

FPP Vocabulary Review-Study Guide

Plant Biology and Physiology	
Anther	The upper part of a stamen that produces pollen
Cladophyll	A flattened, green, photosynthetic stem that resembles and functions as a leaf. Ex. Asparagus.
Complete Flower	A flower that contains all 4 main floral parts-sepals, petals, stamens and pistils.
Dormancy	Cyclic period when a plant rests and its growth processes greatly slow down. It starts in many species by the approach of winter as days grow shorter and temperatures begin to drop. The period ends in the spring when the plant is exposed to higher temperatures.
Evaporation	The process where water is absorbed in roots travels to the leaves and escapes as vapor through stomates in the leaves.
Flower	The seed-bearing plant's reproduction organ.
Gas Exchange	Diffusion of oxygen and carbon dioxide through leaf stomata supporting photosynthesis and respiration.
Imperfect Flower	Flower that lacks both male (anther) and female (pistil) parts within the same structure.
Incomplete Flower	A flower that lacks any of the 4 main floral parts-sepals, petals, stamens and pistils.
Leaf Modification-Bract	Specialized, leaf-like structure associated with flowers, that attract pollinators by appearing as bright, colorful petals. Ex. Poinsettia.
Margin	Perimeter edge of a leaf blade, commonly used for plant identification, classification, and adaptations.
Nitrogen	Vital nutrient for plant growth serving as a core component for photosynthesis, amino acids and proteins.
Node	A joint or point where a branch, bud or leaf meets the stem from which it develops
Nutrient Deficiency	Stunted growth, color changes, or other abnormal growth habits caused by lack of a particular nutrient. Often treatable by correcting pH, fertilization, or adjusting irrigation.
Palmate Leaf Arrangement	Multiple veins or leaflets radiating from a single common point at the base of the leaf blade.
Perfect Flower	Flower that contains both male (anther) and female (pistil) parts within the same structure.
Petals	Modified leaves that are often colored and/or scented surrounding a plant reproductive organ.

pH	The term used in expressing acidity or alkalinity
Phosphorus	An essential element contained in every living cell, it promotes rapid growth, hastens maturity, and stimulates flower, seed and fruit production.
Photosynthesis	The manufacture of carbohydrates from carbon dioxide and water in the presence of chlorophyll.
Pinnate Leaf Arrangement	Leaflets arranged in two rows on opposite sides of a central stalk, or rachis, resembling a feather.
Pistil	The female part of a flower comprised of the stigma, style, and ovary.
Pollination	The transfer of pollen from the stamens to the pistils.
Potassium	A mineral that stimulates the growth of strong stems, imparts resistance to disease, necessary to form starch, sugar, and oil and transfer them through plants.
Respiration	Process where plants break down glucose using oxygen to produce energy for growth.
Rhizome	An underground stem, sending up leafy shoots from the upper surface and emitting roots from the lower side.
Sepals	One of the lower flower parts, often green and leaf like, but colored like the petals in some species.
Simple Leaf Arrangement	Leaf that is comprised of a single, undivided blade attached to a twig by a petiole.
Stamen	The male (pollen) reproductive organ of the flower.
Stolon	A horizontal above ground stem from the base of a plant that produces new plants from buds at its tip.
Stomata	Pore like structure located primarily on the lower leaf that provide for gas and water vapor exchange between the leaf and outside environment
Transpiration	Process where plants release water vapor in the atmosphere, primarily through stomates in the leaves.
Tuber	An underground stem that becomes thickened with the accumulation of food materials. Ex. Potato.

Plant ID

Alternate Arrangement	Single leaf attaches to the stem at each node, with leaves alternating sides of the stem.
Annual	A plant living one year or less.
Biennial	Perennial plants that produce a rosette of leaves the first year of its life, then flowers, fruit, and seeds in the second year and then dies. Ex. Carrot
Binomial System	A system of naming plants using two names, the first name is the genus and the second name is the specific epithet.

Common Name	The plant name used by the general public, as distinguished from the botanical and scientific name.
Deciduous	Plants that shed all of their leaves at the end of the growing season and remain leafless during the winter or dormant periods.
Evergreen	A plant that holds a portion of its green leaves all year long,
Glabrous	Botanical term that describes plant parts that are smooth, hairless(, and/or that lack trichomes (hairs) or scales.
Herbaceous	A plant described as having a soft, non woody stem that dies down at the end of each growing season.
Leaf Arrangement	Pattern of leaves on a stem.
Opposite Arrangement	Two leaves growing directly across from one another at the same node on the plant stem.
Parallel Veins	Patterns where veins run parallel to each other.
Perennial	A plant that continues to live from year to year, in cold climates, the tops may die back to the ground, but the roots and rhizomes persist.
Pubescent	Term used to describe leaves covered with tiny, fine hairs known as trichomes, often giving the plant a soft, fuzzy, or velvety texture.
Succulent	Plants with parts that are often thickened, fleshy, and engorged to retain water in arid climates or dry conditions.
Whorled Arrangement	When three or more leaves emerge from a single node, radiating outwards like spokes on a wheel.
Woody	Often refers to a plant that produces wood/stiff structures as its structural tissue or support system.

