2nd SEM. 2005/2006

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UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND

FACULTY OF AGRICULTURE

FINAL EXAMINATION PAPER

PROGRAMME:

DIPLOMA IN AGRICULTURE II AND

DIPLOMA IN AGRICULTURAL

EDUCATION II

DEPARTMENT: ANIMAL PRODUCTION AND HEALTH

TITLE OF PAPER:

RANGE AND RANCH MANAGEMNT

COURSE CODE:

APH 203

TIME ALLOWED:

TWO (2) HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS:

ANSWER ANY FOUR (4) QUESTIONS

DO NOT OPEN THIS PAPER UNTIL PERMISSION HAS BEEN GRANTED BY THE CHIEF INVIGILATOR

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QUESTION 1

Describe the foraging behavior of goats and sheep. Discuss the factors that affect their diet selection. (25 Marks)

QUESTION 2

The frequent choice of the wheel point over other sampling devices in the assessment of herbaceous layer of rangelands is because of a combination of preferred attributes. It is also recognized that wheel point has drawbacks. Discuss these attributes and drawbacks.

(25 Marks)

QUESTION 3

Grazing pressure has undoubtly intensified the problems in the rangelands of Swaziland. Such increase in livestock in the semi-arid and arid rangelands of Africa is widely known to cause changes in soil nutrients, vegetation structure, production, composition and productivity. Discuss the adverse effects of overgrazing on soil, vegetation and the grazing animal itself.

(25 Marks)

OUESTION 4

Define bush encroachment. Discuss the control methods of bush encroachment.

(25 Marks)

QUESTION 5

Describe the factors you need to consider in developing a commercial beef cattle ranch.
(25 Marks)