



**MERU UNIVERSITY COLLEGE  
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**University Examinations 2010/2011**

**FIRST YEAR, SECOND SEMESTER EXAMINATIONS FOR CERTIFICATE IN  
AGRICULTURE**

**ANS 0130: RUMINANT HUSBANDRY**

**DATE: APRIL 2011**

**TIME: 1½ HOURS**

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

**QUESTION ONE – (30 MARKS)**

- (a) (i) Define the term ‘Total mixed ration’ (2 Marks)  
(ii) What are the limitations of total mixed ration? (2 Marks)  
(iii) Describe the factors that should be considered when feeding and managing Heifers. (6 Marks)
- (b) (i) What are the advantages of keeping small ruminants? (5 Marks)  
(ii) Highlight the factors affecting fertility in small ruminants. (5 Marks)
- (c) (i) Name three types of systems of beef production (3 Marks)  
(ii) Distinguish the above named types of beef production. (7 Marks)

**QUESTION TWO – (20 MARKS)**

- (a) Describe the distinguishing features of common dairy cows. (10 Marks)  
(b) What are the importance of dairy sector in Kenya? (5 Marks)

**QUESTION THREE – (15 MARKS)**

- (a) Discuss the following subheadings in relation to small ruminants production:  
(i) Sexual maturity in small ruminants. (5 Marks)  
(ii) Classing (5 Marks)  
(iii) Flushing (5 Marks)

**QUESTION FOUR – (15 Marks)**

- (a) Briefly describe the indicators of a well managed beef ranch. (10 Marks)

(b) Outline the factors that affect beef production in Kenya. (5 Marks)

**QUESTION FIVE – (15 MARKS)**

(a) Briefly discuss the factors affecting pasture utilization in small ruminants. (8 Marks)

(b) Highlights environmental factors that affect milk production in dairy sector. (7 Marks)