**MY 5, 2025**

Another in the series of Illinois Agriculture in the Classroom non-fiction text examples to be used in your classroom. Remember, these will be available every MONDAY afternoon that *FarmWeek* is published during the school year.

Questions about this can be directed to Kevin Daugherty, Education Director of Illinois Agriculture in the Classroom at [kdaugherty@ilfb.org](mailto:kdaugherty@ilfb.org).

\*\*Reminder these questions are designed to use with the on-line version of *FarmWeek.*

<https://www.farmweeknow.com/eedition/>

Note, by request of teachers we have included the answers to the questions immediately following the questions on a separate worksheet.

**NAME:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ CLASS PERIOD\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Directions:** Please use the online version of *FarmWeek.*  <https://www.farmweeknow.com/eedition/>

Or use the article at: <https://iaitc.co/verticalfarm>

Use the article titled: ISU’s new vertical farm makes most of small space.

Questions

1. Define the following:
   1. Vertical
   2. Horizontal
   3. Hydroponic
2. How big is the new ISU Vertical Farm?
3. How many acres of typical produce will this new smaller space produce?
4. How long has the Vertical Farm taken to come to reality at ISU?
5. What are two reasons the farm is producing herbs rather than lettuce?
6. How was the cost of the $120,000 shipping container met?
7. Describe how the shipping container maintains optimal growing levels for plants.
8. Do you think a vertical farm in your area would be profitable? Why or why not?

Answers:

1. Define the following:
   1. Vertical—Being in a position that is perpendicular to the plane of the horizon. Upright, tall.
   2. Horizontal—Parallel to level ground.
   3. Hydroponic—cultivation of plants by placing roots in a liquid nutrient solution rather that in soil.
2. The new Vertical Farm is 320 Square foot big.
3. The New Vertical Farm will produce as much as a 2-4 acre outdoor field.
4. The original idea for this farm started in 2019. 6 years in the making the project is becoming a reality.
5. The three herbs have similar requirements for growth and production and the herbs are more expensive on the common market. Growing the herbs makes it economically efficient.
6. The shipping container was donated used by Central Illinois Produce in Urbana.
7. Answers will vary, but light, temp, humidity and CO2 levels are controlled. Additionally, there are no weather extremes or pests to contend with.
8. Answers will vary.