MACHAKOS UNIVERSITY

University Examinations for 2018/2019 Academic Year

SCHOOL OF AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES

DEPARTMENT OF AGRIBUSINESS AND TRADE

SECOND YEAR SPECIAL/SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATION FOR

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN AGRIBUSINESS AND TRADE
KRM 303/AGR203   FIELD CROPS PRODUCTION

DATE: 25/7/2019   **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)

a)   Define the following terms as used in crop genetic improvement;

   i) Plant Breeding   (2 marks)

   ii) Polyploidy   (2 marks)

   iii) Pureline   (2 marks)

   iv) Clone   (2 marks)

   v) Heterosis   (2   marks)

b)   With specific examples, describe **FOUR** types of pre or post-harvest losses associated with crop production   (8 marks)

c)   Explain **TWO** types of maturity that determine crop harvesting   (4 marks)

d)   Giving relevant examples, explain classification of important crops in Kenya   (8 marks)

SECTION B: Answer any TWO questions (40 Marks)

a)   Describe **FIVE** methods used for the general management of weeds   (10 Marks)

b)   Explain **FIVE** important agronomic practices that need to be carried out to realize high maize crop yields   (10 Marks)

QUESTION THREE

a)   Giving relevant examples, discuss **FIVE** key roles played by field crops production in the economic development in Kenya   (10 Marks)

b)   Describe the suitable climatic and edaphic conditions required for the optimal production of the following major field crops;

     i.   Sugarcane   (2 marks)

     ii.   Coffee   (2 marks)

     iii.   Tea   (2 marks)

     iv.   Soybeans   (2 marks)

     v.   Wheat   (2 marks)

QUESTION FOUR

Describe the production of cotton under the following headings;

a)   Planting spacing   (5 marks)

b)   Agronomic practices   (5 marks)

c)   Harvesting   (5 marks)

d)   Processing   (5 marks)