

LESSON PLAN FOR WEEK TWO

Topic: Wee (2)

CLASSIFICATION OF WEEDS

Weeds can be classified as follows:

- a) Based on habitat
- b) Based on life cycle
- c) Based on the number of seed leave

A. Classification based on Habitat

- i. Terrestrial weeds: Are weeds that grow on land. Examples are goat weed, tridax, elephant grass
- ii. Aquatic weeds: Are weeds that grow on water. They include water lettuce and water hyacinth. Aquatic weeds disturb movement of boats on water and may also destroy other animals living in water.
- iii. Epiphytic weeds: Are weeds that grow in other plants. Examples are striga senegalensis that grows on cereals, dodder on cassava and pumpkin, mistletoe on kola.

B. Classification based on life cycle

Annual weeds: These weeds complete their life cycle within one year (Goat weed and tridax)

Biennial weeds: They complete their life cycle within two years. E.g. morning glory.

Perennial weeds: They complete their life cycle in more than two years e.g. elephant grass, stubborn grass, spear grass.

C. Classification based on number of seed leaves

- i. Monocotyledonous weeds: Are weeds with narrow and long leaves that have parallel veins. Examples include elephant grass, guinea grass, spear grass, carpet grass and Gamba grass.
- ii. Dicotyledonous weeds: Are weeds with short and broad leaves with a network of veins and tap root system. Examples are siam weed, goat weed, milk weed, pig weed etc.

DISPERSAL OF WEEDS

Weeds are carried about through different means and these are called agents of wind dispersal. The agents off weed dispersal includes:

- a) Wind
- b) Water
- c) Explosive mechanism

- d) Farm tools, machines and implements
- e) Man and animals

Effects of weeds on crops and livestock

- a) Injury
- b) Reduction in productivity
- c) Harboured insect pests
- d) Reduction in yield of crops
- e) Increase in cost of production