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1ST SEM. 2014/2015

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

Discuss the key aspects of establishing a feedlot including planning, designing, and major elements in ensuring profitability of the business. **(25 Marks)**

QUESTION 2

Discuss the role played by the following in the beef cattle industry:

a) Breed associations **(10 Marks)**
b) Farmers' associations **(10 Marks)**
c) Livestock Development Policy **(5 Marks)**

QUESTION 3

Discuss the segments of the beef industry, the traits of economic importance under each segment and why each segment can be treated as a business on its own. **(25 Marks)**

QUESTION 4

Selection of breeding stock is essential in improving the beef herd productivity. Discuss how you would use records and other tools in the selection of replacement heifers and breeding bulls.

(25 Marks)

QUESTION 5

The major reason for establishing government ranches was to improve the beef cattle industry in the country. However, over the years the contribution of government ranches to the beef cattle industry has decreased markedly. Discuss the major functions of government ranches and the problems that have made them ineffective. **(25 Marks)**