



SIR ARTHUR LEWIS COMMUNITY COLLEGE
DIVISION OF AGRICULTURE

CERTIFICATE IN GENERAL AGRICULTURE

#CL9

2011/2012 END OF SEMESTER TWO EXAMINATION

COURSE: CROP PRODUCTION & TECHNOLOGY – CPT111

DATE: 23rd APRIL 2012

DURATION: 2 ½ Hours.

Answer any four (4) questions.

1. (a) i. What is a crop? (1)
ii. Discuss any three factors which the farmer must consider when selecting a crop to be grown. (3)
- (b) Explain three ways a cropping schedule may be beneficial to a farmer. (6)
- (c) i. Name three farming systems other than organic farming commonly practiced in the Caribbean and state one way that each differs from the other. (6)
ii. State two ways in which organic farming is different from the systems of farming commonly practiced today. (4)
- (d) Name four factors that influence the spacing of a crop and state how any one factor may affect production. (5)
2. Pests and diseases impact significantly on crop production.
 - (a) i. State three ways how weeds affect crop production. (6)
ii. List the methods of weed control and state two considerations when selecting a particular method of control. (6)
 - (b) Insects make up the largest group of crop pests.
 - i. Name the three ways insects feed. (3)
 - ii. Draw a large labeled diagram of a common insect pest in agriculture. (3)
 - iii. List the characteristics of insects. (5)
 - (c) Name two micro-organisms that cause plant diseases. (2)
3. (a) Discuss any three methods of measuring the moisture of the soil. (6)
- (b) Explain how water stress may affect crop growth. (6)
- (c) i. List any three methods of irrigation commonly used in the Caribbean. (3)
ii. Give one advantage and one disadvantage of each of the methods named in (c)i. (6)
- (d) List four ways in which a farmer can conserve water for farm use. (4)
4. (a) i. Define soil fertility. (1)
ii. Discuss two ways in which soil may lose its fertility. (2)
iii. Discuss two ways in which soil may regain its fertility. (2)
- (b) i. Explain to a farmer two benefits to be gained from mulching. (4)
ii. List two types of material that may be used as mulch. (2)
- (c) Discuss three benefits of good land preparation. (9)
- (d) List the stages of a crop production cycle. (5)

5. (a) i. List the methods of harvesting. **(2)**
ii. Name three factors that a farmer must consider when selecting a method of harvesting **(3)**
- (b) Proper storage is critical to ensuring that spoilage of produce is minimal. Discuss the major components of proper storage. **(9)**
- (c) i. State the main objectives of post-harvest technology. **(2)**
ii. Explain how you would achieve the objectives stated in (c) i. **(4)**
- (d) Discuss three benefits of record keeping. **(5)**

*****END OF EXAM*****