



SEM. 2011/2012

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UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND

FINAL EXAMINATION PAPER

PROGRAMME: BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN AGRONOMY YEAR IV

COURSE CODE: CP 408

TITLE OF PAPER: WEED MANAGEMENT

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

- (a) Discuss how (i) tillage (ii) mowing work as a weed control technique. (10 marks)
- (b) What are the limitations or disadvantages of (i) tillage (ii) mowing as weed control methods and how can success be improved? (10 marks)

QUESTION 2

Discuss the concept of preventive weed control including what should be done and what should not be done. (20 marks)

QUESTION 3

- (a) Analyse in detail the 4-step approach to designing a weed control programme. (15 marks)
- (b) Discuss vegetative properties of weeds that make them persistent problems. (5 marks)

QUESTION 4

- (a) What is a weed? (5 marks)
- (b) Discuss seed-related factors that make some weeds persistent. (10 marks)
- (c) What are noxious weeds? (5 marks)

QUESTION 5

- (a) Discuss the reasons why weeds are generally difficult to control. (10 marks)
- (b) Give reasons why *Striga asiatica* in particular is difficult to control. (10 marks)

QUESTION 6

- (a) What are pesticides? (5 marks)
- (b) Discuss the factors that influence or increase the effectiveness of herbicides in weed control. (15 marks).

QUESTION 7

- (a) Other than Striga, name 5 noxious weeds and give reasons why they are noxious weeds. (10 marks)
- (b) Do the named 5 weed species (in 7a above) have any beneficial roles in agriculture or human livelihood? (10 marks)