



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 DEGREE IN BACHELOR OF EDUCATION
SCHOOL-BASED

PRINCIPLES OF CROP PRODUCTION

Date: 14/04/2016

Time:

INSTRUCTIONS

This paper consists of FIVE questions

Answer question one and other two questions in this paper

QUESTION ONE

- a) Give three reasons why crop production is important in Kenya's economic development. (6 marks)
- b) Describe how temperature differences in different agro-ecological zones affect the choice of crops grown. (6 marks)
- c) Describe, giving examples, two forms of propagation methods. (6 marks)
- d) Describe different methods used in crop protection. (6 marks)
- e) What is value addition? (6 marks)

QUESTION TWO

- a) Outline the harmful effects of weeds on crops (12 marks)

- b) Describe two types of weed classification (8 marks)

QUESTION THREE

Give the advantages of mixed cropping. (20 marks)

QUESTION FOUR

- a) Outline the effects of varying crop spacing on:
- i. Plant population (2 marks)
 - ii. seed rate (2 marks)
 - iii. Weed control (2 marks)
 - iv. Access to plants (2 marks)
- b) Briefly describe the five principles of crop rotation (12 marks)

QUESTION FIVE

- a) Define the following terminologies (10 marks)
- i. A fertilizer
 - ii. A fertilizer material
 - iii. A complete fertilizer
 - iv. Fertilizer formular
 - v. An acid forming fertilizer
- b) State the importance of value addition on agricultural produce (10 marks)