

CUET PG 2026 Agricultural Science Question Paper with Solution

Time Allowed :3 Hours	Maximum Marks :300	Total Questions :75
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General Instructions

1. The Question Paper consists of 75 Multiple Choice Questions (MCQs).
2. Total marks for the exam is 300.
3. The total duration is 90 minutes; a timer on the screen will display the remaining time, and the exam will automatically submit when the time reaches zero.
4. For every correct answer, 4 marks (+4) will be awarded to the candidate, and a 1 mark (-1) will be deducted for every incorrect answer.
5. Question papers are available in both English and Hindi.

1. The Botanical name of Indian Jujubee is:

- (A) *Zizyphus rotundifolia*
- (B) *Z. mauritiana*
- (C) *Z. mummularia*
- (D) None

Correct Answer: (B) *Z. mauritiana*

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:

Indian Jujubee, also known as Ber, belongs to the family Rhamnaceae.

Botanical nomenclature is essential for identifying species across different geographical regions.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:

Zizyphus mauritiana is the scientific name for the cultivated variety of Indian Ber.

It is a tropical fruit tree characterized by its ability to thrive in arid and semi-arid conditions. *Zizyphus rotundifolia* (also known as *Z. nummularia*) refers to the wild shrubby species often used as a rootstock.

The cultivated species, *Z. mauritiana*, is preferred for its larger fruit size and commercial viability.

Step 3: Final Answer

The correct botanical name for the Indian Jujubee is *Zizyphus mauritiana*.

💡 Quick Tip

The Indian Jujubee (Ber) is often referred to as the "King of Arid Fruits" or the "Poor man's apple" due to its hardness and nutritional content.

2. Mango is commercially propagated by

- (A) Inarching
- (B) Veneer
- (C) Side grafting
- (D) Stone grafting

Correct Answer: (B) Veneer

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:

Propagation methods in mango have evolved from traditional seed propagation to sophisticated vegetative methods to ensure clonal uniformity.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:

Veneer grafting is considered the most common commercial method of mango propagation in India, particularly in the northern states.

It involves joining a scion with a wedge-shaped cut to a corresponding cut on the side of the rootstock.

While Inarching is traditional in South India, and Epicotyl (Stone) grafting is popular in the Konkan region, Veneer grafting remains the standard for large-scale nursery production.

Step 3: Final Answer

Veneer grafting is the primary commercial propagation method for Mango in modern Indian horticulture.

Quick Tip

For northern India, Veneer grafting is the standard, whereas for the Konkan region (Western India), Epicotyl or Stone grafting is favored.

3. Passion fruit is commercially propagated by

- (A) Cutting
- (B) Seed
- (C) Grafting
- (D) Budding

Correct Answer: (B) Seed

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:

Passion fruit (*Passiflora edulis*) can be multiplied through both sexual and asexual means.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:

Commercial propagation of passion fruit is predominantly done via seeds because it is easy and cost-effective.

Fresh seeds are extracted and sown immediately for high germination rates.

Vegetative methods like stem cuttings and grafting are used for specific hybrids or to manage soil-borne diseases, but seed remains the most widely practiced commercial method.

Step 3: Final Answer

The most common commercial propagation method for passion fruit is through seeds.

💡 Quick Tip

Yellow passion fruit is more resistant to nematodes and is often used as a rootstock for purple passion fruit varieties.

4. Salt tolerant rootstock of Grape is

- (A) Dogridge
- (B) Salt creek
- (C) Both
- (D) None

Correct Answer: (C) Both

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:

In grape cultivation, rootstocks are selected based on their resistance to environmental stresses such as salinity, drought, and pests.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:

Both Dogridge and Salt creek (also known as Ramsey) are highly vigorous and well-known for their salt tolerance.

Dogridge is widely used in India, especially in Maharashtra, to mitigate the effects of high soil salinity and drought.

Salt creek provides excellent resistance to root-knot nematodes and high salinity levels in the soil.

Step 3: Final Answer

Since both varieties are recognized for their salt tolerance, the correct choice is Both.

💡 Quick Tip

Dogridge is particularly famous for its high vigor and is a preferred rootstock for Thompson Seedless in India.

