

Pioneers and Milestones in Horticulture

Horticulture · Practice Test · 20 Questions

1. Who is widely considered the 'Father of Taxonomy' for developing the binomial nomenclature system used in horticulture today?

- A) Gregor Mendel
- B) Carl Linnaeus
- C) Luther Burbank
- D) Liberty Hyde Bailey

2. In 1829, Nathaniel Bagshaw Ward accidentally invented the 'Wardian Case', which was a precursor to what modern horticultural invention?

- A) The hydroponic tray
- B) The greenhouse climate controller
- C) The terrarium
- D) The automated misting system

3. Which 19th-century botanist and plant breeder is famous for developing the Russet Burbank potato?

- A) Luther Burbank
- B) John Bartram
- C) Thomas Andrew Knight
- D) Frederick Law Olmsted

4. What was the primary purpose of the 'Orangery' structures first popularized in 17th-century Europe?

- A) To display exotic flower species
- B) To protect citrus trees from frost
- C) To cross-breed tropical fruits
- D) To experiment with soil-less cultivation

5. Which scientist is credited with discovering the laws of inheritance through his experiments with pea plants?

- A) Charles Darwin
- B) Gregor Mendel
- C) Joseph Dalton Hooker
- D) Carl Linnaeus

6. The first successful large-scale use of hydroponics in a commercial setting was pioneered by William Frederick Gericke at which institution in the 1930s?

- A) University of California, Berkeley
- B) Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew
- C) Harvard University
- D) Cornell University

7. Who is credited with the invention of the mechanical lawnmower in 1827?

- A) Edwin Budding
- B) Thomas Green
- C) James Sumner
- D) William Davis

8. What is the name of the first horticultural society in the world, founded in London in 1804?

- A) The Linnean Society
- B) The Royal Horticultural Society
- C) The Botanical Society of America
- D) The Chelsea Physic Garden Society

9. The 'Kokedama' technique, where a plant's root system is wrapped in moss and bound with string, originated in which country?

- A) China
- B) Japan
- C) Thailand
- D) Vietnam

10. Which historical horticultural site, established in 1673, is one of the oldest botanical gardens in the United Kingdom?

- A) Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew
- B) Chelsea Physic Garden
- C) Cambridge University Botanic Garden
- D) Oxford Botanic Garden

11. The invention of the 'seed drill' in 1701, which revolutionized planting efficiency, is attributed to whom?

- A) Jethro Tull
- B) Charles Townshend
- C) Robert Bakewell
- D) Arthur Young

12. What botanical discovery did Joseph Banks make during his 1768 voyage on the HMS Endeavour that significantly influenced Australian horticulture?

- A) The discovery of the Eucalyptus genus
- B) The introduction of the weeping willow
- C) The identification of Proteaceae species
- D) The first classification of Banksia

13. Which chemical was the first to be widely used as a synthetic plant hormone to stimulate root growth?

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

14. Who is known for the creation of the 'Grafting' technique described in the 'Georgics' by Virgil?

- A) The Ancient Romans
- B) The Sumerians
- C) The Mayans
- D) The Incas

15. The 'Chelsea Flower Show' held its first event in which year?

- A) 1888
- B) 1913
- C) 1925
- D) 1945

16. Which famous landscape architect designed the 'Central Park' in New York City, introducing the concept of the 'Greensward Plan'?

- A) Frederick Law Olmsted
- B) André Le Nôtre
- C) Capability Brown
- D) Gertrude Jekyll

17. What was the main horticultural contribution of the 'Green Revolution' led by Norman Borlaug?

- A) The development of high-yield cereal grains
- B) The invention of drip irrigation
- C) The discovery of mycorrhizal fungi
- D) The creation of the first GMO flower

18. The 'Wardian Case' was instrumental in the 19th century for the successful long-distance transport of which commodity?

- A) Tea plants
- B) Cacao seeds
- C) Orchids
- D) All of the above

19. Which garden style, characterized by symmetry and order, was perfected by André Le Nôtre at the Palace of Versailles?

- A) Japanese Zen garden
- B) French Formal garden
- C) English Landscape garden
- D) Italian Renaissance garden

20. The 'Munsell Color System' is a standard tool used in horticulture primarily for what purpose?

- A) Classifying leaf shapes
- B) Measuring soil color
- C) Identifying petal pigments
- D) Determining fruit ripeness