

## ROYAL AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE MODULAR SCHEME

*Sheet updated: September 2010*

<b>Module Code</b> 4109	<b>Module Title</b> Natural Resource Appraisal	<b>Module Leader</b> Dr John Conway
<b>School which owns module</b>	School of Agriculture	
<b>Programme(s) to which module belongs</b>	MSc International Rural Development (core)	
Module Level 7	<b>Module Credits</b> 15	<b>Pre-Requisites</b> None
<b>Minimum Study Time</b> 150 hours	<b>Contact Hours within Study Time</b> 60	<b>Teaching Period</b> Tuesday mornings
<p><b>Module content:</b> This module explores trends in past, present and likely future global resource use in international agreements and conventions and develops skills in field survey techniques and methods of reporting and interpreting information.</p> <p><u>Part 1: biological:</u> Forests, grasslands, crops, livestock, fisheries and wildlife.</p> <p><u>Part 2: physical:</u> Oceans, geology, minerals, soil, water and climate.</p>		
<p><b>Module outcomes:</b> To achieve credit for this module, students must be able to :</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Evaluate past, present and likely future exploitation of resources in relation to sustainable development principles and the impact of institutions and conventions.</li> <li>2. Evaluate resource appraisal methods in relation to accuracy and validity for intended use and complete a Phase 1 habitat survey and a soil survey.</li> <li>3. Prepare and interpret data reports.</li> </ol>		
<b>Assessment</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Weighting</b>
<b>Coursework</b>	Poster and technical note on a named global resource	20%
	Habitat appraisal and report of selected site	40%
	Physical resource appraisal of selected site	40%

**Key Text:**

Students should be familiar with the content of at least one of the following:

- Aber, J.D. and Mellilo, J.M. (2001). *Terrestrial Ecosystems*. Harcourt Academic Press.
- Brenchley, P.J. and Rawson, P.F. (2006). *The Geology of England and Wales*. (2<sup>nd</sup> edition). Geological Society.
- Evans, G.W. (2003). *Geology: A Practical Introduction for Surveyors*. Estates Gazette.
- Deklemm, C. (1992). *Conservation of Natural Habitats Outside Protected Areas*. Council of Europe.
- Landon, J R. Booker Agriculture International (1984) (1991). *Booker Tropical Soil Manual: A Handbook for Soil Survey and Agricultural Land Evaluation in the Tropics and Subtropics*. Longman; Longman Scientific and Technical.
- Mavi, H.S. and Tupper, G.J. (2004). *Agrometeorology: Principles and Applications of Climate Studies in Agriculture*. Food Products Press.
- Read, H. and Frater, M. (1999). *Woodland Habitats*. Routledge.
- Price, E. (2003). *Lowland Grassland and Heathland Habitats*. Routledge.
- Robson, P. Institute of Geological Sciences (1975). *The Sand and Gravel Resources of the Thames Valley, the country around Cricklade, Wiltshire: description of 1:25 000 resource sheets SU 09/19 and parts of SP 00/10*. (Mineral assessment report; 18). HMSO.
- Watts, S. and Halliwell, L. (1996). *Essential Environmental Science – Methods and Techniques*.
- Nature Conservancy Council (1990). *Handbook for Phase 1 Habitat Survey: A Technique for Environmental Audit*.
- Viessman, W. and Lewis, G.L. (2003). *Introduction to Hydrology*. (5<sup>th</sup> edition). Pearson Education.