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Urban and peri-urban farming (UPA)

This refers to the practice of cultivating or producing, processing and distributing food in and around urban or peri-urban areas.

Or

It is the growing of plants and raising animals within or around cities

Features of UPA

- Practiced on small plots/space
- Uses more labor than machines
- It uses more organic inputs than inorganic inputs
- High value crops and animals are kept.
- It is less dependent on natural factors such as rain but relies on artificial supply of water.

Benefits of Urban and peri-urban farming.

- Poverty reduction through creating low cost employment to the farmers.
- Waste recycling.
- Food security and nutrition i.e. there is production of highly nutritious crops.
- Creation of employment
- Government revenue

Problems associated with urban and peri-urban farming

- Some crops such as maize are breeding ground for vectors such as mosquitoes.
- Limited land
- Raising livestock in the city leads air pollution
- High labor costs.
- Encroachment on swamps
- High risk of theft
- High risk of disease transmission from animals to people.
- Limited research.

Measures to promote UPA

- Construction of marketing facilities for selling produce
- Subsidization of inputs
- Incorporation of UPA in school curriculum
- Providing credit facilities
- Establishing demonstration farms
- Conduction research
- Provision of agricultural extension services.

1. The right stage for harvesting a mushroom is when the cap
 - A. is flat
 - B. is curved upwards
 - C. is curved downwards
 - D. has shed its pores
2. women tend to dominate urban cultivation because they
 - A. are marginalized in other forms of employment
 - B. adapt much more easily to urban cultivation conditions
 - C. are more skilled than men in small scale cultivation
 - D. make up a bigger proportional of the urban population
3. Which one of the following has the least effect on urban farming?
 - A. The quality of available water
 - B. The potential for irrigation
 - C. Land tenure conditions
 - D. The structure of the urban population
4. One advantage of urban farming is that
 - A. The cost of production is low
 - B. Products are packed before sale
 - C. There is access to consumer market
 - D. Farmers earn much income from it
5. Dried mushroom are packed in sealed containers in order to
 - A. Prevent absorption of moisture
 - B. Maintain the flavor
 - C. Control storage pest
 - D. Prevent loss of nutrient

6. Which one of the following is the least effect on urban farming
- A. The structure of the urban population
 - B. The quality of available water
 - C. Land tenure conditions
 - D. The potential for irrigation

Solution to objective question

1A 2A 3C 4C 5B 6C