

Pioneering Milestones in Horticulture

Horticulture · Practice Test · 15 Questions

1. Who is credited with inventing the Wardian case in 1829, a glass container that revolutionized the global transport of live plants?

- A) Nathaniel Bagshaw Ward
- B) Joseph Dalton Hooker
- C) Carl Linnaeus
- D) Gregor Mendel

2. In 1676, who published 'The Vegetable Staticks', widely considered the first book dedicated to plant physiology and the study of sap pressure?

- A) Jan Ingenhousz
- B) Stephen Hales
- C) Robert Hooke
- D) Nehemiah Grew

3. Which English gardener and nurseryman invented the modern lawnmower in 1827, originally intending it for use on sports pitches and large gardens?

- A) Thomas Green
- B) Edwin Budding
- C) Alexander Shanks
- D) James Ransome

4. What was the first commercially successful synthetic plant growth regulator discovered in the 1930s, revolutionizing fruit thinning and rooting?

- A) Indole-3-butyric acid
- B) Gibberellic acid
- C) Ethylene
- D) Absciscic acid

5. Who successfully performed the first recorded experiment demonstrating that light is necessary for photosynthesis in 1779?

- A) Joseph Priestley
- B) Jan Ingenhousz
- C) Jean Senebier
- D) Nicolas-Théodore de Saussure

6. The 'Knopp's Solution', developed in 1865, was a landmark in horticulture because it was the first standardized formula for what technique?

- A) Hydroponics
- B) Tissue culture
- C) Grafting
- D) Soil sterilization

7. In 1902, Gottlieb Haberlandt pioneered plant biotechnology by being the first to attempt what practice?

- A) Genetic modification
- B) Cell culture/totipotency
- C) Clonal propagation
- D) Cross-pollination

8. Which company introduced the first commercial peat-based potting mix (soil-less medium) in the 1960s, drastically changing nursery production?

- A) Scotts Miracle-Gro
- B) Fisons
- C) Jiffy Products
- D) Osmocote

9. Who was the first person to scientifically describe the process of 'double fertilization' in angiosperms in 1898?

- A) Sergei Navashin
- B) Leon Guignard
- C) Hugo de Vries
- D) Luther Burbank

10. The first practical greenhouse, utilizing glass panes to maintain temperature, is historically attributed to the gardening staff of which monarch?

- A) Louis XIV of France
- B) Henry VIII of England
- C) Catherine the Great of Russia
- D) Frederick the Great of Prussia

11. What 1948 invention by Frederick W. Went allowed for the precise measurement of plant hormone activity, specifically auxins?

- A) The Avena curvature test
- B) The gas chromatograph
- C) The mass spectrometer
- D) The centrifuge

12. In the history of plant breeding, who was the first to intentionally create a hybrid by crossing two different species of plants in 1717?

- A) Thomas Fairchild
- B) Gregor Mendel
- C) Carl Linnaeus
- D) John Ray

13. The first patent ever issued for a plant under the 1930 Plant Patent Act in the United States was for which type of fruit?

- A) A thornless rose
- B) A semi-dwarf apple
- C) An ever-bearing strawberry
- D) A navel orange

14. Who identified the first plant virus, the Tobacco Mosaic Virus, in 1892, a breakthrough that transformed plant pathology?

- A) Dmitri Ivanovsky
- B) Martinus Beijerinck
- C) Wendell Stanley
- D) Louis Pasteur

15. Which 19th-century horticultural invention used a system of heated pipes and steam to create the first industrial-scale forced-air heating for conservatories?

- A) The Paxton boiler
- B) The Watt engine
- C) The Hartley heating system
- D) The McPhail boiler