Multimedia Instrument for Greenhouse Education: Designing for User Needs and Higher-Order Thinking

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In the United States, the greenhouse industry covers more than 15,000 acres and is supported by a diverse number of firms with employee expertise that includes greenhouse manufacturing, engineering, irrigation, horticulture, IPM, sales, marketing, and business management. The greenhouse industry is in need of highly trained undergraduates that are skilled in higher-order thinking that integrates the scientific and business concepts necessary to be competitive in today’s agricultural marketplace. Using a multidisciplinary approach, we are creating a multimedia instrument for utilization in a variety of greenhouse related courses. This open access repository will be publicly available on the Internet. To ensure that vision matched need, courses offered throughout the U.S. at 1862, 1890, and 1994 land grant institutions were identified. Instructors located during this review were asked to complete an on-line survey concerning the development of this instrument. Survey results ……. Deliverables on this project include interactive Flash based greenhouse science modules, user-customizable website, and image gallery.