

**MERU UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**

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**University Examinations 2015/2016**

THIRD YEAR, FIRST SEMESTER EXAMINATION FOR BACHELOR OF SCIENCE CROP PROTECTION

**SBT 2350: AGRICULTURAL BOTANY**

**DATE: NOVEMBER, 2015 TIME:** $2 $**HOURS**

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

**QUESTION ONE – (30 MARKS)**

1. Explain briefly the scope of systematic botany, (3 Marks)
2. Describe two mechanisms that favour inbreeding in plants. (4 Marks)
3. Distinguish between relay and mixed intercropping. (4 Marks)
4. Distinguish between stored and preserved crop plants. (3 Marks)
5. Explain with an illustration the structure of the flower. (4 Marks)
6. State three advantages of pure line breeding. (4 Marks)
7. Explain the significance of post-harvest systems. (4 Marks)
8. Describe briefly pathogenesis in plants. (4 Marks)

**QUESTION TWO (20 MARKS)**

Discuss three main processes responsible for generating variability. (20 Marks)

**QUESTION THREE (20 MARKS)**

Describe various mechanisms that favour cross-pollination. (20 Marks)

**QUESTION FOUR (20 MARKS)**

Explain the causes of post harvest losses in developing countries and evaluate various measures to reduce the losses. (20 Marks)