EMBU UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

(A Constituent College of the University of Nairobi)

2015/2016 ACADEMIC YEAR

SECOND SEMESTER EXAMINATION

SECOND YEAR EXAMINATION FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF SCIENCE (AGRICULTURE)

ACP 203: PRINCIPLES OF WEED SCIENCE

DATE: APRIL12, 2016 **TIME: 02:00-04:00**

INSTRUCTIONS:

Answer Question ONE and ANY Other TWO Questions

QUESTION ONE

a) With two examples in Kenya define noxious weeds . (3 Marks)

b) Weeds have evolved in order to survive in the ecosystem. Explain three ways by which weeds have evolved. (3 Marks)

c) i) A farmer planted maize in his fields and after three weeks weeds infested the maize field. Explain three, a must, conditions under which weed problems occur. (3 Marks)

ii) Explain three direct effects of these weeds in the farmers' maize field. (5 Marks)

d) Assume that you are an agricultural/horticultural extension officer, why would you advice farmers to adhere to guidelines in controlling weeds using herbicides. (4 Marks)

e) i) Citing relevant examples, describe how weeds are classified. (5 Marks)

ii) Explain why this classification is important to farmer/scientist. (3 Marks)

f) Explain four major ways in which weeds are spread from one farmers' field to another. Give two examples in each case. (4 Marks)

QUESTION TWO

Weeds are more competitive than farmers' crops. Explain reasons why weeds out-compete crops. (20 Marks)

QUESTION THREE

Assume you have been appointed as an extension officer in your county and you are required to discuss the importance of weeds to farmers. Discuss reasons to convince the farmer to tolerate weeds. (20 Marks)

QUESTION FOUR

Discuss weed management strategies adopted by farmers in Kenya in an effort to increase crop production. (20 Marks)

QUESTION FIVE

Discuss the following weed-crop interactions and explain how a farmer can overcome them. (20 Marks)

i) Competition
ii) Allelopathy
iii) Parasitic weeds

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