THEORY OF ORGANIC CULTIVATION

1. Demonstrate an understanding of the effects of weather patterns and day-length and seasonal change in a specified region / own locality in relation to organic cultivation.	 1.1 Outline estimated timings for a variety of cultivation activities in relation to weather conditions and seasonal change. 1.2 Describe the differing measures of time involved in crop production, giving due consideration to weather patterns, day-length and seasonal change. 1.3 1.3 Explain own choice of suitable dates for particular Biodynamic activities. Provide 3 specific examples.
2. Demonstrate an understanding of the principles of extended cropping.	2.1 Describe and explain recommended methods of producing crops throughout the year.2.2 Describe two facilities designed to create protected growing microclimates and explain how to use them.
3. Demonstrate an awareness of different types of organic materials.	 3.1 Identify and describe a range of bought and recycled organic materials. 3.2 Explain the differences between Organic and non-organic resources. 3.3 Identify sources of Organic materials. 3.4 Describe how to process and store raw materials for use in Organic horticulture. 3.5 Describe a basic range of concentrated Organic fertilisers. 3.6 Describe appropriate uses for Organic fertilisers.
4. Demonstrate an awareness of the range of soil types and appreciate a range of negative impacts on soils.	4.1 Identify and describe three different beneficial and detrimental soil management practices.4.2 Outline three suggestions for how to remediate and improve soil for organic cultivation.
5. Demonstrate an understanding of site development for Organic production.	5.1 Explain how to organise a growing site for Organic production.5.2 Outline how to plan and record cultivation activities for a specific site over a one year period.

 Demonstrate an understanding of the stages of growth of plants. 	6.1 Explain six methods of human intervention to improve plant growth at appropriate times.
7. Demonstrate an understanding of the range and variety of food crops, suitable for local production.	7.1 Outline and describe the range and variety of edible plants, suitable for local production.
8. Demonstrate a familiarity with techniques used to propagate plants.	8.1 Describe three propagating techniques that can be used to multiply plantstock.8.2 Explain the benefits of one of these techniques.
9. Demonstrate an understanding of establishing and maintaining growing systems.	9.1 Explain how to establish and maintain two Organic food-growing systems.9.2 Summarise the principles of crop combination and rotation.
10. Demonstrate an understanding of preventative and symptomatic treatments appropriate in Organic cultivation.	10.1 Describe three good practices to ensure the health of crops within Organic cultivation.
11. Demonstrate an understanding of how to establish and maintain perennial crops.	11.1 Explain how to plant and maintain fruiting and edible perennial crops. E.g. soft and top fruit, nuts and perennial vegetables.
12. Demonstrate an understanding of the essential principles of seed-saving.	12.1 Describe how to save seed from edible crop plants.12.2 Explain the reasons for this.
13. Demonstrate a familiarity with cropping techniques .	13.1 Describe recommended methods of harvesting and storing three crops.