

A woman with long brown hair, wearing a white lab coat, is shown in profile, looking down at a small plant in a white tray. She is standing in front of a large, vertical hydroponic system filled with various green plants. The system consists of multiple white trays stacked vertically, each containing small plants. The background is a dense wall of green foliage.

Today in History

December 1, 1936

▲ A first U.S. patent was issued for the soilless culture of plants, or hydroponics. Plants are grown with roots suspended in water containing mineral nutrients

1953: Marilyn Monroe featured as the centrespread nude in the first edition of Playboy magazine

1973: David Ben-Gurion, Israel's first prime minister from 1955-1963, died

1993: A 22-metre-long condom was draped over an obelisk in Paris to mark World AIDS Day

2013: China launched an unmanned probe to the moon. Chang'e-3 became the first spacecraft to land on the lunar surface in 37 years