

3-DAY COURSE

HANDS-ON AQUAPONICS COURSE

From water to harvest: learn, design and build from the inside.



3 days

15-20 places

In person

Learning materials included

Three in-person days to understand aquaponics, explore working systems and build a modular DD JENNY system together. Training led by Lorraine Hodges at La Huerta del Lugá.

WHAT YOU WILL LEARN

01

What aquaponics is, its history, development and current landscape; how fish, bacteria, plants, water and system components work together.

02

How to read the modular DD JENNY design and take part in a practical build in small teams.

03

How to check flow, observe water parameters, begin a cycling plan and organise routine maintenance.

WHO IT IS FOR

Beginners, families and home growers, teachers and schools interested in STEM learning, and people curious about modular system design. This is a learning course; it does not promise production or commercial returns.

YOU WILL RECEIVE

Introduction to Aquaponics learning material, the DD JENNY Design Guide and DD JENNY Operational Manual, plus shared hands-on build experience. Materials and tools for the activity are coordinated by Lorraine and La Huerta del Lugá.

Confirmed dates: 11-13 December 2026

Course fee: please enquire

Venue: La Huerta del Lugá · Alhaurín el Grande, Málaga

PROGRAMME & TIMETABLE

FRIDAY · INTRODUCTION & SYSTEM VISITS

TIME	SESSION	WHAT WE WILL DO
09:00-09:15	Welcome	Objectives, organisation and safety.
09:15-10:45	Introduction to aquaponics	History, development and current landscape; principles, components and the relationship between fish, bacteria, plants and water.
10:45-11:00	Break	15 minutes.
11:00-11:15	Site orientation	Route and guidance for observing the systems.
11:15-12:15	Visit · PETIT	Guided observation of a compact system.
12:15-13:15	Visit · Silvia	Components, operation and questions.
13:15-14:00	Compare and discuss	Differences between scales and lessons from the visits.
14:00-15:00	Lunch	One-hour break.
15:00-16:00	Visit · Pascale	Larger-scale system: layout and operation.
16:00-16:15	Break	15 minutes.
16:15-16:50	Water-quality testing	Practical demonstration using available test equipment and basic interpretation.
16:50-17:00	Day wrap-up	Key points and questions.

SATURDAY · DD JENNY DESIGN & BUILD

TIME	SESSION	WHAT WE WILL DO
09:00-09:20	Plan and safety	Review objectives, workspace and tools.
09:20-10:45	DD JENNY Design Guide	Presentation of the design, its modules and how it works.
10:45-11:00	Break	15 minutes.
11:00-11:45	Step-by-step guide review	Sequence, components and checkpoints.
11:45-12:15	Build preparation	Materials, task allocation and small teams.
12:15-14:00	Build · first stage	Team build using prepared parts and workstations.
14:00-15:00	Lunch	One-hour break.
15:00-16:00	Build · second stage	Continue assembly and planned connections.
16:00-16:15	Break	15 minutes.
16:15-16:45	System review	Connections, initial checks and outstanding-items list.
16:45-17:00	Close and tidy	Clear the workspace and prepare for Sunday.

The build is organised in small teams; materials, tools and workstations are prepared with Lorraine and La Huerta del Lugá.

SUNDAY · OPERATION & COMMISSIONING

TIME	SESSION	WHAT WE WILL DO
09:00-09:15	Review and objectives	Build status and plan for the morning.
09:15-10:15	DD JENNY Operational Manual	Principles applicable to aquaponics systems: checks and records.
10:15-10:30	Break	15 minutes.
10:30-11:30	Hydraulic checks and start-up	Fill, pumps, flow, leaks and baseline record, as appropriate to the final configuration.
11:30-12:00	System cycling	What biological cycling is and how to establish readiness before introducing fish.
12:00-12:35	Care routines	Daily, weekly and monthly tasks; observation, records and first-line troubleshooting.
12:35-13:00	Questions and close	Feedback, evaluation and next steps.

Important: system cycling

On Sunday we can check and start the hydraulic circuit and begin the cycling plan. Biological cycling takes time and monitoring: the system is not promised to be cycled or ready for fish by the end of the course. Fish should only be introduced when monitoring shows suitable conditions.

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15-20 participants

Request the full programme, dates and fee

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