

ANNEXURE – I
TAMIL NADU PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
SYLLABUS
AGRICULTURE
(DIPLOMA STANDARD)

Code: 431

Unit -I - Agronomic principles, practices and meteorology

Agriculture – Definition – Branches of agriculture – Classification and status of major crops in Tamil Nadu. Factors affecting crop production. Cropping systems definitions - principles - intercropping - types, Principles and Practices of Agricultural Operations – Tillage definition and types - Intercultural Operations, Implements and Tools in Agriculture – Growth stages and yield prediction.

Meteorology – Agricultural Meteorology – Definition - Importance in Crop Production - Atmosphere – Components and its importance – Weather Parameters and their role in Crop Production. Rainfall – Spatial and Temporal Variability in Tamil Nadu across Seasons – Agro Climatic Zones of Tamil Nadu. Automatic weather stations and its components – Agro advisory services.

Irrigation - water movement in soil – soil moisture constants – available soil moisture - effect of water stress on crop yield – water use efficiency – water requirement of major crops – critical stages of water requirement – irrigation scheduling – types and advantages – Irrigation methods – Micro irrigation – Flagship schemes and policies of Tamil Nadu - Irrigation water use efficiency – management of poor quality irrigation water - soil erosion due to water and control.

Weeds – definition and importance of weed control in crop production – classification of weeds – methods of weed management. Herbicide classification based on mode of action - method of application - common and new herbicides available in the market – weed control practices for major crops – parasitic, problematic and aquatic weed management - integrated weed management – concepts and practices.

Agronomic practices including climatic and soil requirement, land preparation – seeds and sowing – varieties – fertilizer management – irrigation – weed control – harvesting – Production technologies for cereals, millets, pulses, oilseeds, commercial crops, mulberry, forages and green manure crops.

Unit-II – Farming system, Dry Farming and Agro-Forestry

Integrated farming system – models and components – Schemes of Tamil Nadu. Cropping schemes – Crop calendar of operation of major crops - Dry Farming – Definition and Present Status in Tamil Nadu – Soils of Dry Farming Tracts and their limitation to Crop Production – Major Crops of Dry Land. Suitable Dry Land Technology for increased Crop Productivity – Pre-monsoon sowing – Conventional Crop Production Vs Alternate land Use in Dry Land – Drought and disaster effects and management – crop insurance schemes - Integrated Farming Systems in drylands. Erosion - Classification of Erosion – Soil moisture conservation practices – agronomical, physical and biological methods - Cultivation Practices – Water Harvest – Farm Ponds – Percolation Ponds –Weather aberrations and Contingent Crop Planning – Watershed development – definition and components. Land use classification – Role of Forests –

Agroforestry – Definition and types – Social Forestry, Urban Forestry – Agroforestry Systems - Shifting Cultivation – Alley cropping – Wind Break and Shelter Belts – Agroforestry Practices – Teak, Casuarina, Ailanthus, Neem, Bamboo, and Acacia production and management practices.

Unit-III - Soils and Fertility Management

Definition of Soil – Its main components – Soils of Tamil Nadu. Soil physical, chemical and biological properties and their significance in crop production. Soil Micro Organisms - Importance of Organic Matter on Soil Properties. Acid, Saline and Alkaline Soils and their reclamation. Soil and water pollutants and management. Irrigation water – Qualities of irrigation water - Water testing. Soil Fertility – Major, Secondary and Minor Plant Nutrients. Soil Fertility evaluation, Soil sampling and testing and fertilizer recommendations – Soil health card. Fertilizers – Nitrogenous, Phosphatic and Potassic Fertilizers – Complex and Mixed Fertilizers, Efficient use of Fertilizers – fertilizer management in major crops. Identification and management of major and minor nutrient deficiency symptoms in plants. Biostimulants – New age fertilizers – Crop Boosters - Remote sensing – GIS and GPS. Bio-Fertilizers – Groups of Bio-Fertilizers – Bacterial, Fungal, Algae and Azolla.

Unit-IV- Horticultural Crop Cultivation Techniques

Status of major horticultural crops in Tamil Nadu – Methods of propagation of major fruit crops - role of growth regulators – Soil and climate requirement - production technologies - nutrient and physiological disorders and its management - post-harvest technologies for Mango, Banana, Grapes, Papaya, Sapota, Guava, Citrus, Pomegranate, Ber, Annona, Amla, Apple, Pear, Avocado, Dragon fruit, Plum and Pineapple.

Importance of Vegetables – Nutritive Value - Methods of propagation of major vegetable crops - role of growth regulators – Types of Vegetable Garden: Kitchen Garden, Nutritional Garden, Truck Garden, Commercial Garden - Soil and climate requirement - production technologies - nutrient and physiological disorders and its management - post-harvest technologies for Tomato, Brinjal, Chillies, Bhendi, Onion, Cucurbits; Cauliflower, Cabbage, Turnip, potato, beetroot carrot, greens and perennials.

Importance of flower crops – Methods of propagation of major flower crops - role of growth regulators – Soil and climate requirement - production technologies - nutrient and physiological disorders and its management - post-harvest technologies for Jasmine, Rose, Chrysanthemum, Marigold, Tuberose, Crossandra, Cockscomb.

Garden Design – Formal and Informal Gardens – Components of Garden – Lawns and Lawn Making - Study of Important Flowering Annuals, Flowering and Foliage Shrubs – Flowering and Foliage Trees – Creepers and Climbers – Cacti and Succulents – Indoor Plants and Indoor Decoration – Cut Flowers – Flower arrangement – Bonsai Culture and dry flower decoration.