5. Neelam Alphonso, Cross produce variety of mango

- (A) Ratna
- (B) Neelphonso

- (C) Sindhu
- (D) None

Correct Answer: (A) Ratna

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:

Cross-breeding in mango involves selecting parents with complementary traits to create superior cultivars.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:

The cross between Neelam (Female) and Alphonso (Male) resulted in the variety 'Ratna'.

Ratna was developed by the Konkan Krishi Vidyapeeth, Dapoli, and is characterized by being free from spongy tissue.

'Sindhu' is a cross between Ratna and Alphonso, known for its extremely thin stone (often called seedless).

Step 3: Final Answer

Ratna is the resulting variety from the Neelam $\times$ Alphonso cross.

 Quick Tip

Mnemonic: $N \times A = R$ (Ratna); $R \times A = S$ (Sindhu). This helps remember the pedigree of famous Konkan mango hybrids.

6. Fruit crop exported on large scale from India is

- (A) Grape
- (B) Banana
- (C) Mango
- (D) Citrus

Correct Answer: (C) Mango

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:

India is the world's largest producer of several fruits, and export volume is a measure of international demand and supply chain efficiency.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:

Mango is the "National Fruit of India" and has a massive global presence.

Varieties like Alphonso, Kesar, and Banganapalli are exported to the Middle East, USA, UK, and Japan in significant volumes.

While grapes have seen a massive rise in exports from Maharashtra, Mango remains the traditional and primary leader in fresh fruit exports.

Step 3: Final Answer

Mango is the fruit crop exported on the largest scale from the Indian subcontinent.

💡 Quick Tip

The Alphonso variety, primarily grown in the Ratnagiri and Devgad regions of Maharashtra, fetches the highest price in the international market.

7. Family of tuberose is

- (A) Malvaceae
- (B) Rosaceae
- (C) Compositae
- (D) Amaryllidaceae

Correct Answer: (D) Amaryllidaceae

Solution:**Step 1: Understanding the Concept:**

Tuberose (*Polianthes tuberosa*) is a significant commercial flower known for its long-lasting fragrance.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:

Traditionally, tuberose belongs to the family Amaryllidaceae.

In modern classification (APG), it is often placed under the family Asparagaceae.

However, most competitive agricultural exams still use the traditional classification, identifying it as a member of Amaryllidaceae (Amaryllidaceae).

Step 3: Final Answer

The family of Tuberose is Amaryllidaceae.

💡 Quick Tip

Tuberose is a bulbous plant, and the "Single" variety is used for extracting essential oil, whereas "Double" varieties are used for cut flowers.

8. 8. Spice crop largely exported from India is

- (A) Black pepper.
- (B) Cardamom
- (C) Canine
- (D) Turmeric

Correct Answer: (A) Black pepper.

Solution:**Step 1: Understanding the Concept:**

India is famously known as the "Land of Spices," and these crops form a backbone of its agricultural export economy.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:

Black pepper (*Piper nigrum*) is historically termed the "King of Spices."

It has been a major trade item for centuries, especially from the Malabar coast of Kerala.

While the export of chilli and turmeric has grown exponentially, Black pepper remains a signature large-scale export spice.

Note: Option (C) 'Canine' is likely a typographical error in the source material for 'Cumin' or another spice.

Step 3: Final Answer

Black pepper is the spice crop traditionally exported on a very large scale from India.

💡 Quick Tip

Kerala is the leading producer of black pepper in India, accounting for the bulk of the country's export volume.

9. Exanthema in Citrus is due to deficiency of

- (A) Mg
- (B) Cu
- (C) Zn
- (D) Cl

Correct Answer: (B) Cu

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:

Micronutrient deficiencies in citrus manifest as specific physiological disorders.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:

Exanthema, also known as 'die-back' or 'red rust', is a specific symptom of Copper (Cu) deficiency in citrus.

It results in brownish stains on fruit, gum pockets near the pith, and terminal leaf death.

Zinc (Zn) deficiency causes 'Mottle leaf' or 'Frenching', which is characterized by interveinal chlorosis.

Step 3: Final Answer

The deficiency of Copper (Cu) causes Exanthema in citrus.

💡 Quick Tip

A common mnemonic for micronutrients: Zn for Mottle leaf, Cu for Exanthema, and B for Hard fruit (in citrus).

10. 10. _____ is the major pest of Brinjal.

