## J.S. University, Shikohabad

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### VALUE ADDED COURSE

Soil and Water Conservation Engineering:
Techniques for Sustainable Land Management

**Faculty of Agricultural Sciences** 



### J.S. University, Shikohabad Faculty of Agricultural Sciences

Value Added Course

AGVAC-09

### Soil Conservation and Management: Best Practices for Sustainable Agriculture

#### **Learning Objectives:**

This value-added course on Soil Conservation and Management is designed to provide participants with a comprehensive understanding of the principles and best practices for sustainable soil management in agriculture. Participants will learn about the importance of soil conservation, erosion control, and soil health for sustainable agriculture. The course will cover various techniques and strategies for soil conservation and management, including conservation tillage, cover cropping, mulching, contour farming, and agroforestry. Practical applications of soil conservation and management for sustainable agriculture will be emphasized throughout the course.

#### **Course Outcomes:**

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

- 1. Understand the principles and importance of soil conservation and management for sustainable agriculture.
- 2. Evaluate and implement various soil conservation practices, such as conservation tillage, cover cropping, mulching, contour farming, and agroforestry.
- 3. Assess and improve soil health through soil organic matter management, nutrient management, and soil structure improvement practices.
- 4. Design and implement site-specific soil conservation plans for agricultural fields.
- 5. Recognize the economic and environmental benefits of sustainable soil management practices in agriculture.8888



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Duration: 8-10 weeks (depending on the pace of the student)

Intake: 60 students

#### Course Modules (Syllabus):

#### Module-1

#### Introduction to Soil Conservation and Management

- Importance of soil conservation and management for sustainable agriculture
- Principles of soil conservation: erosion control, soil health, and sustainable soil management practices
- Techniques for assessing soil erosion: soil erosion models, field measurements, and erosion control planning

#### Module-2

#### **Conservation Tillage and Cover Cropping**

- Conservation tillage practices: no-till, reduced tillage, and minimum tillage
- Benefits and challenges of conservation tillage in sustainable agriculture
- Cover cropping as a soil conservation practice: types, selection, and management

#### Module-3

#### **Mulching and Contour Farming**

- Mulching as a soil conservation practice: types, benefits, and application methods
- Contour farming: principles, techniques, and benefits in preventing soil erosion
- Role of agroforestry in soil conservation and management: alley cropping, windbreaks, and riparian buffers

#### Module-4

#### Soil Health Management

- Understanding soil health: physical, chemical, and biological properties of soil
- Best practices for improving soil health: soil organic matter management, nutrient management, and soil structure improvement
- Monitoring and assessment of soil health: soil health indicators, laboratory tests, and field observations



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#### Module-5

#### **Integrated Soil Conservation and Management**

- Integrated approach to soil conservation and management: combining various practices and strategies
- Designing soil conservation plans for agricultural fields: site-specific recommendations, implementation, and monitoring
- Economic and environmental benefits of sustainable soil management practices in agriculture

#### **Assessment:**

- Weekly quizzes and assignments
- Final project on designing and implementing a soil conservation and management plan.

#### Reference books:

- 1. "Soil Conservation: Principles and Practices" by Praveen Kumar
- 2. "Soil and Water Conservation Engineering" by R. Suresh

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