Importance of aromatic and spices, medicinal and plantation crops – Methods of propagation - role of growth regulators – Soil and climate requirement - production technologies - nutrient and physiological disorders and its management - post-harvest technologies for Spices – Pepper, Cardamom, garlic, Clove, Nutmeg, Cinnamon, Allspice, Turmeric, Ginger, tamarind, Coriander and Fenugreek. Plantation Crops – Coffee, Tea, Coconut, Arecanut, Cashew, Cocoa and Rubber. Medicinal Crops – Coleus, Gloriosa, Ashwagandha, Senna, Keezhaneli, Agave, Thulasi and Achorus.

Tissue culture and micropropagation of horticultural crops – Totipotency – Regeneration – Callus culture – Somaclonal variation – hardening of tissue culture plants.

Unit-V - Breeding and Seed Production

Field Crops – Importance – Classification – Agricultural and Industrial – Chemical Composition of Economic Parts in the Crops & Cereals, Millets, Pulses, Oilseeds, Fibres, Sugar and Starch Crops. Plant Photosynthesis – Respiration – Translocation of Assimilates. Floral biology – Reproductive and Pollination System in Plants – Mechanisms of promoting Self Pollination and Cross Pollination in crop plants – Plant genetic resources – importance – collection – characterization and conservation. Selfing incompatibility and male sterility- application and limitation – male sterility classification – GMS, CMS, CGMS, EGMS, and gametocides.

Breeding Techniques for Self Pollinated Crops – Pure line selection – Mass Selection – Hybridization and Selection – Pedigree Method – Bulk Method – Rice, Black gram, Groundnut. Two and three line breeding in rice. Breeding Techniques for Cross Pollinated and Often Cross Pollinated Crops – Mass Selection, backcross method - Heterosis Breeding – Development of Hybrids. Inbred development.

Single Cross – Double Cross and Poly Cross – Use of Male Sterile lines for Hybrid Seed Production – Synthetics and composites for crops like Maize, Cumbu, Redgram, Cotton, sorghum, Castor, Sunflower, Coconut. Breeding Methods for vegetatively propagated crops – Clonal Selection – Hybridization and selection for crops like Sugarcane, Tapioca, Potato and fodder crops. Mutation in crop improvement – Polyploid in Crop Improvement – Inter Specific Hybridization. Importance and success stories. Geographical indications, PPV & FR Act and IPR.

Seed – Importance – Seed Quality Characteristics – Classes of Seed – Nucleus, Breeder, Foundation and Certified Seed – Guidelines for Seed Production – Multiplication Ratio – Seed Certification, general certification standards – Field Inspection and Certification – Seed Standards –Pollination and Role of Insects, Environmental and Edaphic Factors. Seed registration - Seed Production Techniques for Varieties and Hybrid in Rice, Maize, millets, Pulses, Cotton, Oilseeds, fodder crops and Important Vegetables: Tomato, Brinjal, Chillies, Bhendi, Lablab, onion and Cucurbits. Harvesting, Processing, Treatment Storage, Seed Health and Marketing.

Unit-VI - Plant Protection Principles and Practices

Insects - Definitions – Characters – Economic Classification – Sericulture – Rearing of Mulberry silk worms – Apiculture – Role of Bees in Crop Productivity – Hiving Bees and Apiary Management. Beneficial Insects – Insect Pollinators – Predators and Parasitoids. Pest – Definition – Categories of Pests – Pest outbreak – Pest Monitoring – Pest Surveillance – Forecasting – Economic Threshold Level – Economic Injury Level. Pest Management Components – Cultural, Physical, Mechanical, Legal and Integrated Methods – Use of Resistant Varieties, Biological Control – Parasitoids, Predator and Microbial Agents.

Pesticides – Groups, Classification, Mode of Action – Formulation and Uses, Principles of Pesticides application – Hazards in the use of Pesticides and Environmental Pollution – Safe Handling of Pesticides new and organic pesticides – Pesticide residue - Behavior modifying chemicals – Use of Pheromones in pest management and behavioral modifying chemicals; approach.

Damage symptoms - life cycle and Integrated management practices of insect and non insect pests of Rice, Millets, Cotton, Sugarcane, Pulses, Oilseeds, Brinjal, Tomato, Bendi, Cucurbits, Crucifers, Moringa, Tapioca, Chillies, Onion, Coconut, Arecanut, Turmeric, Curry-leaf, Coffee, Tea, Cardamom, Pepper, Betelvine, Flower crops, Mango, Citrus, Banana, Grapes, sapota, Guava, Pomegranate, Pests of stored materials and their management.

Plant diseases – definition, Causes of plant diseases – Fungi, Bacteria, Viruses and Mycoplasma – Categories of plant diseases – Mode of spread – Environmental factors influencing diseases out breaks. Control exclusion – Eradication – Immunization – Protection – Cultural – Methods of Control– Bio control – Economics of the new technologies, Useful fungi – mushroom, cultivation of Oyster mushroom, Trichoderma – utility – Nematodes – Types – Symptoms – Management.

Fungicide – Characteristics – Major groups – Formulation and Applications – Phytotoxicity – Precautions in using fungicides – Antibiotics in plant disease management. Bio technology and its application in disease management – Assessment of crop diseases and losses – Plant Disease Control - Principles - Integrated Pest Management of major diseases caused by Fungi, Bacteria, Virus and Mycoplasma in Cereals, Pulses, Oilseeds, Cash crops – Fruits – Vegetables – Plantation crops – Spices – Flowers and their management.

Unit-VII- Livestock, Poultry Management, Artificial Insemination and Calf Rearing

Significance and role of livestock and poultry in Indian economy – Various systems of livestock production – extensive – semi intensive – intensive – mixed – Integrated farming systems – Manure management methods – Definition of breed – classification of indigenous, exotic cattle and buffaloes – Breed characteristics of Sindhi, Kangeyam and Umblacherry, Jersey, Holstein Frisian, Murrah and Surti. Breeding – importance of cross breeding.

