



Sir Arthur Lewis Community College
Division of Agriculture



Certificate Programme
End of Semester Examination

Course: **Banana & Fruit Crop Production – BFC512**

Date: **May 2003**

Duration: 2 ½ hours

#F9

Answer Any Four (4) Questions

1. (a) Banana production still has an important role to play in the economic development of St. Lucia. Discuss three factors that are hampering the resuscitation and development of the industry, and suggest possible solutions to the problems identified. **(15 marks)**

(b) Explain how the sleeving, deflowering and propping contribution to quality banana production. **(10 marks)**

2. (a) Discuss the ecological requirement for papaya or mango production. **(10 marks)**

(b) Describe in detail the fertilizer regime for the crop you chose in 2 (a). **(10 marks)**

(c) Identify a major pest and a major disease of the crop you chose. **(5 marks)**

3. (a) Fruits are not usually propagated from seeds. Discuss why this is so. **(10 marks)**

(b) Explain how either citrus or mango is usually propagated and discuss the advantages of the method used. **(10 marks)**

(c) Give three examples of viable uses for tissue culture laboratory in St. Lucia. **(5 marks)**

4. (a) Based on the ecological requirements of the different races of avocado, which race would you choose for your area. Explain your answer. **(10 marks)**

(b) List and explain the factors which are limiting expansion of the export market for tropical fruit production in St. Lucia. **(10 marks)**

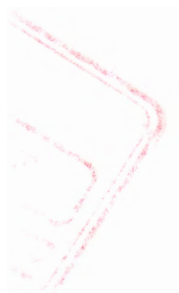
(c) Why are fruits important to the average diet? **(5 marks)**

5. Water is essential to life.

(a) Give the scientific names of any five fruits you have studied. **(5 marks)**

(b) For a named fruit crop state the method of irrigation you would recommend and why. **(10 marks)**

(c) Discuss any five factors that should be considered when establishing an orchard. **(10 marks)**



6. (a) Post-harvest losses are due mainly to shrinkage, rotting and storage pest. Explain what steps you could take to reduce such losses. **(15 marks)**
- (b) Why is it advisable to cut many types of fruits rather than simply picking them from the tree? **(5 marks)**
- (c) What do you understand by the term 'fruit quality'? **(5 marks)**

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