Turf

Cool Season Grasses	Grasses that grow best between 60-75 degrees F and often go dormant in warmer temperatures.
Sod	Section of grass-covered surface held together by matted roots.
Warm Season Grasses	Heat loving plants that thrive between 80–95-degree F and often going dormant during cooler periods.

Landscaping

Accent Plantings	Eye-catching plants used to create focal points.
Engineer Scale	Specialized ruler used to create precise site plans, mapping large outdoor areas to a manageable size on paper. Engineers scale uses decimal ratios.
Focalization	Use of shapes, textures, and colors in surrounding elements to draw attention to a focal point in the landscape.

Foundation Plantings	Shrubs, perennials, and small trees often placed near a home or buildings foundation to soften hard lines, conceal foundations, and enhance the curb appeal.
Line Plantings	Often planted along fences and property lines to create privacy, soften harsh structures, and add color.
Mass Plantings	Grouping multiple plants of the same variety together to fill a space to create high impact and low maintenance space.
Proportion	The size relationship between landscape plantings and their surroundings; plants, hardscapes, structures etc. Ensuring a harmonious environment.
Rhythm	Repetition of plants in a landscape.
Scale	Refers to the size relationship between the landscape elements and fixed objects like the structure or person.

Nursery Industry

Ball & Burlap (B&B)	Plants prepared for transplanting by digging them with a ball of soil surrounding the roots. The ball of soil is then wrapped in burlap or similar mesh fabrics.
Banding/Side Dressing (Fertilizing)	Placement of a concentrated strip of nutrients near a row of crops. Typically, 2" below and 2" beside a seed.
Bare root (BR)	Plants typically dug in the winter or early spring when the plants are dormant, have their roots cleaned and trimmed, and are protected from drying out until the time they can be planted.
Container Grown	Plant materials grown above ground in a container.
Field Grown	Plant material grown in soil in the ground.
Foliar Spray (Fertilizing)	Spraying of liquid fertilizer on the leaves of the plant.
Guying	Stabilizing a newly planted tree by using cables or wires to connect the stem to the anchors.
Hardscape	The non-living structural elements of a landscape such as patios, driveways, retaining walls, etc. made of stone, brick, concrete or wood.
Irrigation	The supply of water to land, crops, or lawns to help with growth.
Retail	Commonly refers to a business that sells plants, gardening tools, soil, fertilizers, and related goods directly to consumers.
Seasonal	Timed and specialized events, often correlated to seasons, in which appropriate plants are highlighted or sold. Ex. Poinsettia at Christmas, Chrysanthemums in the Fall, etc.
Wholesale Nursery	Nurseries who do not sell or market to the public, but rather to contractors, retailers, and landscapers who purchase in bulk.

Pesticides

Aerosols	Convenient, ready to use bug sprays that provide immediate and targeted control of insects.
Dusts	Dry, ready to use insecticides formulations.
Emulsifiable Concentrates (EC)	Liquid pesticide formulations comprised of an active ingredient, active ingredient, organic solvent, and an emulsifier, which creates a milky substance when mixed with water.
General Use Pesticides	Pesticides that can be purchased without a state issued pesticide. Often found at hardware stores, retail stores, or garden centers.
Modes of Action	Refers to the specific biochemical or physiological process through which an active ingredient kills or controls the target pest.
Pesticide Signal Words	Danger, Warning and Caution-Used to quickly identify the risk to the user is ingested, inhaled, or absorbed.
PPE-Personal Protection Equipment	Equipment designed to minimize the exposure of applicators to hazardous chemicals. Ex. Coveralls, chemical resistant gloves, footwear, respirators, and goggles.
Restricted Use Pesticides	Pesticides that require a state issued pesticide license to be purchased.
Signal Word	Words that indicate the pesticides acute, short-term toxicity to humans, ranging from slightly toxic to highly toxic. CAUTION, WARNING, DANGER & DANGER-POISON (From slightly toxic to highly toxic)
Soluble Powders	Dry pesticide formulations that dissolve completely in water creating a solution rather than a suspension.