



KENYATTA UNIVERSITY

UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS 2011/2012

SECOND SEMESTER EXAMINATION FOR THE DEGREE OF BSc. ARM; BSc APHM; BSc.

DAED; BSc. ED. & BSc ABM

KRM 102: FARMING SYSTEMS

DATE: MONDAY, 26TH MARCH 2012

TIME: 11.00 A.M. – 1.00 P.M.

INSTRUCTIONS

Answer question ONE and any other THREE questions.

1. a) Outline the factors which determine the types of farming systems in Kenya. (4 marks)
- b) Describe the following farming systems.
 - i) Pastoral farming system (6 marks)
 - ii) Agro-pastoral farming system (6 marks)
- c) State four challenges of irrigated farming system in Kenya. (4 marks)
- d) Outline five agronomic factors which influence crop selection. (5 marks)
2. a) State three soil properties which affect plant root growth and distribution. (3 marks)
- b) State the importance of cereal and tree crops to the national economy of Kenya. (5 marks)
- c) Describe the technical options available to farmers to achieve good land management. (7 marks)
3. a) What is organic farming? (1 mark)
- b) State the objectives of organic farming as stated by the International Federation of Organic Agriculture Movement (IFOAM). (4 marks)
- c) Describe the importance of organic farming. (10 marks)

4. a) Outline the components of mixed farming. (3 marks)
- b) Mention four challenges of mixed farming. (4 marks)
- c) Describe the importance of fallows as a component of a farming system. (8 marks)
5. a) What is a cover crop?
- b) Give two reasons for the increasing interest in medicinal and aromatic plants in Kenya. (2 marks)
- c) Give three criteria for classifying plants. (3 marks)
- d) Why is organic farming the fastest growing food sector today? (3 marks)
- e) State the characteristics of an ideal cover crop. (6 marks)
