

ASSIGNMENT BOOKLET

(For July 2011 Session)

Certificate in Organic Farming (COF)



School of Agriculture
Indira Gandhi National Open University
New Delhi – 110068

Dear Learners,

As you are aware that for theory, the weightage to the term-end examination will be 80% and the weightage to the continuous assessment will be 20%. The continuous assessment is in form of assignments. There is one assignment for each course i.e. total four assignments for the programme. Each assignment will be of 50 marks, which ultimately will be converted to have weightage of 20% of theory. Instructions to format your assignments are as follows:

Before attempting the assignments, please read the following instructions carefully.

1. First of all, read the assignment questions and instructions and identify the components of an assignment. You should read the relevant sections and sub-sections of a unit while preparing your responses. Write answers in your own words. Your responses should not be a verbatim reproduction of the textual materials / blocks provided for self- learning purpose. We also suggest that, you may read additional available in your study centre or in any other library before preparing your responses. But extra reading is not a must to answer these assignments.
2. On top of the first page of your answer sheet, please write the details exactly in the following format.

Enrollment no:.....

Name:.....

Address:.....

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Course Code:.....

Course Title:.....

Study Centre:.....

Date:.....

(Name and Code)

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3. Use foolscap size paper for writing your answer.
 4. Leave 4cm margin on the top, bottom and left of your answer sheet.
 5. Clearly indicate question no. and part of the question being solved while writing answers.

| Assignment No. | Last date of submission (For July, 2011) |
|-------------------------|---|
| Assignment 1 (BAP-001) | 31 st August, 2011 |
| Assignment 2 (BAPI-001) | 15 th September, 2011 |
| Assignment 3 (BAPI-002) | 30 th September, 2011 |
| Assignment 4 (BAPI-003) | 15 th October, 2011 |

6. Assignments please submit to the coordinator of your study centre.
7. **We strongly suggest that you should retain a copy of your assignment responses.**

Wishing you good luck !

Assignment -1
BAP -001

Course Title – Introduction to Organic Farming

Max. Marks – 50

Note: All questions are compulsory and carry equal marks.

- Q1. a) What is Mixed Farming ? Why it is recommended for Organic Farming ? 5
b) Explain the National Standards for Organic Production (NSOP) as contained in the NPOP. 5
- Q2. a) Genetically Modified (GM) crop seed is not recommended in Organic Farming. Why? 5
Give your opinion. 5
b) Explain the Ecological Principle of organic production.
- Q3. a) What is the current status of Organic Farming across the World? Give your opinion 5
about the prospect of organic farming in our country.
b) Explain the History of organic farming in World and also give the milestones of organic 5
farming.
- Q4. a) Describe the concept of Permaculture and Natural Farming approaches. 5
b) What is Biodynamic Agriculture ? Explain with the help of suitable examples. How it is 5
close to organic farming.
- Q5. Describe the benefits of organic farming in relation to Soil Fertility, Food Security and 10
Productivity.

Assignment – 2
BAPI -001

Course Title : Organic Production System

Max. Marks – 50

Note: All questions are compulsory and carry equal marks.

- Q1. a) “Crops under organic farming are more prone to insects and pests”. Elaborate this 7
sentence with the help of suitable examples.
b) Explain the common cultural and mechanical practices to manage the insect pests in the 3
organic farming.
- Q2. “ Seed is an important input for organic farming”. Elaborate this statement with suitable 10
examples. Also give a brief account of seed germination and its types.
- Q3. a) Explain the function of water in the soil with suitable examples. 3
b) What is the scheduling of irrigation ? Explain the steps of scheduling of irrigation for the 7
crops.
- Q4. What is Contamination Control ? Why it is important for organic farming? Explain with the 10
help of suitable examples.
- Q5. a) What is Crop Rotation? Write its principles and benefits in the organic farming. 5
b) Define compost and composting. Explain the process of composting with illustration. 5

Assignment – 3
BAPI – 002

Course Title: Inspection and Certification of Organic Produce

Max. Marks – 50

Note: All questions are compulsory and carry equal marks

- Q1. What is the significance of India Organic Logo as described in the NPOP ? What are its 10
common features? How it help in organic product trade? Explain in your words.

- Q2. a) What are the common steps in certification process? Elaborates all of them in detail. 5
 b) “ Documentation is an important process in organic farming”. Explain this sentence. 5
- Q3. a) How the quality of Certification Bodies is maintained? Explain in details. 5
 b) Explain the Critical Control Point for risk Assessment by the Certification Bodies. 5
- Q4. a) Explain the directives of NPOP for carrying out an internal inspection. Also give a detailed account of external inspection for the ICS. 5
 b) Explain the common steps of implementing ICS at an organic farm. 2
 c) What is the current state of certification of the organic farm in our country? Explain with the help of suitable examples and details of the accredited certification bodies in our country. 3
- Q5. a) What do you mean by OCCP in organic farming? Explain the OCCPs prescribed for processing. How it maintains the hygiene? 5
 b) What is the concept of Group Certification? How the grower group is constituted as per the NPOP norms? 5

Assignment – 4
BAPI -003

Course Title : Economics and Marketing of Organic Produce

Max. Marks – 50

Note: All questions are compulsory and carry equal marks.

- Q1. a) It is said that “Organic Production is Profitable”. Give your opinion about this statement with suitable examples. 5
 b) “During conversion, the assessment of economic viability is difficult”? Give your opinion about the readiness of Indian farmers to adopt the organic farming. 5
- Q2. a) What do you mean by market? Give an elaborative classification of different types of market. 5
 b) What is role of middlemen in the trade? What are the main players of channel of distribution of organic production. 5
- Q3. a) Describe the reasons for poor development of markets for the organic produce in our country. How it can be overcome? 5
 b) Elaborate the marketing channels for agriculture produce with the help of suitable examples. 5
- Q4. a) What do you mean by market function? Describe the importance of marketing function in relation to the organic farming. 5
 b) How a surveyor collects data from the field? Give a detailed description of this. 5
- Q5. a) What is scope of using the secondary data in the organic trade? Explain with suitable examples. 5
 b) Describe the supply chain for organic fruits and vegetables. 5