SCHEME & SYLLABUS
M. Sc. in Soil Science
Programme Code: PG024

Department of Agriculture
University Institute of Agriculture
Sant Baba Bhag Singh University

2025

SANT BABA BHAG SINGH UNIVERSITY, KHIALA -1430030, JALANDHAR

Institute Name:	**UIS**
Department Name:	**Agriculture**
Programme Name:	**M.Sc. in Soil Science**
Number of Semetsers	**4**

Vision:

To develop skilled and efficient human resource in the field of Soil Science and Agriculture Chemistry for imparting education to students, undertaking appropriate research on crop and natural resource management on sustainable basis in the plains, extend knowledge and skill to the farmers.

Mission:

1. To achieve excellence in the curriculum planning pertaining to Soil Science and Agriculture Chemistry by periodically updating it in order to provide the students with sound technical knowledge.
2. To strengthen the research activities in Soil Science and Agriculture Chemistry by undertaking innovative and application oriented projects for the development of Agricultural and allied sectors.
3. To stimulate and nurture student's interest in Soil Science and Agriculture Chemistry and achieve their professional goals
4. To generate, disseminate, integrate and apply knowledge which is vital to society and to provide leadership and service to the nation.

Details of Programme Educational Objectives, Program Outcomes, Program Specific Outcomes

S. No.		Programme Educational Objective (PEO) (The Graduate/Undergraduate will….)
1	PEO1.	Train and develop scholars and promote research by providing students with contemporary concepts in various fields of Soil Science and Agriculture Chemistry.
	PEO2.	Generate knowledge through training in cognitive, affective, and psychomotor, which are necessary for productive scholarly research in a selected area of Soil Science and Agriculture Chemistry.
	PEO3	Acquire in-depth knowledge in area(s) of specialization.
	PEO4	Undertake independent research and present results in a coherent and comprehensive manner and hence enrich area(s) of scholarship.
2	**Programme Outcomes (PO) (At the end of Programme/Degree mentioned above , the graduates will be able to ……)**	
	PO1.	Specific knowledge of various branches specialized to their studies.
	PO2.	Detailed knowledge on the subject to improve the farmer's condition by their contributions.
	PO3	Detailed knowledge of soil physics, soil chemistry, soil microbiology, soil classification, soil fertility and fertilizers and importance of all sciences to the farmers.
	PO4	Use appropriate scientific and statistical methods and evaluations for decision making in various sectors of agriculture.
3	**Programme Specific Outcomes (PSO)**	
	PSO1.	Demonstrate use of written and oral communication skills.
	PSO2.	Understanding the basic concepts and theories and terminology of Soil Science and Agriculture Chemistry.
	PSO3	Undertake teaching, research and offer administrative and consultancy services to organizations.
	PSO4	Apply research and expertise in solving or suggesting solutions to problems in the agricultural industry

INDEX				
Sr. No.	**Subject Code**	**Subject**	**Credit**	**Semester**
1.	AGR551	Soil physics	2+1	I
2.	AGR553	Soil chemistry	2+1	I
3.	MAT529	Experimental designs	2+1	I
4.	CSE004	Computer fundamentals and programming	2+1	I
5.	LIB501	Library and information services	0+1	I
6.	AGR595	Master's Research	0+5	I
7.	AGR555	Radioisotopes in soil and plant studies	1+1	I
8.	AGR550	Soil erosion and conservation	2+1	II
9.	AGR 552	Soil, water and air pollution	2+1	II
10.	AGR 554	Soil fertility and fertilizer use	2+1	II
11.	AGR 504	Dryland Farming and Watershed Management	2+1	II
12.	AGR 506	Agronomy of major Cereals and Pulses	2+0	II
13.	AGR596	Master's Research	0+5	II
14.	AGR 556	Soil Biology and Biochemistry	2+1	II
15.	AGR 558	Analytical technique and instrumental methods in soil and	0+2	II
16.	AGR 560	Introduction to nanotechnology	2+1	II
17.	AGR 562	Land degradation and restoration	1+0	II
18.	AGR657	Soil mineralogy, genesis and classification	2+1	III
19.	AGR659	Management of problematic soils and water	1+1	III
20.	AGR611	Principles and Practices of Water Management	2+1	III
21.	EVS601	Disaster management and Risk Management	2+0	III
22.	AGR689	Agriculture research, research, ethics and rural development programme	1+0	III
23.	AGR699	Master's Seminar	1+0	III
24.	AGR697	Master's Research	0+6	III
25.	AGR661	Remote sensing and GIS technique for soil and crop studies plant analysis	2+1	III
26.	AGR663	Soil Survey and Land use Planning	2+0	III
27.	AGR690	Basic Concepts in Laboratory Techniques	0+1	IV
28.	BOT622	Intellectual property and its management in agriculture	1+0	II
29.	AGR692	Technical writing and communications skills	0+1	IV
30.	AGR698	Master's Research	0+14	IV
*Compulsory for Master's program				

List of Courses Offered

Sr. No.	Subject Code	Subject	Credit	Semester
Major Courses				
1.	AGR551	Soil physics	2+1	**I**
2.	AGR553	Soil chemistry	2+1	**I**
3.	AGR595	Master's Research	0+5	**I**
4.	AGR555	Radioisotopes in soil and plant studies	1+1	**I**
5.	AGR550	Soil erosion and conservation		II
6.	AGR 552	Soil, water and air pollution	2+1	II
7.	AGR 554	Soil fertility and fertilizer use	2+1	II
8.	AGR596	Master's Research	0+5	II
9.	AGR 556	Soil Biology and Biochemistry	2+1	II
10.	AGR 558	Analytical technique and instrumental methods in soil and Plants	0+2	II
11.	AGR 560	Introduction to nanotechnology	2+1	II
12.	AGR 562	Land degradation and restoration	1+0	II
13.	AGR657	Soil mineralogy, genesis and classification	2+1	**III**
14.	AGR659	Management of problematic soils and water	1+1	III
15.	AGR611*	Principles and Practices of Water Management	2+1	III
16.	EVS601	Disaster management and Risk Management	2+0	III
17.	AGR699	Master's Seminar	1+0	III
18.	AGR697	Master's Research	0+6	III
19.	AGR661	Remote sensing and GIS technique for soil and crop studies plant analysis	2+1	III
20.	AGR698	Master's Research	**0+14**	**IV**
Minor Courses				
21.	AGR 504	Dryland Farming and Watershed Management	2+1	II
22.	AGR 506	Agronomy of major Cereals and Pulses	2+0	II
23.	AGR611	Principles and Practices of Water Management	2+1	III
Supporting Courses				
24.	MAT529	Experimental designs	**2+1**	**I**
25.	CSE004	Computer fundamentals and programming	**2+1**	**I**
Interdisciplinary/Common Courses				
26.	EVS601	Disaster management and Risk Management	**2+0**	**III**
27.	LIB601	Library and information services	**0+1**	**I**
28.	BOT622	Intellectual property and its management in agriculture	**1+0**	**IV**
29.	AGR692	Technical writing and communications skills	**0+1**	**IV**
30.	AGR690	Basic Concepts in Laboratory Techniques	**0+1**	**IV**
31.	AGR689	Agriculture research, research, ethics and rural development programme	**1+0**	**III**

*Compulsory for Master's program

M. Sc. in Soil Science Scheme							
SEMESTER-I							
Sr. No	**Subject Code**	**Type of Course**	**Subject Name**	**Credits (L:T:P)**	**Contact Hours (L:T:P)**	**Total Contact Hours**	**Total Credit Hours**
1.	AGR551	CR	Soil physics	2:0:1	2:0:2	4	3
2.	AGR553	CR	Soil chemistry	2:0:1	2:0:2	4	3
3.	AGR595	CR	Masters Research	0:0:5	0:0:10	10	5
4.	MAT529	SC	Experimental designs	2:0:1	2:0:2	4	3
5.	CSE004	SC	Computer fundamentals and programming	2:0:1	2:0:2	4	3
6.	LIB601	IC	Library and information service	0:0:1	0:0:2	2	1

Total Credit Hours: 18
Total Contact Hours: 28

CR-Core Courses
SC- Supporting Courses
IC- Interdisciplinary Courses

SEMESTER-II							
Sr. No.	**Subject Code**	**Type of course**	**Subject Name**	**Credits (L:T:P)**	**Contact Hours (L:T:P)**	**Total Contact Hours**	**Total Credit Hours**
1.	AGR554	CR	Soil fertility and fertilizer use	2:0:1	2:0:2	4	3
2.	AGR550	DSE	Soil erosion and conservation	2:0:1	2:0:2	4	3
3.	AGR552	DSE	Soil, water and air pollution	2:0:1	2:0:2	4	3
4.	AGR504	MC	Dryland Farming and Watershed Management	2:0:1	2:0:2	4	3
5.	AGR506	MC	Agronomy of major Cereals and Pulses	2:0:0	2:0:0	2	2
6.	AGR596	CR	Master's Research	0:0:5	0:0:10	10	5

