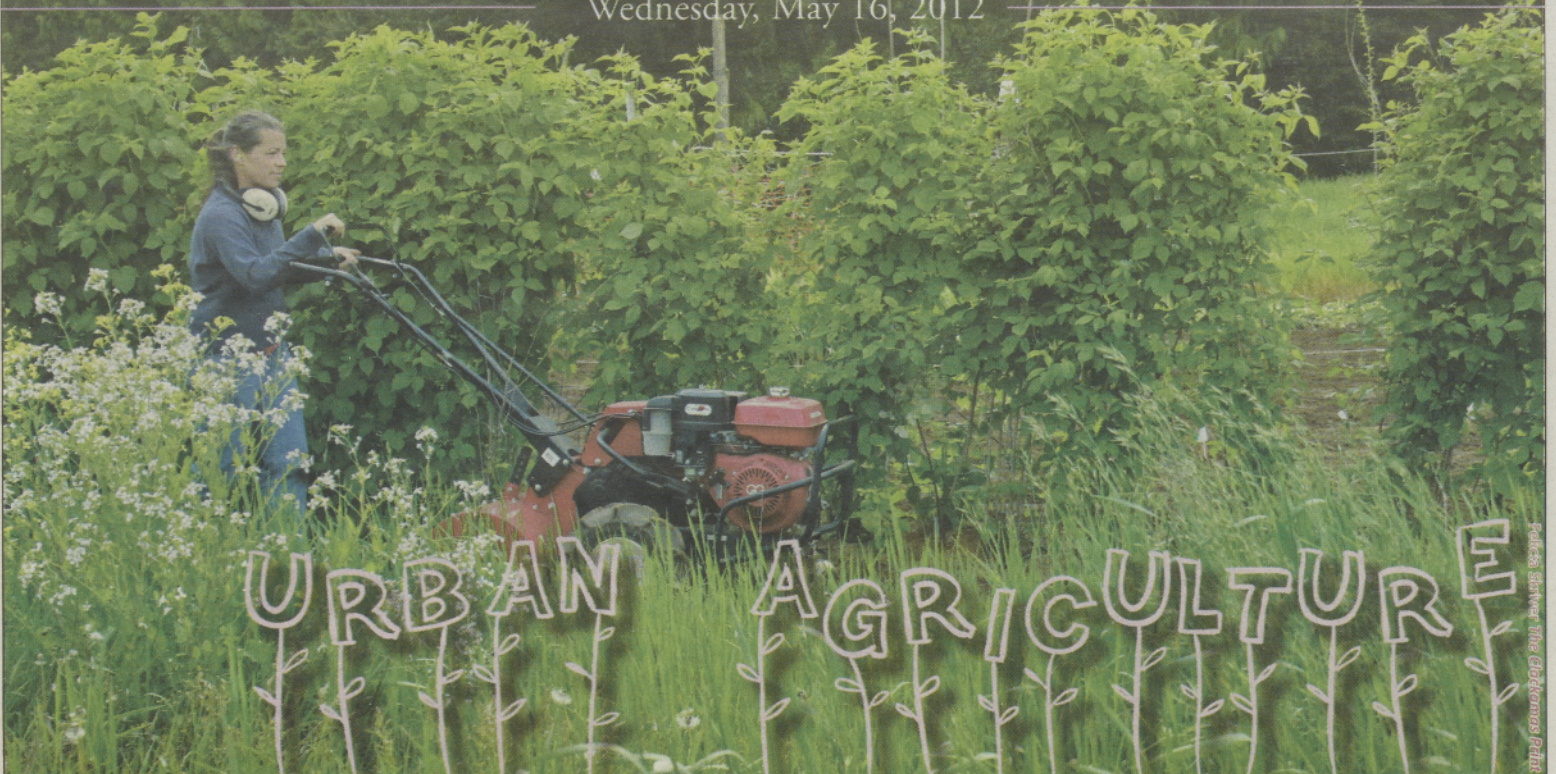


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Photos: Shaver, The Clackamas Print

Horticulture student Tonia Lordy operates a rototiller to break up the hard packed soil in the Community Gardens, near the Campus Services building. The Board of Education approved the college's urban agriculture program — the first in the state — in April.

By Felicia Skriver
The Clackamas Print

City farming and playing in the dirt come to Claimont and its expansive new urban garden plot. The new Urban Agriculture certificate being offered at the college is exclusive to CCC's Horticulture Department. State certifica-

tion has boosted the value of completion in the program, which gives students access to a career in sustainable farming and hands on experience in the field.

The new certificate offered at Clackamas allows students to gain the knowledge to own and operate their own small scale farms. The certificate program was approved at the CCC

Board of Education meeting in April and is the only one of its kind offered in the state of Oregon. The program focuses on ecological systems and sustainability practices, while using organic production principles.

"Basically I want to do it, that's what I want to do. I want to farm on a small scale," said Tonia Lordy, horticulture

student. "I'm excited that the school offers something. There's no other community college in the area at all that offers this Urban [Agriculture] Program."

Graduates of the program will enter the farming community with not only knowledge to run their own farms, but they will have connections to already existing farmers accord-

ing to Elizabeth Howley, the horticulture department chair.

"It's important they meet their fellow peers in the industry," said Howley. "The purpose is to have the training for the students who desire, and have a passion to become farmers, to get the training."

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Cougars win two over Chemeketa, take second place in Southern Region race



John William Howard, The Clackamas Print

Ashley Bacon takes a furiously successful swing for a double on Saturday, May 12 at home. The Cougars got the win, and now look forward to the NWAACC Championships. Their first game will take place on Friday, May 18 at Delta Park, against Shoreline Community College at 11:30 a.m.. Read the full story on page 7.



Learning spreads like wildfire; page 2

Dave speaks about life, bread; page 6

