

Course Code	Course Name	Credits
26BY952	ORGANIC FARMING	02

Course Description

This course is designed to help students gain basic knowledge and practical understanding of organic farming as a sustainable agricultural system. It introduces students to the principles of organic agriculture, soil fertility management, organic inputs, biological crop protection, certification, and marketing of organic produce.

Course Objectives

- Familiarize students with the concept, principles, and scope of organic farming.
- Explain the importance of soil health, organic manures, and nutrient recycling in sustainable agriculture.
- Introduce biofertilizers, biopesticides, and biological methods of crop protection.
- Develop awareness of organic certification, standards, and marketing systems.

Skill Enhancement Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, the learner will be able to:

- Explain the principles and practices of organic farming.
- Identify different organic inputs such as compost, vermicompost, green manures, and biofertilizers.
- Understand biological approaches to nutrient management and pest control.
- Describe the procedures involved in organic certification and labelling.
- Recognize opportunities for self-employment and small-scale entrepreneurship in organic farming.

Course Content and Practical Training

- Introduction, concept, principles, and importance of organic farming.
- Scope, merits, and limitations of organic farming in sustainable agriculture.
- Soil health, soil fertility, and the role of organic matter in crop production.
- Organic manures and nutrient sources: farmyard manure, compost, vermicompost, green manures, and crop residues.
- Recycling of farm wastes and preparation of compost and vermicompost.
- Biofertilizers and their role in nutrient management.
- Cropping systems in organic farming: crop rotation, mixed cropping, intercropping, and cover cropping.
- Biological pest and disease management using biopesticides, botanicals, and beneficial microorganisms.
- Weed management and cultural practices in organic farming.
- Organic standards, certification, labelling, and accreditation process.
- Post-harvest handling, value addition, and marketing of organic products.
- Entrepreneurship opportunities in organic farming and organic input production.

Learning Outcome

At the end of the course, students will be able to understand the principles and practices of organic farming, apply knowledge of organic nutrients and crop protection inputs, and appreciate the role of certification and marketing in developing organic farming as a sustainable livelihood option.