



# Model Curriculum

**QP Name: Cotton Cultivator**

**QP Code: AGR/Q0202**

**Version: 3.0**

**NSQF Level: 3**

**Model Curriculum Version: 2.0**

Agriculture Skill Council of India || Agriculture Skill Council of India (ASCI), 6th Floor, GNG Tower, Plot  
No. 10, Sector - 44

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## Training Parameters

<b>Sector</b>	Agriculture
<b>Sub-Sector</b>	Agriculture Crop Production
<b>Occupation</b>	Field Crops Cultivation (Cash Crops)
<b>Country</b>	India
<b>NSQF Level</b>	3
<b>Aligned to NCO/ISCO/ISIC Code</b>	NCO-2015/6111.0601
<b>Minimum Educational Qualification and Experience</b>	8th Class with 1 year of relevant experience OR 8th Class Pass and pursuing continuous regular schooling OR 5th Class with 3 Years of relevant experience OR Ability to read and write with 5 Years of relevant experience OR Certificate-NSQF Level-3(in Agriculture/Horticulture related Job Roles) with 6 Months of relevant experience
<b>Pre-Requisite License or Training</b>	NA
<b>Minimum Job Entry Age</b>	16 Years
<b>Last Reviewed On</b>	17/11/2022
<b>Next Review Date</b>	24/02/2025
<b>NSQC Approval Date</b>	24/02/2022
<b>QP Version</b>	3.0
<b>Model Curriculum Creation Date</b>	24/02/2022
<b>Model Curriculum Valid Up to Date</b>	24/02/2025
<b>Model Curriculum Version</b>	2.0
<b>Minimum Duration of the Course</b>	300 Hours
<b>Maximum Duration of the Course</b>	300 Hours

## Program Overview

This section summarizes the end objectives of the program along with its duration.

### Training Outcomes

At the end of the program, the learner should have acquired the listed knowledge and skills to:

- Describe the process of selecting and preparing the site and sowing the cotton seeds
- Demonstrate the process of carrying out macro and micronutrient management of field crops
- Demonstrate the process of integrated pest and disease management for cotton crops.
- Demonstrate the process of performing weed and integrated pest and disease management for cotton crops.
- Demonstrate the process of carrying out harvesting, post-harvest management and marketing the cotton.
- Describe the process of undertaking employability and entrepreneurial practices.
- Describe the process of engaging in collective farming/activity
- Demonstrate various practices to maintain personal hygiene, cleanliness, and safety at the workplace.

### Compulsory Modules

The table lists the modules and their duration corresponding to the Compulsory NOS of the QP.

NOS and Module Details	Theory Duration	Practical Duration	On-the-Job Training Duration (Mandatory)	On-the-Job Training Duration (Recommended)	Total Duration
<b>AGR/N0204 Select and prepare the site and sow the cotton seeds</b> NOS Version- 3.0 NSQF Level- 3	15:00	15:00	0:00	0:00	30:00
Module 1: Introduction to the role of a Cotton Cultivator	05:00	0:00	0:00	0:00	05:00
Module 2: Process of selecting and preparing the site and sowing the cotton seeds	10:00	15:00	0:00	0:00	25:00
<b>AGR/N0108 Carry out macro and micronutrient management of field crops</b> NOS Version- 2.0 NSQF Level- 4	10:00	20:00	0:00	0:00	30:00
Module 3: Process of carrying out macro and micronutrient management of field crops	10:00	20:00	0:00	0:00	30:00

<b>AGR/N0205 Perform weed and integrated pest and disease management for cotton crop</b> <b>NOS Version-2.0</b> <b>NSQF Level- 3</b>	<b>15:00</b>	<b>45:00</b>	<b>0:00</b>	<b>0:00</b>	<b>60:00</b>
Module 4: Process of performing weed and integrated pest and disease management for cotton crop	15:00	45:00	0:00	0:00	60:00
<b>AGR/N0111 Perform irrigation management for field crops</b> <b>NOS Version-3.0</b> <b>NSQF Level- 4</b>	<b>10:00</b>	<b>20:00</b>	<b>0:00</b>	<b>0:00</b>	<b>30:00</b>
Module 5: Process of performing integrated management for field crop	10:00	20:00	0:00	0:00	30:00
<b>AGR/N0206 Carry out harvesting, post-harvest management and marketing of cotton</b> <b>NOS Version-2.0</b> <b>NSQF Level- 3</b>	<b>15:00</b>	<b>45:00</b>	<b>0:00</b>	<b>0:00</b>	<b>60:00</b>
Module 6: Process of carrying out harvesting, post-harvest management and marketing the cotton	15:00	45:00	0:00	0:00	60:00
<b>AGR/N9922 Engage in collective farming/activity</b> <b>NOS Version-2.0</b> <b>NSQF Level- 4</b>	<b>10:00</b>	<b>20:00</b>	<b>0:00</b>	<b>0:00</b>	<b>30:00</b>
Module 7: Engagement in collective/ farming activities	10:00	20:00	0:00	0:00	30:00
<b>AGR/N9903 Maintain health and safety at the workplace</b> <b>NOS Version- 4.0</b> <b>NSQF Level-4</b>	<b>15:00</b>	<b>15:00</b>	<b>0:00</b>	<b>0:00</b>	<b>30:00</b>
Module 8: Hygiene and cleanliness	05:00	05:00	0:00	0:00	10:00
Module 9: Safety and emergency procedures	10:00	10:00	0:00	0:00	20:00

DGT/VSQ/N0101 Employability Skills NOS Version-1.0 NSQF Level-2	30:00	00:00	0:00	0:00	30:00
Module 10: Employability Skills	30:00	00:00	0:00	0:00	30:00
<b>Total Duration</b>	<b>120:00</b>	<b>180:00</b>	<b>0:00</b>	<b>0:00</b>	<b>300:00</b>

## Module Details

### Module 1: Introduction to the role of a Cotton Cultivator

*Bridge Module, Mapped to AGR/N0204 v3.0*

#### Terminal Outcomes:

- Discuss the job role of a Cotton Cultivator.

