



MERU UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

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University Examinations 2012/2013

THIR YEAR, FIRST SEMSTER, EXAMINATIONS FOR DEGREE OF BACHELOR
OF SCIENCE IN HORTICULTURE AND BACHELOR OF SCIENCE CROP
PROTECTION

AHS 2312 AND SBT 2332: RESERCH METHODOLOGY

DATE: AUGUST 2013

TIME: 2 HOURS

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

QUESTION ONE – (30 MARKS)

Meru county has resolved in eradicating poverty increase food security and empower farmers in the county through a strategy they are calling “piga Njaa marujuku with NERICA Upland rice growing” They have no information on NERICA rice production requirements, nutrition regimes, time of production, pests and diseases related problems in the area. You have been contacted by the Meru county government to establish NERICA rice production requirements for high yields in the county.

Using the above hypothetical information, answer the following questions;

- What would be the best possible title for your research (3 marks)
- Identify five (5) research areas and state the purposes of each research area. (10 Marks)
- Identify two dependent variables and three independent variables. (3 Marks)
- State four objectives that would guide your research. (4 Marks)
- State one alternative hypothesis and two null hypothesis (3 Marks)
- Give the assumptions and delimitations of your research (4 Marks)
- Explain the kind of information you would need to review from the literature for this research (3 Marks)

QUESTION TWO (20 MARKS)

- Explain the differences between quantitative and qualitative research methodologies (10 Marks)
- Highlight the key parts of a research process (10 Marks)

QUESTION THREE (20 MARKS)

- a) Describe the steps involved in carrying out manual literature search. (10 Marks)
- b) Discuss the common mistakes that a researcher should avoid when reviewing research literature (10 Marks)

QUESTION FOUR (20 MARKS)

- a) Explain why sampling is necessary in research (10 Marks)
- b) Explain the advantages and disadvantages of purpose sampling technique. (10 Marks)

QUESTION FIVE (20 MARKS)

- a) Identify and briefly explain two research designs used in scientific research (10 Marks)
- b) Explain the significance of statement of the problems and justification in research (10 Marks)