



DELAWARE VALLEY COLLEGE

CAPSTONE GUIDELINES

EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM FINAL REQUIREMENTS

ORNAMENTAL HORTICULTURE: NURSERY

Student Name _____

Date of Work Experience _____

Name of Nursery _____

Address _____

Supervisor _____

1. What is a nursery?
2. What kind of nursery stock did your employer produce?
3. What is the difference between a wholesale nursery, retail nursery, and landscape nursery?
4. Briefly describe the duties you performed in the nursery.

Since most nurseries involve propagation, growing, and selling of plants, please relate the following questions to the nursery operation of which you were an employee.

1. Propagation
 - a) List at least five types of plants grown by the nursery.
 - b) Describe propagation facilities at the nursery (greenhouse, etc.).
 - c) What type of media was used for propagating the plants?
 - d) Describe the procedure used in handling cuttings from the stock plants to the propagation bench.
 - e) Outline the procedure followed for potting or planting the cuttings after they were rooted.
2. Growing
 - a) Container production
 - i) Describe the procedure used in potting of nursery stock.
 - ii) What type(s) of media was used in the containers?
 - iii) Briefly explain how the plants were fertilized.
 - iv) List the pesticides used to control insects, diseases and weeds. Describe how often each type of pesticide (insecticide, fungicide, and herbicide) was used.
 - b) Field production
 - i) Describe how the soil was prepared before planting the trees and/or shrubs.
 - ii) Describe the procedure used in "lining out" the nursery stock.

- iii) How often were the plants fertilized? List the various kinds of fertilizers utilized and the method used in their application.
- iv) Briefly describe how the weeds were controlled. If herbicides were used, tell how they were applied.
- v) List and describe any other cultural practice you may have performed such as pruning, rototilling, root pruning, irrigation, etc.

3. **Selling**

- a) How did the nursery determine its price for their nursery stock?
- b) Were the plants graded? If so, describe the procedure used.
- c) Briefly describe how the plants were prepared for shipping.
- d) What were some of the characteristics you observed that contributed to good management practices?