



**MERU UNIVERSITY COLLEGE  
OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY**

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**University Examinations 2011/2012**

FIRST YEAR, FIRST SEMESTER EXAMINATIONS FOR DIPLOMA IN AGRICULTURE  
/CERTIFICATE IN AGRICULTURE

**AGRI 0120: PRINCIPLES OF CROP PRODUCTION**

**DATE: AUGUST 2011**

**TIME: 1½ HOURS**

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**INSTRUCTIONS:** Answer question *one* and any other *two* questions

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**QUESTION ONE – (30 MARKS)**

- (a) Explain any three advantages of using metal structures for storage of cereal grains. (6 Marks)
- (b) What are storage facilities intended for? (6 Marks)
- (c) Explain nine benefits of cropping systems. (18 Marks)

**QUESTION TWO – (15 MARKS)**

- (a) Explain four advantages of using manure in crop production. (8 Marks)
- (b) Explain irrigation and its benefits. (7 Marks)

**QUESTION THREE – (15 MARKS)**

Explain the best practices that are used in the management of pests. (15 Marks)

**QUESTION FOUR – (15 MARKS)**

Differentiate between:

- (a) Fertilizer and manure. (8 Marks)
- (b) Mixed cropping and mono cropping. (4 Marks)
- (c) Crop production and a crop. (3 Marks)

**QUESTION FIVE – (15 MARKS)**

Explain five biotic factors that can affect agricultural production. (15 Marks)