081204T4HNM

Horticulture Nursery Management Level 4

HO/OS/NM/CR/03/4/B

Prepare Nursery Planting Media

July/August 2023

TVET CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT, ASSESSMENT AND CERTIFICATION COUNCIL (TVET CDACC)

WRITTEN ASSESSMENT

Time: 2 hours

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

1. The paper consists of **TWO** sections: **A and B**.
2. Answer **ALL** questions in sections A and B.
3. Marks for each question are indicated in brackets.
4. Do not write on this question paper.
5. Write your answers in the answer booklet provided.

This paper consists of FIVE (5) printed pages.

Candidates should check the question paper to ascertain that all the pages are printed as indicated and that no questions are missing.

SECTION A: (10 MARKS)

Answer all questions in this section. Each question is one (1) mark

1. _____ is NOT a common component of nursery planting media.
    A. Peat moss
    B. Perlite
    C. Sand
    D. Fertilizer
2. The purpose of adding perlite to nursery planting media is _____.
    A. To improve drainage
    B. To increase water retention
    C. To provide essential nutrients
    D. To prevent weed growth
3. Cocopeat is derived from. _____
    A. Coconut leaves.
    B. Coir.
    C. Cocoa plant.
    D. Coriander.
4. The ideal pH range for nursery planting media is _____.
    A. 2-4
    B. 5-7
    C. 8-10
    D. 11-14
5. _____ is commonly used as an organic amendment in nursery planting media.
    A. Sand
    B. Gravel
    C. Compost
    D. Vermiculite
6. The importance of screening nursery planting media before use is _____.
    A. To remove large debris and rocks

B. To increase nutrient availability
C. To improve water retention
D. To reduce pH levels

7. "Soilless" planting media refer to _____.
   A. Planting media that contains no organic matter
   B. Planting media that is only composed of clay
   C. Planting media that is not suitable for indoor plants
   D. Planting media that does not contain natural soil
8. The purpose of adding fertilizer to nursery planting media is _____.
   A. To improve soil structure
   B. To increase water retention
   C. To provide essential nutrients
   D. To reduce soil pH
9. _____ is commonly used as a moisture-retaining additive in nursery planting media.
   A. Sand
   B. Perlite
   C. Vermiculite
   D. Compost
10. The recommended method for testing the moisture content of nursery planting media is _____.
   A. Squeezing a handful of media to check for moisture retention
   B. Observing the color of the media
   C. Measuring the pH level of the media
   D. Weighing the media before and after watering

SECTION B (40 MARKS)

Answer all questions in this section

11. State FOUR key components of a nursery planting media. (4 marks)
12. Highlight THREE benefits of sterilizing nursery planting media. (3 marks)
13. Outline FOUR steps of testing pH level of a nursery planting media. (4 marks)
14. Highlight FIVE reasons for observing food safety measures in preparation of nursey planting media. (5 marks)
15. List FOUR ways of adjusting the pH level of nursery planting media. (4 marks)
16. State THREE benefits of using inorganic materials in nursery planting media. (3 marks)
17. Highlight FOUR ways of ensuring proper moisture retention in nursery planting media. (4 marks)
18. List FOUR precautions that should be taken when preparing nursery planting media. (4 marks)
19. State FOUR factors that make peat moss ideal for horticultural production. (5 marks)
20. Highlight FOUR potential challenges in preparing nursery planting media. (4 marks)