

P3. Eradication of aquatic weeds

AIM- To eradicate the aquatic weeds

Principle

Aquatic weeds can be defined as unwanted and undesirable vegetation that grow profusely in waters. Based on their habitat, the aquatic weeds can be classified into floating, submerged, emergent, marginal, filamentous and algal blooms. The disadvantages of aquatic weeds in ponds include

- (i) Interference in culture activities
- (ii) Depletion of dissolved oxygen
- (iii) Restrict space for movement of fish
- (iv) Utilize nutrients
- (v) Hinder netting operation
- (vi) Restrict light penetration
- (vii) Release toxic gases

Procedures

Physical methods:

controlling aquatic weeds by manually (hand picking) or mechanically using various tools such as sickle, scythes, blades, nets, wooden rakes, cullers, haulers, cranes etc., are used to remove aquatic weeds.

Chemical methods

Different types chemicals with different dosages applied to control aquatic weeds depend on time season and type of infestation. Chemicals have to be sprayed over floating leaves or applied to pond water or soil.

Biological methods

Biological method of weed control is the most efficient and useful method without much expensive. The waste vegetative matter is recycled into proteinacious fish flesh. Various biological agents used are fishes, insects, snails and mammals.