



2ND SEM. 2014/2015

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UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND

FINAL EXAMINATION PAPER

**PROGRAMME: BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN HORTICULTURE
YEAR 4**

COURSE CODE: HORT 409

**TITLE OF PAPER: POST-HARVEST PHYSIOLOGY OF
HORTICULTURAL CROPS**

TIME ALLOWED: TWO (2) HOURS

INSTRUCTION: ANSWER ANY FOUR (4) QUESTIONS

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BY THE CHIEF INVIGILATOR**

INSTRUCTION: ANSWER ANY FOUR (4) QUESTIONS**QUESTION 1**

- a) Discuss advantages and disadvantages of mechanical harvesting of horticultural crops. [10 marks]
- b) Discuss with the aid of examples five destructive maturity indices used to harvest horticultural crops. [15 marks]
- [25 marks]

QUESTION 2

Discuss any five factors affecting postharvest quality of ornamental plants.

[25 marks]

QUESTION 3

- a) Outline the ethylene (C_2H_4) biosynthetic pathway. [10 marks]
- b) Describe desirable effects and undesirable effects of C_2H_4 . [15 marks]
- [25 marks]

QUESTION 4

Discuss five environmental factors that influence deterioration of harvested horticultural crops.

[25 marks]

QUESTION 5

Describe processing and preserving methods for fruit, vegetables and root crops.

[25 marks]