



AIC Report

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Criteria for Agriculture Degree Program Evaluation

PBG B.Sc. (Hons) 2014-15

Lasbela University of Agriculture, Water and Marine Sciences, Uthal

Sr. No.	Criteria	Points Assigned	Points Awarded
Major Criteria			
1	Strength and Quality of Faculty	250	150
2	Curriculum Design and Development	150	150
3	Infrastructure and Learning Resources	200	120
4	Students Support and progression	100	60
Sub - Total (a)		700	480
Minor Criteria			
5	Research and Consultancy Activities	150	70
6	Governance and Leadership	100	50
7	Recent Innovations and Best practices	50	25
Sub - Total (b)		300	145
Grand Total (a+b)		1000	625

(Six hundred and twenty five only)

63%

Name and Designation

Signature of Program Evaluator

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Department of Plant Breeding and Genetics, Lasbela University of Agriculture, Water and Marine Science, Uthal Balochistan is started since September, 2014. New Classrooms and laboratories are constructed and are going to be shipped in near future as per universities authorities. Currently, 14 students are enrolled in the Plant Breeding and Genetics Department. Currently specialization in five disciplines Agronomy, Plant Breeding and Genetics, Entomology, Horticulture and Soil Science is being offered on the campus. Presently, five young energetic faculty members are serving in the discipline of Plant Breeding and Genetics one on Tenure Track System and four on regular basis with least teaching experience. Out of these five, one is Assistant Professor and rest are lecturers. Departmental laboratories, agriculture field for trials and green houses may be established as per standard of Higher Education Commission.

Availability of computer facility, internet, access digital library need substantial improvements. Multimedia in the classrooms are needed for quality education. No departmental library is available. Textbooks are available in the central library, while modern technologies books may be inducted into the central library. The Plant Breeding & Genetics department of LUAWMS has adopted HEC recommended curriculum of 2010 and has designed pattern of studies accordingly. However, there is a much need to review the outline of studies time by time. Currently, PBG department have two different schemes worth 19 millions from Pakistan Science Foundation and Higher Education Commission.

There are no statutory bodies such as Board of studies and Board of faculty, despite this department is offering BS in Plant Breeding and Genetics. In this regard, statutory bodies may be constituted for BS or even higher degree/studies programs.

The Accreditation Inspection Committee (AIC) has allocated 63% rating for Plant Breeding Genetics and assessed that the discipline does not meet some of the major external evaluation criteria for accreditation and placed in 'Y1' category. This evaluation rating implies a revisit to the degree program offered by LUAWMS with in a period of one year.

INTRODUCTION

Lasbela University of Agriculture, Water and Marine Sciences (LUAWMS), Uthal, Balochistan was established in 2005. Department of Plant Breeding and Genetics was started in September, 2012 having total 14 students out of which only 4 are having HEC merit based scholarship.

CRITERION WISE ANALYSIS

Strength and Quality of Faculty

Existing faculty has little teaching or research experience. Faculty is newly appointed and most junior which consists of just one Assistant Professor and four Lecturers. Faculty members are young and energetic they will put maximum efforts for the advancement of research and teaching in the organization. Hence, senior faculty members may be appointed on priority basis to strengthen the PBG department and proper conveying of quality education and modern research technologies. The teacher student ratio is 1:14, which is good and below than desired (1:20) ratio. Currently specialization in five disciplines Agronomy, Plant Breeding and Genetics, Entomology, Horticulture and Soil Science is being offered on the campus.

Infrastructure and learning resources

There is inadequate infrastructure and facilities for teaching and research activities. There are only two classrooms only, one for 15 (PBG) students and other for 50 (General) students both the classrooms are without multimedia. New Classrooms and laboratories are constructed and are going to be shipped in near future as per universities authorities. For undergraduate students, the laboratory is for 20 (PBG) students but the apparatus's is currently inadequate. No common room facility is available for male or female students, where they can work peacefully after the lectures or while performing research work independently. No excess to online digital library while wifi facility and books were available for the students in central library. Computer facilities were not enough. Two green houses are constructed and will be utilized in near future as per universities authorities. Agriculture farm has not developed by now for practical and research work, though students are using these facilities at Central Cotton Research Station, Uthal established by Pakistan Central Cotton Committee from current year. Accommodation for students and teachers are not enough to meet the needs. Playground is under construction. Transport facility is available but not sufficient for the students.

SWOT ANALYSIS

Major Strength

- Young teaching faculty of five hardworking members.

Major Weaknesses

- Lack of qualified senior professors & associate professors and experienced teaching staff.
- Lack of well-equipped PBG Laboratory for undergraduate teaching as well as research farm and greenhouses etc.
- Unfurnished offices and lecture rooms, etc.
- Limited or no access to HEC digital library.
- Nonexistence of statutory bodies such as Board of Studies and Board of Faculty.
- Limited out-door and indoor activities and field trips.

Major Opportunities

- Farmers of uthal can be trained to receive higher yields or to produce pure/quality seed.
- Good chances of employment in seed companies, universities and public sector research institutions.

Major Threats

- Latest facilities may be arranged as soon as possible, without which quality education, progress and prosperity of area will be stagnant. Otherwise students will seek admission in other institutions where quality education is available.

Actionable Recommendations

- Appointment of Professor/Associate Professor as per recommended of HEC 1:1:2:2 at earliest possible.
- Establishment of two functional Laboratories of PBG in new constructed building.
- Creation of statutory bodies of the discipline.
- Availability of experimental research farm with latest farm machinery and implements.
- Provision of IT facilities, access to HEC digital library, textbooks and reference material for the Department and other disciplines as well.
- Provision of at least three classrooms, seminar room, committee/conference room in new building.
- Availability of indoor/outdoor sports facilities for students.
- Rules/regulations related to admission till the completion of degree should be made available to students and be followed in letter and spirit.
- Arrangement of field trips as part of practical or syllabus.

Final Recommendations

The team unanimously recommended that B.Sc. (Hons) Agri. Plant Breeding and Genetics degree program should be evaluated in the category of “Y1” with aggregate score of 63 percent and is deferred for accreditation till revisit and re-evaluation after a period of one year.

Annexure-I**1.1: Strength of Faculty**

Faculty Strength (Number)	Faculty Qualification		Faculty Positions				Teacher/Student Ratio
	PhD	Non PhD	Prof.	Associate Prof	Assistant Prof.	Lecturers	
5	1	4	0	0	1	4	1:14

Annexure-II**2.3: Capacity of each laboratory with list of equipment in each lab with brief (one line) specifications.****Laboratory, Plant Breeding & Genetics****Capacity: 20 students**

Sr.#	Name of Equipment	Quantity
1.	Microscopes	01
2.	Hot Plates with Magnetic stirrer	1
3.	Electric Balance	1
4.	Compound Microscopes	1
5.	Binocular Microscope	1
6.	PCR	1
7.	Agarose Gel Electrophoresis	1
8.	UV-Spectroscope	1