

Arabidopsis in Space!



Advanced Astroculture growth chambers were especially designed for growing *Arabidopsis* aboard the International Space Station

In 2001, *Arabidopsis* plants were grown aboard the International Space Station in growth chambers designed at the UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN - MADISON!

Astronaut Jimi Voss tends the space crop of *Arabidopsis*. He has taken a sample from the growth chamber, and is injecting the sample into a bag for transport back to Earth.



Arabidopsis seedlings growing within the Advanced Astroculture growth chamber aboard the International Space Station.

A syringe used during the mission to inject nutrients into the growth chamber, signed by Astronaut Jim Voss



WHY grow plants in Space?

➢ To see how they would react to zero gravity!

WHY use *Arabidopsis*?

➢ Because *Arabidopsis* is very easily grown in the extremely restrictive conditions aboard the Space Station.

➢ Plus, lab research has already told us a great deal about the biology of this weed. This means experimental results are easily analyzed!

Astroculture!