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**MERU UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**

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**University Examinations 2015/2016**

FIRST YEAR, FIRST SEMESTER EXAMINATION FOR THE CERTIFICATE IN AGRICULTURE

**AGR 0122: ANNUALCROP**

**DATE: NOVEMBER 2015 TIME: 11/2 HOURS**

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

**QUESTION ONE (30 MARKS)**

1. How does drought affect maize at flowering stage (4 Marks)
2. i) What is the scientific name of common bean (2 Marks)

ii) Why should beans be cooked properly before eating? (3 Marks)

iii) Name any three common bean diseases (3 Marks)

1. Name any three maize seed recommended to farmers and give one advantage of each (6 Marks)
2. Give three industrial use of Irish potatoes (3 Marks)
3. Give three qualities a wheat should have (3 Marks)
4. State any two reasons as why weeding should not be carried out in a wet field of bean (2 Marks)
5. State any four breeding objectives of cassava (4 Marks)

**QUESTION TWO (15 MARKS)**

1. Explain how a farmer can produce beans in the farm from the land preparation stage up to

storage (15 Marks)

**QUESTION THREE (15 MARKS)**

1. State any four methods Irish potato farmers can use to control sprouting (4 Marks)
2. Potato bacterial wilt is a serious disease in Kenya

i) Give the name of its causal agent (2 Marks)

ii) State any four methods of spreading it (4 Marks)

iii) State any five methods of controlling the disease (5 Marks)

**QUESTION FOUR (15 MARKS)**

1. Why do farmers keep on planting local maize varieties even if they are of low yields (2 Marks)
2. Briefly explain the field management practices undertaken in a maize farm under the following sub-headings

i) Gapping up (1 Mark)

ii) Fertilizer application (2 Marks)

iii) Weed control (2 Marks)

c) i) State any breeding objectives in maize (4 Marks)

ii) Explain how a farmer should prepare cassava cuttings in readiness for planting (4 Marks)