

Programme Structure and Duration

The M.Sc. in Plant Production and Protection is comprised of twelve (12) courses totalling 45 credits, taught over 5 semesters on a part-time basis. This excludes time taken for examination of the final project.

In Year 1, the course load will be 3 courses each Semester, totalling 18 credits.

In Year 2, the course load will be 2 courses in Semester 1 (9 credits) and 3 courses in Semester 2 (9 credits).

Year 1

Semester 1

- Research Methods and Project Management
- Plant Propagation, Cropping Systems and Communities
- Principles of Phytopathology

Semester 2

- Agroecosystems and Soils
- Applied Insect Biology
- Plant Breeding

Year 2

Semester 1

- Harvesting and Postharvest Technology
- Plant Diseases: Biology, Ecology and Management

Semester 2

- Agroecosystems and Climate
- Weed Biology, Ecology and Management
- Ecology and Management of Arthropod Pests of Plants

Semester 3 (Summer Period)

- Research Project

Diploma in Plant Production or Plant Protection

Suitable for persons who prefer a shorter programme; comprised of a subset of the courses.

- A Diploma in Plant Production will be awarded to persons completing 15 credits of production courses, 3 credits from the weeds course and 6 credits from any other graduate course(s).
- A Diploma in Plant Protection will be awarded to persons completing 18 credits of protection courses and 6 credits from any other graduate course(s).

Delivery Modes

The programme will be taught part-time with 5:00 to 8:00p.m. delivery of lectures/tutorials and seminars on weekdays and laboratory sessions and field trips on Saturdays from 9a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

The programme will be delivered using a variety of mechanisms including face-to-face lectures, seminars, tutorials, field visits and a research project. Students will be encouraged to take responsibility and control of their own learning.

Also included are scenario-based workshops, case studies and assignments in which group work and student-centred learning approaches will be used.

Another component is the research project in which students will be responsible for conducting and reporting on a research topic with the assistance of a supervisor who is an expert in the chosen area.

Minimum Qualifications

B. Sc. honours degree in biological, agricultural or environmental sciences.

If you are interested in this programme, or need additional information, please contact:

The Course Coordinator,
M.Sc. in Plant Production and Protection
Department of Life Sciences,
University of the West Indies, Mona,
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**THE UNIVERSITY OF THE WEST INDIES
MONA CAMPUS**

**DEPARTMENT OF
LIFE SCIENCES**

MSc in Plant Production and Protection



M.Sc. in Plant Production and Protection

Agriculturists and horticulturalists around the world are faced with the challenge of increasing output without proportionate increases in the area of land under production. The goal is to increase both quantitative and qualitative yield from sustainable production systems that are compatible with the ecosystems in which they are established.

Achieving this requires that individuals involved in the agricultural and horticultural sector possess a sound knowledge of the principles of plant production and be fully equipped with the technical skills to produce and protect plants in a manner that is sustainable. Such knowledge and skills are what this programme will provide.

The **M.Sc. in Plant Production and Protection** aims to provide the candidate with (a) sound theoretical knowledge and practical experience in methods of propagation and production of agricultural and horticultural plants, (b) an understanding of the development of plant disease and pest problems and (c) techniques for maintaining plants in a healthy condition.



Who is this programme for?

The M.Sc. in Plant Production and Protection will be beneficial to persons who are or intend to become involved in any aspect of plant production. Specific target groups are:

- Agricultural and horticultural entrepreneurs;
- Farm, nursery, greenhouse, garden and forest managers or supervisors
- Extension officers;
- Agricultural and horticultural researchers;
- Suppliers of agricultural and horticultural inputs.

The programme is designed to further strengthen the foundation in plant production and protection, and will equip our graduates with the knowledge and skills to design, establish and manage different plant production systems.

Transferable Skills

At the end of this programme students should be able to:

- describe the physical and ecological features of different plant production systems
- outline the various ecological interactions and cycles that occur in different plant production systems and their impact on the productivity and sustainability of these systems
- conduct qualitative and quantitative assessments of the organisms and requisites in plant production systems
- design and establish different plant production systems
- develop and implement various interventions and management strategies for the protection of plants
- evaluate the impact of natural events and human activities on plant production and productivity
- state factors to be considered during harvesting, storage and transport of produce
- execute sound research and monitoring for providing solutions to problems related to plant production systems.

