



# WWOOFer Experience POLYTUNNELS

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Host: \_\_\_\_\_

Polytunnels/Greenhouses on The Holding, and how they help The Farm.

*e.g.: They have three big polytunnels for tomato and other warm weather crops, they also have a small greenhouse, with a stone floor, where they germinate and pot on seedlings.*

“Under Glass” construction and ecological adaptations :-

*e.g.: The second hand Polytunnel had half-doors that could keep rabbits out, on the ground, but let The Air in, with The Top Half. They used bubble plastic, over the seed greenhouse to keep frost out and heat in, during The Winter and Spring.*

“Under Glass” Cropping Plan on The Holding :-

*e.g.: They use the main polytunnels for warm weather plants in The Summer and for lettuce and salad crops over Winter. In the Seed Greenhouse they also use a heated seed bed, for starting the seeds in late Winter & Spring, then for cuttings and overwintering fig trees, in the Autumn and winter.*

“Under Glass” environment impact:-

*e.g.: The Polytunnel was second hand and so had saved energy and resources. The Conservatory was made from ecologically sourced wood and also heated The Home.*

“Under Glass” pest/disease control:-

*e.g.: The Polytunnel stays warm, allowing greenfly to survive The Winter. They buy in Ladybird Lava to keep the greenfly under control. They use bird netting on the doors.*

## **“Under Glass” Quiz**

*Underline the answer or answers that you think is/are correct.*

**1). Polytunnels need fresh air, because:-**

- a) They will rust, if there is no wind.
- b) Plants need Carbon Dioxide in The Day and Oxygen at night, to grow.
- c) Some plants need pollinating by bees or by air movement.

**2). Frog ponds in a Polytunnel are helpful because :-**

- a) Frogs don't like to be cold.
- b) The Frogs can eat slugs and other pests.
- c) Other wildlife, like Dragonflies will be attracted by the water and warmth.

**3). Cold Frames are a good option for a farm because :-**

- a) They provide a frost free environment.
- b) They are cheap and can be made from old windows and bricks..
- c) They can be used as a bunker in case of Nuclear War.

**4). Cloches can be useful because :-**

- a) They can provide protection for young plants in The early Spring, when needed.
- b) They are cheap, portable and can be stored easily, when not needed.
- c) The bell shape can scare away foxes and badgers.

**5). Growing “Under Glass” is better for The Ecology, because :-**

- a) Importing plants from far away is more damaging than growing them at home.
- b) Polytunnels have a high albedo and so reflect light and heat back to Space.
- c) Glass is better for The Ecology than Polytunnel Plastic .

**Declaration**

The WWOOFer named above has fulfilled the expectations of WWOOFing with us.

I confirm that the worksheet reflects the learning undertaken by the WWOOFer.

Signed by Host \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Host (printed) \_\_\_\_\_

Dates of WWOOF stay. \_\_\_\_\_

Instructions for completion.

Once complete, please save all your sheets and send them in together at the end of your WWOOFing stay in Ireland.

scan/photograph all the sheets and email them to [learningguide@wwoof.ie](mailto:learningguide@wwoof.ie)

Once verified you will be sent a Certificate of Learning.