- (A) Fruit fly
- (B) Thrips
- (C) Fruit & shoot borer
- (D) Mealy bug

Correct Answer: (C) Fruit & shoot borer

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:

Key pests are those that consistently cause significant economic damage to a specific crop.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:

The Brinjal Fruit and Shoot Borer (*Leucinodes orbonalis*) is the most destructive pest of brinjal.

In the early growth stages, the larvae bore into tender shoots, causing them to wilt and droop. In later stages, they bore into the fruit, making them unmarketable and causing up to 70%-90% yield loss.

Step 3: Final Answer

The Fruit and shoot borer is the major insect pest of Brinjal.

💡 Quick Tip

To manage this pest, pheromone traps and resistant varieties like 'Pusa Purple Round' are often recommended.

11. 11. Pod colour in forestro variety of Cocoa is

- (A) Purple
- (B) Green
- (C) Blue
- (D) White

Correct Answer: (B) Green

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:

Cocoa (*Theobroma cacao*) varieties are classified based on pod characteristics, bean quality, and geographical distribution.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:

Forastero (misspelled as 'forestro' in the image) is the most common variety of cocoa.

Its immature pods are typically green and turn yellow upon ripening.

In contrast, Criollo variety pods are often red or purple when immature and have a smoother

surface.

Step 3: Final Answer

The pod colour in the Forastero variety of cocoa is Green.

💡 Quick Tip

Forastero cocoa accounts for nearly 80% of the world's chocolate production due to its high yield and disease resistance.

12. 12. Main constraint in commercial cultivation of medicinal plants is

- (A) Lack of planting material
- (B) Lack of market
- (C) Lack of knowledge
- (D) All

Correct Answer: (D) All

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:

The shift from wild collection to organized cultivation of medicinal plants faces several socio-economic and technical barriers.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:

The sector is largely unorganized, leading to a lack of certified seeds and quality planting material.

Market linkages are weak, and farmers often struggle to find guaranteed buyers or fair pricing. General lack of technical know-how regarding scientific cultivation, harvesting time, and post-harvest handling further limits large-scale commercialization.

Step 3: Final Answer

All the mentioned factors are significant constraints in the commercial cultivation of medicinal plants.

💡 Quick Tip

The National Medicinal Plants Board (NMPB) in India was established specifically to address these constraints and promote cultivation.

13. 13. Origin of Brinjal is

- (A) Africa
- (B) America
- (C) India
- (D) China

Correct Answer: (C) India

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:

Centers of origin are geographical areas where a plant species was first domesticated and exhibits maximum genetic diversity.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:

Brinjal (*Solanum melongena*) is considered native to the Indian subcontinent.

Vavilov recognized India as its primary center of origin due to the wide range of wild varieties and types found within the country.

Step 3: Final Answer

The center of origin for Brinjal is India.

 **Quick Tip**

Ancient Sanskrit literature refers to brinjal, further supporting its deep historical roots in India.

14. 14. Which growth regulator is commonly used as weedicide

- (A) ABA
- (B) IBA
- (C) NAA
- (D) 2, 4-D

Correct Answer: (D) 2, 4-D

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:

Some synthetic plant hormones act as selective herbicides when used at concentrations higher than those required for growth promotion.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:

2, 4-D (2, 4-Dichlorophenoxyacetic acid) is a synthetic auxin.

At low concentrations, it promotes root growth and fruit set.

At high concentrations (usually above 20 ppm), it acts as a selective herbicide that kills broad-leaved (dicot) weeds without affecting monocot crops like wheat or rice.

Step 3: Final Answer

2, 4-D is the growth regulator commonly used as a weedicide.

 **Quick Tip**

2, 4-D was the first widely used selective herbicide and is still popular for controlling weeds in cereal crops.

15. 15. RRII headquarter is located at

- (A) Kasargod
- (B) Calicut
- (C) Kottayan
- (D) Bangalore

Correct Answer: (C) Kottayan

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:

National research institutes for specific crops are typically located in regions where those crops are most widely cultivated.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:

RRII stands for the Rubber Research Institute of India.

It is situated in Kottayam (misspelled as 'Kottayan' in the image), Kerala.

Kerala is the leading state for natural rubber production in India, making Kottayam the ideal location for its central research facility.

