Techniques & Styles of Horticulture
Various Terms Associated With the Green Industry

1. **Horticulture**  The Art & Science of raising and using plants and managing the land in a sustainable way.

2. **Conventional Horticulture**  A style of horticulture which arose post WW II that emphasizes synthetic, manufactured and packaged products that influence plant growth and responses.

3. **Organic/Natural Horticulture**  Limits the use of horticultural products and supplies from natural sources: PLANT, ANIMAL & MINERAL origins. Emphasized are mechanical methods and organic products with only slightly altered forms, i.e. oil sprays. Pesticides are limited to natural products. Before WW II, “Organic” was virtually the only way to proceed.

4. **Sustainable Horticulture**  A contemporary approach to horticulture that emphasizes organic/natural approaches and allows an integrated meshing of ideas with synthesized chemicals used sparingly or relegated to the “last resort.” High Tech & Low Tech are encouraged to create a long-term viable result. Short-Term techniques that impact the environment negatively and thwart the biodynamic continuum are rejected.

   **Sustainable Horticulture Equation**
   
   "THE RIGHT STUFF"

   the RIGHT PLANT
   in the RIGHT PLACE
   in the RIGHT SOIL
   with the RIGHT SPACING
   with the RIGHT CARE
   all at the RIGHT TIME

5. **Biodynamic Horticulture**  A sophisticated approach that customizes and adapts the horticulture scheme to its unique site and unique conditions.

   1. This method “farms” or develops the soil initially.
   2. Macro- & Micro-organic diversity is encouraged.
   3. Plants are selected to adapt to the soil, the site’s microclimates and microzones and topographical contours.
   4. Cover Crops, Crop Rotation, Companion Planting, Mulching, Compost Techniques, Recycling, Herb Catalysts, Animal Manures are incorporated, in tandem into this system.
   5. Plant & Animal symbiotics are meshed. Domestic and naturally occurring flora and fauna are meshed. Humans are the mega-fauna and orchestrate the various systems, eventually coaxing the operation into being as self-sustaining as possible.
   6. A self-contained, self-sustaining horticultural system is the goal, marketability is based upon real situations and adhere to the strict requirements of biodynamics. A twelve month, four season balance is encouraged. C.S.A. (Community Supported Agriculture) may be a business strategy that certain regions incorporated into this horticulture philosophy.
   7. The garden, landscape, farm or ranch is one organism with its component parts.

6. **Permaculture** (Permanent Agriculture), generally is a large-scaled master plan (a whole system community), having a conscious design and maintenance agenda of an agriculturally productive assemblage of natural and managed eco-systems. Diversity, resilience, and stability between the planned landscape, natural habitats, and people are interwoven. Providing food, energy and shelter and social or community order, by promoting a long-term sustainability and stability, is the goal.

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