Total Credit Hours: 19
Total Contact Hours: 28

CR-Core Courses
IC- Interdisciplinary Courses
DSE- Discipline Specific Elective
MC- Minor Courses

SEMESTER-III							
Sr. No.	**Subject Code**	**Type of course**	**Subject Name**	**Credits (L:T:P)**	**Contact Hours (L:T:P)**	**Total Contact Hours**	**Total Credit Hours**
1.	AGR611	MC	Principles and Practices of Water Management	2:0:1	2:0:2	4	3
2.	AGR657	CR	Soil mineralogy, genesis and classification	2:0:1	2:0:2	4	3
3.	AGR659	DSE	Management of problematic soils and water	1:0:1	1:0:2	3	2
4.	EVS601	IC	Disaster management and Risk Management	2:0:0	2:0:0	2	2
5.	AGR693	IC	Agriculture research, research, ethics and rural development programme	1:0:0	1:0:0	1	1
6.	AGR699	CR	Master's Seminar	1:0:0	1:0:0	1	1
7.	AGR697	CR	Master's Research	0:0:6	0:0:12	12	6

IC- Interdisciplinary Courses
DSE- Discipline Specific Elective
MC- Minor Courses

Total Credit Hours: 18
Total Contact hours: 27

SEMESTER-IV							
Sr. No.	**Subject Code**	**Type of Course**	**Subject Name**	**Credits (L:T:P)**	**Contact Hours (L:T:P)**	**Total Contact Hours**	**Total Credit Hours**
1.	AGR690	IC	Basic Concepts in Laboratory Techniques	0:0:1	0:0:2	2	1
2.	BOT622	IC	Intellectual property and its management in agriculture	2:0:0	2:0:0	2	2
3.	AGR692	IC	Technical writing and communications skills	0:0:1	0:0:2	2	1
4.	AGR698	CR	Master's Research	0:0:14	0:0:28	28	14

CR-Core Courses
IC- Interdisciplinary Courses

Total Credit Hours: 18
Total Contact hours: 34

CREDIT LOAD FOR MASTERS PROGRAM		
I	**Major Credits**	**20**
II	**Minor Credits**	**08**
III	**Supporting**	**06**
IV	**Interdisciplinary Credits**	**06**
V	**Seminar**	**01**
VI	**Masters Research**	**30**
Total I to V		**41**
Total		**71**


SANT BABA BHAG SINGH
UNIVERSITY

Course contents
M.Sc. in Soil Science

I. Course Title : Soil Physics

II. Course Code : AGR551

III. Credit Hours : 2+1

IV. Aim of the course

To impart basic knowledge about soil physical properties and processes in relation to plant growth.

V. Theory

Unit I

Basic principles of physics applied to soils, soil as a three phase system.

Unit II

Soil texture, textural classes, mechanical analysis, specific surface.

Unit III

Soil consistence; dispersion and workability of soils; soil compaction and consolidation; soil strength; swelling and shrinkage - basic concepts.Alleviation of soil physical constraints for crop production. Soil erosion and edibility

Unit IV

Soil structure - genesis, types, characterization and management soil structure; soil aggregation, aggregate stability; soil tilth, characteristics of good soil tilth; soil crusting - mechanism, factors affecting and evaluation; soil conditioners; puddling, its effect on soil physical properties; clod formation.

Unit V

Soil water: content and potential, soil water retention, soil-water constants, measurement of soil water content, energy state of soil water, soil water potential, soil-moisture characteristic curve; hysteresis, measurement of soil-moisture potential.

Unit VI

Water flow in saturated and unsaturated soils, Poiseuille's law, Darcy's law; hydraulic conductivity, permeability and fluidity, hydraulic diffusivity; measurement ofhydraulic conductivity in saturated and unsaturated soils.

Unit VII

Infiltration; internal drainage and redistribution; evaporation; hydrologic cycle, field water balance; soil-plant-atmosphere continuum.

Unit VIII

Composition of soil air; renewal of soil air - convective flow and diffusion; measurement of soil aeration; aeration requirement for plant growth; soil air management.

Unit IX

Modes of energy transfer in soils; energy balance; thermal properties of soil; measurement of soil temperature; soil temperature in relation to plant growth; soiltemperature management.

VI. Practical

- Determination of B.D, P.D and mass volume relationship of soil, Mechanical analysis by hydrometer and international pipette method,
- Measurement of Atterberg limits, Aggregate analysis - dry and wet, Measurement of soil- water content by different methods, Measurement of soil-water potential by using tensiometer and gypsum Blocks, Determination of soil-moisture characteristics curve and computation of pore-size, distribution, Determination of hydraulic conductivity under saturated and unsaturated conditions, Determination of infiltration rate of soil, Determination of aeration porosity and oxygen diffusion rate, Soil temperature measurements by different methods, Estimation of water balance components in bare and cropped fields.

VII. Teaching methods/activities

Classroom teaching with AV aids, group discussion, oral presentation by students.

VIII. Learning outcome

Experience on the knowledge of soil physical properties and processes in relation to plant growth.

IX. Suggested Reading

- Baver LD, Gardner WH and Gardner WR. 1972. *Soil Physics*. John Wiley & Sons.
- Ghildyal BP and Tripathi RP. 2001. *Soil Physics*. New Age International.
- Hanks JR and Ashcroft GL. 1980. *Applied Soil Physics*. Springer Verlag.
- Hillel D. 1972. *Optimizing the Soil Physical Environment toward Greater Crop Yields*. Academic Press.
- Hillel D. 1980. *Applications of Soil Physics*. Academic Press.
- Hillel D. 1980. *Fundamentals of Soil Physics*. Academic Press.
- Hillel D. 1998. *Environmental Soil Physi*cs. Academic Press.
- Hillel D. 2003. *Introduction to Environmental Soil Physics*. Academic Press.
- Indian Society of Soil Science. 2002. *Fundamentals of Soil Science*. ISSS, New Delhi.
- Kirkham D and Powers WL. 1972. *Advanced Soil Physics*. Wiley-Interscience.
- Kohnke H. 1968. *Soil Physics*. McGraw Hill.
- Lal R and Shukla MK. 2004. *Principles of Soil Physics*. Marcel Dekker.
- Oswal MC. 1994. *Soil Physics*. Oxford & IBH.

I. Course Title : Soil Fertility and Fertilizer Use

II. Course Code : AGR 554

III. Credit Hours : 3+1

IV. Aim of the course

To impart knowledge about soil fertility and its control, and to understand the role of fertilizers and manures in supplying nutrients to plants so as to achieve high fertilizer use efficiency.

V. Theory

Unit I

Soil fertility and soil productivity; fertility status of major soils group of India;

nutrient sources – fertilizers and manures; Criteria of essentiality, classification, law of minimum and maximum, essential plant nutrients - functions and deficiency symptoms, Nutrient uptake, nutrient interactions in soils and plants; long term effect of manures and fertilizers on soil fertility and crop productivity.

Unit II

Soil and fertilizer nitrogen – sources, forms, immobilization and mineralization, nitrification, denitrification; biological nitrogen fixation -types, mechanism, microorganisms and factors affecting; nitrogenous fertilizers and their fate in soils; management of fertilizer nitrogen in lowland and upland conditions for high fertilizer use efficiency.

Unit III

Soil and fertilizer phosphorus - forms, immobilization, mineralization, reactions in acid andalkali soils; factors affecting phosphorus availability in soils; phosphatic fertilizers - behavior in soilsand management under field conditions. Potassium - forms, equilibrium in soils and its agriculturalsignificance; mechanism of potassium fixation; management of potassium fertilizers under fieldconditions.

Unit V

Sulphur - source, forms, fertilizers and their behavior in soils; roleincropsandhuman health; calcium and magnesium– factors affecting their availability in soils; management of sulphur, calcium and magnesium fertilizers.

Unit VI

Micronutrients – critical limits in soils and plants; factors affecting their availability and correction of their deficiencies in plants; role of chelates in nutrient availability.

Unit VII

Common soil test methods for fertilizer recommendations; quantity–intensityrelationships; soil test crop response correlations and response functions.

Unit VIII

Fertilizer use efficiency; site-specific nutrient management; plant need based nutrient management; integrated nutrient management; specialityfertilizersconcept, needand category.CurrentstatusofspecialityfertilizersuseinsoilsandcropsofIndia;

Unit IX

Soil fertility evaluation - biological methods, soil, plant and tissue tests; soilquality in relation to sustainable agriculture, Determination of critical limit, DRIS

Unit X

Definition and concepts of soil health and soil quality; Longterm effects of fertilizers and soil quality.

