

Grow Your Future

Would you like to...

Provide food that is healthy, safe and plentiful?

Help protect the environment and use our land resources more efficiently?

Discover new research to make food and feed more nutritious?

Be on the cutting edge of technology using the latest in computer modeling, satellites and high-tech lasers?

See the world?

If your answer is YES to any of the above questions, a career in Crop Science may be the right field for you.



Crop Science
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Photos: USDA, ARS IS Photo Unit and The Pennsylvania State University

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Crop Science Society of America



What type of work does a crop scientist do?

Crop scientists identify, interpret and manage crops for agriculture, urban uses and rangeland in an environmentally responsible way. Crop science graduates can choose from a range of excellent professional opportunities and challenging careers.

Crop scientists work for...

- Seed companies
- Life science companies
- Fertilizer industries
- International agriculture
- Commercial farms
- Agriculture cooperatives
- State and federal agencies
- Universities and colleges
- Crop management companies
- Chemical companies



Career Opportunities

Graduates find employment as certified crop consultants, agricultural producers, laboratory technicians and managers, laboratory and field researchers, government and academic research scientists, educators and extension specialists.

Course of Study

For most positions, you will need at least a Bachelor of Science (B.S.) degree or its equivalent. This degree will qualify you, for example, for many industrial positions with seed, fertilizer or farm consulting companies or as a county extension agent.

Numerous positions in teaching, research or extension require training beyond the B.S. degree. Students eligible for advanced work usually receive financial assistance in the form of scholarships, fellowships or assistantships. These students specialize in one or more areas of crop science as they work toward a Master of Science (M.S.) or Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) degree.



What is crop science?

Crop science is the study of growing food, feed and fiber crops. The work involves plants and all the factors that promote their development, such as light, water, temperature, and nutrients, as well as those conditions that inhibit their development including diseases, weeds, and insects.

Crop scientists work in...

- Environmental Quality
- Ecology
- Biotechnology
- Plant Physiology
- Turfgrass Science
- Pest Management
- Genetics
- Plant Breeding
- Molecular Biology
- Seed Science
- Nutrition
- Plant Diseases
- Mathematics & Modeling
- International Development