



College of Agriculture and Life Sciences
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PRESS RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: October 17, 2011
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“Controlled Environment Agriculture (CEA) for Food Production and Environmental Stewardship”

The University of Arizona Controlled Environment Agriculture Center (CEAC) 2012 Short Course will focus on Controlled Environment Agriculture for food production within traditional rural and non-traditional urban farms, with special concerns for water, energy use and environmental stewardship.

Monday, AZ October 17, 2012: The University of Arizona’s Controlled Environment Agriculture Center (CEAC) presents the 2012 Crop Production & Engineering Design Short Course on April 9-13, 2012 at the Westward Look resort. Special Guest Speaker: Dr. James Rakocy, Worldwide Aquaponics Specialist.

Communities throughout the world are growing. Access to fresh, affordable and safe food is diminishing. The 2012 Short Course continues the success and privilege of annually presenting viable solutions to these mounting crises. Controlled Environment Agriculture (CEA) is the production of plants and their products, such as vegetables and fruit, inside structures such as greenhouses. By using CEA, one can produce high value crops at maximum productivity in an efficient and environmentally friendly way.

Participants of the Short Course learn the most current and innovative strategies used in developing and maintaining successful CEA greenhouse systems. For two days, Hydroponics, a method of growing plants using mineral nutrient solutions, in water, without soil, is the primary focus.

Then, CEAC welcomes Special Guest Speaker, James Rakocy, Ph.D., Worldwide Aquaponics Specialist as part of a full day session focused on Aquaponics. Aquaponics is a sustainable food production system that combines a traditional aquaculture (raising animals such as fish or prawns in tanks) with hydroponics (growing plants in water) in a symbiotic environment.

On the final day of the Short Course, breakout workshops on-site at CEAC successfully connect theory and information with practical hands-on experience for each participant.

For more Short Course details and information, visit our website at <http://ag.arizona.edu/ceac> or contact Liz MacLellan at 520-626-9566 lizmac@email.arizona.edu

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If you'd like more information, to schedule an interview or to learn more about the role of CEAC in our community, please contact Liz MacLellan at 520-626-9566 or lizmac@email.arizona.edu

CEAC’s Mission is to: Expand the science, technology, engineering and practical application of CEA while optimizing the use of water, energy, labor, land and other resources; **Extend** the knowledge of CEA to students, growers, faculty, governments, international non-governmental organizations, financiers and CEAC’s constituent industries and **Demonstrate** that our research can resolve CEA plant production challenges such as harsh conditions, scarce resources, and societal concerns with educational applications of CEA technology.