



WEEKLY HOME STUDY PACKAGE - WEEK 5 (02/08/21 – 06/08/21)

Subject	AGRICULTURAL SCIENCE	Year/Level	10
Strand	AS 10.3 Agronomy		
Sub-strand	AS 10.3.1 Soils		
Content Learning Outcome	Discuss cultivation practices towards soil sustainability.		

STRIP CROPPING

LESSON OUTCOME: At the end of this lesson the student will:

- define strip cropping,
- state the importance of strip cropping.

Strip Cropping - Small strips of land can be left uncultivated between the cropped areas, to retard the water run-off.

- It is the growing of a cultivated crop (as corn) in strips alternating with strips of a sod-forming crop (as hay) arranged to follow an approximate contour of the land and minimize erosion.

Importance of strip cropping

Strip cropping helps to stop soil erosion by creating natural dams for water, helping to preserve the strength of the soil.

- Certain layers of plants will absorb minerals and water from the soil more effectively than others.
- When water reaches the weaker soil that lacks the minerals needed to make it stronger, it normally washes it away.
- When strips of soil are strong enough to slow down water from moving through them, the weaker soil can't wash away like it normally would. Because of this, farmland stays fertile much longer.
- Like cover cropping, strip cropping is done to reduce surface water run-off and maintain soil fertility.

ACTIVITY

1. Define strip cropping. (1 mark)
2. Explain the importance of strip cropping. (2 marks)
3. Briefly explain how strip cropping maintains soil fertility. (2 marks)
4. Draw a diagram showing how strip cropping helps minimise soil erosion (2 marks)