<b>Duration: 05:00</b>	<b>Duration: 0:00</b>
<b>Theory – Key Learning Outcomes</b>	<b>Practical – Key Learning Outcomes</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Describe the size and scope of the agriculture industry and its sub-sectors.</li> <li>• Discuss the role and responsibilities of a Cotton Cultivator.</li> <li>• Identify various employment opportunities for a Cotton Cultivator.</li> </ul>	
<b>Classroom Aids</b>	
Training Kit - Trainer Guide, Presentations, Whiteboard, Marker, Projector, Laptop, Video Films	
<b>Tools, Equipment and Other Requirements</b>	
NA	

## Module 2: Process of selecting and preparing the site and sowing the cotton seeds

*Mapped to AGR/N0204 v3.0*

### Terminal Outcomes:

- Describe the process of selecting and preparing the site for cotton cultivation.
- Describe the process of procuring and preparing the cotton seeds for planting.
- Demonstrate the process of sowing the cotton seeds.
- Demonstrate various practices for effective resource optimisation.
- Demonstrate various waste management practices.
- Discuss ways to promote diversity and inclusion at the workplace.

<b>Duration: 10:00</b>	<b>Duration: 15:00</b>
<b>Theory – Key Learning Outcomes</b>	<b>Practical – Key Learning Outcomes</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Explain the criteria for selecting the site for cotton cultivation.</li> <li>• State various agro-climatic zones in India suitable for cotton cultivation.</li> <li>• State the climate, soil type, soil fertility, nature of subsoil and soil depth suited for growing cotton.</li> <li>• Describe the process of getting the soil sample tested through an authorised lab to determine the soil's suitability for cotton cultivation.</li> <li>• List various inputs required for cotton cultivation such as water, fertilisers, pesticides, labour, etc.</li> <li>• State the appropriate precautions to be taken while operating different types of farm machineries.</li> <li>• Explain the criteria for selecting the cotton variety to cultivate such as climate along with resistance to various pests and diseases.</li> <li>• Explain various quality parameters to be checked while procuring cotton seeds.</li> <li>• State the cultivation period, an appropriate time for sowing and yield of different cotton varieties.</li> <li>• Describe the process of procuring and treating cotton seeds.</li> <li>• State the appropriate temperature</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Demonstrate the process of carrying out primary and secondary tilling using the appropriate farm machineries.</li> <li>• Demonstrate how to level the field using the appropriate machinery.</li> <li>• Demonstrate how to create ridges and furrows maintaining the recommended space.</li> <li>• Demonstrate how to create drainage channels for effective drainage of water.</li> <li>• Demonstrate the process of installing the appropriate irrigation or fertigation system and creating water channels for efficient irrigation.</li> <li>• Demonstrate the process of treating the seeds with the recommended pesticides and fungicides in the recommended dose.</li> <li>• Demonstrate the process of sowing the cotton seeds using the relevant tools and maintain the recommended planting density to achieve the healthy growth of plants.</li> <li>• Demonstrate various practices to optimise the usage of various resources such as water and electricity.</li> <li>• Demonstrate the process of recycling and disposing different types of</li> </ul>



<p>and humidity for storing the treated cotton seeds.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Describe different methods for sowing cotton seeds such as broadcasting and mechanised sowing.</li> <li>• State the recommended seed rate to be maintained while sowing cotton seeds.</li> <li>• Explain the use of the relevant tools and equipment for sowing cotton seeds.</li> <li>• State the recommended planting density to maintain while sowing cotton seeds.</li> <li>• Explain the benefits of resource optimisation.</li> <li>• Explain the importance of recycling and disposing different types of waste as per the applicable regulations.</li> <li>• Explain the importance of inclusion of all genders and People with Disability (PwD) at the workplace.</li> </ul>	<p>waste appropriately.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Demonstrate appropriate verbal and non-verbal communication that is respectful of genders and disability.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Classroom Aids</b></p>	
<p>Training Kit (Trainer Guide, Presentations). Whiteboard, Marker, Projector, Laptop</p>	
<p><b>Tools, Equipment and Other Requirements</b></p>	
<p>Chemicals, Fungicides</p>	

## Module 3: Process of carrying out macro and micronutrient management of field crops

*Mapped to ARG/N0108 v2.0*

### Terminal Outcomes:

- Explain how to determine the macro and micronutrients requirements.
- Demonstrate the process of applying fertilisers to the soil.
- Demonstrate the process of performing soil conservation.