Artificial Insemination – merits and demerits – Housing management – farm site selection space requirement for calves, heifer, milch animal and work bullocks – Type and design of house. – Systems of housing – Single row system – Double row system – head to head and tail to tail – merits and demerits – Care and management of new born calf and heifers – Care and management of pregnant, lactating animals and work bullocks.

Milk – Definition – clean milk production – methods of milking – hand and machine milking – Processing of milk – cooling Pasteurization – Definition – Various methods – Low Temperature Long Time and High Temperature Short Time – advantages and disadvantages.

Nutrition – Definition – Ration – Balanced composition of concentrate feed for dairy animal, calf and work bullock – Requirement and importance of green fodder, carrying capacity and forage cycle.

Diseases – classification – Viral, bacterial and metabolic – General control and preventive measures. – Viral Diseases – Foot and mouth – Bacterial diseases – Anthrax, Haemorrhagic septicemia and Black quarter – Metabolic – Tympanites, Ketosis and Milk fever – Mastitis and its control – Zoonotic diseases (Anthrax, Tuberculosis, Brucellosis and Rabies) – Prevention and control.

Sheep and Goat farming – classification of breeds of Indian and exotic origin – Systems of rearing – Housing management – Type design – Floor diagram – Space requirement for adult and young stock – Nutrition – common tree Fodder for small ruminants – Common ailments of sheep and goat – Sheep pox – Foot and Mouth – Blue Tongue – Enterotoxaemia – Ecto and Endo parasites Systems of poultry rearing – Backyard, Intensive systems; Nomenclature of commercial layers and broiler strains – Care and management of day old chicks – Brooder management. Systems of housing – Deep litter and cage systems – merits and demerits – Raised platform housing – Floor space requirement – litter management – care and management of layers and broilers.

Poultry Nutrition – composition of chick mash grower, layer, broiler starter and finisher mash – Feed Conversion Ratio / dozen eggs or kilogram of meat. Classification of Poultry diseases – Viral – Bacterial – Protozoan – Causative organisms, symptoms, causes and prevention – Viral diseases – Ranikhet disease - Infectious bursal disease - Bacterial disease – E. coli – Coryza – Salmonellosis – Protozoan – Coccidiosis – Vitamin and mineral deficiencies – Schemes, Policies, Subsidies in Animal Husbandry by Tamil Nadu.

Unit-VIII -Farm Machinery, Post Harvest Technology and Energy and Environment

Thrashing Floor, drying floor. I.C. Engines – Types, Introduction – Preventive maintenance and minor repairs. Tractor – Different systems of a tractor – Hydraulic system – Clutch and Transmission system – Hitching of implements to Tractor – Power Tiller – and matching Implements. Seeders and planters. Plant Protection equipment – Harvesting machinery. Agricultural Pumps – Types of pumps – Custom hiring centre – e-vadagai.

Post Harvest losses in durable and Perishable crops – Moisture content – Methods of Determination – Drying – Sun Drying – Mechanical Drying – Merits and Demerits. Shelling and Decortication – Rubber Roll Sheller – Centrifugal Dehusker. Parboiling of Paddy – Merits and Demerits – Polishing – Milling of Corn and Pulses – Principles and Methods – Seed Treater – Types of Seed Treater. Storage of Grains and Seeds – Condition for safe storage – Value addition and suitable machineries for major food grains.

Energy Resources and Forms of Energy – Conventional and Non - Conventional Energy – Solar Energy – Merits and Limitations - Energy from Bio-Mass – Technologies – Classification and types of Bio-Gas Plants – Bio-Gas from Plant Wastes – Utilization of Bio-gas. Bio Fuel Plant – Gasifiers – Smokeless Chulas.

Ecology – Natural resources – Environmental Pollution and Management – Atmospheric Pollution – Particulate emission by industries and automobiles – Smog – Acid rain – Ozone hole – Global Warming – Causes, Effects and Control measures –Traditional farming methods – Eco-Safe technologies in agriculture.

Unit IX - Commercial Agriculture

Bio-control agents - Role in pest and disease management – Categories of bio-control agents. Setting up a bio-control laboratory. Mass culture of tobacco caterpillar (*Spodoptera litura*) and gram pod borer (*Helicoverpa armigera*)- synthetic diet – mass production of SINPV and HaNPV. Mass production of *Trichogramma* spp., *Chrysoperla*, coccinellid predators, *Trichoderma viride*, *Pseudomonas fluorescens* and Entomopathogenic nematodes

Biofertilizers – Microorganisms for crop nutrition – Types – Sources of good quality strains – Facilities – equipment – and raw materials required – Types and specification of carrier material – production of azospirillum, azotobacter, Glucano acetobacter, phosphate solubilizer, potash releasing microorganism, PGPR, azolla, BGA, PPFM, and AM fungi – Shelf life and storage of carrier and liquid based biofertilizers – constraints in mass production – storage and preservation – quality standard of commercial biofertilizers – quality control biofertilizer lab in Tamil Nadu.

Mushroom- Morphology: common edible mushrooms - Pleurotus, Calocybe - poisonous mushrooms - Laboratory techniques: sterilization - Media preparation, pure culture techniques, sub-culturing and storage. Spawn: types of spawn, mother spawn and bed spawn. Cultivation: Oyster mushroom, Milky mushroom – Problems in cultivation: Biotic and abiotic disorders - Uses of mushroom: as food, nutraceutical and pharmaceutical values, composting coir-pith and other agro-wastes – Post harvest technology: methods of preservation and value addition.

