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| **Central Lakes College, Staples Campus 2022-2023**  **Specialty Crops Management**  **Diploma (D141)** | Technical Requirements 33  Electives 11  **Total Credits 44** |
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**Program Description**

Education for the Specialty Crops Management program is primarily delivered at the business of the student. This individualized instruction allows the instructor to design an educational program that specifically addresses the student's needs and can be delivered at the most appropriate time. Education is also delivered through annual meetings, where students are able to meet each other and through monthly newsletters, phone calls, and personal email.

**Program Outcomes**

By completing this program, students will achieve the following learning outcomes:

* Apply the basic principles of Integrated Pest Management as it relates to their farm operation.
* Know the agronomic needs of your farm operation.
* Identify the most profitable market channel to increase revenue on their farm operation.
* Identify and choose appropriate types of risk management for their farm operation.

**Program Admissions Requirements**

The program is open to any fruit or vegetable grower in the state of Minnesota who wants to participate in the program.

**Career Opportunities**

Students enrolled in the Specialty Crops Management Diploma program include people who want to make their living growing and selling fruits and vegetables, as well as those who want to supplement their income. Roughly one third of the students in the program are supplementing their retirement income. Demand for locally grown fruits and vegetables is increasing rapidly. There is a good future for small acreage landowners who want to earn money by growing fruits and vegetables.

**Program Course Requirements**

SCMT 1110 System Goal Setting 2 cr  
SCMT 1111 Introduction to Specialty Crops 2 cr  
SCMT 1112 Introduction to Financial Planning  
 Analysis 2 cr  
SCMT 1114 Marketing of Specialty Crops 2 cr  
SCMT 1116 Introduction to Soils and Plant Growth 2 cr  
SCMT 1117 Pest Identification and Control 2 cr  
  
SCMT 1121 Fertilizer Selection, Handling Application 2 cr  
SCMT 1124 Irrigation Planning and Management 2 cr  
SCMT 1135 Labor, Risk and Tax Management 2 cr  
SCMT 2125 Advertising and Customer Relations 2 cr  
SCMT 2127 Advanced Financial Planning and  
 Analysis 2 cr  
SCMT 2131 Advanced Soils and Plant Nutrition cr  
SCMT 2132 Advanced Marketing Strategies 2 cr  
SCMT 2136 Advanced Pest Identification and  
 Control cr  
  
SCMT 2200 Current Issues in Specialty Crop  
 Marketing 1 cr  
SCMT 2334 Value Added Opportunities for  
 Specialty Crops 2 cr

**Semester Course Requirements**

Individual semester plans are determined between instructor/advisor and student to best meet the needs of the student.

**Course Prerequisites**

Some courses may require appropriate test scored or completion of basic math, basic English and/or reading courses with a “C” or better. CLC utilizes a multiple measure approach for placement which may include high school MCA, SAT, ACT scores in addition to high school GPAs. For insurance purposes, internships may require that students be 18 years old.

**Graduation Requirements**

In addition to the program requirements, students must meet the following conditions in order to graduate:

1. College Cumulative GPA Requirement: cumulative grade point average (GPA) of credits attempted and completed at CLC must be at least 2.0;
2. College Technical Core GPA Requirement: cumulative GPA of credits attempted and completed towards the technical core of the diploma or degree must be at least 2.0;
3. Residency Requirement: students must complete 25% of their credits at Central Lakes College.