



MACHAKOS UNIVERSITY

University Examinations for 2016/2017 Academic Year

SCHOOL OF AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION AND EXTENSION

FIRST YEAR SECOND SEMESTER EXAMINATION FOR BACHELOR OF SCIENCE
IN AGRIBUSINESS MANAGEMENT

SPECIAL EXAMINATION

AGR 100: INTRODUCTION TO AGRICULTURE

DATE: 1/9/2017

TIME: 8:30 – 10:30 AM

Instructions:

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

SECTION A: COMPULSORY: (30 MARKS)

QUESTION ONE

- a) Explain four reasons why crop classification is important to a researcher (4 marks)
- b) With three reasons, explain why a farmer should be advised to use reduced tillage (3 marks)
- c) Explain four reasons why spacing is a special consideration in maize planting (4 marks)
- d)
 - i) Explain two reasons why farmers are advised to maintain a cropping calendar of different crops in his farm (2 marks)
 - ii) Explain two roles played by agriculture in country's development (2 marks)
- e) A farmer intend to plant maize in a 50 ha of land. If the spacing is 75 cm x 30 cm estimate the plant population (3 marks)
- f)
 - i) Explain four reasons why controlled grazing is important in livestock farming (4 marks)

- ii) With an example in each case, explain two roles of the following management practices in livestock production. (6 marks)
- (i) Debeaking
 - (ii) Tagging
 - (iii) Steaming up
- g) With an example in each case, explain three reasons for value addition in crop and livestock production. (3 marks)

SECTION B: ANSWER ANY TWO QUESTIONS (40 MARKS)

QUESTION TWO

- a) Explain any five cropping systems that can be adapted by Kenyan farmers (10 marks)
- b) Discuss five ways a country can adopt in managing food security issues (10 marks)

QUESTION THREE

- a) Explain five factors that affect livestock production in Kenya (10 marks)
- b) Explain five ways Kenyan farmers use in conservation of water in their farms for crop and livestock utilization (10 marks)

QUESTION FOUR

Explain 10 importance of pests and parasites in crop and livestock production respectively (20 marks)

QUESTION FIVE

- a) Explain any six methods a farmer can successfully employ to manage weeds in crops (12 marks)
- b) With a specific example, explain four reasons you would encourage a livestock farmer to keep records (8 marks)