

MOUNT KENYA



UNIVERSITY

UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS 2011/2012
SCHOOL OF PURE AND APPLIED SCIENCES
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL SCIENCES
SCHOOL BASED

UNIT CODE: AGR 111 UNIT TITLE: INTRODUCTION TO AGRICULTURE

APRIL 2012

MAIN EXAMS

TIME: 2 HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS: ANSWER QUESTION ONE IN SECTION A AND ANY TWO QUESTIONS IN SECTION B

SECTION A

1. (a) Outline the procedure followed by Neolithic communities in domesticating plant species (5marks)
- (b) Describe the influence of soil pH on crop production (5marks)
- (c) Describe the major farming activities in the agro-climatic zone 2, 3 and 4 of Kenya (6marks)
- (d) Outline the recommendations of the Swynerton development plan of 1954 (7marks)
- (e) State the various aspects of rainfall and how they influence crop production (7marks)

SECTION B

2. (a) Outline the impacts of industrial agriculture (8marks)
- (b) Describe how the characteristics of clay, loam and sandy soils influence crop production (12marks)

3. (a) Outline the benefits of agroforestry as a farming system (12marks)
(b) Give the advantages of intensive mixed cropping system (8marks)
4. (a) Describe the important agricultural developments that were realized during the roman empire (12marks)
(b) Outline the disadvantages of intensive livestock production systems (8marks)
5. (a) Outline the principles and guidelines on which the first cooperative society was formed (8marks)
(b) Describe the major problems facing the agriculture sector in Kenya (12marks)

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SPECIAL/SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMS

TIME: 2 HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS: ANSWER QUESTION ONE IN SECTION A AND ANY TWO QUESTIONS IN SECTION B

SECTION A

1. (a) Give five reasons for migrating experienced by the Neolithic communities (5marks)
- (b) Describe the major problems faced by farming communities in agroclimatic zone 5, 6 and 7 in Kenya (8marks)
- (c) Outline the disadvantages of extensive herding system of farming (7marks)
- (d) Describe the effects of temperature and light in crop farming (10marks)

SECTION B

2. (a) Outline the effects of soil, air, organic matter and soil moisture on crop production (12marks)
- (b) State the general functions of cooperative societies (8marks)
3. Describe the factors that influence agricultural production in Kenya (20marks)
4. Explain the criteria that was followed by man in domesticating plant and animal species (20marks)

5. (a) Describe the role of the agricultural sector to the Kenyan economy (10marks)
- (b) Outline the various types of single purpose cooperative societies (10marks)