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Support Pack | Grade 12



Module 8 Units 1 – 2

Agricultural Sciences

Agricultural production factors

This support pack for the **Agricultural production factors** module in the **Agricultural Sciences Grade 12 CAPS curriculum** provides valuable revision activities. All activities have the answers provided. Learners can work through these individually at home or these could form the basis of a catch-up class or online lesson. You have permission to print or photocopy this document or distribute it electronically via email or WhatsApp.

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Module 8 – Agricultural production factors

Unit 1 Land

Short questions

1. Various possible answers are provided for the following questions. Write only the correct letter (A–D) next to the question number.
- 1.1 The factor that is NOT a production factor is
A labour
B vegetation
C management
D land
- 1.2 Which one of the following is NOT an economic characteristic of land?
A destructibility
B subject to the law of diminishing returns
C availability
D durability
- 1.3 A primary natural resource utilised in agricultural production is
A labour
B soil
C capital
D diesel fuel
- 1.4 The economic characteristic of agricultural land that makes it a good long-term investment is its
A location
B management
C durability
D risk
- 1.5 The primary natural resource is
A labourers
B soil
C capital
D trees
2. Give ONE word/term for each of the following descriptions. Write only the word/term next to the question number.
- 2.1 The law that explains the addition of successive units of one production factor does not result in a proportional increase in yield
- 2.2 The production factor on a crop farm that could be described as durable and indestructible
- 2.3 An area of ground used for farming and agricultural production
- 5 × 2 (10)
3 × 2 (6)

Longer questions

3. Answer the following questions about land as a production factor.
- 3.1 Name FOUR functions of land. (4)
- 3.2 List FOUR economic characteristics of land. (4)
- 3.3 Name THREE methods of increasing the productivity of land. (3)
- 3.4 Deduce the economic characteristics of land that are linked to the following challenges:
- 3.4.1 A road is being planned through the middle of the wheat land. (1)
- 3.4.2 More units of manure and fertiliser do not further increase the proportional yield on this farm. (1)
- 3.4.3 This farm is on the market as the farmer is getting older and wants to retire and live from the profits. (1)
- 3.4.4 This farm has been productive for three generations and production potential has been sustained. (1)

3.5 Define the following terms:

3.5.1 land restitution

(2)

3.5.2 land reform

(2)

Unit 2 Labour

Short questions

1. Various possible answers are provided for the following questions. Write only the correct letter (A–D) next to the question number.
 - 1.1 The labourers who receive part of their wages in benefits are
 - A casual workers
 - B permanent workers
 - C holiday workers
 - D seasonal workers
 - 1.2 The type of labour that is usually used to harvest carrots is
 - A permanent labour
 - B piece workers
 - C casual labour
 - D seasonal workers
 - 1.3 A factor that will not improve labour productivity is
 - A inadequate living conditions
 - B training
 - C planning
 - D supervision
 - 1.4 The type of labour used to paint roofs on the farm is
 - A permanent labour
 - B casual labour
 - C contract labour
 - D seasonal labour
 - 1.5 Which of the following is not an example of labour legislation?
 - A Basic Conditions of Unemployment Act
 - B Basic Conditions of Employment Act
 - C Labour Relations Act
 - D Occupational Health and Safety Act

5 × 2 (10)
2. Supply ONE word/term for each of the following descriptions. Write only the word/term next to the question number.
 - 2.1 A production factor involving human energy
 - 2.2 A legally binding agreement between two parties
 - 2.3 Legislation that affects certain factors such as the way a farm business carries out activities and the working conditions it provides for its labour

3 × 2 (6)

Longer questions

3. Answer the following questions about labour as a production factor.
 - 3.1 Indicate FOUR problems related specifically to labour in agriculture. (4)
 - 3.2 Name FIVE ways in which a farmer can increase labour productivity. (5)
 - 3.3 Distinguish between seasonal and casual workers on a farm. (2)
 - 3.4 Discuss the current problem in South Africa with regard to the scarcity of labour in agriculture. (4)
 - 3.5 List TWO importance reasons for the training of labourers. (2)

The ideal candidate must have the following skills:

- Ability to work with people
- Knowledge of computers
- Knowledge of welding
- Knowledge of maintenance of structures
- Knowledge of management of livestock

4. Different candidates apply for a post of farm manager in response to the advertisement alongside:

The selection panel shortlisted two candidates as shown in the table:

| Skills % | Candidate A | Candidate B |
|---------------------|-------------|-------------|
| Technical | 80 | 75 |
| Working with people | 60 | 80 |
| Management | 75 | 82 |

Which candidate (A or B) will be the best person to optimally manage the farming enterprise? Give a reason why you decided on a specific candidate. (4)

5. A contract is a legally binding document between two parties – the employer and the employee. Either party can refer to the contract if there is a dispute. Study the following extracts from a farm worker's contract and answer the questions that follow.

