

# **GRADE 7 TERM 2 NOTES**

## **AGRICULTURE & NUTRITION**

*The PDF Comprises part of the notes for the Named Learning Area*

**FOR COMPLETE NOTES & SCHEMES OF  
WORK FOR GRADES 1-8**

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# AGRICULTURE AND NUTRITION GRADE 7 NOTES – TERM 2

## STRAND TWO: FOOD PRODUCTION PROCESSES.

### 2.1-Preparing planting sites and establishing crops.

Determine appropriate tilth for selected planting materials.

- Planting sites are prepared according to the type of planting materials.
- Different planting materials require different planting sites preparations.
- The size of the planting materials determines the soil fineness or the tilth of the planting site.
- **Soil tilth** refers to the degree of fineness or coarseness of a soil in relation to its suitability for planting a specified planting material.
- Soil tilth is described as *fine*, *medium* or *coarse* depending on the physical condition of the soil.
- Small sized planting materials require fine tilth.
- Examples of crops that require fine tilth include:
  - ✚ Millet.
  - ✚ Sorghum.
  - ✚ Wheat.
- Medium sized planting materials requires medium tilth.
- Examples of crops that require medium tilth include:
  - ✚ Maize.
  - ✚ Beans.
- Large sized planting materials require coarse tilth.

➤ Examples of crops that require coarse tillage include:

- ✓ Tubers.
- ✓ Suckers.
- ✓ Cuttings.

### SELECTED CROP MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

- **Crop management** is a set of practices carried out in an already established crop on the field to provide it with proper conditions for healthy growth.

### Weeding in a Crop Field

- Farmers should get rid of weeds that grow in crop fields by removing them physically.
- Weeds should be removed in crops to ***avoid competition for nutrients and moisture with established crops.***
- There are various methods used to control weeds in the farm.
- Some are physical, cultural, chemical and biological methods.
- Chemical methods are where farmers use herbicides to control weeds.
- Biological methods are where farmers use living organisms to control weeds.
- Cultural methods farmers used some farming practice to control weeds in the farm such as mulching.
- Physical methods involve where farmers use mechanical force to remove weeds.
- Farmers can use the following physical methods to remove weeds:
  - ✓ ***Uprooting.***

✓ *Tilling.*

✓ *Slashing.*

- **Uprooting weeds**- refer to pulling out the roots of weeds from the soil.
- **Slashing weeds**-involves the use of a cutting tool such as a slasher, sickle or *pangas* to cutoff weeds at the ground level to remove their shoots.
- **Tilling**-involves breaking and turning (slight cultivation) the soil to remove weeds using a *jembe* or a *panga*.

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