VI. Practical

- Soil and plant sampling and processing for chemical analysis
- Determination of soil pH, total and organic carbon in soil
- Chemical analysis of soil for total and available nutrients(major and micro)
- Analysis of plants for essential elements(major and micro)

VII. Teaching methods/activities

Classroom teaching with AV aids, group discussion, oral presentation by students.

VIII. Learning outcome

Experience on the knowledge of soil fertility and fertilizers in relation to plant growth and development.

IX. Suggested Reading

- Brady NC and Weil RR. 2002. *The Nature and Properties of Soils*. 13th Ed. Pearson Edu.
- Kabata-Pendias A and Pendias H. 1992. *Trace Elements in Soils and Plants*. CRC Press.
- Kannaiyan S, Kumar K and Govindarajan K. 2004. *Biofertilizers Technology*. Scientific Publ.
- Leigh J G. 2002. *Nitrogen Fixation at the Millennium*. Elsevier.
- Mengel K and Kirkby EA. 1982. *Principles of Plant Nutrition*. International Potash Institute, Switzerland.
- Mortvedt JJ, Shuman LM, Cox FR and Welch RM. 1991. *Micronutrients in Agriculture*. 2nd Ed. SSSA, Madison.
- Pierzinsky GM, Sims TJ and Vance JF. 2002. *Soils and Environmental Quality*. 2nd Ed. CRC Press.
- Stevenson FJ and Cole MA. 1999. *Cycles of Soil: Carbon, Nitrogen, Phosphorus, Sulphur, Micronutrients*. John Wiley & Sons.
- Tisdale SL, Nelson SL, Beaton JD and Havlin JL. 1999. *Soil Fertility and Fertilizers*. 5th Ed. Prentice Hall of India.
- Troeh FR and Thompson LM. 2005. *Soils and Soil Fertility*. Blackwell.

I. Course Title : Soil Chemistry

II. Course Code : AGR 553

III. Credit Hours : 2+1

IV. Suggested Reading

To introduce the classical concepts of soil chemistry and to familiarize students with modern developments in chemistry of soils in relation to using soils as a medium for plant growth.

V. Theory

Unit I

Chemical (elemental) composition of the earth's crust, soils, rocks and minerals

Unit II

Elements of equilibrium thermodynamics, chemical equilibria, electrochemistry and chemical kinetics.

Unit III

Soil colloids: inorganic and organic colloids - origin of charge, concept of point of zero-charge (PZC) and its dependence on variable-charge soil components, surface charge characteristics of soils; diffuse double layer theories of soil colloids, zeta potential, stability, coagulation/flocculation and peptization of soil colloids; electrometric properties of soil colloids; sorption properties of soil colloids; soil organic matter - fractionation of soil organic matter and different fractions, Characterization of OM; clay-organic interactions.

Unit IV

Ion exchange processes in soil; cation exchange- theories based on law of massaction (Kerr-Vanselow, Gapon equations, hysteresis, Jenny's concept), adsorptionisotherms, Donnan-membrane equilibrium concept, clay-membrane electrodes and ionicactivity measurement, thermodynamics, statistical mechanics; anion and ligand exchange–

innersphere and outer-sphere surface complex formation, fixation of oxyanions, hysteresisin sorption-desorption of oxy-anions and anions, shift of PZC on ligand exchange, AEC, CEC; experimental methods to study ion exchange phenomena and practical implications in plant nutrition.

Unit V

Potassium, phosphate and ammonium fixation in soils covering specificand non- specific sorption; precipitation-dissolution equilibria; Conceptof quantity/intensity(Q/ I)relationship; step and constant-rate K; managementaspects.

Unit VI

Chemistry of acid soils; active and potential acidity; lime potential, chemistry of acid soils; sub-soil acidity.

Unit VII

Chemistry of salt-affected soils and amendments; soil pH, ECe, ESP, SAR and important relations; soil management and amendments.

Unit VIII

Chemistry and electrochemistry of submerged soils, geochemistry of micronutrients, environmental soil chemistry

VI. Practical

Preparation of saturation extract, measurement of pH, EC, CO, HCO, Ca, Mg, K and Na, Determination of CEC and AEC of soils, Analysis of equilibrium soil solution for pH, EC, Eh by the use of Eh-pH meter andconductivity meter, Determination of point of zero-charge and associated surface charge characteristics by the serial potentiometric titration method, Extraction of humic substances, Potentiometric and conductometric titration of soil humic and fulvic acids, (E4/E6) ratio of soil humic and fulvic acids by visible spectrophotometric studies and the D (E4/E6) values at two pH values, Adsorption-desorption of phosphate/sulphate by soil using simple adsorption isotherm, Construction of adsorption envelope of soils by using phosphate/fluoride/sulphate and ascertaining the mechanism of the ligand exchange process involved, Determination of titratable acidity of an acid soil by BaCl2-TEA method, Determination of Q/I relationship of potassium, Determination of lime requirement of an acid soil by buffer method, Determination of gypsum requirement of an alkali soil.

VII. Teaching methods/activities

Classroom teaching with AV aids, group discussion, oral presentation by students.

VIII. Learning outcome

Experience on the knowledge of chemical behaviour of soil and their utility in research for solving field problem.

IX. Suggested Reading

- Bear RE. 1964. *Chemistry of the Soil.* Oxford and IBH.
- Bolt GH and Bruggenwert MGM. 1978. *Soil Chemistry*. Elsevier.
- Greenland DJ and Hayes MHB. 1981. *Chemistry of Soil Processes*. John Wiley & Sons.
- Greenland DJ and Hayes MHB. *Chemistry of Soil Constituents*. John Wiley & Sons.
- McBride MB. 1994. *Environmental Chemistry of Soils.* Oxford University Press.
- Sposito G. 1981. *The Thermodynamics of Soil Solutions*. Oxford University Press.
- Sposito G. 1984. *The Surface Chemistry of Soils*. Oxford University Press.

- Sposito G. 1989. *The Chemistry of Soils*. Oxford University Press.
- Stevenson FJ. 1994. *Humus Chemistry*. 2nd Ed. John Wiley & Sons.
- Van Olphan H. 1977. *Introduction to Clay Colloid Chemistry*. John Wiley & Sons.

I. Course Title : Soil Mineralogy, Genesis and Classification

II. Course Code : AGR657

III. Credit Hours : 2+1

IV. Aim of the course

To acquaint students with basic structure of alumino-silicate minerals and genesis of clay minerals; soil genesis interms of factors and processes of soil formation, and to enable students conduct soil survey and interpret soil survey reports in terms of land use planning.

V. Theory

Unit I

Fundamentals of crystallography, space lattice, coordination theory, isomorphism and polymorphism.

Unit II

Classification, structure, chemical composition and properties of clay minerals; genesis and transformation of crystal line and non-crystal line clay minerals; identification techniques; amorphous soil constituents and other non-crystalline silicate minerals and their identification; clay minerals in Indian soils, role of clay minerals in plant nutrition, interaction of clay with humus, pesticides and heavy metals.

Unit III

Factors of soil formation, soil formation models; soil forming processes; weathering of rocks and mineral transformations; soil profile; weathering sequences of minerals with special reference to Indian soils.

Unit IV

Concept of soil individual; soil classification systems – historical developments and modern systems of soil classification with special emphasis on soil taxonomy; soil classification, soil mineralogy and soil maps – usefulness.

VI. Practical

- Separation of sand, silt and clay fraction from soil
- Determination of specific surface area and CEC of clay
- Identification and quantification of minerals in soil fractions
- Morphological properties of soil profile in different land forms
- Classification of soils using soil taxonomy
- Calculation of weathering indices and its application in soil formation
- Grouping soil susing available database in terms of soil quality

VII. Teaching methods/activities

Classroom teaching with AV aids, group discussion, oral presentation by students.

VIII. Learning outcome

Experience on the knowledge of soil taxonomy and genesis and and their utility in research for solving field problem.