<b>Duration: 10:00</b>	<b>Duration: 20:00</b>
<b>Theory – Key Learning Outcomes</b>	<b>Practical – Key Learning Outcomes</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Explain the basic concepts of plant nutrition and soil fertility.</li> <li>• Explain different types of macro and micronutrients, their properties and their functions.</li> <li>• List common symptoms of nutrient deficiency in plants.</li> <li>• Explain the use of different types of green manure and nitrogen-fixing crops.</li> <li>• Describe the process of soil sampling and testing.</li> <li>• Explain the importance of getting the soil tested through a government-approved lab.</li> <li>• Explain how to interpret the soil analysis report to determine the macro and micronutrient requirements of the soil.</li> <li>• Explain different soil types, their advantages and disadvantages with reference to the presence of various nutrients.</li> <li>• State the appropriate time and methods for the application of different types of fertilisers.</li> <li>• Explain the importance of regulating the dose of fertiliser according to the crop cycle.</li> <li>• Explain the importance of soil conservation and various soil conservation practices.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Demonstrate the process of preparing organic fertilisers such as farmyard manure, vermicompost and inorganic fertiliser solutions.</li> <li>• Demonstrate the process of preparing the mixture of liquid fertilisers for application in the field, using them in the recommended quantity.</li> <li>• Show how to prepare the field for the application of fertilisers.</li> <li>• Demonstrate the process of applying organic and inorganic fertilisers containing the required macro and micronutrients to the soil in the recommended dose.</li> <li>• Show how to regulate the dose of fertiliser according to the crop cycle.</li> <li>• Prepare a sample record of fertilisers used in the field.</li> <li>• Demonstrate the process of applying mulch and organic fertilisers to conserve soil moisture.</li> </ul>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Explain different varieties of organic and inorganic fertilisers to be applied to the soil to improve its fertility and the nutrient content in them.</li> <li>• Explain the harmful effects of the over-dosage of fertilizers.</li> <li>• Describe the process of preparing a soil nutrition supplementation calendar based on the stages of the crop's growth.</li> </ul>	
<b>Classroom Aids</b>	
Training Kit (Trainer Guide, Presentations). Whiteboard, Marker, Projector, Laptop	
<b>Tools, Equipment and Other Requirements</b>	
Sprayer, Fertilisers, Bio Fertilisers, Cloth Bags for Soil Sample, Khurpa	

## Module 4: Process of performing weed and integrated pest and disease management for cotton crop

*Mapped to AGR/N0205 v2.0*

### Terminal Outcomes:

- Demonstrate the process of performing weed management.
- Explain the importance of following preventive measures to control pests and diseases.
- Describe the process of identifying the pests and diseases in the cotton crop.
- Demonstrate the process of identifying and applying the necessary treatment.

Duration: 15:00	Duration: 45:00
Theory – Key Learning Outcomes	Practical – Key Learning Outcomes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Explain the criteria for selecting an herbicide to be applied to a cotton crop.</li> <li>• Explain the importance of using herbicides in the prescribed dose and at the appropriate stage of crop growth.</li> <li>• Explain the benefit of maintaining a healthy crop stand that is capable of competing with weeds at the critical stages of its growth.</li> <li>• Explain different biotic and abiotic factors causing diseases and disorders in plants.</li> <li>• Explain the different modes of transmission of disease such as tools, implements, vectors, water, etc.</li> <li>• Explain the importance of adopting safe production methods for safe produce.</li> <li>• Explain the advantages of biological control of insects, pests and diseases</li> <li>• Explain the use of bio-pesticides in Integrated Pest Management (IPM)</li> <li>• State the minimum residue levels and Protected Health Information (PHI) for different types of pesticides.</li> <li>• Explain the use of the pesticide spraying tools and equipment.</li> <li>• Explain national and international standards on pesticide residues.</li> <li>• Explain the use of recommended</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Demonstrate the process of preparing and applying the herbicide spray solution in the prescribed dose at the appropriate stage of crop growth, using the relevant plant protection equipment.</li> <li>• Demonstrate how to remove the diseased crop to prevent the spread of pests and disease to healthy crops.</li> <li>• Demonstrate the use of light and pheromone traps to identify the presence and population of pests, insects and vectors.</li> <li>• Demonstrate the process of applying the recommended treatment as per the prescription to remove pests and diseases.</li> <li>• Prepare a sample record of the use of any pesticides, insecticides and any other treatment.</li> </ul>

parasitoids for the prevention of pests.

- Explain the benefits and importance of using pest and disease-resistant varieties of cotton
- Explain the recommended practices to restrict the entry of pathogens into the field through planting material, irrigation water, workers, tools and equipment, and vectors such as whitefly
- Explain the practice of crop rotation with suitable crops.
- Explain the importance of identifying and removing the diseased crop to prevent the spread of pests and disease to the healthy crop.
- Explain the use of the recommended combination of biological, mechanical and chemical control methods for effective pest and disease prevention such as traps, sticky plates etc.
- Explain the appropriate integrated pest management techniques like trash mulching, de-trashing, egg destruction, bund freeing, water draining, usage of bio-control agents, etc.
- Explain how to identify different types of pests in the cotton crop such as jassid, aphids, whitefly, pink bollworm, mealybugs, weevils, etc.
- Explain how to identify plant disease vectors and major cotton diseases such as wilt, root rot, boll rot, leaf blight, leaf spot, leaf curl virus, yellow mosaic virus, bacterial blight, etc.
- Describe the process of determining the stage of pest and disease incidence along with the extent of damage and Economic Threshold Levels (ETL) of pests
- Explain the use of IPM methods such as light and pheromone traps to identify the presence and population of insects and vectors

