

Objectives:

- To understand development of Agricultural sciences, resources and information systems useful to various stakeholders in accessing information.
- To sensitize in planning and designing of local/national information systems pertaining to various Agricultural Programmes.

Method of Instruction: A combination of lectures, discussions, guest lecturers (where possible) and special presentations will form the methods of instruction. The module will follow with an examination at the end of the semester carrying 80 marks covering all units having three types of questions (long, short and very short) to be solved within 2 1/2hrs. Besides, internal assessment of 20 marks will be assessed on attendance, performance in presentations, assignments and symposiums.

UNIT I: Agricultural Science: Concept, Development & Institutions.

- 1.1 Agricultural Science: Concept, Scope and Development.
- 1.2 Agricultural Science Organizations and Institutions. National and International. .
 - 1.2.1 Indian Council of Agricultural Research. (ICAR)
 - 1.2.2 National Agricultural and Forestry research Institute. (NAFRI).
 - 1.2.3 Japan International Research Center for Agricultural Sciences. (JIRCAS).
 - 1.2.4 Food and Agricultural Organization. (FAO).

UNIT II: Information Needs, Behavior & Resources.

- 2.1 Agricultural Information resources: An overview of traditional and modern information resources
- 2.2 Information Vocabulary tools: AGROVOC (by FAO), NAL Agricultural thesaurus
- 2.3 Information needs and information seeking pattern of Agricultural Science Professionals. An overview.

UNIT III: Information Systems, Services and Tools

- 3.1 Agricultural Information Systems and Networks: International and National.
 - 3.1.1 International Information System in Agricultural Sciences and Technology. AGRIS.
 - 3.1.2 Agricultural Research Information Center. (ARIC).
 - 3.1.3 World Agricultural Information Center. (WAICNET).
 - 3.1.4 Agricultural Network Information Center. (AGNIC) etc.
- 3.2 Major Search Tools: Search Engines, Portals & Gateways with particular reference to AGRICOLA.

UNIT IV: Information Support, Designing and Implementation

- 4.1 National and international Library and Information support to Agricultural Sciences Information: Contribution of NAL (USA), Library of IARI (India).
- 4.2 Designing a model Agricultural Information system: Planning, tools, problems and perspectives.

Suggested Readings:

Deshmukh. P.P (Ed) (1987). *Information systems for Agricultural sciences and Technology* .New Delhi, Metropolitan.

Eswara Reddy, D.B. (1976). ICAR: History and Growth. New Delhi : Indian Council of Agricultural Research.

John Shenod (1974) .Agricultural librarians Association. In. Encyclopedia of Library and Information science. (v12, p. 245) New York : M. Dekker

Leila .P. Morin (1976). Agricultural sciences Information Network. In Encyclopedia of library and information science. (V19, p. 42-43) New York: M. Dekker.

Phadins, S.P & Abu Shoaib Ahsan. (1976). Indian Agricultural data and Information .*Annals of library science and Documentation*, 23, pp.87-98.

Rajgopalan.T.S (1974).Agricultural Librarianship In Encyclopedia of library and Information science (V. 11, p-. 352)

Websites (Illustrative):

[Aquaculture Network Information Center](http://www.aquanic.org). Available at
www.aquanic.org

Commonwealth Agricultural Bureaux' World Agricultural Information Service. Available at
<http://www.cabi.org/>

Food and Agricultural Organization .Available at
www.fao.org.

Indian Agricultural Research Institute. Available at
<http://www.iari.res.in>

[Japan International Research Center for Agricultural Sciences](http://www.jircas.affrc.go.jp/). Available at
<http://www.jircas.affrc.go.jp/>

[National Agriculture and Forestry Research institute](http://www.nafri.org.la/) . Available at
<http://www.nafri.org.la/>

World Agricultural Information Centre. Available at
www.fao.org/WAICENT/