IX. Suggested Reading

- Brady NC and Weil RR. 2002. *The Nature and Properties of Soils*. 13th Ed. Pearson Edu. Buol EW, Hole ED, MacCracken RJ and Southard RJ. 1997. *Soil Genesis*
- *and Classification*. 4th Ed. Panima Publ.
- Dixon JB and Weed SB. 1989. *Minerals in Soil Environments*. 2nd Ed. Soil Science Society of America, Madison.
- Grim RE. 1968. *Clay Mineralogy*. McGraw Hill.
- Indian Society of Soil Science 2002. *Fundamentals of Soil Science*. ISSS, New Delhi.
- Sehgal J. 2002. *Introductory Pedology: Concepts and Applications*. New Delhi
- Sehgal J. 2002. *Pedology - Concepts and Applications*. Kalyani.
- USDA. 1999. *Soil Taxonomy*. Hand Book No. 436. 2nd Ed. USDA NRCS, Washington.
- Wade FA and Mattox RB. 1960. *Elements of Crystallography and Mineralogy*. Oxford & IBH.
- Wilding LP and Smeck NE. 1983. *Pedogenesis and Soil Taxonomy*: II. *The Soil Orders*. Elsevier.
- Wilding NE and Holl GF. (Eds.). 1983. *Pedogenesis and Soil Taxonomy*. I.

I. Course Title : Soil Erosion and Conservation

II. Course Code : AGR 550

III. Credit Hours : 2+1

IV. Aim of the course

To enable students to understand various types of soil erosion and measures to betaken for controlling soil erosion to conserve soil and water.

V. Theory

Unit I

History, distribution, identification and description of soil erosionproblems in India.

Unit II

Forms of soil erosion; effects of soil erosion and factors affecting soilerosion; types and mechanisms of water erosion; raindrops and soil erosion; rainfall erosivity - estimation as EI30 index and kinetic energy; factors affectingwater erosion; empirical and quantitative estimation of water erosion; methods of measurement and prediction of runoff; soil losses in relation to soil properties andprecipitation.

Unit III

Wind erosion- types, mechanism and factors affecting wind erosion; extent of problem in the country.

Unit IV

Principles of erosion control; erosion control measures – agronomical and engineering; erosion control structures - their design and layout.

Unit V

Soil conservation planning; land capability classification; soil conservation in special problem areas such as hilly, arid and semi-arid regions, waterlogged and wet lands.

Unit VI

Watershed management - concept, objectives and approach; water
harvesting and recycling; flood control in watershed management; socioeconomic aspects of watershed management; case studies in respect to monitoring and

evaluation of watersheds; use of remote sensing in assessment and planning of watersheds, sediment measurement

VI. Practical

- Determination of different soil erodibility indices - suspension percentage, dispersion ratio, erosion ratio, clay ratio, clay/moisture equivalent ratio, percolation ratio, raindrop erodibility index
- Computation of kinetic energy of falling rain drops
- Computation of rainfall erosivity index (EI30) using rain gauge data
- Land capability classification of a watershed
- Visits to a watersheds

VII. Teaching methods/activities

Classroom teaching with AV aids, group discussion, oral presentation by students.

VIII. Learning outcome

Experience on the knowledge of soil conservation and their utility in research for solving field problem.

IX. Suggested Reading

- Biswas TD and Narayanasamy G. (Eds.) 1996. *Soil Management in Relation to Land Degradation and Environment*. Bull. Indian Society of Soil Science No. 17.
- Doran JW and Jones AJ. 1996. *Methods of Assessing Soil Quality*. Soil Science Society of America, Spl Publ. No. 49, Madison, USA.
- Gurmal Singh, Venkataramanan C, Sastry G and Joshi BP. 1990. *Manual of Soil and Water Conservation Practices*. Oxford & IBH.
- Hudson N. 1995. *Soil Conservation*. Iowa State University Press.
- Indian Society of Soil Science 2002. *Fundamentals of Soil Science*. ISSS, New Delhi.
- Oswal MC. 1994. *Soil Physics*. Oxford & IBH.

I. Course Title : Dryland Farming and Watershed Management

II. Course Code. : AGR504

III. Credit Hours : 2+1

IV. Aim of the course

To teach the basic concepts and practices of dry land farming and soil moisture conservation.

Theory

Unit I

Definition, concept and characteristics of dry land farming; dry land versus rainfed farming; significance and dimensions of dry land farming in Indian agriculture.

Unit II

Soil and climatic parameters with special emphasis on rainfall characteristics; constraints limiting crop production in dry land areas; types of drought, characterization of environment for water availability; crop
planning for erratic and aberrant weather conditions.

Unit III

Stress physiology and resistance to drought, adaptation of crop plants to drought,

drought management strategies; preparation of appropriate crop plans for dry land areas; mid contingent plan for aberrant weather conditions.

Unit IV

Tillage, tilth, frequency and depth of cultivation, compaction in soil tillage; concept of conservation tillage; tillage in relation to weed control and moisture conservation; techniques and practices of soil moisture conservation (use of mulches, kinds, effectiveness and economics); antitranspirants; soil and crop management techniques, seeding and efficient fertilizer use.

Unit V

Concept of watershed resource management, problems, approach and components.

V. Practical

- Method of Seed Priming
- Determination of moisture content of germination of important dryland crops
- Determination of Relative Water Content and Saturation Deficit of Leaf
- Moisture stress effects and recovery behaviour of important crops
- Estimation of Potential ET by Thornthwaite method
- Estimation of Reference ET ny Penman Monteith Method
- Classification of climate by Thornthwaite method (based on moisture index, humidity index and aridity index)
- Classification of climate by Koppen Method
- Estimation of water balance by Thornthwaite method
- Estimation of water balance by FAO method
- Assessment of drought
- Estimation of length of growing period
- Estimation of probability of rain and crop planning for different drought condition
- Spray of anti-transpirants and their effect on crops
- Water use efficiency
- Visit to dryland research stations and watershed projects

VI. Teaching methods/activities

Classroom teaching with AV aids, group discussion, assignment.

VII. Learning outcome

Basic knowledge on dry land farming and soil moisture conservation.

VIII. Suggested Reading

- Reddy TY. 2018. *Dryland Agriculture Principles and Practices*, Kalyani publishers
- Das NR. 2007. *Tillage and Crop Production*. Scientific Publ.
- Dhopte AM. 2002. *Agrotechnology for Dryland Farming*. Scientific Publ.
- Dhruv Narayan VV. 2002. *Soil and Water Conservation Research in India*. ICAR.
- Gupta US. (Ed.). 1995. *Production and Improvements of Crops forDrylands*. Oxford & IBH.
- Katyal JC and Farrington J. 1995. *Research for Rainfed Farming*. CRIDA.
- Rao SC and Ryan J. 2007. *Challenges and Strategies of Dryland Agriculture*. Scientific Publ.
- Singh P and Maliwal PL. 2005. *Technologies for Food Security and Sustainable Agriculture.* Agrotech Publ. Company.
- Singh RP. 1988. *Improved Agronomic Practices for Dryland Crops*. CRIDA.
- Singh RP. 2005. *Sustainable Development of Dryland Agriculture in India*. Scientific Publ.
- Singh SD. 1998. *Arid Land Irrigation and Ecological Management*. Scientific Publ.
- Venkateshwarlu J. 2004. *Rainfed Agriculture in India. Research and Development Scenario*. ICAR.

I. Course Title : Agronomy of Major Cereals and Pulses

II. Course Code : AGR506

III. Credit Hours: 2+0

IV. Aim of the course

To impart knowledge of crop husbandry of cereals and pulse crops.

V. Theory

Origin and history, area and production, classification, improved varieties, adaptability, climate, soil, water and cultural requirements, nutrition, quality components, handling and processing of the produce for maximum production of:

Unit I: *Rabi* cereals. **Unit II:** *Kharif* cereals. **Unit III:** *Rabi* pulses. **Unit IV:** *Kharif* pulses.

- Phenological studies at different growth stages of crop
- Estimation of crop yield on the basis of yield attributes
- Formulation of cropping schemes for various farm sizes and calculation of cropping and rotational intensities
- Working out growth indices (CGR, RGR, NAR, LAI, LAD, LAR, LWR, SLA, SLW etc)
- Assessment of land use and yield advantage (Rotational intensity, Cropping intensity, Diversity Index, Sustainable Yield Index Crop Equivalent Yield, Land Equivalent ration, Aggressiveness, Relative Crowding Coefficient, Competition Ratio and ATER etc)
- Estimation of protein content in pulses
- Planning and layout of field experiments
- Judging of physiological maturity in different crops
- Intercultural operations in different crops
- Determination of cost of cultivation of different crops
- Working out harvest index of various crops
- Study of seed production techniques in selected crops
- Visit of field experiments on cultural, fertilizer, weed control and water management aspects
- Visit to nearby villages for identification of constraints in crop production

VII. Teaching methods/activities

Classroom teaching with AV aids, group discussion, assignment and class discussion

VIII. Learning outcome

Basic knowledge on cereals and pulse growing in the country .