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Describe the process of determining the causal organism for the disease and its treatment</li> <li>• List the natural enemies of common pests.</li> <li>• Explain the importance of applying the recommended treatment as per the prescription and maintaining the record of their use.</li> <li>• Explain the importance of using the recommended PPE while applying harmful chemicals.</li> <li>• State various ways to minimise pollution caused by the overuse of pesticides.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Classroom Aids</b></p>	
<p>Training Kit (Trainer guide, Presentations). Whiteboard, Marker, Projector, Laptop</p>	
<p><b>Tools, Equipment and Other Requirements</b></p>	
<p>Tractor, Plough, Disc Harrow, Sub-Soiler, Tiller, Beam Leveller or Cold Crusher, Cultivator, Seed Drills, Precision Planter</p>	

## Module 5: Process of performing irrigation management for field crops

### Mapped to NOS AGR/N0111 v3.0

#### Terminal Outcomes:

- Describe the process of preparing for field irrigation.
- Demonstrate the process of irrigating the field.
- Describe the process of managing water usage.

<b>Duration: 10:00</b>	<b>Duration: 20:00</b>
<b>Theory – Key Learning Outcomes</b>	<b>Practical – Key Learning Outcomes</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• State the timing and method of irrigation appropriate for a given soil type and climatic conditions.</li> <li>• State the quantity of water required for the specific crop and its effect on the yield.</li> <li>• Explain the importance of sampling irrigation water through an authorised lab to determine its quality.</li> <li>• Explain various measures to be followed to improve the water quality.</li> <li>• Describe the process of setting up different types of irrigation systems such as surface irrigation, drip irrigation, sub-surface irrigation system.</li> <li>• Explain the advantages and disadvantages of different types of irrigation systems.</li> <li>• Explain the importance of irrigating the field according to the recommended irrigation schedule for the crop and the factors to consider in scheduling irrigation.</li> <li>• Explain the recommended practices to be followed to prevent over and under irrigation.</li> <li>• Explain the recommended practices to be followed for effective drainage of excess water from the field.</li> <li>• Explain the importance of maintaining the recommended level</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Demonstrate the process of setting up the appropriate irrigation system such as surface irrigation, drip irrigation, sub-surface irrigation system based on the requirement of the specific field crop.</li> <li>• Demonstrate the process of irrigating the field according to the recommended irrigation schedule for the crop.</li> <li>• Prepare a sample record of field irrigation to ensure irrigation as per the schedule.</li> <li>• Demonstrate how to plug water spills and leakages to prevent its wastage.</li> </ul>

<p>of water in the soil to prevent the harmful effects of inappropriate levels of moisture in it.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Explain various practices to be followed to optimize the usage of water and prevent its wastage.</li></ul>	
<b>Classroom Aids:</b>	
Training Kit (Trainer Guide, Presentations). Whiteboard, Marker, Projector, Laptop	
<b>Tools, Equipment and Other Requirements</b>	
Water, Tubal, Irrigation System	



## Module 6: Process of carrying out harvesting, post-harvest management and marketing of cotton

*Mapped to NOS AGR/N0206 v2.0*

### Terminal Outcomes:

- Demonstrate the process of harvesting cotton.
- Demonstrate the process of drying and packing cotton.
- Describe the process of marketing cotton.

<b>Duration: 15:00</b>	<b>Duration: 45:00</b>
<b>Theory – Key Learning Outcomes</b>	<b>Practical – Key Learning Outcomes</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• State the ideal climate and conditions for harvesting cotton.</li> <li>• Explain how to assess the maturity of the cotton crop.</li> <li>• Explain the manual and mechanical methods of harvesting cotton and the use of relevant tools, equipment and machinery.</li> <li>• State the recommended practices to be followed to prevent dry leaves from sticking to cotton fibre while harvesting it.</li> <li>• Explain the importance of maintaining different grades of harvested cotton separately.</li> <li>• Explain how to protect the harvested cotton from moisture.</li> <li>• State the appropriate temperature for storing the harvested cotton.</li> <li>• State the appropriate packing material for cotton such as jute bags, Polypropylene (PP) pouches High-Density Polyethylene (HDPE) packaging, etc.</li> <li>• Describe the process of identifying and negotiating with potential buyers.</li> <li>• State the appropriate mode of transport for transporting cotton.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Demonstrate the process of drying the harvested cotton mechanically.</li> <li>• Demonstrate how to pack cotton following the recommended measures to prevent the absorption of moisture.</li> <li>• Show how to process the payment using an e-payment method.</li> <li>• Demonstrate how to calculate the benefit-cost (B: C) ratio.</li> <li>• Prepare a sample record of the sales and payments.</li> </ul>
<b>Classroom Aids:</b>	
Training Kit (Trainer Guide, Presentations). Whiteboard, Marker, Projector, Laptop	

Tools, Equipment and Other Requirements
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Sickle, Cotton Harvester, Sprayer, Fumigants
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## Module 7: Engagement in collective farming/activities

### Mapped to NOS AGR/N9922 v2.0

#### Terminal Outcomes:

- Describe the process of creating PGs/ FIGs/ SHGs and preparing for its operations.
- Demonstrate the process of conducting group meetings and training sessions.
- Demonstrate the process of carrying out collective farming/activities.

