CEAC Hosts Annual Greenhouse Short Course

The 14th edition of the Greenhouse Crop Production & Engineering Design Short Course was held from March 22 – 27 in the beautiful mountainous desert of Tucson, AZ. Attendees from all over the world arrived in Tucson for a one of a kind weeklong educational experience on Controlled Environment Agriculture. There were on-site attendees from Nigeria, Japan, Colombia, Canada, Mexico, Puerto Rico, and all over the US, while Webcast attendees chimed and watched lectures from as far as Egypt, Sweden, and the United Kingdom.

The Short Course featured new lectures this year on Greenhouse Food Safety, Alternative Energy Integrated CEA Systems, and a talk on their experiences as successful greenhouse growers from Phyllis and Wayne Underwood (seen right) of Shushan Hydro Farms in New York. We were also very excited this year to welcome back Todd and Tricia McPhail to the short course for the fourth time. The McPhail’s (seen left) own and operate McPhail Farms in Washington State and continue to come back to Tucson to learn and share their experiences. We thank both of these inspiring couples for coming out to Tucson and sharing their knowledge of the business.

Dates Set For 2016 CEAC Public Short Courses

The Controlled Environment Agriculture is happy to announce the dates for next year’s annual public short courses. The 6th annual Hydroponic Tomato Intensive Course will be held at the CEAC in Tucson from January 3 - 8, 2016, while the 15th annual Greenhouse Crop Production & Engineering Design Short Course will be from March 20 - 25, 2016 in Tucson. Additional information on the CEAC public courses can be found on our website at: http://ag.arizona.edu/ceac/public-courses, with more content being updated regularly.

Students of the week long Tomato Intensive will receive a blend of classroom and hands-on time in a hydroponic greenhouse in order to successfully grow tomatoes and like crops on their own. The Intensive features useful events such as a round table discussion with greenhouse engineers, where students can ask questions regarding their greenhouse design and operations, and a special guest lecture by CEA legend, Dr. Merle Jensen.

The Greenhouse Short Course includes 3 full days of in class lectures on a variety of CEA topics including both growing and engineering topics, a hands-on workshops day, and an optional commercial greenhouse tour. Details of the 2015 Greenhouse Short Course can be seen in the article to your left.

If you have any questions or would like more information about one of the courses, feel free to give Aaron Tevik a call at 520-626-9566 or write him an email at atevik@cals.arizona.edu.
On Thursday March 26th, the Short Course came to the CEAC campus for hands-on workshops. New workshops and demonstrations for the 2015 course included a grafting demonstration by Dr. Chieri Kubota (seen left) and an advanced fertigation system demonstration given by Ad de Koning of Hortimax (seen right).

The Short Course ended on Friday March 27th with a trip to the Phoenix area for a commercial greenhouse tour of Abby Lee Farms. We are very thankful to 2014 Greenhouse Short Course attendee Neal Brooks and his colleague Willem Doleman for opening up their doors and being so willing to talk about and answer questions on their experiences in growing crops and running a business. The commercial greenhouse tour serves as a great opportunity for students to take all of the knowledge they learned throughout the week and see what it look like when it is put into practice.

Lastly, we want to thank the Short Course Sponsors and Exhibitors for helping to make this course possible. A special thank you to our Platinum Sponsor Beaver Plastics and our Gold Sponsor Hort Americas. I also want to thank our exhibitors, Beaver Plastics, AgraTech, Rough Brothers, HortiMax, Argus Controls, Nexus Greenhouse Corp., and ProCoco, for being additional experts that our attendees could talk to and find helpful information.

A Special Thank You to Our Short Course Sponsors & Exhibitors:

- **Beaver Plastics**
  - [www.bpgrower.com](http://www.bpgrower.com)

- **Hort Americas**
  - [www.hortamericas.com](http://www.hortamericas.com)

- **Agra Tech Inc.**
  - [www.agratech.com](http://www.agratech.com)

- **Rough Brothers, Inc.**
  - [www.roughbros.com](http://www.roughbros.com)

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  - [www.arguscontrols.com](http://www.arguscontrols.com)

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  - [www.hortimax.com](http://www.hortimax.com)

- **ProCoco**
  - [www.prococo.com](http://www.prococo.com)

- **Nexus Greenhouse Corp.**
  - [www.nexuscorp.com](http://www.nexuscorp.com)

Announcements: To learn more about the short courses and CEAC activities, please visit our website at [http://ag.arizona.edu/ceac/public-courses](http://ag.arizona.edu/ceac/public-courses) or email Aaron Tevik at atevik@cals.arizona.edu.


- Please also follow the CEAC Twitter Page: [https://twitter.com/arizonaceac](https://twitter.com/arizonaceac) or [@ArizonaCEAC](https://twitter.com/arizonaceac)