

SECOND TERM

CLASS: JS3

WEEK ONE

TOPIC: AGRICULTURE IN THE STOCK EXCHANGE

Meaning of stock exchange

The stock exchange is an organization that provides a market place where investors may buy and sell shares of a wide range of companies. It is a market where sales and purchase of securities take place.

Some terms used in the stock exchange

1. Shares:

This is a unit of stock. It is an indivisible unit of capital that expresses the ownership relationship between the company and the holder.

2. Stock:

This is the money called capital raised by corporations or organizations through the sale and distribution of parts or all of the enterprise to several part owners.

3. Stockholders or Shareholders:

These are potential buyers who legally own one or more shares of stock of a joint-stock company.

4. Stock Brokers:

These are the representatives of individual shareholders who are licensed to buy and sell of company shares

Privilege to rights of stockholders

1. They are entitled to vote during the election of the board of directors
2. They are entitled to share in the distribution of the company's profit
3. Stockholders are entitled to purchase new shares of the company
4. They are entitled to purchase the company assets when it becomes financially unviable

WEEK TWO

TOPIC: AGRICULTURE IN STOCK EXCHANGE 2

Examples of Agricultural Business Enterprises on the Nigeria Stock Exchange

1. Livestock Feeds Plc.
2. Nigerian Breweries Plc.
3. Nestle Nigeria Plc.
4. Nigerian Bottling Co. Plc.
5. Cadbury Nigeria Plc.
6. Unilever Nigeria Plc.
7. Flour Mills of Nigeria Plc.
8. Dunlop Nigeria Plc.
9. List four privileges of Stockholders

Importance of stock exchange in agriculture

1. **Raising Capital for Agribusiness:** Agricultural enterprises can raise money by offering shares for sale to the general public in the stock exchange.
2. **Redistribution of Wealth:** When businesses in which farmers invested their money through the purchase of shares declare a profit, such investors share on the profit and wealth of these businesses through their stock prices and dividends.
3. **Corporate Governance:** Agricultural enterprises operating under the stock exchange usually have more improved management standards and efficiency records than privately owned enterprises.
4. **Creates Investment Opportunity for small investors:** Investing in shares is open to large and small scale farmers because individuals buy the number of shares that they can afford. Therefore both smallholder farmers and commercial farmers invest in the same enterprise and enjoy some privileges and rate of returns.
5. **Indicator of the State of Economy:** Shares prices tend to rise or remain stable when companies and the economy show signs of stability and growth, a depressed economy with the financial crisis may lead to crashing of the stock market. Therefore the movement of the share prices can serve as an indicator of the state of a national economy.

WEEK 3

TOPIC: PROPAGATION OF CROPS

Propagation simply means reproduction. Crops must propagate so that they can increase in numbers and also maintain their useful characteristics.

Methods of propagation

There are two types of propagation, these are sexual and Asexual/Vegetative propagation.

- **Sexual propagation:**

Sexual Propagation involves planting crops using seeds. Seeds can be planted directly in the field or first in the nursery before being transplanted. Examples of seeds which are planted first in the nursery are oil palm, cocoa, coconut etc. common crops that that propagated sexually are cowpea (beans), maize, pawpaw, rice, groundnut etc.

A seed when planted undergoes the following processes.

- **Germination:** the process whereby the embryo of a seed resumes growth under favourable conditions.
- **Emergence:** this refers to the appearance of a seedling above soil level.

Conditions necessary for germination of seeds are

- Adequate moisture
- Viable seed (living embryo)
- Optimum temperature
- Adequate air

Advantages of sexual propagation

- Seeds are cheap to obtain.
- They are convenient to handle.
- The seeds are portable.
- They are easy to store.
- They are easy and cheap to transport.
- Seeds can be stored for longer periods.
- Crop population increase can easily be obtained through the use of seeds.

Disadvantages of sexual propagation

- Some seeds produce plants that do not resemble their parent plants
- Some seeds produce low yields during the first year
- Plants grown from seeds are usually not uniform in growth, maturity and yield
- Plants grown from seeds take a long time to mature and produce fruits

Asexual propagation:

Asexual propagation is the production of new plants from the parent plants using vegetative parts. The vegetative parts include the stem, leaves and roots. Asexual propagation is also called vegetative propagation. Plants that need to be propagated asexually possess the following characteristics:

- They do not produce seed e.g. pineapple
- They produce seeds but are not viable for planting e.g. Banana
- They take many years to mature and are easier to propagate via vegetative means e.g. cocoa.

Asexual propagation can be divided into five, namely:

- Division
- Cutting
- Layering
- Grafting
- Budding.

- **Division:**

It is the propagation of plants from special vegetative organs that separate naturally from the parent plant.

Such organs include:

- Rhizomes e.g. ginger
- Suckers e.g. banana and plantain
- Bulbs e.g. onions
- Corm e.g. cocoyam

WEEK 4

Cuttings:

Plants parts are cut into portions to produce new plants from them. Cuttings can be obtained from stems, leaves and roots of plants and are used to propagate plants.

For example:

- Stem cutting is used to propagate cassava, sweet potato and sugarcane
- Root cutting is used to propagate breadfruit
- Leaf cuttings are used to propagate Bryophyllum.

Layering:

It is a method of vegetative propagation in which the stems or branches of plants are made to develop roots and give rise to another plant while they are still attached to the parent plant.

Grafting:

It is a method of vegetative propagation in which cut surfaces of two different (but closely related) plants are joined together so that they unite and grow as a single plant. The lower part of this union is called the stock while the top is called the scion.

Budding:

It is similar to grafting. Budding involves a desirable characteristic. The bud removed should have a piece of bark attached to it. The removed bud is then inserted into a cut already made in another plant called the stock. The inserted bud is the scion.

Advantages of asexual propagation

- Plants are true to type, uniform in quality, growth habit and yield
- There is uniformity at maturity
- Is the only way to propagate plants that do not produce seeds
- Plants mature and start bearing fruit early

Disadvantages of asexual propagation

- Plants are usually very rigorous and therefore do not live long enough
- It is not possible to produce new varieties of plants
- Budding and grafting require special skills
- Virus diseases can be transmitted to new plants.