<b>Duration: 10:00</b>	<b>Duration: 20:00</b>
<b>Theory – Key Learning Outcomes</b>	<b>Practical – Key Learning Outcomes</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Describe the process of preparing for the Producer Groups (PGs)/Farmers Interest Groups (FIGs)/ Self-Help Groups (SHGs) operations such as fundraising, induction of Subject Matter Experts (SMEs), investing in Information and Communication Technology (ICT) products, etc.</li> <li>• Explain how to obtain access to the relevant government development programmes and funds.</li> <li>• Describe the process of commodity convergence with the relevant developmental programmes.</li> <li>• Explain the importance of planning optimal production to meet the market and household food security needs.</li> <li>• Explain the importance of setting the group objectives and deciding the group income-generating enterprises/ activities, methods of operation, benefits, etc.</li> <li>• Explain the importance of organising the PG/FIG/ SHG meetings and training sessions to resolve common concerns and get information about the latest developments in the field of work.</li> <li>• Explain the benefits of various capacity building exercises such as skill development and training programmes.</li> <li>• Explain the importance and process of conducting field trials to identify and resolve problems encountered</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Roleplay to illustrate how to conduct the initial group meetings to introduce the members, discuss the group objectives, group income-generating enterprises/ activities, methods of operation, etc.</li> <li>• Roleplay to illustrate how to organise field trials to identify and resolve problems encountered by group members in the field operations.</li> </ul>

<p>by farmers in the field operations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Explain the concept of the group-owned bank to provide quality seeds, fertilisers, pesticides, tools and equipment to the member farmers.</li> <li>• Describe the process of using the group's credit facility.</li> <li>• Explain various core collective farming activities such as procuring inputs in bulk, large-scale farming, etc.</li> <li>• Explain the concept and benefits of forming forward and backward linkages.</li> <li>• State the relevant value addition practices such as processing, packing, upgrading the quality, etc.</li> <li>• Explain the benefits of connecting with similar groups to address common problems on a large scale.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Classroom Aids</b></p>	
<p>Training Kit - Trainer Guide, Presentations, Whiteboard, Marker, Projector, Laptop</p>	
<p><b>Tools, Equipment and Other Requirements</b></p>	
<p>NA</p>	

## Module 8: Hygiene and cleanliness

*Mapped to NOS AGR/N9903 v4.0*

### Terminal Outcomes:

- Discuss how to adhere to personal hygiene practices.
- Demonstrate ways to ensure cleanliness around the workplace.

<b>Duration: 05:00</b>	<b>Duration: 05:00</b>
<b>Theory – Key Learning Outcomes</b>	<b>Practical – Key Learning Outcomes</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Explain the requirements of personal health, hygiene and fitness at work.</li> <li>• Describe common health-related guidelines laid down by the organizations/ Government at the workplace.</li> <li>• Explain the importance of good housekeeping at the workplace.</li> <li>• Explain the importance of informing the designated authority on personal health issues related to injuries and infectious diseases.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Demonstrate personal hygiene practices to be followed at the workplace.</li> <li>• Demonstrate the correct way of washing hands using soap and water, and alcohol-based hand rubs.</li> <li>• Demonstrate the steps to follow to put on and take off a mask safely.</li> <li>• Show how to sanitize and disinfect one's work area regularly.</li> <li>• Demonstrate adherence to the workplace sanitization norms.</li> <li>• Show how to ensure the cleanliness of the work area.</li> </ul>
<b>Classroom Aids:</b>	
Computer, Projection Equipment, PowerPoint Presentation and Software, Facilitator's Guide, Participant's Handbook.	
<b>Tools, Equipment and Other Requirements</b>	
Personal Protective Equipment, Cleaning Equipment and Materials, Sanitizer, Soap, Mask	

## Module 9: Safety and emergency procedures

### Mapped to NOS AGR/N9903 v4.0

#### Terminal Outcomes:

- Describe how to adhere to safety guidelines.
- Show how to administer appropriate emergency procedures.

<b>Duration: 10:00</b>	<b>Duration: 10:00</b>
<b>Theory – Key Learning Outcomes</b>	<b>Practical – Key Learning Outcomes</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• List the Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) required at the workplace.</li> <li>• Describe the commonly reported hazards at the workplace.</li> <li>• Describe the hazards caused due to chemicals/ pesticides/ fumigants.</li> <li>• Describe the basic safety checks to be done before the operation of any equipment/ machinery.</li> <li>• Describe the common first aid procedures to be followed in case of emergencies.</li> <li>• State measures that can be taken to prevent accidents and damages at the workplace.</li> <li>• Explain the importance of reporting details of first aid administered, to the reporting officer/ doctor, in accordance with workplace procedures.</li> <li>• State common health and safety guidelines to be followed at the workplace.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Check various areas of the workplace for leakages, water-logging, pests, fire, etc.</li> <li>• Demonstrate how to safely use the PPE and implements it as applicable to the workplace.</li> <li>• Display the correct way of donning, doffing and discarding PPE such as face masks, hand gloves, face shields, PPE suits, etc.</li> <li>• Sanitize the tools, equipment and machinery properly.</li> <li>• Demonstrate the safe disposal of waste.</li> <li>• Demonstrate procedures for dealing with accidents, fires and emergencies.</li> <li>• Demonstrate emergency procedures to the given workplace requirements.</li> <li>• Demonstrate the use of emergency equipment in accordance with manufacturers' specifications and workplace requirements.</li> <li>• Demonstrate the administration of first aid.</li> <li>• Prepare a list of relevant hotline/ emergency numbers.</li> </ul>
<b>Classroom Aids:</b>	
Computer, Projection Equipment, PowerPoint Presentation and Software, Facilitator's Guide, Participant's Handbook.	
<b>Tools, Equipment and Other Requirements</b>	
Personal Protective Equipment, First Aid Kit, Equipment used in Medical Emergencies.	