IX. Resources

- Das NR. 2007. *Introduction to Crops of India*. Scientific Publ.
- Hunsigi G and Krishna KR. 1998. *Science of Field Crop Production*. Oxford & IBH.
- Jeswani LM and Baldev B. 1997. *Advances in Pulse Production Technology*.ICAR.
- Khare D and Bhale MS. 2000. *Seed Technology*. Scientific Publ.
- Kumar Ranjeet and Singh NP. 2003. *Maize Production in India: Golden Grain in Transition*. IARI, New Delhi.
- Pal M, Deka J and Rai RK. 1996. *Fundamentals of Cereal Crop Production*.Tata McGraw Hill.
- Prasad Rajendra. 2002. *Text Book of Field Crop Production*. ICAR.
- Singh C, Singh P and Singh R. 2003. *Modern Techniques of Raising FieldCrops*. Oxford & IBH.
- Singh SS. 1998. *Crop Management*. Kalyani.
- Yadav DS. 1992. *Pulse Crops*. Kalyani.

I. Course Title: Principles and Practices of Water Management

II. Course Code: AGR611

III. Credit Hours: 2+1

IV. Aim of the course

To teach the principles of water management and practices to enhance the water productivity

V. Theory

Unit I

Water and its role in plants; Irrigation: Definition and objectives, water resources and irrigation development in of India and concerned state, major irrigation projects, extent of area and crops irrigated in India and in different states.Unit II

Field water cycle, water movement in soil and plants; transpiration; soil-water- plant relationships; water absorption by plants; plant response to water stress, crop plant adaptation to moisture stress condition. Water availability and its relationship with nutrient availability and loses.

Unit III

Soil, plant and meteorological factors determining water needs of crops, scheduling, depth and methods of irrigation; micro irrigation systems; deficit irrigation; fertigation; management of water in controlled environments and polyhouses. Irrigation efficiency and water use efficiency.

Unit IV

Water management of crop and cropping system, Quality of irrigation water and management of saline water for irrigation, water use efficiency, Crop water requirement- estimation of ET and effective rainfall; Water management of the major crops and cropping systems. Automated irrigation system.

Unit V

Excess of soil water and plant growth; water management in problem soils, drainage requirement of crops and methods of field drainage, their layout and spacing; rain water management and its utilization for crop production.

Unit VI

Quality of irrigation water and management of saline water for irrigation, water management in problem soils

Unit VII

Soil moisture conservation, water harvesting, rain water management and its utilization for crop production.

Unit VIII Hydroponics, **Unit IX**

Water management of crops under climate change scenario.

VI. Practical

- Determination of Field capacity by field method
- Determination of Permanent Wilting Point by sunflower pot culture technique
- Determination of Field capacity and Permanent Wilting Point by Pressure Plate Apparatus
- Determination of Hygroscopic Coefficient
- Determination of maximum water holding capacity of soil
- Measurement of matric potential using gauge and mercury type tensiometer
- Determination of soil-moisture characteristics curves
- Determination of saturated hydraulic conductivity by constant and falling head method
- Determination of hydraulic conductivity of saturated soil below the water table by auger hole method
- Measurement of soil water diffusivity
- Estimation of unsaturated hydraulic conductivity
- Estimation of upward flux of water using tensiometer and from depth ground water table

- Determination of irrigation requirement of crops (calculations)
- Determination of effective rainfall (calculations)
- Determination of ET of crops by soil moisture depletion method16. Determination of water requirements of crops
- Measurement of irrigation water by volume and velocity-area method
- Measurement of irrigation water by measuring devices and calculation of irrigation efficiency
- Determination of infiltration rate by double ring infiltrometer

VII. Teaching methods/activities

Classroom teaching with AV aids, group discussion, assignment and field visit

VIII. Learning outcome

Basic knowledge on water management for optimization of crop yield

IX. Suggested Reading

- Majumdar DK. 2014. *Irrigation Water Management: Principles and Practice*. PHL Learning private publishers
- Mukund Joshi. 2013. *A Text Book of Irrigation and Water Management Hardcover*, Kalyani publishers
- Lenka D. 1999. *Irrigation and Drainage*. Kalyani.
- Michael AM. 1978. *Irrigation: Theory and Practice*. Vikas Publ.
- Paliwal KV. 1972. *Irrigation with Saline Water*. IARI Monograph, New Delhi.
- Panda SC. 2003. *Principles and Practices of Water Management*. Agrobios.
- Prihar SS and Sandhu BS. 1987. *Irrigation of Food Crops - Principles and Practices*. ICAR.
- Reddy SR. 2000. *Principles of Crop Production*. Kalyani.
- Singh Pratap and Maliwal PL. 2005. *Technologies for Food Security and Sustainable Agriculture*. Agrotech Publ.

I. Course Title : Soil Biology and Biochemistry

II. Course Code : AGR556

III. Credit Hours : 2+1

IV. Aim of the course

To teach students the basics of soil biology and biochemistry, including biogeochemical cycles, plant growth promoting rhizobacteria, microbial interactions in soil and other soil activities.

V. Theory

Unit I

Soilbiota, soil microbialecology, types of organisms indifferent soils; soil microbial biomass; microbial interactions; un-culturable soilbiota.

Unit II

Microbiology and biochemistry of root-soil interface; phyllosphere; soil enzymes, origin, activities and importance; soil characteristics influencing growth and activity of microflora; Root rhizosphere and PGPR.

Unit III

Microbial transformations of nitrogen, phosphorus, sulphur, iron and manganese in soil; biochemical composition and biodegradation of soil organic matter and crop

residues, microbiology and biochemistry of decomposition of carbonaceous and protenaceous materials, cycles of important organic nutrients.

Unit IV

organic wastes and their use for production of biogas and manures; biotic factors in soil development; microbial toxins in the soil.

Unit V

Preparation and preservation of farmyard manure, animal manures, rural and urban composts and vermicompost.

Unit VI

Biofertilizers–definition, classification, specifications, method of production and role in crop production; FCO specifications and quality control of biofertilizers.

Unit VII

Biological indicators of soil quality; bioremediation of contaminated soils; microbial transformations of heavy metals in soil; role of soil organisms inpedogenesis – important mechanisms and controlling factors; soil genomics and bioprospecting; soil sickness due to biological agents; xenobiotics; antibiotic production in soil.

VI. Practical

- Determination of soil microbial population
- Soil microbial biomass carbon
- Elemental composition, fractionation of organic matter and functional groups
- Decomposition of organic matter in soil
- Soil enzymes
- Measurement of important soil microbial processes such as ammonification, nitrification, N_2 fixation, S oxidation, P solubilization and mineralization of other micronutrients

VII. Teaching methods/ activities

Classroom teaching with AV aids, group discussion, oral presentation by students.

VIII. Learning outcome

Experience on the knowledge of soil microbes and their utility in research for solving field problem.

IX. Suggested Reading

- Paul EA and Clark FE. *Soil Microbiology and Biochemistry.*
- Lynch JM. *Soil Biotechnology*
- Willey JM, Linda M. Sherwood and Woolverton CJ. *Prescott's Microbiology.*
- Subba Rao NS. *Advances In Agricultural Microbiology.*

I. Course Title : Radioisotopes in Soil and Plant Studies

II. Course Code : AGR555

III. Credit Hours : 1+1

IV. Aim of the course

To train students in the use of radio isotopes in soil and plant research.

V. Theory

Unit I

Atomic structure, radio activity and units; radio isotopes-properties and decay principles; nature and properties of nuclear radiations; interaction of nuclear radiations with matter, artificial radioactivity

Unit II

Principles and use of radiation monitoring instruments-proportional, Geiger Muller counter, solid and liquids cintillation counters; neutron moisture meter, mass spectrometry, autoradiography

Unit III

Isotopic dilution techniques used in soil and plant research; use of stable isotopes; application of isotopes in studies on organic matter, nutrient transformations, ion transport, rooting pattern and fertilizer use efficiency; carbon dating

Unit IV

Doses of radiation exposure, radiation safety aspects regulatory aspects, collection, storage and disposal of radioactive wastes

VI. Practical

- Storage and handling of radioactive materials
- Determination of half-life and decay constant
- Preparation of soil and plant samples for radioactive measurements
- Settingup of experiment on fertilizer use efficiency and cation exchange equilibria using radio isotopes
- Determination of A, E and L values of soil using 32P/65Zn
- Use of neutron probe for moisture determination
- Sample preparation and measurement of 15N enrichment by mass spectro photometery/ emission spectrometry

VII. Teaching methods/ activities

Classroom teaching with AV aids, group discussion, oral presentation by students.

VIII. Learning outcome

Experience on the knowledge of radio activity and their utility in research for solving field problems.

IX. Suggested Reading

- Comer CL. 1955. *Radioisotopes in Biology and Agriculture: Principles and Practice*. Tata McGraw Hill.
- Glasstone S. 1967. *Source Book on Atomic Energy*. East West Press.
- Michael FL and Annunziata. 2003. *Handbook of Radioactivity Analysis*. Academic Press.

