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Q16

Consider the following statements: 1. Some mushrooms have medicinal properties. 2. Some mushrooms have psychoactive properties. 3. Some mushrooms have insecticidal properties. 4. Some mushrooms have bioluminescent properties. How many of the above statements are correct? (a) Only one (b) Only two (c) Only three (d) All four Official key: D.

UPSC Civil Services Prelims 2023 · General Studies · 2 marks · Environment and Ecology
Environment, ecology, climate, biodiversity - Prelims GS Paper I.

Explanation

(a)

Only one. All four mushroom properties exist.

(b)

Only two. Under-counts.

(c)

Only three. Bioluminescence and insecticidal uses also exist.

(d) Official key

All four. Medicinal, psychoactive, insecticidal and bioluminescent mushrooms are all real.

Summary

Official key is (d) all four. Ganoderma and others are medicinal; Psilocybe is psychoactive; some entomopathogenic fungi / extracts are insecticidal; Mycena and others glow (foxfire). None of the four statements fails.

Related possible facts

These can be asked in a future Prelims paper.

Foxfire

Bioluminescent fungi on rotting wood.

Psilocybin

Psychoactive alkaloid in some mushrooms; also a research drug.

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