## Module 10: Employability Skills (30 hours)

Mapped to NOS DGT/VSQ/N0101 v1.0

**Duration: 30:00**

### Key Learning Outcomes

#### Introduction to Employability Skills Duration: 1 Hour

After completing this programme, participants will be able to:

1. Discuss the importance of Employability Skills in meeting the job requirements

#### Constitutional values - Citizenship Duration: 1 Hour

2. Explain constitutional values, civic rights, duties, citizenship, responsibility towards society etc. that are required to be followed to become a responsible citizen.
3. Show how to practice different environmentally sustainable practices

#### Becoming a Professional in the 21st Century Duration: 1 Hours

4. Discuss 21st century skills.
5. Display positive attitude, self -motivation, problem solving, time management skills and continuous learning mindset in different situations.

#### Basic English Skills Duration: 2 Hours

6. Use appropriate basic English sentences/phrases while speaking

#### Communication Skills Duration: 4 Hour

7. Demonstrate how to communicate in a well -mannered way with others.
8. Demonstrate working with others in a team

#### Diversity & Inclusion Duration: 1 Hour

9. Show how to conduct oneself appropriately with all genders and PwD
10. Discuss the significance of reporting sexual harassment issues in time

#### Financial and Legal Literacy Duration: 4 Hours

11. Discuss the significance of using financial products and services safely and securely.
12. Explain the importance of managing expenses, income, and savings.
13. Explain the significance of approaching the concerned authorities in time for any exploitation as per legal rights and laws

#### Essential Digital Skills Duration: 3 Hours

14. Show how to operate digital devices and use the associated applications and features, safely and securely
15. Discuss the significance of using internet for browsing, accessing social media platforms, safely and securely

#### Entrepreneurship Duration: 7 Hours

16. Discuss the need for identifying opportunities for potential business, sources for arranging money and potential legal and financial challenges

#### Customer Service Duration: 4 Hours

17. Differentiate between types of customers
18. Explain the significance of identifying customer needs and addressing them
19. Discuss the significance of maintaining hygiene and dressing appropriately

**Getting ready for apprenticeship & Jobs Duration: 2 Hours**

20. Create a biodata
21. Use various sources to search and apply for jobs
22. Discuss the significance of dressing up neatly and maintaining hygiene for an interview
23. Discuss how to search and register for apprenticeship opportunities



## Annexure

### Trainer Requirements

Trainer Prerequisites						
Minimum Educational Qualification	Specialization	Relevant Industry Experience		Training Experience		Remarks
		Years	Specialization	Years	Specialization	
10 <sup>th</sup> Class		7	Agri Crop Production	0		Cotton Cultivator with 7 Years of experience with 10th Pass. Experience certificate issued by BDO/ Agriculture Officer/ Head of Gram Panchayat/ Loan disbursing bank or financial institution on official letter Head
12 <sup>th</sup> Class		4	Agri Crop Production	0		Ex-Service-Man including Ex-Paramilitary personnel: Minimum Qualification is 10+2 with an Honourable Discharge/Pension. SSC would consider a relaxation/waiver of sector-specific experience on a case-to-case basis.
Diploma	Agriculture	3	Agri Crop Production	0		
Graduate	Graduate in any stream except Agriculture/ Horticulture/ Forestry	2	Agri Crop Production	0		For the school Program minimum qualification of the Trainer should be Graduate (Agriculture / Horticulture / Botany/ Forestry) with minimum 3 years Teaching experience (will be considered industry experience)
Graduate	Agriculture/ Horticulture/ Forestry	0.5	Agri Crop Production	0		

Trainer Certification	
Domain Certification	Platform Certification
Certified for Job Role “ <b>Cotton Cultivator</b> ”, mapped to QP: “AGR/Q0202, v3.0”, Minimum accepted score is 80%	Recommended that the Trainer is certified for the Job Role: “Trainer (Vet and Skills)”, mapped to the Qualification Pack: “MEP/Q2601, v2.0”. The minimum accepted score as per MEPSC guidelines is 80%.

