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Q48

Which of the following are nitrogen-fixing plants? 1. Alfalfa 2. Amarnath 3. Chickpea 4. Clover 5. Purslane (Kulfa) 6. Spinach
Select the correct answer using the code given below: (a) 1, 3 and 4 only (b) 1, 3, 5 and 6 only (c) 2, 4, 5 and 6 only (d) 1, 2, 4, 5 and 6
Official key: A.

UPSC Civil Services Prelims 2022 · General Studies · 2 marks · Environment and Ecology
Environment, ecology, climate, biodiversity - Prelims GS Paper I.

Explanation**(a) Official key**

1, 3 and 4 only. **Alfalfa**, chickpea and clover are legumes (nitrogen-fixing). Amaranth, purslane and spinach are not.

(b)

1, 3, 5 and 6 only. Kulfa and spinach do not fix N₂.

(c)

2, 4, 5 and 6 only. Drops the true legumes.

(d)

1, 2, 4, 5 and 6. Amaranth is not a fixer.

Summary

Official key is (a) 1, 3 and 4 only. **Alfalfa**, chickpea and clover are Fabaceae with **Rhizobium**. Amaranth, purslane (kulfa) and spinach are leafy non-legumes.

Related possible facts

These can be asked in a future Prelims paper.

Rhizobium

Root-nodule bacteria of legumes.

Alfalfa

Medicago sativa; a classic fodder legume.

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