



MACHAKOS UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

(A Constituent College of Kenyatta University)

University Examinations 2015/2016

SCHOOL OF AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION AND EXTENSION

FIRST SEMESTER EXAMINATION FOR THE DIPLOMA IN AGRICULTURAL
EDUCATION AND EXTENSION

KRM 0308: ANNUAL CROPS

Date:

Time: 2 hours

INSTRUCTION TO CANDIDATES:

Answer *ALL* questions from Section A and any other *TWO* from Section B:

SECTION A: COMPULSORY: (30 MARKS)

- a) i) Explain why wheat is an annual crop (2 marks)
- ii) Explain four roles of annual crops towards the country's development. (4 marks)
- b) Explain two uses of the following crops (8 marks)
- i) Cotton
 - ii) Oats
 - iii) Barley
 - iv) Chickpea
- c) i) Explain four reasons why sorghum does well in semi- arid parts of Kenya compared to maize. (4 marks)
- ii) With three reasons, explain the influence of altitude in wheat production. (3 marks)
- d) Explain four reasons why a farmer should be advised to plant tobacco (4 marks)
- e) Giving an example of crop infected, describe one symptom and two management of the following diseases in annual crops.

- i) Anthracnose (4 marks)
- ii) Aspergillus crown rot (4 marks)
- iii) Common rusts (4 marks)

SECTION B: ANSWER ANY TWO QUESTIONS (40 MARKS)

QUESTION TWO

- i) With specific crop examples, explain three roles of the following practices in crop production. (12 marks)
 - i) Staking
 - ii) Chitting
 - iii) Intercropping
 - iv) Crop rotation
- ii) Describe two methods of planting sweet potato (8 marks)

QUESTION THREE

- a) Explain the production of beans under the given headings (10 marks)
 - i) Land preparation
 - ii) Planting
 - iii) Post-harvest handling
- b) Explain six measures used in pulse disease control (6 marks)
- c) Explain any four reasons why a farmer should be advised to plant sunflower. (4 marks)

QUESTION FOUR

- a) Describe two methods of planting rice. (12 marks)
- b) Explain the two advantages and two disadvantages of each method in (a) above. (8 marks)

QUESTION FIVE

- a) Explain the production of maize production under the following headings. (10 marks)
 - i) Weeding
 - ii) Fertilization
 - iii) Harvesting
- b) Explain production of sweet potato under the headings. (10 marks)
 - i) Ecological conditions
 - ii) Pests damage and their management