## Assessor Requirements

Assessor Prerequisites						
Minimum Educational Qualification	Specialization	Relevant Industry Experience		Training/Assessment Experience		Remarks
		Years	Specialization	Years	Specialization	
B.Sc.	Agriculture/ Botany/Agronomy and related streams	5	Agriculture crops production / Agronomy and related experience	0		Practical skills and knowledge required in Cotton Cultivation
M.Sc.	Agriculture/ Botany/Agronomy and related streams	2	Agriculture crops production / Agronomy and related experience	0		Practical skills and knowledge required in Cotton Cultivation
PhD	Agriculture/ Botany/Agronomy and related streams	1	Agriculture crops production / Agronomy and related experience	0		Practical skills and knowledge required in Cotton Cultivation

Assessor Certification	
Domain Certification	Platform Certification
Certified for Job Role “ <b>Cotton Cultivator</b> ”, mapped to QP: “AGR/Q0202, v3.0”, Minimum accepted score is 80%	Certified for the Job Role: “Assessor (Vet and Skills)”, mapped to the Qualification Pack: “MEP/Q2701, v2.0”, with a minimum score of 80%.

## Assessment Strategy

### Assessment System Overview

In Agriculture Sector it is of ultimate importance that individuals dealing with crop production or livestock have the requisite knowledge and competencies to undertake the task. Based on the Assessment Criteria, SSC in association with empaneled AAs, define the test structure for the given job roles to cover the required skills and competencies. Assessment strategy consists of the following:

1. Multiple Choice Questions: To assess basic knowledge (Objective/Subjective)
2. Viva: To assess awareness on processes (Oral and/or written questioning)
3. Practical: To evaluate skills and identify competencies. (Observation)

Assessments for knowledge and awareness on processes may be conducted through 'real-time' internet-based evaluation or by conducting the same 'offline' through TABs. Skills and competencies are to be assessed by conducting 'practical' on the ground through qualified and ToA certified assessors.

An individual must have adequate knowledge and skills to perform a specific task, weightage for different aspects of the assessment is given as follows:

- Multiple Choice Questions: 20%-30%, depending on the specific QP
- Viva: 20%
- Practical: 50% - 60% (Involves demonstrations of applications and presentations of procedures/tasks and other components)
- Assessment will be carried out by certified assessors through empaneled assessment partners. Based on the results of the assessment; ASCI will certify the learners/candidates

### Testing Environment

Assessments are conducted on laptops, Mobiles and android tablets via both offline and online mode depending on the internet connectivity at the assessment location.

In remote locations/villages, assessments get delivered through tablets without the requirement of the Internet.

- Multilingual assessments (ASCI is conducting the assessments in 13 + languages pan India)
- Rubric driven assessments in Practical/Viva sections and responses recorded accordingly
- All responses, data, records and feedback are stored digitally on the cloud
- Advanced auto-proctoring features – photographs, time-stamp, geographic-tagging, toggle- screen/copy-paste disabled, etc.
- Android-based monitoring system
- End to end process from allocation of a batch to final result upload, there is no manual intervention

- Assessment will normally be fixed for a day after the end date of the training / within 7 days of completion of training.
- Assessment will be conducted at the training venue
- The room where assessment is conducted will be set with proper seating arrangements with enough space to curb copying or other unethical activities
- Question bank of theory and practice will be prepared by ASCI /assessment agency and approved ASCI. Only from approved Question Bank assessment agency will prepare the question paper. Theory testing will include multiple-choice questions, pictorial questions, etc. which will test the trainee on his theoretical knowledge of the subject.
- The theory, practical and viva assessments will be carried out on the same day. In case of a greater number of candidates, the number of assessors and venue facilitation be increased and facilitated

Assessment			
Assessment Type	Formative or Summative	Strategies	Examples
Theory	Summative	MCQ/Written exam	Knowledge of facts related to the job role and functions. Understanding of principles and concepts related to the job role and functions
Practical	Summative	Structured tasks/Demonstration	Practical application /Demonstration /Application tasks
Viva	Summative	Questioning and Probing	Mock interviews on the usability of job roles/advantages /importance of adherence to procedures. Viva will be used to gauge trainee's confidence and correct knowledge in handling the job situation

The question paper is pre-loaded in the computer /Tablet and it will be in the language as requested by the training partner.

## Assessment Quality Assurance framework

### Assessment Framework and Design:

Based on the Assessment Criteria, SSC in association with AAs will define the test structure for the given roles to cover the required skills and competencies. ASCI offer a bouquet of tools for multi-dimensional evaluation of candidates covering language, cognitive skills, behavioural traits and domain knowledge.

**Theoretical Knowledge** - Item constructs and types are determined by a theoretical understanding of the testing objectives and published research about the item types and constructs that have shown statistical validity towards measuring the construct. Test item types that have been reported to be coachable are not included. Based on these, items are developed by domain experts. They are provided with comprehensive guidelines of the testing objectives of each question and other quality measures.

**Type** – Questions based on Knowledge Required, Case-based practical scenario questions and automated simulation-based questions.

**Practical Skills** - The practical assessments are developed taking into consideration two aspects: what practical tasks is the candidate expected to perform on the job and what aspects of the job cannot be judged through theoretical assessments. The candidates shall be asked to perform either an entire task or a set of subtasks depending on the nature of the job role

**Type** – Standardized rubrics for evaluation against a set of tasks in a demo/practical task

**Viva Voce** - Those practical tasks which cannot be performed due to time or resource constraints are evaluated through the viva mode. Practical tasks are backed up with Viva for thorough assessment and complete evaluation

**Type** – Procedural questions, dos and don'ts, subjective questions to check the understanding of practical tasks.

The assessor has to go through an orientation program organized by the Assessment Agency. The training would give an overview to the assessors on the overall framework of QP evaluation. The assessor shall be given a NOS and PC level overview of each QP as applicable. The overall structure of assessment and objectivity of the marking scheme will be explained to them. The giving of marks will be driven by an objective framework that will maintain the standardization of the marking scheme.

