BASIS GUIDELINES FOR FSTS CROP PROTECTION PROJECT

CONTENT

The project **MUST** have significant crop protection content and incorporate **clear reference to a practical situation** known to the candidate, showing actual personal practical involvement with the data generated. A literature review alone **is not appropriate**.

Appropriate reference should be made to the environmental aspects of using pesticides and to environmental safeguards.

Please note that 50% of the marks will be awarded for those aspects of the project related to the personal involvement of the candidate with the data generated.

Surveys of agricultural practice are acceptable but should include personal on-farm/in-field information gathering or verification, i.e. the raw data from survey, average crop yields, quality achieved etc.

EXAMPLES OF PROJECT SUBJECTS

- Biology and integrated control of a particular weed, pest or disease on a farm e.g. Black grass, volunteers, Potato Cyst Nematode, leatherjacket, couch grass, cabbage root fly, carrot fly, white fly, thrips, bulb and stem nematode.
- Aspects of crop protection within a crop e.g. Seed treatments in potatoes, blight control in potatoes
- Crop storage e.g. potatoes, onions
- Pesticide handling and pesticide application (relating to a real-life situation) e.g. Use of pesticides near water, effects of water volume and forward speed on efficacy, storage of pesticides, selection of an appropriate pesticide applicator.
- Evaluation and use in commercial practice of a new pesticide or new use of a pesticide.
- Use of conservation headlands as part of an integrated control strategy (on a given farm).
- Pest / disease resistance to individual or groups of pesticides.

The above titles are for guidance only; there are many other crop protection aspects that can be approached.

STRUCTURE

CHOICE OF PROJECT SUBJECT / PROBLEM CLEARLY IDENTIFIED

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	Formulate hypothesis, aims and objectives.
PROJECT / REPORT	Technical accuracy, life cycles etc.
ENVIRONMENTAL / LEGAL	Environmental considerations and legal accuracy. Relevant legislation / H&S issues.
REPORT	The main body of the project, this should include: ▪ Technical information relevant to the topic including references, ▪ Details of field observations / trials etc., ▪ Data collection and analysis, ▪ Desk research to support field work.
CONCLUSION / DISCUSSION / INTERPRETATION	Interpretation of the data. Relate findings to literature and objectives.
APPENDIX / REFERENCES	List of the references used in the format recommended below.

EDITING REQUIREMENTS

DOCUMENT FORMAT:	Word
PAGE FORMAT:	A4
PAGE MARGINS:	Moderate (Top & Bottom 2.54 cm, Left & Right: 1.90 cm)
LINE SPACING (SUGGESTED):	1.5 lines
TEXT FONT AND SIZE (SUGGESTED):	Times New Roman, Calibri, Arial, Book Antiqua, Garamond, size 11 or 12
TABLES TEXT FONT AND SIZE (SUGGESTED):	Times New Roman, Calibri, Arial, Book Antiqua, Garamond, size 10
TEXT ALIGNMENT:	Justified
COVER PAGE:	Must include the title of the project, the name of the training provider and instructor, the name of the author and the month and year of the project submission
NUMBER PAGES:	All the pages, except the cover must be numbered
TABLES, CHARTS, FIGURES & DIAGRAMS:	Must be numbered, have a title and be discussed in the text.

REFERENCES:

List of the used references must be placed at the end of the project in alphabetical order, in the following format:

The authors name/s and initial/s (The date of publication in brackets) *The title of the book in italics* The place of publication and publisher follows the title. *For example:*
Agrios, G. (2005) *Plant Pathology*, 5th Edition, Academic Press, New York.

Please add the URL source for the online references. *For example:*
Crop Protection Association (viewed October 2019) *Amenity - Best Practice, Using Pesticides in the Community*, Available from URL: https://cropprotection.org.uk/media/1061/cpa_leaflet_amenity_best_practice_2013.pdf
New Agriculturalist website (viewed July 2014): http://www.new-ag.info/en/index.php

QUOTING:

Quotes should be placed with quotation marks and the author, the year of publication and page numbers must be mentioned in brackets, at the end of the quotation. *For example:*
"…the original text – quote." (Agrios, G., 2005, p 125) otherwise the text will be considered plagiarism.

