

## **FIRST TERM E-LEARNING NOTE**

**SUBJECT: AGRICULTURAL SCIENCE**

**CLASS: SS1**

### **SCHEME OF WORK**

#### **WEEK TOPIC**

1. Introduction to Agriculture: Meaning, Branches and Importance of Agriculture.
2. Types of Agriculture: Subsistence and Commercial Agriculture.
3. Problems of Agricultural Development in Nigeria and their Possible Solutions.
4. Roles of Government and Non-governmental Organization in Agricultural Development.
5. Roles of Science and Technology in Agricultural Development
6. Agro-Allied Industry and Relationship between Agriculture and Industry.
7. Land and its Uses: Agricultural and Non-Agricultural Uses.
8. Agricultural Laws and Reforms.
9. Environmental Factors Affecting Agricultural Production.
10. Classification of Crops:Based on Life Cycle, Morphology and Uses.
11. Revision of the Term's Work.
12. Examination.

#### **REFERENCES**

- Essential Agricultural Science by O. A. Iwena
- Fundamental Agricultural Science by P. E. Okafor
- Prescribed Agricultural Science by Omoruyi and Oruhue
- SSCE Agricultural Science pack

WEEK 1

DATE .....

## INTRODUCTION TO AGRICULTURE: MEANING, BRANCHES AND IMPORTANCE OF AGRICULTURE

### CONTENT

- Meaning of Agriculture
- Branches of Agriculture
- Importance of Agriculture

### MEANING OF AGRICULTURE

Agriculture is the art and science (or management) that deals with the cultivation of crops and the rearing of animals for man's use. This means, it refers to all the activities involving cultivation of soil for the production of crops and livestock management to the distribution and marketing of the plant and animal products.

The term, agriculture, is derived from two Latin words which are:

- (i) "Ager" which means field/farm/land.
- (ii) "Culture" which means cultivation.

By this, agriculture means field cultivation. However, this is not a complete definition of agriculture since agriculture also has to do with animal production.

### EVALUATION QUESTION

1. Define Agriculture.
2. State the two Latin words from which the term Agriculture is derived from and their meanings.

### BRANCHES OF AGRICULTURE

The branches of Agriculture include the following:

1. **Animal Science/Animal Husbandry/Animal Production:** Animal Science ensures the efficient and effective management of farm animals. It ensures better animal productivity.
2. **Veterinary Medicine/Animal Health:** Veterinary medicine provides a better health management for farm animals. It ensures the control of pests, parasites and diseases of farm animals.
3. **Soil Science:** Soil science ensures the maintenance of soil fertility, better soil classification and mapping. It also helps in erosion control, soil moisture conservation and application of appropriate fertilizer for different soil types.
4. **Crop Production/Crop Science:** Crop production helps in effective crop management practices, development of better planting materials, correct crop spacing, etc. The aspects of crop production include: Agronomy, Crop Pathology and Entomology.
5. **Agricultural Economics and Farm Management:** It ensures the effective management

of agricultural resources, promotes agricultural marketing and good farm accounting.

6. **Agricultural Engineering:** It promotes the mechanization of farm operations, development of processing and storage equipment and also maintenance of farm tools and equipment.

7. **Agricultural Extension and Education:** It promotes the training and dissemination of agricultural information to farmers, and also link farmers to researchers.

8. **Forestry and Wildlife Conservation:** It promotes the conservation of forest products, wildlife and also creation of micro climate.

9. **Fishery:** It promotes the production of fish, its management, processing and other fishing Practices.

10. **Apiculture/Bee Farming:** It promotes the production of honey for local consumption/uses.

11. **Heliculture/Snailry:** It involves the production of snails for consumption as a source of protein and minerals.

#### EVALUATION QUESTIONS

1. Define these aspects of crop science:

(a) Agronomy (b) Crop Pathology (c) Entomology

2. State three functions of: (a) Veterinary Medicine (b) Agricultural Extension

3. What are agro-based industries?

#### IMPORTANCE OF AGRICULTURE

1. **PROVISION OF FOOD:** - Agriculture provides food such as maize, rice, yam, vegetables, fruits, meat, and milk, either in fresh form or processed form for man and farm animals.
2. **SOURCE OF MATERIALS FOR CLOTHING:** Agriculture provides...