

Examination Crops and Production Systems in the Tropics
February, 8th 2011

1. Compare maize and cassava production
 - Breeding system
 - Reproduction method, Propagation
 - Harvesting (how?)
 - Preparation after harvesting
 - Health problems (which? How to reduce toxicity?)
 - Nutrition requirements
 - Water stress?
2. What is climatic seasonality in the tropics? Explain.
3. What is the idea of biofuels? Name 3 plants which can be used for biofuel production. What are the advantages and problems of these plants?
4. What is the “alternating bearing cycle” in tree fruit crops? How can it be managed by farmers?
5. Define GMO. List 3 objects with their properties. Explain the procedure of how they reached these properties.
6. Describe the differences between organic and conventional banana production.
7. Rice production in a monsoon effected area: Which rice production systems do indigenous farmers use? Population has been growing; therefore they introduced advanced production systems and techniques. What could it be?
8. Define reduced tillage in soy bean and rice. What is the advantage?
9. List 3 pathways of photosynthesis. Give example. Which environmental factors affecting photosynthesis rate? What is carbohydratation?
10. What are agroforestry systems? What are the main advantages of agroforestry systems compared to monocultures?

*Comments to the examination: - not enough time to answer all the questions;
- second date was oral examination*