**Rooftop Agriculture**

***Faculty Mentor***: Jennifer Bousselot, Assistant Professor, Department of Horticulture and Landscape Architecture (HLA), College of Agricultural Science, Jennifer.Bousselot@colostate.edu 720-810-5748

***Extension Mentor***: Dan Goldhamer, County Director and Horticulture Agent, CSU Extension Denver County, Dan.Goldhamer@colostate.edu 720-913-5273

***Location/Region***: Denver, CSU Spur Campus, Terra Building green roof

***Goals, Scope, and Objectives***: Rooftop agriculture is a pioneering field in the emerging area of urban food production. While rooftop agricultural production has been successful in other cities across the world, it is still theoretical in our high elevation, sunny, semiarid environment. Ideal horticultural crop selection and optimal irrigation regimes require testing. The intensive green roof system on top of the CSU Spur Terra Building is the ideal location for research like this.

Therefore, the intern on this project will assist the faculty mentor and a post-doctoral employee in screening horticultural crops and irrigation regimes in rooftop agriculture systems. The intern will help collect data, answer visitors’ questions, and participate in events and activities associated with rooftop agriculture research and engagement. Additionally, the Extension aspect will include a project that describes the subject, identifies applications, addresses costs and benefits, and reports current data.

***Project Identified***: In spring of 2022, the green roof areas of the Terra Building at the CSU Spur campus at the National Western Center will open. Green roofs are the primary area of research for the faculty mentor and she has been preparing for the opening of this research location since fall of 2017.

***Stakeholder Groups***: Extension, horticulture, and green roof industries.

***Learning Outcomes/Professional Development***: The intern will gain hands-on experience in the horticultural aspects of rooftop agriculture. Additionally, the intern will interact with professionals and gain experience in the areas of Extension, horticulture, and green roofs. The intern will also assist with outreach and community events refining their public speaking and engaged scholarship skills. Therefore, the intern will not only learn about the scientific aspects of these areas but also network with professionals.

***Align with Extension Goals***: Extension shares research-based science with the public. This experience is applied research in a highly visible and publicly accessible CSU campus location in the largest metropolitan area in Colorado. This project is an excellent example of the ideal combination of research and outreach.

***Travel Funds***: Funds will be provided by the faculty mentor for travel related to Extension activities. No funds are available for housing.