Fruit and Vegetable processing – Equipments and Accessories used in processing – Preparation of Squash, Syrup, Cordial, Nectar, Ready to serve beverages – Fruit juice concentrate – Paste, Powder, Bar – Jam, Jelly, Marmalade and Candy, Preserve – Pickles – Oil, Salt and vinegar – Tomato products – Ketchup. Sauce, Puree and Paste – Canning of Fruit and Vegetables – Dehydrated Fruit and Vegetables and Re-hydration – Preservation by low temperature – cut-out analysis of canned Fruit and Vegetables – Evaluation of Frozen Fruit and Vegetables – Osmotic dehydration

Seed Production –Selection of field – Maintenance of genetic purity – Removal of offtypes – Isolation distance - Manual emasculation and Pollination - Hybrids – Single cross - double cross – Production of hybrid seed – Varieties – seed production - Use of gametocide – Merits and demerits of hybrids and varieties - Selfing, emasculation and crossing technique in Rice, millets, oilseeds, pulses, Cotton, Tomato, Bhendi – clonal multiplication – Cumbu napier – Seed registration – Field inspection and certification.

Harvesting – Physical and chemical indices – Extraction techniques – Seed processing – Use of cleaner, grader – Seed treatment – Seed packaging – Seed storage – Sanitation – Certification procedure.

Nursery Technology – preparation of land and seed treatment – Sowing and raising of rootstocks (Fruits and Flower Crops) – Application of Liquid Manure and plant protection of rootstock – Potting materials and Preparation of pot mixture – Potting of Rootstock and Hardening - Selection of Scion Plants and Grafting, Aftercare of Grafted Plants, Graft Separation and Hardening – Preparation of Cuttings of Ornamental Plants, Treating the Cuttings with growth regulators and Planting in Mist Chamber in Beds/Polybags, Potting of Rooted Cuttings and Hardening – Air Layering of Ornamental/Fruit Crops – Budding of Ornamental Plants (Rose) – Maintenance of Potted Plants – Packing and Marketing.

Organic composting - Nutrient potential of different organic manures – Preparation of FYM Compost – Composting methods - Preparation of enriched FYM – Coirpith composting – Sugarcane trash – Pressmud - Farm wastes and farm weeds - Parthenium composting – Determination of maturity indices of composts - Commercial utility of organic manures –Introduction to vermicompost – Types of Vermicompost - Materials for vermicomposting. Preliminary treatment of composting material – Small Scale vermicomposting – Large scale vermicomposting – Other types of vermicomposting – Requirements for vermicomposting – Bedding materials, container, pH, Moisture content, Temperature – Cover feed substrates - Selection of right type of worm species

- Preparation of vermicompost beds – Collection of Vermicompost – Vermicompost efficiency – Transportation of live worms – Application of vermicompost

Unit X – Agricultural Extension Agricultural Economics and Digital Agriculture

Rural Economics and Agricultural Economics – Meaning, importance and scope Sectors of Economy - Importance of agriculture in rural economy: Problems of rural economy – Population growth and its consequences. Agents of production: Land distribution – Size of land holding – Man-Land ratio - Subdivision and Fragmentation – Land reform – Ceiling on land holding, Tenurial reforms, Consolidation of land holdings

Cooperative farming and Bhoodhan movement – Success and failure. Rural labour: Meaning – Classification – Characteristics of rural labour – agricultural labour – Employment, wages and income - Minimum wages Act and other welfare measures.

Rural Banking and Finance: Meaning and Concept – Classification and purpose.

Sources of finance – Institutional and non-institutional – Government, cooperatives, nationalized commercial banks, regional rural banks and land development banks, private money lenders and other traditional sources – Establishment of NABARD and its role, Multi-agency, Service area approach. Rural industries: Importance and their classification – Investment needs – Generation of employment.

Types of agro-industries – Rural industries project - Khadi and Village Industries.

Problems of rural industries – Potentials for development of agro- industries from agricultural products and wastes – Sugarcane, Cotton seed, Banana sheath, Forestry products – Rural technologies – Technology gap – Economic and social constraints in the spread of technology. Study of important and recent rural development schemes.

Marketing and agricultural marketing – Concepts - definition and scope – Classification of Markets – Structure – Characteristics of agricultural commodities: Problems in grading and standardization. Marketing costs and marketing margins. Price spread. Advantages and problems.

Cooperative agricultural marketing societies and regulated markets – Role of National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation and TANFED. Role of specialized agencies viz., Food Corporation of India, Central Warehousing Corporation, State Warehousing Corporation in marketing of agricultural commodities and CCI – Role of Regulator Markets – Agmark – e-NAM.

Price support programmes – Buffer stock operations – Role of Commission on Agricultural Costs and Prices – Price stabilization. Agmark grading and commercial grading – Marketing information and intelligence – Marketing of agricultural inputs viz., seeds, fertilizers, plant protection chemicals and implements.

Sociology – Rural Sociology – Characteristics of rural society. Rural Youth – Their needs and aspirations. Basic rural institutions and voluntary agencies. Leadership – Classification, Characteristics and their influence. Motivation – Methods of Motivation. Social change. Adoption – Meaning, Stages, Adopter categories and their characteristics. Extension methods – Classification – Individual contact - group contact and mass contact methods. Extension aids – Audio aids, Visual aids and Audio Visual aids. Print and Electronic media. Photography, new achievements in communication technology – Transfer of Technologies through demonstrations – Field day – Exhibition – Mass media.

Visit to a village – Identifying resources, conducting participatory rural appraisal (PRA), conducting SWOT (strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats) analysis and preparing action plan for village development.

Visiting farmers – Analysis of farm resources and studying the life style of farmers, earnings, enterprises, expenditure pattern, technical information seeking behavior and dissemination of technologies. Finding the factors of adoption of technologies.

Problem diagnosis study – visiting farmers' fields, identifying technical and frequent problems like soil, pest, disease, disorders and other problems in agriculture, obtaining solutions from known sources and providing them to the farmers.