- Full use should be made of **relevant** photographs, diagrams, illustrations etc.
- The project must be at least 3000 words in length, but not more than 5000. Students are expected to comply with the word limits on projects. Marks could be deducted for over or under length projects, and in extreme cases projects will not be marked which could affect the final examination outcome. Diagrams, reference lists and tables are excluded from the word count but, quotations and in-text references are included. Appendices are also excluded from the word count, but these should be limited in length.
- The project must be **all the candidates own work**. Any trials results or data not collected by the author should be clearly credited / referenced.
- Please be advised that BASIS Registration Ltd will use Turnitin's originality software to help check students work for improper referencing and potential plagiarism by comparing them against Turnitin's database.
- Your Tutor is advised by BASIS Registration Ltd to look at a draft copy of your work before you submit your final project. They will not "mark" this work per se, but give you a qualitative feedback on whether, in their view, you have covered all the assessment criteria and what aspects need some extra attention and adjustments; based on their advice we recommend you to amend your project as appropriate prior to submitting your final piece of work through Turnitin.
- It is expected that the project will be typed and submitted to the tutor electronically in Word or PDF format and one printed copy provided to the examination panel / chairman for use in the viva examination. Projects should be no larger than 20Mb in size. Please note that BASIS Registration Ltd reserves the right to retain projects for reference or external verification as required.

- Project marks may be moderated following sample remarking by a BASIS Registration Ltd moderation panel.

- **Completion date** is a minimum of 6 weeks before the exam with a copy to the tutor.

- For an assignment extension the candidate will need to submit the completed BASIS form no later than 10 working days prior to the project submission date, please contact BASIS Registration Ltd for the form by phone: 01335 340856 or by e-mail: Suzanne Mason – Examinations & Training Manager at: sue@basis-reg.co.uk

- A copy of the Project must be available on the day of the exam for the examiner(s) and may be retained and become the property of BASIS Registration Ltd.

- The project pass mark is 60%

- Candidates who do not complete a project (and consequently no project mark is available to examiners) will not be allowed to sit the multi-choice exam paper, if they do their paper will not be marked.

- A copy of the marking sheet for each project will be kept by BASIS Registration Ltd and can be made available upon written request by the candidate.

- The project which is being submitted to BASIS Registration Ltd, is original work completed by the candidate and the project work has not been used for the award of any other qualification, i.e. it was produced specifically and uniquely as part of the requirement of the BASIS Certificate in Crop Protection course and examination.

PROJECT MARKING SCHEME

Choice of project subject / Problem clearly identified		***10 marks***
Relevance to the course and exam	*max. 2*	
Difficulty / originality / Independent thought	*max. 2*	
Identify relevant literature / critically evaluate	*max. 2*	
Organise and complete an individual study with minimum supervision	*max. 2*	
Manage time and resources effectively to complete the study	*max. 2*	
Executive Summary		***5 marks***
Formulate Hypotheses, Aims and Objectives	*max. 5*	
Project / Report		***20 marks***
Technical accuracy		
Life Cycles (where appropriate) or sprayer technology/nozzles etc		
- Explained fully	*max. 4*	
- Agronomic information included	*max. 4*	
- Relevant cropping information	*max. 4*	
- Control measures		

Both cultural / IPM techniques?	*max. 4*	
Chemical Controls	*max. 4*	
Environmental / Legal		***20 marks***
Legal Accuracy	*max. 5*	
Environmental considerations – Information accurate	*max. 5*	
Relevant legislation / regulations explained	*max. 5*	
Health & Safety issues discussed	*max. 5*	
Report		***30 marks***
Identify and apply primary date collection techniques	*max. 3*	
Relevant trial / fieldwork to support project	*max. 3*	
Design and implementation	*max. 3*	
Establish performance of control measures	*max. 3*	
Data collection and analysis	*max. 3*	
Presentation of data	*max. 3*	
Desk research to support field work	*max. 3*	
All research referenced properly	*max. 3*	
Clear / understandable / logical flow of thought	*max. 3*	
Appropriate use of diagrams / pictures / graphs	*max. 3*	
Conclusion / Discussion / Interpretation		***10 marks***
Interpret data and relate findings to literature & objectives	*max. 3*	
What has been learned	*max. 4*	
What conclusions can be drawn	*max. 3*	
Appendix / References		***5 marks***
May include a critical evaluation of literature	*max. 3*	
Presentation of data	*max. 2*	
Total Marks		***100 marks***
MARKS ACHIEVED		**0**

Comments (Strengths and Weaknesses)	Total Mark (out of 100)