Syllabus of Research Methodology for RET in Agriculture

Unit 1: Concepts of research methodology

Importance and scope of research in agriculture. Types of research: Fundamental vs. Applied. Concept of researchable problem, Research prioritization, Selection of research problem. Approach to research, Research process.

Unit 2: Hypostheis Testing

Hypothesis- meaning- characteristics- types of hypotheses- Review of literature, Setting of course objectives and Hypothesis, Testing of hypothesis, z, t, chi-square and f-distribution

Unit 3: Data collection and descriptive analysis

Data- meaning, assessment of data needs, sources of data collection, collection of data in different fields of agriculture, Types of data, Classification, tabulation, and graphical representation of data, measures of central values, measures of dispersion, correlation and regression analysis.

Unit 4: Sampling

Sampling Theory and sampling design, methods of sampling; probability and non-probability sampling methods, Research design and techniques, Types of research design.

Unit 5: Probability

Theory of probability, Random experiment, Mathematical or classical definition of probability, Statistical definition of probability, conditional probability, Mathematical expectation.

Unit 6: Data analysis

Data coding, cleaning, transformation of data, Universal procedures for preparation of bibliography, writing of research articles, Project proposal, Introduction to ANOVA: One way and two-way, Introduction to SPSS

अधिष्ठाता
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SYLLABUS FOR RESEARCH ENTRANCE TEST (RET)

PLANT PATHOLOGY

PAPER-II

(SUBJECT CONTENT)

Unit 1: History and Principles of Plant Pathology

Milestones in phytopathology with particular reference to India. Major epidemics and their social impacts. Historical developments of chemicals, legislative, cultural and biological protection measures including classification of plant diseases. Physiologic specialization, Koch's postulates. Growth, reproduction, survival and dispersal of plant pathogens. Factors influencing infection, colonization and development of symptoms.

Unit 2: Laboratory and Analytical Techniques

Preparation and sterilization of common media. Methods of isolation of pathogens and their identification. Preservation of microorganisms in pure culture. Methods of inoculation. Measurement of plant disease. Molecular detection of pathogens in seeds and other planting materials: Nucleic acid probes, Southern, Northern and Western hybridization, ELISA, ISEM and PCR. Laboratory equipment and their use: autoclave, hot air oven, laminar flow, spectrophotometer, electrophoresis, light and electron microscopy, incubator, ultracentrifuge ELISA Reader.

Unit 3: Physiological and Molecular Plant Pathology

Altered metabolism of plants under biotic and abiotic stresses. Molecular mechanisms of pathogenesis: recognition phenomenon, penetration, invasion, primary disease determinant. Enzymes and toxins in relation to plant disease. Mechanisms of resistance. Phytoalexins. PR proteins. Antiviral proteins. SAR. HR and active oxygen radicals. Tissue culture. Somoclonal variation and somatic hybridization. Elementary genetic engineering. Management of pathogens through satellite, antisense RNA. Ribozymes, coat protein, hypovirulence cross protection/ useful genes and promoter technology biosafety and bioethics.

Unit 4: Mycology

Classification of fungi. Economic mycology, edible fungi and entomogenous fungi. Mycorrhizal associations. Cell organelles, their morphology, functions and chemical composition.

Unit 5: Plant Bacteriology

Identification and classification of bacteria, morphology, ultrastructure and chemical composition of prokaryotic cell in relation to function. Growth curve, nutrition and auxotrophic mutants. Resting cells in prokaryotic, elementary bacterial genetics and variability: transformation, conjugation, transduction. Biology of extra chromosomal elements: plasmid borne genes and their expression: avr, her, vie and pat genes. Bacteriophages: lytic and

lysogenic cycles. Prokaryotic inhibitors and their mode of action. Economic uses of prokaryotes. Morphology, biochemical characteristics, reproduction and life cycle of phytoplasma and other fastidious prokaryotes.

Unit 6: Plant Virology

Nature, composition and architecture of viruses and viroids. Properties of viruses. Variability in viruses. Satellite viruses and satellite RNA. Assay of plant viruses including biological, physical, chemical, serological and molecular methods. Conventional and biotechnological techniques used in detection and diagnosis. Behaviour of viruses in plants including infection, replication and movement. Histopathological changes induced by viruses in plants, inclusion bodies. Transmission of viruses: virus vector relationships. Nomenclature and classification of viruses.

Unit 7: Plant Disease Epidemiology

Concepts in epidemiology. Development of disease in plant population. Monocyclic and polycyclic pathogens. Role of environment and meteorological factors in the development of plant disease epidemics. Survey, surveillance (including through remote sensing), and prediction and forecasting of diseases. Epidemic analysis and prediction models. Crop loss assessment: critical and multiple point models.

Unit 8: Phanerogamic parasites and Non-parasitic Diseases

Diseases caused by Phanerogamic parasites and their management. Diseases due to unfavourable soil environment, drought and flooding stress etc. Nutritional deficiencies. Primary/secondary air pollutants and acid rain.

Unit 9: Fungal Diseases of Crop Plants

Fungal diseases of cereals, millets, oilseeds, pulses, fruits, vegetables, plantation, fiber, spices and ornamental crops with special reference to etiology, disease cycle, perpatuation, epidemiology and management. Post harvest diseases in transit and storage; aflatoxins and their integrated management.

Unit 10: Bacterial and Viral Diseases of Crop Plants

Crop diseases of cereals, pulses, oilseeds, vegetables, fruits, plantation and fiber crops caused by bacteria, viruses, viroids, phytoplasmas and other fastidious prokaryotes. Mode of transmission and pathogen vector relationships. Epidemiology and management.

Unit 11: Management of Plant diseases

General principles of plant quarantine. Exotic pathogens and pathogens introduced into India. Sanitary and phytosanitary issues under WTO, TRIPS and PRA. Genetic basis of disease resistance and pathogenicity: gene for gene hyphothesis; parasite mediated frequency-dependent selection concept of QTL mapping; breeding for disease resistance. Production of disease free seeds and planting materials. Seed certification. Chemical nature and classification of fungicides and antibiotics: their bioassy and compatibility with other agricultural chemicals; resistance to fungicides/antibiotics; effect on environment. Spraying and dusting equipments,

their care and maintenances. Important cultural practices and their role in disease management, solarization, integrated disease management. Microorganisms antagonistic to plant pathogens. in soil, rhizosphere and phyllosphere and their use in the control of plant diseases; soil fungistasis. Plant growth promoting Rhizobacteria.

UNIT WISE ITEM COMPOSITION (TOTAL: 50 Items)

Unit-I :05

Unit-II :05

Unit-III :04

Unit-IV :05

Unit-V :05

Unit-VI :04

Unit-VII :04

Unit-VIII :04

Unit-IX :05

Unit-X :04

Unit-XI :05