### Type of Evidence and Evidence Gathering Protocol:

During the assessment the evidence collected by AAs and ASCI are:

- GeoTagging to track ongoing assessment
- AA's coordinator emails the list of documents and evidence (photos and videos) to the assessor one day before the assessment. The list is mentioned below:
  - Signed Attendance sheet
  - Assessor feedback sheet
  - Candidate feedback sheet

- Assessment checklist for assessor
  - Candidate Aadhar/ID card verification
  - Pictures of the classroom, labs to check the availability of adequate equipment's and tools to conduct the training and assessment
  - Pictures and videos of Assessment, training feedback and infrastructure.
- Apart from the Assessor, a Technical assistant is popularly known as Proctor also ensures the proper documentation and they verify each other's tasks.
  - To validate their work on the day of the assessment, regular calls and video calls are done.
  - On-boarding and training of the assessor and proctor are done on a timely basis to ensure that the quality of the assessment should be maintained.
  - Training covers the understanding of QP, NSQF level, NOS and assessment structure

### **Methods of Validation**

- Morning Check (Pre-Assessment): Backend team of AA calls and confirms assessor/technical SPOC event status. Assessor/Technical SPOC are instructed to reach the centre on time by 9:30 AM / as decided with TC and delay should be highlighted to the Training Partner in advance.
- Video Calls: Random video calls are made to the technical SPOC/assessor so as to keep a check on assessment quality and ensure assessment is carried out in a fair and transparent manner
- Aadhar verification of candidates
- Evening Check (Post Assessment): Calls are made to the ground team to ensure the event is over by what time and the documentation is done properly or not.
- TP Calling: To keep a check on malpractices, an independent audit team calls the TP on a recorded line to take confirmation if there was any malpractice activity observed in the assessment on part of the AA/SSC team. If calls are not connected, an email is sent to TP SPOC for taking their confirmation
- Video and Picture Evidence: Backend team collects video and pictures for assessment on a real-time basis and highlights any issue such as students sitting idle/ trainer helping the candidates during the assessment.
- Surprise Visit: Time to time SSC/AA Audit team can visit the assessment location and conduct a surprise audit for the assessment carried out by the ground team.
- Geo Tagging: On the day of the assessment, each technical SPOC is required to login into our internal app which is Geotagged. Any deviation with the centre address needs to be highlighted to the assessment team on a real-time basis.

### **Method for assessment documentation, archiving, and Access:**

- ASCI have a fully automated result generation process in association with multiple AAs
- Theory, Practical and Viva marks form the basis of the results and encrypted files generated to avoid data manipulation. All responses were captured and stored in the System with Time-Stamps at the end of AAs and SSC. NOS-wise and PC-wise scores can

be generated.

- Maker Checker concept: One person prepares the results and another audit result which is internally approved by AA at first and then gets vetted at the end of SSC
- All softcopies of documents are received from the on-ground tech team over email. The same is downloaded by our internal backend team and saved in Repository. The repository consists of scheme-wise folders. These scheme-wise folders have two job role-specific folders. These specific folders have Year wise and Month wise folders where all documents are saved in Batch specific folders. All Hard copies are filed and stored in the storeroom.

#### **Result Review & Recheck Mechanism –**

- Time-stamped assessment logs
- Answer/Endorsement sheets for each candidate
- Attendance Sheet
- Feedback Forms: Assessor feedback form, Candidate feedback form, TP feedback form
- The results for each of the candidates shall be stored and available for review (retained for 5 years/ till the conclusion of the project or scheme)

# References

## Glossary

Term	Description
<b>Declarative Knowledge</b>	Declarative knowledge refers to facts, concepts and principles that need to be known and/or understood in order to accomplish a task or to solve a problem.
<b>Key Learning Outcome</b>	The key learning outcome is the statement of what a learner needs to know, understand and be able to do in order to achieve the terminal outcomes. A set of key learning outcomes will make up the training outcomes. Training outcome is specified in terms of knowledge, understanding (theory) and skills (practical application).
<b>OJT (M)</b>	On-the-job training (Mandatory); trainees are mandated to complete specified hours of training on-site
<b>OJT (R)</b>	On-the-job training (Recommended); trainees are recommended the specified hours of training on-site
<b>Procedural Knowledge</b>	Procedural knowledge addresses how to do something, or how to perform a task. It is the ability to work or produce a tangible work output by applying cognitive, affective or psychomotor skills.
<b>Training Outcome</b>	Training outcome is a statement of what a learner will know, understand and be able to do upon the completion of the training.
<b>Terminal Outcome</b>	The terminal outcome is a statement of what a learner will know, understand and be able to do upon the completion of a module. A set of terminal outcomes help to achieve the training outcome.



## Acronyms and Abbreviations

Term	Description
AGR	Agriculture
IPM	Integrated Pest Management
ETL	Economic Threshold Levels
HDPE	High-Density Polyethylene
NOS	National Occupational Standard (s)
NSQF	National Skills Qualifications Framework
OJT	On-the-job Training
PP	Polypropylene
PHI	Protected Health Information (PHI)
PwD	People with Disability
PPE	Personal Protective Equipment
QP	Qualifications Pack