

Name: _____

Appendix 6: Minted a Farmer

Part 1

Directions:

Read the article “Minted a Farmer” in the spring 2023 issue of *FFA New Horizons* and answer the questions below.

1. In 2017, Brock joined a _____ farmhand _____ for high school students at _____

Farms in _____ Wisconsin.

1a. How long has he been there? _____

2. How big is the farm?

3. Describe the farm.

4. Brock found his niche with what crop?

- a. tomatoes c. watermelon
- b. mint d. peppers

5. What awards did he win because of his SAE?

6. Why was he shocked?

7. How did FFA prepare him?

8. What are some tasks, mentioned in the article, that are associated with growing mint?



8a. What have the tasks led to?



9. What is one fact that stood out to you after reading this article?

10. How can you connect this information to what you are learning in your SAE, agriculture class or other classes?

Name: _____

Part 2

Directions:

Complete the activities below to learn about the production of mint. Utilize these websites to complete the activities: <https://www.almanac.com/plant/mint>, <https://www.almanac.com/what-are-plant-hardiness-zones>, <https://bonnieplants.com/blogs/how-to-grow/growing-mint> and <https://planthardiness.ars.usda.gov/>.

1. What is a plant hardiness zone? _____

2. What zone(s) does mint grow best in? _____

On the map, shade in the zones where mint grows best.



3. In which season is it best to plant mint? Circle the correct answer. Winter Spring Summer Fall

How to Grow and Plant Mint

Spacing Requirements	
Water Requirements	
Fertilize Requirements	
pH Requirement	
When do the flowers on the mint plant typically bloom?	

What insects/pests is mint vulnerable to?

According to your area's USDA planting zone, what crops have similar growth requirements to mint? *Use this site to help with your research:* <https://southernlivingplants.com/find-your-zone/>

Identify various uses for mint. *List at least four.*

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

How do you harvest mint?

How many harvests per season are typical?

Name: _____

What impact does mint production have on you?

Part 3

Directions:

Create (or modify) a recipe! Use the space below to create a recipe using mint OR take one of your favorite recipes and incorporate mint.

Recipe Name:

Ingredients:

Directions:



Name: _____

KEY: Appendix 6: Minted a Farmer

Part 1

Directions:

Read the article “Minted a Farmer” in the spring 2023 issue of *FFA New Horizons* and answer the questions below.

1. In 2017, Brock joined a morning farmhand program for high school students at Gumz Farms in Endeavor, Wisconsin.

1a. How long has he been there? With the exception of a semester at college in fall 2021, he has been there since he started in 2017.

2. How big is the farm?

6,000 acres

3. Describe the farm.

Diversified-crop farm “with something different to do every day”

4. Brock found his niche with what crop?

- a. tomatoes c. watermelon
b. mint d. peppers

5. What awards did he win because of his SAE? He won the 2021 Wisconsin FFA Fiber and Oil Crop Production Proficiency Award and the spot as Wisconsin’s finalist for the 2022 American Star in Agricultural Placement.

6. Why was he shocked?

Because a lot of other kids have been working their farm jobs their entire lives and he thought he was a nobody.

7. How did FFA prepare him? FFA introduced him to industry connections, which opened the doors for conversations.

8. What are some tasks, mentioned in the article, that are associated with growing mint? Clearing fields, harvesting mint, learning to drive tractors, changing tires in the shop during the winter

8a. What have the tasks led to? These tasks led the way to more responsibilities and opportunities at Gumz Farms. Currently, he is working in the agronomy department and experiencing seed sales.

9. What is one fact that stood out to you after reading this article?

Answers will vary.

10. How can you connect this information to what you are learning in your SAE, agriculture class or other classes?

Answers will vary.



