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OAI551 ENVIRONMENT AND AGRICULTURE

DETAILED SYLLABUS

OBJECTIVE:

• To emphasize on the importance of environment and agriculture on changing global scenario and the emerging issues connected to it.

UNIT I ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS

Environmental basis for agriculture and food – Land use and landscape changes – Water quality issues – Changing social structure and economic focus – Globalization and its impacts – Agro ecosystems.

UNIT II ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

Irrigation development and watersheds – mechanized agriculture and soil cover impacts – Erosion and problems of deposition in irrigation systems – Agricultural drainage and downstream impacts – Agriculture versus urban impacts.

UNIT III CLIMATE CHANGE

Global warming and changing environment – Ecosystem changes – Changing blue-greengrey water cycles – Water scarcity and water shortages – Desertification.

UNIT IV ECOLOGICAL DIVERSITY AND AGRICULTURE

Ecological diversity, wild life and agriculture – GM crops and their impacts on the environment – Insets and agriculture – Pollination crisis – Ecological farming principles – Forest fragmentation and agriculture – Agricultural biotechnology concerns.

UNIT V EMERGING ISSUES

Global environmental governance – alternate culture systems – Mega farms and vertical farms – Virtual water trade and its impacts on local environment – Agricultural environment policies and its impacts – Sustainable agriculture.

OUTCOMES:

• Students will appreciate the role of environment in the current practice of agriculture and concerns of sustainability, especially in the context of climate change and emerging global issues.

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• Ecological context of agriculture and its concerns will be understood

TEXTBOOKS:

- 1. M.Lakshmi Narasaiah, Environment and Agriculture, Discovery Pub. House, 2006.
- 2. Arvind Kumar, Environment and Agriculture, ABH Publications, New Delhi, 2005.

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- 1. T.C. Byerly, Environment and Agriculture, United States. Dept. of Agriculture. Economic Research Service, 2006.
- 2. Robert D. Havener, Steven A. Breth, Environment and agriculture: rethinking development issues for the 21st century: proceedings of a symposium, Winrock International Institute for Agricultural Development, 1994
- 3. Environment and agriculture: environmental problems affecting agriculture in the Asia and Pacific region; World Food Day Symposium, Bangkok, Thailand. 1989