



MACHAKOS UNIVERSITY

SCHOOL OF AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES 2017/2018

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION AND EDUCATION

SECOND SEMESTER EXAMINATION FOR DEGREE IN AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION AND EDUCATION

HOR 211: PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICES OF HORTICULTURE

Date: xxx

Time: 2HRS

Instructions: Answer SECTION A and any other TWO questions from SECTION B

SECTION A (30 Marks)

- 1(a). Explain four importance of the horticultural industry in Kenya (4 Marks)
- (b). Explain four factors that influence the growth of horticultural crops (4 Marks)
2. (a) Pruning is a necessary evil in horticultural production. Justify the statement (4 Marks)
- (b) Explain three strategies used in post-harvest handling horticultural crops (6 Marks)
- (c) Explain two principles of integrated pest management for horticultural crops (4 Marks)
3. Explain four future prospects of horticultural industry in Kenya (4 Marks)
4. With specific examples, distinguish between asexual and sexual propagation (4 Marks)

SECTION B: ANSWER ANY TWO QUESTIONS

5(a). Compare and contrast horticultural crop production in a controlled environment and open field. (10 Marks)

(b). Discuss five methods used in integrated nutrient management for horticultural crop production (10 Marks)

6. (a) Discuss five methods used in integrated pest management for horticultural crop production (10 Marks)

(b) A mango farmer in Makueni lost almost all of his produce due to poor storage and transportation. As an extension officer what can you advise the farmer so as to maintain the quality of the produce after harvest (10 Marks)

7. Suppose you have been chosen to be the government advisor for agriculture. Discuss the strategies you can give to boost the horticultural sector in Kenya (20 Marks)

8. Growth regulators are important in horticultural crop production. Citing relevant examples, explain the functions of various growth regulators (20 Marks)