Step 3: Final Answer

The headquarters of the Rubber Research Institute of India (RRII) is in Kottayam.

 Quick Tip

Remember that CPCRI is in Kasaragod (Coconut/Arecanut) and IISR is in Calicut (Spices).

16. 16. Largest genebank of Coconut is located at

- (A) CTCRI
- (B) CPCRI
- (C) IIHR
- (D) IARI

Correct Answer: (B) CPCRI

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:

Genebanks preserve genetic diversity through the storage of germplasm like seeds, pollen, or field-grown plants.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:

The Central Plantation Crops Research Institute (CPCRI) in Kasaragod, Kerala, maintains one of the largest germplasm collections of coconut in the world.

It hosts the International Coconut Gene Bank for South Asia (ICG-SA).

CTCRI focuses on tuber crops, while IIHR is the Indian Institute of Horticultural Research in Bangalore.

Step 3: Final Answer

The largest coconut genebank in India is at CPCRI, Kasaragod.

💡 Quick Tip

CPCRI also conducts significant research on arecanut and cocoa as part of its plantation crop mandate.

17. 17. Epigial germination is seen in

- (A) Cashew
- (B) Rice
- (C) Jackfruit
- (D) Citrus

Correct Answer: (A) Cashew

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:

Germination is classified based on the relative movement of the cotyledons during seed sprout.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:

In Epigeal (Epigial) germination, the hypocotyl elongates, pushing the cotyledons above the soil surface. This is seen in Cashew, Cucumber, and Castor.

In Hypogeal germination, the epicotyl elongates, and the cotyledons remain below the ground. This occurs in Rice, Maize, and Jackfruit.

Step 3: Final Answer

Epigeal germination is a characteristic of Cashew.

💡 Quick Tip

Most dicots show epigeal germination, whereas most monocots show hypogeal germination.

18. 18. In Brinjal only those flowers set fruits which have:

- (A) Short style
- (B) Long style
- (C) Medium style
- (D) Both B & C

Correct Answer: (D) Both B & C

Solution:**Step 1: Understanding the Concept:**

Heterostyly (occurrence of different style lengths) in brinjal affects its reproductive success.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:

Brinjal produces four types of flowers: long-styled, medium-styled, pseudo-short-styled, and short-styled.

Fruit setting is only successful in long-styled and medium-styled flowers as they have well-developed ovaries and fertile pollen reception.

Short-styled flowers are functionally sterile and generally abscise without forming fruit.

Step 3: Final Answer

Fruit set in brinjal occurs in both long style and medium style flowers.

💡 Quick Tip

Varieties with a higher percentage of long-styled flowers are generally more productive.

19. 19. Krishna is the variety of

- (A) Tomato
- (B) Brinjal
- (C) Chilli
- (D) Potato

Correct Answer: (C) Chilli

Solution:**Step 1: Understanding the Concept:**

Cultivar names help differentiate varieties with specific phenotypes such as fruit color, shape, or pungency.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:

'Krishna' is a prominent variety of Chilli.

It is characterized by its distinctive dark purple to blackish fruits that eventually turn red.

Note: While there is a very famous Aonla variety called Krishna, within the given options, Chilli is the correct match.

Step 3: Final Answer

Krishna is a variety of Chilli as per the provided choices.

💡 Quick Tip

Krishna is often cultivated for its high ornamental value as well as its yield.

20. 20. Which one of the following is highly cross-pollinated

- (A) Okra
- (B) Bitter gourd
- (C) Chilli
- (D) Cowpea

Correct Answer: (B) Bitter gourd

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:

Pollination behavior depends on floral structure and plant sexual systems (e.g., monoecy, dioecy).

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:

Bitter gourd is a monoecious crop, meaning separate male and female flowers are borne on the same plant. This requires agents like bees for pollen transfer, making it highly cross-pollinated. Okra and Chilli are classified as often-cross-pollinated crops (self-pollination is also significant). Cowpea is strictly self-pollinated due to its cleistogamous or chasmogamous flower structure.

Step 3: Final Answer

Bitter gourd is the highly cross-pollinated crop among the given options.

 Quick Tip

All cucurbitaceous crops (like pumpkin, gourd, watermelon) are generally highly cross-pollinated.

