UNIVERSITY OF MAURITIUS
Faculty of Agriculture

Diploma in Agriculture
Part-Time (2 years) (A206)

1. Objectives

Developments in the socio-economic status in Mauritius have led to an increasing demand for safe and high quality foods. Agricultural production worldwide is now increasingly being characterised by the use of new technologies. The continued progress of agriculture and its related industries in Mauritius must keep pace with these global technological developments, which necessitates capacity building to impart the appropriate knowledge, skills and values that are needed.

It is the policy and vision of the Government for the adoption of a technology-based approach to render the local agricultural sector more productive, market-driven, sustainable and competitive whilst responding to the environmental and ethical standards demanded by society. This has led to the need for well-trained staff who have the technical and practical skills in agriculture and related fields in order to meet these new challenges facing the agroindustrial sector.

This programme aims to upgrade knowledge of in-service staff of the various Divisions of the Ministry of Agro-industry and Food Security, with a broad spectrum of scientific, technical and managerial skills needed to contribute to the continued advancement of the agroindustrial sector in the country.

On completion of this programme, the students will have developed knowledge and skills to:

- Explain scientific, economic and business principles, underpinning crop and animal production;
- Demonstrate relevant practical skills in key areas of agricultural production;
- Identify technological problems encountered in current crop and livestock production systems;
- Transfer relevant knowledge, skills and technology concepts to the producers and to support innovation;
- Manage agricultural enterprises and identify new ventures in the agricultural sector;
- Evaluate the wider consequences of agricultural activities and promote sustainable agricultural practices;
- Apply strategies that are climate resilient;
- Support research, extension and other technical services in the agricultural sector.

2. General Entry Requirements

In accordance with General Entry Requirements for Admission to the University for Undergraduate Diploma.

3. Programme Requirements

As per UoM Entry Requirements or any alternate qualifications acceptable to the University Senate.

4. General and Programme Requirements – Special Cases

The following may be deemed to satisfy the General and Programme requirements for admission:

- Applicants who do not satisfy any of the requirements as per Regulations 2 and 3 above but submit satisfactory evidence of having passed examinations which are deemed by the Senate to be equivalent to any of those listed.
- Applicants who do not satisfy any of the requirements as per Regulations 2 and 3 above but who in the opinion of Senate, submit satisfactory evidence of the capacity and attainments requisite to enable them to pursue the programme proposed.

5. Programme Duration

	Normal (Years)	**Maximum (Years)**
Diploma	2	3

6. Credits per Year: Minimum 6 credits; Maximum 48 credits, subject to Regulation 5

7. Minimum Credits Required for Award of the Diploma: <u>60 credits</u>.

Students may exit with a **Certificate** after having earned **<u>30 credits</u>**.

8. Teaching and Assessment

Modules will be taught on blended mode, with some topics being taught face to face, and some on an online basis.

Each module will be assessed over 100 marks. Assessment will be based on a written examination of 2 to 3-hour duration (a paper of 2 hour duration for modules carrying less or equal to three credits, 2½ hour paper for modules carrying 3.5–4.5 credits and 3 hour paper for modules carrying five-six credits), and on continuous assessment done during the semester or year.

Written examinations for modules, whether taught in semester 1 or in semester 2 or both will be carried out either at the end of the semester or academic year.

The continuous assessment will count for 30% in each module. Continuous Assessment will be based on class/laboratory/field works, and/or assignments including on-the-job assignments/ Case-Study Reports/ Mini-Projects etc. and should include at least 1 class test.

An overall total of 40% for combined Continuous Assessment and Written Examination components would be required to pass a module, without minimum thresholds within the individual Continuous Assessment and Written Examination.

Modules will carry the weightings of 1 or 3 depending on their status (Introductory or Intermediate). Weighting for a particular module is indicated within parentheses in the module code.

Modules will carry credits in the range of 3 to 6.

9. List of Modules

Core Modules

Code	**Module Name**	**Hr / Yr**	**Credits**
		L + P	
AGRI 1139Y(1)	Microbiology, Genetics and Breeding	45+60	5
AGRI 1140Y(1)	Introduction to Biotechnology	30+30	3
AGRI 1143Y(1)	Soil Science and Land Resources	60+60	6
AGRI 1144Y(1)	Statistics and IT Applications in Agriculture	45+60	5
AGRI 1145Y(1)	Crop Science and its Applications	45+30	4
AGRI 1146Y(1)	Food Science, Safety and Quality	30+30	3
AGRI 1147Y(1)	Animal Production Principles	45+30	4
AGRI 2267Y(3)	Irrigation and Farm Mechanization	30+30	3
AGRI 2268Y(3)	Technologies for Crop Production	45+30	4
AGRI 2269Y(3)	Systems And Extension Approaches In The Agricultural Sector	30+30	3
AGRI 2270Y(3)	Integrated Pest, Disease and Weeds Control	60+60	6
AGRI 2271Y(3)	Management of Sustainable Animal Production Systems	45+30	4
AGRI 2272Y(3)	Postharvest Technology and Food Processing	30+30	3
AGRI 2273Y(3)	Agrometeorology and Climate Smart Agriculture	45+30	4
AGRI 2274Y(3)	Economics, Management And Marketing Concepts In Agri-Food Value Chains	30+30	3
	TOTAL	615+570	**60**

10. Programme Plan – Diploma in Agriculture (Part-Time)

YEAR 1

Code	Module Name	Hr / Yr L + P	Credits
AGRI 1139Y(1)	Microbiology, Genetics and Breeding	45+60	5
AGRI 1140Y(1)	Introduction to Biotechnology	30+30	3
AGRI 1143Y(1)	Soil Science and Land Resources	60+60	6
AGRI 1144Y(1)	Statistics and IT Applications in Agriculture	45+60	5
AGRI 1145Y(1)	Crop Science and its Applications	45+30	4
AGRI 1146Y(1)	Food Science, Safety and Quality	30+30	3
AGRI 1147Y(1)	Animal Production Principles	45+30	4
	SUB-TOTAL	**300+300**	**30**

YEAR 2

Code	Module Name	Hr / Yr L + P	Credits
AGRI 2267Y(3)	Irrigation and Farm Mechanization	30+30	3
AGRI 2268Y(3)	Technologies for Crop Production	45+30	4
AGRI 2269Y(3)	Systems And Extension Approaches In The Agricultural Sector	30+30	3
AGRI 2270Y(3)	Integrated Pest, Disease and Weeds Control	60+60	6
AGRI 2271Y(3)	Management of Sustainable Animal Production Systems	45+30	4
AGRI 2272Y(3)	Postharvest Technology and Food Processing	30+30	3
AGRI 2273Y(3)	Agrometeorology and Climate Smart Agriculture	45+30	4
AGRI 2274Y(3)	Economics, Management And Marketing Concepts In Agri-Food Value Chains	30+30	3
	SUB-TOTAL	**315+270**	**30**

Total Number of Credits = 60 credits