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>8. Sunday work (See Guideline 8) Any work on Sundays will be by agreement between the parties from time to time. If the employee works on a Sunday he/she will be paid double the wage for each hour worked.</p> <p>9. Public holidays (See Guideline 9) The employee will be entitled to all official public holidays on full pay. If an employee does not work on a public holiday, he/she shall receive normal payment for that day. If the employee works on a public holiday he/she shall be paid double.</p> <p>11. Sick leave (See Guideline 11) 11.1 During every sick leave cycle of 36 months the employee will be entitled to an amount of paid sick leave equal to the number of days the</p> | <p>employee would normally work during a period of six weeks.</p> <p>11.2 During the first six months of employment the employee will be entitled to one day's paid sick leave for every 26 days worked.</p> <p>11.3 The employee is to notify the employer as soon as possible in case of his/her absence from work through illness.</p> <p>13. Family responsibility leave (See Guideline 13) The employee will be entitled to three days family responsibility leave during each leave cycle.</p> <p>14. Deductions from remuneration (See Guideline 14) The employer may not deduct any monies from the employee's wage unless the employee has agreed to this in writing on each occasion.</p> |
|--|---|

- 5.1 According to the contract what should the payment be for an employee who works on a Sunday? (1)
- 5.2 What will the payment be for a full-time worker who does not work on a public holiday? (1)
- 5.3 For how many days sick leave can an employee qualify during the first six months of employment? (1)
- 5.4 What is the maximum number of leave days that an employee is allowed to take in one cycle for family responsibility? (1)
- 5.5 How much money is an employer allowed to deduct from an employee's wage? (1)
6. Read the following scenario and answer the questions that follow.

Seasonal farm workers went on strike in 2012, demanding that their daily minimum wage be increased from R69 to R150 and that a comprehensive land reform programme be implemented. The strike action came after the eruption of the class struggle in the country's mining sector and was encouraged by it.

- 6.1 Name the type of temporary labour that was mainly involved in the labour action. (1)
- 6.2 Name TWO concerns that gave rise to the strike action by farm workers. (2)
- 6.3 List TWO types of disruptions that were associated with this labour unrest. (2)
- 6.4 Calculate the percentage increase in wages demanded by the farm workers. (2)
- 6.5 Deduce THREE negative economic impacts of such a labour action. (3)
- 6.6 Name the document that is drawn up between the farm owner and the farm labourer to protect both parties during the employment period. (1)

Memorandum

Unit 1

Short questions

| | | | | | |
|--------------------------------|---------------|----------|-------|-------|------|
| 1.1 B | 1.2 A | 1.3 B | 1.4 C | 1.5 B | (10) |
| 2.1 Law of diminishing returns | 2.2 Land/soil | 2.3 Land | | | (6) |

Longer questions

- 3.1 Functions of land:
- Land supplies space
 - Land supplies raw materials
 - Land supplies food
 - Land supplies minerals
- (4)
- 3.2 Economic characteristics of land (any four):
- Availability
 - Difference with regard to production potential
 - Durability
 - Indestructibility
 - Restrictedness
 - Specific environment
 - Soil is subject to the law of diminishing returns
- (4)
- 3.3 Methods of increasing the productivity of land:
- Water supply
 - Consolidation of uneconomical farming units
 - Adaptations of production systems to scientific methods
- (3)
- 3.4.1 Availability (1)
- 3.4.2 Law of diminishing returns (1)
- 3.4.3 Durability (1)
- 3.4.4 Indestructibility (1)
- 3.5.1 Land restitution means to restore land to people from whom the land rights were taken through the Land Acts of 1913 and 1936. (2)
- 3.5.2 Land reform aims to make land available to previously disadvantaged communities. (2)

Unit 2

Short questions

| | | | | | |
|----------------|--------------|--|-------|-------|------|
| 1.1 B | 1.2 D | 1.3 A | 1.4 B | 1.5 A | (10) |
| 2.1 Management | 2.2 Contract | 2.3 Basic Conditions of Employment Act | | | (6) |

Longer questions

- 3.1 Problems related to labour in agriculture:
- Shortage or scarcity of labour
 - Industrial competition
 - Lack of skills
 - Poor labour management
- (4)
- 3.2 Methods of increasing labour productivity (any five):
- Planning
 - Supervision
 - Training
 - Daily planning
 - Economic planning
 - Planning production processes

- Efficient mechanisation
 - Adequate living conditions
- (5)

3.3

| Seasonal workers | Casual workers |
|---|--|
| Employed seasonally during peak periods | Employed on temporary basis when a need arises |
| Perform repetitive tasks such as planting, harvesting | Perform non-repetitive tasks such as building, fencing |

(2)

3.4 The problems in South Africa regarding scarcity of labour in agriculture:

- Working conditions are often less attractive on farms.
 - There is a shortage of labourers close to cities where the remuneration of labour is less on farms.
 - Migration of workers to industries in the cities causes scarcity of labour in rural areas.
 - As workers become more educated and skilled, they leave farms for better work opportunities in industry that can afford to pay higher wages.
- (4)

3.5 Reasons for training labour (any two):

- Improve the skills of labourers
 - Create security regarding the future
 - Improve productivity
- (2)

4. Candidate B. Although Candidate A has better technical skills, Candidate B has better skills for working with people and management skills, which will benefit the farm more. Candidate B can receive training to help improve his/her technical skills.

(4)

5.1 Double the daily wage

(1)

5.2 Normal payment

(1)

5.3 One day paid sick leave for every 26 days of work

(1)

5.4 Three days

(1)

5.5 None, unless the employee has agreed to this in writing on each occasion

(1)

6.1 Seasonal labour

(1)

6.2 Low wages and rate of land reform

(2)

6.3 Disruptions associated with labour unrest (any two):

- Drop in productivity
 - Damage to infrastructure
 - Learner absenteeism
- (2)

6.4 Value increase = R150 – R69 = R81

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Percentage increase:} &= \frac{81}{69} \times \frac{100}{1} \\ &= 117\%\end{aligned}$$

6.5 Negative impacts of labour legislation (any three):

- Loss of employment
 - Less household income
 - Loss in foreign exchange
 - Loss in production
- (3)

6.6 Labour contract

(1)