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Q80

What is the use of biochar in farming? 1. Biochar can be used as a part of the growing medium in vertical farming. 2. When biochar is a part of the growing medium, it promotes the growth of nitrogen-fixing microorganisms. 3. When biochar is a part of the growing medium, it enables the growing medium to retain water for longer time. Which of the statements given above is/are correct? (a) 1 and 2 only (b) 2 only (c) 1 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3
Official key: D.

UPSC Civil Services Prelims 2020 · General Studies · 2 marks · Art and Culture

Indian art, architecture, culture - Prelims GS Paper I.

Explanation

(a)

1 and 2 only. Water retention is also true.

(b)

2 only. Under-counts.

(c)

1 and 3 only. N-fixers also hold.

(d) Official key

All three. Vertical-farm medium, habitat for nitrogen-fixers, and longer water hold.

Summary

Official key is (d) 1, 2 and 3. **Biochar** in a growing medium suits vertical farming, favours nitrogen-fixing microbes, and holds water.

Related possible facts

These can be asked in a future Prelims paper.

Biochar

Pyrolysed biomass; stable carbon.

Terra preta

The Amazonian analogue.

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