

DIFFERENT WINGS/SECTIONS OF THE DEPARTMENTS

There are different wings/sections of the departments, taking care of their respective responsibilities. These are as follows:

Plant Protection and Enforcement section

This section works under the control of Chief Agriculture Officer and the main aim of this is to check the quality of fertilizers, insecticides and seeds by taking samples from the private dealers, so that good quality inputs be provided to the farming community. Any defaulter of fertilizer is dealt with under fertilizer control order, 1985 which was passed under essential commodities Act, 1955. Similarly the defaulters of the pesticides/ insecticides and seeds proceeded against under insecticide act, 1968 and rules 1971 & seeds act, 1968 and seed control order, 1983 .

PROGRESS OF SAMPLES TESTED DURING 2007-08

Sr. No.	Particular	Target	No. of Samples	No. of Samples failed	Remarks
1	Insecticides/Pesticides Herbicides/ Fungicides	200		11	Action taken according to insecticide act, 1968 and rules 1971
2	Fertilizer	230	227	3	Action taken according to FCO, 1985 under essential commodities Act, 1955
3	Seeds :- (i) Bunt (ii) Service (iii) Act	80 300 700	80 300 425	16 28 26	Action taken according to seeds act, 1968 and seed control order 1983.

SOIL TESTING LABS

Two soil testing labs are operating in the district located at Muktsar and Gidderbaha. Only Muktsar lab is in working position. Gidderbaha lab is not working due to lack of staff and funds. Muktsar lab is headed by agriculture officer as a Soil Testing Officer who is supported by a fourth class employee which is trained to test the soil and water. The Chief Agriculture Officer is overall in charge of the labs. Soil and water samples collected by the field staff as well as those received directly from farmers are tested in a stipulated time frame thereby making recommendations on test basis which help the farmers know about the nutrient status of soil and quality of irrigation water. By adopting the recommendation farmers are able to improve the soil health of their fields.

SCHEMES OF SOIL TESTING LABS DURING 2007-08

Sr. No.	Name of the Scheme	Sponsoring Agency	Share of Subsidy	Budget allotment Rs.	Budget Expenditure	Activities
1	Balanced and Integrated use of fertilizer	Centre/ State 90:10	Water samples are analysed free of cost Re. 1/- charged for soil samples	Muktsar 72,500	72,338	Total 5,002 soil and water samples analyzed
2	2401- crop husbandry	State		Gidderbaha 43,600	42,716	Total 6,065 soil and water samples analyzed

FARMERS TRAINING CENTRE

District Muktsar is under the charges of district training officer Faridkot. Charge of district training officer was held by chief agriculture officer Faridkot. The post of lady demonstrator was vacant. The duties of district training officer are to disseminate latest technologies in crop production, reducing cost of cultivation, improving the soil health, diversification, Balanced and Judicious use of inputs such as fertilizers, pesticides, irrigation water, use and maintenance of improved farm machinery, effective marketing of the produce, storage and preservation, allied activities such as bee keeping, mushroom cultivation and many more. To achieve the objectives effectively the training centre organizes training camps at District, Block and Village levels for farmers and farm women. This Training Centre is training approximately 8000 farmers annually.

FARMERS TRAINING CENTRE SCHEMES DURING 2007-08

Sr. No.	Name of the Scheme	Sponsoring Agency	Share of Subsidy	Budget allotment	Budget Expenditure	Activities
1	Farmer Training	State	-	50,000	24,000	The Training team of the center conducted district level, block level and village level training camps totaling 188 against a target of 173 out of these 6 district level camps 24 were block level camps. In these camps training on cultivation of different crops and allied activities was given to 14906 farmers and 1936 farm women.

AGRICULTURE ENGINEERING WING

Under the Control of Chief Agriculture Officer an Agriculture Engineering Wing is working at district headquarter. This wing is headed by an Assistant Agriculture Engineer-1, the subordinate staff includes Assistant Agriculture one junior technicians. The wing provides guidance to the farmers regarding proper use, care and maintenance of tractors, implements, diesel engines , Tube-wells etc. The wing is currently providing knowledge to farmers by demonstrating modern agricultural machinery (i.e. Zero-till drill, rotavator, happy seeder , bed-planter etc.) so that farmers can save money, time and natural resources. The wing is also providing subsidy on these implements under various schemes. Under the Dangerous Machinery Act 1983, the department provides license and instructs the thresher making firms for fabricating the threshers according to specifications and to attach safety devices with these implements to prevent the mishaps during threshing. The wing is also concerned with the installation of the new biogas plants, repair and maintenance of already set-up biogas plants.

AGRICULTURE ENGINEERING WING SCHEMES DURING 2007-08

Sr. No.	Name of the Scheme	Sponsoring Agency	Share of Subsidy	Budget allotment	Budget Expenditure	Activities
1.	Macro Management work plan for promotion of agriculture mechanization	Centre/State 90.10	25%	9.0 Lac.	8.95 Lac.	10 Potato digger, Subsidy Rs. 8250/- each, 2 Potato planter, Subsidy Rs. 5000/-each, 1 Maize thresher subsidy Rs. 11500/- each, 1 Forage Reaper Subsidy Rs. 4000/- each, 39 Straw Reaper Subsidy Rs. 20,000/- each, 1 Vertical Conveyor Reaper Subsidy Rs. 7250/- each given to 54 farmers
2.	Canal Command Area	CADA	-	2.25 Lac.	2.25 Lac.	District level Camp 2, Block level Camp 7, Village level Camp 70, Field days 7 organized
3.	Biogas Development Scheme	-		-	-	4 new Biogas plants installed, Care and maintenance of already setup 200 Biogas plants carried out.
4.	Farm mechanization	State		-	-	Guidance to the farmers regarding proper use, care and maintenance of agricultural machinery to 143 farmers, for Tractors to 255 farmers, for Tubewells and Diesel engines to 255 farmers was given. Sowing of demo plots to save natural