

SPECIMEN APPLICATION FORM

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Limited Competitive Examination for Recruitment to the Grade III of the Sri Lanka Agricultural Service – 2024 (2026)

(For office use only)

Post applied (vide. Paragraphs 01 and 05 in the gazette notification))	
Post	code of the post

Medium of the examination (vide .Para.10 in the *Gazette* notification - indicate the relevant No.in the cage)

Sinhala - 2

Tamil - 3

English - 4

If apply for the post of Assistant Director of Agriculture (Agricultural Research), the part of the question paper selected to be answered in accordance with first Appendix: if (A) indicate “1” in the cage and if “B” indicate “2” in the cage. This will not be allowed to change letter. This selection is not allowed to be changed later.

01. (i) Full Name (In English capital letters)-----
Ex: HERATH MUDIYANSELAGE SAMAN KUMARA GUNAWARDENA

(ii) Name with initials, stating the initials at the end (in English capital letters)

(e.g: GUNAWARDENA, H.M.S.K.)

02. (i) Permanent address : (Admission card will be posted to this address)

(a) In English capital letters : -----

(ii) Official Address : (If an officer in the Public Service / Provincial Public Service his /her official address should be stated. Any change in the address should be notified immediately)

(a) In English capital letters : -----

03. Sex : (indicate the relevant number in the cage)

Male - 0

Female - 1

04. National Identity Card No.:

05. Mobile Phone No.:

06. (i) Date of Birth: Year: Month: Date:

(ii) Age as at the closing date of applications : Years: Months : Days:

07. State whether you are a citizen of Sri Lanka : (indicate the relevant word in the cage)

Yes ☐ No ☐

08. Educational Qualifications :

8.1 Degree Qualifications:

<i>Degree/Degrees obtained</i>	<i>Whether the degree / degree obtained is a four year degree / degree</i>	<i>Academic year and the valid date of the degree (Indicate clearly)</i>	<i>University / Universities</i>	<i>Subjects</i>	<i>Pass</i>	<i>Medium</i>
1.						
2.						
3.						

09. State whether you have sat for the Limited competitive examination for recruitment to the Sri Lanka Agricultural Service before? If so indicate the year/years:-----

10. State the qualifications obtained by applicants who apply for Limited Competitive examination to be eligible to sit for the examination under paragraph 05 of this notification.

Present Post	Post eligible to be recruited under limited recruitment	Date of obtaining eligibility to apply for the post of
1. Research Assistant 2. Soil surveyor 3. Land evolution Officer 4. Agricultural Instructor 5. Economic Assistant 6. Garden Assistant 7. Associate Officers Service Category (State the post)	1. ADA(Agricultural Research) 2. ADA(Agricultural Development) 3. ADA(Agricultural Economics)	ADA(Agricultural Research), ADA (Agricultural Development) or ADA(Agricultural Economics). (Date of completing the qualifications as Para 5.1 of the notification)

11. Provide details if you have obtained local/foreign study leave without pay, have been released for other Government services, or have taken any other local/foreign leave without pay.

12. Have you ever been convicted in a court of law for any offence? Yes/No.

If yes, give details -----

13. Particulars on the Receipt obtained on payment of Examination Fee:

- (i) The post office to which examination fee was paid :-----
(ii) Receipt No.:----- Date -----
(iii) Amount paid :-----

Affix the receipt here from on of its edges so as to be unglued
(it would be an advantage to keep a photocopy of the receipt)

14. Declaration of the applicant:

I do hereby certify that the particulars given by me in this application are true and correct. I am also aware that if any particular contained herein is found to be false or incorrect, I am liable to disqualification if detected before selection and to dismissal with immediate effect, if detected after the selection and, I will be responsible for any lapse caused while preparing the application. Further, I agree to abide by the rules imposed by the Commissioner General of Examinations. I also declare that I have paid the prescribed Examination fee and submitted only one application.

Date:-----

-----,
Signature of Applicant.

15. Certificate of the Head of the Department / Head of the Provincial Department/ Secretary to the Ministry

I hereby certify that Mr./ Mrs./Miss is employed in this Department/ Provincial Council/Ministry as a , his/ her work and conduct are satisfactory, he/ she has/ has not earned all increments during immediately preceding 05 years, he/she has fulfilled the all relevant qualifications to the post as per Para 5.1., he/she is eligible in every respect to apply for this post and that there is/ there is no disciplinary action pending against him/her. If selected, he/she can be/can't be released from his/ her present post. (Write-off the words inapplicable).

