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| AGRICULTURAL SCIENCE | |
| Strand 2: **Sustainable Primary Production** | Sub-strand 2.1: Analysis of Management Practices for Sustainable Primary Production |
| **LESSON ACTIVITY**  6: IMPORTANCE OF MANAGEMENT PRACTICES FOR SUSTAINABLE PRIMARY PRODUCTION | |

The Specific Learning Outcome (SLO) targeted in this activity are provided below.

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| |  | | --- | | **SLO#** | | |  | | --- | | **Specific Learning Outcomes: *Students are able to*** | | |  | | --- | | **Skill level** | | |  | | --- | | **SLO code** | |
| 24 | Identify the factors of production in primary production | 1 | agr2.1.1.7 |
| 25 | Describe features of labour availability or requirements related to sustainable primary production | 2 | agr2.1.2.7 |
| 26 | Explain how labour availability issues impact sustainable primary production. | 3 | agr2.1.3.7 |
| 27 | Discuss how labour availability issues can be resolved and suggest suitable strategies to enhance sustainable primary production | 4 | agr2.1.4.6 |

**LABOUR MANAGEMENT PRACTICES**

***Factors of Production***

The principal influence on a country’s agricultural production or output is the amount and quality of its resources of **land, labour** and **capital** – the inputs.

**Land** – includes all the resources provided by nature including farmlands, mineral wealth, and fishing grounds.

**Capital** – includes finance, plant, machinery, equipment, buildings, raw materials and other business assets which are used in the production process.

**Labour** – is the human effort employed in production.

Even in the most primitive methods of production, all three factors are important. To harvest water melons one must use labour to pick them, land on which to grow them, and capital to transport them.

**LABOUR AVAILABILITY**

Labour is the human effort employed in production and is vital in agriculture. It will include skilled and unskilled employees who earn wages for their services, and are employed on temporary or permanent bases. It also includes the family members who may not require wages but are usually remunerated in kind.

The skilled workers are those with particular trades or crafts, such as carpenters, gardeners, drivers, and plumbers. The unskilled workers perform general services such as farm attendants, loaders, cleaners, and messengers.

The supply of labour depends on the number of people available for employment and the size of the farm to work on, and the number of hours per person over particular time periods.

* *Importance of labour*

Labour is important component of a farm working system. Without labour nothing is possible. We need manpower to do all sorts of things.

**Labour management**

The activity or part of [MANAGEMENT](https://financial-dictionary.thefreedictionary.com/Management) concerned with all aspects of managing the work of others. It involves both the managing of production itself and activities such as selection of labour, discipline etc.

**Importance of labour productivity**

If a business has an increase in labour productivity then this means that the input will be increased.

* *Use of labour*

The farmer can hire labourers to work in his farm during the period of harvest or any other time when the load of work is too much for the farmer’s family to do it by themselves.

The farmer has to make sure he pays the labourers to a rate that is acceptable if not no one will want to work for him/her. If this is the case then, the farmer will find it hard to handle everything so slowly the production will drop, the harvest will not be plentiful because of weeds invasion. The farmer must make sure he does not overwork his labourers too.

* *How many should be employed*

This is calculated on the basis of 7-8 hours of work per person, this is equivalent to one man/day.

In a week the total hours should come to 35-40 hours per week.

As an example, if the harvest needs 150 hours of work then we divide 150 hours by 35 hours to find out how many people are needed to do the harvest.

150/35 = 4 manpower to do the job in a week.

**Exercise 6**

**1**. Identify the factors of production in primary production. L1 (agr2.1.1.7)

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**2**. Describe features of labour availability or requirements related to sustainable primary production. 2 agr2.1.2.7

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**3**. Explain how labour availability issues impact sustainable primary production. L3 agr2.1.3.7

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**4**.Discuss how labour availability issues can be resolved and suggest suitable strategies to enhance sustainable primary production. L4 agr2.1.4.6

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