**Agroecosystems**

**Goals and objectives of the course**

The study of the discipline is aimed to provide the students with the academic background on agroecosystems, their dynamics, development and sustainability, both in general and in the territory of Ukraine.

The following are the main tasks of the course:

* Studies of the ecological factors of an agroecosystem;
* Studies of the sustainability of an agroecosystem, the causes and effects of its disturbance;
* Studies of the structure and productivity of agrophytocenoses;

As a subject, the course considers natural resources; the principal constituents of agroecosystems (soils, water, air, plants and animals); endogenous and exogenous ecological factors of agroecosystems; environmental laws.

**Basic topics of the discipline:**

1. Agroecosystem.

2. Ecological factors of agroecosystems.

3. Natural resource characteristics of the principal agroecosystems in Ukraine.

4. General concepts of agroecosystem dynamics and sustainability

5. The causes and the effects of sustainability disturbance in an agroecosystem.