

SS2WK6 2nd term lesson note.

Topic : Biotic factors affecting agricultural production.

Definition: Biotic factors are small living organisms affecting agricultural production. They limit the growth and development of plants and pose serious hazard to production.

Examples of biotic factors.

- 1) Pests.
- 2) Parasites
- 3) Soil organisms.
- 4) Diseases.
- 5) Predators.
- 6) Human activities etc.

Explanation and Effects of biotic factors.

- 1) **Pests:** They are little organisms that causes damages to crops. Eg, insects, birds, rodent, animals etc. a) They reduced quality quantity of crops b) They are disease vectors c) They also increase the cost of production d) They reduced farms' income etc.
- 2) **Parasites:** Are organisms that feeds on the body of their host and in turn caused them sickness. **Types of parasites. A)** Ecto parasite eg ticks,lice,mistletoes,ferns etc.They live outside the body of their host while b) Endo parasites lives in the body of their host eg tape worm,round worm liverflukes a) They reduced quality and quantity of produce b) They increase cost of production c) sometimes they cause death of farm animals.
- 3) **Predators:** Are animals that attack, kills and eat other smaller animals called **prey** a)They destroy some crops when farm is invaded by them c) They reduce farms' income.
- 4) **Soil organisms:** Consists of a) micro organisms eg fungi, bacteria, virus etc b) macro organisms eg earthworm, crickets, termites, millipedes etc c) some bacteria helps in decomposition d) some fix nitrogen into the soil e) some helps in aeration and water percolation in the soil.

LESSON TWO

Topic: Effects of more biotic factors.

- 5) **Weeds:** Are plants growing where it's not wanted.

It's effects includes:

- a) They compete with crops for space, nutrients, water etc.
- b) It also reduces the quality and quantity of farm produce.
- c) Weeds protect soil from erosion.

6) **Diseases:** Is abnormality in the functioning of the body of animals.

It's effects includes:

- a) Reduction in quality of farm produce.
- b) Reduction in quantity of farm produce.
- c) It reduces farmers' income.
- d) It causes famine in the land.

7) **Human Activities:** Such as bush burning, overgrazing by animals, clean clearing of land. The use of bulldozer and tractor have also affected agricultural production. The chain type of the machine compact the soil, kills soil organisms that enriches the soil.