

MBA AS AN OPTION

AGRICULTURE STUDENT'S PERSPECTIVE

Kartik Rana

UIAS, Chandigarh University, (Mohali) Punjab

INTRODUCTION

As a student pursuing my B.Sc. in Agriculture and being a final year student, I had to look for the options I have after this degree. After some research, I found out that I can do my Masters in business (MBA Agri business or normal MBA). Out of these two, MBA (ABM) is a more suitable course for the agriculture students as it is specialised for the students pursuing Agriculture. I found this interesting as not many students in my class, when asked took this as an option for pursuing their Masters.

MBA (AGRI BUSINESS)

Agri-business explores the production, marketing and trading of products related to agriculture. The MBA programme also covers improved growing techniques, agricultural machinery, fertiliser, pesticides pre and post harvest handling, storage, transportation, packaging and labelling. Critical management issues as financing and technical assistance, preparation of products for exports, overseas marketing issues and government policy are also an integral part of the programme. Some of the optional courses offered in an Agri-Business Management Programme are Agricultural Finance/Banking, Agro Processing, International Agriculture and Trade Policy, Logistics and Infrastructure Management in Agriculture, Marketing of Agricultural Inputs, and Management of Technology for Sustainable Agriculture, Rural Advertising etc.

Why Agribusiness Management is Important?

Agribusiness is not just a means to earn and feed people. There is a lot of science that goes behind growing the crops best way possible so that the results are favouring. Its importance is often overlooked. Here are some of the essential things that it takes care of:

- Assembling the seeds, fermenting them, sourcing raw food products and supplying them so that the waste is minimal; this all is covered under Agribusiness.
- Equipment makers, chemical manufacturing, logistics providers, and so forth.
- Without a proper infrastructure, the whole system can crumble and people will be devoid of the main necessity: FOOD.

Eligibility criteria for Agribusiness Management

The criteria vary from college to college but you should maintain a minimum of 50% aggregate in graduation.

- A valid scorecard from CAT/MAT and other exams will be a prerequisite for that.
- Graduation with agriculture or allied farming as the main subject.
- Candidates waiting for their final year graduation results are welcome too.

Skills required for an MBA in Agribusiness

- A keen interest in the field of agriculture
- A highly practical business sense
- Should have no hassles dealing with farmers, visiting rural areas.



TOP 5 BENEFITS OF MBA IN AGRIBUSINESS

After getting MBA degree in Agribusiness:

- 1.You will become a huge contributor to eliminating poverty from India.
- 2.You can choose between public and private sector jobs.
- 3.You can pursue PhD after your postgraduate degree.
- 4.You will understand the types of soil and understand their composition.
- 5.You can become an entrepreneur helping farmers and other companies with your consultancy & expertise.

MBA Agriculture Colleges

- Govind Ballabh Pant University of Agriculture and Technology, Pantnagar
- Swami Keshwanand Rajasthan Agricultural University, Bikaner
- Dr YS Parmar University of Horticulture and Forestry, Nauni, Solan (HP)
- IIM, Ahmedabad
- IIM, Lucknow
- BHU, Varanasi
- Symbiosis, Pune
- IABM, Bikaner
- NIAM, Jaipur

MBA Agriculture Syllabus

Though the courses and curriculum vary slightly from university to university, the core topics and areas are consistent. Syllabus of MBA Agriculture as prescribed by various Universities and Colleges:

Sr. No.	Subjects of Study
1	Agricultural Markets
2	Agricultural Pricing
3	Agricultural Law
4	Futures Trading
5	Agricultural Economics
6	Farm Management

EXAMS RELATED TO MBA

CAT, XAT, SNAP, CMAT and TISS

CAT (Common Admission Test): MBA Entrance exam is often considered as the mother of MBA entrance exams. It is conducted by one of the 20 IIMs on rolling basis. This year IIM-Kozhikode has been entrusted the responsibility of conducting the exam. CAT Exam is generally conducted in the month of November every year with each year more than 2.4 lakhs students appearing for one of the toughest MBA entrance exams of India. The score of CAT exam is not just accepted by IIMs, but also by other top non-IIMs such as FMS (Delhi), MDI (Gurgaon), IMI (Delhi), IITs (pan India) among other popular institutes.

Eligibility Criteria: Candidates possessing graduate degree with minimum 50 percent or equivalent CGPA score can appear for CAT.

Exam Pattern: CAT Exam comprises of 3 sections, namely Verbal Ability & Reading Comprehension, Data Interpretation & Logical Reasoning and Quantitative Ability. A total of 100 questions are asked in the exam. For each correct answer +3 marks are awarded, for each incorrect answer -1 is deducted. No mark is deducted for un-attempted questions.

CONCLUSION

A common thing that every student who is pursuing or has completed their BSc in agriculture should know is that there is very less scope for the people in this sector just with a bachelor's degree. Students need to complete their Masters in order to get a decent job. So, this MBA is a really great alternative for the students who want to do something other than the traditional Master's degree. This has high scope as well higher chances of getting a high paid job as compared to the other options available.