-----,
Signature of the Head of the Department /
Head of the Provincial Department/
Secretary to the Ministry.

Name :-----.

Designation :-----.

Address :-----.

Date :-----

(Attest placing the official seal)

FIRST APPENDIX

Regulations and Syllabus of the Limited Competitive Examination

QUESTION PAPER –I - INTELLIGENCE PAPER

A multiple – choice and short-answer question paper designed to assess the linguistic, mathematics and logical ability. Duration 1 ¼ hours. Total marks 100.

QUESTION PAPER -2 - ASSESSMENT OF KNOWLEDGE IN SUBJECT AREA

This is a written aptitude test to assess the knowledge in the relevant subject area. Each applicant may sit for question papers as relevant to the post or posts he/she applies for, chosen from the following question papers. These question papers consist of short questions and multiple – choice questions. Duration 02 hours. Total marks 100.

Note. - According to the following syllabus, the subject-related question paper for the limited examination will be designed with emphasis on field experience. The examination will be conducted as determined by the Commissioner General of Examinations.

The syllabus for each post is given below:

I. Syllabus for the stream of Agricultural Research

Applicants may answer only one of the two sections, (a) or (b), mentioned below, according to their preference.

Part (A)

01. Agricultural Botany

Fundamentals of crop classification, fundamentals of crop growth and physiology.

02. Genetics and Plant Breeding

Mendelian law, population genetics, mutations molecular genetics, cytogenetic, quantitative genetics, fundamentals of plant breeding, genetic resources protection and bio– diversity, pollination behavior and breeding concepts, incompatibility, mass and pure line selection, commonly used breeding methods and current trends.

03. Plant Pathology

Types of pathogenic organisms, infections, response of plant to infections, infective methods and fundamentals of their management, current trends in plant pathology and disease management, diagnostic techniques, symptomatology, Koch's postulate application, modern techniques of diagnosis (ELISA), current trends.

04. Fundamentals of Entomology

Fundamentals of classification of animals, structural characteristics, biological information and damage, economic significance of pest damage, estimation of insect population and damage.

05. Seed Technology

Seed physiology, morphology, dormancy, germination, viability, tests on viability and purity, stages of seed production, seed certification and seed storage.

06. Tissue Culture

Theories, facilities and requirements for tissue culture, media, applications of tissue culture systems, protoplast culture, mutagenesis, embryo rescue, in vitro fertilization, genetic transformations, cryopreservation.

07. Agricultural Chemistry

Fundamentals of biochemistry and practical applications of biochemistry in agriculture, fundamentals of food chemistry and practical applications of food chemistry in agriculture, fundamentals of analytical chemistry and practical applications of analytical chemistry in agriculture;

or

Part (B)

01. Agronomy

Agro-climatology, ecology, land development, tillage, fundamentals of crop growth and physiology, measurement of crop growth, yield indices, fertilizer recommendations and efficiency, weed biology and control, principles of irrigation systems, principles of crop soil and water relationship.

02. Crop Science

Physiology of rice, highland grains, pulses, tuber crops and other field crops, growth, methods of propagation, methods of planting, physical chemical and biological methods in crop manipulation, establishment and management of scientific pastures, fundamentals of timber and fruit production.

03. Soil Science

Soil formation, physical and chemical characteristics of soil, soil problems relating to cropping, fertility management of soil, watershed management, plant nutrition, fundamentals of plant classification.

04. Genetics and Plant Breeding

Fundamentals, Mendelian law, population genetics, mutations, molecular genetics, cytogenetic, fundamentals of plant breeding, genetic resources protection and bio-diversity.

05. Plant Pathology

Plant infections, response of plants to infections, biological control, modern trends in disease management.

06. Fundamentals of Entomology

The section specified under sub-paragraph 04 of the question paper is relevant to this.

07. Field research principles and statistical principles and knowledge in important statistics on agricultural sphere in Sri Lanka

08. Entomology

Economically significant insects in agriculture, their classification, internal and external features, structure of different systems and their functions, pest management, significance of pest damage, pest identification, their damage and control, integrated pest management.

