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1ST SEM.2014/2015

**UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND
FINAL EXAMINATION PAPER**

**PROGRAMME: B.Sc. AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION YEAR 4, ANIMAL
SCIENCE YEAR 4**

COURSE CODE: AS 407

TITLE OF PAPER: PIG AND RABBIT PRODUCTION

TIME ALLOWED: TWO (2) HOURS

INSTRUCTION: ANSWER ANY FOUR (4) QUESTIONS

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CHIEF INVIGILATOR**

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QUESTION 1

In housing pigs the choice of accommodation differs with the type of management as most pig units will contain pigs of different ages and classes.

- a) With the help of flowchart describe the life cycle of pigs of different ages and classes with appropriate names (use expected body weight as an indicator where appropriate).

(19 Marks)

- b) In a situation where the farmer could not afford to confine all classes of pigs, how would you advise him to prioritize the different classes of animals for confinement? (6 Marks)

QUESTION 2

- a) Identify five important production characteristics of the improved pig of the Duroc breed type and state why it is favoured /preferred in the pig industry with regard to meat quality.

(9 Marks)

- b) A farmer observed a disease symptom in his piggery and suspected that it is either Swine erysipelas or Swine fever. How would you illustrate the differences and similarity of the two diseases to him? (16 Marks)

QUESTION 3

- a) A pig farmer has gilts coming on heat for their first time, sows already weaned (5 days now) and other sows that have farrowed still nursing their piglets. Describe how heat is recognized and timing the service would be scheduled for these different classes of pigs. (16 Marks)

- b) Describe what ideal temperatures means and list the requirement for pigs of the following classes (3+(2×3) = 9 Marks)

- I. Piglets one day old
- II. Piglets up to one week old
- III. Animals up to 90 kg in weight

QUESTION 4

- a) Explain what Cecotrophy is and its principal nutritional consequence in rabbits (5 Marks)
- b) Identify different methods that can be used in determining pregnancy in rabbits and explain the accuracy and proper technique to be followed for each. (20 Marks)

QUESTION 5

- a) List the most important factors/practices involved in disease control in a rabbitry and discuss how they can be implemented in the farm. (15 Marks)
- b) State optimum temperature for rabbit production and discuss how performance of rabbits is related to environmental temperature. (10 Marks)