I. Course Title : **Remote Sensing and GIS Technique for Soil, Water and Crop Studies**

II. Course Code : **AGR561**

III. Credit Hours : **2+1**

IV. Aim of the course

To impart knowledge about the basic concepts of remote sensing, aerial photographs and imageries, and their interpretation; application of remote sensing in general and with special reference to soil, plants and yield forecasting; to impart knowledge about geo-statistical techniques with special reference to krigging, and GIS and applications in agriculture.

V. Theory

Unit I

Introduction and history of remote sensing; sources, propagation of radiations in atmosphere; interactions with matter, basic concepts and principles; hardware and software requirements; common terminologies of geographic information system (GIS)

Unit II

Sensor systems-camera, microwave radio meters and scanners; fundamentals of aerial photographs and multispectral imaging, hyperspectral imaging, thermal imaging; image processing and interpretations.

Unit III

Application of remote sensing techniques-landuse soil surveys, crop stress and yield forecasting, prioritization in watershed and drought management, waste land identification and management.

Unit IV

Significance and sources of the spatial and temporal variability in soils; variability in relation to size of sampling; classical and geo-statistical techniques of evolution of soil variability.

Unit V

Applications of GIS for water resources, agriculture, precision farming, disaster management, e-governance, Agricultural Research Information System (ARIS).

VI. Practical

Familiarization with different remote sensing equipments and data products, Interpretation of aerial photo graphs and satellite data for mapping of land resources, Analysis of variability of different soil properties with classical and geostatistical techniques, Creation of datafiles in a database programme, Use of GIS for soil spatial simulation and analysis, To enable the students to conduct soil survey and interpret soil survey reports in terms of land use planning.

VII. Teaching methods/activities

Classroom teaching with AV aids, group discussion, oral presentation by students.

VIII. Learning outcome

Experience on the knowledge of remote sensing and their utility in research for solving field problem.

- Brady NC and Weil RR. 2002. *The Nature and Properties of Soils*. 13th Ed. Pearson Edu.
- Elangovan K. 2006. *GIS Fundamentals, Applications and Implementations*. New India Publ. Agency.
- Lillesand TM and Kiefer RW. 1994. *Remote Sensing and Image Interpretation*. 3rd Ed. Wiley.
- Nielsen DR and Wendroth O. 2003. *Spatial and Temporal Statis*tics. Catena Verloggmbh.
- Star J and Esles J. 1990. *Geographic Information System: An Introduction*. Prentice Hall.

I. Course Title : Analytical Technique and Instrumental Methods in Soil and Plant Analysis

II. Course Code : AGR558

III. Credit Hours : 0+2

IV. Aim of the course

To familiarize the students with commonly used instruments – their working, preparations of common analytical reagents for qualitative and quantitative analysis of both soil as well as plant samples.

V. Practical

Unit I

Preparation of solutions for standard curves, indicators and standard solutions for acid-base, oxidation reduction and complexometric titration; soil, water and plant sampling techniques, their processing and handling.

Unit II

Determination of nutrient potentials and potential buffering capacities of soils for phosphorus and potassium; estimation of phosphorus, ammonium and potassium fixation capacities of soils.

Unit III

Principles of visible, ultra violet and infrared spectrophotometery, atomic absorption, flame-photometry, inductively coupled plasma spectrometry; chromatographic techniques, mass spectrometry and X-ray defractrometery; identification of minerals by X-ray by different methods, CHNS analyzer.

Unit IV

Electrochemical titration of clays; estimation of exchangeable cations (Na, Ca, Mg, K); estimation of root cation exchange capacity.

Unit V

Wet digestion/fusion/extraction of soil with aquaregia with soil for elemental analysis; triacid/di-acid digestion of plant samples; determination of available and total nutrients (N, P, K, S, Ca, Mg, Zn, Cu, Fe, Mn, B, Mo) in soils; determination of total nutrients (N, P, K, S, Ca, Mg, Zn, Cu, Fe, Mn, B, Mo) in plants

Unit VI

Drawing normalized exchange isotherms; measurement of redox potential.

VI. Teaching methods/activities

Classroom teaching and laboratory practicals

VII. Learning outcome

Development of confidence for setting soil testing laboratory.

VIII. Suggested Reading

- Hesse P. 971. *Textbook of Soil Chemical Analysis*. William Clowes & Sons.
- Jackson ML. 1967. *Soil Chemical Analysis*. Prentice Hall of India.
- Keith A Smith 1991. *Soil Analysis; Modern Instrumental Techniques*. Marcel Dekker.
- Kenneth Helrich 1990. *Official Methods of Analysis*. Association of Official Analytical Chemists.
- Page AL, Miller RH and Keeney DR. 1982. *Methods of Soil Analysis*. Part II. SSSA, Madison.
- Piper CE. *Soil and Plant Analysis*. Hans Publ.
- Singh D, Chhonkar PK and Pandey RN. 1999. *Soil Plant Water Analysis - A Methods Manual*. IARI, New Delhi.
- Tan KH. 2003. *Soil Sampling, Preparation and Analysis*. CRC Press/Taylor & Francis.
- Tandon HLS. 1993. *Methods of Analysis of Soils, Fertilizers and Wa*ters. FDCO, New Delhi.
- Vogel AL. 1979. *A Textbook of Quantitative Inorganic Analysis*. ELBS Longman.

I. Course Title: Management of Problem Soils and Water

II. Course Code: AGR659

III. Credit Hours :2+1

IV. Aim of the course

To educate students about basic concepts of problem soils and brackish water, and their management. Attention will be on management of problem soils and safe use of brackish water in relation to crop production.

V. Theory

Unit I

Area and distribution of problem soils–acidic, saline, sodic and physically degraded soils; origin and basic concept of problematic soils, and factors responsible.

Unit II

Morphological features of saline, sodic and saline-sodic soils; characterization of salt-affected soils-soluble salts, ESP, pH; physical, chemical and microbiological properties.

Unit III

Management of salt-affected soils; salt tolerance of crops- mechanism and ratings; salt stress meaning and its effect on crop growth, monitoring of soils alinity in the field; management principles for sandy, clayey, red lateritic and dryland soils.

Unit IV

Acid soils-nature of soil acidity, sources of soil acidity; effect on plant growth, lime requirement of acid soils; management of acid soils; biological sickness of soils and its management.

Unit V

Quality of irrigation water; management of brackish water for irrigation; salt balance under irrigation; characterization of brackish waters, area and extent; relationship in water use and quality.

Agronomic practices in relation to problematic soils; cropping pattern for utilizing poor quality groundwaters.

VI. Practical

Characterization of acid, acid sulfate, salt-affected and calcareous soils, Determination of cations (Na+, K+, Ca++ and Mg++) in groundwater and soil samples, Determination of an ions (Cl^-, SO_4^-, CO_3^- and HCO_3^-) in ground waters and soil samples, Lime and gypsum requirements of acid and sodic soils.

VII. Teaching methods/activities

Classroom teaching with AV aids, group discussion, oral presentation by students.

VIII. Learning outcome

Experience on solving field problem of problem soil and waters.

IX. Resources

- Bear FE. 1964. *Chemistry of the Soil*. Oxford & IBH.
- Jurinak JJ. 1978. *Salt-affected Soils*. Department of Soil Science & Biometeorology. Utah State University
- USDA Handbook No. 60. 1954. *Diagnosis and improvement of Saline and Alkali Soils*. Oxford & IBH.

I. Course Title : Land Degradation and Restoration

II. Course Code : AGR562

III. Credit Hours : 1+0

IV. Aim of the course

To impart knowledge related to various factors and processes of land degradation and their restoration techniques.

V. Theory

Unit I

Type, factors and processes of soil/land degradation and its impact on soil productivity including soil fauna, biodegradation and environment.

Unit II

Land restoration and conservation techniques-erosion control, reclamation of salt- affectedsoils; minelandreclamation, afforestation, organic products.

Unit III

Extent, diagnosis and mapping of land degradation by conventional and modern RS-GIS tools; monitoring land degradation by fast assessment, modern tools, land use policy, incentives and participatory approach for reversing land degradation; global issues for twenty first century.

VI. Teaching methods/activities

Classroom teaching with AV aids, group discussion, oral presentation by students.

VII. Learning outcome

Experience on restoration of degraded soil for optimization of crop yield.

VIII. Suggested Reading

- Biswas TD and Narayanasamy G. (Eds.). 1996. *Soil Management in Relation to Land Degradation and Environment*. Bull. Indian Soc. Soil Sci. 17, New Delhi.
- Doran JW and Jones AJ. 1996. *Methods of Assessing Soil Quality*. Soil Science Society of America, Madison.
- Greenland DJ and Szabolcs I. 1994. *Soil Resilience and Sustainable Land Use*. CABI.
- Lal R, Blum WEH, Vailentine C and Stewart BA. 1997. *Methods for Assessment of Soil Degradation*. CRC Press.
- Sehgal J and Abrol IP. 1994. *Soil Degradation in India - Status and Impact*. Oxford & IBH.

