



MERU UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

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University Examinations 2010/2011

FIRST YEAR, SECOND SEMESTER EXAMINATIONS FOR CERTIFICATE IN AGRICULTURE

ANS 0130: RUMINANT HUSBANDRY

DATE: DECEMBER 2010

TIME: 1½ HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS: Answer Question *one* which is Compulsory and any other *two* questions

QUESTION ONE – (30 MARKS)

- (a)
- (i) Artificial colostrums can be used to feed calves in the absence of natural colostrums. Discuss circumstances where this colostrum is recommended and its advantages and disadvantages. (5 Marks)
- (ii) Define the term 'Total mixed ration' (2 Marks)
- (iii) What are the advantages of total mixed ratio over traditional feeding? (3 Marks)
- (b)
- (i) Highlight the factors affecting fertility in small ruminants. (5 Marks)
- (ii) What are the advantages of keeping small ruminants? (5 Marks)
- (c) Describe the indicators of well managed beef cattle ranch. (10 Marks)

QUESTION TWO – (15 MARKS)

- (a) Describe the distinguishing features of common dairy cows. (10 Marks)
- (b) Explain how number of milking per day affects milk yields. (5 Marks)

QUESTION THREE – (15 MARKS)

Maximization of number of lambs weaned in a flock of sheep is the ultimate target for the flock manager. In relation to this discuss:

- (a) Importance of drift lambing. (5 Marks)
- (b) Flushing (5 Marks)
- (c) Flock management calendar. (5 Marks)

QUESTION FOUR – (15 MARKS)

- (a) Discuss the factors affecting beef production in Kenya. (10 Marks)
- (b) Briefly describe the types of systems of beef production. (5 Marks)

QUESTION FIVE – (15 MARKS)

- (a) Discuss the potential and constraints of camel productions in Kenya. (10 Marks)
- (b) Highlight the factors affecting milk production in dairy sector. (5 Marks)