



1ST SEM. 2013/2014

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**UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND
SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATION PAPER**

**PROGRAMME: BS.c. AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS AND AGRIBUSINESS
MANAGEMENT YEAR 2
BS.c. AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION YEAR 2**

TITLE OF PAPER: RUMINANT ANIMAL PRODUCTION

COURSE CODE: AS 208

TIME ALLOWED: TWO (2) HOURS

**INSTRUCTIONS: ANSWER ANY FOUR (4) QUESTIONS, WITH AT LEAST ONE
(1) QUESTION FROM EACH SECTION
YOU NEED THREE BOOKLETS FOR THIS EXAMINATION
SINCE EACH SECTION MUST BE WRITTEN IN A
SEPARATE BOOKLET**

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

SECTION A

BEEF PRODUCTION

QUESTION 1

- (a) Discuss specific production characteristics of the Nguni breed that make it ideal for the subtropical environment. (10 Marks)
- (b) Write short notes on the following:
- (i) Rural sale yards (5 Marks)
 - (ii) Data processing unit (5 Marks)
 - (iii) Live cattle evaluation in an auction (5 Marks)

QUESTION 2

List and discuss five beef cattle production problems caused by the harsh environmental conditions found in the subtropical regions of southern Africa. (25 Marks)

SECTION B

DAIRY PRODUCTION

QUESTION 3

Discuss milk let down in the lactating dairy cow. (25 Marks)

QUESTION 4

- (a) List and explain five factors that you may consider when choosing a dairy breed. (15 Marks)
- (b) Outline the position of the dairy cow in the zoological classification scheme. (10 Marks)

SECTION C

GOAT AND SHEEP PRODUCTION

QUESTION 5

Explain fully the attributes of goats and sheep that give them advantage over large ruminants under the headline "Feed utilisation". (25 Marks)

QUESTION 6

- (a) In two to three sentences each, describe
- (b) any five factors that determine
- the ewe to ram ratio under natural mating conditions. (10 Marks)
- (b) In developing countries we lack equipment to evaluate the reproductive performance of a buck/ram. Clearly explain how a goat farmer can use “appearance” to choose a buck. (15 Marks)