Visiting agro service centers – Studying the business techniques, farmers approach, distribution pattern, dealership pattern, knowing different agro chemicals available in markets and their prices, gaining experience in solving the farmers problems in agro service centers .

Visiting daily vegetable wholesale markets – uzhavar sandhai - assessing the price fluctuation and preparing price trend calendar for different vegetables. Preparing line chart for maximum price of different vegetables grown in the district and identifying optimum sowing period for different vegetables.

Study the potentialities, prospects and to get clear knowledge about starting agro industries and food processing industries – PMFME – Schemes and policies of government of Tamil Nadu in Agriculture – Establishment – Farmers group – FPO – Role and Functions.

Application of computer in agriculture - Multimedia Presentation – power point - Internet and E- Mail – Online reporting system – Major Apps and Web Portals (Uzhavan app, Agris net portal, Tamil man valam and latest apps) for improving livelihood of farmers - Application of artificial intelligence and IoT in agriculture.

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Code: 432

UNIT- I: BASIC HORTICULTURE AND PLANT PROPAGATION

Horticulture – Definition, scope and importance, Division and classification of horticultural crops – Horticultural zones in India and Tamil Nadu – Cropping systems – Precision farming- Planting systems –HDP and UHDP- Irrigation systems – Nutrient application methods in horticultural crops – Weed management – Training and Pruning system– Special horticultural practices – Maturity indices – Harvesting methods, pre-cooling – Packaging – Storage of horticultural crops – Protected cultivation.

Propagation – Tools and implements – Media and Containers – Types of nursery beds – Seed treatment – Sowing – Protray nursery-seedling production – Potting, depotting and repotting of plants – Methods of asexual propagation through cuttings, layering, grafting and budding – Plant propagation structures – Mist chamber and shade net – Hardening and maintenance – Polyhouse-Application Growth regulators in propagation – Nutrient management and plant protection measures – Record keeping and maintenance-nursery act and certification.

UNIT- II: SOIL AND FERTILITY, IRRIGATION AND WEED MANAGEMENT

Soil types- Physical and chemical properties- Soil organic matter and its importance- Essential nutrients for crop plants – Major, secondary and micro nutrients – Manures and fertilizers – Types of fertilizers – Straight, Complex, Compound, Mixed, Fortified, chelated and water soluble fertilizers and their reactions in soil. Soil fertility – INM practices– soil health card-Problem soils – Acid, saline and alkaline soils -Reclamation and management-Rootstocks for problem soils.

Irrigation – Sources of water for irrigation –Critical stages of water requirement – Irrigation scheduling and fertigation –Irrigation methods-water conservation methods. Study of weeds -methods of weed control–Herbicides for weed management in horticultural crops– Integrated weed management practices.

UNIT- III: PRODUCTION TECHNOLOGY OF FRUITS AND VEGETABLES

Area, production and importance of fruit crops in Tamil Nadu – Major fruit producing districts in Tamil Nadu-Layout of orchard – Physical features in orchard – Study of cultural practices of Tropical fruits – Mango, Banana, Grapes, Papaya, Sapota, Guava, Acidlime, Jackfruit, Dragon fruit. Sub-tropical and temperate fruits – Pineapple, Avocado, Mandarin orange, Apple, Pear, Plum, Strawberry with reference to soil, climate, varieties / hybrids methods of propagation (rootstocks), nutrient, irrigation and weed management practices – Training and pruning –Growth regulators – Maturity standards for harvesting – Post-harvest handling of fruit crops – Yield – Grading – packing – Storage and value added products – HDP/UHDP- Top working, double working and rejuvenation of old orchard- Organic fruit production and certification- Good Agricultural Practices (GAP).

Dry land horticulture – Arid and semi arid zones in Tamil Nadu and India. Crops suitable for dry land production – Important varieties, climate and soil requirements, commercial propagation methods – Spacing and planting systems – Cropping systems and intercropping – Mulching – Management of nutrients, water, weeds and problem soils –Training and pruning – Use of plant growth regulators – Post-harvest handling

of Aonla, custard apple, pomegranate, ber, jamun, manila tamarind and wood apple
- Soil and moisture conservation methods – Anti-transpirants.

Area, Production and importance of vegetable cultivation in Tamil Nadu –Kitchen garden-roof garden-vertical garden– Truck garden and market garden –soil and climate requirement – varieties / hybrids – Seed rate –Sowing -nursery practices – Protray nursery – Transplanting – Manuring – Irrigation – Fertigation – Nutrient deficiency and their corrective measures – Use of growth regulators – Special horticultural practices (training, staking, pruning) – Physiological disorders and corrective measures – Maturity indices – Harvesting – Grading, sorting – Packing and storage and yield for important vegetable crop; Tomato, Brinjal, Chillies, Bhendi, Onion, Bittergourd, Ridgegourd, Snake gourd, Pumpkin, Water melon, Musk melon, Ash gourd,Tapioca, Yams, Colocasia, Cabbage, Cauliflower, Radish, Carrot, Beet root, Amaranthus, Moringa, Potato, Cluster beans, Lab lab, Peas and Beans.

UNIT -IV: PRODUCTION TECHNOLOGY OF FLOWER CROPS AND LANDSCAPING

Importance of commercial flower crops – Area and production – Study of cultural practices of commercial loose flowers – Rose, Jasmine, Tuberose, Chrysanthemum, Marigold, Crossandra, Celosia, Nerium and Gomphrena. Floral concrete and pigment extraction from loose flowers -Protected structures for cut flower production – Study of cut flower production techniques of Rose, Carnation, Gerbera, Chrysanthemum, Orchids, Anthurium, Liliun, Alstroemeria, Lisianthus, Heliconia, fillers (Asparagus, limonium, gypsophylla) and foliage (dracaena and xinadu). Post-harvest management of cut flowers – Floral decorations, bouquets and dry flowers – Grading, packing and marketing of flowers-Flower Auction centres in Tamil Nadu.

