

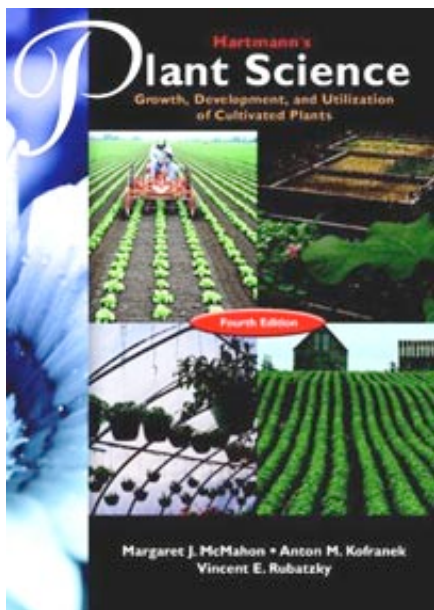


Ohio State HCS News

HORTICULTURE & CROP SCIENCE IN VIRTUAL PERSPECTIVE - THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

hcs.osu.edu/news

OSU Scholars Revise Plant Science Textbook



Thanks to a diverse group of plant science scholars from The Ohio State University, a widely-used plant science textbook has been completely revised. College-level horticulture and agronomy students across the country can expect to be using the 4th Edition of [Hartmann's Plant Science: Growth, Development, and Utilization of Cultivated Plants](#) to learn about the environmental, cultural and social factors that influence how plants are grown and used worldwide.

"Our goal was to make this textbook appropriate for a year-long series of introductory course in plant science," explains [Dr. Peg McMahon](#), who served as lead editor for the project. An associate professor of floriculture in the Ohio State University Horticulture & Crop Science Department, McMahon worked closely with colleagues, Drs. **Michael Knee**, **Jim Metzger** and **John Streeter** to structure the contents of the book in a manner suitable for use in various plant science departments and programs across the United States.

"We asked ourselves what a student needed to know before taking an upper-level course. The result was a major overhaul and reorganization of the content. The 4th edition provides students with a comprehensive textbook that covers the basics of plant science and prepares a student for future courses," said Dr. McMahon.



Dr. Peg McMahon served as lead editor for the revision of the widely-used college textbook, *Hartmann's Plant Science*.

"It was important to make this text appeal to the students who will be relying on it. I asked the writers and editors to author content in a way that was appropriate for our target audience," said Dr. McMahon, who earned her bachelor's degree from Ohio State. "I was very pleased with the efforts of all the contributors. All the writing was appropriate and engaging. The finished product reads as a nearly seamless text."

OSU contributors included numerous Horticulture & Crop Science faculty members. In addition to the writing of Drs. Knee, Metzger and Streeter,

Drs. **Dave Gardner**, **Joe Scheerens**, **Matt Kleinhenz**, **Dave Barker**, **Peter Thomison**, **Rich Pratt**, **David Tay** and **Mark Sulc** all authored portions of the finished product. Other OSU experts who contributed to chapter writing and revision included: Drs. **Mike Boehm**, **Dave Shetlar**, and **Don Eckert**. McMahon also utilized the expertise of Ohio State trained scientists and scholars, Dr. **Gary Bachman**, Dr. **Laura Deeter** and Jerron Schmoll.

With examples from across the disciplines and a user-friendly writing style, McMahon expects students and teachers alike to benefit from the new text. This newest edition of *Hartmann's* cites the most recent statistics, production methods and issues concerning the production and utilization of plants. The book offers students several web-based resources including a free companion website with practice questions and online crop fact sheets that give information at a local level. Along with information on climate and environment, *Hartmann's Plant Science* also explores plants' tremendous economic impact in both developed and developing nations.

Watch a narrated slideshow of this story with additional photos here: [OSU Scholars Revise Plant Science Textbook Slideshow](#). Quicktime software is required to view the slideshow.

Story and web publishing by [Victor van Buchem](#). Photo by Jodi Miller.
Published April 12 2006 - <http://HCS.OSU.EDU>