



# **UNIVERSITY OF EMBU**

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**2016/2017 ACADEMIC YEAR**

**FIRST SEMESTER EXAMINATION**

**THIRD YEAR EXAMINATION FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF SCIENCE  
IN AGRIBUSINESS**

**AEB 313: HORTICULTURAL CROPS**

**DATE: NOVEMBER 29, 2016**

**TIME: 8:30-10:30AM**

**INSTRUCTIONS:**

**Answer Question ONE and ANY other TWO Questions**

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**QUESTION ONE (30 MARKS)**

- a) State and define three broad categories of horticulture (3 marks)
  - b) Describe genetical factors that would influence the choice of cabbage varieties. (3 marks)
  - c) Explain how temperature influences growth and development of horticultural crops (3 marks)
  - d) Horticultural crops respond well to organic fertilizers/manures. Explain (3 marks)
  - e) What is light compensation point? How does it affect horticultural crops (3 marks)
  - f) Giving relevant examples, differentiate between physiological and horticultural maturity. (3 marks)
  - g) Explain why horticultural crops should be harvested at the right time (3 marks)
  - h) Describe the roles of KEPHIS (Kenya plant health inspectorate services) (3 marks)
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- i) Vegetable farmers can optimize their profit by multiple cropping. Discuss  
(3 marks)
- j) Discuss factors to consider while choosing media for growing flowers  
(3 marks)

**QUESTION TWO (20 MARKS)**

- a) Describe the economic contributions made by horticulture industry in Kenya.  
(10 marks)
- b) Discuss the factors that influence the choice and sustainability of irrigation methods.  
(10 marks)

**QUESTION THREE (20 MARKS)**

When plants are transplanted they are disturbed and they stop growing till they readjust and takes over. Discuss the factors that determine the take over and how they can be overcome

**QUESTION FOUR (20 MARKS)**

- a) Discuss factors that favour growth of horticultural industry in Kenya  
(10 marks)
- b) Seed propagation is the only viable method for some horticultural crops. Giving relevant examples, describe characteristics of good seeds.  
(10 marks)

**QUESTION FIVE (20 MARKS)**

- a) How does Horticulture differ from other agricultural disciplines? Give examples  
(10 marks)
- b) Explain reasons for pruning tomatoes grown in greenhouses  
(10 marks)

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