Importance of ornamental gardening, landscaping and nursery business– Principles and styles and types of garden – Features of garden – Garden components and adornments – operations in planting and maintenance of trees, annuals, shrubs, climbers, creepers, herbaceous perennials, ferns, cacti and succulents, palm and cycads – Sunken garden, roof garden, rockeries, vertical garden and plant choices- Bonsai making- Lawn and lawn making – sports turf- Flower arrangements and dry flower making.

UNIT-V: PRODUCTION TECHNOLOGY OF SPICES, PLANTATION CROPS, MEDICINAL AND AROMATIC CROPS

Area, production and Importance of spice crops in Tamil Nadu – Study of production techniques of important spice crops Pepper, Cardamom, Turmeric, Ginger, Clove, Nutmeg, Cinnamon, Tamarind, Curry leaf and Coriander. Harvesting and processing – grading and packing – Organic farming and GAP in spice production.

Area, production and Importance of plantation crops in Tamil Nadu – Study of cultural operations for Tea, Coffee, Rubber, Cocoa, Cashew, Coconut, Arecanut, Oil palm and Palmyrah – Harvesting and Processing – Grading and packing – Organic farming and GAP in plantation crops.

Area, production and Importance of medicinal and aromatic plants in Tamil Nadu – Contract farming – production technologies – Medicinal crops : Glory lily, Medicinal Coleus, Senna, Periwinkle, Gymnema, Ashwagandha, Phyllanthus, Kalmegh and *Aloe vera*. Aromatic plants: Japanese mint, Rosemary, Lemon grass, Citronella, Palmarosa, Vettiver, Geranium, Patchouli and basil.

UNIT- VI: INSECT PEST AND DISEASES OF HORTICULTURAL CROPS AND THEIR MANAGEMENT

Pest - Categories – Pest management - Principles and components. Natural enemies. IPM – different types of traps - Management strategies for important insect pests groups – Chewing insects - Stem borers – Fruit borer – Sap feeders of important fruit, vegetable, spices, medicinal and plantation crops- Special pest management strategies in storage pests and poly house. Management techniques for plant parasitic nematodes –Etiology, symptoms and integrated management of important diseases.

Important pest and diseases of Fruits: Mango, Banana, Citrus, Grapes, Guava, Sapota, Pomegranate, Papaya, Jack, Pineapple, Ber, Apple, Pear, Plum Vegetables: Brinjal, Tomato, Bhendi, chilies, Cucurbits, Moringa, Crucifers, Beans, Peas, Potato and Cassava. Spices and condiments: Onion, Garlic, Chillies, Cardamom, Pepper, Turmeric, Ginger, Coriander, Clove and Nutmeg. Plantation crops: Tea, Coffee, Cocoa, Rubber, Coconut, Arecanut and Cashew. Flowers: Jasmine, Rose, Crossandra, Chrysanthemum, Tube rose, Medicinal plants: Gloriosa, Senna, Coleus, Aloe vera, Solanum nigrum and Aswagandha.

UNIT-VII: POST HARVEST HANDLING AND VALUE ADDITION OF HORTICULTURAL CROPS

Scope and importance of post harvest technology in horticultural crops - Washing, grading, sorting - pre cooling and pre treatments - Blanching and peeling methods – Post- harvest handling methods: Dehydration, Canning of fruits and vegetables – Thermal processing - Low temperature processing - Cold storage - Controlled and atmospheric storage - Refrigeration truck, ripening chamber, packaging for horticultural crops - Value addition in horticultural crops. Fruits : Jam, Jelly, Squash, RTS and Candy. Vegetables : Pickle, chutney, sauce and ketchup. Spices – Oleoresins, masala powders and mix - Food safety standards, National : Agmark, BIS, FSSAI and HACCP, International – Codex and ISO.

UNIT - VIII: LIVESTOCK MANAGEMENT AND POULTRY PRODUCTION

Significance of Livestock and Poultry - Various systems of livestock production – Important cattle Breeds - Artificial Insemination - Housing management - Feeds and fodder – Major cattle diseases and management. Sheep and Goat farming - Important breeds - Economic traits - Systems of rearing - Housing management - Nutrition - Common diseases, Ecto and endo parasites - Prevention and Control.

Poultry farming - Commercial strains of layer and broiler-backyard poultry-country birds - Housing management - Brooding management - Deep litter - Cage system - Nutrition of Chick - Grower and Layer and Broiler – Diseases - Causative organisms – Symptoms – Vaccination - Disease control and Prevention.

UNIT - IX: COMMERCIAL AGRICULTURE

Seed Production - varieties –Hybrids- emasculation and Pollination –isolation distance-rogueing-planting ratio-seed production techniques of Tomato, Brinjal, chilli, bhendi, onion, gourds, cluster bean, moringa, Amaranthus– Extraction techniques – Seed processing – Seed treatment – Seed packaging – Seed storage –Seed act-Seed inspection and Certification.

Bio-Control Agents - Importance – Examples of bio-control agents – Role in pest and disease management – Categories of bio-control agents- Spawn and Mushroom

Production - Oyster and button-Organic Composting – Enriched FYM-Vermi compost-preparation of vermi beds-coir compost-quality standards.

UNIT - X: FARM MANAGEMENT, MARKETING AND EXTENSION EDUCATION

Farm Management – types and systems of farming-collective farming - farm planning and budgeting- risk and uncertainty- Horticultural Marketing-demand and supply- Marketing costs and marketing margins - Warehousing – Processing - Cold storage - Marketing agencies and institutions - Cooperative marketing societies - Role of regulated markets – NAFED – TANFED – NHB - Commodity boards - Marketing of agricultural inputs - Market information and intelligence - AGMARKNET, DEMIC, DMI, Uzhavar Sandhai- Farmers Producers Organisation.

