

IAS Mains Agriculture 1999

Paper-I

Section A

1. Write short critical notes in about 200 words each on any three of the following:
 - a. Multistorey Cropping
 - b. Drip Irrigation
 - c. Integrated Pest Management
 - d. Subsidy on food and fertilizers
2. Distinguish between soil-fertility and soil-productivity. Discuss in detail the factors affecting the productivity of the soil.
3. What is crop-weed competition? Examine the significance of critical period of weed control. Critically assess the use of herbicides in weed control in rice and wheat.
4. Discuss environmental pollution and its hazards to men, animals and crops. Suggest concrete measures to mitigate it in a developing country like India.

Section B

5. Write short critical notes in about 200 words each on any three of the following:
 - a. Bio-fertilizers
 - b. Cardinal temperature
 - c. Role of Agro-forestry in energy production
 - d. Technology for Dry Land Agriculture
6. "Marketing and pricing of agricultural inputs on one hand and outputs on the other are the greatest bottlenecks in increasing agricultural production in India." Comment
7. To an agriculturist, farm management is equally important as crop management for increased productivity and income Explain.
8. Discuss the need for changing the concept of 'Lab to Land' to 'Farmer First' Explain the roles of an agricultural scientist and farmer in these two concepts.