



The Open University of Sri Lanka  
Faculty of Engineering Technology  
Industrial Studies Program

Final Examination- 2006

**AEX3232/AED2217 Plant and Soil Science**

Date : 21-03-2007  
Time : 0930-1230 hours

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**SECTION II**

- (1) (a) What is the purpose of fertilization in Agriculture?  
(b) Write a brief note on importance of the use of organic fertilizer over inorganic fertilizer.
- (2) (a) How do you amend the poorly drained soil?  
(b) Briefly explain the importance of calcium (ca) in improving soil properties.
- (3) (a) What is the purpose of soil testing?  
(b) List the major soil groups occurring in dry zone of Sri Lanka, and describe the characteristics of two soil groups.
- (4) (a) Explain briefly the importance of humification on plant growth.  
(b) Briefly outline the changes occurred in soil by the activity of soil organisms.
- (5) (a) Briefly describe the methods of breaking dormancy and its significance in agriculture.  
(b) Write a brief note on various stem modifications that used in vegetative propagation.
- (6) Write short notes on any three (03) of the following.
  - (a) Farm yard manure
  - (b) C/N ratio
  - (c) Management of saline sodic soils.
  - (d) Nitrification
  - (e) Hybrid rice