Agricultural Extension – methods of Communication mass contact methods. Participatory Rural Appraisal techniques. Audio - Visual aids –Farm Journalism –writing for media. Information and Communication Technology (ICT) – Computer networks, internet, video conferencing, agriportals, Kisan Call Centre, mobile apps. Geo tagging, Photography – Basic concepts,advancements.

New governmental schemes, flagship programmes, policy notes, Duties and responsibilities of AHO's, Calamity mitigation and enumeration- crop compensation - Crop Cutting Experiment and Crop Insurance- Revenue records of Farmers, Drones in Horticulture crop production-AI based weather forecasting and farm advisory-GIS mapping- Major Research Institutes in Horticulture.

Note: Medium of instruction is only in English.

PAPER -II
SYLLABUS FOR WRITTEN EXAMINATION
Part-A

கட்டாய தமிழ்மொழி தகுதித் தேர்விற்கான பாடத் திட்டம்

(கொள்குறி வினாவிற்கான தலைப்புகள்)

பத்தாம் வகுப்பு தரம்

1. பிரித்தெழுதுதல் / சேர்த்தெழுதுதல்.
2. எதிர்ச்சொல்லை எடுத்தெழுதுதல்.
3. பொருந்தாச் சொல்லைக் கண்டறிதல்.
4. பிழைதிருத்தம் (i) சந்திப்பிழையை நீக்குதல் (ii) மரபுப்பிழைகள், வழுவச் சொற்களை நீக்குதல் / பிறமொழிச் சொற்களை நீக்குதல்.
5. ஆங்கிலச் சொல்லுக்கு நேரான தமிழ்ச் சொல்லை அறிதல்.
6. ஒலி மற்றும் பொருள் வேறுபாடறிந்து சரியான பொருளையறிதல்.
7. ஒரு பொருள் தரும் பல சொற்கள்.
8. வேர்ச்சொல்லைத் தேர்வு செய்தல்.
9. வேர்ச்சொல்லைக் கொடுத்து / வினைமுற்று, வினையெச்சம், வினையாலணையும் பெயர், தொழிற்பெயரை / உருவாக்கல்.
10. அகரவரிசைப்படி சொற்களை சீர் செய்தல்.
11. சொற்களை ஒழுங்குப்படுத்தி சொற்றொடராக்குதல்.
12. இரு வினைகளின் பொருள் வேறுபாடு அறிதல்.
(எ.கா.) குவிந்து-குவித்து
13. விடைக்கேற்ற வினாவைத் தேர்ந்தெடுத்தல்.
14. எவ்வகை வாக்கியம் எனக் கண்டெழுதுதல் - தன்வினை, பிறவினை, செய்வினை, செயப்பாட்டு வினை வாக்கியங்களைக் கண்டெழுதுதல்.
15. உவமையால் விளக்கப்பெறும் பொருத்தமான பொருளைத் தேர்ந்தெழுதுதல்
16. அலுவல் சார்ந்த சொற்கள் (கலைச்சொல்)
17. விடை வகைகள்.
18. பிறமொழிச் சொற்களுக்கு இணையான தமிழ்ச் சொற்களைக் கண்டறிதல்
(எ.கா.) கோல்டு பிஸ்கட் - தங்கக்கட்டி.
19. ஊர்ப் பெயர்களின் மரபுவை எழுதுக (எ.கா.) தஞ்சாவூர் - தஞ்சை
20. நிறுத்தற்குறிகளை அறிதல்.
21. பேச்சுவழக்கு, எழுத்துவழக்கு (வாரான் - வருகிறான்).
22. சொற்களை இணைத்து புதிய சொல் உருவாக்கல்.
23. பொருத்தமான காலம் அமைத்தல்
(இறந்தகாலம், நிகழ்காலம், எதிர்காலம்).
24. சரியான வினாச்சொல்லைத் தேர்ந்தெடு.
25. சரியான இணைப்புச் சொல்
(எனவே, ஏனெனில், ஆகையால், அதனால், அதுபோல).

26. அடைப்புக்குள் உள்ள சொல்லைத் தருந்த இடத்தில் சேர்க்க.
27. இருபொருள் தருக.
28. குறில் - நெடில் மாற்றம், பொருள் வேறுபாடு.
29. கூற்று, காரணம் - சரியா? தவறா?
30. கலைச் சொற்களை அறிதல் :-
எ.கா. - Artificial Intelligence - செயற்கைநுண்ணறிவு
Super Computer - மீத்திறன் கணினி
31. பொருத்தமான பொருளைத் தெரிவு செய்தல்
32. சொற்களின் கூட்டுப் பெயர்கள் (எ.கா.) புல் -புற்கள்
33. சரியான தொடரைத் தேர்ந்தெடுத்தல்
34. பிழைதிருத்துதல் (ஒரு-ஓர்)
35. சொல் - பொருள் - பொருத்துக
36. ஒருமை-பன்மைபிழை
37. பத்தியிலிருந்து வினாவிிற்கான சரியான விடையைத் தேர்ந்தெடு.

Part-B
GENERAL STUDIES (SSLC STANDARD)

CODE NO.003

Topics for Objective Type

UNIT-I: GENERAL SCIENCE

- (i) Scientific Knowledge and Scientific Temper - Power of Reasoning - Rote Learning vs Conceptual Learning - Science as a tool to understand the past, present and future.
- (ii) Nature of Universe - General Scientific Laws – Mechanics - Properties of Matter, Force, Motion and Energy - Everyday application of the Basic Principles of Mechanics, Electricity and Magnetism, Light, Sound, Heat, Nuclear Physics, Laser, Electronics and Communications.
- (iii) Elements and Compounds, Acids, Bases, Salts, Petroleum Products, Fertilisers, Pesticides.
- (iv) Main concepts of Life Science, Classification of Living Organisms, Evolution, Genetics, Physiology, Nutrition, Health and Hygiene, Human Diseases.
- (v) Environment and Ecology.

