



Chapter- 9

SOIL

NOTES:

- Soil is one of the most important natural resource.
- Soil provides anchorage to the plant and supplies water and nutrients.
- Soil is essential for agriculture.
- Polythene bags , plastics waste products , chemicals and pesticides pollute the soil.
- The rotting dead matter in the soil is called humus.
- Weathering is the process of formation of soil by which rocks are broken down due to the actions of water, wind and climate.
- Soil profile: The vertical section through different layers of soil is called soil profile.
- The different layers of soils are referred to as horizon.
- Soil is classified on the basis of proportion of particles of various sizes namely:
 - i. Sandy soil; It contains greater proportions of big particles.
 - ii. Clayey soil; It contains relatively higher proportion of fine particles.
 - iii. Loamy soil; It is the mixture of sand, clay and silt.
- The best top soil for growing plants is called Loam.
- The rate of percolation of water in soil can be calculated by using the formula

$$\text{PERCOLATION RATE (ml/min)} = \frac{\text{AMOUNT OF WATER (ml)}}{\text{PERCOLATION TIME (min)}}$$

- The climatic factor which affect the soil profile are:
 - i. Wind
 - ii. Rainfall
 - iii. Temperature
 - iv. Light
 - v. Humidity
- Different type of crops are cultivated in different types of soil.

