

**Claire Aumond, Summer Intern  
ENSAT – Toulouse France**



**Working in the turf and crabapple plots at The Gardens, Colorado State University Extension, Mesa County Fairgrounds,**

**Experience:**

Autumn 2008 : “Projet Tutoré en entreprise” worked in the center of ITV (The Technical Wine Institute) in the school training framework. My assignment is to study the production cost of grape in the all region of Midi Pyrénées (collections of data to the wine grower and setting up an informatic tool in order to process this data).

2007 / 2008 : In a organic vineyard in Val de Loire : participation in the tasks of wine growing, grape picking, vinification and sales.

Work as a market gardener and as a farmer on my parent’s farm.”

**Education:**

After receiving a Baccalauréat, (final examination of secondary school) Claire participated in an intense two year course of study (known as “Classe Préparatoire”) in order to prepare for a competitive examination known in France as a “concours”.

This examination is highly selective and involves the study of Biology, Math, Physics and Chemistry. Successful completion of this examination allowed her to enter the ENSAT (Ecole Nationale Supérieure Agronomique de Toulouse), one of the 5 French Graduate Schools of Agricultural sciences. AT ENSAT, Claire is in a three year program pursuing a scientific course of study specializing in Agronomy / Horticulture (Plant Science – Crop Production).

### **Program Description:**

A French engineering degree corresponds to a “masters” degree combining in five years, skills that equip the student not only with widespread scientific knowledge but also with a speciality. Work experience is very frequent in France and is a part of every engineer's training. The aim of this experience is to prepare the student for professional life, allowing him/her through the work to which he/she is entrusted and which he/she executes to:

- discover within the company's environment: organisation, different types of work, working methods, a company's culture...
- put into practice the knowledge of living sciences, engineering sciences, social sciences and economics) and to apply competences (project management, the capacity to analyse, the ability to see the whole picture, a sense of public relations, of negotiation) outside of the academic framework found in the environment of the institute,
- improve skills in the English language.
- You can learn more about Claire's school at [http://www.ensat.fr/en/engineer\\_s\\_program2.html](http://www.ensat.fr/en/engineer_s_program2.html)

### **What will Claire's Colorado training consist of:**

Claire will be exposed to many different segments of the horticulture and agronomy industry in Western Colorado to include greenhouse plant production, nursery plant production, care and marketing, plant protection, landscape maintenance, irrigation supply, installation and maintenance, vegetable crop production. She will be involved with pathology training and problem diagnosis in the Master Gardener program and attend training in Fort Collins. She will have other opportunities as they arise. Claire will be returning to her school in France at the end of August.