21. 21. Aroma in Coffee is due to

- (A) Fermentation
- (B) Drying
- (C) Roasting
- (D) None

Correct Answer: (C) Roasting

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:

The characteristic flavor and scent of coffee are chemical products of post-harvest processing.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:

Roasting is the heat treatment process where green coffee beans are transformed into aromatic brown beans.

High temperatures trigger the Maillard reaction, which develops the "caffeol" oil and hundreds of volatile compounds that provide the signature aroma.

While fermentation is used in wet processing to remove mucilage, it does not directly create

the roasted aroma.

Step 3: Final Answer

Roasting is the process responsible for the aroma in coffee.

💡 Quick Tip

Caffeol is the essential oil produced during roasting that gives coffee its distinct smell.

22. 22. In Banana seedlessness is due to

- (A) Vegetative parthenocarpy
- (B) Stimulative parthenocarpy
- (C) Stenospermocarpy
- (D) None

Correct Answer: (A) Vegetative parthenocarpy

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:

Parthenocarpy refers to the development of fruit without fertilization, which leads to seedless fruits.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:

In commercial bananas, fruit develops without any external stimulus like pollination. This is known as vegetative parthenocarpy.

In contrast, stimulative parthenocarpy requires an external trigger (like pollination or chemical spray) but does not result in fertilization.

Banana seedlessness is further reinforced by triploidy ($3n$), which causes chromosomal imbalance and sterility.

Step 3: Final Answer

Seedlessness in commercial banana is primarily due to vegetative parthenocarpy.

💡 Quick Tip

Stenospermocarpy is the reason for seedlessness in grapes (e.g., Thompson Seedless).

23. 23. The main problem in breeding of chausa & langra Mango is

- (A) Alternate bearing
- (B) Spongy tissue
- (C) Self incompatibility
- (D) None

Correct Answer: (A) Alternate bearing

Solution:**Step 1: Understanding the Concept:**

Irregular bearing patterns in mango affect commercial yield stability over consecutive years.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:

Chausa and Langra are premier north Indian varieties, but they are notorious for alternate (biennial) bearing.

This means they produce a high yield in one year ('On' year) and very little in the next ('Off' year).

Breeding efforts are focused on introducing 'Regular bearing' genes from south Indian parents like Neelam into these high-quality varieties.

Step 3: Final Answer

Alternate bearing is the primary breeding constraint for Chausa and Langra varieties.

💡 Quick Tip

Spongy tissue is specifically a major problem associated with the 'Alphonso' variety.

24. 24. Variety of Chilli which is resistant to leaf curl virus is

- (A) Bhaskar
- (B) Pusa Deepti
- (C) Jwalamukhi
- (D) vPusa Jawala

Correct Answer: (C) Jwalamukhi

Solution:**Step 1: Understanding the Concept:**

Chilli Leaf Curl Virus (ChLCV) is a devastating disease transmitted by whiteflies. Resistance breeding is the most sustainable management strategy.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:

'Jwalamukhi' is a specific chilli cultivar known for its resistance to the leaf curl virus.

Pusa Jwala (often misspelled as 'vPusa Jawala') is also a popular high-yielding variety, but Jwalamukhi is traditionally highlighted for its strong viral resistance in competitive exam literature.

Step 3: Final Answer

Jwalamukhi is the chilli variety resistant to leaf curl virus.

💡 Quick Tip

Leaf curl virus causes the characteristic upward curling and crinkling of leaves in chilli plants.

25. 25. Indicator plant for tristiza in Citrus is

- (A) Sweet orange
- (B) Mandarin
- (C) Acid lime
- (D) Grape fruit

Correct Answer: (C) Acid lime

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:

Indicator plants show specific, unmistakable symptoms when infected by a particular pathogen, aiding in early diagnosis.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:

Citrus Tristeza Virus (CTV) causes quick decline and death of citrus trees on certain rootstocks.

Acid lime (*Citrus aurantifolia*), particularly the 'Kagzi lime' cultivar, is used globally as an indicator plant because it shows 'vein clearing' and 'stem pitting' symptoms very clearly upon infection.

Step 3: Final Answer

Acid lime is the standard indicator plant used for detecting the Tristeza virus in citrus.

💡 Quick Tip
Tristeza virus is primarily transmitted by the brown citrus aphid (<i>Toxoptera citricida</i>).