I. Course Title : Soil Survey and Land Use Planning

II. Course Code : AGR563

III. Credit Hours : 2+0

IV. Aim of the course

To teach the better utilization of land for agricultural purposes, and better management of run-off or surplus/ excessive rain-water in the catchment area for agricultural purposes in a watershed.

V. Theory

Unit I

Soil survey and its types; soil survey techniques- conventional and modern; soil series–characterization and procedure for establishing soil series; benchmark soils and soil correlations; soil survey interpretations; thematic soil maps, cartography, mapping units, techniques for gene ration of soil maps, application of remote sensing and GIS in soil survey and mapping of major soil group of India

Unit II

Landform–soil relationship; major soil groups of India with special reference to respective states; land capability classification and land irrigability classification; land evaluation and land use type (LUT)–concept and application; approaches for managing soils and landscapes in the framework of agro-ecosystem.

Unit III

Concept and techniques of land use planning; factors governing present land use; Land evaluation method sand soil-site suitability evaluation for different crops; land capability classification and constraints in application.

Unit IV

Agro-ecological regions/sub-regions of India and their characteristics in relation to crop production. Status of LUP in India.

VI. Practical

- Aerial photo and satellite data interpretation for soil and land use
- Cartographic techniques for preparation of base maps and thematic maps, processing of field sheets, compilation and obstruction of maps in differentscales
- Land use planning exercises using conventional and RS tools

VII. Teaching methods/activities

Classroom teaching with AV aids, group discussion, field visit and exposure visit

Planning for land use in proper way for higher crop productivity.

IX. Suggested Reading

- Boul SW, Hole ED, MacCraken RJ and Southard RJ. 1997. *Soil Genesis and Classification.* 4th Ed. Panima Publ.
- Brewer R. 1976. *Fabric and Mineral Analysis of Soils.* John Wiley & Sons.

I. Course Title : Introduction to Nanotechnology

II. Course Code : AGR560

III. Credit Hours : 2+1

IV. Aim of the course

To impart basic knowledge about nanoscience, properties of nanoparticles and their applications in biology

V. Theory

Unit I

General introduction: Basics of quantum mechanics, harmonic oscillator, magnetic phenomena, band structure in solids, Mössbauer effect and spectroscopy, optical phenomena, bond in solids, an isotropy.

Unit II

Nanostructures: growth of compound semiconductors, super lattices, self-assembled quantum dots, nano-particles, nano tubes and nanowires, fullerenes (buckballs, graphene). Nanofabrication and nano-patterning: Optical, X-ray, and electron beam lithography, self-assembled organic layers, process of synthesis of nanopowders, electrode position, important nanomaterials.

Unit III

Mechanical properties, magnetic properties, electrical properties, electronic conduction with nanoparticles, investigating and manipulating materials in the nanoscale: Electron microscopy

Unit IV

Nano-biology: Interaction between biomolecules and nano-particle surface, different types of in organic materials used for the synthesis of hybrid nano-bioassemblies, application of nano-inagriculture, current status of nano-biotechnology, future perspectives of nano-biology, nano-sensors.

VI. Practical

- Sources of nanoparticles and its preparation by different approaches
- Electrospinning and its use in agriculture and allied sector.
- Equipments used in Nanotechnology: its principle and uses
- Acquaintances with different equipments used in nanotechnology.
- Synthesis and characterization of Ag and ZnO nanoparticles.
- Mode of action of ZnO nanoparticles against soil borne diseases
- Study on efficacy of ZnO nanoparticles as seed treating agent on plant growth parameters.

VII. Teaching methods/activities

Classroom teaching with AV aids, group discussion, oral presentation by students.

VIII. Learning outcome

Experience on the knowledge of nano science and their utility in research for solving field problem.

IX. Suggested Reading

- Balandin AA and Wang KL. 2006. *Handbook of semiconductor nano structures and nano devices.* California: American Scientific Publishers.
- Timp G. 1999. *Nanotechnology*. New York: Springer Verlag.
- Challa Kumar SSR. 2006. *Nanotechnologies for the life sciences*. Weinheim: Wiley-VCHGmbH.
- Kohler M and Frintzsche W. 2007. *Nanotechnology: Introduction to nanostructuring techniques* W Weinheim: Wiley-VCH Verlag GmbH.
- Kosal ME. 2009. *Nanotechnology for chemicao and biological defense*. Dordrecht: Stringer

Library and Information Services (LIB501)

(0+1)

Objective

To equip the library users with skills to trace information from libraries efficiently, to apprise them of information and knowledge resources, to carry out literature survey, to formulate information search strategies, and to use modern tools (Internet, OPAC, search engines, etc.) of information search.

Practical

Introduction to library and its services; Role of libraries in education, research and technology transfer; Classification systems and organization of library; Sources of information- Primary Sources, Secondary Sources and Tertiary Sources; Intricacies of abstracting and indexing services (Science Citation Index, Biological Abstracts, Chemical Abstracts, CABI Abstracts, etc.); Tracing information from reference sources; Literature survey; Citation techniques/ Preparation of bibliography; Use of CD-ROM Databases, Online Public Access Catalogue and other computerized library services; Use of Internet including search engines and its resources; e-resources access methods.

Technical Writing and Communications Skills (AGR692)

(0+1)

Objective

To equip the students/ scholars with skills to write dissertations, research papers, etc. To equip the students/ scholars with skills to communicate and articulate in English (verbal as well as writing).

Practical (Technical Writing)

- Various forms of scientific writings- theses, technical papers, reviews, manuals, etc.;
- Various parts of thesis and research communications (title page, authorship contents page, preface, introduction, review of literature, material and methods, experimental results and discussion);
- Writing of abstracts, summaries, précis, citations, etc.;

- Commonly used abbreviations in the theses and research communications;
- Illustrations, photographs and drawings with suitable captions; pagination, numbering of tables and illustrations;
- Writing of numbers and dates in scientific write-ups;
- Editing and proof-reading;
- Writing of a review article;
- Communication Skills - Grammar (Tenses, parts of speech, clauses, punctuation marks);
- Error analysis (Common errors), Concord, Collocation, Phonetic symbols and transcription;
- Accentual pattern: Weak forms in connected speech;
- Participation in group discussion;
- Facing an interview;
- Presentation of scientific papers.

Suggested Readings

1. Barnes and Noble. Robert C. (Ed.). 2005. *Spoken English: Flourish Your Language*.
2. *Chicago Manual of Style*. 14th Ed. 1996. Prentice Hall of India.
3. *Collins' Cobuild English Dictionary*. 1995.
4. Harper Collins. Gordon HM and Walter JA. 1970. *Technical Writing*. 3rd Ed.
5. Holt, Rinehart and Winston. Hornby AS. 2000. *Comp. Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary of Current English*. 6th Ed. Oxford University Press.
6. James HS. 1994. *Handbook for Technical Writing*. NTC Business Books.
7. Joseph G. 2000. *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers*. 5th Ed. Affiliated East-West Press.
8. Mohan K. 2005. *Speaking English Effectively*. MacMillan India.
9. Richard WS. 1969. *Technical Writing*.
10. Sethi J and Dhamija PV. 2004. *Course in Phonetics and Spoken English*. 2nd Ed. Prentice Hall of India.
11. Wren PC and Martin H. 2006. *High School English Grammar and Composition*. S. Chand & Co.

Intellectual Property and Its Management In Agriculture (BOT622) (1+0)

Objective

The main objective of this course is to equip students and stakeholders with knowledge of Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) related protection systems, their significance and use of IPR as a tool for wealth and value creation in a knowledge- based economy.

Theory

Historical perspectives and need for the introduction of Intellectual Property Right regime; TRIPs and various provisions in TRIPS Agreement; Intellectual Property and Intellectual Property Rights (IPR), benefits of securing IPRs; Indian Legislations for the protection of various types of Intellectual Properties; Fundamentals of patents, copyrights, geographical indications, designs and layout, trade secrets and traditional knowledge, trademarks, protection of plant varieties and farmers' rights and biodiversity protection; Protectable subject matters, protection in biotechnology, protection of other biological materials, ownership and period of protection; National

Biodiversity protection initiatives; Convention on Biological Diversity; International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture; Licensing of technologies, Material transfer agreements, Research collaboration Agreement, License Agreement.

