

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND

SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATION PAPER

**PROGRAMMES: BSC 4YEAR 4 IN AGRICULTURAL AND BIOSYSTEMS
ENGINEERING, AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS AND
AGRIBUSINESS MANAGEMENT AND AGRICULTURAL
EDUCATION**

COURSE CODE: CP 409

TITLE OF COURSE: FIELD CROPS

TIME ALLOWED: TWO (2) HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS: ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS

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CHIEF INVIGILATOR**

QUESTION 1

“Some amount of disturbance and non-equilibrium resulting from disturbance is the norm for most plant communities; disturbance and recovery potentially enable much greater biodiversity than is possible without disturbance”. Discuss the merits and demerits of this statement with respect to the agroecosystem. **[25 marks]**

QUESTION 2

Explain how the style of competition may necessitate modification of the following statement: “competition between plants occurs when the supply of some limiting resource is insufficient for unrestricted growth of the plants in question”. **[25 marks]**.

QUESTION 3

Identify one crop of your choice not evidently being grown in the Highveld and the Lebombo range of Swaziland, respectively (i.e., one crop for each zone) and justify their introduction or non-introduction in the zones. **[25 marks]**.

QUESTION 4

Discuss the role of soil pH in crop adaptation and distribution. **[25 marks]**.