AGRICULTURE
at a Glance
(An Enhanced Competition Explorer)

Useful for:

⭐ M.Sc. & Ph.D. Examinations of IGKV, BHU, GBPUAT & various Indian Agricultural Universities
⭐ JRF, SRF, NET & ARS Examinations of ICAR
⭐ ADA, ADO, RAEO, ASCO & Bank AO Examinations

Author
R.K. Sharma

Co-Authors
S.K. Bhoi, N. Pandey, S. Shinde & V.K. Pandey

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Agriculture plays an important role to meet the demand of mankind like food, fibre, fuel etc. by optimum use of terrestrial resources. The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), New Delhi is conducting All India Competitive Examination every year for awarding JRF, SRF, NET, ARS etc. In addition to that, Common Entrance Test for competitive examinations of postgraduate degree and Doctor of Philosophy degree of various State Agricultural Universities, RAEO, ADO, SEDO, ADA, ASCO of State Boards, Administrative and Banking Services are being conducted to select suitable candidates. All theses examinations are mostly based on objective type questions and students always look for study material that is ready to use and easy to grasp. There are only few books available in the market on agriculture which completely satisfy the requirement of the students particularly for those who are preparing for competitive examinations. Keeping in view, it was felt to bring out a book which could serve the basic and innovative knowledge of various fields of agriculture.

The present book “Agriculture at a Glance” has been prepared in most simple, clear and appropriate manner by taking the view of students, teachers and scientists. We hope that the book will fulfill the need of students appearing in agricultural based competitive examinations.

The cooperation and encouragement extended by our family members, friends, students, teachers and scientists during the completion of this book is highly appreciable.

We humbly welcome the valuable suggestions from reader for further improvement of this book.

Raipur

R.K. Sharma
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Chapter 1

Historical and Current Innovations in Indian Agriculture

AGRICULTURAL UPDATES

☆ U.P. has highest total fertilizer consumption.
☆ Crop under highest irrigation is 1st - wheat, 2nd - rice (50 per cent of total area).
☆ Irrigated area to net sown area highest in sugarcane (93 per cent) followed by wheat (85 per cent).
☆ Largest imported fertilizer is potash ($K_2O$).
☆ 26 per cent of the Indian population are under poverty line.
☆ The parameter to group under BPL is:
  - In urban area - less than 2100 cal/day
  - In rural area - less than 2400 cal/day
☆ Indian standard ratio for fertilizers has been assumed to be 4:2:1.
☆ In India, the NPK nutrients ratio being used is 6.5:2.5:1 as recommended ratio of 4:2:1.
☆ State having maximum area under irrigation – Punjab
☆ Major source of irrigation in India – Canal
☆ Maximum area under fruit crops – Mango
☆ Maximum production under fruit crops – Banana
☆ First agriculture census in India conducted in – 1970
☆ As per national forest policy, for ecological balance, the forests cover should be on $1/3$rd area (i.e. 30 per cent) of the country.

Animal husbandry output constitutes about 30 per cent of the country’s agriculture output.

11 March – Water Resource day
21 March – World Forest day
22 March – World Water day
22 April – World Earth day
5 June – World Environment day
1 July – National Agricultural day
16 July – ICAR day
16 Oct. – World Food day
23 Dec. – National Farmers day

SOME IMPORTANT PROGRAMMES

Command Area Development and Water Management → 1974-05
National Horticulture Mission → 2005
National Commission on Farmers → 2004
(Head- M.S. Swaminathan)
National Rural Employment Scheme → 2006
Kisan Credit Card Scheme → 1998-1999
National Agricultural Insurance Scheme → 1999-2000
Vishesha Krishi Upaj Yojana Project (Objective: Promote agricultural exports in fruits, vegetables and flowers)
National Agricultural Innovation project → July 2006 (Objective: To boost research and development in agriculture and to create skilled scientific resources)
National Food Security Mission- 2006-07 (target for wheat, rice and pulses to increase the production by 10, 8 and 2 Mt., respectively)

REVOLUTION IN AGRICULTURE

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