

## ***HORTICULTURE HAIKU !***

Haiku is a form of poetry that originated in Japan over 300 years ago. A Haiku poem is very short set of words that often expresses a unique thought or feeling. It is a short poem that records the essence of a moment keenly perceived in which Nature is linked to human nature.

Although slight variations are acceptable, the typical Haiku poem consist of 17 syllables in the standard format shown below:

Line one: 5 syllables	<i>A seed is near me</i>
Line two: 7 syllables	<i>unafraid to germinate</i>
Line three: 5 syllables	<i>and start a new life.</i>

A haiku can be anywhere from a few to 17 syllables, rarely more. It may or may not necessarily match subject to verb for a complete sentence as you have been taught in grammar. Haiku lends itself to experimentation with language.

Very often Haiku poetry addresses a Nature topic. Consider the haiku poem a very small slice of life that expresses a thought or a feeling in a very concise manner. See examples:

*A cloud above my head (5)  
Is destined to remember (7)  
All the things I said. (5)*

*Horticulture rocks. (5)  
or at least that's what they say. (7)  
I think they were right. (5)*

*Osmocote grows plants (5)  
Better than I ever knew.(7)  
I better get some. (5)*

*Underneath the node.(5)  
is where the roots will emerge. (7)  
If you use root hormone. (6)*

And some different versions of Haiku...

*Beach parking lot  
Where the door opened  
A small pile of sand.*

*Since my house burned down  
I now own a better view  
Of the rising moon.*

*Sitting in the sun,  
In the middle of the plants  
That I just watered.*

*Wispy autumn clouds  
in the river shallows.  
The droppings of a deer.*

This is a free resource provided by Georgia Agricultural Education  
Original creator: Joe Green, retired agriculture teacher



## HORTICULTURE HAIKU!

- **SINCE IT IS A BEAUTIFUL DAY TODAY, THIS ASSIGNMENT WILL BE OUTDOORS.**
- **MATERIALS NEEDED WILL BE:**
  - **A PAD OF PAPER and a pen!**
- **POSITION YOURSELF OUTSIDE IN A PRIVATE, QUIET SETTING**
- **Go through the word bank below or come up with your own horticulture term from class.**
- **Once you select your first term, see if you can include it into a haiku poem based on the guidelines from page one of this handout.**
- **Try to stay within the 5-7-5 syllable format.**
- **Don't spend too much time on the same poem if you get bogged down. Move on to another topic or vocabulary term if you get stuck.**
- **Remember, a haiku is a very small slice of life, not a book or whole story!!! It's a teeny weeny thought that conveys one moment!**
- **Write 5 Horticulture haiku's**

### Horticulture Word Bank

Plant	Fertilize	Rooting Hormone	Bud
Seed	Hybrid	Petiole	Growing
Fruit	Insect	Watering	Evergreen
Leaf	Annual	Roots	Perennials
Soil	Flower	Stem	Hardwood
Germinate	Bark	Photosynthesis	Deciduous
Propagate	Blade	Respiration	Plugs
Grafting	Margin	Dormant	Petals

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