Name: _____

Part 2

Directions:

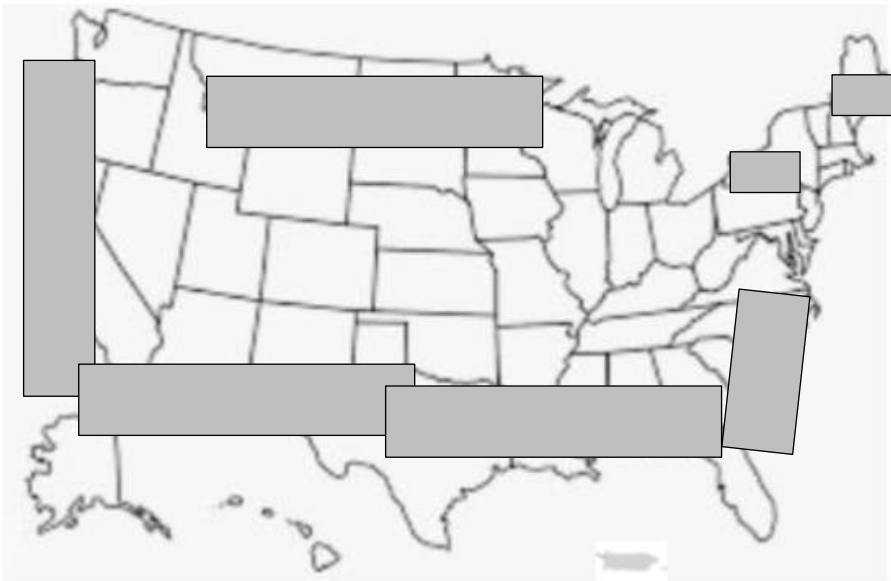
Complete the activities below to learn about the production of mint. Utilize these websites to complete the activities:

<https://www.almanac.com/plant/mint>, <https://www.almanac.com/what-are-plant-hardiness-zones>, <https://bonnieplants.com/blogs/how-to-grow/growing-mint> and <https://planthardiness.ars.usda.gov/>.

1. What is a plant hardiness zone? A planting zone indicates the usual climate of an area, which impacts what plants can grow there. It is important to select varieties of plants that can survive and thrive year-round in your area, especially in regions where extreme winter temperatures are normal. The plant must tolerate year-round conditions, such as the lowest and highest temperatures and the amount of rainfall.

2. What zone(s) does mint grow best in? The top of mint will eventually die back in winter except in zones 8 and south but the roots are quite hardy, surviving into zone 5 (some varieties even into zone 3).

Shade on the map where the zones are that mint grows best.



3. In which season is it best to plant mint? Circle the correct answer. Winter **Spring** Summer Fall

How to Grow and Plant Mint

Spacing Requirements	18 to 24 inches apart — It is best to grow them in pots to keep them from over taking your garden.
Water Requirements	Keep soil consistently moist and water when the top inch becomes dry.
Fertilize Requirements	Regular feed with a water-soluble plant food
pH Requirement	6.0 to 7.0
When do the flowers on the mint plant typically bloom?	They bloom from June to September.

What insects/pests is mint vulnerable to?

Whiteflies, blackflies, spider mites, snails and slugs

How do you harvest mint? You can harvest mint at any size by pinching off stems. For a large harvest, wait until just before the plant blooms, when the flavor is most intense, then cut the whole plant to just above the first or second set of leaves. During this process, you will remove the yellowing lower leaves and promote bushier growth.

How many harvests per season are typical? Three harvests are typical for mint.

Name: _____

Identify various uses for mint. *List at least four.*

1. Nice complement to lamb, fish, poultry and vegetables
2. Mint blends well with green or fruit salads and beverages such as punch, lemonade and tea.
3. You can freeze mint in cubes for iced tea.
4. You can preserve it in vinegar or dry it for potpourri or sachets.

What impact does mint production have on you?

Answers will vary.

Part 3

Directions:

Create (or modify) a recipe! Use the space below to create a recipe using mint OR take one of your favorite recipes and incorporate mint. *Answers will vary.*

Recipe Name: _____

Ingredients: _____

Directions: _____

