



MERU UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

P.O. Box 972-60200 – Meru-Kenya.

Tel: 020-2069349, 061-2309217. 064-30320 Cell phone: +254 712524293, +254 789151411

Fax: 064-30321

Website: www.must.ac.ke Email: info@must.ac.ke

University Examinations 2013/2014

THIRD YEAR, SECOND SEMESTER EXAMINATION FOR THE DEGREE OF
BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN HORTICULTURE

AHS 2309 – OLERICULTURE 11

DATE: DECEMBER 2013

TIME: 2HOURS

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

QUESTION ONE – 30 MARKS

- (a) Pollination is key to production of fruit vegetables. Explain this statement. (4Marks)
- (b) Outline efforts you would make to attain adequate pollination in fruit vegetables in green house production. (4Marks)
- (c) Distinguish between the botanical characteristics of tomato (*lycopersicon esculentum* *mill*) and egg plant (*solanum melongena*) (5Marks)
- (d) Describe the flower expression in cucurbits. (5Marks)
- (e) Why is it necessary to pick fruits frequently from Asian cucurbits and Okra? (5Marks)
- (f) What environmental conditions does mushroom require during spawning? (5Marks)
- (g) List 2 key spices that are warm season in their growth habit. (2Marks)

QUESTION TWO – 20 MARKS

Greenhouse production of tomato is gaining prominence in Kenya.

- (a) Discuss the challenges facing small holder green house production of tomato in Kenya. (10Marks)
- (b) A company has requested you for advice on whether to engage in greenhouse production of tomato in Wajir. Outline how you would formulate the advice required. (10Marks)

QUESTION THREE – 20 MARKS

- (a) Describe the production of water melon (*citrullus lanatus*) from planting to harvesting. (12Marks)
- (b) How are the following crops harvested? (8Marks)
- (i) Cucumber
 - (ii) Karella
 - (iii) Summer squash
 - (iv) Melon

QUESTION FOUR – 20 MARKS

- (a) A women group would like to produce mushrooms for the market. Discuss the technical training you would offer them to ensure success in their venture. (12Marks)
- (b) What are the key limitations facing production of spices in Kenya and how can they be overcome? (8Marks)

QUESTION FIVE - 20 MARKS

Okra is an important export vegetable in Kenya.

- (a) Describe the production of Okra. (8Marks)
- (b) Outline the harvesting and postharvest handling of Okra. (6Marks)
- (c) State efforts you will undertake to produce organic Okra. (6Marks)