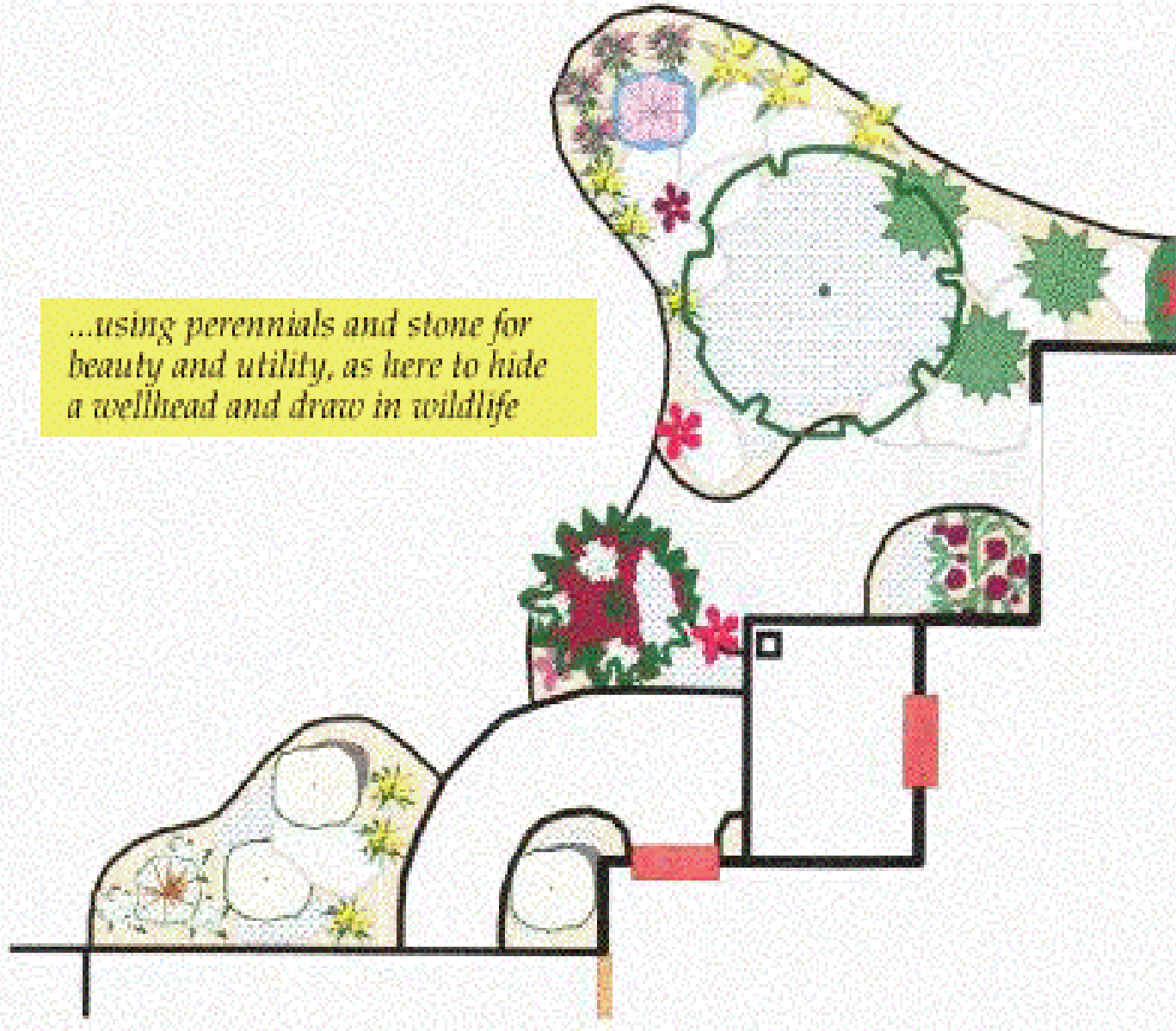
- Floriculture is the area of horticulture associated with cut flowers, potted plants, and annual bedding plants.
- Producing, transporting, and using flowering and foliage plants is known as *floriculture*.



- Before plants are placed in a landscape they are grown and cared for in a ***nursery***.
  - A nursery is a place which specializes in starting plants, shrubs, and ornamental trees which can later be transplanted to landscape areas.
- The production, and use of plants to beautify the environment is ***landscape horticulture***.
  - Landscape horticulture also includes designing landscaping plans and landscape maintenance.



*...using perennials and stone for beauty and utility, as here to hide a wellhead and draw in wildlife*





# Review/Summary

- What is horticulture and how does it relate to science and technology?
- What are the three major segments of the horticulture industry?
- How do the segments of the ornamental horticulture industry differ?