



2ND SEMESTER 2004/2005

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UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND

FACULTY OF AGRICULTURE

SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATIONS: 2005

PROGRAMME: DIPLOMA IN AGRICULTURE II

DIPLOMA IN AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION II.

COURSE CODE: APH 203

TITLE OF PAPER: RANGE AND RANCH MANAGEMNT

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.

QUESTION 1

Using the soil, vegetation and the grazing animal, show the interaction of the various components in a range ecosystem. (25 Marks)

QUESTION 2

Fencing is an essential input in a ranching operation. Mention the characteristics, merits and limitations of

- a) Suspension fences (9 Marks)
- b. Fabricated fences (8 Marks)
- c) Electric fences (8 Marks)

QUESTION 3

Discuss the role of fire in range management and mention the period and frequency of burning. (25 Marks)

QUESTION 4

- a. Define the terms decreaseers, increasers and invaders in relation to range condition. (12.5 Marks)
- b. Explain why highly palatable species decrease whilst the unpalatable species increase under sustained heavy grazing/under grazing. (12.5 Marks)

QUESTION 5

Describe the following vegetation variables as a measure of rangeland condition

- a) Cover (9 Marks)
- b) Botanical composition (8 Marks)
- c) Dry matter production (8 Marks)