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1ST SEM. 2013/2014

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UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND

SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATION PAPER

**PROGRAMME: BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN
ANIMAL SCIENCE IV**

COURSE CODE: AS 402

TITLE OF PAPER: BEEF PRODUCTION

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

Beef cattle production as it exists on Swazi Nation Land (SNL) is unsustainable. Discuss management issues to support the above statement. (25 Marks)

QUESTION 2

- a) Discuss 4 methods that can be used to promote even utilisation of the pasture by grazing beef cattle in a ranch. (15 Marks)
- b) Suppose you are a manager of a beef cattle ranch, explain situations that would require you to deviate from the normal ratio of 1 bull to 30 cows. (10 Marks)

QUESTION 3

Discuss the tissue growth (muscle, fat, and bone) during growth and development of beef cattle. Explain how i growth and development are affected by sex, frame size and nutrition . (25 Marks)

QUESTION 4

- a) Describe beef cattle records would you expect a ranch manager to keep ? Indicate how these records may be used to establish whether the cattle business is profitable or not. (15 Marks)
- b) Inbreeding and crossbreeding are both essential for the improvement of beef cattle production in any country. Discuss the role played by each breeding system in beef cattle production. (10 marks)

QUESTION 5

Suppose you have been granted a loan by the Swaziland Development Bank to establish a commercial beef cattle ranch. The cow herd size for a start will 400. Assuming that the farm will be in the Lowveld of Swaziland (no infrastructure) , Give a detailed account on how you would use the loan.

(25 Marks)