

AGRICULTURE AND NUTRITION NOTES GRADE 4

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1.1 Soil Conservation

Compost manure.

Compost manure is rotten plant and animal waste.

It has necessary food for growing crops.

Crops need their food to grow well.

They get some of their food from compost manure. Food for crops are called **nutrients**.

When crops do not get some nutrients, they do not grow well.

Compost manure is important for crops to grow well.



Materials for making compost manure.

➤ The following material are required for making compost manure.

↪ Cut grass.



↪ Animal waste like dung.



↪ Kitchen wastes such as food remains, Potatoes peelings, cabbage leaves and others.



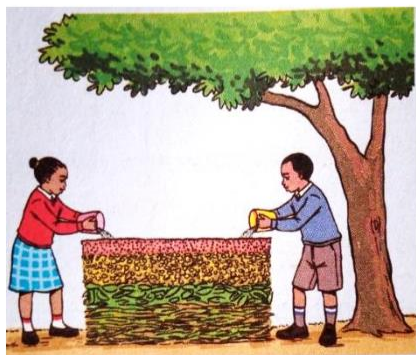
↪ Soil.

↪ Water.

↪ Ashes.

Preparing compost manure.

- Waste materials are arranged as show in the diagram below.
- Water is sprinkled on them to keep the moist.
- The compost manure can be ready for use after 3 months.



Importance of compost manure in farming.

- ✓ Provide nutrients for crops.
- ✓ It is environmental friends (does not pollute the environment).

1.2-Water Conservation.

In farming water has the following uses:

- Watering plants and crops such as flowers, seedbed and growing crops.
- Watering animals such as chicken, cattle, goats and sheep.
- Water is used for making things like medicines, sprays etc.
- Water is used in some farming machines like tractors to cool down engines.



Water conservation in Farming.

What is water conservation?

This is using less water in farm activities to avoid water wastage and keep more for future use.

What ways can we conserve water on the farm?

- Using drip irrigation by plastic bottles.
- Use drip irrigation by perforated pipes.

Drip irrigation allows little water to flow to the soil around the crops through perforated pipes or bottles.

It can be done using either bottles or perforated pipes.

Drip irrigation using perforated pipe.



Drip irrigation Using plastic bottles



Importance of drip irrigation.

- Saves water.
- Water is used conveniently as droplets drop directly to the soil with the crop.
- Reduces loss of nutrients and soil erosion.

1.3 -Fuel Conservation.

Fuel – refers to any material used to produce heat or light or both in our homes.

Examples of fuels are:

- ✓ Charcoal.
- ✓ Firewood.
- ✓ Paraffin.
- ✓ Gas.
- ✓ Electricity.



There are other materials that can be used as fuels in our homes.

These materials include:

- ✧ Saw dust.
- ✧ Maize cobs.
- ✧ Cowdung.

Uses of various fuels at home.

Fuel	What we can use it for.
Firewood	Cook, heat or warm the house and provide light.
Charcoa;	Cook and provide heat or warmth in the house.
Paraffin	Cook and provide light.
Electricity	Cook, heat or warm the house and provide light.
Gas	Cook and provide light.

How do we use and conserve fuel at home?

- ✧ To conserve something is to use it without wasting it.
- ✧ Using fuel without wasting it is conserving fuel.
- ✧ We can conserve firewood abd charcoal by using jikos that use less firewood or charcoal.
- ✧ We can conserve electricity by using energy saving bulbs, and using electricity only when we need to.

How can the following fuels be conserved when in use?

Fuel	How to conserve it.
Electricity	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✧ Switch off electricity whe not in use.✧ Use energy saving bulbs and electronics.✧ Ensure the connection is legal and correct.
Paraffin	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✧ Use paraffin saving jikos.
Firewood.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✧ Use jikos that use less fuel.✧ Make sure you are using dry firewood that burn effectively.
Gas	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✧ Ensure cooking is done in the right duration.✧ Always monitor food being cooked using gas.✧ Ensure no gas leakages.
Charcoal	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✧ Use jikos that use less fuel.✧ Make sure you are using dry charcoals that burn effectively.

Challenges faced when using fuels.

- ✧ Wet charcoal or firewood.
- ✧ Unstable electricity.
- ✧ Expensive fuels such as electricity and gas.
- ✧ Cutting down of tree destroying the environment.

How to keep safe when using fuels.

- ✓ Do not overload electric sockets.
- ✓ Check the gas cylinder and pipes to ensure they are not leaking.
- ✓ Do not sleep in a closed room that had a burning charcoal jiko.
- ✓ Store fuels such as paraffin and gas away from fire.

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