Suggested Readings

1. Erbisch FH and Maredia K.1998. *Intellectual Property Rights in Agricultural Biotechnology*. CABI.
2. Ganguli P. 2001. *Intellectual Property Rights: Unleashing Knowledge Economy*. McGraw-Hill.
3. *Intellectual Property Rights: Key to New Wealth Generation*. 2001. NRDC and Aesthetic Technologies.
4. Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India. 2004. *State of Indian Farmer*. Vol. V. Technology Generation and IPR Issues. Academic Foundation.
5. Rothschild M and Scott N. (Ed.). 2003. *Intellectual Property Rights in Animal Breeding and Genetics*. CABI.
6. Saha R. (Ed.). 2006. *Intellectual Property Rights in NAM and Other Developing Countries: A Compendium on Law and Policies*. Daya Publ. House.

The Indian Acts - Patents Act, 1970 and amendments; Design Act, 2000; Trademarks Act, 1999; The Copyright Act, 1957 and amendments; Layout Design Act, 2000; PPV and FR Act 2001, and Rules 2003; The Biological Diversity Act, 2002.

Basic Concepts i n Laboratory Techniques (0+1) (AGR590)

Objective

To acquaint the students about the basics of commonly used techniques in laboratory.

Practical

- Safety measures while in Lab;
- Handling of chemical substances;
- Use of burettes, pipettes, measuring cylinders, flasks, separatory funnel, condensers, micropipettes and vaccupets;
- Washing, drying and sterilization of glassware;
- Drying of solvents/ chemicals;
- Weighing and preparation of solutions of different strengths and their dilution;
- Handling techniques of solutions;
- Preparation of different agro-chemical doses in field and pot applications;
- Preparation of solutions of acids;
- Neutralisation of acid and bases;
- Preparation of buffers of different strengths and pH values;
- Use and handling of microscope, laminar flow, vacuum pumps, viscometer, thermometer, magnetic stirrer, micro-ovens, incubators, sandbath, waterbath, oilbath;
- Electric wiring and earthing;
- Preparation of media and methods of sterilization;
- Seed viability testing, testing of pollen viability;
- Tissue culture of crop plants;
- Description of flowering plants in botanical terms in relation to taxonomy.

Suggested Readings

1. Furr AK. 2000. *CRC Hand Book of Laboratory Safety*. CRC Press.

2. Gabb MH and Latchem WE. 1968. *A Handbook of Laboratory Solutions*. Chemical Publ. Co.

Agricultural Research, Research Ethics and Rural Development Programmes (1+0) (AGR689)

Objective

To enlighten the students about the organization and functioning of agricultural research systems at national and international levels, research ethics, and rural development programmes and policies of Government.

Theory

UNIT I History of agriculture in brief; Global agricultural research system: need, scope, opportunities; Role in promoting food security, reducing poverty and protecting the environment; National Agricultural Research Systems (NARS) and Regional Agricultural Research Institutions; Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR): International Agricultural Research Centres (IARC), partnership with NARS, role as a partner in the global agricultural research system, strengthening capacities at national and regional levels; International fellowships for scientific mobility.

UNIT II Research ethics: research integrity, research safety in laboratories, welfare of animals used in research, computer ethics, standards and problems in research ethics.

UNIT III Concept and connotations of rural development, rural development policies and strategies. Rural development programmes: Community Development Programme, Intensive Agricultural District Programme, Special group – Area Specific Programme, Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) Panchayati Raj Institutions, Co-operatives, Voluntary Agencies/ Non-Governmental Organisations. Critical evaluation of rural development policies and programmes. Constraints in implementation of rural policies and programmes.

Suggested Readings

1. Bhalla GS and Singh G. 2001. *Indian Agriculture - Four Decades of Development*. Sage Publ.
2. Punia MS. *Manual on International Research and Research Ethics*. CCS Haryana Agricultural University, Hisar.
3. Rao BSV. 2007. *Rural Development Strategies and Role of Institutions - Issues, Innovations and Initiatives*. Mittal Publ.
4. Singh K. 1998. *Rural Development - Principles, Policies and Management*. Sage Publ.

Disaster management and Risk Management (EVS601) (2+0)

Theory

UNIT-I

Natural Disasters- Meaning and nature of natural disasters, their types and effects. Floods, drought, cyclone, earthquakes, landslides, avalanches, volcanic eruptions, Heat and cold waves, Climatic change: global warming, Sea level rise, ozone depletion.

UNIT-II

Man-made disasters- Nuclear disasters, chemical disasters, biological disasters, building fire, coal fire, forest fire, field fires-burning of straw, stables and residues oil fire, air pollution, water pollution, deforestation, industrial waste water pollution, road accidents, rail accidents, air accidents, sea accidents.

UNIT-III

Disaster Management- Effect to migrate natural disaster at national and global levels. International strategy for disaster reduction. Concept of disaster management, national disaster management framework; financial arrangements;

UNIT-IV

Role of NGOs, community –based organizations and media. Central, state, district and local administration; Armed forces in disaster response; Disaster response; Police and other organizations.

Suggested Readings

Jagbir Singh 2009. *Disaster management future challenges and opportunity*. *IK International Publishing House Pvt.*

RB Singh. 2011. *National hazards and disaster management. UBS*

I. Course Title : Experimental Designs

II. Course Code: MAT529

III. Credit Hours : 2+1

IV. Aim of the course

This course is meant for students of agricultural and animal sciences other than Agricultural Statistics. Designing an experiment is an integrated component of research in almost all sciences. The students would be exposed to concepts of Design of Experiments so as to enable them to understand the concepts involved in planning, designing their experiments and analysis of experimental data.

V. Theory

Unit I

Need for designing of experiments, characteristics of a good design. Basic principles of designs- randomization, replication and local control.

Unit II

Uniformity trials, size and shape of plots and blocks, Analysis of variance, Completely randomized design, randomized block design and Latin square design.

Unit III

Factorial experiments, (symmetrical as well as asymmetrical). orthogonality and partitioning of degrees of freedom. Concept of confounding.

Unit IV

Split plot and strip plot designs, analysis of covariance and missing plot techniques in randomized block and Latin square designs; Transformations, Balanced Incomplete Block Design, resolvable designs and their applications, Lattice design, alpha design - concepts, randomization procedure, analysis and interpretation of
results. Response surfaces. Combined analysis.

VI. Practical

• Uniformity trial data analysis, formation of plots and blocks, Fairfield Smith Law, Analysis of data obtained from CRD, RBD, LSD, Analysis of factorial experiments,

• Analysis with missing data,

• Split plot and strip plot designs.

VII. Suggested Reading

• Cochran WG and Cox GM. 1957. Experimental Designs. 2nd Ed. John Wiley.
• Dean AM and Voss D. 1999. Design and Analysis of Experiments. Springer.
• Montgomery DC. 2012. Design and Analysis of Experiments, 8th Ed. John Wiley.
• Federer WT. 1985. Experimental Designs. MacMillan.
• Fisher RA. 1953. Design and Analysis of Experiments. Oliver & Boyd.
• Nigam AK and Gupta VK. 1979. Handbook on Analysis of Agricultural Experiments. ASRI
Publ.
• Pearce SC. 1983. The Agricultural Field Experiment: A Statistical Examination of Theory
and Practice. John Wiley.
• www.drs.icar.gov.in.

I. Course Title : Computer Fundamentals and Programming

II. Course Code : CSE004

III. Credit Hours: 2+1

IV. Aim of the course

This is a course on Computer Fundamentals and Programming that aims at exposing the students to understand how computer works, analytical skills to solve problems using computers. andto write computer programs using C.

V. Theory

Unit I

Functional units of computer, I/O devices, primary and secondary memories. Number systems: decimal, octal, binary and hexadecimal; Representation of integers, fixed and floating point numbers, Operator precedence, character representation; ASCII, Unicode.

Unit II

Programming Fundamentals with C - Algorithm, techniques of problem solving, flowcharting, stepwise refinement; Constants and variables; Data types: integer, character, real, data types; Arithmetic expressions, assignment statements, logical expressions. Control flow

Unit III

Arrays and structures. Pointers, dynamic memory allocations

Unit IV

Program Structures – functions, subroutines

Unit V

I/O operations, Program correctness; Debugging and testing of programs.

VI. Practical

• Conversion of different number types;
• Creation of flow chart, conversion of algorithm/flowchart to program;
• Mathematical operators, operator precedence;
• Sequence, control and iteration;
• Arrays and string processing;
• Matrix operations, Sorting, Pointers and File processing – Reading and writing text files.

VII. Suggested Reading

• Balaguruswamy E. 2019. Programming with ANSI C. Tata McGraw Hill.
• Gottfried B. 2017. Programming with C, Schaum Outline Series. Tata McGraw Hill.
• Kanetkar Y. 1999. Let Us C. BPB Publ.