UNIT-II: CURRENT EVENTS

- (i) History-Latest diary of events-National symbols-Profile of States-Eminent personalities and places in news-Sports-Books and authors.
- (ii) Polity – Political parties and political system in India-Public awareness and General administration- Welfare oriented Government schemes and their utility, Problems in Public Delivery Systems.
- (iii) Geography-Geographical landmarks.
- (iv) Economics-Current socio-economic issues.
- (v) Science-Latest inventions in Science and Technology.
- (vi) Prominent Personalities in various spheres – Arts, Science, Literature and Philosophy.

UNIT-III: GEOGRAPHY OF INDIA

- (i) Location – Physical features - Monsoon, Rainfall, Weather and Climate-Water Resources - Rivers in India-Soil, Minerals and Natural Resources-Forest and Wildlife - Agricultural pattern.
- (ii) Transport -Communication.
- (iii) Social Geography – Population density and distribution- Racial, Linguistic Groups and Major Tribes.
- (iv) Natural calamity – Disaster Management – Environmental pollution: Reasons and preventive measures – Climate change – Green energy.

UNIT-IV: HISTORY AND CULTURE OF INDIA

- (i) Indus Valley Civilization - Guptas, Delhi Sultans, Mughals and Marathas-Age of Vijayanagaram and Bahmani Kingdoms-South Indian History.
- (ii) Change and Continuity in the Socio-Cultural History of India.
- (iii) Characteristics of Indian Culture, Unity in Diversity –Race, Language, Custom.

- (iv) India as a Secular State, Social Harmony.

UNIT-V: INDIAN POLITY

- (i) Constitution of India-Preamble to the Constitution- Salient features of the Constitution- Union, State and Union Territory.
- (ii) Citizenship, Fundamental Rights, Fundamental Duties, Directive Principles of State Policy.
- (iii) Union Executive, Union Legislature – State Executive, State Legislature – Local Governments, Panchayat Raj.
- (iv) Spirit of Federalism: Centre-State Relationships.
- (v) Election - Judiciary in India – Rule of Law.
- (vi) Corruption in Public Life– Anti-corruption measures – Lokpal and Lok Ayukta - Right to Information- Empowerment of Women-Consumer Protection Forums, Human Rights Charter.

UNIT-VI: INDIAN ECONOMY

- (i) Nature of Indian Economy –Five year plan models-an assessment – Planning Commission and Niti Ayog.
- (ii) Sources of revenue – Reserve Bank of India – Fiscal Policy and Monetary Policy - Finance Commission–Resource sharing between Union and State Governments - Goods and Services Tax.
- (iii) Structure of Indian Economy and Employment Generation, Land Reforms and Agriculture-Application of Science and Technology in Agriculture-Industrial growth-Rural Welfare Oriented Programmes – Social Problems – Population, Education, Health, Employment, Poverty.

UNIT-VII: INDIAN NATIONAL MOVEMENT

- (i) National Renaissance –Early uprising against British rule - Indian National Congress - Emergence of leaders –B.R.Ambedkar, Bhagat Singh, Bharathiar, V.O.Chidambaranar, Jawaharlal Nehru, Kamarajar, Mahatma Gandhi, Maulana AbulKalam Azad, ThanthaiPeriyar, Rajaji, Subash Chandra Bose, Rabindranath Tagore and others.
- (ii) Different modes of Agitation: Growth of Satyagraha and Militant Movements.
- (iii) Communalism and Partition.

UNIT-VIII: History, Culture, Heritage and Socio-Political Movements in Tamil Nadu

- (i) History of Tamil Society, related Archaeological discoveries, Tamil Literature from Sangam Age till contemporary times.
- (ii) Thirukkural : (a) Significance as a Secular Literature
 - (b) Relevance to Everyday Life
 - (c) Impact of Thirukkural on Humanity
 - (d) Thirukkural and Universal Values - Equality, Humanism, etc
 - (e) Relevance to Socio-Politico-Economic affairs
 - (f) Philosophical content in Thirukkural
- (iii) Role of Tamil Nadu in freedom struggle - Early agitations against British Rule - Role of women in freedom struggle.

- (iv) Evolution of 19th and 20th Century Socio-Political Movements in Tamil Nadu - Justice Party, Growth of Rationalism - Self Respect Movement, Dravidian Movement and Principles underlying both these Movements, Contributions of Thanthai Periyar and Perarignar Anna.

UNIT-IX: Development Administration in Tamil Nadu

- (i) Human Development Indicators in Tamil Nadu and a comparative assessment across the Country – Impact of Social Reform Movements in the Socio-Economic Development of Tamil Nadu.
- (ii) Political parties and Welfare schemes for various sections of people – Rationale behind Reservation Policy and access to Social Resources - Economic trends in Tamil Nadu – Role and impact of social welfare schemes in the Socio-Economic Development of Tamil Nadu.
- (iii) Social Justice and Social Harmony as the Cornerstones of Socio-Economic Development.
- (iv) Education and Health Systems in Tamil Nadu.
- (v) Geography of Tamil Nadu and its impact on Economic growth.
- (vi) Achievements of Tamil Nadu in various fields.
- (vii) e-Governance in Tamil Nadu.

UNIT-X: APTITUDE AND MENTAL ABILITY

- (i) Simplification – Percentage - Highest Common Factor (HCF) - Lowest Common Multiple (LCM).
- (ii) Ratio and Proportion.
- (iii) Simple interest - Compound interest - Area - Volume - Time and Work.
- (iv) Logical Reasoning - Puzzles-Dice - Visual Reasoning - Alpha numeric Reasoning – Number Series.
