

## MERU UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

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## **University Examinations 2012/2013**

## YEAR ONE, SEMESTER ONE EXAMINATIONS FOR CERTIFICATE/DIPLOMA IN AGRICULTURE

AGR 0122/0220: ANNUAL CROPS DATE: APRIL 2013 TIME: 1½HOURS **INSTRUCTIONS:** Answer questions **one** and any other **two** questions **QUESTION ONE – (30 MARKS)** a. Local maize varieties are popular with some farmers. State any two reasons why they are popular even though they are low yielding. (3 Marks) b. What are the breeding objectives on wheat? (4 Marks) c. State three signs of maize stalk borer. (2 Marks) d. Explain how you can apply nitrogen fertilizer in a maize crop. (5 Marks) e. Explain how push and pull mechanism works to control maize stalk borers. (6 Marks) f. Witch weed in one of the problematic parasitic weeds in grass family crops, give five methods farmers can employ to control them. (5 Marks) g. Give any three characteristics of hybrid maize. (3 Marks) h. Name any two cassava diseases. (2 Marks) **QUESTION TWO – 15 MARKS** a. Explain the procedure of preparing and planting cassava cuttings in a form. (8 Marks) b. Give the botanimal names of types of cassava. (4 Marks) c. How can the toxicity in cassava roots be removed before eating. (3 Marks) **QUESTION THREE – 15 MARKS** a. State any three signs of bacterial wilt in potatoes. (3 Marks) b. How can you prevent the introduction of bacterial wilt in your farm? (5 Marks) c. Explain the procedure of establishing irish potatoes in your farm. (7 Marks) **QUESTION FOUR – 15 MARKS** 

a. What are the two types of beans grown in Kenya? (2 Marks)

b. A farmer wants to venture into bean farming in Kenya. Write short notes on the Agro-ecological requirements of beans. (8 Marks)

c. Explain the procedure of harvesting and storage of dry beans. (5 Marks)

## **QUESTION FIVE – 15 MARKS**

- a. What are the optimum ecological requirements of sweet potatoes?b. Give the standards of seed potato tubers. (10 Marks)