



**UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND**

**FINAL EXAMINATION PAPER**

**PROGRAMME: BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN AGRONOMY YEAR FOUR**

**COURSE CODE: CP 403**

**TITLE OF PAPER: FIBRE, TOBACCO & TUBER CROP PRODUCTION**

**TIME ALLOWED: TWO (2) HOURS**

**INSTRUCTIONS: ANSWER QUESTION 1 AND ANY OTHER THREE QUESTIONS  
OF YOUR CHOICE**

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CHIEF INVIGILATOR**

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**QUESTION 1**

Describe three mechanisms that are considered to contribute to drought tolerance for each of the following crops:

- (a) Cassava [15 Marks]
  - (b) Cotton [10 marks]
- [25 Marks]

**QUESTION 2**

The quality of cured tobacco leaf is known to be quite sensitive to growth requirements, agronomic practices, and curing practices. Explain:

- (a) Two specific growth requirements [8 Marks]
- (b) Two specific agronomic practices [8 marks]
- (c) Two specific curing practices [9 Marks]

that must be considered in the production and curing of tobacco to attain quality in the cured leaf. [25 Marks]

**QUESTION 3**

Given the general characteristics and production requirements of roots and tubers (cassava and sweet potato) compared with cereal and legume grains, justify whether or not you would recommend production of roots and tubers to small scale farmers. Please use only one major agroecological zone of Swaziland (Lowveld, Middleveld or Highveld) for illustration, in your answer.

[25 Marks]

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**QUESTION 4**

Describe all the growth and developmental stages of cotton, and the significant factor(s) that govern each of the stages.

**[25 Marks]**

**QUESTION 5**

Using only one of the crops (tobacco, cotton, sweet potato, cassava, potato) as an illustration, describe the value chain approach toward improvement of its production in Swaziland

**[25 Marks]**