

Discipline Specific Elective Paper-III

HORTICULTURAL PRACTICES AND POST-HARVEST TECHNOLOGY

Unit-I

- (i) Introduction: Scope and importance, Branches of horticulture; Role in rural economy and employment generation; Importance in food and nutritional security; Urban horticulture and ecotourism.
- (ii) Ornamental plants: Types, classification (annuals, perennials, climbers and trees); Identification and salient features of some ornamental plants [rose, marigold, gladiolus, carnations, orchids, poppies, gerberas, tuberose, sages, cacti and succulents (*Opuntia*, *Agave* and spurge)]

Unit-II

- (i) Fruit and vegetable crops: Production, origin and distribution; Description of plants and their economic products; Management and marketing of vegetable and fruit crops.
- (ii) Horticultural techniques: Application of manure, fertilizers, nutrients and PGRs; Weed control; Biofertilizers, biopesticides; Irrigation methods (drip irrigation, surface irrigation, furrow and border irrigation); Hydroponics; Propagation Methods: asexual (grafting, cutting, layering, budding), sexual (seed propagation), Scope and limitations.
- (iii) Landscaping and garden design :Planning and layout (parks and avenues); gardening traditions - Ancient Indian, European, Mughal and Japanese Gardens; Urban forestry; policies and practices.

Unit-III

- (i) Post-harvest technology: Importance of post harvest technology in horticultural crops; Evaluation of quality traits; Harvesting and handling of fruits, vegetables and cut flowers; Principles, methods of preservation and processing; Methods of minimizing losses during storage and transportation;
- (ii) Disease control and management : Field and post-harvest diseases; Identification of deficiency symptoms; remedial measures and nutritional management practices; Crop sanitation; IPM strategies (genetic, biological and chemical methods for pest control); Quarantine practices;

Unit-IV

Horticultural crops - conservation and management: Documentation and conservation of germplasm; Role of micropropagation and tissue culture techniques; Varieties and cultivars of various horticultural crops; IPR issues; National, international and professional societies and sources of information on horticulture.

PRACTICAL

- i. Identification and description of salient features of ornamental plants included in the syllabus.
- ii. Horticultural techniques (Drip irrigation, surface irrigation, furrow and border irrigation).
- iii. Study of practice of asexual propagation methods (grafting, cutting, layering, budding)
- iv. Planning and layout of parks and avenues
- v. Handling of harvested fruits, vegetables and cut flowers
- vi. Methods of fruit preservation
- vii. Basic tissue cultures technique

Text Books:

1. Peter, K. V. (2009). Basics of Horticulture, Kalyani Publishers, New Delhi.

Reference Books:

1. Singh, D. & Manivannan, S. (2009). Genetic Resources of Horticultural Crops. Ridhi International, Delhi, India.
2. Swaminathan, M.S. and Kochhar, S.L. (2007). Groves of Beauty and Plenty: An Atlas of Major Flowering Trees in India. Macmillan Publishers, India.
3. NIIR Board (2005). Cultivation of Fruits, Vegetables and Floriculture. National Institute of Industrial Research Board, Delhi.
4. Kader, A.A. (2002). Post-Harvest Technology of Horticultural Crops. UCANR Publications, USA.
5. Capon, B. (2010). Botany for Gardeners. 3rd Edition. Timber Press, Portland, Oregon.
6. Pandey, P. H. (2007). Principles and Practices of Post Harvest Technology, Kalyani Publishers, New Delhi.

