



1st SEM. 2005/2006

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**UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND
FINAL EXAMINATION PAPER**

**PROGRAMME: BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN AGRICULTURE -
CROP PRODUCTION**

**BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN AGRICULTURE –
HORTICULTURE**

COURSE CODE: CP 501

TITLE OF PAPER: WEED SCIENCE

TIME ALLOWED: TWO (2) HOURS

**INSTRUCTIONS: ANSWER A TOTAL OF FOUR [4] QUESTIONS.
ANSWER QUESTION ONE [1] AND ANY OTHER
THREE [3] QUESTIONS. ALL QUESTIONS CARRY
AN EQUAL NUMBER OF MARKS.**

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

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QUESTION 1

(THIS QUESTION IS COMPULSORY)

- a. Explain in two different ways, what a weed is. (2.5 x 2 = 5 marks)
- b. Discuss (and give examples) of five benefits of weeds. (10 marks)
- c. Discuss (and give examples) of five harmful effects of weeds. (10 marks).

[Total marks for question 1 = 25 marks.]

QUESTION 2

- a. Explain what a herbicide is. (4 marks)
- b. Name one example of a herbicide (1 mark)
- c. What is a contact herbicide? (4 marks)
- d. Name one example of a contact herbicide. (1 mark)
- e. What is a systemic herbicide? (4 marks)
- f. Name one example of a systemic herbicide. (1 mark)
- g. What is a selective herbicide? (4 marks)
- h. Name one example of a selective herbicide. (1 mark)
- i. What is the difference between a preemergence herbicide and a postemergence herbicide? (5 marks)

[Total marks for question 2 = 25 marks.]

QUESTION 3

- a. If you were a small-scale farmer, what equipment would you use for applying herbicides on your farms? (2 marks)
- b. Draw a large, labelled diagram of the equipment named in 3(a) above, and label five of its major parts. (10 marks)
- c. List five precautions that should be taken when handling or using herbicides. (5 marks)
- d. Name five advantages of using herbicides. (5 marks)
- e. Name two disadvantages of using herbicides. (2 marks)
- f. Explain what a herbicide can achieve that a biological weed control method cannot achieve on a farm. (1 mark)

[Total marks for question 3 = 25 marks.]

QUESTION 4

- a. Explain or define the following terms:
- i. A noxious weed (4 marks)
 - ii. Weed prevention (4 marks)
 - iii. Weed control (4 marks)
 - iv. Weed eradication (4 marks)
 - v. Weed management (4 marks)
- b. Give one example of:
- i. A noxious weed (1 mark)
 - ii. A weed prevention programme (1 mark)
 - iii. A weed control programme (1 mark)
 - iv. A weed eradication programme (1 mark)
 - v. A weed management programme (1 mark)

[Total marks for question 4 = 25 marks.]

QUESTION 5

- a. Explain the term, "weed ecology". (5 marks)
- b. Draw a simple diagram to illustrate the weed-crop ecosystem. (4 marks)
- c. Give four reasons why there is a shift towards ecologically based weed management systems in modern times. (4 marks)
- d. Discuss the term, "ecological succession". (9 marks)
- e. Name three factors that plants compete for. (3 marks)

[Total marks for question 5 = 25 marks.]