

Year 9 Prescription

Objectives: Cocoa

Having successfully completed this course the student should be able to:

1. Correctly name the major parts of a
 - a. cocoa tree
 - b. cocoa flower
 - c. cocoa bean
2. Demonstrate a knowledge of the growing conditions needed to produce good crops of cocoa.
3. Demonstrate a knowledge of the criteria used when selecting seed for planting, including selection of the best variety, and of the techniques used to produce healthy seedlings.
4. Demonstrate a knowledge of the methods used when preparing ground for cocoa to be grown in, including the establishment of shade trees and fences.
5. Demonstrate a knowledge of the methods used to plant out good seedlings into the cocoa plantation, and of the way in which the plants should be cared for until they are established.
6. Demonstrate a knowledge of the way in which cocoa trees are pruned and of the reasons for doing this.
7. Demonstrate a knowledge of the way in which pods should be picked and opened.
8. Describe the process of fermentation, mentioning
 - a. the reasons for fermenting
 - b. large- and small-scale methods of fermentation
 - c. care of the beans after fermentation
9. Describe the process of cocoa grading and marketing, mentioning the criteria by which the cocoa is graded.
10. Correctly identify a pod suffering from black-pod disease, and suggest five steps that the grower should take to reduce the risk of infection.
11. Correctly identify evidence of rat damage, and suggest steps that the grower should take to reduce this problem.

Objectives : Beef cattle

Having successfully completed this course, the student should be able to:

1. Describe some of the more important considerations that a smallholder must take into account when deciding whether to start a cattle project, including access to markets, stocking rates and breed selection.
2. Demonstrate a knowledge of the methods used to prepare ground for cattle, including pasture improvement, the construction of fences and stockyards and the provision of a water supply.
3. Demonstrate a knowledge of the basic techniques of cattle husbandry, including
 - a. handling and control of stock
 - b. weaning
 - c. castration
 - d. dehorning
 - e. cattle identification techniques
 - f. culling
4. Demonstrate a knowledge of the differences commonly observed between a sick animal and a healthy one, and in particular be able to identify, and describe control measures for, the following problems
 - a. brucellosis
 - b. tuberculosis
 - c. roundworms
5. Describe the work of cattle breeders with particular reference to
 - a. VLD
 - b. control of breeding stock
 - c. herd improvement
6. Describe the importance of planning and recording to good herd management.
7. Describe the major factors influencing the future of beef production in Vanuatu.