In its 100th year at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, more than 100 students are enrolled in the Agronomy major. This major requires a broad understanding of plant growth and management, pests, soils, and business practices. It is designed for students who are interested in various agricultural careers.

The five options – integrated crop management, crop production, business, research careers, and soil science – direct students toward specific career objectives.

What kinds of careers are available for students graduating with an Agronomy degree?

Students will pursue many career opportunities including working as farmers, crop consultants, field or lab researchers, soil or water conservationists, farm managers, elevator or co-op managers, educators, farm credit bankers, crop insurance adjusters, plant breeders, agricultural communicators, and seed, fertilizer or chemical sales or technical representatives.

What classes are required in the Agronomy major?

All students in the Agronomy major, no matter what option they select, will take a similar set of core classes. Some of these classes include plant science, resource-efficient crop management, forage crop and range management, soil nutrient relationships, principles of soil management, and a senior capstone class. Course selection is slightly different in each option, with the options often emphasizing a certain area of agronomy. The integrated crop management option emphasizes plant and soil management and crop protection; the business option emphasizes plant and soil management, along with a broad understanding of all agricultural business aspects; the crop production option combines plant, soil and animal management with basic business management and marketing courses; the research careers option concentrates course work in the natural sciences; and the soil science option emphasizes soil, plant nutrition, and ecology.
Internships are an important aspect of a student’s academic career. Usually completed in the summer, internships can help students solidify their career goals or can serve as a way to explore a different area within their major. Each major in the Department of Agronomy and Horticulture requires at least one internship for a grade, but most students complete more than one internship experience. Below are some of the places students interned this past year.

**Horticulture** – Nebraska Forest Service (Plattsmouth, NE), Sunken Gardens (Lincoln, NE), Papio Valley Nursery (Papillion, NE), Denver Botanic Garden (Denver, CO), University of Nebraska-Lincoln Landscape Services (Lincoln, NE), Smithsonian Institution Gardens (Washington, DC)

**Turfgrass and Landscape Management** – 2K Landscape, Design and Installation (Cortland, NE), Newcastle Golf Club (Seattle, WA), Red Sky Golf Club (Wolcott, CO), High Pointe Apartments (Lincoln, NE), University of Nebraska-Lincoln Athletics (Lincoln, NE), Haymarket Park (Lincoln, NE), 3 Ranch Golf Club (Jackson Hole, WY), Shooting Star Golf Club (Jackson Hole, WY), HiMark Golf Course (Lincoln, NE), Hillcrest Golf Club (Lincoln, NE), The Prairie Club (Valentine, NE), Ironhorse Golf Club (Leawood, KS)

**Agronomy** – Pioneer Hi-Bred (York, NE), Simplot Grower Solutions (Hershey, NE), co-ops (NE), Syngenta (Nebraska), Land O’ Lakes (Dodge, NE), University of Nebraska-Lincoln Research (Lincoln, NE), Servi-Tech (Sutton, NE), Norder Agro Supply (Bruning, NE), Appel Crop Consulting (Grant, NE), Monsanto (Waco, NE), Land O’ Lakes (KS and CO)

**Plant Biology** – University of Nebraska-Lincoln Research Labs (Lincoln, NE), Chabot Space and Science Center (Oakland, CA)
Scholarship Funds Available to Students

The Department of Agronomy and Horticulture is fortunate to have several scholarship funds available to help support our students’ academic endeavors. Below is a summary of the awards that were made for the 2010–11 academic year. To be selected, a student must be a full-time student in one of our Department’s four majors – Agronomy, Horticulture, Plant Biology, or Turfgrass and Landscape Management. Scholarship applications are available in February and the scholarships are awarded in May for the next academic year.

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<th>Department of Agronomy and Horticulture Scholarship Awards 2010–11</th>
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“New” Keim Hall

After two and a half years of renovation, the Department of Agronomy and Horticulture moved back into Keim Hall in July. Two new classrooms, a new landscape design studio, and a student lounge area are located in the facility.

Along with the renovation of Keim Hall, the courtyard that is surrounded by Keim and Plant Science Halls received a major renovation. Two student interns completed most of the hardscape – walls, patio, and walkway, while students in this fall’s Introduction to Landscape Management class helped install landscape plants, correct drainage problems, build a retaining wall and complete detail work around the pond. During the summer, students in the Build Ponds and Bioswales class installed a RainXchange system. This system utilizes water captured off the roof to keep the pond filled and as supplemental irrigation source for watering the plants in the courtyard.
Student Experiences  Plant Sales that Fund Horticulture Trips

Each year the Horticulture Club has three plant sales—poinsettias in December, foliage plants in September, and bedding plants in April. Students are responsible for selecting plants, planting and/or transplanting, watering, fertilizing, marketing, and other details that go along with each sale. Proceeds from these sales help support horticulture trips each spring and fall. This fall, students in the club spent four days in Connecticut and New York visiting different horticultural venues. This included Gouveia Vineyard and wine processing facility; Lyman Apple Orchard, bakery and golf course; White Flower Farm, perennial and woody ornamental nursery and mail order; Sunrise (horticultural) Marketing; and Lyndon Lyons Greenhouses, grower of specialty bred African violets. A trip to Council Bluffs, IA is planned for spring semester to visit an operating organic vegetable farm.

For more information about undergraduate programs in our Department, contact Anne Streich, at astreich2@unl.edu or (402) 472–1640.