Study Programme: FRUIT SCIENCE, VITICULTURE AND HORTICULTURE

Course Unit Title: FERTILIZER APPLICATION IN PERENNIAL PLANTATIONS

Course Unit Code: 19.VIV010

Name of Lecturer(s): Ranko Čabilovski

Type and Level of Studies: Undergraduate academic studies

Course Status (compulsory/elective): elective

Semester (winter/summer):summer

Language of instruction: ENG

Mode of course unit delivery (face-to-face/distance learning): face to face

Number of ECTS Allocated: 6

Prerequisites:

Course Aims:

The course should enable students to acquire knowledge about the impact of fertilization on the yield and yield quality of certain types of fruits and horticultural plants, nutrient disorders of these crops, visual symptoms of deficiency, physiological aspects of nutrition, leaf diagnostics, fertilizer application and soil fertility in different production systems

Learning Outcomes:

Ability to independently determine the required amounts of nutrients / fertilizers for fruit and horticultural plants, taking into account their specifics and characteristics of fertilizers, soil properties, product quality and selected production model.

Syllabus:

Theory

Soil fertility control system. Assessment of land suitability for growing perennial crops. Agrochemical soil preparation for planting. Principles of fertilizer application in perennials. Fertilizer application before planting - ameliorative fertilization. Regular fertilization of plantations (time, manner and doses of fertilizer application). Foliar application of fertilizers. Fertilization application by fertigation. Mixing of liquid fertilizers and pesticides-compatibility. Fertilization according to the principles of precision agriculture. Influence of fertilization on fruit quality. Assessment of plant nutrient status based on foliar analysis and visual diagnostics.

Practice

Determining the need for soil fertilization before planting. Principles for determining fertilizer doses in different production systems. Sampling of plant material in order to determine the supply of plants with nutrients. Agrochemical project - preparation of land for raising orchards and horticultural plantations. Presentation of seminar papers. Field exercises.

Required Reading: D. Atkinson, J.E. Jackson, W.M. Waller (1980): Mineral Nutrition of Fruit Trees. Elsevier Ltd Havlin J.L. (2005) Soil fertility and fertilizers, Pearson education, Inc. Upper Saddle River, New Jersey 07458

Weekly Contact Hours:	Lectures:2	Practical work:2
-----------------------	------------	------------------

Teaching Methods: Lectures and laboratory work

Knowledge Assessment (maximum of 100 points):				
Pre-exam obligations	points	Final exam	points	
Active class	10	written exam		
participation	10	written exam		
Practical work		oral exam	60	
Preliminary exam(s)	30			
Seminar(s)				

The methods of knowledge assessment may differ; the table presents only some of the options: written exam, oral exam, project presentation, seminars, etc.