

## ROYAL AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE MODULAR SCHEME

*Sheet updated: September 2010*

<b>Module code</b> 4068	<b>Module title</b> Organic Production and Marketing	<b>Module leader</b> Dr Nicola Cannon
<b>School which owns module</b>	School of Agriculture	
<b>Programme(s) to which module belongs</b>	MSc International Rural Development	
<b>Module Level</b> 7	<b>Module Credits</b> 15	<b>Prerequisites</b> None
<b>Minimum Study Time</b> 150 hours	<b>Contact Hours within Study Time</b> 50	<b>Teaching Period</b> October – May Friday am
<p><b>Module Content</b></p> <p>This module initially focuses on regulatory, market and consumer attitudes to organic food before considering the actual and potential contribution of organic systems to food supply in both developed and emerging economies. The module also explores organic philosophies in relation to ecological, social and economic dimensions of sustainable development. Practical examples of farming systems and enterprise integration are then evaluated in relation to soil management and plant-soil relationships, animal health and nutrition, and enterprise performance.</p>		
<p><b>Module Outcomes</b></p> <p>To achieve credit for this module, students must be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Appraise organic approaches in different agro-climatic zones in relation to ecological, social and commercial integrity and as part of strategic food supply.</li> <li>2. Evaluate consumer interest in, and regulatory/market standards for, organic produce and the impacts they have on market outlets for suppliers from developed and emerging economies.</li> <li>3. Critically assess an organic system in relation to the above factors.</li> </ol>		
<b>Assessment</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Weighting</b>
<b>Coursework</b>	Written project / case study	60%
	Evaluation and presentation	40%
<p><b>Key texts:</b></p> <p>Briggs, S. (2008). <i>Organic Cereal and Pulse Production - A Complete Guide</i>. The Crowood Press.</p> <p>Davies, G. and Lennartsson, M. (2005). <i>Organic Vegetable Production, A Complete Guide</i>. Crowood Press.</p> <p>Davies, G., Turner and Bond (2008). <i>Weed Management for Organic Farmers, Growers and Smallholders - A Complete Guide</i>. The Crowood Press.</p>		