**Why Study Crop Science?**

The production of field, vegetable and fodder crops comprises the most important branch of primary crop production with the underlying importance for the existence of humanity. The constant and intensive growth of human population requires incessant improvements in agricultural sciences and the increased production of food accompanied by the increased market demands for high-quality and healthy food produced in an organic and ecological manner. Therefore, healthy food production, enhancing the health of human population, is considered a humane profession as much as medicine.

The study programme of Crop Science offers knowledge, competencies and skills which are socially beneficial and justified. The main purpose of the study programme is to introduce the students to basic sciences such as botany, meteorology, soil science, soil microbiology, agricultural chemistry, genetics, plant physiology, as well as general sciences such as chemistry, mathematics, statistics, etc. The acquired knowledge should enable the detailed comprehension and practical application of major specialist disciplines such as basic plant production, seed production, plant breeding, grain and legume production, vegetable crop production, fodder crops, industrial plant production, crop irrigation under various production circumstances. Knowledge in the field of social sciences and economics facilitates the students’ understanding of production economics, as well as the importance and social justification of crop science and practice.

**Principal Objectives of the Study Programme**

The principal objective of the study programme of Crop Science is to educate and train the students for working directly in agricultural production, growing field, vegetable and fodder crops, as well as improving the yield and the quality of crops while preserving the environment. The purpose of the study programme is to prepare students for the expertise of a Bachelor of Science in Agriculture. The whole educational concept is aligned with the requirements and development of agricultural production in Serbia and the AP Vojvodina, based on the principles of sustainable development which integrate economic and ecological benefits of the present and future generations in order to produce high-quality and safe food for personal needs and export, thus simultaneously making profit and preserving the environment.

Upon completion of the study programme of Crop Science, the students will become professionals capable of improving and applying the acquired knowledge in production practice. The obtained degree also encompasses some important aspects of biotechnological science in the field of plant production.

**Employment Possibilities**

* Primary agricultural production (crop production in open and protected spaces, fodder crop production and spice, aromatic and medicinal plant production) in agricultural companies, agro-industrial complexes, private farms and various production associations;
* Seed production facilities, centres and silos; centres for processing, drying and storing agricultural products;
* Raw material sector of the processing industry (sugar factories, oil factories, breweries, animal feed factories, etc.)
* Public services (agricultural services, extension services, inspection services, expert witness service), secondary and higher education institutions, scientific and research institutions;
* Sector of commerce and services (agricultural pharmacies, consulting services, representatives of domestic and foreign seed production companies, laboratories for soil and seed quality testing, as well as designing and organising agricultural companies);
* Financial sector (banks, stock exchanges, insurance companies, etc.), marketing organisations, etc.

**Possibilities for Further Education**

A Bachelor of Science in Crop Science is capable of pursuing further education at master’s and doctoral studies in cognate scientific fields.