09. Micro – biology

Micro – organisms and agricultural environment, bio- technology applications in agriculture, soil-living biomass and their effects on agricultural practices.

10. Biometrics and Applied Statistics

Basic knowledge in statistics, agricultural research, analysis of planning, obtaining and analysis of data.

Note.- All candidates applying for the Post of Assistant Director of Agriculture (Agricultural Research) under the limited recruitment stream must answer only one of the 02 Parts mentioned in (a) or (b) above

II. Syllabus for the Stream of Agricultural Development

01. General Agriculture

Climatic zones of Sri Lanka, land development, land preparation and equipment, crop establishment and machinery required for the purpose, soil and soil fertility, nursery and nursery management, planting material, pest control, plant protection, appliances, cropping systems, irrigation methods, integrated farming, protected agriculture, micro-irrigation systems, harvesting and harvesting machinery, post-harvest losses, processing of farm products, factors considered in selecting suitable vegetables, fruits, pulses and cereals for cultivation in specific areas, integrated pest management, integrated plant nutrition systems, Plant Protection Act, Soil Conservation Act.

02. Crop Production

Agronomy, agro-climatology and ecology, land development and tillage, fundamentals of crop growth and physiology, measurement of crop growth, yield indices, fertilizer recommendations and efficiency, weed biology and control, irrigation agronomy, principles of crop water relationship.

03. Field Crops

Introduction, ecological requirements, plant species and varieties, growth physiology, physiological principles of yield determination, rice agronomy, crop management and production, highland cereals, legumes, tuber crops and other important field crops (tobacco, onion, fiber and oil crops).

04. Crop Management

Intercropping, harvesting and processing.

05. Horticultural Crop Production

Fruit production, nutritional value, social and economic factors, origin and distribution, ecological requirements, cultural practices, application of modern techniques.

06. Fruit, vegetable and flower production

Nursery management, orchard management, modern techniques in crop establishment and culture, fruit and vegetable crop improvement, fruit and vegetable based cropping systems, post-harvest losses, prevention of post-harvest losses of fruits and vegetables, biotechnology, local and export markets for fruits and vegetables, present constraints and future strategies, requirements for vegetable production, vegetable based cropping systems, marketing, floriculture, propagation techniques, cultural practices, quality parameters, principles of landscape gardening.

07. Agricultural Extension and Training

Introduction of agricultural extension and objectives, agricultural development and extension, adaptation and diffusion of innovations, communication, teaching methods of extensions, extension approaches used in Sri Lanka, relation between research and extension, preparation of extension programmes, review and evaluation, institutions associated with agricultural extension in Sri Lanka, adult education, training procedure, various techniques used in identifying training requirements, arrangement of lessons, evaluation of training, use of audio-visual devices for training.

08. Seed Technology

Seed physiology, structure, morphology, germination, viability, seed testing, tests on viability and purity, stages of seed production, seed certification and seed storage.

09. Apiculture

Types of bees and hives in a colony, parts of bee boxes, capturing of bee colonies, establishment, dividing, pest and diseases in a bee colony.

III. Syllabus for the Stream of Agricultural Economics

01. Agricultural Production Economics and Farm Management :

Importance of farm management in agricultural production, basic concepts, production functions, forms of production functions, production surfaces, ISO-quant, ISO-clines, ISO-revenue lines, principles of resources combination and cost minimization, principles of diminishing returns, substitution and income effects, flexibility and diversification of adjustments of production to meet risk and uncertainty in agriculture, price theory with special emphasis relating to pricing of agricultural products, evaluation of crop – livestock combination, farm site and returns to scale, principles of importance and comparative advantage of family farms, importance of records in determining the strong and weak points in the farm mechanization and incorporation of this information in optimization models.

02. Agricultural Marketing

General principles of marketing, relative importance of such production and marketing, institutions dealing with marketing in Sri Lanka, role of such institutions in influencing the growth of markets, problems facing the marketing of agricultural products in Sri Lanka and principals involved in improving marketing efficiency

03. Land Economics

Economics concepts as applied to land use, demand for land supply in Sri Lanka, land use planning in Sri Lanka, importance of colonization and settlement programmes in Sri Lanka.