



KENYATTA UNIVERSITY

UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS 2010/2011

**FIRST SEMESTER EXAMINATION FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF
SCIENCE**

SBT 407: ARID LAND ECOLOGY

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DATE: THURSDAY 2ND DECEMBER 2010

TIME: 11.00 A.M. - 1.00 P.M.

INSTRUCTIONS

ANSWER ALL questions in Section A and any ONE question in Section B. Answers in Section A should be written in the spaces provided in the question paper.

Reg. no.:.....

SECTION A: SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS (5 MARKS)

1. a) Define and explain the term desertification.

b) What are the misapprehension and misconception about drought?

2. Briefly discuss two agronomic soil conservation methods.

3. Drought is a multi-faceted concept which defies attempts at precise and objective definition. What are the implications for this?

4. Differentiate between saline and sodic soils.

5. Give a brief account of distinguishing characteristics of ASAL.

6. Give the advantages of rotational grazing.

7. Justify each of the following statements:

8. Describe briefly the biocide hazard in irrigation water.

SECTION B: Essay (MARKS 30)

Write an essay on ANY ONE of the following topics:

1. Methods of water harvesting in semi arid tropics.
2. The major lessons learnt from ASAL first generation programmes in Kenya.
3. Rehabilitation of degraded ASAL rangelands.