ABSTRACT

A Proposed Communication Module for Pests and Diseases (Fungi and Bacteria) in Crop Protection for Prospective Farmers

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This thesis addresses the cause by developing a proposed module for training potential adult farmers wanting to enter commercial agriculture to do the following:

1. Identify a diseased/damaged plant;
2. Diagnose the problem if it is insect or insect-like pest related, or fungal and bacterial caused;
3. Devise control strategies using sound selective criteria; and
4. Suggest criteria for post-evaluation of the control programme.

These objectives are dealth with in the two units,

(i) "Insects and Insect-like Pests", and

(ii) "Bacterial and Fungal Diseases".

Unit one emphasizes the identifying of the damage caused by such chewing and sucking pests, and the developing and subsequent evaluation of control programmes by using specific case studies of tomato and one of cabbage.

Unit two deals with diseases of the two pathogens, fungi and bacteria. Above and below ground case studies are utilized.

In presenting the units, the writer sought to match both the content and the activities to the cognitive and physical level of development of the adult participants mainly by using a hands-on, learning by discovery approach and reinforced in small and large group activities.