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Syllabus for Recruitment Examination of Post Graduate Teacher

Subject: Agriculture

PAPER-I

Unit 1: General Agriculture

Agriculture - its importance in national economy, scope of commercialization of Indian agriculture, sustainable agriculture, components of sustainable agriculture, crop diversification, multiple cropping, multistorey cropping, relay cropping, intercropping, organic farming.

Unit 2: Agro meteorology

Agro meteorology, climatic and weather elements as factors of crop production, weather forecasting, impact of climate change on cropping pattern, rainfed agriculture technology, natural disasters like drought, flood, etc. and their mitigation.

Unit 3: Soil Science and Soil Fertility

Soils – its definition and components, Processes and factors of soil formation, soil profile, soil types of India and their characteristics, problem soils and their reclamation, soil properties, soil texture and structure, Nitrogen fixation, soil productivity and soil health, soil erosion and conservation.

Essential plant nutrients, their functions and deficiency symptoms, manures and fertilizers including straight, complex and mix fertilizers, biofertilizers, compost, Farm Yard Manure, vermicompost and Integrated Nutrient Management (INM) system.

Unit 4: Water management, Irrigation and Drainage

Irrigation and drainage, sources of irrigation, scheduling of irrigation based on critical stages of crop growth, soil moisture, time interval and weather parameters, water requirement of crops, water use efficiency, methods of irrigation and drainage, watershed management.

Unit 5: Plant Protection

Insect pests and diseases of field crops, vegetables, fruits and plantation crops, causes and their control measures, principles and methods of plant diseases control measures, biological control of pests and diseases, integrated pests management (IPM) systems. Storage pests of cereals and pulses, preservation and remedial measures of storage grains, Pesticides and their formulations, plant protection equipments, their care and maintenance.

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PAPER-II

Unit 1: Genetics and Plant Breeding

Genetics and plant breeding, heredity and variation, Mendel's laws of inheritance, chromosomal theory of inheritance, heterosis and its exploitation, male sterility and self-incompatibility, principles and methods of plant breeding for self and cross-pollinated crops like plant introduction, domestication, selection, hybridization, mutation and polyploidy breeding.

Seed technology, classes of seeds, production, processing and testing of seeds. Role of national and state seed agencies in production, processing and marketing of improved seeds.

Unit 2: Crop Physiology

Crop physiology and its importance, imbibition, surface tension, diffusion and osmosis, absorption and translocation of water and minerals, transpiration, enzymes, plant pigments, photosynthesis, aerobic and anaerobic respiration. Growth and development of plants, photoperiodism and vernalization, hormones and plant growth regulators and their functions.

Unit 3: Agronomy

Weeds, their characteristics, dissemination and association of weeds with crops, principles and methods of weeds control, mechanical, cultural, biological and chemical control of weeds, herbicides, integrated weed management system.

Origin, history and cultivation practices of important cereal crops, pulses, oilseeds, fibre crops, sugar and commercial crops grown during *Kharif* and *Rabi* seasons with special reference to climate, soil, seed production, cultivars, nutrition, irrigation and other management practices.

Unit 4: Horticulture

Role of fruits and vegetables in human nutrition, plant propagation, planting techniques, training and pruning, cultivation practices of major fruits, vegetables and flowers. Landscape gardening including raising of ornamental plants and layout and design of landscape gardens, lawns, etc.

Post-harvest handling and marketing problems of fruits, vegetables and flowers. Principles and methods of preservation and processing of fruits and vegetables. Important value-added products from fruits and vegetables. Preparation of jam, jelly, ketchup, pickles, marmalade.

Unit 5: Agricultural Economics, Farm Management and Extension Education

Farm management, importance and characteristics, types and systems of farming and factors affecting them, marketing and pricing of agricultural inputs and outputs and their costs, calculation of cost benefit ratio, Kisan Credit Card (KCC), crop insurance.

Important Agriculture including Horticulture based subsidiary enterprises like nursery, Mushroom production, apiculture, Bio-pesticides, Vermicomposting, etc. and their socio-economic importance.

Agricultural extension, objectives and principles, its importance and role, methods of evaluation of extension programmes, training programmes, methods of communication.