Course Unit Descriptor

Study Programme: Organic Agriculture

Course Unit Title: Basic Principles of Organic Agriculture

Course Unit Code: 19.ORG010

Name of Lecturer(s): Prof. dr. Maja, S., Manojlović, Associate. prof. dr. Srđan, I., Šeremešić, dr Klara, M., Petković, MSc Bojan Vojnov

Type and Level of Studies: Undergraduate academic studies

Course Status (compulsory/elective): Mandatory

Semester (winter/summer): Summer

Language of instruction: English

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

Number of ECTS Allocated: 6

Prerequisites: None

Course Aims:

The aim of this subject is to introduce students to the basic principles of organic agriculture and its role in the production of safe food and environmental protection.

Learning Outcomes:

Students should demonstrate skills to distinguish specific elements of the organic production from conventional systems. By attending this subject student will gain basic knowledge how to manage cropping system in accordance with the organic principles.

Syllabus:

Theory: Introduction. The importance of organic farming - agronomic, environmental, economic and social aspects. National and international regulations. Status of organic agriculture in Serbia and its development. Organic farming in the world. Principles of organic agriculture. Comparative analysis of the impact of organic and conventional agriculture on theenvironment, people and animals. Soil fertility as a basis of organic agriculture. Build and maintain ofsoil fertility. The most important aspects of growing plants in organic agriculture. Possibility of introducing organic agriculture in agroecological conditions of Serbia. Conversion period and creating conditions for development of ecological production system. The production of safety food - Principles of controling and certification. Regulations in the field of organic food production (EU, IFOAM, FiBL, NOA, etc.). Movements of organic food producers in the world and in our country, their importance and impact.

Practice: Field exercises: Analysis of the regulation of organic agriculture. Investigation of farmers. Mapping and sustainability of agroecosystems.

Required Reading:

1. Šarapatka, B., Urban, J.,Organic Agriculture. Institute of Agricultural Economics and Information Prague, Reprotisk-Šumperk, 2009
2. Kristensen, P. Taji, A., Reganold, J. Organic Agriculture: A Global perspective, CSIRO, 2006

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

Teaching Methods: Lectures, Practical classes, Consultations

Knowledge Assessment (maximum of 100 points):

Pre-exam obligations	points	**Final exam**	points
Active class	10	written exam	50

participation			
Practical work		oral exam	40
Preliminary exam(s)		…….	
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.			